

SYNOVUS FINANCIAL CORP

Form DEF 14A

March 19, 2008

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SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION  
Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities  
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant   
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
  - Confidential, for use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
  - Definitive Proxy Statement
  - Definitive Additional Materials
  - Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12
- Synovus Financial Corp.

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(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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1) Amount Previously Paid:

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3) Filing Party:

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4) Date Filed:

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Richard E. Anthony  
Chairman of the Board and  
Chief Executive Officer

March 21, 2008

Dear Shareholder:

You are cordially invited to attend our Annual Meeting of Shareholders at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 24, 2008, at the RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, 900 Broadway, Columbus, Georgia 31901. Enclosed with this Proxy Statement are your proxy card and the 2007 Annual Report.

We hope that you will be able to be with us and let us give you a review of 2007. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can listen to it live and view the slide presentation over the Internet. You can access the meeting by going to our website at [www.synovus.com](http://www.synovus.com). Additionally, we will maintain copies of the slides and audio of the presentation to the 2008 Annual Meeting on the website for reference after the meeting.

Whether you own a few or many shares of stock and whether or not you plan to attend in person, it is important that your shares be voted on matters that come before the meeting. To make sure your shares are represented, we urge you to vote promptly.

We look forward to your continued support in 2008.

Sincerely yours,

Richard E. Anthony

Synovus Financial Corp.

Post Office Box 120

Columbus, Georgia 31902-0120

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**SYNOVUS®**

**NOTICE OF THE 2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| TIME              | 10:00 a.m.<br>Thursday, April 24, 2008  |
| PLACE             | RiverCenter for the Performing Arts<br>900 Broadway<br>Columbus, Georgia 31901  |
| ITEMS OF BUSINESS | (1) To elect 19 directors.<br><br>(2) To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as Synovus independent auditor for the year 2008.<br><br>(3) To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting and any adjournment thereof.   |
| WHO MAY VOTE      | You can vote if you were a shareholder of record on February 15, 2008.  |
| ANNUAL REPORT     | A copy of the Annual Report is enclosed.  |
| PROXY VOTING      | Your vote is important. Please vote in one of these ways:<br><br>(1) Use the toll-free telephone number shown on your proxy card;<br><br>(2) Visit the website listed on your proxy card;<br><br>(3) Mark, sign, date and promptly return the enclosed proxy card in the postage-paid envelope provided; or<br><br>(4) Submit a ballot at the Annual Meeting. |

Elizabeth R. James  
Secretary

Columbus, Georgia  
March 21, 2008

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, PLEASE VOTE YOUR SHARES PROMPTLY.**

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**PROXY STATEMENT  
VOTING INFORMATION**

***Purpose***

This Proxy Statement and the accompanying proxy card are being mailed to Synovus shareholders beginning on or about March 21, 2008. The Synovus Board of Directors is soliciting proxies to be used at the 2008 Annual Meeting of Synovus Shareholders which will be held on April 24, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, 900 Broadway, Columbus, Georgia. Proxies are solicited to give all shareholders of record an opportunity to vote on matters to be presented at the Annual Meeting. In the following pages of this Proxy Statement, you will find information on matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders or any adjournment of that meeting.

***Who Can Vote***

You are entitled to vote if you were a shareholder of record of Synovus stock as of the close of business on February 15, 2008, the record date. Your shares can be voted at the meeting only if you are present or represented by a valid proxy.

***Quorum and Shares Outstanding***

A majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the holders of the outstanding shares of Synovus stock must be present, either in person or represented by proxy, in order to conduct the Annual Meeting of Synovus Shareholders. On February 15, 2008, 330,049,185 shares of Synovus stock were outstanding.

***Proxies***

The Board has designated two individuals to serve as proxies to vote the shares represented by proxies at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders. If you properly execute and submit a proxy but do not specify how you want your shares to be voted, your shares will be voted by the designated proxies in accordance with the Board's recommendations as follows: (1) FOR the election of all the director nominees; and (2) FOR the ratification of the appointment of KPMG LLP as Synovus' independent auditor for the year 2008. The designated proxies will vote in their discretion on any other matter that may properly come before the Annual Meeting. At this time, we are unaware of any matters, other than as set forth above, that may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

***Voting of Shares***

Holders of Synovus stock are entitled to ten votes on each matter submitted to a vote of shareholders for each share of Synovus stock owned on February 15, 2008 which: (i) has had the same owner since February 15, 2004; (ii) was acquired by reason of participation in a dividend reinvestment plan offered by Synovus and is held by the same owner who acquired it under such plan; (iii) is held by the same owner to whom it was issued as a result of an acquisition of a company or business by Synovus where the resolutions adopted by Synovus' Board of Directors approving the acquisition specifically grant ten votes per share; (iv) was acquired under any employee, officer and/or director benefit plan maintained for one or more employees, officers and/or directors of Synovus and/or its subsidiaries, and is held by the same owner for whom it was acquired under any such plan; (v) is held by the same owner to whom it was issued by Synovus, or to whom it was transferred by Synovus from treasury shares, and the resolutions adopted by Synovus Board of Directors approving such issuance and/or transfer specifically grant ten votes per share; (vi) was acquired as a direct result of a stock split, stock dividend or other type of share distribution if the share as to which it was distributed was acquired prior to, and has been held by the same owner since, February 15, 2004; (vii) has been owned

continuously by the same shareholder for a period of 48 consecutive months prior to the record



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date of any meeting of shareholders at which the share is eligible to be voted; or (viii) is owned by a holder who, in addition to shares which are owned under the provisions of (i)-(vii) above, is the owner of less than 1,139,063 shares of Synovus stock (which amount has been appropriately adjusted to reflect stock splits and with such amount to be appropriately adjusted to properly reflect any other change in Synovus stock by means of a stock split, a stock dividend, a recapitalization or otherwise). Holders of Synovus stock not described above are entitled to one vote per share for each share. The actual voting power of each holder of shares of Synovus stock will be based on information possessed by Synovus at the time of the Annual Meeting.

As Synovus stock is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ) and is traded on the New York Stock Exchange ( NYSE ), Synovus stock is subject to the provisions of an NYSE rule which, in general, prohibits a company s common stock and equity securities from being authorized or remaining authorized for trading on the NYSE if the company issues securities or takes other corporate action that would have the effect of nullifying, restricting or disparately reducing the voting rights of existing shareholders of the company. However, the rule contains a grandfather provision, under which Synovus ten vote provision falls, which, in general, permits grandfathered disparate voting rights plans to continue to operate as adopted. The number of votes that each shareholder will be entitled to exercise at the Annual Meeting will depend upon whether each share held by the shareholder meets the requirements which entitle one share of Synovus stock to ten votes on each matter submitted to a vote of shareholders. Shareholders of Synovus stock must complete the Certification on the proxy in order for any of the shares represented by the proxy to be entitled to ten votes per share. All shares entitled to vote and represented in person or by properly completed proxies received before the polls are closed at the Annual Meeting, and not revoked or superseded, will be voted in accordance with instructions indicated on those proxies.

**SHAREHOLDERS WHO DO NOT CERTIFY ON THEIR PROXIES SUBMITTED BY MAIL, INTERNET OR PHONE THAT THEY ARE ENTITLED TO TEN VOTES PER SHARE WILL BE ENTITLED TO ONLY ONE VOTE PER SHARE.**

*Synovus Dividend Reinvestment and Direct Stock Purchase Plan:* If you participate in this Plan, your proxy card represents shares held in the Plan, as well as shares you hold directly in certificate form registered in the same name.

### ***Required Votes***

Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast, which means the 19 nominees who receive the largest number of properly executed votes will be elected as directors. Cumulative voting is not permitted. Shares that are represented by proxies which are marked withhold authority for the election of one or more director nominees will not be counted in determining the number of votes cast for those persons. Please see Appendix B of this Proxy Statement for the provision of Synovus Corporate Governance Guidelines pertaining to director elections which provides that in an uncontested election, any nominee for director who receives a greater number of votes withheld from his or her election than votes for such election must promptly tender his or her resignation for consideration.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast is needed to ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as Synovus independent auditor for 2008.

### ***Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes***

Under certain circumstances, brokers are prohibited from exercising discretionary authority for beneficial owners who have not provided voting instructions to the broker (a broker non-vote ). In these cases, and in cases where the shareholder abstains from voting on a matter, those shares will be counted for the purpose of determining if a quorum is present, but will not be included as votes cast with respect to those matters. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the vote for either of the proposals to be voted on at the Annual Meeting.



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### ***How You Can Vote***

**If you hold shares in your own name**, you may vote by proxy or in person at the meeting. To vote by proxy, you may select one of the following options:

#### ***Vote By Telephone:***

You can vote your shares by telephone by calling the toll-free telephone number (at no cost to you) shown on your proxy card. Telephone voting is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Easy-to-follow voice prompts allow you to vote your shares and confirm that your instructions have been properly recorded. Our telephone voting procedures are designed to authenticate the shareholder by using individual control numbers. If you vote by telephone, you do NOT need to return your proxy card.

#### ***Vote By Internet:***

You can also choose to vote on the Internet. The website for Internet voting is shown on your proxy card. Internet voting is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You will be given the opportunity to confirm that your instructions have been properly recorded, and you can consent to view future proxy statements and annual reports on the Internet instead of receiving them in the mail. If you vote on the Internet, you do NOT need to return your proxy card.

#### ***Vote By Mail:***

If you choose to vote by mail, simply mark your proxy card, date and sign it, sign the Certification and return it in the postage-paid envelope provided.

**If your shares are held in the name of a bank, broker or other nominee**, you will receive instructions from the holder of record that you must follow for your shares to be voted. Please follow their instructions carefully. Also, please note that if the holder of record of your shares is a broker, bank or other nominee and you wish to vote in person at the Annual Meeting, you must request a legal proxy from your bank, broker or other nominee that holds your shares and present that proxy and proof of identification at the Annual Meeting.

### ***Revocation of Proxy***

If you vote by proxy, you may revoke that proxy at any time before it is voted at the Annual Meeting. You may do this by (1) signing another proxy card with a later date and returning it to us prior to the Annual Meeting, (2) voting again by telephone or on the Internet prior to the Annual Meeting, or (3) attending the Annual Meeting in person and casting a ballot.

If your Synovus shares are held by a bank, broker or other nominee, you must follow the instructions provided by the bank, broker or other nominee if you wish to change your vote.

### ***Attending the Annual Meeting***

The Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2008 at the RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, 900 Broadway, Columbus, Georgia. Directions to the River Center can be obtained from the Investor Relations page of Synovus website at [www.synovus.com](http://www.synovus.com).

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Shareholder Meeting to be held on  
April 24, 2008**

**The Proxy Statement and Annual Report to security holders are available on our website at  
[www.synovus.com/annual/2007](http://www.synovus.com/annual/2007).**

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**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND BOARD MATTERS**

***Corporate Governance Philosophy***

The business affairs of Synovus are managed under the direction of the Board of Directors in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code, as implemented by Synovus' Articles of Incorporation and bylaws. The role of the Board of Directors is to effectively govern the affairs of Synovus for the benefit of its shareholders and other constituencies. The Board strives to ensure the success and continuity of business through the election and oversight of qualified management. It is also responsible for ensuring that Synovus' activities are conducted in a responsible and ethical manner. Synovus is committed to having sound corporate governance principles.

***Independence***

The listing standards of the NYSE provide that a director does not qualify as independent unless the Board of Directors affirmatively determines that the director has no material relationship with Synovus. The Board has established categorical standards of independence to assist it in determining director independence which conform to the independence requirements in the NYSE listing standards. The categorical standards of independence are incorporated within our Corporate Governance Guidelines, are attached to this Proxy Statement as Appendix A and are also available in the Corporate Governance Section of our website at [www.synovus.com/governance](http://www.synovus.com/governance).

The Board has determined that a majority of its members are independent as defined by the listing standards of the NYSE and meet the categorical standards of independence set by the Board. Synovus' Board has determined that the following directors are independent: Daniel P. Amos, Richard Y. Bradley, Frank W. Brumley, Elizabeth W. Camp, T. Michael Goodrich, V. Nathaniel Hansford, Mason H. Lampton, Elizabeth C. Ogie, H. Lynn Page, J. Neal Purcell, Melvin T. Stith and William B. Turner, Jr. Please see "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions" on page 34 which includes information with respect to immaterial relationships between Synovus and its independent directors. This information was considered by the Board in determining a director's independence from Synovus under Synovus' categorical standards of independence and the NYSE listing standards.

***Attendance at Meetings***

The Board of Directors held six meetings in 2007. All directors attended at least 75% of Board and committee meetings held during their tenure during 2007. The average attendance by directors at the aggregate number of Board and committee meetings they were scheduled to attend was 97%. Although Synovus has no formal policy with respect to Board members' attendance at its annual meetings, it is customary for all Board members to attend as there is a Board meeting immediately preceding the annual meeting. All but one of Synovus' directors who were serving at the time attended the 2007 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

***Committees of the Board***

Synovus' Board of Directors has four principal standing committees – an Executive Committee, an Audit Committee, a Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and a Compensation Committee. Each committee has a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors that complies with the listing standards of the NYSE pertaining to corporate governance. Copies of the committee charters are available in the Corporate Governance section of our website at [www.synovus.com/governance](http://www.synovus.com/governance). The Board has determined that each member of the Audit, Corporate Governance and Nominating and Compensation Committees is an

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independent director as defined by the listing standards of the NYSE and our Corporate Governance Guidelines. The following table shows the membership of the various committees.

| <b>Executive</b>             | <b>Audit</b>           | <b>Corporate Governance and Nominating</b> | <b>Compensation</b>          |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| V. Nathaniel Hansford, Chair | J. Neal Purcell, Chair | Richard Y. Bradley, Chair                  | V. Nathaniel Hansford, Chair |
| Richard E. Anthony           | Elizabeth W. Camp      | Daniel P. Amos                             | T. Michael Goodrich          |
| James H. Blanchard           | H. Lynn Page           | Frank W. Brumley                           | Mason H. Lampton             |
| Richard Y. Bradley           | Melvin T. Stith        | Elizabeth C. Ogie                          |                              |
| Gardiner W. Garrard, Jr.     |                        |  |                              |
| T. Michael Goodrich          |                        |  |                              |
| Mason H. Lampton             |                        |  |                              |
| J. Neal Purcell              |                        |  |                              |
| William B. Turner, Jr.       |                        |  |                              |
| James D. Yancey              |                        |  |                              |

**Executive Committee.** Synovus Executive Committee held four meetings in 2007. During the intervals between meetings of Synovus Board of Directors, Synovus Executive Committee possesses and may exercise any and all of the powers of Synovus Board of Directors in the management and direction of the business and affairs of Synovus with respect to which specific direction has not been previously given by Synovus Board of Directors unless Board action is required by Synovus governing documents, law or rule.

**Audit Committee.** Synovus Audit Committee held 11 meetings in 2007. Its Report is on page 17. The Board has determined that all four members of the Committee are independent under the rules of the NYSE and the SEC, financially literate under the rules of the NYSE and that at least one member, J. Neal Purcell, is an audit committee financial expert as defined by the rules of the SEC. The primary functions of Synovus Audit Committee include:

Monitoring the integrity of Synovus financial statements, Synovus systems of internal controls and Synovus compliance with regulatory and legal requirements;

Monitoring the independence, qualifications and performance of Synovus independent auditor and internal auditing activities; and

Providing an avenue of communication among the independent auditor, management, internal audit and the Board of Directors.

**Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee.** Synovus Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee held three meetings in 2007. The primary functions of Synovus Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee include:

Identifying qualified individuals to become Board members;

Recommending to the Board the director nominees for each annual meeting of shareholders and director nominees to be elected by the Board to fill interim director vacancies;

Overseeing the annual review and evaluation of the performance of the Board and its committees; and

Developing and recommending to the Board corporate governance guidelines.

**Compensation Committee.** Synovus Compensation Committee held six meetings in 2007. Its Report is on page 27. The primary functions of Synovus Compensation Committee include:

Designing and overseeing Synovus executive compensation program;

Designing and overseeing all compensation and benefit programs in which employees and officers of Synovus are eligible to participate; and

Performing an annual evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer.

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The Compensation Committee's charter reflects these responsibilities and allows the Committee to delegate any matters within its authority to individuals or subcommittees it deems appropriate. In addition, the Committee has the authority under its charter to retain outside advisors to assist the Committee in the performance of its duties. In January 2007, the Committee retained the services of Hewitt Associates for 2007 to:

Provide ongoing recommendations regarding executive compensation consistent with Synovus' business needs, pay philosophy, market trends and latest legal and regulatory considerations;

Provide market data for base salary, short-term incentive and long-term incentive decisions; and

Advise the Committee as to best practices.

Hewitt was engaged directly by the Committee, although the Committee also directed that Hewitt continue to work with Synovus' management. Synovus' Director of Human Resources and his staff develop executive compensation recommendations for the Committee's consideration in conjunction with Synovus' Chief Executive Officer and Chief People Officer and with the advice of Hewitt Associates.

Synovus' Director of Human Resources works with the Chairman of the Committee to establish the agenda for Committee meetings. Management also prepares background information for each Committee meeting. Synovus' Chief People Officer and Director of Human Resources attend all Committee meetings, while Synovus' Chief Executive Officer attends some Committee meetings, such as the Committee meeting in which his performance is reviewed with the Committee or other meetings upon the request of the Committee. The Chief Executive Officer, Chief People Officer and the Director of Human Resources do not have authority to vote on Committee matters. A compensation consultant with Hewitt Associates also attends some Committee meetings upon the request of the Committee.

**Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation.** Messrs. Hansford, Goodrich and Lampton served on the Compensation Committee during 2007. None of these individuals is or has been an officer or employee of Synovus.

### ***Consideration of Director Candidates***

**Shareholder Candidates.** The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee will consider candidates for nomination as a director submitted by shareholders. Although the Committee does not have a separate policy that addresses the consideration of director candidates recommended by shareholders, the Board does not believe that such a separate policy is necessary as Synovus' bylaws permit shareholders to nominate candidates and as one of the duties set forth in the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee charter is to review and consider director candidates submitted by shareholders. The Committee will evaluate individuals recommended by shareholders for nomination as directors according to the criteria discussed below and in accordance with Synovus' bylaws and the procedures described under Shareholder Proposals and Nominations on page 39.

