



FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANCORP
FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

OLE R. METTLER ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANCORP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATELINE: *Lodi, Calif., March 4, 2010 . . .* Ole R. Mettler, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Farmers & Merchants Bancorp, announced his decision to retire from the Board effective March 31, 2010. Mettler has served as Chairman of the Board for 37 years and has been with the Company for over 50 years. In recognition of his years of service and many contributions to the Company, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to elect Mettler to the position of Chairman Emeritus, an honorary and non-voting role. Mettler will continue to serve as a community ambassador for the Bank and an advisor to Executive Management.

A Lodi native, Mettler grew up in agriculture and attended Lodi High School where he served as President of the Future Farmers of America and earned his State and American Farmer Degrees. Mettler continued his education at the University of California, Berkeley where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture Economics. Mettler began his career with Farmers & Merchants Bank in 1960, serving as President until 1994 and Chairman of the Board since 1973. Under his direction the Bank has grown from \$37 million to \$1.7 billion in total assets. During these years, the Bank expanded into several new markets.

“I have enjoyed my many years of service at Farmers & Merchants Bank, and in the community. I am looking forward to enjoying more time with my wife Dorothy and our family. However, my commitment to Farmers & Merchants Bank and our community will continue,” stated Ole Mettler.

With a lifelong passion for serving his community, Mettler has been actively involved in numerous civic and philanthropic organizations including Lodi Memorial Hospital, the Lodi Grape Festival and National Wine Show, the Chamber of Commerce of Lodi, the University of

California Agricultural Advisory Council, the San Joaquin County Farm Bureau, the Lodi District Grape Growers and the American Legion. Additionally, Mettler served as Chairman of the Board and CEO for the California Future Farmers of America Foundation.

In addition to his management role at Farmers & Merchants Bank, Mettler served in a variety of leadership positions in the banking industry, including as a Director of the **Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco**, President of the **California Bankers Association**, and President of the **Independent Bankers of Northern California**. Additionally, he served as a director for the **American Institute of Banking**, and the **California Community Reinvestment Corporation**. In 2002, Ole Mettler was the first banker to receive the coveted California Bankers Association annual award, "Distinguished Banker of the Year."



Farmers & Merchants Bank President and CEO Kent Steinwert commented, "Words can not describe the positive and long-lasting impact that Ole Mettler has had on this outstanding 94 year old institution and the Lodi community. Throughout his lifetime, Ole has been involved in various human service organizations committed to improving the quality of life for citizens in California's Great Central Valley." Steinwert continued, "All of us at the Bank deeply appreciate Ole's valuable leadership. We are extremely pleased that he is willing to remain involved at the Company as Chairman Emeritus."

Ole and his wife Dorothy have been married sixty-eight years and still reside in Lodi where they raised their two children. They have four grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

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