

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP DECLARES \$0.24 PER SHARE DIVIDEND

LOS ANGELES, May 17, 2018: Cathay General Bancorp (NASDAQ: CATY) announced today that its Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of twenty-four cents per common share, payable on June 11, 2018, to stockholders of record at the close of business on June 1, 2018.

ABOUT CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

Cathay General Bancorp is the holding company for Cathay Bank, a California state-chartered bank. Cathay General Bancorp's website is found at <u>www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com</u>. Founded in 1962, Cathay Bank offers a wide range of financial services. Cathay Bank currently operates 41 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, Beijing, and Shanghai. Cathay Bank's website is found at <u>www.cathaybank.com</u>.