**Director Qualifications.** Synovus' Corporate Governance Guidelines contain Board membership criteria considered by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee in recommending nominees for a position on Synovus' Board. The Committee believes that, at a minimum, a director candidate must possess personal and professional integrity, sound judgment and forthrightness. A director candidate must also have sufficient time and energy to devote to the affairs of Synovus, be free from conflicts of interest with Synovus, not have reached the retirement age for Synovus directors and be willing to make, and financially capable of making, the required investment in Synovus stock pursuant to Synovus' Director Stock Ownership





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Guidelines. The Committee also considers the following criteria when reviewing a director candidate:

The extent of the director's/potential director's business acumen and experience;

Whether the director/potential director assists in achieving a mix of Board members that represents a diversity of background and experience, including with respect to age, gender, race, place of residence and specialized experience;

Whether the director/potential director meets the independence requirements of the listing standards of the NYSE;

Whether the director/potential director would be considered a financial expert or financially literate as defined in the listing standards of the NYSE;

Whether the director/potential director, by virtue of particular technical expertise, experience or specialized skill relevant to Synovus' current or future business, will add specific value as a Board member; and

Whether the director/potential director possesses a willingness to challenge and stimulate management and the ability to work as part of a team in an environment of trust.

### ***Identifying and Evaluating Nominees***

The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee has two primary methods for identifying director candidates (other than those proposed by Synovus' shareholders, as discussed above). First, on a periodic basis, the Committee solicits ideas for possible candidates from a number of sources including members of the Board, Synovus executives and individuals personally known to the members of the Board. Second, the Committee is authorized to use its authority under its charter to retain at Synovus' expense one or more search firms to identify candidates (and to approve such firms' fees and other retention terms).

The Committee will consider all director candidates identified through the processes described above, and will evaluate each of them, including incumbents, based on the same criteria. The director candidates are evaluated at regular or special meetings of the Committee and may be considered at any point during the year. If based on the Committee's initial evaluation a director candidate continues to be of interest to the Committee, the Chair of the Committee will interview the candidate and communicate his evaluation to the other Committee members and executive management. Additional interviews are conducted, if necessary, and ultimately the Committee will meet to finalize its list of recommended candidates for the Board's consideration. One nominee for election as a director, Philip W. Tomlinson, has not previously been elected by the shareholders of Synovus. Mr. Tomlinson was recommended to the Committee for consideration as a director nominee by the Chief Executive Officer of Synovus.

### ***Meetings of Non-Management and Independent Directors***

The non-management directors of Synovus meet separately at least four times a year after each regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors. Synovus' independent directors meet at least once a year. V. Nathaniel Hansford, Synovus' Lead Director, presides at the meetings of non-management and independent directors.

### ***Communicating with the Board***

Synovus' Board provides a process for shareholders and other interested parties to communicate with one or more members of the Board, including the Lead Director, or the non-management or independent directors as a group.

Shareholders and other interested parties may communicate with the Board by writing the Board of Directors, Synovus Financial Corp., c/o General Counsel's Office, 1111 Bay Avenue, Suite 500, Columbus, Georgia 31901 or by calling (800)240-1242. These procedures are also available in the Corporate Governance section of our website at [www.synovus.com/governance](http://www.synovus.com/governance). Synovus' process for handling shareholder and other communications to the Board has been approved by Synovus' independent directors.

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Synovus has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines which are regularly reviewed by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. We have also adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics which is applicable to all directors, officers and employees. In addition, we maintain procedures for the confidential, anonymous submission of any complaints or concerns about Synovus, including complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters. Shareholders may access Synovus Corporate Governance Guidelines, Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, each committee's current charter, procedures for shareholders and other interested parties to communicate with the Lead Director or with the non-management or independent directors individually or as a group and procedures for reporting complaints and concerns about Synovus, including complaints concerning accounting, internal accounting controls and auditing matters in the Corporate Governance section of our website at [www.synovus.com/governance](http://www.synovus.com/governance). Copies of these documents are also available in print upon written request to the Corporate Secretary, Synovus Financial Corp., 1111 Bay Avenue, Suite 500, Columbus, Georgia 31901.

**DIRECTOR COMPENSATION*****Director Compensation Table***

The following table summarizes the compensation paid by Synovus to directors for the year ended December 31, 2007.

| <b>Name</b>              | <b>Fees<br/>Earned<br/>or Paid in<br/>Cash (\$)</b> | <b>Stock<br/>Awards (\$)</b> | <b>All Other<br/>Compensation (\$)</b> | <b>Total (\$)</b> |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Daniel P. Amos           | \$ 47,500   | \$ 14,059(1)                 | \$ 10,000(2)                           | \$ 71,559         |
| James H. Blanchard       | 50,000  | 4,900(1)                     | 470,434(3)(4)(5)                       | 525,334           |
| Richard Y. Bradley       | 65,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 76,800(3)                              | 155,859           |
| Frank W. Brumley         | 59,500  | 14,059(1)                    | 33,850(2)(3)                           | 107,409           |
| Elizabeth W. Camp        | 67,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 15,400(2)(3)                           | 96,459            |
| Gardiner W. Garrard, Jr. | 50,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 59,100(3)                              | 123,159           |
| T. Michael Goodrich      | 72,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 19,250(2)(3)                           | 105,309           |
| V. Nathaniel Hansford    | 87,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 23,780(2)(3)                           | 124,839           |
| Alfred W. Jones III      | 40,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 50,000(2)(3)                           | 104,059           |
| Mason H. Lampton         | 60,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 81,700(2)(3)                           | 155,759           |
| Elizabeth C. Ogie        | 47,500  | 14,059(1)                    | 6,700(3)                               | 68,259            |
| H. Lynn Page             | 55,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 91,975(3)                              | 161,034           |
| J. Neal Purcell          | 95,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 10,000(2)                              | 119,059           |
| Melvin T. Stith          | 67,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 10,000(2)                              | 91,059            |
| Philip W. Tomlinson      | 40,000  | (1)                          | 50,000(3)                              | 90,000            |
| William B. Turner, Jr.   | 50,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 6,900(3)                               | 70,959            |
| James D. Yancey          | 50,000  | 14,059(1)                    | 147,877(2)(3)(4)                       | 211,936           |

\*\* Compensation for Messrs. Anthony and Green for service on the Synovus Board is described under the Summary Compensation Table found on page 28.

- (1) The grant date fair value of the 500 shares of restricted Synovus stock awarded to each director, other than Mr. Tomlinson, in 2007 was \$16,065. The amount in this column reflects the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the year ended December 31, 2007 in accordance with SFAS 123(R) and includes amounts from awards granted in 2007 and prior to 2007. For a discussion of the restricted stock awards reported in this column, see Note 15 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in the Financial Appendix. At December 31, 2007, Mr. Tomlinson held no shares of restricted Synovus stock, Mr. Blanchard held 500 shares of restricted Synovus stock, none of which are vested, and the other directors each held

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- 1,500 shares of restricted Synovus stock, none of which are vested. Dividends are paid on the shares of restricted stock.
- (2) Includes \$10,000 in contributions made by Synovus under Synovus Director Stock Purchase Plan. As described more fully below, qualifying directors can elect to contribute up to \$5,000 per calendar quarter to make purchases of Synovus stock, and Synovus contributes an additional amount equal to 50% of the directors cash contributions under the plan.
- (3) Includes compensation of \$55,400 for Mr. Blanchard, \$76,800 for Mr. Bradley, \$23,850 for Mr. Brumley, \$5,400 for Ms. Camp, \$59,100 for Mr. Garrard, \$9,250 for Mr. Goodrich, \$13,780 for Mr. Hansford, \$40,000 for Mr. Jones, \$71,700 for Mr. Lampton, \$6,700 for Ms. Ogie, \$91,975 for Mr. Page, \$50,000 for Mr. Tomlinson, \$6,900 for Mr. Turner and \$62,000 for Mr. Yancey for service as a director of certain of Synovus subsidiaries.
- (4) Includes perquisite of \$111,666 for Mr. Blanchard and \$67,305 for Mr. Yancey for providing each with administrative assistance and also includes for Mr. Blanchard the incremental cost to Synovus of \$28,126 for personal use of corporate aircraft. Also includes the incremental costs incurred by Synovus, if any, for providing Mr. Blanchard and Mr. Yancey with office space and security alarm monitoring. In calculating the incremental cost to Synovus of providing Mr. Blanchard and Mr. Yancey with administrative assistance, Synovus aggregated the cost of providing salary, benefits and office space (based on lease payments per square foot) to Mr. Blanchard and Mr. Yancey s administrative assistants. In calculating the incremental cost to Synovus of providing Mr. Blanchard with personal use of corporate aircraft, Synovus aggregated the cost of fuel, maintenance, crew travel expenses, on-board catering, landing fees, trip-related hangar and parking costs and smaller variable costs. Since the company owned aircraft are used primarily for business travel, the calculation does not include fixed costs that do not change based on usage, such as pilots salaries and the purchase costs of the aircraft. Amounts for office space and security alarm monitoring are not quantified because they do not exceed the greater of \$25,000 or 10% of the total amount of perquisites.
- (5) Includes \$266,670 paid to Mr. Blanchard during 2007 pursuant to a Consulting Agreement with Synovus.

***Director Compensation Program***

The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of Synovus is responsible for the oversight and administration of the Synovus director compensation program. The Committee s charter reflects these responsibilities and does not allow the Committee to delegate its authority to any person other than the members of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. Under its charter, the Committee has authority to retain outside advisors to assist the Committee in performance of its duties. In November 2006, the Committee retained Mercer Human Resource Consulting to review the competitiveness of the Synovus director compensation program. Mercer was directed to evaluate existing peer groups of companies against which to benchmark director compensation at Synovus, revise if necessary and review and compare director pay practices at Synovus to industry peer companies and to those of general industry companies, analyzing compensation, long-term incentive compensation and total compensation. The Committee, with the assistance of Mercer, studied compensation at a peer group of 26 companies in the banking industry and at 350 large industrial, financial and service organizations. The Committee also asked Mercer to overview recent director pay trends, including shifts in pay mix, equity compensation trends and changes related to increased responsibilities and liability. Mercer s recommendations for director compensation were then presented to the Committee. In January 2007, Mercer recommended certain changes to the director compensation program at Synovus; the Committee discussed and considered these recommendations and recommended to the Board that it approve the current compensation structure, except with respect to compensating employee directors as described in the following paragraph. The decisions made by the Committee are the responsibility of the Committee and may

reflect factors and considerations other than the information and recommendations provided by Mercer. The Committee has decided to review and evaluate director compensation every two years.

**Cash Compensation of Directors.** As reflected in the Fees Earned or Paid in Cash column of the Director Compensation Table above, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, directors of Synovus received an annual cash retainer of \$40,000, with Compensation Committee and Executive Committee members receiving an additional cash retainer of \$10,000, Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee members receiving an additional cash retainer of \$7,500

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and Audit Committee members receiving an additional cash retainer of \$15,000. In addition, the Chairperson of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee received a \$7,500 cash retainer, the Chairperson of the Compensation Committee received a \$10,000 cash retainer, the Chairperson of the Audit Committee received a \$15,000 cash retainer and the Lead Director received a \$5,000 cash retainer. For 2008, the Committee determined to discontinue the practice of paying cash compensation to directors who are employees of Synovus.

By paying directors an annual retainer, Synovus compensates each director for his or her role and judgment as an advisor to Synovus, rather than for his or her attendance or effort at individual meetings. In so doing, directors with added responsibility are recognized with higher cash compensation. For example, members of the Audit Committee receive a higher cash retainer based upon the enhanced duties, time commitment and responsibilities of service on that committee. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee believes that this additional cash compensation is appropriate. In addition, directors may from time to time receive compensation for serving on special committees of the Synovus Board.

Directors may elect to defer all or a portion of their cash compensation under the Synovus Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan. The Directors' Deferred Compensation Plan does not provide directors with an above market rate of return. Instead, the deferred amounts are deposited into one or more investment funds at the election of the director. In so doing, the plan is designed to allow directors to defer the income taxation of a portion of their compensation and to receive an investment return on those deferred amounts. All deferred fees are payable only in cash. Each of Messrs. Amos, Goodrich and Purcell and Ms. Camp deferred all of their cash compensation under this plan during 2007.

**Equity Compensation of Directors.** During 2007, non-management directors also received an annual award of 500 shares of restricted Synovus stock in the form of a grant from the Synovus 2007 Omnibus Plan, 100% of which vests after three years. The Board granted these restricted stock awards to directors on February 1, 2007. These restricted stock awards are designed to create equity ownership and to focus directors on the long-term performance of Synovus.

Synovus' Director Stock Purchase Plan is a non-qualified, contributory stock purchase plan pursuant to which qualifying Synovus directors can purchase, with the assistance of contributions from Synovus, presently issued and outstanding shares of Synovus stock. Under the terms of the Director Stock Purchase Plan, qualifying directors can elect to contribute up to \$5,000 per calendar quarter to make purchases of Synovus stock, and Synovus contributes an additional amount equal to 50% of the directors' cash contributions. Participants in the Director Stock Purchase Plan are fully vested in, and may request the issuance to them of, all shares of Synovus stock purchased for their benefit under the Plan. Synovus' contributions under this Plan are included in the All Other Compensation column of the Director Compensation Table above. Synovus' contributions under the Director Stock Purchase Plan further provide directors the opportunity to buy and maintain an equity interest in Synovus and to share in the capital appreciation of Synovus.

The restricted stock awards to directors and Synovus' contributions under the Director Stock Purchase Plan also assist and facilitate directors' fulfillment of their stock ownership requirements. Synovus' Corporate Governance Guidelines require all directors to accumulate over time shares of Synovus stock equal in value to at least three times the value of their annual retainer. Directors have five years to attain this level of total stock ownership but must attain a share ownership threshold of one times the amount of the director's annual retainer within three years. These stock ownership guidelines are designed to align the interests of Synovus' directors to that of Synovus' shareholders and the long-term performance of Synovus.



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***Consulting Agreement***

Synovus entered into a one-year Consulting Agreement with Mr. Blanchard effective October 18, 2006, the date of his retirement as Chairman of the Board, which agreement expired in October 2007. Under the Consulting Agreement, Mr. Blanchard received monthly payments of \$26,667 and was provided with 25 hours of personal use of Synovus aircraft. Mr. Blanchard also received office space and administrative assistance during the term of the Agreement and will continue to do so for two years thereafter. Mr. Blanchard received consulting payments of \$266,670 under the Consulting Agreement in 2007. Under the Consulting Agreement, Mr. Blanchard was required to provide consulting services as requested by the Synovus Chief Executive Officer or Board of Directors. Mr. Blanchard's specific duties included serving on various boards of directors of financial services and civic and charitable organizations and providing Synovus with advice and counsel regarding these matters, developing major prospective customers and existing customer relationships and entertaining prospects and customers, and providing leadership training. The amounts paid to Mr. Blanchard under the Consulting Agreement are included in the "All Other Compensation" column of the Director Compensation Table above.

**PROPOSALS TO BE VOTED ON**

**PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR ALL NOMINEES.**

***Number***

At the date of this Proxy Statement, the Board of Directors of Synovus consists of 19 members. As 20 board seats have been authorized by Synovus' shareholders, Synovus has one directorship which remains vacant. This vacant directorship could be filled in the future at the discretion of Synovus' Board of Directors. This discretionary power gives Synovus' Board of Directors the flexibility of appointing new directors in the periods between Synovus' Annual Meetings should suitable candidates come to its attention. Proxies cannot be voted at the 2008 Annual Meeting for a greater number of persons than the number of nominees named.

***Nominees for Election as Directors***

The Board has nominated each of the following 19 individuals to be elected as directors at the Annual Meeting upon the recommendation of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. All nominees are currently directors of Synovus. Each director elected will serve until the next Annual Meeting and until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified or until his or her earlier retirement, resignation or removal. The Board believes that each director nominee will be able to stand for election. If any nominee becomes unable to stand for election, proxies in favor of that nominee will be voted in favor of any substitute nominee named by the Board upon the recommendation of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. If you do not wish your shares voted for one or more of the nominees, you may so indicate on the proxy.

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Following is the principal occupation, age and certain other information for each director nominee. Unless otherwise noted, each director has occupied his or her principal occupation for at least five years.

| <b>Name</b>                | <b>Age</b> | <b>Year First Elected Director</b> | <b>Principal Occupation and Other Information</b>   |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Daniel P. Amos(1)          | 56         | 2001                               | Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Aflac Incorporated (Insurance Holding Company)   |
| Richard E. Anthony(2)      | 61         | 1993                               | Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Synovus Financial Corp.; Director, Total System Services, Inc.                                     |
| James H. Blanchard(3)      | 66         | 1972                               | Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Retired, Synovus Financial Corp.; Director, Total System Services, Inc. and AT&T Corp.             |
| Richard Y. Bradley         | 69         | 1991                               | Partner, Bradley & Hatcher (Law Firm); Director, Total System Services, Inc.  |
| Frank W. Brumley(4)        | 67         | 2004                               | Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Daniel Island Company (Planned Community Development)  |
| Elizabeth W. Camp          | 56         | 2003                               | President and Chief Executive Officer, DF Management, Inc. (Investment and Management of Commercial Real Estate)                                      |
| Gardiner W. Garrard, Jr.   | 67         | 1972                               | President, The Jordan Company (Real Estate Development and Private Equity Investments); Director, Total System Services, Inc.                         |
| T. Michael Goodrich        | 62         | 2004                               | Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, BE&K, Inc. (Engineering and Construction Company); Director, Energen Corporation                                |
| Frederick L. Green, III(5) | 49         | 2006                               | President and Chief Operating Officer, Synovus Financial Corp.  |
| V. Nathaniel Hansford(6)   | 64         | 1985                               | President, Retired, North Georgia College and State University  |
| Alfred W. Jones III        | 50         | 2001                               | Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Sea Island Company (Real Estate Development and Management); Director, Total System Services, Inc. |



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| <b>Name</b>               | <b>Age</b> | <b>Year First Elected Director</b> | <b>Principal Occupation and Other Information</b>  |
|---------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Mason H. Lampton(7)       | 60         | 1993                               | Chairman of the Board, Standard Concrete Products (Construction Materials Company); Director, Total System Services, Inc.                              |
| Elizabeth C. Ogie(8)      | 57         | 1993                               | Private Investor   |
| H. Lynn Page              | 67         | 1978                               | Vice Chairman of the Board, Retired, Synovus Financial Corp.; Director, Total System Services, Inc.  |
| J. Neal Purcell           | 66         | 2003                               | Vice Chairman, Retired, KPMG LLP (Professional Services Provider); Director, Southern Company and Kaiser Permanente                                    |
| Melvin T. Stith(9)        | 61         | 1998                               | Dean, Martin J. Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University; Director, Flowers Foods, Inc.   |
| Philip W. Tomlinson(10)   | 61         | 2008                               | Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Total System Services, Inc. (Payments Processing)   |
| William B. Turner, Jr.(8) | 56         | 2003                               | Vice Chairman of the Board and President, W.C. Bradley Co. (Consumer Products and Real Estate)   |
| James D. Yancey(11)       | 66         | 1978                               | Chairman of the Board, Columbus Bank and Trust Company; Chairman of the Board, Retired, Synovus Financial Corp.; Director, Total System Services, Inc. |

- (1) Daniel P. Amos previously served as a director of Synovus from 1991 until 1998, when he resigned as a director as required by federal banking regulations to join the board of a company affiliated with a Japanese bank.
- (2) Richard E. Anthony was elected Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Synovus in October 2006. From 1995 until 2006, Mr. Anthony served in various capacities with Synovus, including Chief Executive Officer and President and Chief Operating Officer.
- (3) James H. Blanchard was elected Chairman of the Board of Synovus in July 2005 and retired from that position in October 2006. Prior to 2005, Mr. Blanchard served in various capacities with Synovus and Columbus Bank and Trust Company, a banking subsidiary of Synovus, including Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Synovus and Chief Executive Officer of Columbus Bank and Trust Company. Mr. Blanchard also retired as an executive officer of Total System Services, Inc. ( TSYS ) in October 2006. Prior to 2006, Mr. Blanchard served as Chairman of the Executive Committee of TSYS in an executive officer capacity.

