FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SIGNATURE BANK REPORTS 2004 FOURTH QUARTER AND YEAR-END RESULTS

- ***Net Income for the Fourth Quarter Reached $4.9 Million Versus $1.2 Million in Fourth Quarter 2003; Net Income for 2004 Increased to $29.8 Million from $2.5 Million Last Year***
- ***Deposits Increased $159.2 Million to $2.58 Billion During the Fourth Quarter; For 2004, Deposits Rose $1 Billion or 64.1 Percent Over Last Year***
- ***Assets Approach $3.4 Billion***
- ***Loans Totaled $570.8 Million, an Increase of $68.6 Million, or 13.7 Percent for the Fourth Quarter; For 2004, Loans Increased $193.4 Million or 51.3 Percent Since Last Year***

NEW YORK … January 27, 2005 … Signature Bank (Nasdaq: SBNY), a New York-based full-service commercial bank, today announced results for its 2004 fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2004.

Net income for the quarter was $4.9 million or $0.17 diluted earnings per share compared with $1.2 million for the fourth quarter last year.

The increase in net income can be attributed to strong growth in assets and net interest income. Net interest income totaled $21.3 million for the quarter, an increase of $10.1 million or 89.5 percent, compared with the fourth quarter of 2003. Assets grew by $276.2 million during the quarter, primarily due to efforts put forth by the Bank's established private client teams. Total assets reached $3.36 billion at year-end.

Deposits in the fourth quarter grew $159.2 million, or 6.6 percent, to $2.58 billion at year-end. This represents an increase of over $1 billion, or 64.1 percent, when compared with deposits as of December 31, 2003. Core deposits of $2.44 billion continue to represent approximately 94 percent of total deposits.

For the year ended December 31, 2004, net income reached $29.8 million, or $1.15 diluted earnings per share, compared with $2.5 million for the same period last year. The increase in net income was fueled by substantial deposit and earning asset growth, further leveraging of the Bank's operational capacity, recognition of deferred tax credits of $9.8 million during the 2004 second quarter and outstanding performance from our SBA pool-assembling activities which included gains on the sale of interest-only strip securities.

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Joseph J. DePaolo, President and Chief Executive Officer, discussed the Bank's fourth quarter and year end performance and its achievements: "Throughout 2004, we continued to see increased demand for the personalized services we offer, which is reflected in the Bank's extraordinary deposit growth. During the year, we garnered significant interest from experienced banking professionals seeking to join the Signature Bank team. We added eight teams and 13 private client group directors in 2004 alone, and anticipate that 2005 will bring us additional strong recruitment and expansion opportunities. We equate the hiring of each of these teams to that of our competitors' opening a new branch."

"All of this points to the fact that our core business model – serving the banking needs of privately owned businesses, their owners and senior managers through highly personalized service – continues to be successfully implemented and widely accepted. Word about Signature Bank is rapidly gaining momentum among financial services professionals, thereby strengthening our recruiting position for 2005. We continue to attract top-tier banking groups who are able to execute the Bank's relationship-based model by providing our target market with a single point of contact to meet all their banking needs. We are confident that we can keep building upon the successes we have achieved since our 2001 inception," DePaolo noted.

Scott A. Shay, Chairman of the Board, added: "This past year has been an extremely exciting and successful one for the Bank. With the completion of our initial public offering and a follow-on public offering coming shortly thereafter, the Bank is in a strong financial position and well poised for growth and expansion. We continue to provide significant shareholder value as evidenced by the Bank's solid earnings and deposit growth, and strong financial performance. Furthermore, the consistent recruitment of highly experienced bankers has enabled us to expand the Signature Bank network of private client banking groups by 36 percent in 2004 alone. As we enter 2005, we are already busy with additional recruitment efforts and the planning of other locations. We remain positive about the growth of the Bank and our future."

