

Media Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

To the Editor:

Local Bank Earns Highest Rating for Safety and Soundness

June 2008: BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc. of Coral Gables, FL, the nation's leading independent bank rating and research firm, is proud to announce that **First America Bank, Bradenton, Florida** has once again achieved its highest 5-Star rating. The 5-Star rating is based on the overall financial picture of the bank and indicates that First America Bank is one of the strongest banks in the nation. This quarter represents the seventh consecutive time that First America Bank has earned this highest honor.

"The times are changing and fewer banks are qualifying for this top rating, but our rigorous standards remain," boasts Karen L. Dorway, president of BAUERFINANCIAL. "You should be proud to know your local bank, First America Bank, can claim this highest honor and be confident to call it your bank."

First America Bank was established in 2004 and has been steadfastly serving the financial needs of its neighbors and friends for four years. It operates through three conveniently located offices in Bradenton, Osprey and its newly opened branch on South Palm Avenue in Sarasota. First America Bank can be found on the internet at www.firstamericabank.com.

First America Bank: "Your 5-Star Community Bank."

BAUERFINANCIAL, INC., Coral Gables, Florida, the nation's leading independent bank rating and research firm, has been reporting on and analyzing the performance of U.S. banks and credit unions since 1983. No institution pays for its rating, nor can they elude it. Consumers may obtain star-ratings by visiting www.bauerfinancial.com.

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For more information on First America Bank, or any other U.S. bank or credit union, contact Karen Dorway directly at 800.388.6686 or e-mail her at kdorway@bauerfinancial.com.

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