- (4) Frank W. Brumley was elected Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Daniel Island Company in January 2006. Prior to 2006, Mr. Brumley served as President of Daniel Island Company.
- (5) Frederick L. Green, III was elected President and Chief Operating Officer of Synovus in October 2006. Mr. Green served as Vice Chairman of Synovus from 2003 until 2006. From 1991 until 2003, Mr. Green served in various capacities with The National Bank of South Carolina, a banking subsidiary of Synovus, including President of The National Bank of South Carolina.
- (6) V. Nathaniel Hansford serves as Lead Director of the Synovus Board.

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- (7) Mason H. Lampton was elected Chairman of the Board of Standard Concrete Products in June 2004. Prior to 2004, Mr. Lampton served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Standard Concrete Products.
- (8) Elizabeth C. Ogie and William B. Turner, Jr. are first cousins.
- (9) Melvin T. Stith was appointed Dean of Syracuse University's Martin J. Whitman School of Management in January 2005. Prior to 2005, Mr. Stith served as Dean of the College of Business at Florida State University.
- (10) Philip W. Tomlinson was elected Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of TSYS in January 2006. Prior to 2006, Mr. Tomlinson served as Chief Executive Officer of TSYS.
- (11) James D. Yancey retired as an executive employee of Synovus in December 2004 and served as a non-executive Chairman of the Board until July 2005. Mr. Yancey was elected as an executive officer Chairman of the Board of Synovus in October 2003. Prior to 2003, Mr. Yancey served in various capacities with Synovus and/or Columbus Bank and Trust Company, including Vice Chairman of the Board and President of both Synovus and Columbus Bank and Trust Company.

**PROPOSAL 2: RATIFICATION OF  
APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF KPMG LLP AS THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR.**

The Audit Committee has appointed the firm of KPMG LLP as the independent auditor to audit the consolidated financial statements of Synovus and its subsidiaries for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008 and Synovus internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008. Representatives of KPMG will be present at the Annual Meeting with the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and will be available to respond to appropriate questions from shareholders present at the meeting. Although shareholder ratification of the appointment of Synovus' independent auditor is not required by our bylaws or otherwise, we are submitting the selection of KPMG to our shareholders for ratification to permit shareholders to participate in this important corporate decision. If not ratified, the Audit Committee will reconsider the selection, although the Audit Committee will not be required to select a different independent auditor for Synovus.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The following table sets forth the name, age and position with Synovus of each executive officer of Synovus.

| <b>Name</b>                | <b>Age</b> | <b>Position with Synovus</b>                         |
|----------------------------|------------|--|
| Richard E. Anthony(1)      | 61         | Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer    |
| Frederick L. Green, III(1) | 49         | President and Chief Operating Officer                |
| Elizabeth R. James(2)      | 46         | Vice Chairman, Chief People Officer and Secretary    |
| Thomas J. Prescott(3)      | 53         | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer |
| Mark G. Holladay(4)        | 52         | Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer    |

- (1) As Messrs. Anthony and Green are directors of Synovus, relevant information pertaining to their positions with Synovus is set forth under the caption "Nominees for Election as Director" on page 11.
- (2) Elizabeth R. James was elected Vice Chairman of Synovus in May 2000. From 1986 until 2000, Ms. James served in various capacities with Synovus and/or its subsidiaries, including Chief Information Officer and Chief People Officer of Synovus. Ms. James was elected Secretary of Synovus in January 2008.
- (3) Thomas J. Prescott was elected Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Synovus in December 1996. From 1987 until 1996, Mr. Prescott served in various capacities with Synovus, including Executive Vice President and Treasurer.
- (4) Mark G. Holladay was elected Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer of Synovus in April 2000. From 1974 until 2000, Mr. Holladay served in various capacities with Columbus Bank and Trust Company, including Executive Vice President.

**Table of Contents****STOCK OWNERSHIP OF DIRECTORS  
AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The following table sets forth ownership of shares of Synovus stock by each director, each executive officer named in the Summary Compensation Table and all directors and executive officers as a group as of December 31, 2007.

| <b>Name</b>  | <b>Shares of<br/>Synovus<br/>Stock<br/>Beneficially<br/>Owned<br/>with Sole<br/>Voting<br/>And<br/>Investment<br/>Power<br/>as of<br/>12/31/07</b> | <b>Shares of<br/>Synovus<br/>Stock<br/>Beneficially<br/>Owned<br/>with<br/>Shared<br/>Voting<br/>And<br/>Investment<br/>Power<br/>as of<br/>12/31/07</b> | <b>Shares of<br/>Synovus<br/>Stock<br/>Beneficially<br/>Owned<br/>with Sole<br/>Voting<br/>and No<br/>Investment<br/>Power<br/>as of<br/>12/31/07</b> | <b>Total<br/>Shares of<br/>Synovus<br/>Stock<br/>Beneficially<br/>Owned<br/>as of<br/>12/31/07(1)</b> | <b>Percentage of<br/>Outstanding<br/>Shares of<br/>Synovus<br/>Stock<br/>Beneficially<br/>Owned<br/>as of<br/>12/31/07</b> |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Daniel P. Amos   | 93,512   | 59,219   | 1,500   | 154,231   | *  |
| Richard E. Anthony   | 643,561  | 70,429   | 72,547  | 2,268,958   | 1  |
| James H. Blanchard   | 1,670,792  | 194,901  | 24,305  | 6,821,621   | 2  |
| Richard Y. Bradley   | 31,336   | 179,022  | 1,500   | 211,858   | *  |
| Frank W. Brumley   | 27,923   | 55,286   | 1,500   | 84,709  | *  |
| Elizabeth W. Camp  | 25,669   | 2,703  | 1,500   | 29,872  | *  |
| Gardiner W. Garrard, Jr.                                       | 154,147  | 728,821  | 1,500   | 884,468   | *  |
| T. Michael Goodrich  | 161,241  | 19,730(2)  | 1,500   | 182,471   | *  |
| Frederick L. Green, III  | 131,773  | 516  | 34,384  | 498,231   | *  |
| G. Sanders Griffith, III                                       | 217,929  | 3,545  | 86,784  | 1,594,606   | *  |
| V. Nathaniel Hansford  | 124,891  | 1,065,884(3)   | 1,500   | 1,192,275   | *  |
| Elizabeth R. James   | 44,098   |  | 18,119  | 1,210,463   | *  |
| Alfred W. Jones III  | 12,621   |  | 1,500   | 14,121  | *  |
| Mason H. Lampton   | 99,570   | 178,981(4)   | 1,500   | 280,051   | *  |
| Elizabeth C. Ogie  | 482,342  | 2,215,253  | 1,500   | 2,699,095   | 1  |
| H. Lynn Page   | 710,902  | 11,515   | 1,500   | 723,917   | *  |
| Thomas J. Prescott   | 56,356   |  | 17,322  | 1,215,960   | *  |
| J. Neal Purcell  | 14,578   |  | 1,500   | 16,078  | *  |
| Melvin T. Stith  | 9,220  | 126  | 1,500   | 10,846  | *  |
| Philip W. Tomlinson  | 82,185   |  |   | 82,185  | *  |
| William B. Turner, Jr.   | 21,563   | 388,565  | 1,500   | 411,628   | *  |
| James D. Yancey  | 1,032,446  | 87,532   | 1,500   | 2,886,096   | 1  |
| Directors and Executive<br>Officers as a Group<br>(23 persons) | 5,891,627  | 5,262,028  | 283,508   | 24,330,101  | 7.1  |





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\* Less than one percent of the outstanding shares of Synovus stock.

- (1) The totals shown in the table above for the directors and executive officers of Synovus listed below include the following shares as of December 31, 2007: (a) under the heading **Stock Options** the number of shares of Synovus stock that each individual had the right to acquire within 60 days through the exercise of stock options, and (b) under the heading **Pledged Shares** the number of shares of Synovus stock that were pledged, including shares held in a margin account.

| <b>Name</b>              | <b>Stock Options</b> | <b>Pledged Shares</b> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Richard E. Anthony       | 1,482,421            | 9,675                 |
| James H. Blanchard       | 4,931,623            | 1,017,000             |
| Frederick L. Green, III  | 331,558              |                       |
| Gardiner W. Garrard, Jr. |                      | 285,427               |
| G. Sanders Griffith, III | 1,286,348            |                       |
| V. Nathaniel Hansford    |                      | 80,000                |
| Elizabeth R. James       | 1,148,246            |                       |
| Mason H. Lampton         |                      | 189,535               |
| Elizabeth C. Ogie        |                      | 221,699               |
| H. Lynn Page             |                      | 66,468                |
| Thomas J. Prescott       | 1,142,282            |                       |
| William B. Turner, Jr.   |                      | 50,000                |
| James D. Yancey          | 1,764,618            | 241,228               |

In addition, the other executive officers of Synovus had rights to acquire an aggregate of 805,842 shares of Synovus stock within 60 days through the exercise of stock options and had an aggregate of 27,927 shares of Synovus stock that were pledged, including shares held in margin accounts.

- (2) Includes 15,280 shares of Synovus stock held in a trust for which Mr. Goodrich is not the trustee. Mr. Goodrich disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.
- (3) Includes 684,052 shares held by a family limited partnership for which Mr. Hansford's spouse is one of the general partners. Mr. Hansford disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.
- (4) Includes 176,187 shares of Synovus stock held in a trust for which Mr. Lampton is not the trustee. Mr. Lampton disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.

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**AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is comprised of four directors, each of whom the Board has determined to be an independent director as defined by the listing standards of the NYSE and the rules of the SEC. The duties of the Audit Committee are summarized in this Proxy Statement under "Committees of the Board" on page 4 and are more fully described in the Audit Committee charter adopted by the Board of Directors.

One of the Audit Committee's primary responsibilities is to assist the Board in its oversight responsibility regarding the integrity of Synovus' financial statements and systems of internal controls. Management is responsible for Synovus' accounting and financial reporting processes, the establishment and effectiveness of internal controls and the preparation and integrity of Synovus' consolidated financial statements. KPMG LLP, Synovus' independent auditor, is responsible for performing an independent audit of Synovus' consolidated financial statements and of the effectiveness of Synovus' internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) and issuing opinions on whether those financial statements are presented fairly in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and on the effectiveness of Synovus' internal control over financial reporting. The Audit Committee is directly responsible for the compensation, appointment and oversight of KPMG LLP. The function of the Audit Committee is not to duplicate the activities of management or the independent auditor, but to monitor and oversee Synovus' financial reporting process.

In discharging its responsibilities regarding the financial reporting process, the Audit Committee:

Reviewed and discussed with management and KPMG LLP Synovus' audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007;

Discussed with KPMG LLP the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 (Communication with Audit Committees); and

Received from KPMG LLP the written disclosures and the letter required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 (Independence Discussions with Audit Committees) and has discussed with KPMG LLP their independence.

Based upon the review and discussions referred to in the preceding paragraph, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited consolidated financial statements referred to above be included in Synovus' Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**The Audit Committee**

J. Neal Purcell, Chair  
Elizabeth W. Camp  
H. Lynn Page  
Melvin T. Stith

**Table of Contents*****KPMG LLP Fees and Services***

The following table presents fees for professional audit services rendered by KPMG LLP for the audit of Synovus annual consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006 and fees billed for other services rendered by KPMG during those periods. All amounts include fees for services provided to TSYS by KPMG. On December 31, 2007, Synovus completed the spin-off to its shareholders of the shares of TSYS stock formerly owned by Synovus ( Spin-Off ).

|                       | <b>2007</b>         | <b>2006</b>         |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Audit Fees(1)         | \$ 3,837,000        | \$ 3,408,000        |
| Audit Related Fees(2) | 1,747,000           | 1,965,000           |
| Tax Fees(3)           | 490,000             | 495,000             |
| All Other Fees        | -0-                 | -0-                 |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>\$ 6,074,000</b> | <b>\$ 5,868,000</b> |

- (1) Audit fees represent fees for professional services provided in connection with the audits of Synovus consolidated financial statements and internal control over financial reporting, reviews of quarterly financial statements, issuance of comfort letters and other SEC filing matters, and audit or attestation services provided in connection with other statutory or regulatory filings.
- (2) Audit related fees consisted principally of fees for accounting research, certain agreed upon procedures engagements, certain internal control reports, employee benefit plan audits and due diligence services related to acquisitions.
- (3) Tax fees consisted of fees for tax compliance/preparation and tax consultation services.

***Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval***

The Audit Committee has the responsibility for appointing, setting the compensation for and overseeing the work of Synovus independent auditor. In recognition of this responsibility, the Audit Committee has established a policy to pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by the independent auditor in order to assure that the provision of these services does not impair the independent auditor's independence. Synovus Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policy addresses services included within the four categories of audit and permissible non-audit services, which include Audit Services, Audit Related Services, Tax Services and All Other Services.

The annual audit services engagement terms and fees are subject to the specific pre-approval of the Audit Committee. In addition, the Audit Committee must specifically approve permissible non-audit services classified as All Other Services.

Prior to engagement, management submits to the Committee for approval a detailed list of the Audit Services, Audit Related Services and Tax Services that it recommends the Committee engage the independent auditor to provide for the fiscal year. Each specified service is allocated to the appropriate category and accompanied by a budget estimating the cost of that service. The Committee will, if appropriate, approve both the list of Audit Services, Audit Related

Services and Tax Services and the budget for such services.

The Committee is informed at each Committee meeting as to the services actually provided by the independent auditor pursuant to the Pre-Approval Policy. Any proposed service that is not separately listed in the Pre-Approval Policy or any service exceeding the pre-approved fee levels must be specifically pre-approved by the Committee. The Audit Committee has delegated pre-approval authority to the Chairman of the Audit Committee. The Chairman must report any pre-approval decisions made by him to the Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

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**EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

**COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

***Introduction***

The following Compensation Discussion and Analysis describes our compensation program for the executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table on page 28 ( named executive officers ). Specifically, the Compensation Discussion and Analysis addresses:

the objectives of our compensation program (found in the section entitled Compensation Philosophy and Overview );

what our compensation program is designed to reward (also described in the section entitled Compensation Philosophy and Overview );

each element of compensation (set forth in the section entitled Primary Elements of Compensation );

why each element was chosen (described with each element of compensation including base pay, short-term incentives and long-term incentives);

how amounts and formulas for pay are determined (also described with each element of compensation including base pay, short-term incentives and long-term incentives); and

how each compensation element and our decisions regarding that element fit into Synovus overall compensation objectives and affect decisions regarding other elements (described with each element of compensation, as well as in the section entitled Benchmarking ).

For information about the Compensation Committee and its charter, its processes and procedures for administering executive compensation, the role of compensation consultants and other governance information, please see Committees of the Board on page 4.

***Compensation Philosophy and Overview***

Synovus has established a compensation program for our executives that is competitive, performance-oriented and designed to support our strategic goals. The goals and objectives of our compensation program are described below.

Synovus executive compensation program is designed to compete in the markets in which we seek executive talent. We believe that we must maintain a competitive compensation program that allows us to recruit and retain top level executive talent and that will prevent our executives from being recruited from us. Our compensation program is also designed to be performance-oriented. A guiding principle in developing our compensation program has been average pay for average performance above-average pay for above-average performance. As a result, a significant portion of the total compensation of each executive is at risk based on short and long-term performance. Because of our emphasis on performance, we also believe that compensation generally should be earned by executives while they are actively employed and can contribute to Synovus performance.

Synovus' compensation program is also designed to support corporate strategic goals, including growth in earnings and growth in shareholder value. As described in more detail below, earnings growth is the primary driver of our short-term incentive program and growth in shareholder value is the primary driver of our long-term incentive program. Synovus believes that the high degree of performance orientation and the use of goals based upon growth in earnings and growth in shareholder value in our incentive plans aligns the interests of our executives with the interests of our shareholders. In addition, Synovus has adopted stock ownership guidelines and a hold until retirement provision in connection with our equity compensation programs, which further align our executives' interests with the interests of our shareholders.

**Table of Contents*****Primary Elements of Compensation***

There are three primary elements of compensation in Synovus' executive compensation program: base pay, short-term incentive compensation and long-term incentive compensation. Short-term and long-term incentive compensation are tied directly to performance. Short-term incentive compensation is based upon Synovus' fundamental operating performance measured over a one-year period, while long-term incentive compensation is based upon Synovus' total shareholder return measured over a three-year period. Synovus has not established a specific targeted mix of compensation between base pay and short-term and long-term incentives. However, both short-term and long-term incentives are based upon percentages or multiples of base pay. If both short-term and long-term incentives are paid at target, long-term incentives are the largest portion of an executive's total compensation package. For example, if short-term and long-term incentives are paid at target, long-term incentives would constitute almost fifty percent of an executive's total compensation package, thereby illustrating our emphasis on performance and growth in shareholder value.

