



CATHAY GENERAL
BANCORP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP
DECLARES \$0.21 PER SHARE DIVIDEND**

LOS ANGELES, August 17, 2017: Cathay General Bancorp (NASDAQ: CATY) announced today that its Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of twenty-one cents per common share, payable on September 11, 2017, to stockholders of record at the close of business on September 1, 2017.

ABOUT CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

Cathay General Bancorp is the holding company for Cathay Bank, a California state-chartered bank and Far East National Bank, a U.S. federally chartered bank. Cathay General Bancorp's website is found at www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com. Founded in 1962, Cathay Bank offers a wide range of financial services. Cathay Bank currently operates 34 branches in California, 12 branches in New York State, three in the Chicago, Illinois area, three in Washington State, two in Texas, one in Maryland, 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. Founded in 1974, Far East National Bank offers a wide range of financial services. Far East National Bank operates nine branches in California, and a representative office in Beijing. Far East National Bank's website is found at www.fareastnationalbank.com. Information set forth on such websites are not incorporated into this press release.