

April 10, 2007



# **PNC and Maryland Chamber of Commerce to Announce First-Ever Results of Statewide Business Survey**

- Chief Economist Stuart Hoffman analyzes results of new 'PNC Economic Outlook' survey of small business owners -

BALTIMORE, Md., April 10, 2007 - The first-ever Maryland results for the PNC Economic Outlook survey of business owners will be announced on Thursday, April 12, at 8:30 a.m. ET. Stuart Hoffman, chief economist for The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE: PNC), also will analyze the national results and provide his economic forecast.

The details will be presented to a gathering of business owners and executives at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel, Inner Harbor. Hoffman will be joined by Edward J. (Ned) Kelly III, vice chairman; J. Marshall (Mike) Reid, regional president, Greater Baltimore; and Kathleen Snyder, president and chief executive officer of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce.

The semiannual survey of small and mid-sized business owners across the United States began in 2003. The results include expectations for their own business performance, including sales and profits, for the next six months and beyond.

"The owners of small and mid-sized businesses provide unique insights into the issues that impact economic growth at the state and national levels," said Hoffman, recognized in March by USA Today as one of the nation's leading economic forecasters. Findings from the survey conducted between January and March offer insights into economic trends and the business community's plans for hiring, selling prices and capital spending.

## **Presentation: Thursday, April 12, at 8:30 a.m. ET**

Kelly will introduce the presentation, which is the first event hosted by PNC since its acquisition of Mercantile Bankshares Corporation. Hoffman will present the survey's national results and his forecast. Reid will discuss the Maryland results then Snyder will provide her business perspective. National and regional news media are invited to attend the presentation in Baltimore or participate in the live teleconference and webcast hosted by PNC.

Location: Renaissance Harborplace Hotel, 202 East Pratt Street, Baltimore's Inner Harbor; Maryland Ballroom, Fifth Floor.

Internet: Live audio-only webcast accessible at [www.pnc.com/go/presskits/eos](http://www.pnc.com/go/presskits/eos)

Dial-in Number: 800-990-2718 or 706-643-0187

Conference ID: 4036511

Replay Details: Available on PNC's Web site for 30 days, and via telephone for one week at 800-642-1687 and 706-645-9291, Conference ID: 4036511

The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. ([www.pnc.com](http://www.pnc.com)) is one of the nation's largest diversified financial services organizations providing consumer and business banking; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance and asset-based lending; wealth management; asset management; and global fund services.

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