

EARNEST Partners Acts as Sole Agent for United States Treasury in SBA 7(a) Sale

October 21, 2011

EARNEST Partners executed the sale of seven Small Business Administration (SBA) 7(a) securities on behalf of the U.S. Treasury. The sales were completed through a BWIC (Bid Wanted in Competition) for approximately \$58 million, representing gains and income of roughly \$1.3 million for those securities.

The sales were executed as part of March 2009 agreement between EARNEST Partners and United States Treasury. Per that agreement, EARNEST Partners has anonymously purchased Small Business Administration Loan Pool Certificates on behalf of the Treasury as part of the U.S. Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). The agreement also provides for the ongoing management and sale of those assets. EARNEST Partners is the sole agent for these transactions.

EARNEST Partners is pleased to have been a part of the Treasury's efforts to make credit available to small businesses. SBA 7(a) securities are comprised of the portion of loans guaranteed by the Small Business Administration that borrowers use for financing working capital, machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures. Through its purchases, Treasury stimulated additional lending; and new pool issuance volume has recovered from crisis lows.

EARNEST Partners has a long experience and successful history in trading and managing SBA assets on behalf of the Treasury and other clients.

About EARNEST Partners

EARNEST Partners is an independent, employee-owned asset management firm currently advising on more than \$15 billion in assets for clients around the world. EARNEST Partners manages portfolios for more than 300 clients including corporations, government pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, jointly-trusted plans, endowments and foundations. The firm is also engaged in subadvisory relationships with a number of global financial institutions. We offer a variety of competitive equity and fixed income products across the respective market cap and duration spectrums. Our investment approach is long-term oriented and focuses on the merits of individual securities when making investment decisions. EARNEST Partners is headquartered in Atlanta, GA with representative offices in Beijing and Hong Kong.

Link to the Treasury press release:

<http://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/tg1355.aspx>

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