



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ECB to Receive the Veterans Support Award for Protecting Elderly Veterans

ENGELHARD, N.C. – ECB has been chosen by the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation (SHCPF) as one of the first recipients in the country to receive the Veterans Support Award which honors the bank's commitment to help protect our nation's elderly Veterans. The award will be presented by George Clinard, Vice President of the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation, during a ceremony held at **10:00 AM, September 28, 2011, at ECB's Corporate Office in Engelhard** which will highlight **ECB's** participation in this initiative.

"The Board of Directors and employees of ECB are thrilled and certainly honored to be a part of such a tremendous and well respected organization as SHCPF," stated A. Dwight Utz, president and CEO with ECB. "Our participation helps protect our elderly veterans who so valiantly served our great country. ECB's geographical footprint serves a large contingent of military families and veterans and we believe it's a worthy and noble mission to support our veterans."

Recently **ECB** in partnership with the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA) and the American Bankers Association (ABA) made the decision to participate in a national Veterans Initiative which ensures that 40,000 Veterans living in 160 state Veteran nursing homes are able to live out their lives in safe, secure, enhanced quality of life environments free from the daily fear of crime, abuse, neglect, hostility and

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deprivation of personal freedom, as provided through the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation's Senior Crimestoppers program.

The Senior Crimestoppers program is a proprietary operation of the SHCPF, a national organization which was established to provide a vehicle for banks to earn CRA credit through support of nursing home residents, who are classified as low-to-moderate income individuals. Senior Crimestoppers is built on a zero tolerance-to-crime platform that is vigilantly maintained for the residents, staff, management and visitors.

For more information on the Veterans Initiative or the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation (SHCPF) visit their website at www.SHCPFfoundation.org. For more information about the Senior Crimestoppers program, please visit www.seniorcrimestoppers.org

About ECB Bancorp, Inc.

ECB Bancorp, Inc. is a bank holding company, headquartered in Engelhard, North Carolina, whose wholly-owned subsidiary, The East Carolina Bank, is a state-chartered, independent community bank insured by the FDIC. The Bank provides a full range of financial services through its 25 offices covering eastern North Carolina from Currituck to Ocean Isle Beach and Greenville to Hatteras. The Bank also provides Mortgage, Wealth Management, and Insurance Services through the Bank's licensed agents. The Company's common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "ECBE." More information can be obtained by visiting ECB's web site at www.MyECB.com.

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A. Dwight Utz (L), President and CEO with ECB, accepts the Veterans Support Award on behalf of ECB from George Clinard (R), Vice President of the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation.