

NEWS RELEASE CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

777 North Broadway Los Angeles, CA 90012

Trading Symbol: CATY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Monica Chen

(626) 279-3286

February 20, 2015

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP DECLARES DIVIDEND OF \$0.10 PER SHARE

Los Angeles, Calif., February 20, 2015: Cathay General Bancorp (NASDAQ: CATY) announced today that its Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of **ten cents** per common share payable on March 12, 2015, to stockholders of record at the close of business on March 2, 2015.

ABOUT CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP

Cathay General Bancorp is the holding company for Cathay Bank, a California state-chartered bank. Founded in 1962, Cathay Bank offers a wide range of financial services. Cathay Bank currently operates 33 branches in California, nine branches in New York State, three in the Chicago, Illinois area, three in Washington State, two in Texas, one in Massachusetts, one in Newada, one in New Jersey, one in Hong Kong, and a representative office in Taipei and in Shanghai. Cathay Bank's website is found at www.cathaybank.com. Cathay General Bancorp's website is found at www.cathaygeneralbancorp.com.