**Base Pay.** Base pay is seen as the amount paid to an executive for performing his or her job on a daily basis. To ensure that base salaries are competitive, Synovus targets base pay at the median (e.g., the 50th percentile) of the market for similarly situated positions, based upon each executive's position and job responsibilities. The market used by Synovus for benchmarking base pay is banks with similar asset size as Synovus. From a list of competitor banks, Synovus selects the 12 banks with higher asset size and the 12 banks with lower asset size as the appropriate companies against which to benchmark base pay (the Peer Companies). For 2007, the Peer Companies were: Associated Banc-Corp., Bok Financial Group, Citizens Republic Bancorp, Inc., City National Corp., Colonial Bancgroup, Inc., Comerica Inc., Commerce Bancorp, Inc., Commerce Bancshares, Inc., Compass Bancshares, Inc., Cullen/Frost Bankers Inc., First Citizens BancShares, Inc., First Horizon National Corp., Fulton Financial Corp., Huntington Bancshares, Inc., Marshall & Ilsley Corp., M&T Bank Corp., Mellon Financial Corp., Popular, Inc., Sky Financial Group, Inc., The South Financial Group, Inc., TCF Financial Corp., TD Banknorth Inc., Unionbanal Corp. and Zions Bancorporation.

When establishing base salaries, the Committee compares each executive's current base pay to the market median for that position using proxy information from the Peer Companies. For certain positions for which there is no clear market match in the benchmarking data, Synovus uses a blend of two or more positions from the benchmarking data. The Committee also reviews changes in the benchmarking data from the previous year. The Committee then uses this data to establish a competitive base salary for each executive. For example, an executive whose base salary is below the benchmarking target for his or her position may receive a larger percentage increase than an executive whose base salary exceeds the benchmarking target for his or her position.

In addition to market comparisons of similar positions at the Peer Companies, individual performance may affect base pay. For example, an executive whose performance is not meeting expectations may receive no increase in base pay or a smaller base pay increase in a given year. On the other hand, an executive with outstanding performance may receive a larger base pay increase or more frequent base pay increases.

Base pay is not directly related to Synovus' performance, except over the long term since asset size is used in benchmarking base pay against the Peer Companies. Comparison of an executive's base salary to the base salaries of other Synovus executives may also be a factor in establishing base salaries, especially with respect to positions for which there is no clear market match in the base pay benchmarking data. For 2007, all of the base pay increases for the named executive officers were calculated taking into account the market data described above as well as existing base salaries, the 2007 merit budget, internal pay equity, individual performance, experience, time in position and retention needs. Because of the process we use to establish base





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pay, large increases in base pay generally occur only when an executive is promoted into a new position.

**Short-Term Incentives.** In addition to base salary, our executive compensation program includes short-term incentive compensation. We have elected to pay short-term incentive compensation in order to (1) provide an incentive for executives to meet our short-term earnings goals, and (2) ensure a competitive compensation program given the marketplace prevalence of short-term incentive compensation.

Our short-term incentive program is tied directly to our fundamental operating performance measured over a one-year period. Each year, the Committee establishes a target for percentage change in earnings per share ( EPS ). The target is generally set at the EPS guidance that has been publicly disclosed by Synovus. A target goal of 100% equates to a market award, which is a typical short-term incentive award for similar positions at the Peer Companies, expressed as a percentage of base salary earned during the year ( base earnings ). Actual short-term incentive targets for 2007 were set taking into account median market data at the Peer Companies, as well as existing incentive targets, internal pay equity, individual performance and retention needs. The target short-term incentive percentage for Mr. Anthony is 100% of base earnings, the target short-term incentive percentage for Mr. Green is 85% of base earnings and the target short-term incentive percentage for Synovus other named executive officers is 70% of base earnings.

The amount of a short-term incentive award can range from zero to 200% of a target grant in accordance with a schedule approved by the Committee each year. For 2007, the Committee approved the following schedule:

| <b>EPS Percentage Change</b> | <b>Percent of Target Bonus Paid</b> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6.0%                         | 200%                                |
| 5.7%                         | 175%                                |
| 5.0%                         | 150%                                |
| 4.4%                         | 125%                                |
| 4.0%                         | 100%                                |
| 3.4%                         | 90%                                 |
| 2.7%                         | 75%                                 |
| 2.1%                         | 60%                                 |
| 1.4%                         | 50%                                 |
| 0.7%                         | 40%                                 |
| 0.0%                         | 20%                                 |
| Below 0.0%                   | 0%                                  |

Although the target EPS percentage change goal set by the Committee is generally based upon the EPS guidance which has been publicly disclosed by Synovus calculated in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ( GAAP ), from time to time the target percentages are based on non-GAAP EPS percentages for purposes of determining short-term incentive compensation because of unusual events that could occur during the year. These events include, but are not limited to, changes in accounting and regulatory standards, changes in tax rates and laws, charges for corporate or workforce restructurings, dilution to EPS resulting from acquisitions and divestitures, expenses or income associated with the conversion or deconversion of a major TSYS customer and other similar events and for 2007, reductions in net income or charges resulting from the Spin-Off.

As is common practice in the market, short-term incentives are paid in a lump-sum cash payment as soon as practicable in the year following the performance year, usually no later than January 31. Under the short-term incentive plan, the Committee has the right to exercise downward discretion and reduce the amount that would otherwise be awarded under the above schedule. For example, the short-term incentive awards can be reduced to

reflect individual or

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business unit performance, to exclude unanticipated, non-recurring gains, or for affordability (reduced in order to fund another expense, such as other incentive compensation or retirement plans). Because Synovus did not attain the minimum EPS percentage change level required under the above schedule, no short-term incentive awards were paid to the named executive officers for 2007.

**Long-Term Incentives.** Our executive compensation program also includes long-term incentive compensation, which is paid in equity in Synovus. We have elected to pay long-term incentive compensation in order to: (1) provide an incentive for our executives to provide exceptional shareholder return to Synovus shareholders by tying a significant portion of their compensation opportunity to growth in shareholder value; (2) align the interests of executives with shareholders by awarding executives equity in Synovus; and (3) ensure a competitive compensation program given the market prevalence of long-term incentive compensation.

Synovus long-term incentive plan awards equity to executives based upon Synovus performance, as measured by total shareholder return (TSR), over a three-year period. We use a three-year period to measure performance for purposes of our long-term incentive awards in order to reduce the impact of unusual events that may occur in a given year.

Under Synovus long-term incentive program, TSR is measured in two ways: (1) absolute TSR; and (2) TSR compared to Synovus competitors. TSR for each measurement period is calculated by dividing Synovus stock price appreciation and dividends paid by the beginning stock price. We use both measures of shareholder return because we believe shareholders are interested both in how Synovus shareholder return compares to its competitors, as well as their actual return on their investment. The competitors, for purposes of long-term incentives, are the banks in the Keefe, Bruyette and Woods 50 Index (KBW 50). Synovus selected the KBW 50 for awarding long-term incentives to ensure that the companies are chosen by an independent third party and to provide consistency from year to year in the assessment of long-term performance for incentive purposes.

The amount of long-term incentives awarded to executives each year is based upon a performance grid approved by the Committee. The performance grid has been in place substantially in its current form for over a decade. This grid is reproduced below showing the absolute TSR over the three preceding calendar years as the horizontal measurement and the percentile performance of Synovus against the KBW 50 over the three preceding calendar years as the vertical measurement.

**Payout as a Percent of Target**

Percentile of 3-year  
SNV TSR  
vs. KBW 50

|                   |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 90 <sup>th</sup>  | 50%  | 100% | 150% | 200% | 250% |
| 70 <sup>th</sup>  | 50%  | 100% | 125% | 150% | 200% |
| 50 <sup>th</sup>  | 50%  | 75%  | 100% | 125% | 150% |
| 30 <sup>th</sup>  | 50%  | 50%  | 75%  | 100% | 100% |
| <30 <sup>th</sup> | 50%* | 50%  | 50%  | 75%  | 75%  |
|                   | <4%  | 4%   | 8%   | 10%  | 16%  |

3-Year Annualized Synovus TSR

\* Long-term incentives are awarded at 50% of target and solely in stock options as described below.

The award percentages in the performance grid are multiplied by the amount of a target long-term incentive award, which is expressed as a percentage of base salary at the time the award is made. Actual long-term incentive targets are established taking into account market median data at the Peer Companies, as well as existing incentive targets, internal pay equity, individual performance and retention needs. The target long-term incentive percentage for

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Mr. Anthony is 200% of base earnings, the target long-term incentive percentage for Mr. Green is 175% of base earnings and the target long-term incentive percentage for Synovus other named executive officers is 150% of base earnings.

Synovus believes that there are advantages and disadvantages to every form of equity award. As a result, awards payable under the performance grid are generally paid 50% in restricted stock and 50% in stock options, but the Committee has the discretion to vary the form of the award as needed for accounting, tax or other reasons. The 50%/50% split in equity awarded is based upon the estimated overall value of the award as of the date of grant (a stock option is estimated to be equal to one-third the value of a restricted stock award).

In the event that Synovus TSR falls within the bottom left-hand corner of the payout grid (i.e., Synovus annualized TSR is less than 4% and is also less than the 30th percentile compared to the KBW 50) for a particular year, executives will be awarded 50% of a target long-term incentive award, awarded solely in Synovus stock options, issued at fair market value (i.e., closing price) on the effective date of the award. The Committee believes that executives should receive a stock option grant even if Synovus TSR falls within this category because competitor companies would make such a grant and the stock price must appreciate from that point in order for the executive to benefit from the grant.

Because the Committee may take action to approve equity awards on or near the date that Synovus annual earnings are released, the Committee has established the last business day of the month in which earnings are released as the grant date for equity awards to ensure that the annual earnings release has time to be absorbed by the market before equity awards are granted and stock option exercise prices are established. Synovus released its annual earnings on January 17, 2007. The Committee met on January 24, 2007 to approve stock option and restricted stock awards to the named executive officers effective January 31, 2007. As a result, the grant date for long-term incentive awards (stock options and restricted stock awards) was January 31, 2007. The closing price of Synovus stock on January 31, 2007 was used as the exercise price for stock options and to determine the FAS 123(R) accounting expense and was also used for disclosure in the compensation tables in this Proxy Statement.

In 2007, long-term incentive equity awards were granted to Synovus named executive officers pursuant to the above grid based upon the 2004-2006 performance period. For this performance period, Synovus annualized TSR was 4.91% and Synovus TSR was in the 16th percentile of the KBW 50. Under the grid, this resulted in a long-term incentive award equal to 50% of target. The equity awards made to Synovus named executive officers in 2007 are set forth in the All Other Stock Awards and All Other Option Awards columns in the Grant of Plan-Based Awards Table. The Committee granted all of the named executive officers 50% stock options and 50% restricted stock awards.

In addition to the annual long-term incentive awards awarded pursuant to the performance grid described above, the Committee has granted other long-term incentive awards in certain circumstances. For example, the Committee made restricted stock awards grants to Messrs. Anthony and Green in 2005 to reflect their promotions and to serve as a vehicle for retaining their services in their new roles. The award to Mr. Green vests 20% a year for five years based upon continued service. Although the grant to Mr. Anthony was awarded primarily for retention, the Committee approved a performance-based grant to link his award to a threshold level of performance. The award to Mr. Anthony vests over a five to seven year period. The Committee establishes performance measures each year during the seven year vesting period and, if the performance measure is attained for a particular year, 20% of the award vests. The performance measure established for 2007 was 75% of the EPS percentage change established under Synovus short-term incentive plan. Because Synovus did not attain the EPS growth measure established for 2007, none of the performance-based restricted stock granted to Mr. Anthony vested during 2007.

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The Committee also awarded challenge grant stock options to Messrs. Anthony, Prescott and Griffith and Ms. James in 2000. The challenge grants were significant in size, with each of the preceding named executive officers receiving a grant of 400,000 stock options, which number of options was adjusted in connection with the Spin-Off. The challenge grants were designed to provide these executives with an incentive for exceptional growth in shareholder return, as well as to retain the services of the executives who received the grants for a significant period of time. The challenge grants vest in equal installments if the fair market value of Synovus stock exceeds \$40, \$45 and \$50 per share or on June 29, 2007 if the stock price targets are not attained prior to such date and the named executives remain in the continuous employment of Synovus through such date. The challenge grants vested on June 29, 2007 because each of the named executive officers remained in the continuous employment of Synovus through such date.

## ***Benchmarking***

As described above, Synovus benchmarks base salaries and market short-term and long-term incentive target awards with the Peer Companies. Synovus also benchmarks total compensation (base salary, short-term incentives and long-term incentives) of its executives. Synovus uses the Peer Companies for benchmarking total compensation, as well as external market surveys. Synovus uses a three-year look back of the total compensation benchmark data to reduce the impact of short-term fluctuations in the data which may occur from year to year. When reviewing the total compensation benchmarking data, Synovus focuses on total compensation opportunities, not necessarily the amount of compensation actually paid, which varies depending upon Synovus performance results due to the program's performance orientation. For example, over the past five years, Synovus long-term incentive awards have been below-target for four of the five years and above-target for one year. Although these awards result in compensation amounts for Synovus executives that could be considered below market in total, the Committee believes the amount of compensation paid to its executives is appropriate given Synovus shareholder return during this five-year period.

## ***Perquisites***

Perquisites are a very small part of our executive compensation program. Perquisites are not tied to performance of Synovus. Perquisites are offered to align our compensation program with competitive practices because similar positions at Synovus competitors offer similar perquisites. The perquisites offered by Synovus are set forth in footnotes (5) and (6) of the Summary Compensation Table. Considered both individually and in the aggregate, we believe that the perquisites we offer to our named executive officers are reasonable and appropriate.

## ***Employment Agreements***

Synovus does not generally use employment agreements with respect to its executives, except in unusual circumstances such as acquisitions. None of the named executive officers have employment agreements.

## ***Retirement Plans***

Our compensation program also includes retirement plans designed to provide income following an executive's retirement. We have chosen to use defined contribution retirement plans because we believe that defined benefit plans are difficult to understand, difficult to communicate, and contributions to defined benefit plans often depend upon factors that are beyond Synovus control, such as the earnings performance of the assets in such plans compared to actuarial assumptions inherent in such plans. Synovus offers three qualified defined contribution retirement plans to its employees: a money purchase pension plan, a profit sharing plan and a 401(k) savings plan.

The money purchase pension plan has a fixed 7% of compensation employer contribution every year. The profit sharing plan and any employer contribution to the 401(k) savings plan are tied directly to Synovus performance. There are opportunities under both the profit sharing plan





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and the 401(k) savings plan for employer contributions of up to 7% of compensation based upon the achievement of EPS growth goals. Based upon Synovus' performance for 2007, Synovus' named executive officers did not receive a contribution under the profit sharing plan or 401(k) savings plan. The retirement plan contributions for 2007 are included in the "All Other Compensation" column in the Summary Compensation Table.

In addition to these plans, the Synovus Deferred Compensation Plan ("Deferred Plan") replaces benefits lost under the qualified plans due to legal limits imposed by the IRS. The Deferred Plan does not provide "above market" interest. Instead, participants in the Deferred Plan can choose to invest their accounts among mutual funds that are generally the same as the mutual funds that are offered in the 401(k) savings plan. The executives' Deferred Plan accounts are held in a rabbi trust, which is subject to claims by Synovus' creditors. The employer contribution to the Deferred Plan for 2007 for named executive officers is set forth in the "All Other Compensation" column in the Summary Compensation Table and the earnings on the Deferred Plan accounts during 2007 for named executive officers is set forth in the "Aggregate Earnings in Last FY" column in the Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Table and in the "All Other Compensation" column in the Summary Compensation Table.

***Post-Termination Compensation Philosophy***

Synovus' compensation program is designed to reflect Synovus' philosophy that compensation generally should be earned while actively employed. Although retirement benefits are paid following an executive's retirement, the benefits are earned while employed and are substantially related to performance as described above. Synovus has entered into limited post-termination arrangements when appropriate, such as the change of control agreements which are described in the "Potential Payouts Upon Termination or Change of Control" section. Synovus chose to enter into change of control arrangements with its executives: (1) to ensure the retention of executives and an orderly transition during a change of control; (2) to ensure that executives would be financially protected in the event of a change of control so they continue to act in the best interests of Synovus while continuing to manage Synovus during a change of control; and (3) to ensure a competitive compensation package because such arrangements are common in the market and it was determined that such agreements were important in recruiting executive talent.

***Stock Ownership/Retention Guidelines***

To align the interests of its executives with shareholders, Synovus has implemented stock ownership guidelines for its executives. Under the guidelines, executives are required to maintain either five, four or three times the amount of their base salary in Synovus stock. Synovus' Chief Executive Officer is required to maintain five times his base salary, the President four times his base salary and the other executive officers three times their base salaries. The guidelines are recalculated at the beginning of each calendar year. The guidelines were initially adopted January 1, 2004 and executives had a five-year grace period to fully achieve the guidelines with an interim three-year goal. Until the guidelines are achieved, executives are required to retain all net shares received upon the exercise of stock options, excluding shares used to pay the option's exercise price and any taxes due upon exercise. In the event of a severe financial hardship, the guidelines permit the development of an alternative ownership plan by the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Compensation Committee. All executives are currently in compliance with the guidelines.

Synovus has also adopted a "hold until retirement" provision. Under this provision, executives that have attained the stock ownership guidelines described above are also required to retain ownership of 50% of all stock acquired through Synovus' equity compensation plans (after taxes and transaction costs) until their retirement or other termination of employment. The "hold until retirement" provision applies to all unexercised stock options and unvested restricted stock

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awards. Synovus believes that the hold until retirement requirement further aligns the interests of its executives with shareholders.

### ***Tally Sheets***

The Committee has reviewed tally sheets for each of Synovus named executive officers. The tally sheets add up all forms of compensation for each officer and also provide estimates of the amounts payable to each executive upon the occurrence of potential future events, such as a change of control, retirement, voluntary or involuntary termination, death and disability. The tally sheets are used to provide the Committee with total compensation amounts for each executive so that the Committee can determine whether the amounts are reasonable or excessive. Although the tally sheets are not used to benchmark total compensation with specific companies, the Committee considers total compensation paid to executives at other companies in considering the reasonableness of our executives total compensation. After reviewing the tally sheets, the Committee determined that the total compensation amounts are fair, reasonable and competitive.

### ***Other Policies***

**Restatements.** Synovus does not have a formal policy regarding the recovery of awards or payouts in the event the financial statements upon which Synovus performance measurements are based are restated or otherwise adjusted in a manner that could reduce the size of an award. Synovus believes that the decision of whether a recovery is appropriate would depend upon the facts and circumstances surrounding the restatement or adjustment.

