

Centrue Financial Corporation (OTCQB: CFCB) Closes Offering of \$76.0 million Capital Raise

Sandler O'Neill + Partners, L.P. served as financial advisor and sole placement agent to Centrue Financial in this transaction.

This transaction represents the 31st public offering or private placement of common stock for a bank or thrift since January 1, 2014 for which Sandler O'Neill acted as book manager, co-manager or placement agent, more than any other investment bank during that period. These transactions have raised over \$11.2 billion for our clients.¹

About the Transaction:

Centrue Financial Corporation announced today the successful completion of its recapitalization. The Recapitalization consisted of the following capital-related actions by the Company:

- Issuance of 190 million shares of Centrue common stock at a price of \$0.40 per share to predominantly institutional investors for aggregate proceeds of \$76 million;
- Repurchase and redemption of \$32.7 million of Series C Preferred Stock (formerly TARP) for \$19.0 million;
- Retirement of \$250 thousand in senior debt and redemption of \$10.0 million in subordinated debt for \$8.5 million;
- Cancellation and settlement of warrants to purchase the Company's common stock held by the United States Department of Treasury; and
- Payment of \$4.9 million of accrued interest on the Company's trust preferred securities

"Thanks to the hard work of many, we are now in a position of strength as a result of the Recapitalization. Going forward, our full attention can be directed to further improving our banking franchise and serving our communities," remarked Centrue President and Chief Executive Officer, Kurt R. Stevenson. "We extend our appreciation to our new shareholders, particularly Capital Z Partners, FJ Capital and Stieven Capital Advisors, that acted as lead investors for the common stock issuance. We are pleased that these shareholders have the confidence to invest in our Company, our markets and, most importantly, our people."

¹ Source: SNL Financial

This announcement is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities.

March 31, 2015

\$76.0 Million
Common Stock

Centrue
Bank

Sole Placement Agent

SANDLER O'NEILL + PARTNERS

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