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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Bank of Guam Leads Small Business Loans Small Businesses Choose to “Bank Local”**

April 18, 2012 - Hagatna, Guam. Guam Small Business Administration's (SBA) 6 month report issued today reveals Bank of Guam continues its leading role as the principal generator of small business loans on Guam, generating over 2/3 of SBA loans generated on Guam. The Bank also leads in the number of loans, 60%, of loans approved under the SBA loan guaranty through March 2012.

Bank of Guam Board Chair, President and Chief Executive Officer Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero stated, “In our 40<sup>th</sup> year, Bank of Guam continues to be the top supporter of small business establishment and growth. Local businesses have proven their choice to “bank local” in order to expand. I want to congratulate our SBA lending team under the leadership of Esther Reyes, Guam's 2010 SBA Loan Officer of the Year. We are honored by the community support over the last 40 years and will continue to do our best to earn that support in the years to come. Bank of Guam is successful only because our customers are successful.”

Bank of Guam continues its SBA status as a member of the SBA Preferred Lender Program (PLP), Certified Lender Program (CLP) and Patriot Express. The SBA Preferred Lender Program provides the highest level of autonomy to designated banks, while Patriot Express is a loan initiative for veterans and members of the military community wanting to establish or expand small businesses.

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