**Tax Considerations.** We have structured most forms of compensation paid to our executives to be tax deductible. For example, Internal Revenue Code Section 162(m) limits the deductibility of compensation paid by a publicly-traded corporation to its Chief Executive Officer and four other highest paid executives for amounts in excess of \$1 million, unless certain conditions are met. The base salaries of all of our named executive officers are tax-deductible because they are less than \$1 million. In addition, the short-term and long-term incentive plans have been approved by shareholders and awards under these plans are designed to qualify as performance-based compensation to ensure deductibility under Code Section 162(m). We reserve the right to provide compensation which is not tax-deductible, however, if we believe the benefits of doing so outweigh the loss of a tax deduction. The only form of executive compensation not currently tax-deductible by Synovus is the personal use of corporate aircraft. We believe that a small amount of personal use each year is an appropriate perquisite for our executives, despite the loss of a tax deduction.

In general, Synovus does not gross-up its officers for taxes that are due with respect to their compensation. An example of an exception to this rule is for excise taxes that may be due with respect to the change of control agreements, as described above.

**Accounting Considerations.** We account for all compensation paid in accordance with GAAP. The accounting treatment has generally not affected the form of compensation paid to named executive officers.

**Board Fees.** During 2007, executives who served on the Boards of Directors of Synovus and its subsidiaries were paid the same cash director fees as those paid to non-executive directors and were also entitled to participate in Synovus Director Stock Purchase Plan, which is described under Equity Compensation of Directors. However, directors who are also executives did not receive the equity compensation that is granted to non-executive directors of Synovus and TSYS. Although paying cash director fees to named executives who serve on Boards of Directors is not the prevalent market practice, it has been the historical practice at Synovus for many years and constituted a small portion of affected executive s total compensation amount. These amounts are included in the All Other Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table. As described below, the payment of cash director fees to named

executives was eliminated effective January 1, 2008.

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***Conclusion***

For the reasons described above, we believe that each element of compensation offered in our executive compensation program, and the total compensation delivered to each named executive officer, is fair, reasonable and competitive.

***Significant Events After December 31, 2007***

The Committee granted stock options and restricted stock awards to Synovus named executive officers effective January 31, 2008 in accordance with the performance grid discussed under Long-Term Incentives above. The awards, which were made based upon Synovus TSR for the 2005-2007 performance period, were made at 50% of target. Messrs. Anthony, Prescott and Green and Ms. James were each granted stock option awards of 131,872, 44,046, 66,391 and 44,501 shares, respectively, at an exercise price of \$13.18, the closing price of Synovus stock on January 31, 2008. In addition, Messrs. Anthony, Prescott and Green and Ms. James were each granted restricted stock unit awards of 32,968, 11,011, 16,598 and 11,125 shares, respectively, effective January 31, 2008. The stock options and restricted stock unit awards vest over a three year period, in equal annual installments of one-third each, on January 31, 2009, January 31, 2010 and January 31, 2011.

The Committee also awarded special retention stock options to Synovus named executive officers effective January 31, 2008. The retention stock options were awarded to retain key executives following the Spin-Off and to align and mobilize the executives as a team. Messrs. Anthony, Prescott and Green and Ms. James were awarded 750,000, 225,000, 400,000 and 225,000 shares, respectively, at an exercise price of \$13.18, the closing price of Synovus stock on January 31, 2008. The stock option awards vest over a five-year period, with one-third of each award vesting on January 31, 2011, January 31, 2012 and January 31, 2013. All of these awards will be described in detail in next year's Proxy Statement.

Effective January 1, 2008, the Committee increased the base salaries of Messrs. Anthony and Green and Ms. James by \$59,200, \$62,100 and \$40,000, respectively. The amount of the increase was equal to the amount of Board of Director fees foregone by each executive as a result of the decision to eliminate the payment of cash director fees to named executives effective January 1, 2008.

**COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Synovus Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K with management and, based on such review and discussions, has recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement.

**The Compensation Committee**

V. Nathaniel Hansford, Chair

T. Michael Goodrich

Mason H. Lampton

**Table of Contents****SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE**

The table below summarizes the compensation for each of the named executive officers for each of the last two fiscal years.

The named executive officers were not entitled to receive payments which would be characterized as Bonus payments for either of these fiscal years. The short-term incentive amounts paid to the named executives for these two fiscal years, if any, are set forth in the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation column. Synovus methodology and rationale for short-term incentive compensation are described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis above.

The named executive officers did not receive any compensation that is reportable under the Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings column because, as described in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, Synovus has no defined benefit pension plans and does not pay above-market interest on deferred compensation. The retirement plan contributions and earnings for the named executive officers for these two fiscal years are set forth in the All Other Compensation column.

| Name and Principal Position  | Year | Salary<br>(\$) | Bonus<br>(\$) | Stock<br>Awards<br>(\$)(1) | Option<br>Awards<br>(\$)(2) | Change<br>in<br>Pension<br>Value<br>and<br>Nonquali-<br>fied |   | All Other<br>Compen-<br>sation<br>(\$) | Total<br>(\$) |
|--|------|----------------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|--|---------------|
|  |      |                |               |                            |                             | Non-Equity<br>Incentive<br>Plan Com-<br>pensation<br>(\$)    | Deferred<br>Compen-<br>sation<br>Earnings<br>(\$) |  |               |
| Edward E. Anthony<br>Chairman of the<br>Board and Chief<br>Executive Officer     | 2007 | \$ 869,000     |               | \$ 453,875                 | \$ 743,449                  | \$ -0-   |   | \$ 369,963(3)(4)(5)(6)                 | \$ 2,436,2    |
|  | 2006 | 819,000        |               | 615,086                    | 728,840                     | 1,433,250  |   | 447,929                                | 4,044,0       |
| Thomas J. Prescott<br>Executive Vice<br>President and Chief<br>Financial Officer | 2007 | 387,000        |               | 200,383                    | 334,915                     | -0-  |   | 120,490(4)(5)(6)                       | 1,042,7       |
|  | 2006 | 364,000        |               | 148,830                    | 496,636                     | 445,900  |   | 173,368                                | 1,628,7       |
| Derrick L.<br>Allen, III<br>President and Chief<br>Operating Officer             | 2007 | 500,000        |               | 355,822                    | 157,675                     | -0-  |   | 180,801(3)(4)(5)                       | 1,194,2       |
|  | 2006 | 408,333        |               | 297,054                    | 124,443                     | 522,083  |   | 235,482                                | 1,587,3       |
| Wendell<br>W. Anderson<br>President and Chief<br>Operating Officer               | 2007 | 429,000        |               | 234,109                    | 360,204                     | -0-  |   | 79,795(4)(5)(6)                        | 1,103,1       |

|  |      |         |         |         |         |                     |         |
|--|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|
| or Executive<br>e President,<br>eral<br>nsel and<br>etary      | 2006 | 413,000 | 175,280 | 517,609 | 505,925 | 141,925             | 1,753,7 |
| abeth R. James<br>e Chairman,<br>f People Officer<br>Secretary | 2007 | 391,000 | 209,348 | 339,689 | -0-     | 160,080(3)(4)(5)(6) | 1,100,1 |
|  | 2006 | 375,500 | 156,073 | 502,520 | 459,988 | 202,954             | 1,697,0 |

- (1) The amounts in this column reflect the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the last two fiscal years in accordance with SFAS 123(R) and include amounts from awards granted during these two fiscal years and prior to 2006. For a discussion of the restricted stock awards reported in this column, see Note 15 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in the Financial Appendix.
- (2) The amounts in this column reflect the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the last two fiscal years in accordance with SFAS 123(R) and include amounts from awards granted during these two fiscal years and prior to 2006. For a discussion of the assumptions made in the valuation of the stock option awards reported in this column, see Note 15 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in the Financial Appendix.
- (3) Amount includes director fees paid in cash of \$99,200, \$62,100 and \$40,000 for Messrs. Anthony and Green and Ms. James, respectively, in connection with their service as directors and/or advisory directors of Synovus and certain of its subsidiaries; matching contributions under the Synovus and TSYS Director Stock Purchase Plans of \$20,000 for Mr. Anthony; and matching contributions under the Synovus Director Stock Purchase Plan of \$10,000 for each of Mr. Green and Ms. James.
- (4) Amount includes allocations to qualified defined contribution plans of \$15,750 for each executive; allocations (including earnings) to nonqualified deferred compensation plans of \$218,573, \$89,946, \$77,872, \$50,715 and \$70,441 for Messrs. Anthony, Prescott, Green and Griffith and Ms. James, respectively.
- (5) Amount includes the costs incurred by Synovus in connection with providing the perquisite of an automobile allowance. Amount also includes the incremental cost to Synovus for reimbursement of country club dues, if any, and the incremental cost to Synovus for personal use of the corporate aircraft. Amounts for these items are not quantified because they do not exceed the greater of \$25,000 or 10% of the total amount of perquisites.
- (6) In addition to the items noted in footnote (5), the amount also includes the costs incurred by Synovus in connection with providing the perquisite of reimbursement for financial planning and the incremental cost to Synovus, if any, of security alarm monitoring. These items are not quantified because they do not exceed the greater of \$25,000 or 10% of the total amount of perquisites.
- (7) Mr. Griffith was employed by Synovus during 2007 but resigned effective January 1, 2008 to join TSYS.

**Table of Contents****GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2007**

The table below sets forth the short-term incentive compensation (payable in cash) and long-term incentive compensation (payable in the form of restricted stock awards and stock options) awarded to the named executive officers for 2007.

| Name                  | Grant Date | Action Date<br>(1) | Estimated Future Payouts Under<br>Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards(2) |                |                 | Estimated Future Payouts Under<br>Equity Incentive Plan Awards |                     | All Other<br>Stock Awards:<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares<br>or<br>Units<br>(#)(3) | All Other<br>Option Awards:<br>Number<br>of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Options<br>(#)(4) | Exercise<br>or<br>Base<br>Price<br>of<br>Option<br>Awards<br>(\$/Sh) | Grant<br>Date<br>Fair<br>Value<br>of Stock<br>and<br>Option<br>Award |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|---|----------------|-----------------|--|---------------------|---|--|--|--|
|                       |            |                    | Thresh-<br>old<br>(\$)  | Target<br>(\$) | Maximum<br>(\$) | Thresh-<br>old<br>(#)  | Maxi-<br>mum<br>(#) |   |  |  |  |
| Edward E.<br>Anthony  | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            |   |                |                 |  |                     | 12,825  |  |  | \$ 409,5   |
|                       | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            | \$ 0  | \$ 869,000     | \$ 1,738,000    |  |                     |   | 38,475   | \$ 31.93   | 277,7  |
| Thomas J.<br>Scott    | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            |   |                |                 |  |                     | 4,275   |  |  | 136,5  |
|                       | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            | 0   | 270,900        | 541,800         |  |                     |   | 12,825   | 31.93  | 92,5   |
| Derrick<br>Wen, III   | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            |   |                |                 |  |                     | 4,959   |  |  | 158,3  |
|                       | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            | 0   | 425,000        | 850,000         |  |                     |   | 14,876   | 31.93  | 107,4  |
| Randers<br>Fifth, III | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            |   |                |                 |  |                     | 4,850   |  |  | 154,8  |
|                       | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            | 0   | 300,300        | 600,600         |  |                     |   | 14,551   | 31.93  | 105,0  |
| Catherine<br>James    | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            |   |                |                 |  |                     | 4,410   |  |  | 140,8  |
|                       | 1-31-07    | 1-24-07            | 0   | 273,700        | 547,400         |  |                     |   | 13,230   | 31.93  | 95,5   |

(1)

The Synovus Compensation Committee met on January 24, 2007 and approved the grant of restricted stock awards and stock options to the named executive officers effective January 31, 2007.

- (2) The amounts shown in this column represent the minimum, target and maximum amounts payable under Synovus Executive Cash Bonus Plan for 2007. Awards are paid in cash and are based upon attainment of adjusted earnings per share percentage change goals. No award was earned for 2007.
- (3) The number set forth in this column reflects the number of shares of restricted stock awarded to each executive during 2007. The restricted stock awards vest over a three-year period, with one-third of the shares vesting on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant. Vesting is based upon continued employment through the vesting date. Dividends are paid on the restricted stock award shares. This reflects long-term incentive equity awards for the 2004-2006 performance period.
- (4) The number set forth in this column reflects the number of stock options granted to each executive during 2007. The stock option awards vest over a three-year period, with one-third of the shares vesting on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant. Vesting is based upon continued employment through the vesting date. This reflects long-term incentive equity awards for the 2004-2006 performance period.



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**OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL YEAR-END  
December 31, 2007**

| Name                       | Option Awards   |   |   |                        | Stock Awards           |  |   |   |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------|------------------------|--|---|---|---|
|                            | Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable | Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable | Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) | Exercise Price (\$)(1) | Option Expiration Date | Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)(2) | Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)(2) | Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Rights That Have Not Vested (#)(2) | Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (\$)(2) |
| Richard E. Anthony(3)      | 127,749   |   |   | \$ 10.69               | 02/08/2009             |  |   | 38,032  | \$ 398,195  |
|                            | 34,718  |   |   | 8.44                   | 01/19/2010             | 21,690   | \$ 227,094  |   |   |
|                            | 856,347   |   |   | 8.27                   | 06/28/2010             | 12,825   | 134,278   |   |   |
|                            | 27,356  |   |   | 12.35                  | 01/16/2011             |  |   |   |   |
|                            | 49,685  |   |   | 12.38                  | 04/28/2012             |  |   |   |   |
|                            | 97,666  |   |   | 12.01                  | 01/20/2014             |  |   |   |   |
|                            | 69,657  | 122,130   |   | 12.53                  | 01/20/2015             |  |   |   |   |
|                            |   | 139,308   |   | 12.93                  | 01/30/2016             |  |   |   |   |
|                            |   | 82,369  |   | 14.92                  | 01/31/2017             |  |   |   |   |
| Thomas J. Prescott(4)      | 44,894  |   |   | 10.69                  | 02/08/2009             | 4,446  | 46,550  |   |   |
|                            | 24,425  |   |   | 8.44                   | 01/19/2010             | 8,601  | 90,052  |   |   |
|                            | 856,347   |   |   | 8.27                   | 06/28/2010             | 4,275  | 44,759  |   |   |
|                            | 34,108  |   |   | 12.35                  | 01/16/2011             |  |   |   |   |
|                            | 33,324  |   |   | 12.38                  | 04/28/2012             |  |   |   |   |
|                            | 56,229  |   |   | 12.01                  | 01/20/2014             |  |   |   |   |
|                            |   | 28,557  |   | 12.53                  | 01/20/2015             |  |   |   |   |
|                            | 27,624  | 55,240  |   | 12.93                  | 01/30/2016             |  |   |   |   |
|                            |   | 27,456  |   | 14.92                  | 01/31/2017             |  |   |   |   |
| Frederick L. Green, III(5) | 76,649  |   |   | 10.69                  | 02/08/2009             | 4,684  | 49,041  |   |   |

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|                  |         |        |       |            |        |         |
|------------------|---------|--------|-------|------------|--------|---------|
|                  | 42,802  |        | 8.44  | 01/19/2010 | 15,660 | 163,960 |
|                  | 34,108  |        | 12.35 | 01/16/2011 | 9,081  | 95,078  |
|                  | 21,631  |        | 12.38 | 04/28/2012 | 4,959  | 51,921  |
|                  | 35,928  |        | 12.01 | 01/20/2014 |        |         |
|                  | 21,408  |        | 11.65 | 02/02/2014 |        |         |
|                  |         | 30,083 | 12.53 | 01/20/2015 |        |         |
|                  | 29,168  | 58,327 | 12.93 | 01/30/2016 |        |         |
|                  |         | 31,847 | 14.92 | 01/31/2017 |        |         |
| G. Sanders       |         |        |       |            |        |         |
| Griffith, III(6) | 107,311 |        | 10.69 | 02/08/2009 | 5,341  | 55,920  |
|                  | 58,400  |        | 8.44  | 01/19/2010 | 10,055 | 105,276 |
|                  | 856,347 |        | 8.27  | 06/28/2010 | 4,850  | 50,780  |
|                  | 46,187  |        | 12.35 | 01/16/2011 |        |         |
|                  | 41,353  |        | 12.38 | 04/28/2012 |        |         |
|                  | 67,475  |        | 12.01 | 01/20/2014 |        |         |
|                  |         | 34,303 | 12.53 | 01/20/2015 |        |         |
|                  | 32,296  | 64,582 | 12.93 | 01/30/2016 |        |         |
|                  |         | 31,151 | 14.92 | 01/31/2017 |        |         |
| Elizabeth R.     |         |        |       |            |        |         |
| James(7)         | 40,515  |        | 10.69 | 02/08/2009 | 4,754  | 49,774  |
|                  | 22,029  |        | 8.44  | 01/19/2010 | 8,955  | 93,759  |
|                  | 856,347 |        | 8.27  | 06/28/2010 | 4,410  | 46,173  |
|                  | 35,527  |        | 12.35 | 01/16/2011 |        |         |
|                  | 36,354  |        | 12.38 | 04/28/2012 |        |         |
|                  | 59,978  |        | 12.01 | 01/20/2014 |        |         |
|                  |         | 30,533 | 12.53 | 01/20/2015 |        |         |
|                  | 28,761  | 57,516 | 12.93 | 01/30/2016 |        |         |
|                  |         | 28,323 | 14.92 | 01/31/2017 |        |         |

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- (1) The exercise price and number of Synovus stock options were adjusted in connection with the Spin-Off so that, immediately following the Spin-Off, each named executive officer had approximately the same spread (the difference between the fair market value of a stock option and the option's exercise price) with respect to each stock option award. The conversion ratio was determined using a formula based on Synovus' closing price on the NYSE immediately preceding the Spin-Off and Synovus' average volume-weighted trading price on the NYSE for the 10 trading days immediately following the Spin-Off. Except for the adjustments to the exercise price and number of shares to reflect the Spin-Off, all other terms and conditions of the stock options remain the same.
- (2) In connection with the Spin-Off, each named executive officer received .483921 of a share of TSYS stock for each share of Synovus restricted stock held by the executive. The TSYS stock received by each executive in connection with the Spin-Off is subject to the same restrictions and conditions as the Synovus restricted stock. As a result of this distribution of TSYS stock, as of December 31, 2007, Mr. Anthony held 35,106 restricted shares of TSYS with a market value of \$982,968, Mr. Prescott held 8,301 restricted shares of TSYS with a market value of \$232,428, Mr. Green held 16,637 restricted shares of TSYS with a market value of \$465,836, Mr. Griffith held 9,796 restricted shares of TSYS with a market value of \$274,288, and Ms. James held 8,787 restricted shares of TSYS with a market value of \$245,476.
- (3) With respect to Mr. Anthony's unexercisable stock options, the 122,130 share grant vests on January 21, 2008, the 139,308 share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009 and the 82,369 share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010. The 122,130, 139,308 and 82,369 share grants also vest upon retirement, death or disability, a change of control, or upon an involuntary termination not for cause. With respect to Mr. Anthony's 21,690 share restricted stock award that has not vested, the award vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 12,825 restricted share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010. In addition, the performance-based restricted stock award of 63,386 shares granted to Mr. Anthony in 2005 vests as follows: the restricted shares have seven one-year performance periods (2005-2011). During each performance period, the Compensation Committee establishes an earnings per share goal and, if such goal is attained during any performance period, 20% of the restricted shares will vest. As of December 31, 2007, 38,032 of the 63,386 restricted shares had not vested.
- (4) With respect to Mr. Prescott's unexercisable stock options, the 28,557 share grant vests on January 21, 2008, the 55,240 share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 27,456 share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010. The 28,557, 55,240 and 27,456 share grants also vest upon retirement, death or disability, a change of control, or upon an involuntary termination not for cause. With respect to Mr. Prescott's restricted stock awards that have not vested, the 4,446 restricted share grant vests on January 21, 2008, and the 8,601 restricted share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 4,275 restricted share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010.
- (5) With respect to Mr. Green's unexercisable stock options, the 30,083 share grant vests on January 21, 2008, the 58,327 share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 31,847 share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010. The 30,083, 58,327 and 31,847 share grants also vest upon retirement, death or disability, a change of control, or upon an involuntary termination not for cause. With respect to Mr. Green's restricted stock awards that have not vested, the 4,684 restricted share grant vests on January 21, 2008, the 15,660 restricted share grant vests in equal installments on January 21, 2008, January 21, 2009 and January 21, 2010, the 9,081 restricted share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 4,959 restricted share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010.

