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CAPITOL BANCORP SURPASSES \$2 BILLION IN BANKING ASSETS

Lansing, Michigan: November 5, 2001 - Capitol Bancorp Limited (NASDAQ:CBCL) announced that total banking assets at this organization comprised of 27 affiliate community banks operating in 6 states surpassed the \$2 billion level during October.

Commenting on the continued robust growth of the Corporation's banks, Capitol Bancorp Chairman and CEO, Joseph D. Reid, stated, "This milestone marks a tremendous level of achievement for our organization, and underscores the organic growth embedded within our affiliate family that we believe we are in the early stages of harvesting and fully recognizing. Our roots date back to 1982, and we were fortunate to cross the \$1 billion asset level in late 1998 as our prudent expansion plans took hold. Less than three years later, we have doubled the size of Capitol Bancorp while maintaining the critically-important culture and integrity of our operating platform: locally-owned and operated community banks focused on delivering individually-tailored service to their markets. On the heels of reporting record third quarter earnings a few weeks ago, we take pride in being able to now report that our expansion continues along a prudent and orderly path coinciding with the maturation of our organization."

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About the Corporation

Capitol Bancorp Limited is a bank development company and the only company of its kind headquartered in Michigan. In an era of bank consolidation, Capitol's business is the development of community banks.

Capitol is a uniquely structured affiliation of community banks. Each bank is focused on meeting the banking needs of entrepreneurs, professionals and other individuals seeking individually-tailored service. Each bank has full local decision-making authority in making loans and delivery of other banking services. Each bank is managed by an on-site president and management team under the direction of its local board of directors which is comprised of business leaders from that bank's community.

Capitol's bank development philosophy is one of '*shared vision*', which encompasses a commitment to community banking emphasizing local leadership and investment, with the shared resources of efficient management.

The Corporation's total number of affiliates currently stands at 27 banks. Affiliate banks are located in Michigan, Indiana, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and California.

Bank development activities are also currently conducted by Sun Community Bancorp Limited, Nevada Community Bancorp Limited, Indiana Community Bancorp Limited, Sunrise Capital Corporation and First California Northern Bancorp, each of which are affiliates of Capitol Bancorp Limited.