



FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANCORP
FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

**KENT A. STEINWERT APPOINTED
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF
FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANCORP**

DATELINE: *Lodi, Calif., March 9, 2010 . . .* The Board of Directors of Farmers & Merchants Bancorp announced their unanimous decision to appoint Kent A. Steinwert to the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors, effective April 1, 2010. Steinwert will also continue to serve as the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer. This appointment follows the recent retirement announcement of longstanding Chairman, Ole R. Mettler.

Steinwert has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Farmers & Merchants Bank for the past 12 years. He joined the Company in 1997 and under his leadership the Bank has grown from \$600 million to over \$1.7 billion in assets. The Company has produced strong earnings for 12 consecutive years and is consistently recognized as one of the safest banks in the United States by national bank rating agencies including BauerFinancial, Inc.; VERIBANC®; Financial Management Consulting Group, LLC; TheStreet.com; and Findley Reports.

"The entire Board of Directors and I have complete confidence in Kent Steinwert," remarked Ole Mettler, Farmers & Merchants Bancorp's retiring Chairman. "Kent's hands-on management style and strong business insight have been the driving force in our growth, profitability and extraordinary level of safety and soundness," Mettler continued.

Steinwert grew up in Sacramento, graduated with a degree in economics from the University of California at Davis in 1974, obtained his MBA degree from Golden Gate University in 1980, and completed Organizational Management studies at Yale University in 1985. His professional career in banking spans over 35 years.



Kent A. Steinwert
Chairman, President & CEO

Kent Steinwert stated, “I embrace the founding principles of this esteemed organization: conservative financial stewardship; delivery of exceptional personalized customer service; a commitment to reinvesting in our local communities; the development of talented employees; and the enhancement of shareholder value. These time-tested management philosophies have successfully guided Farmers & Merchants Bank for over 94 years and I believe should serve the Company well in the years ahead.”

Steinwert currently serves on the board of directors of both the American Bankers Association and the California Bankers Association (CBA). He is past chairman of the 119 year old CBA. Steinwert has served on the board of directors and in officer positions with numerous community-based organizations. He is a member of Woodbridge Golf & Country Club. Steinwert lives in Lodi with his wife Patti and has four adult children and two grandchildren.

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