SVB Financial Group

SVB Financial Group Appoints New General Counsel

Mary Dent To Lead Legal Department

SANTA CLARA, CALIF., May 15, 2006 — SVB Financial Group (Nasdaq: SIVB), parent company of SVB Silicon Valley Bank, announced the appointment of Mary Dent as general counsel and secretary to lead the company's legal department and provide strategic guidance to its management team and board. Dent brings more than 15 years of legal experience in the public and private sector to her role at SVB. Dent's background in both technology and international markets aligns directly with SVB Financial Group's vision to be the premier provider of innovative financial services to entrepreneurial companies worldwide.

"In this complex era of corporate governance, the sound guidance of an experienced general counsel plays an increasingly important role in a company's ability to grow efficiently and effectively," said Kenneth Wilcox, president and CEO of SVB Financial Group. "Mary's broad legal experience with technology companies in an international arena is a strong complement to our executive team as we pursue a global, diversified strategy."

Dent joins SVB Financial Group from New Skies Satellites, a global satellite communications service provider based in the Netherlands. While serving as New Skies' general counsel, she was responsible for all securities and governance matters, including the company's IPO in 2000 on the NYSE and AEX, as well as all regulatory, contractual, and other legal matters affecting the company. She also served as a member of the company's executive management team and, in that capacity, participated in determining and implementing its long term strategy. During the past several years, she has played a central role in taking New Skies private in 2004, conducting the company's second IPO on the NYSE in 2005, and in its recent sale to a strategic buyer.

Prior to joining New Skies, Dent was an attorney with Goldberg, Godles, Wiener & Wright, a Washington, DC-based law firm that specializes in legal and policy matters for technology companies. Over the course of her professional career, Dent has also worked for Senator Edward Kennedy, the Women's Law & Public Policy Fellowship Program and Judge Royce Lamberth in Washington, DC.

Dent earned a bachelor's degree in economics from UCLA, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude, and a Juris Doctor degree with Distinction from Stanford Law School.

Dent replaces Derek Witte who left SVB Financial Group in November 2005 to pursue opportunities in the technology sector.

About SVB Financial Group
For more than twenty years, SVB Financial Group, the parent company of SVB Silicon Valley Bank, has been dedicated to helping entrepreneurs succeed. SVB Financial Group is a financial holding company that serves emerging growth and mature companies in the technology, life science, private equity and premium wine industries. Headquartered in Santa Clara, Calif., SVB Financial Group provides clients with commercial, investment, international and private banking services. The company also offers funds management, broker-dealer transactions, asset management and a full range of services for private equity companies, as well as the added value of its knowledge and networks worldwide. SVB Financial Group operates through 27 offices in the U.S. and three internationally. More information on the company can be found at www.svb.com.

SVB Silicon Valley Bank refers to the commercial banking operation of SVB Financial Group, which includes Silicon Valley Bank, the California bank subsidiary of SVB Financial Group.