



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 10, 2008

Contact

Tara Perkins, Director of Public Relations, PostScript, Inc.
444 South Union Street, Burlington, VT 05401
802.863.2568, ext. 11 / tara@postscriptinc.com

Colleen Page Promoted to Merchants Bank Branch President, Bradford

SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT –Thomas S. Leavitt, Executive Vice President for Merchants Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of Colleen M. Page to the position of Branch President for Merchants Bank’s Bradford office. Page succeeds former Branch President and Market Manager Nancy Fornwalt, who retired on October 3, 2008. She will lead a team that includes: Personal Banker/Lender Paula Shea; and Personal Bankers Sue Altland, Shelley Lauzon and Eleanor Taylor.

Colleen joined Merchants Bank in April of 2007 as a Personal Banker in the Groton branch. Previously, she served seven years as a Sales Professional for H.O. Taylor Chevrolet in Wells River, Vermont, where she was responsible for new vehicle transactions from start to finish, including customer credit work. She is very active in the community serving as the Scorekeeper for the Annual Lions’ Basketball Tournament, as a volunteer at the North Haverhill Fair and as a participant in the Groton Fall Foliage Festival.

“The experience of working in a small branch has given me the opportunity to be hands-on with all aspects of branch operations. I’m looking forward to working in the Bradford community,” said Colleen.

Colleen resides in South Ryegate with her husband, a detective with the Vermont State Police.



Colleen M. Page, Branch President, Merchants Bank

Vermont Matters.[®] Merchants Bank strives to provide funding to support organizations with programs and services throughout Vermont that help meet basic needs; advance environmental initiatives, energy efficiency and awareness; and promote community enrichment through local sports related initiatives. The continuing mission of Merchants Bank is to provide Vermonters with a state-wide community bank that blends a strong technology platform with a genuine appreciation for local markets. Merchants Bank fulfills this commitment through a branch-based system that includes 36 community bank offices and 44 ATMs throughout Vermont, Personal Bankers dedicated to top-quality customer service and streamlined solutions, including: Personal Banking with *CashRewards* Checkingsm, Free Checking for Life[®], a low-cost Money Market Account, Free Online Banking and Bill Pay, Overdraft Coverage, Direct Deposit, Free Debit Card, and Free Automated Phone Banking; Business Banking with Rewards Checking for Business, Business Online Banking and Bill Pay, Business Lines of Credit and Merchant Card Processing; Small Business Loans; Health Savings Accounts; Credit Cards; Flexible Certificates of Deposit; Vehicle Loans; Home Equity Credit; and Home Mortgages. Visit mbvt.com for more information. Merchants' stock is traded on the NASDAQ National Market system under the symbol MBVT. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

###