

## **Sandler O’Neill Appoints Hildenbrand Co-Chief Balance Sheet Strategist**

**New York January 8, 2014** – Sandler O’Neill + Partners, L.P., a full-service investment banking firm specializing in financial services companies and an established leader in tactical balance sheet management, today announced that it has appointed Scott Hildenbrand as Co-Chief Balance Sheet Strategist.

In his expanded role, Mr. Hildenbrand will continue to work closely with the firm's depository clients to develop asset-liability management, portfolio, funding and derivative hedging strategies. He joins Ray Chandonnet in co-heading the firm's efforts to assist clients on balance sheet management strategy.

"We are very pleased to appoint Scott to this role," said Sandler O’Neill Senior Managing Principal, Jonathan Doyle. "Clients have increasingly sought his deep and rich insights into balance sheet issues. Additionally, Scott has provided outstanding leadership within our firm. This new role will strengthen Scott’s impact and expand his reach to further ensure that our Balance Sheet Strategy team is premier in the industry."

Mr. Hildenbrand joined Sandler O’Neill in 2004 and has worked in the banking industry since 2000. He holds a Master of Business Administration in Finance from the Sellinger School of Business at Loyola College in Maryland, and a bachelor’s degree in Business from Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania.

### **About Sandler O’Neill + Partners, L.P.**

Founded in 1988, Sandler O’Neill + Partners is a full-service investment-banking firm dedicated to providing comprehensive, innovative advisory and transaction execution services to the financial industry. The firm specializes in mergers and acquisitions, capital markets, mutual-to-stock conversions, investment portfolio and interest rate risk management, fixed income securities transactions, and mortgage finance restructurings. Sandler O’Neill is also a market maker in hundreds of financial stocks and publishes equity and fixed income research focused on selected banks, thrifts and insurance companies, investment banks, asset managers, specialty finance companies, e-finance companies, real estate investment trusts, financial technology companies, and exchanges/transaction execution companies. Additional information about Sandler O’Neill can be found on the firm’s website at [www.sandleroneill.com](http://www.sandleroneill.com).

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