Net Interest Income

Net interest income for the fourth quarter 2004 totaled $21.3 million, representing an 89.5 percent or $10.1 million increase from the fourth quarter 2003. The net interest income growth was fueled by an increase in earning assets combined with an expansion of the net interest margin. Average earning assets for the fourth quarter of 2004 increased by $1.4 billion, reflecting an 83.2 percent increase from the fourth quarter 2003. The net interest margin for the fourth quarter 2004 increased 10 basis points to 2.79 percent, when compared to the fourth quarter of 2003, demonstrating the asset sensitive structure of the balance sheet. During the fourth quarter of 2004, the average cost of funds increased by 27 basis points to 1.04 percent when compared to the fourth quarter of 2003 and the average cost of deposits remained low at .89 percent. Asset yields for the fourth quarter of 2004 strengthened by 32 basis points to 3.74 percent, when compared to the fourth quarter of 2003, benefiting from higher short term rates and more favorable market conditions.

While market expectations reflect further increases in short-term interest rates, the flattening yield curve and fixed income spread compression present challenges. The Bank remains well positioned to benefit in this market with its asset sensitive balance sheet, which includes a predominantly floating rate commercial loan portfolio, short average duration investment portfolio of approximately 1.76 years and a low-cost core deposit base.

Non-Interest Income and Non-Interest Expense

Non-interest income for the fourth quarter of 2004 rose 39.3 percent to $3.7 million versus $2.7 million reported in the fourth quarter of 2003. This improvement was largely the result of a $428,000 rise in commissions from brokerage activities and a $388,000 increase in fees and service charges.

For the year ended 2004, non-interest income was $22.9 million, an increase of $11.6 million or 103 percent when compared with 2003. The non-interest income growth is mainly attributable to increases in commissions, fees and service charges related to continuing growth in client activities coupled with an increase in SBA pool-assembling income. Signature Bank remains among the largest SBA pool assemblers in the U.S.

Non-interest expense for the quarter ended December 31, 2004 was $15.1 million, compared with $11.9 million in the fourth quarter of 2003. This increase is primarily due to the addition of new private client teams.

For the year, non-interest expense was $58.5 million, an increase of $14.8 million, or 33.8 percent when compared with 2003. The addition of new private client teams, the opening of new offices and incremental costs associated with being a public company contributed to non-interest expense results.

The Bank's efficiency ratio improved to 60.2 percent for the fourth quarter 2004, compared with 85.2 percent for the fourth quarter 2003, due to the growth in interest income and non-interest income, coupled with the further leveraging of its operational capacity.

Loans

For the fourth quarter, loans, excluding loans held for sale, increased $68.6 million or 13.7 percent to $570.8 million at December 31, 2004, compared with $502.2 million at September 30, 2004. The Bank's loan pipeline continues to develop and was in excess of $170 million at year-end 2004 due to the ongoing efforts put forth by the Bank's established private client teams as well as the teams added throughout 2004.

Loans held for sale were $112.9 million as of December 31, 2004, a decrease of 7.2 percent or $8.8 million from September 30, 2004. The periodic fluctuation in loans held for sale is predominantly due to the timing of SBA loan purchases and subsequent pool sales.

At December 31, 2004, non-performing loans increased to $6.0 million from $4.7 million at September 30, 2004, representing 1.06 percent of total loans. Quarterly net charge-offs to average loans remained virtually nil. The non-performing loan balance is predominantly made up of two loans. Specific reserves have been established for a substantial portion of these two loans.

Capital

Signature Bank's capital ratios remain strong. The Bank's tier 1 risk-based, total risk-based and leverage capital ratios are approximately 29.27 percent, 29.92 percent and 10.86 percent, respectively, as of December 31, 2004, well in excess of regulatory requirements. The ratios reflect the relatively low risk profile of the balance sheet, and the capital raised in the follow-on public offering, which closed in late September 2004.

"Since our formation less than four years ago, we have grown to a $3.4 billion financial institution with nearly $340 million in equity and are among the metro-New York area's top banks. The Bank's opportunities lie in our abilities to continually execute our business model by recruiting top-producing relationship managers and their teams. These teams bring to us an established book of business and a commitment to personally meet all the banking needs of their clients, which is our target market: privately owned businesses. Senior management remains dedicated to doing what it takes to support our private client group directors in their quest to attract and satisfy their clients," DePaolo concluded.

Conference Call

Signature Bank's management will host a conference call to review results of the 2004 fourth quarter and year-end on Thursday, January 27, 2005 at 10:00 AM ET. Participants should dial 800-240-6709 at least ten minutes prior to the start of the call. International callers should dial 303-262-2142.

