



**BANK
OF THE
SIERRA**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 12, 2010
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Bank of the Sierra to Relocate Stockdale Towers Branch

PORTERVILLE, CA — Bank of the Sierra announced today, it will not renew the building lease on its 5060 California Avenue branch in Bakersfield, located on the ground level of the Stockdale Towers building. The branch will officially close its doors on January 14, 2011. The bank is currently looking for a nearby replacement site, with better branch visibility and a drive-up teller window. All accounts currently maintained at this office will be fully accessible at all other Bank of the Sierra locations during the transitional period, including three other locations in Bakersfield. All current California Avenue branch staff will be transitioned to other Bakersfield branches on or before the date of closure.

“In an effort to better serve our growing customer base, we continually open more branches and evaluate existing locations. We saw the expiration of the building lease as a perfect opportunity to relocate to a better site for the bank and its customers,” stated James C. Holly, President and C.E.O. “We are also pleased to announce there will be no jobs lost due to the relocation of the branch,” Holly continued.

For more information about the branch closure, customers are encouraged to call branch manager Steve Ermigarat at 661-325-0101. To see a full list and map of current locations please visit us on the web at www.BankoftheSierra.com.

About Bank of the Sierra

With \$1.3 billion in assets and strong performance ratios, Bank of the Sierra operates as the largest independent community bank headquartered in California’s Heartland. The bank serves 15 different communities with 26 branches, an Agricultural Credit Center, an SBA Center and an online “virtual” branch. The bank is also expanding its reach with the construction of a new branch building in Selma, California. The scheduled open date for the new Selma branch is early 2011. For more information visit www.bankofthesierra.com or call (888) 454-BANK (2265).

About Sierra Bancorp

Sierra Bancorp (NASDAQ:BSRR) is the holding company for Bank of the Sierra, now in its 33rd year of operating. For more information please visit www.sierrabancorp.com or call (888) 454-BANK.

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