



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Columbia Banking System Announces Third Quarter 2014 Earnings Release and Conference Call Date

TACOMA, Washington--- Columbia Banking System, Inc. (NASDAQ: COLB) expects to report third quarter 2014 financial results before the market opens on Thursday, October 23, 2014 PDT.

Management will discuss these results on a conference call scheduled for that afternoon at 1:00 p.m. PDT (4:00 p.m. EDT). Interested parties may listen to this discussion by calling 1-866-378-3802; Conference ID code #19405351.

A conference call replay will be available from approximately 4:00 p.m. PDT on October 23, 2014 through midnight PDT on October 30, 2014. The conference call replay can be accessed by dialing 1-855-859-2056 and entering Conference ID code #19405351.

About Columbia

Headquartered in Tacoma, Washington, Columbia Banking System, Inc. (NASDAQ: COLB) is the holding Company of Columbia State Bank, a Washington state-chartered full-service commercial bank. For the eighth consecutive year, the bank was named in 2014 as one of *Puget Sound Business Journal's* "Washington's Best Workplaces."

Columbia Banking System has 135 banking offices, including 76 branches in Washington State and 59 branches in Oregon. More information about Columbia can be found on its website at www.columbiabank.com.

Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements

This news release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which can be identified by words such as “may,” “expected,” “anticipate,” “continue,” or other comparable words. In addition, all statements other than statements of historical facts that address activities that Columbia expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements. Readers are encouraged to read the SEC reports of Columbia, particularly its form 10-K for the Fiscal Year ended December 31, 2013, for meaningful cautionary language discussing why actual results may vary materially from those anticipated by management.

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