

ParaCap Announces Bank Merger Deal

July 2011

To Our Clients and Other Friends:

We are pleased to announce the merger between Elgin State Bancorp of Elgin, IL and Wintrust Financial Corporation (NASDAQ: WTFC) of Lake Forest, IL. We are representing Elgin State in this transaction.

While there has not been a tremendous amount of merger activity in the banking industry this year, we sense that it is beginning to pick up. There will be a lot of deals like this one over the next few years, in which a community bank chooses to team up with a bigger and stronger bank that offers liquidity for the shareholders as well as some possible upside from future stock appreciation. We have been working with Elgin State since late 2010 to assess capital raising and merger options.

Please let us know if we can help you.



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