

Announcement of Fourth Quarter and Year-End 2012 Financial Results

Jan 14 , 2013

Los Angeles, Calif., January 14, 2013: Cathay General Bancorp (the "Company"; NASDAQ: CATY), the holding company for Cathay Bank (the "Bank"), is scheduled to announce its fourth quarter and year-end 2012 financial results after the markets close on Wednesday, January 23, 2013.

Cathay General Bancorp has scheduled a conference call as set forth below. Analysts and investors may participate in the question-and-answer session.

Conference Call and Webcast Information:

Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Time: 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time (6:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Duration: 1 hour

Dial In Number: (866) 713-8563

Participant Passcode: 12690883

Participants should join the live conference call 5 to 10 minutes before its scheduled start.

Webcast Access: A listen-only live Webcast of the call will be available at www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com. A recorded version for replay will be available within 24 hours after the end of the call until January 23, 2014.

ABOUT CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

Cathay General Bancorp is the holding company for Cathay Bank, a California state-chartered bank. Founded in 1962, Cathay Bank offers a wide range of financial services. Cathay Bank currently operates 31 branches in California, eight branches in New York State, one in Massachusetts, two in Texas, three in Washington State, three in the Chicago, Illinois area, one in New Jersey, one in Hong Kong, and a representative office in Shanghai and in Taipei. Cathay Bank's website is found at <http://www.cathaybank.com>. Cathay General Bancorp's website is found at <http://www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com>.