



CATHAY GENERAL
BANCORP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For: Cathay General Bancorp
777 N. Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Contact: Heng W. Chen
(626) 279-3652

**CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP
DECLARES \$0.21 PER SHARE DIVIDEND**

LOS ANGELES, February 16, 2017: Cathay General Bancorp (NASDAQ: CATY), the holding company for Cathay Bank, announced today that its Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of twenty-one cents per common share, payable on March 10, 2017, to stockholders of record at the close of business on March 1, 2017.

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 34 branches in California, 12 branches in New York State, three in the Chicago, Illinois area, three in Washington State, two in Texas, one in Maryland, one in Massachusetts, one in Nevada, one in New Jersey, one in Hong Kong, and a representative office in Taipei and in Shanghai. Cathay Bank's website is found at www.cathaybank.com. Cathay General Bancorp's website is found at www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com. Information set forth on such websites is not incorporated into this press release.