To hear a live web simulcast or to listen to the archived web cast of the conference call, please visit the Bank's web site at www.signatureny.com, click on the investor relations tab and then select news/press and conference calls to access the link to the call. Refer to conference identification number 26740.

About Signature Bank

Signature Bank, member FDIC, is a New York-based full-service commercial bank with 12 private client offices located in the New York metropolitan area, serving the needs of privately owned businesses, their owners and senior managers through dozens of private client groups. The Bank offers a wide variety of business and personal banking products and services as well as investment, brokerage, asset management and insurance products and services through its subsidiary, Signature Securities Group Corporation, a licensed broker-dealer, investment adviser and member NASD/SIPC.

Signature Bank's 12 locations are in: Manhattan: 261 Madison Avenue; 300 Park Avenue; 71 Broadway; 565 Fifth Avenue and 950 Third Avenue. Brooklyn: 26 Court Street and 84 Broadway. Westchester: 1C Quaker Ridge Road, New Rochelle. Long Island: 1225 Franklin Avenue, Garden City; 279 Sunrise Highway, Rockville Centre, 58 South Service Road, Melville and 923 Broadway, Woodmere.

For more information, please visit www.signatureny.com.

This press release and oral statements made from time-to-time by our representatives contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that are subject to risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements include information concerning our future results, operations and b usiness strategy. These statements often include words such as "may," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "plan," "estimate" or similar expressions. As you consider forward-looking statements, you should understand that these statements are not guarantees of performance or results. They involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. These factors include but are not limited to: (i) prevailing econom ic conditions; (ii) changes in interest rates, loan demand, real estate values, and competition, which can materially affect origination levels and gain on sale results in our business, as well as other aspects of our financial performance; and (iii) the level of defaults, losses and prepayments on loans made by us, whether held in portfolio or sold in the whole loan secondary markets, which can materially affect charge-off levels and required credit loss reserve levels. Additional factors are described in our quarterly and annual reports.

You should keep in mind that any forward-looking statement made by Signature Bank speaks only as of the date on which they were made. New risks and uncertainties come up from time to time, and we cannot predict these events or how they may affect the Bank. Signature Bank has no duty to, and does not intend to, update or revise the forward-looking statements after the date on which they are made. In light of these risks and uncertainties, you should keep in mind that any forward-looking statement made in this release or elsewhere might not reflect actual results.

- FINANCIAL TABLES ATTACHED -

Signature Bank

Consolidated Statements of Operations

(unaudited)

(in thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three months ended December 31,		Year ended December 31,	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Interest and dividend income:				
Loans held for sale	$621	$697	$2,465	$2,362
Loans, net	6,904	4,104	21,183	13,792
Securities available-for-sale	17,231	8,326	52,000	27,255
Securities held-to-maturity	3,721	1,143	10,910	4,569
Other investments	23	--	83	14
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	102	--	239	67
Short-term investments	101	81	326	285
Total interest income	$28,703	$14,351	$87,206	$48,344
Interest expense:				
Deposits	5,474	2,733	15,941	9,589
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	458	97	1,037	537
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	1,424	258	3,235	830
Fed funds purchased	6	1	9	2
Total interest expense	$7,362	$3,089	$20,222	$10,958
Net interest income before provision for loan losses	21,341	11,262	66,984	37,386
Provision for loan losses	1,480	623	3,355	2,030
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	$19,861	$10,639	$63,629	$35,356
Non-interest income:				
Commissions	1,523	1,095	5,205	3,044
Fees and service charges	1,632	1,244	6,128	4,918
Net gains on sales of securities and loans	568	264	11,291	2,878
Other income	16	81	306	456
Total non-interest income	$3,739	$2,684	$22,930	$11,296
Non-interest expense:				
Salaries and benefits	8,762	6,644	34,597	25,552
Occupancy and equipment	1,430	1,225	5,378	4,892
Professional fees	235	542	1,487	1,140
Marketing	430	251	1,039	820
Data processing	869	432	2,597	1,258
Charges for services provided by affiliate	1,275	1,260	5,100	4,620
Depreciation and amortization	428	312	1,469	1,240
Other general and administrative	1,672	1,219	6,818	4,181
Total non-interest expense	$15,101	$11,885	$58,485	$43,703
Income before income taxes	8,499	1,438	28,074	2,949
Income tax expense (benefit)	3,581	205	(1,724)	412
Net income	$4,918	$1,233	$29,798	$2,537
Earnings per share – basic	$0.17	N/A	$1.16	N/A
Earnings per share – diluted	$0.17	N/A	$1.15	N/A