- (6) With respect to Mr. Griffith's unexercisable stock options, the 34,303 share grant vests on January 21, 2008, the 64,582 share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 31,151 share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010. The 34,303, 64,582 and 31,151 share grants also vest upon retirement, death or disability, a change of control, or upon an involuntary termination not for cause. With respect to Mr. Griffith's restricted stock awards that have not vested, the 5,341 restricted share grant vests on January 21, 2008, the 10,055 restricted share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 4,850 restricted share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010.
- (7) With respect to Ms. James' unexercisable stock options, the 30,533 share grant vests on January 21, 2008, the 57,516 share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 28,323 share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010. The 30,533, 57,516 and 28,323 share grants also vest upon retirement, death or disability, a change of control, or upon an involuntary termination not for cause. With respect to Ms. James' restricted stock awards that have not vested, the 4,754 restricted share grant vests on January 21, 2008, the 8,955 restricted share grant vests in equal installments on January 31, 2008 and January 31, 2009, and the 4,410 restricted share grant vests in equal installments of one-third each on January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009 and January 31, 2010.

#### **POTENTIAL PAYOUTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE-IN-CONTROL**

Synovus has entered into change of control agreements with its named executive officers. Under these agreements, benefits are payable upon the occurrence of two events (also known as a "double trigger"). The first event is a change of control and the second event is the actual or constructive termination of the executive within two years following the date of the change of control. Change of control is defined, in general, as the acquisition of 20% of Synovus' stock by any person as defined under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, turnover of more than one-third of the Board of Directors of Synovus, or a merger of Synovus with another company if the former shareholders of Synovus own less than 60% of the surviving company. For purposes of these agreements, a constructive termination is a material adverse reduction in an executive's

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position, duties or responsibilities, relocation of the executive more than 35 miles from where the executive is employed, or a material reduction in the executive's base salary, bonus or other employee benefit plans.

In the event payments are triggered under the agreements, each executive will receive three times his or her base salary as in effect prior to the termination, three times a percentage of his or her base salary equal to the average short-term incentive award percentage earned over the previous three calendar years prior to the termination, as well as a pro rata short-term incentive award calculated at target for the year of termination. These amounts are paid to the executive in a single lump-sum cash payment. Each executive will also receive health and welfare benefits for a three year period following the second triggering event. In addition, each executive will receive an amount that is designed to gross-up the executive for any excise taxes that are payable by the executive as a result of the payments under the agreement, but only if the total change of control payments to the executive exceed 110% of the applicable IRS cap. The following table quantifies the estimated amounts that would be payable under the change of control agreements, assuming the triggering events occurred on December 31, 2007.

|  | <b>3x<br/>Base<br/>Salary</b> | <b>Average<br/>3-Yrs<br/>Short-Term<br/>Incentive<br/>Award</b> | <b>Pro-Rata<br/>Target<br/>Short-Term<br/>Incentive<br/>Award</b> | <b>Health<br/>&amp;<br/>Welfare<br/>Benefits</b> | <b>Stock<br/>Award<br/>Vesting</b> | <b>Stock<br/>Option<br/>Vesting(1)</b> | <b>Excise Tax<br/>Gross-<br/>up(2)</b> | <b>Total</b>  |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---|--|------------------------------------|--|--|---------------|
| Richard E.<br>Anthony                    | \$ 2,607,000                  | \$ 3,693,336  | \$ 869,000  | \$ 56,772  | \$ 1,742,535                       | \$ 0                                   | \$ 1,106,576                           | \$ 10,075,219 |
| Thomas J.<br>Prescott<br>Frederick<br>L. | 1,161,000                     | 1,151,384   | 270,900   | 56,772   | 413,789                            | 0                                      | 263,901                                | 3,317,746     |
| Green, III                               | 1,500,000                     | 1,515,000   | 425,000   | 56,772   | 825,863                            | 0                                      | 585,179                                | 4,907,814     |
| G. Sanders<br>Griffith, III              | 1,287,000                     | 1,276,317   | 300,300   | 56,772   | 406,264                            | 0                                      |  | 3,322,653     |
| Elizabeth<br>R. James                    | 1,173,000                     | 1,163,265   | 273,700   | 56,772   | 435,182                            | 0                                      | 420,603                                | 3,522,522     |

- (1) Estimated by multiplying number of options that vest upon change of control by difference in fair market value on December 31, 2007 and exercise price. Because the fair market value of Synovus stock on December 31, 2007 was less than the exercise price of all unvested options held by each named executive officer, amount is estimated at zero for each named executive officer. Stock options also vest upon retirement, death, disability or involuntary termination of employment not for cause.
- (2) Estimated using entire amount in Stock Award Vesting and Stock Option Vesting columns and dividing the estimated excise tax amount by 43.55%, which percentage is designed to calculate the amount of gross-up payment necessary so the executive is placed in the same position as though the excise tax did not apply. No gross-up payment is made if change of control payments do not exceed applicable IRS cap by 110%.

Executives who receive these benefits are subject to a confidentiality obligation with respect to secret and confidential information about Synovus they know. There are no provisions regarding a waiver of this confidentiality obligation.

No perquisites or other personal benefits are payable under the change of control agreements.

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**OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2007**

The following table sets forth the number and corresponding value realized during 2007 with respect to stock options that were exercised and restricted shares that vested for each named executive officer.

| Name                     | Option Awards                             |                                 | Stock Awards                             |                                |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
|                          | Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#) | Value Realized on Exercise (\$) | Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#) | Value Realized on Vesting (\$) |
| Richard E. Anthony       | 150                                       | \$ 1,688                        | 12,677                                   | \$ 412,256                     |
|                          | 69,120                                    | 280,399                         | 10,846                                   | 346,747                        |
|                          | 78,368                                    | 1,070,899                       |  |                                |
| Thomas J. Prescott       | 150                                       | 1,764                           | 4,301                                    | 137,503                        |
|                          | 23,976                                    | 82,904                          |  |                                |
| Frederick L. Green, III  | 32,400                                    | 136,945                         | 4,542                                    | 145,208                        |
|                          | 150                                       | 1,856                           | 5,220                                    | 164,012                        |
| G. Sanders Griffith, III | 150                                       | 1,706                           | 5,029                                    | 160,777                        |
|                          | 59,076                                    | 219,503                         |  |                                |
| Elizabeth R. James       | 20,088                                    | 72,855                          | 4,478                                    | 143,162                        |

The Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Table below sets forth the amount and form of deferred compensation benefits that the named executive officers would be entitled to receive upon their termination of employment.

**NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2007**

| Name                     | Executive Contributions in Last FY (\$) | Registrant Contributions in Last FY (\$) | Aggregate Earnings in Last FY (\$)(1) | Aggregate Withdrawals/ Distributions (\$) | Aggregate Balance at Last FYE (\$)(2) |
|--------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Richard E. Anthony       |   | \$ 250,174                               | \$ 73,163                             |   | \$ 783,935                            |
| Thomas J. Prescott       |   | 80,161                                   | 47,392                                |   | 515,777                               |
| Frederick L. Green, III  |   | 90,446                                   | 22,075                                |   | 441,804                               |
| G. Sanders Griffith, III |   | 97,661                                   | 1,019                                 |   | 304,520                               |
| Elizabeth R. James       |   | 84,353                                   | 26,621                                |   | 409,225                               |

(1) The amount reported in this column is reported in the Summary Compensation Table for 2007 as All Other Compensation.

- (2) Of the balances reported in this column, the amounts of \$304,119, \$123,239, \$106,725, \$125,620 and \$108,897 with respect to Messrs. Anthony, Prescott, Green and Griffith and Ms. James, respectively, were reported in the Summary Compensation Table as All Other Compensation in previous years. In addition, Mr. Anthony's balance includes deferred director fees and earnings on such fees of \$53,352.

The Deferred Plan replaces benefits lost by executives under the qualified retirement plans due to IRS limits. Executives are also permitted to defer all or a portion of their base salary or short-term incentive award, although no named executive officers did so for the last fiscal year. Amounts deferred under the Deferred Plan are deposited into a rabbi trust, and executives are permitted to invest their accounts in mutual funds that are generally the same as the mutual funds available in the qualified 401(k) plan. Deferred Plan participants may elect to withdraw their accounts as of a specified date or upon their termination of employment. Distributions can be made in a single lump sum or in annual installments over a 2-10 year period, as elected by the executive. The Directors Deferred Compensation Plan permits directors to elect to defer director fees pursuant to similar distribution and investment alternatives as the Deferred Plan.



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**CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND  
RELATED TRANSACTIONS**

***Related Party Transaction Policy***

Synovus Board of Directors has adopted a written policy for the review, approval or ratification of certain transactions with related parties of Synovus, which policy is administered by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee. Transactions that are covered under the policy include any transaction, arrangement or relationship, or series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships, in which: (1) the aggregate amount involved will or may be expected to exceed \$120,000 in any calendar year; (2) Synovus is a participant; and (3) any related party of Synovus (such as an executive officer, director, nominee for election as a director or greater than 5% beneficial owner of Synovus stock, or their immediate family members) has or will have a direct or indirect interest.

Among other factors considered by the Committee when reviewing the material facts of related party transactions, the Committee must take into account whether the transaction is on terms no less favorable than terms generally available to an unaffiliated third party under the same or similar circumstances and the extent of the related party's interest in the transaction. Certain categories of transactions have standing pre-approval under the policy, including the following:

the employment of non-executive officers who are immediate family members of a related party of Synovus so long as the annual compensation received by this person does not exceed \$250,000, which employment is reviewed by the Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting;

certain limited charitable contributions by Synovus, which transactions are reviewed by the Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting; and

during 2007, transactions between Synovus and TSYS, as these transactions are, in general, required by banking laws to be on substantially the same terms as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with non-related parties. (This provision was deleted from the policy subsequent to the Spin-Off).

The policy does not apply to certain categories of transactions, including the following:

certain lending transactions between related parties and Synovus and any of its banking and brokerage subsidiaries;

certain other financial services provided by Synovus or any of its subsidiaries to related parties, including retail brokerage, deposit relationships, investment banking and other financial advisory services;

during 2007, transactions subject to the TSYS Related Party Transaction Policy (which provision was deleted subsequent to the Spin-Off); and

transactions which occurred, or in the case of ongoing transactions, transactions which began, prior to the date of the adoption of the policy by the Synovus Board.

***Related Party Transactions***

During 2007, Synovus' executive officers and directors (including their immediate family members and organizations with which they are affiliated) were also customers. In management's opinion, the lending relationships with these directors and officers were made in the ordinary course of business and on substantially the same terms, including interest rates, collateral and repayment terms, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with other customers and do not involve more than normal collection risk or present other unfavorable features. In addition to these lending relationships, some directors and their affiliated organizations provide services or otherwise do business with Synovus and its

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subsidiaries, and we in turn provide services, including retail brokerage and other financial services, or otherwise do business with the directors and their organizations, in each case in the ordinary course of business and on substantially the same terms as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with other nonaffiliated persons.

On January 3, 2005, Synovus made a capital commitment of \$60 million to TTP Fund II, L.P. ( TTP II ), which currently represents an approximately 74.9% interest in TTP II. As of January 29, 2008, Synovus had funded approximately 38.6% of its capital commitment. TTP II is managed by Total Technology Partners II, LLC, its general partner. The general partner of TTP II will receive a 20% carried interest in TTP II. As direct and indirect owners of carried interest units in the TTP II general partner, Synovus and Gardiner W. Garrard, III, the son of Gardiner W. Garrard, Jr. who serves as a director of Synovus and TSYS, will be entitled to receive approximately 15% and 42.5%, respectively, of any carried interest distributions made by TTP II to its general partner.

Synovus has made a capital commitment of \$30 million to TTP Fund, L.P. ( TTP I ), a predecessor fund to TTP II. This capital commitment currently represents an approximately 79.8% interest in TTP I. As of January 29, 2008, Synovus had funded approximately 97.4% of its capital commitment. Synovus will receive a 5% carried interest in TTP I. TTP I is managed by Total Technology Partners, LLC, its general partner, which will receive a 15% carried interest in TTP I. Gardiner W. Garrard, III is entitled to receive 47.4% of any carried interest received by the general partner through his ownership interest in the general partner.

The general partner of each of the funds has entered into an agreement with Total Technology Ventures, LLC ( TTV ) pursuant to which TTV will provide investment management administrative services to each such general partner. Synovus and Gardiner W. Garrard, III hold percentage interests in TTV of 60% and 20%, respectively, and have capital commitments of \$1,200,000, and \$400,000, respectively, of which 75% have been funded. Synovus serves as the manager of TTV. Gardiner W. Garrard, III and an unrelated member of TTV share responsibility for the day-to-day operations of TTV. The fee payable quarterly by each general partner to TTV for the services provided equals the management fee received quarterly by such general partner from the fund it manages, subject to certain adjustments and reductions. The management fee payable to TTV by the general partner of TTP I and TTP II for such services during 2007 was \$664,838, and \$1,824,743, respectively. For his role as President and Chief Executive Officer of TTV and managing member of each general partner, Gardiner W. Garrard, III received \$250,000 in compensation during 2007.

Synovus leased various properties in Columbus, Georgia from W.C. Bradley Co. for office space and storage during 2007. The rent paid for the space was \$1,771,320. During 2007, TSYS leased office space in Columbus, Georgia from W.C. Bradley Co. for lease payments of \$779,272. Also during 2007, W.C. Bradley Co. paid a subsidiary of TSYS \$267,682 for various printing services. The terms of the lease agreements and the charges for printing services are comparable to those provided for between similarly situated unrelated third parties in similar transactions.

Synovus is a party to a Joint Ownership Agreement with TSYS and W.C.B. Air L.L.C. pursuant to which they jointly own or lease aircraft. W.C. Bradley Co. owns all of the limited liability interests of W.C.B. Air. The parties have each agreed to pay fixed fees for each hour they fly the aircraft owned and/or leased pursuant to the Joint Ownership Agreement. Synovus paid \$1,791,755 and TSYS paid \$1,694,712 for use of the aircraft during 2007. The charges payable by Synovus in connection with its use of this aircraft approximate charges available to unrelated third parties in the State of Georgia for use of comparable aircraft for commercial purposes.

The Joint Ownership Agreement was restructured and amended during 2007. In connection with this restructuring: (1) TSYS paid W.C.B. Air \$2,419,478; (2) TSYS paid Columbus Bank and Trust Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Synovus ( CB&T), \$9,670,589; and (3) W.C.B. Air paid CB&T \$367,753. The amounts paid by the parties in connection with the restructuring were established using current fair market values of the assets involved. James H. Blanchard, a



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director of Synovus and TSYS, is a director of W.C. Bradley Co. James D. Yancey, Chairman of the Board of CB&T and a director of Synovus and TSYS, is a director of W.C. Bradley Co. William B. Turner, Jr., Vice Chairman of the Board and President of W.C. Bradley Co., is a director of Synovus and CB&T. John T. Turner, William B. Turner, Jr.'s brother, is a director of W.C. Bradley Co. and a director of TSYS and CB&T. The payments to W.C. Bradley Co. by Synovus and its subsidiaries and the payments to Synovus and its subsidiaries by W.C. Bradley Co. represent less than 2% of W.C. Bradley Co.'s 2007 gross revenues.

During 2007, a banking subsidiary of Synovus leased office space in Daniel Island, South Carolina from DIBS Holdings, LLC for \$170,203. Frank W. Brumley, a director of Synovus, is managing member of and holds a 30% equity interest in DIBS Holdings, LLC. The terms of the lease agreement are comparable to those provided for between similarly situated unrelated third parties in similar transactions.

During 2007, Synovus and its wholly owned subsidiaries and TSYS paid to Communicorp, Inc. \$608,537 and \$418,889, respectively, for printing, marketing and promotional services, which payments are comparable to payments between similarly situated unrelated third parties for similar services. Communicorp is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aflac Incorporated. Daniel P. Amos, a director of Synovus, is Chief Executive Officer and a director of Aflac. The payments to Aflac by Synovus and its subsidiaries, including TSYS, represent less than .007% of Aflac's 2007 gross revenues.

William Russell Blanchard, a son of director James H. Blanchard, was employed by a subsidiary of Synovus as a retail banking executive during 2007. William Russell Blanchard received \$225,502 in compensation during 2007. William Fray McCormick, the son-in-law of director Richard Y. Bradley, was employed by a subsidiary of Synovus as a trust officer during 2007. Mr. McCormick received \$126,427 in compensation for his services during the year. Roderick Cowan Hunter, the son-in-law of director James D. Yancey, was employed by a subsidiary of Synovus as a director of sales and marketing during 2007. Mr. Hunter received \$122,404 in compensation during 2007. Mack Paul Daffin, Jr., a son-in-law of director Philip W. Tomlinson, was employed by a subsidiary of TSYS as Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer during 2007. Mr. Daffin received \$172,142 in compensation during 2007. The compensation received by the employees listed above is determined under the standard compensation practices of Synovus and TSYS.

