

May 4, 2011

# Sovran Self Storage Reports First Quarter 2011 Earnings; Management Increases Guidance After Posting Strong Results

BUFFALO, N.Y.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Sovran Self Storage, Inc. (<u>NYSE:SSS</u>), a <u>self storage</u> real estate investment trust (REIT), reported operating results for the quarter ended March 31, 2011.

Net income available to common shareholders for the first quarter of 2011 was \$8.3 million or \$0.30 per fully diluted share. For the same period in 2010, net income available to common shareholders was \$7.4 million, or \$0.27 per fully diluted common share. Funds from operations (FFO) for the quarter were \$0.62 per fully diluted common share compared to \$0.60 for the same period last year.

Improved occupancy and the reduced use of move-in incentives contributed to the increase in earnings and FFO for the first quarter of 2011.

"We're encouraged by the recovering demand for space in most of our markets, and our ability to regain pricing power," said Kenneth F. Myszka, the Company's President and COO. "We expect to see continued improvements as the busy season gets started."

### **OPERATIONS:**

Total revenues increased 4.8% over last year's first quarter, while operating costs increased 2.3%, resulting in an NOI increase of 6.3%. Overall occupancy averaged 79.2% for the period and rental rates improved to an average of \$10.48 per sq. ft.

Revenues for the 344 stores wholly owned by the Company for the entire quarter of each year increased 3.0% from those of the first quarter of 2010, the result of a 60 basis point increase in average occupancy, a 0.7% increase in rental rates and strong growth in other revenues.

Same store operating expenses increased 0.6% for the first quarter of 2011

compared to the prior year period, the result of modest increases in property payroll expenses and snow removal costs offset by a property tax decrease of 4.6%.

Consequently, same store net operating income increased 4.4% this period over the first quarter of 2010.

General and administrative expenses grew by about \$0.7 million over the same period in 2010, primarily due to increased training, internet advertising and personnel costs.

During the first quarter of 2011, all but 2 of the 22 states included in the Company's same store base achieved sales greater than the same period in 2010. The stores with the strongest revenue growth include those in <a href="New England">New York</a>, and <a href="Tennessee">Tennessee</a>. With regard to these results, Myszka commented, "We are especially encouraged by the 2.5% revenue increase shown in the Florida portfolio."

### PROPERTIES:

The Company is in negotiations and/or contract to acquire approximately \$200 million of property. \$160 million of this total is on behalf of a joint venture to be sponsored by the Company to which it expects to contribute 15% of the equity required. The remaining \$40 million of properties are expected to be acquired by the Company on a wholly owned basis. Since all of the acquisitions are subject to remaining due diligence and other contingencies, no assurance can be given that any or all of the transactions will be consummated.

The Company is kick-starting its program of expanding and enhancing its properties. In 2011, 27 projects providing up to 700,000 square feet of additional and/or improved space at existing stores are planned. "We are pleased to revitalize our expansion and enhancement program following the hiatus triggered by the industry slowdown of 2009-10," said Robert J. Attea, Chairman and CEO. "This is yet another positive sign that business is returning to normal."

### CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS:

At March 31, 2011, the Company had \$400 million of unsecured term note debt, \$78.3 million of mortgage debt outstanding and \$16 million drawn on its line of credit. The Company has no significant debt maturities until mid-2012.

Illustrated below are key financial ratios at March 31, 2011:

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-- Debt to Enterprise Value (at $39.55/share) 30.8%
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At March 31, 2011, the Company had approximately \$4.9 million of cash on hand, and up to \$109 million available on its line of credit.

### YEAR 2011 EARNINGS GUIDANCE:

Management is encouraged by improving demand in most markets. Nonetheless, the Company anticipates the continuation of leasing incentives supplemented by aggressive and increased advertising. An increase in same store revenue of 2% to 4% is projected from that of 2010. Property operating costs are projected to increase by 2% to 3%, including an expected 4% annual increase in property taxes. Accordingly, the Company is anticipating an increase of 2% to 4% in same store net operating income for 2011.

The Company intends to spend up to \$32 million on its aforementioned expansion and enhancement program. It has also budgeted \$11 million to provide for recurring capitalized expenditures including roofing, painting, paving, and office renovations.

Purchases of properties made in 2011 are not expected to impact 2011's guidance inasmuch as the Company expects to invest in both low occupancy "turn-around" opportunities as well as stabilized properties. No significant acquisitions are expected to close until the second half of the year. The impact of the aforementioned joint venture has not been included in current guidance.

General and administrative expenses are expected to increase due to income taxes on its taxable REIT subsidiaries and the Company's plans to continue expanding its internet marketing presence.

