



TRICO BANCSHARES

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Richard P. Smith
Executive President & CEO
(530) 898-0300
ricksmith@tcbk.com

TRICO BANCSHARES ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD APPOINTMENT

CHICO, Calif. – (March 11, 2009) –TriCo Bancshares (NASDAQ: TCBK), parent company of Tri Counties Bank, today announced that Virginia Walker has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Company and the Bank, effective Wednesday, March 11, 2009.



Virginia Walker of Chico, Calif. is the newest member of the Board of Directors for TriCo Bancshares (NASDAQ: TCBK), parent company of Tri Counties Bank.

Walker, a Chico resident, is a seasoned executive with over 30 years experience in a wide range of industries, including software, biotechnology and semiconductor manufacturing. She is currently the General Manager of the Jamison Group LLC, a high-tech consulting company. She has held senior positions internationally ranging from Silicon Valley entrepreneurial ventures to Fortune 500 companies in both the U.S. and Europe. She has served as CFO in four public companies, as well as had P&L responsibilities as General Manager for U.S. operations of a multinational organization, and she drove strategic repositioning of a major software and servicing company while serving as chief strategist and marketing officer.

“I am thrilled to have Virginia Walker join our board of directors,” commented Richard P. Smith, President and CEO. “She brings a wealth of financial, strategic, multinational and international business experience that will further advance our Bank as we continue to grow and expand our presence throughout the Great Valley of California. Virginia will be a strong representative for our shareholders and she will provide strong leadership, sound advice and constructive counsel for our entire banking team.” concluded Smith.

“This is an exciting time in the history of the region’s largest locally-owned bank,” Walker said. “I feel my knowledge and experience in Silicon Valley’s high-tech industry will allow me to help TriCo achieve its long-term strategic plans for growth. That I grew up right here in the region makes the opportunity all the more meaningful to me.” Walker, who grew up in Oroville, Calif., has returned to the region following a successful career in senior executive roles for several publicly-traded high technology companies. She and husband Dell live in Chico.

TriCo Bancshares and Tri Counties Bank are headquartered in Chico, Calif. Tri Counties Bank has a 34-year history in the banking industry. Tri Counties Bank operates 32 traditional branch locations and 25 in-store branch locations in 23 California counties, and as of December 31, 2008, had approximately \$2.04 billion in assets. Tri Counties Bank offers financial services and provides a diversified line of products and services to consumers and businesses, which include demand, savings and time deposits, consumer finance, online banking, mortgage lending, and commercial banking throughout its market area. It operates a network of 64 ATMs and a 24-hour, seven days a week telephone customer service center. Brokerage services are provided at the Bank’s offices by the Bank’s association with Raymond James Financial, Inc. For further information please visit the Tri Counties Bank website at <http://www.tricountiesbank.com>.

###