Signature Bank

Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition

(in thousands, except per share amounts)

Assets	**December 31, 2004 (unaudited)**	**December 31, 2003**
Cash and due from banks	$69,830	$52,337
Short-term investments	5,230	3,543
Total cash and cash equivalents	75,060	55,880
Securities available-for-sale ($652,860 pledged at December 31, 2004 and $299,632 at December 31, 2003)	2,107,390	1,201,100
Securities held-to-maturity (fair market value $414,140 at December 31, 2004 and $128,619 at December 31, 2003; $57,405 pledged at December 31, 2004 and $0 at December 31, 2003)	416,333	125,830
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	14,250	6,500
Loans held for sale	112,917	129,204
Loans, net	563,161	373,050
Premises and equipment, net	14,186	10,829
Accrued interest and dividends receivable	12,802	7,838
Other assets	40,257	25,620
Total assets	$3,356,356	$1,935,851
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Liabilities:		
Deposits :		
Non-interest bearing	$759,281	$528,389
Interest bearing	1,821,426	1,044,478
Total deposits	2,580,707	1,572,867
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	36,730	19,211
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	115,000	60,000
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	285,000	130,000
Total liabilities	$3,017,437	$1,782,078
Shareholders' equity:		
Common stock, par value $.01; 39,000,000 shares authorized; 29,315,000 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2004 and 20,000,000 shares authorized, issued and outstanding at December 31, 2003	293	200
Preferred stock, par value $.01; 61,000,000 shares authorized and unissued at December 31, 2004	--	--
Additional paid-in capital	348,553	190,304
Accumulated deficit	(3,066)	(32,864)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss:		
Net unrealized depreciation on securities available-for-sale, net of tax effect	(6,078)	(3,867)
Unearned compensation	(783)	--
Total shareholders' equity	338,919	153,773
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	$3,356,356	$1,935,851

Financial Summary
(unaudited)

(dollars in thousands, except ratios and per share amounts)	Three months ended December 31, 2004	Three months ended December 31, 2003	Year ended December 31, 2004	Year ended December 31, 2003
Per share:				
Net income - basic	$ 0.17	N/A	$ 1.16	N/A
Net income – diluted	$ 0.17	N/A	$ 1.15	N/A
Average shares outstanding - basic	29,315	20,000	25,667	20,000
Average shares outstanding - diluted	29,693	20,000	25,918	20,000
Book value	$ 11.56	$ 7.69	$ 11.56	$ 7.69
Selected financial data:				
Return on average total assets	0.62 %	0.28 %	1.16 %	0.17 %
Return on average shareholders' equity	5.81 %	3.54 %	11.70 %	2.14 %
Efficiency ratio	60.21 %	85.22 %	65.04 %	89.77 %
Yield on interest earning assets	3.74 %	3.42 %	3.53 %	3.49 %
Cost of deposits and borrowings	1.04 %	0.77 %	0.88 %	0.82 %
Net interest margin	2.79 %	2.69 %	2.72 %	2.70 %

Capital Ratios (unaudited)	**December 31, 2004**	**September 30, 2004**	**December 31, 2003**
Tier one leverage	10.86%	12.25%	9.08%
Tier one risk-based	29.27%	32.09%	21.67%
Total risk-based	29.92%	32.67%	22.26%

Asset Quality (unaudited)	**December 31, 2004**	**September 30, 2004**	**December 31, 2003**
Non-performing loans	$ 6,042	$ 4,729	$ 5,130
Allowance for loan losses	$ 7,660	$ 6,185	$ 4,323
Allowance for loan losses to non-performing loans	126.78%	130.79%	84.27%
Allowance for loan losses to total loans	1.34%	1.23%	1.15%
Non-performing loans to total loans	1.06%	0.94%	1.36%
Quarterly net charge-offs (recoveries) to average loans (annualized)	0.00%	(0.01%)	(0.01%)