At March 31, 2011, all but \$16 million of the Company's debt is either fixed rate or covered by rate swap contracts that essentially fix the rate. Subsequent borrowings that may occur will be pursuant to the Company's Line of Credit agreement at a floating rate of LIBOR plus 1.375%.

At March 31, 2011, the Company had 27.7 million shares of common stock outstanding and 0.34 million Operating Partnership Units outstanding.

As a result of the above assumptions, management expects funds from operations for the full year 2011 to be approximately \$2.61 to \$2.65 per share, and between \$0.64 and \$0.66 for the second quarter of 2011.

### FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS:

When used within this news release, the words "intends," "believes," "expects," "anticipates," and similar expressions are intended to identify "forward looking statements" within the meaning of that term in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, and in Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward looking statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to, the effect of competition from new self storage facilities, which could cause rents and occupancy rates to decline; the Company's ability to evaluate, finance and integrate acquired businesses into the Company's existing business and operations; the Company's existing indebtedness may mature in an unfavorable credit environment, preventing refinancing or forcing refinancing of the indebtedness on terms that are not as favorable as the existing terms; interest rates may fluctuate, impacting costs associated with the Company's outstanding floating rate debt; the Company's ability to comply with debt covenants; the future ratings on the Company's debt instruments; the regional concentration of the Company's business may subject it to economic downturns in the states of Florida and Texas; the Company's ability to effectively compete in the industries in which it does business; the Company's reliance on its call center; the Company's cash flow may be insufficient to meet required payments of principal, interest and dividends; and tax law changes which may change the taxability of future income.

### **CONFERENCE CALL:**

Sovran Self Storage will hold its First Quarter <u>Earnings Release</u> Conference Call at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, May 5, 2011. To access the conference call, dial 877.407.8033 (domestic), or 201.689.8033 (international). Management will accept questions from registered financial analysts after prepared remarks; all others are encouraged to listen to the call via webcast by accessing "events and conference calls" under the investor relations tab at <a href="https://www.unclebobs.com/company/">www.unclebobs.com/company/</a>.

The webcast will be archived for a period of 90 days; a telephone replay will also be available for 72 hours by calling 877.660.6853 and entering pass codes 286/369892.

Sovran Self Storage, Inc. is a self-administered and self-managed equity REIT that is in the business of acquiring and managing <u>self storage</u> facilities. The Company operates 377 self storage facilities in 24 states under the name "Uncle Bob's Self Storage"<sup>(R)</sup>. For more information, please contact David Rogers, CFO or Diane Piegza, VP Corporate Communications at 716.633.1850 or visit the

# Company's Web site.

SOVRAN SELF STORAGE, INC.

BALANCE SHEET DATA

(unaudited)

(**************************************						
	March 31,			December 31,		
(dollars in thousands)	20	011	20	010		
Assets						
Investment in storage facilities:						
Land	\$	240,656	\$	240,651		
Building, equipment and construction in progress		1,182,707		1,179,305		
		1,423,363		1,419,956		
Less: accumulated depreciation		(280,147)		(271,797)		
Investment in storage facilities, net		1,143,216		1,148,159		
Cash and cash equivalents		4,859		5,766		
Accounts receivable		1,914		2,377		
Receivable from joint venture		232		253		
Investment in joint venture		19,604		19,730		
Prepaid expenses		6,355		4,408		
Other assets		5,812		4,848		
Total Assets	\$	1,181,992	\$	1,185,541		
Liabilities						
Line of credit	\$	16,000	\$	10,000		
Term notes		400,000		400,000		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		18,018		23,991		
Deferred revenue		5,034		4,925		
Fair value of interest rate swap agreements		8,777		10,528		
Mortgages payable		78,344		78,954		
Total Liabilities		526,173		528,398		

Noncontrolling redeemable Operating Partnership Units at redemption value					12,480		
Equity							
Common stock		289			288		
Additional paid-in capital		818,343			816,986		
Accumulated deficit		(153,429	)		(148,264	)	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(8,699	)		(10,254	)	
Treasury stock at cost		(27,175	)		(27,175	)	
Total Shareholders' Equity		629,329			631,581		
Noncontrolling interest - consolidated joint venture		13,082			13,082		
Total Equity		642,411			644,663		
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$	1,181,992		\$	1,185,541		

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(unaudited)

	January 1, 2011	January 1, 2010
	to	to
(dollars in thousands, except share data)	March 31, 2011	March 31, 2010
Revenues		
Rental income	\$ 47,126	\$ 45,349
Other operating income	2,092	1,624
Management and acquisition fee income	317	311
Total operating revenues	49,535	47,284
Expenses		
Property operations and maintenance	13,513	12,934
Real estate taxes	5,044	5,211
General and administrative	5,814	5,139
Depreciation and amortization	8,484	8,200
Amortization of in-place customer leases	141	-
Total operating expenses	32,996	31,484

