

NEWS RELEASE

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP 777 North Broadway Los Angeles, CA 90012

Trading Symbol: CATY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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February 21, 2014

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP DECLARES DIVIDEND OF \$0.05 PER SHARE

Los Angeles, Calif., February 21, 2014: Cathay General Bancorp (NASDAQ: CATY) announced today that on February 20, 2014, its Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of five cent per common share payable on March 13, 2014, to stockholders of record at the close of business on March 3, 2014.

ABOUT CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

Cathay General Bancorp is the holding company for Cathay Bank, a California statechartered bank. Founded in 1962, Cathay Bank offers a wide range of financial services. Cathay Bank currently operates 32 branches in California, eight branches in New York State, three in the Chicago, Illinois area, three in Washington State, two in Texas, one in Massachusetts, one in Nevada, one in New Jersey, one in Hong Kong, and a representative office in Taipei and in Shanghai. Cathay Bank's website is found at www.cathaybank.com. Cathay General Bancorp's website is found at www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com.