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BB&T Capital Markets Rates Monarch “Top Pick” Davenport Ranks Monarch Among Best in Virginia

CHESAPEAKE, Va., June 8, 2009 – Monarch Bank, a subsidiary of Monarch Financial Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: MNRK), was featured in the June edition of BB&T Capital Markets Portfolio Managers Monthly. Financial services stock analyst Cary Morris named Monarch as the month’s top pick with a Buy (1) recommendation for the company’s stock.

“It is our belief that Monarch has and continues to build an attractive franchise in a relatively resilient market. We also believe that the company is well positioned to continue its growth by leveraging its strong foundation of comprehensive financial services.” Morris went on to say, “We concentrate our efforts on banks that have been able to consistently grow quality earnings, limit credit risks through strong credit cultures and grow franchise in resilient markets with experienced management teams. MNRK has fallen 31% from its 12-month high of \$10.80 and currently trades at 13.9x our’09 EPS estimate, 94% of book value, and 97% of tangible book value verses our view of its peer group averages of 16.2x, 75%, and 96%, respectively.”

Monarch was also ranked fifth in best stock valuation and eighth in best financial performance out of 50 banks in Virginia by Davenport and Company, LLC in their Davenport Community Bank Quarterly. Combined scoring placed Monarch as one of the top banks in Virginia. Ranking was based on first quarter 2009 financial performance and stock valuation as of May.

Davenport’s model is somewhat similar to bank regulators’ CAMELS System, which evaluates a bank’s financial condition in six areas: Capital, Asset Quality, Management, Earnings, Liquidity and Sensitivity to Market Risk. Their methodology ranked banks according to five categories: profitability, capital, liquidity, asset quality and valuation. The first four categories address company fundamentals and are combined to establish a performance ranking. The valuation ranking is based on price to book value, price to last twelve months earnings and dividend yield.

About Monarch Bank

Monarch Financial Holdings, Inc. is the one-bank holding company for Monarch Bank. Monarch Bank is a community bank with two offices in Chesapeake, four offices in Virginia Beach, and two offices in Norfolk, Virginia. OBX Bank, a division of Monarch Bank, operates one office in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Services are also provided through over fifty ATMs located in the South Hampton Roads area and the Outer Banks of North Carolina, and “Monarch Online” consumer and business internet banking (monarchbank.com and OBXBank.com). Monarch Mortgage and our affiliated mortgage companies have twelve offices with locations in Chesapeake, Norfolk, Virginia Beach (2), Fredericksburg, Suffolk, and Richmond, Virginia as well as Rockville (2), Waldorf, Crofton and Greenbelt, Maryland. Our subsidiaries/divisions include Monarch Bank, OBX Bank, Monarch Mortgage (secondary mortgage origination), Coastal Home Mortgage, LLC (secondary mortgage origination), Home Mortgage Solutions, LLC (secondary mortgage origination), Virginia Asset Group, LLC (investment and insurance solutions), Real Estate Security Agency, LLC (title agency) and Monarch Capital, LLC (commercial mortgage brokerage). The shares of Monarch Financial Holdings, Inc. are publicly traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol “MNRK”.

This press release may contain “forward-looking statements,” within the meaning of federal securities laws that involve significant risks and uncertainties. Statements herein are based on certain assumptions and analyses by the Company and are factors it believes are appropriate in the circumstances. Actual results could differ materially from those contained in or implied by such statements for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to: changes in interest rates; changes in accounting principles, policies, or guidelines; significant changes in the economic scenario; significant changes in regulatory requirements; and significant changes in securities markets. Consequently, all forward-looking statements made herein are qualified by these cautionary statements and the cautionary language in the Company’s most recent Form 10-K and 10-Q reports and other documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company does not undertake to update forward-looking statements to reflect circumstances or events that occur after the date the forward-looking statements are made.

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