Income from operations	16,539		15,800	
Other income (expense)				
Interest expense (A)	(7,897	)	(7,878	)
Interest income	18		20	
Equity in income of joint ventures	40		70	
Income from continuing operations	8,700		8,012	
Loss from discontinued operations (including loss on disposal of \$580 in 2010)	-		(124	)
Net income	8,700		7,888	
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	(440	)	(461	)
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$ 8,260		\$ 7,427	
Earnings per common share attributable to common shareholders - basic				
Continuing operations	\$ 0.30		\$ 0.27	
Discontinued operations	-		-	
Earnings per common share - basic	\$ 0.30		\$ 0.27	
Earnings per common share attributable to common shareholders - diluted				
Continuing operations	\$ 0.30		\$ 0.27	
Discontinued operations	-		-	
Earnings per common share - diluted	\$ 0.30		\$ 0.27	
Common shares used in basic				
earnings per share calculation	27,537,278		27,445,101	
Common shares used in diluted				
earnings per share calculation	27,577,435		27,479,148	
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.4500		\$ 0.4500	
(A) Interest expense for the three months ending March 31 consists of the following				
Interest expense	\$ 7,640		\$ 7,620	
Amortization of deferred financing fees	257		258	
Total interest expense	\$ 7,897		\$ 7,878	

	J	anuary 1, 20	11	Ja	nuary 1,	2010	
	t	0		to			
(dollars in thousands, except share data)	M	arch 31, 201	.1	Ма	rch 31, 2	2010	
Net income attributable to common shareholders	\$	8,260		\$	7,427		
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests		440			461		
Depreciation of real estate and amortization of intangible							
assets exclusive of deferred financing fees		8,625			8,200		
Depreciation of real estate included in discontinued operations		-			163		
Depreciation and amortization from unconsolidated joint ventures		198			194		
Loss on sale of real estate		-			580		
Funds from operations allocable to noncontrolling							
interest in Operating Partnership		(206	)		(248	)	
Funds from operations allocable to noncontrolling							
interest in consolidated joint ventures		(340	)		(340	)	
Funds from operations available to common							
shareholders		16,977			16,437		
FFO per share - diluted	\$	0.62		\$	0.60		
Common shares - diluted		27,577,435			27,479,14	18	

Funds from operations is defined by the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts, Inc. ("NAREIT") as net income computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), excluding gains or losses on sales of properties, plus depreciation and amortization and after adjustments to

<sup>(1)</sup> We believe that Funds from Operations ("FFO") provides relevant and meaningful information about our operating performance that is necessary, along with net earnings and cash flows, for an understanding of our operating results. FFO adds back historical cost depreciation, which assumes the value of real estate assets diminishes predictably in the future. In fact, real estate asset values increase or decrease with market conditions. Consequently, we believe FFO is a useful supplemental measure in evaluating our operating performance by disregarding (or adding back) historical cost depreciation.

record unconsolidated partnerships and joint ventures on the same basis. We believe that to further understand our performance, FFO should be compared with our reported net income and cash flows in accordance with GAAP, as presented in our consolidated financial statements.

Our computation of FFO may not be comparable to FFO reported by other REITs or real estate companies that do not define the term in accordance with the current NAREIT definition or that interpret the current NAREIT definition differently. FFO does not represent cash generated from operating activities determined in accordance with GAAP, and should not be considered as an alternative to net income (determined in accordance with GAAP) as an indication of our performance, as an alternative to net cash flows from operating activities (determined in accordance with GAAP) as a measure of our liquidity, or as an indicator of our ability to make cash distributions.

QUARTERLY SAME STORE DATA (2) *	January 1, 2011	January 1, 2010	
	to	to	Percentage
(dollars in thousands)	March 31, 2011	March 31, 2010	Change
Revenues:			
Rental income	\$ 46,283	\$ 45,321	2.1 %
Other operating income	1,960	1,537	27.5 %
Total operating revenues	48,243	46,858	3.0 %
Expenses:			
Property operations and maintenance	13,214	12,860	2.8 %
Real estate taxes	4,955	5,196	-4.6 %
Total operating expenses	18,169	18,056	0.6 %
Operating income	\$ 30,074	\$ 28,802	4.4 %

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes the 344 stores owned and/or managed by the Company for the entire periods presented that are consolidated in our financial statements. Does not include unconsolidated joint venture stores managed by the Company.