Signature Bank
Net Interest Margin Analysis
(Unaudited)

The following tables present an analysis of net interest income by each major category of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities:

For the three months ended:	**December 31, 2004**			**December 31, 2003**		
(dollars in thousands)	Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate	Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate
Interest-Earning Assets						
Short-term investments	$ 23,859	$ 101	1.68%	$ 39,628	$ 81	0.81%
Investment securities	2,448,010	21,077	3.44%	1,190,980	9,469	3.18%
Commercial loans and commercial mortgages	391,196	5,213	5.30%	271,804	3,101	4.53%
Residential mortgages	75,615	942	4.98%	49,525	685	5.53%
Consumer loans	58,269	749	5.12%	32,733	318	3.85%
Loans held for sale	67,510	621	3.66%	87,664	697	3.15%
Total interest-earning assets	$3,064,459	$28,703	3.74%	$1,672,334	$14,351	3.42%
Non-interest-earning assets	115,707			82,761		
Total assets	$3,180,166			$1,755,095		
Interest-Bearing Liabilities						
Interest-bearing deposits:						
NOW and interest-bearing checking	$ 182,008	$ 310	0.68%	$ 146,286	$ 263	0.71%
Money market accounts	1,315,653	4,023	1.22%	783,267	2,248	1.14%
Certificates of deposits	241,417	1,141	1.88%	52,294	222	1.68%
Non-interest-bearing deposits	714,820	---	--	494,864	---	--
Total deposits	2,453,898	5,474	0.89%	1,476,711	2,733	0.73%
Borrowings	352,294	1,888	2.13%	115,304	356	1.22%
Total deposits and borrowings	2,806,192	7,362	1.04%	1,592,015	3,089	0.77%
Other non-interest-bearing liabilities and shareholders’ equity	373,974			163,080		
Total liabilities and shareholders’ equity	$3,180,166			$1,755,095		
Net interest income / interest rate spread		$21,341	2.70%		$11,262	2.65%
Net interest margin			2.79%			2.69%
Ratio of average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities			109.20%			105.05%

For the year ended:	December 31, 2004			December 31, 2003		
	Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate	Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate
(dollars in thousands)						
Interest-Earning Assets						
Short-term investments	$ 29,053	$ 326	1.12%	$ 31,239	$ 285	0.91%
Investment securities	1,923,765	63,232	3.29%	996,839	31,905	3.20%
Commercial loans and commercial mortgages	327,564	15,878	4.85%	228,367	10,861	4.76%
Residential mortgages	67,305	3,215	4.78%	39,974	1,973	4.94%
Consumer loans	46,913	2,090	4.46%	23,076	958	4.15%
Loans held for sale	72,365	2,465	3.41%	64,953	2,362	3.64%
Total interest-earning assets	$2,466,965	$87,206	3.53%	$1,384,448	$48,344	3.49%
Non-interest-earning assets	103,539			90,605		
Total assets	$2,570,504			$1,475,053		
Interest-Bearing Liabilities						
Interest-bearing deposits:						
NOW and interest-bearing checking	$170,680	$1,178	0.69%	$131,576	$1,057	0.80%
Money market accounts	1,096,364	12,423	1.13%	641,807	7,674	1.20%
Certificates of deposits	133,977	2,340	1.75%	48,831	858	1.76%
Non-interest-bearing deposits	635,312	--	--	416,561	--	--
Total deposits	$2,036,333	15,941	0.78%	$1,238,775	9,589	0.77%
Borrowings	251,803	4,281	1.70%	100,341	1,369	1.36%
Total deposits and borrowings	$2,288,136	20,222	0.88%	$1,339,116	10,958	0.82%
Other non-interest-bearing liabilities and shareholders’ equity	282,368			135,937		
Total liabilities and shareholders’ equity	$2,570,504			$1,475,053		
Net interest income / interest rate spread		$66,984	2.65%		$37,386	2.67%
Net interest margin			2.72%			2.70%
Ratio of average interest-earning assets to average interest-bearing liabilities			107.82%			103.39%

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