



New National Recognition Crowns a Year of Achievement at BankUnited

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MIAMI LAKES, Fla.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Dec. 29, 2014-- BankUnited (NYSE:BKU) has capped another year of extraordinary performance that includes a jump to third on Forbes Magazine's list of "Best Banks in America 2015," up from 8th on the list last year.

In 2014, BankUnited also posted an unbroken string of superior five-star ratings from the independent bank research firm BauerFinancial that began with the Florida-based bank's first evaluation in 2011 and has continued through the latest December ranking.

Earlier in 2014, BankUnited once again held a top three ranking in two major national reports: *Bank Director* magazine's annual national survey of the largest U.S. banks in the \$5 billion to \$50 billion category and SNL Financial's list of best performing regional banks.

Phenomenal organic growth continues to fuel BankUnited's success. For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, new loans and leases, including equipment under operating leases, increased by \$2.7 billion or nearly \$1 billion per fiscal quarter. In recognition of the bank's industry leadership, BankUnited Chairman, President and CEO John Kanas won the 2014 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in Florida.

BankUnited continues to generate strong performance relative to its peers (defined as publicly traded U.S. banks and thrifts with assets between \$10-25 billion and \$1-5 billion in market capitalization as reported by SNL Financial). For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, it reported a return on average equity of 10.5 percent versus a peer median for the same period of 7.8 percent; a net interest margin of 4.8 percent versus the 3.5 percent peer median and a return on average assets of 1.3 percent versus a peer median 1.0 percent.

Recent initiatives have included a pilot program of banking center workshops featuring insights from recognized experts in a variety of fields aimed at owners of small and mid-sized businesses.

Named the 2014 Community Bank of the Year by the *South Florida Business Journal*, BankUnited has 101 branches in 15 Florida counties. Contributing \$198 million to new loan growth for the third quarter of 2014, BankUnited's New York franchise continued to grow and had six banking centers in the New York metropolitan area at September 30, 2014.

For more information about BankUnited please call (877) 779-2265 or visit www.BankUnited.com.

About BankUnited, N.A.

BankUnited, N.A., a national bank and wholly-owned subsidiary of BankUnited, Inc. (NYSE: BKU), is headquartered in Miami Lakes, Florida with 101 branches in 15 Florida counties and six banking centers in the New York metropolitan area at September 30, 2014. Ranked 3rd on Forbes Magazine's list of "Best Banks in America 2015," and one of the largest independent depository institutions headquartered in Florida by assets, BankUnited provides a wide range of commercial and consumer banking services. For additional information, call (877) 779-2265 or visit www.BankUnited.com. BankUnited can be found on Facebook at [facebook.com/BankUnited.official](https://www.facebook.com/BankUnited.official) and on Twitter @BankUnited.

Source: BankUnited

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