<sup>\*</sup> See exhibit A for supplemental same store data.

OTHER DATA	Same St	ore (2)	All Stores (3)		
Open	2011	2010	2011	2010	
Weighted average quarterly occupancy	79.7%	79.1%	79.2%	79.0%	
Occupancy at March 31	79.7%	78.9%	79.2%	78.8%	
Rent per occupied square foot	\$10.49	\$10.42	\$10.48	\$10.36	

(3) Does not include 25 unconsolidated joint venture stores managed by the  $\operatorname{\texttt{Company}}$ 

# Investment in Storage Facilities:

The following summarizes activity in storage facilities during the three months ended March 31, 2011:

Beginning balance	\$	1,419,956	
Property acquisitions		-	
Improvements and equipment additions:			
Expansions		4,884	
Roofing, paving, painting, and equipment:			
Stabilized stores		1,666	
Recently acquired and consolidated joint venture stores		186	
Change in construction in progress (Total CIP \$4.9 million)		(3,177)	
Dispositions		(152 )	
Storage facilities at cost at period end	\$	1,423,363	
	М	arch 31, 2011	March 31, 2010
Common shares outstanding		27,679,360	27,566,605
Operating Partnership Units outstanding		339,025	384,952

### Exhibit A

Sovran Self Storage, Inc.

Same Store Performance Summary

### (unaudited)

		Square Feet	Occupied	·		Occupancy Otrly for the Three Rent per Months Ended Occupied March 31,			Expenses for the 'Months Ended Man		
State	Stores		Square Foot	2011	2010	2011	2010	% Change	2011	2010	% Char
Alabama	22	1,588	\$ 8.19	76.2 %	74.0 %	\$ 2,671	\$ 2,575	3.73 %	\$ 985	\$ 982	0.31
Arizona	9	530	10.18	85.0 %	83.0 %	1,233	1,190	3.61 %	435	418	4.07
Connecticut	5	301	17.04	81.1 %	72.1 %	1,059	977	8.39 %	444	417	6.47
Florida	53	3,449	10.58	77.2 %	77.5 %	7,311	7,135	2.47 %	2,769	2,814	-1.6
Georgia	22	1,422	9.56	77.4 %	78.7 %	2,762	2,760	0.07 %	1,001	1,016	-1.4
Louisiana	14	865	10.58	81.1 %	79.2 %	1,883	1,916	-1.72 %	573	571	0.35
Maine	2	113	12.08	74.3 %	75.0 %	264	251	5.18 %	125	120	4.17
Maryland	4	172	14.56	85.7 %	85.1 %	549	523	4.97 %	199	219	-9.1
Massachusetts	12	664	12.78	81.1 %	79.2 %	1,798	1,697	5.95 %	798	744	7.26
Michigan	4	239	8.51	90.3 %	83.5 %	478	443	7.90 %	223	214	4.21
Mississippi	12	926	9.34	80.2 %	82.4 %	1,826	1,792	1.90 %	550	559	-1.6
Missouri	7	432	11.43	83.6 %	83.7 %	1,058	1,044	1.34 %	440	421	4.51
New Hampshire	4	260	10.97	82.6 %	77.9 %	589	547	7.68 %	232	231	0.43
New York	28	1,598	13.37	83.7 %	80.9 %	4,634	4,372	5.99 %	1,886	1,737	8.58
North Carolina	11	539	9.35	78.3 %	78.8 %	1,006	1,018	-1.18 %	400	381	4.99
Ohio	17	1,132	8.99	83.8 %	84.2 %	2,209	2,126	3.90 %	868	874	-0.6
Pennsylvania	4	230	10.07	81.5 %	80.4 %	439	425	3.29 %	164	181	-9.3
Rhode Island	4	168	12.43	79.5 %	77.9 %	458	441	3.85 %	207	182	13.7
South Carolina	8	443	9.81	79.4 %	77.2 %	905	872	3.78 %	349	370	-5.6
Tennessee	4	291	8.63	87.9 %	80.4 %	573	521	9.98 %	254	250	1.60
Texas	81	5,887	10.32	79.2 %	79.5 %	12,336	12,094	2.00 %	4,553	4,630	-1.6
Virginia	17	1,030	10.84	77.0 %	76.5 %	2,202	2,139	2.95 %	714	725	-1.5
Portfolio Total	344	22,279	\$ 10.49	79.7 %	79.1 %	\$ 48,243	\$ 46,858	2.96 %	\$ 18,169	\$ 18,056	0.63

Dollars in thousands except for average quarterly rent per occupied square foot. Square feet in thousands.

344 wholly owned same stores.

Source: Sovran Self Storage, Inc.