The restructuring of the Joint Ownership Agreement with respect to aircraft to which a subsidiary of W.C. Bradley Co. was a party was approved pursuant to Synovus' Related Party Transaction Policy. None of the other transactions described above required review, approval or ratification under Synovus' Related Party Transaction Policy as they occurred or began prior to the adoption of the policy by the Synovus Board.

### ***Other Information About Board Independence***

In addition to the information set forth under the caption "Related Party Transactions" above, the Board also considered the following relationships in evaluating the independence of Synovus' independent directors and determined that none of the relationships constitute a material relationship with Synovus:

Synovus provided lending and/or other financial services to each of Messrs. Amos, Bradley, Brumley, Goodrich, Hansford, Lampton, Page, Purcell, Stith and Turner and Ms. Camp and Ms. Ogie, their immediate family members and/or their affiliated organizations during 2007 in the ordinary course of business and on substantially the same terms as those available to unrelated parties. These relationships meet the Board's categorical standards for independence;

Two immediate family members of Mr. Turner were compensated as non-executive employees of Synovus during 2007, which employment was in accordance with the Board's categorical standards for

independence; and

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Entities affiliated with Mr. Amos made minimal payments to or received payments from Synovus and/or TSYS for services in the ordinary course of business during 2007, which payments did not approach the 2% of consolidated gross revenues threshold set forth in the Board's categorical standards for independence.

**PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS**

The following table sets forth the number of shares of Synovus stock held by the only known holders of more than 5% of the outstanding shares of Synovus stock as of December 31, 2007.

| Name and Address<br>of Beneficial<br>Owner                                 | Shares of<br>Synovus Stock<br>Beneficially Owned<br>as of<br>12/31/07 | Percentage of<br>Outstanding Shares<br>of Synovus<br>Stock Beneficially<br>Owned as<br>of 12/31/07 |
|--|---|--|
| Synovus Trust Company, N.A.(1)<br>1148 Broadway<br>Columbus, Georgia 31901 | 49,027,895(2)   | 14.9%  |

- (1) The shares of Synovus stock held by Synovus Trust Company are voted by the President of Synovus Trust Company.
- (2) As of December 31, 2007, the banking, brokerage, investment advisory and trust company subsidiaries of Synovus, including CB&T through its wholly owned subsidiary, Synovus Trust Company, held in various fiduciary or advisory capacities a total of 49,060,595 shares of Synovus stock as to which they possessed sole or shared voting or investment power. Of this total, Synovus Trust Company held 42,743,124 shares as to which it possessed sole voting power, 45,768,165 shares as to which it possessed sole investment power, 226,971 shares as to which it possessed shared voting power and 2,603,317 shares as to which it possessed shared investment power. The other banking, brokerage, investment advisory and trust subsidiaries of Synovus held 16,350 shares as to which they possessed sole or shared investment power. Synovus and its subsidiaries disclaim beneficial ownership of all shares of Synovus stock which are held by them in various fiduciary, advisory, non-advisory or agency capacities.

**RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SYNOVUS, CB&T, TSYS AND  
CERTAIN OF SYNOVUS SUBSIDIARIES  
AND AFFILIATES**

***Spin-Off***

On October 25, 2007, Synovus, TSYS and CB&T, a wholly owned banking subsidiary of Synovus which on such date owned directly approximately 80.8% of TSYS, entered into an Agreement and Plan of Distribution. On December 31, 2007, pursuant to the Plan of Distribution, CB&T distributed all of its shares of TSYS stock to Synovus and Synovus distributed all of those shares to Synovus shareholders, after which distributions TSYS became a fully independent, publicly owned company (previously referred to in this proxy statement as the Spin-Off). Prior to the Spin-Off, and in

accordance with the Plan of Distribution, TSYS paid a one-time aggregate cash dividend of \$600 million to all TSYS shareholders, including (indirectly) Synovus.

In addition and pursuant to the Plan of Distribution, Synovus and TSYS entered into several other agreements to provide a framework for the relationships between Synovus, CB&T and TSYS after the Spin-Off. These agreements include the: (1) Employee Matters Agreement; (2) Transition Services Agreement; (3) Tax Sharing Agreement; (4) Indemnification and Insurance Matters Agreement; and (5) Master Confidential Disclosure Agreement.

The terms of the special dividend, the Spin-Off and the agreements entered into in connection therewith, were negotiated, reviewed, and recommended for approval by special committees of each of Synovus, TSYS and, to the extent applicable, CB&T, and were subsequently approved by Synovus Board of Directors, TSYS Board of Directors and, to the extent applicable, CB&T s Board of Directors.



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***Beneficial Ownership of TSYS Stock by CB&T***

Prior to the Spin-Off, CB&T individually owned 159,630,980 shares of TSYS stock. Synovus controls CB&T.

***Interlocking Directorates of Synovus, CB&T and TSYS***

Three of the members of Synovus Board of Directors also serve as members of the Boards of Directors of TSYS and CB&T. They are Richard E. Anthony, Richard Y. Bradley and James D. Yancey. Frederick L. Green, III, William B. Turner, Jr. and Elizabeth C. Ogie serve as members of the Board of Directors of CB&T. James H. Blanchard, Gardiner W. Garrard, Jr., Alfred W. Jones III, Mason H. Lampton, H. Lynn Page and Philip W. Tomlinson serve as members of the Board of Directors of TSYS.

***Transactions and Agreements Between Synovus, CB&T, TSYS and Certain of Synovus Subsidiaries***

The terms of the transactions set forth below are comparable to those provided for between similarly situated unrelated third parties in similar transactions.

During 2007, CB&T and certain of Synovus other banking subsidiaries received electronic payment processing services from TSYS. During 2007, TSYS derived \$5,554,438 in revenues from CB&T and certain of Synovus other banking subsidiaries for the performance of electronic payment processing services and \$7,892,259 in revenues from Synovus and its subsidiaries for the performance of other data processing, software and business process management services.

TSYS and Synovus are parties to Lease Agreements pursuant to which Synovus leased from TSYS office space for lease payments aggregating \$1,165,086 during 2007.

Synovus and TSYS were parties to Management Agreements during 2007 pursuant to which Synovus provided certain management services to TSYS. During 2007, these services included human resource services, maintenance services, security services, communication services, corporate education services, travel services, investor relations services, corporate governance services, legal services, regulatory and statutory compliance services, executive management services performed on behalf of TSYS by certain of Synovus officers and financial services. As compensation for management services provided during 2007, TSYS paid Synovus aggregate management fees of \$8,889,631.

During 2007, Synovus Trust Company served as trustee of various employee benefit plans of TSYS. During 2007, TSYS paid Synovus Trust Company trustee's fees under these plans of \$868,482. Also during 2007, Synovus provided advisory services to various employee benefit plans of TSYS for advisory fees of \$32,524.

During 2007, CB&T paid TSYS Total Debt Management, Inc., a subsidiary of TSYS, \$446,308 for debt collection services.

During 2007, Columbus Depot Equipment Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of TSYS, and Synovus, CB&T and two of Synovus other subsidiaries were parties to Lease Agreements pursuant to which Synovus, CB&T and two of Synovus other subsidiaries leased from Columbus Depot Equipment Company computer related equipment for bankcard and bank data processing services for lease payments aggregating \$9,300.

During 2007, Synovus and CB&T paid TSYS an aggregate of \$2,364,960 for miscellaneous reimbursable items, such as data links, network services and postage, primarily related to processing services provided by TSYS.

During 2007, Synovus, CB&T and other Synovus subsidiaries paid to Columbus Productions, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of TSYS, \$668,621 for printing services.

During 2007, CB&T leased office space from TSYS for lease payments of \$39,405. In addition, TSYS leased furniture and equipment from CB&T during 2007 for lease payments of \$119,098. Also during 2007, TSYS and its subsidiaries were paid \$16,456,240 of interest by

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CB&T and certain of Synovus' other banking subsidiaries in connection with deposit accounts with, and commercial paper purchased from, CB&T and certain of Synovus' other banking subsidiaries. Furthermore, during 2007 TSYS paid CB&T and certain of Synovus' other banking subsidiaries fees of \$42,358 for the provision of other banking services.

**SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP  
REPORTING COMPLIANCE**

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 requires Synovus' officers and directors, and persons who own more than ten percent of Synovus stock, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership on Forms 3, 4 and 5 with the SEC and the NYSE. Officers, directors and greater than ten percent shareholders are required by SEC regulations to furnish Synovus with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

To Synovus' knowledge, based solely on its review of the copies of such forms received by it, and written representations from certain reporting persons that no Forms 5 were required for those persons, Synovus believes that during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to its officers, directors and greater than ten percent beneficial owners were complied with, except that Mr. Hansford reported certain shares deemed to be beneficially owned late on one report, Mr. Turner and Mr. Amos each reported one transaction late on one report and Mr. Bradley reported two transactions late on two reports.

**SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS AND NOMINATIONS**

In order for a shareholder proposal to be considered for inclusion in Synovus' Proxy Statement for the 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, the written proposal must be received by the Corporate Secretary of Synovus at the address below. The Corporate Secretary must receive the proposal no later than November 21, 2008. The proposal will also need to comply with the SEC's regulations under Rule 14a-8 regarding the inclusion of shareholder proposals in company sponsored proxy materials. Proposals should be addressed to:

Corporate Secretary  
Synovus Financial Corp.  
1111 Bay Avenue, Suite 500  
Columbus, Georgia 31901

For a shareholder proposal that is not intended to be included in Synovus' Proxy Statement for the 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, or if you want to nominate a person for election as a director, you must provide written notice to the Corporate Secretary at the address above. The Secretary must receive this notice not earlier than December 20, 2008 and not later than February 4, 2009. The notice of a proposed item of business must provide information as required in the bylaws of Synovus which, in general, require that the notice include for each matter a brief description of the matter to be brought before the meeting; the reason for bringing the matter before the meeting; your name, address, and number of shares you own beneficially or of record; and any material interest you have in the proposal.

The notice of a proposed director nomination must provide information as required in the bylaws of Synovus which, in general, require that the notice of a director nomination include your name, address and the number of shares you own beneficially or of record; the name, age, business address, residence address and principal occupation of the nominee; and the number of shares owned beneficially or of record by the nominee. It must also include the information that would be required to be disclosed in the solicitation of proxies for the election of a director under federal securities laws. You must submit the nominee's consent to be elected and to serve. A copy of the bylaw requirements will be provided upon request to the Corporate Secretary at the address above.



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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

***Financial Information***

A copy of Synovus 2007 Form 10-K will be furnished, without charge, by writing to the Corporate Secretary, Synovus Financial Corp., 1111 Bay Avenue, Suite 500, Columbus, Georgia 31901. The Form 10-K is also available on Synovus home page on the Internet at [www.synovus.com](http://www.synovus.com). Click on Investor Relations, Financial Reports and SEC Filings.

***Solicitation of Proxies***

Synovus will pay the cost of soliciting proxies. Proxies may be solicited on behalf of Synovus by directors, officers or employees by mail, in person or by telephone, facsimile or other electronic means. Synovus will reimburse brokerage firms, nominees, custodians, and fiduciaries for their out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners.

***Householding***

The SEC's proxy rules permit companies and intermediaries, such as brokers and banks, to satisfy delivery requirements for proxy statements with respect to two or more shareholders sharing the same address by delivering a single proxy statement to those shareholders. This method of delivery, often referred to as householding, should reduce the amount of duplicate information that shareholders receive and lower printing and mailing costs for companies. Synovus is not householding proxy materials for its shareholders of record in connection with its 2008 Annual Meeting. However, we have been notified that certain intermediaries will household proxy materials. If you hold your shares of Synovus stock through a broker or bank that has determined to household proxy materials:

Only one Annual Report and Proxy Statement will be delivered to multiple shareholders sharing an address unless you notify your broker or bank to the contrary;

You can contact Synovus by calling (706) 649-5220 or by writing Director of Investor Relations, Synovus Financial Corp., P.O. Box 120, Columbus, Georgia 31902 to request a separate copy of the Annual Report and Proxy Statement for the 2008 Annual Meeting and for future meetings or you can contact your bank or broker to make a similar request; and

You can request delivery of a single copy of Annual Reports or Proxy Statements from your bank or broker if you share the same address as another Synovus shareholder and your bank or broker has determined to household proxy materials.

The above Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement are sent by order of the Synovus Board of Directors.

Richard E. Anthony  
Chairman of the Board and  
Chief Executive Officer

March 21, 2008



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**APPENDIX A**

**SYNOVUS FINANCIAL CORP.  
DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE STANDARDS**

*The following independence standards have been approved by the Board of Directors and are included within Synovus Corporate Governance Guidelines.*

A majority of the Board of Directors will be independent directors who meet the criteria for independence required by the NYSE. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee will make recommendations to the Board annually as to the independence of directors as defined by the NYSE. To be considered independent under the NYSE Listing Standards, the Board must determine that a director does not have any direct or indirect material relationship with the Company. The Board has established the following standards to assist it in determining director independence. A director is not independent if:

The director is, or has been within the last three years, an employee of the Company or an immediate family member is, or has been within the last three years, an executive officer of the Company.

The director has received, or has an immediate family member who has received, during any twelve-month period within the last three years, more than \$100,000 in direct compensation from the Company, other than director and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service). (Compensation received by an immediate family member for service as an employee of the Company (other than an executive officer) is not taken into consideration under this independence standard).

(A) The director or an immediate family member is a current partner of a firm that is the Company's internal or external auditor; (B) the director is a current employee of such a firm; (C) the director has an immediate family member who is a current employee of such a firm and who participates in the firm's audit, assurance or tax compliance (but not tax planning) practice; or (D) the director or an immediate family member was within the last three years (but is no longer) a partner or employee of such a firm and personally worked on the Company's audit within that time.

The director or an immediate family member is, or has been within the last three years, employed as an executive officer of another company where any of the Company's present executive officers at the same time serves or served on that company's compensation committee.

The director is a current employee, or an immediate family member is a current executive officer, of a company that has made payments to, or received payments from, the Company for property or services in an amount which, in any of the last three fiscal years, exceeds the greater of \$1 million, or 2% of such other company's consolidated gross revenues.

The following relationships will not be considered to be material relationships that would impair a director's independence:

The director is a current employee, or an immediate family member of the director is a current executive officer, of a company that has made payments to, or received payments from, the Company for property or services (including financial services) in an amount which, in the prior fiscal year, is less than the greater of

\$1 million, or 2% of such other company's consolidated gross revenues. (In the event this threshold is exceeded, and where applicable in the standards set forth below, the three year look back period referenced above will apply to future independence determinations).

The director or an immediate family member of the director is a partner of a law firm that provides legal services to the Company and the fees paid to such law firm by the Company

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in the prior fiscal year were less than the greater of \$1 million, or 2% of the law firm's total revenues.

The director or an immediate family member of the director is an executive officer of a tax exempt organization and the Company's contributions to the organization in the prior fiscal year were less than the greater of \$1 million, or 2% of the organization's consolidated gross revenues.

The director received less than \$100,000 in direct compensation from the Company during the prior twelve month period, other than director and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service).

The director's immediate family member received in his or her capacity as an employee of the Company (other than as an executive officer of the Company), less than \$250,000 in direct compensation from the Company in the prior fiscal year, other than director and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service).

The director or an immediate family member of the director has, directly, in his or her individual capacities, or, indirectly, in his or her capacity as the owner of an equity interest in a company of which he or she is not an employee, lending relationships, deposit relationships or other banking relationships (such as depository, trusts and estates, private banking, investment banking, investment management, custodial, securities brokerage, insurance, cash management and similar services) with the Company provided that:

- 1) Such relationships are in the ordinary course of business of the Company and are on substantially the same terms as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with non-affiliated persons; and
- 2) With respect to extensions of credit by the Company's subsidiaries:
  - (a) such extensions of credit have been made in compliance with applicable law, including Regulation O of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, Sections 23A and 23B of the Federal Reserve Act and Section 13(k) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
  - (b) no event of default has occurred under the extension of credit.

For relationships not described above or otherwise not covered in the above examples, a majority of the Company's independent directors, after considering all of the relevant circumstances, may make a determination whether or not such relationship is material and whether the director may therefore be considered independent under the NYSE Listing Standards. The Company will explain the basis of any such determinations of independence in the next proxy statement.

For purposes of these independence standards an immediate family member includes a person's spouse, parents, children, siblings, mothers and fathers-in-law, sons and daughters-in-law, brothers and sisters-in-law, and anyone (other than domestic employees) who shares such person's home.

For purposes of these independence standards Company includes any parent or subsidiary in a consolidated group with the Company.

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**APPENDIX B**

**SYNOVUS FINANCIAL CORP.  
DIRECTOR ELECTION BY MAJORITY VOTE GUIDELINES**

*The following director election by majority vote guidelines have been approved by the Board of Directors and are included within Synovus' Corporate Governance Guidelines.*

In an uncontested election, any nominee for director who receives a greater number of votes withheld from his or her election than votes for such election (a Majority Withheld Vote) will promptly tender his or her resignation following certification of the shareholder vote.

The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee will promptly consider the resignation offer and recommend to the Board whether to accept or reject it, including rejecting the resignation on the condition that the underlying cause of the withheld votes be cured. In considering whether to accept the resignation, the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee will consider all factors deemed relevant by members of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee, including, without limitation, the stated reasons why shareholders withheld votes for election from such director, the length of service and qualifications of the director whose resignation has been tendered, the director's contribution to the Company and the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines.

The Board will act on the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee's recommendation no later than 90 days following certification of the shareholder vote. In considering the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee's recommendation, the Board will consider the factors considered by the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and such additional information and factors the Board believes to be relevant.

The Company will promptly disclose the Board's decision whether to accept the director's resignation offer (providing a full explanation of the process by which the decision was reached and the reasons for rejecting the resignation offer, if applicable) in a Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

To the extent that one or more directors' resignations are accepted by the Board, the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee will recommend to the Board whether to fill such vacancy or vacancies or to reduce the size of the Board.

Any director who tenders his or her resignation pursuant to this provision will not participate in the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee recommendation or Board action regarding whether to accept the resignation offer.

If a majority of the members of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee received a Majority Withheld Vote at the same election, then the independent directors who did not receive a Majority Withheld Vote will appoint a committee amongst themselves to consider the resignation offers and recommend to the Board whether to accept or reject them. This Board committee may, but need not, consist of all of the independent directors who did not receive a Majority Withheld Vote or those independent directors who were not standing for election.

This corporate governance guideline will be summarized or included in each proxy statement relating to an election of directors of the Company.



