



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Walker Joins ECB as Market Executive in Wilmington

WILMINGTON, N.C. – Jerry Brett, Senior Vice President and Regional Executive, recently announced that John Walker has joined ECB as Market Executive with responsibilities covering New Hanover and Brunswick Counties.

“John’s banking experience and his expertise in commercial lending make him an excellent choice for our growing Southeastern Region,” stated Brett. “His experience will prove beneficial as we continue to expand our footprint in this market and give our customers the financial products they seek along with excellent customer service.”

“ECB has long been recognized by its peers and customers as one of the leading Community Banks in the southeast and I am proud to be joining the outstanding staff here in Brunswick and New Hanover Counties,” said Walker.

Walker comes to ECB with 26 years of banking experience by way of Wachovia, Anchor Bank, First Citizens, and most recently Regions. Walker’s responsibilities include ensuring the success of the area branches in Wilmington, Leland and ECB’s newest branch in Porter’s Neck opening in late 2010. In addition to overseeing the branch operations, he will handle commercial lending in New Hanover and Brunswick Counties. Walker is a graduate of Campbell University with a Bachelors of Science degree in Business Administration. He is a member of the Rotary Club.

You can reach Walker for further comment by telephone at (910) 509-2816 or at 1724 Eastwood Road in Wilmington.

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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 24 offices covering eastern North Carolina from Currituck to Ocean Isle Beach and Greenville to Hatteras. The Bank also provides mortgages, 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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