

NEWS RELEASE

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP 777 North Broadway Los Angeles, CA 90012

Trading Symbol: CATY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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May 23, 2014

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP DECLARES DIVIDEND OF \$0.07 PER SHARE

Los Angeles, Calif., May 23, 2014: Cathay General Bancorp (NASDAQ: CATY) announced today that its Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of seven cents per common share payable on June 12, 2014, to stockholders of record at the close of business on June 2, 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, nine 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.