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## Consolidated Balance Sheets ==

*(In thousands, except share data)*

|  | <b>December 31,</b> |             |
|--|---------------------|-------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>         | <b>2006</b> |
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |                     |             |
| Cash and due from banks, including \$18,946 and \$41,337 in 2007 and 2006, respectively, on deposit to meet Federal Reserve requirements | \$ 682,583          | 713,053     |
| Interest earning deposits with banks   | 10,950              | 19,315      |
| Federal funds sold and securities purchased under resale agreements  | 76,086              | 101,091     |
| Trading account assets   | 17,803              | 15,266      |
| Mortgage loans held for sale   | 153,437             | 175,042     |
| Investment securities available for sale   | 3,666,974           | 3,352,357   |
| Loans, net of unearned income  | 26,498,585          | 24,654,552  |
| Allowance for loan losses  | (367,613)           | (314,459)   |
| Loans, net   | 26,130,972          | 24,340,093  |
| Premises and equipment, net  | 547,437             | 481,415     |
| Goodwill   | 519,138             | 515,719     |
| Other intangible assets, net   | 28,007              | 35,693      |
| Other assets   | 1,185,065           | 832,280     |
| Assets of discontinued operations  |                     | 1,384,856   |
| Total assets   | \$ 33,018,452       | 31,966,180  |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>   |                     |             |
| Liabilities:   |                     |             |
| Deposits:  |                     |             |
| Non-interest bearing retail and commercial deposits  | \$ 3,472,423        | 3,545,766   |
| Interest bearing retail and commercial deposits  | 18,199,997          | 17,968,202  |
| Total retail and commercial deposits   | 21,672,420          | 21,513,968  |
| Brokered time deposits   | 3,287,396           | 3,014,495   |
| Total deposits   | 24,959,816          | 24,528,463  |
| Federal funds purchased and securities sold under repurchase agreements  | 2,319,412           | 1,582,487   |
| Long-term debt   | 1,890,235           | 1,343,358   |
| Other liabilities  | 407,399             | 432,279     |
| Liabilities of and minority interest in discontinued operations  |                     | 370,943     |
| Total liabilities  | 29,576,862          | 28,257,530  |

Shareholders' equity:

|   |                          |                |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|
| Common stock - \$1.00 par value. Authorized 600,000,000 shares; issued 335,529,482 in 2007 and 331,213,913 in 2006; outstanding 329,867,944 in 2007 and 325,552,375 in 2006 | <b>335,529</b>           | 331,214        |
| Additional paid-in capital  | <b>1,101,209</b>         | 1,033,055      |
| Treasury stock, at cost - 5,661,538 shares  | <b>(113,944)</b>         | (113,944)      |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)   | <b>31,439</b>            | (2,129)        |
| Retained earnings   | <b>2,087,357</b>         | 2,460,454      |
| <br>Total shareholders' equity  | <br><b>3,441,590</b>     | <br>3,708,650  |
| <br>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity  | <br><b>\$ 33,018,452</b> | <br>31,966,180 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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## Consolidated Statements of Income ==

*(In thousands, except per share data)*

|   | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| Interest income:  |                                 |             |             |
| Loans, including fees   | <b>\$ 2,046,239</b>             | 1,859,914   | 1,375,264   |
| Investment securities available for sale:                               |                                 |             |             |
| U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities                     | <b>89,597</b>                   | 69,834      | 53,037      |
| Mortgage-backed securities  | <b>67,744</b>                   | 52,469      | 40,287      |
| State and municipal securities  | <b>8,095</b>                    | 9,208       | 10,072      |
| Other investments   | <b>7,290</b>                    | 6,915       | 5,547       |
| Trading account assets  | <b>3,418</b>                    | 2,691       | 642         |
| Mortgage loans held for sale  | <b>9,659</b>                    | 8,638       | 7,304       |
| Federal funds sold and securities purchased under resale agreements     | <b>5,258</b>                    | 6,422       | 4,082       |
| Interest earning deposits with banks                                    | <b>1,104</b>                    | 375         | 26          |
| <b>Total interest income</b>  | <b>2,238,404</b>                | 2,016,466   | 1,496,261   |
| Interest expense:   |                                 |             |             |
| Deposits  | <b>912,472</b>                  | 746,669     | 408,405     |
| Federal funds purchased and securities sold under repurchase agreements | <b>92,970</b>                   | 72,958      | 34,342      |
| Long-term debt  | <b>84,014</b>                   | 71,050      | 88,299      |
| <b>Total interest expense</b>   | <b>1,089,456</b>                | 890,677     | 531,046     |
| <b>Net interest income</b>  | <b>1,148,948</b>                | 1,125,789   | 965,215     |
| Provision for losses on loans   | <b>170,208</b>                  | 75,148      | 82,532      |
| <b>Net interest income after provision for losses on loans</b>          | <b>978,740</b>                  | 1,050,641   | 882,683     |
| Non-interest income:  |                                 |             |             |
| Service charges on deposit accounts                                     | <b>112,142</b>                  | 112,417     | 109,960     |
| Fiduciary and asset management fees                                     | <b>50,761</b>                   | 48,627      | 45,454      |
| Brokerage and investment banking revenue                                | <b>31,980</b>                   | 26,729      | 24,487      |
| Mortgage banking income   | <b>27,006</b>                   | 29,255      | 28,682      |
| Bankcard fees   | <b>47,770</b>                   | 44,303      | 38,813      |
| Net gains (losses) on sales of available for sale investment securities | <b>980</b>                      | (2,118)     | 463         |
| Other fee income  | <b>39,307</b>                   | 38,743      | 34,148      |
| Other operating income  | <b>79,082</b>                   | 61,474      | 45,407      |
| <b>Total non-interest income</b>  | <b>389,028</b>                  | 359,430     | 327,414     |

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|  |                   |         |         |
|--|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Non-interest expense:  |                   |         |         |
| Salaries and other personnel expense   | <b>455,158</b>    | 450,373 | 370,223 |
| Net occupancy and equipment expense  | <b>112,888</b>    | 100,270 | 90,549  |
| Other operating expenses   | <b>235,248</b>    | 213,890 | 185,985 |
| Visa litigation expense  | <b>36,800</b>     |         |         |
| <b>Total non-interest expense</b>  | <b>840,094</b>    | 764,533 | 646,757 |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes                          | <b>527,674</b>    | 645,538 | 563,340 |
| Income tax expense   | <b>184,739</b>    | 230,435 | 204,290 |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Income from continuing operations  | <b>342,935</b>    | 415,103 | 359,050 |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes and minority interest | <b>183,370</b>    | 201,814 | 157,396 |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Net income   | <b>\$ 526,305</b> | 616,917 | 516,446 |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Basic earnings per share:  |                   |         |         |
| Income from continuing operations  | <b>\$ 1.05</b>    | 1.29    | 1.15    |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Net income   | <b>1.61</b>       | 1.92    | 1.66    |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Diluted earnings per share:  |                   |         |         |
| Income from continuing operations  | <b>\$ 1.04</b>    | 1.28    | 1.14    |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Net income   | <b>1.60</b>       | 1.90    | 1.64    |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Weighted average shares outstanding:   |                   |         |         |
| Basic  | <b>326,849</b>    | 321,241 | 311,495 |
| <br>   |                   |         |         |
| Diluted  | <b>329,863</b>    | 324,232 | 314,815 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.



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## Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income --

(Amounts in thousands, except per share data)

| Period ended December 31,  | Shares  | Common     | Additional         | Treasury  | Unearned     | Accumulated<br>Other<br>Comprehensive<br>Income | Retained  | Total     |
|--|---------|------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------|---|-----------|-----------|
| 2006, and 2005   | Issued  | Stock      | Paid-In<br>Capital | Stock     | Compensation | (Loss)  | Earnings  |           |
| at December 31, 2004   | 315,636 | \$ 315,636 | 628,396            | (113,944) | (106)        | 8,903   | 1,802,404 | 2,605,500 |
| Comprehensive loss, net of tax:  |         |            |                    |           |              |   | 516,446   |           |
| Realized loss on cash flow   |         |            |                    |           |              | (2,240)   |           |           |
| Change in unrealized gains/losses on<br>available-for-sale securities available for<br>reclassification adjustment |         |            |                    |           |              | (28,354)  |           |           |
| Foreign currency translation   |         |            |                    |           |              | (7,845)   |           |           |
| Comprehensive loss   |         |            |                    |           |              | (38,439)  |           |           |
| Comprehensive income   |         |            |                    |           |              |   |           | 4,166     |
| Dividends declared \$ .73 per<br>share   |         |            |                    |           |              |   | (227,663) | (2,378)   |
| Grant of restricted stock  | 146     | 146        | 3,807              |           | (3,953)      |   |           |           |
| Expiration of unearned<br>restricted stock   |         |            |                    |           | 933          |   |           |           |
| Options exercised  | 2,506   | 2,506      | 40,619             |           |              |   |           |           |
| Option tax benefit   |         |            | 9,505              |           |              |   |           |           |
| Partnership change at majority-owned<br>entity   |         |            | 3,907              |           |              |   |           |           |
| Issuance of common stock for<br>employee stock purchase plans  | 8       | 8          | 218                |           |              |   |           |           |
| Issuance of common stock under<br>employee stock purchase plan to charitable foundation                            | 5       | 5          | (5)                |           |              |   |           |           |
| at December 31, 2005   | 318,301 | 318,301    | 686,447            | (113,944) | (3,126)      | (29,536)  | 2,091,187 | 2,948,255 |
| Retrospective adjustment to opening<br>balance of shareholders' equity   |         |            |                    |           |              | 826   | 3,434     |           |
| Provision for unfunded health benefit<br>from adoption of<br>FASB Statement No. 158, net of tax                    |         |            |                    |           |              | (3,212)   |           |           |
| Comprehensive income   |         |            |                    |           |              |   | 616,917   | 616,917   |

|   |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| Comprehensive income, net of                  |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Realized gain on cash flow                    |                |                |                  |                  |                | 3,650            |                  |            |
| Change in unrealized gains/losses on          |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Investment securities available for           |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Sale of reclassification adjustment           |                |                |                  |                  |                | 13,268           |                  |            |
| Effect of foreign currency translation        |                |                |                  |                  |                | 12,875           |                  |            |
| Comprehensive income                          |                |                |                  |                  |                | 29,793           |                  |            |
| Comprehensive income                          |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  | 6          |
| Dividends declared \$ .78 per                 |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  | (251,084)        | (2)        |
| Amortization of unearned                      |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Contribution to additional paid-in            |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Capital upon adoption of                      |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| SSA No. 123(R)                                |                |                | (3,126)          |                  | 3,126          |                  |                  |            |
| Repurchase of restricted stock                | 610            | 610            | (610)            |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Provision of compensation expense             |                |                | 23,373           |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Options exercised                             | 3,459          | 3,459          | 62,051           |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Share-based compensation tax benefit          |                |                | 11,390           |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Change in ownership of majority-owned         |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Entity  |                |                | 6,031            |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Repurchase of common stock for                |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| Share repurchases                             | 8,844          | 8,844          | 247,499          |                  |                |                  |                  | 2          |
| <b>Balance at December 31, 2006</b>           | <b>331,214</b> | <b>331,214</b> | <b>1,033,055</b> | <b>(113,944)</b> | <b>(2,129)</b> | <b>2,460,454</b> | <b>3,7</b>       |            |
| <b>Net cumulative effect of adoption of</b>   |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| <b>SSA No. 123</b>                            |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  | (230)            |            |
| <b>Change in comprehensive income, net of</b> |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  | <b>526,305</b>   | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>Realized gain on cash flow</b>             |                |                |                  |                  |                | <b>18,334</b>    |                  |            |
| <b>Change in unrealized gains/losses on</b>   |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| <b>Investment securities available for</b>    |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| <b>Sale of reclassification adjustment</b>    |                |                |                  |                  |                | <b>31,251</b>    |                  |            |
| <b>Effect of postretirement</b>               |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  |            |
| <b>and health benefit, net of tax</b>         |                |                |                  |                  |                | <b>817</b>       |                  |            |
| <b>Effect of foreign currency translation</b> |                |                |                  |                  |                | <b>6,151</b>     |                  |            |
| <b>Comprehensive income</b>                   |                |                |                  |                  |                | <b>56,553</b>    |                  |            |
| <b>Comprehensive income</b>                   |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  |                  | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>Dividends declared \$ .82 per</b>          |                |                |                  |                  |                |                  | <b>(269,082)</b> | <b>(2)</b> |
| <b>Repurchase of restricted stock</b>         | <b>552</b>     | <b>552</b>     | <b>(552)</b>     |                  |                |                  |                  |            |

|                           |         |            |           |           |          |           |     |
|---------------------------|---------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----|
| ased compensation expense |         |            | 21,540    |           |          |           |     |
| ptions exercised          | 3,702   | 3,702      | 60,148    |           |          |           |     |
| tion tax benefit          |         |            | 15,937    |           |          |           |     |
| e of common stock for     |         |            |           |           |          |           |     |
| ions                      | 61      | 61         | 2,054     |           |          |           |     |
| of TSYS                   |         |            | (30,973)  |           | (22,985) | (630,090) | (6  |
| at December 31, 2007      | 335,529 | \$ 335,529 | 1,101,209 | (113,944) | 31,439   | 2,087,357 | 3,4 |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows ==

*(In thousands)*

|  | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |                |                |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b>    | <b>2005</b>    |
| <b>Operating Activities</b>  |                                 |                |                |
| Net income   | \$ 526,305                      | 616,917        | 516,446        |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:              |                                 |                |                |
| Provision for losses on loans  | 170,208                         | 75,148         | 82,532         |
| Depreciation, amortization, and accretion, net   | 208,270                         | 231,288        | 193,152        |
| Equity in income of equity investments   | (10,463)                        | (14,726)       | (6,135)        |
| Deferred income tax (benefit) expense  | (28,057)                        | (44,970)       | (53,575)       |
| Increase in interest receivable  | (11,774)                        | (84,457)       | (40,853)       |
| Increase in interest payable   | 830                             | 74,422         | 23,363         |
| Minority interest in subsidiaries net income   | 47,521                          | 48,102         | 37,381         |
| Decrease (increase) in trading account assets  | (2,537)                         | 12,056         | (27,322)       |
| Originations of mortgage loans held for sale   | (1,328,905)                     | (1,550,099)    | (1,414,357)    |
| Proceeds from sales of mortgage loans held for sale  | 1,378,999                       | 1,547,765      | 1,415,213      |
| Gain on sale of mortgage loans held for sale   | (27,105)                        | (29,211)       | (23,835)       |
| Increase in prepaid and other assets   | (192,921)                       | (150,668)      | (80,982)       |
| (Decrease) increase in accrued salaries and benefits   | (33,428)                        | 6,781          | 37,953         |
| Increase (decrease) in other liabilities   | (68,906)                        | 6,719          | (26,422)       |
| Net (gains) losses on sales of available for sale investment securities                        | (980)                           | 2,118          | (463)          |
| Gain on sale of loans  |                                 | (1,975)        |                |
| Gain on sale of other assets   | (6,303)                         | (5,436)        |                |
| Increase in fair value of private equity investments   | (16,497)                        | (6,346)        |                |
| Gain from transfer of mutual funds   | (6,885)                         |                |                |
| Visa litigation expense  | 36,800                          |                |                |
| Share-based compensation   | 36,509                          | 27,163         | 1,999          |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based payment arrangements                                       | (14,066)                        | (10,460)       |                |
| Impairment of developed software   | 1,740                           |                | 3,619          |
| Other, net   | 7,410                           | 39,330         | (10,506)       |
| <b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>   | <b>665,765</b>                  | <b>789,461</b> | <b>627,208</b> |
| <b>Investing Activities</b>  |                                 |                |                |
| Net cash paid for acquisitions   | (12,552)                        | (53,664)       | (56,995)       |
| Net (increase) decrease in interest earning deposits with banks                                | 8,365                           | (16,409)       | 1,173          |
| Net (increase) decrease in federal funds sold and securities purchased under resale agreements | 25,005                          | (27,387)       | 66,549         |
| Proceeds from maturities and principal collections of investment securities available for sale | 721,679                         | 676,492        | 660,085        |

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|   |                        |                 |                 |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Proceeds from sales of investment securities available for sale                                     | <b>25,482</b>          | 130,457         | 50,048          |
| Purchases of investment securities available for sale   | <b>(1,015,303)</b>     | (1,051,733)     | (1,019,585)     |
| Proceeds from sale of commercial loans  |                        | 32,813          |                 |
| Net increase in loans   | <b>(2,071,602)</b>     | (2,498,467)     | (1,990,774)     |
| Purchases of premises and equipment   | <b>(168,202)</b>       | (140,143)       | (106,674)       |
| Proceeds from disposals of premises and equipment   | <b>790</b>             | 1,201           | 1,708           |
| Net proceeds from transfer of mutual funds  | <b>6,885</b>           |                 |                 |
| Proceeds from sale of other assets  |                        | 5,632           |                 |
| Additions to other intangible assets  |                        | (6,446)         |                 |
| Contract acquisition costs  | <b>(22,740)</b>        | (42,452)        | (19,468)        |
| Additions to licensed computer software from vendors  | <b>(33,382)</b>        | (11,858)        | (12,875)        |
| Additions to internally developed computer software   | <b>(17,785)</b>        | (13,973)        | (22,602)        |
| Dividend paid by TSYS to minority shareholders  | <b>(126,717)</b>       | (9,765)         | (7,492)         |
| <br>Net cash used in investing activities   | <br><b>(2,680,077)</b> | <br>(3,025,702) | <br>(2,456,902) |
| <br><b>Financing Activities</b>   |                        |                 |                 |
| Net increase in demand and savings deposits   | <b>666,484</b>         | 948,033         | 1,354,258       |
| Net increase in certificates of deposit   | <b>3,263</b>           | 1,738,743       | 852,639         |
| Net increase (decrease) in federal funds purchased and securities sold under repurchase agreements  | <b>736,925</b>         | 361,401         | (49,411)        |
| Principal repayments on long-term debt  | <b>(294,269)</b>       | (760,937)       | (617,177)       |
| Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt  | <b>1,087,079</b>       | 127,203         | 672,666         |
| Excess tax benefit from share-based payment arrangements  | <b>14,066</b>          | 10,460          |                 |
| Dividends paid to shareholders  | <b>(264,930)</b>       | (244,654)       | (224,303)       |
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock  | <b>63,850</b>          | 65,510          | 43,125          |
| <br>Net cash provided by financing activities   | <br><b>2,012,468</b>   | <br>2,245,759   | <br>2,031,797   |
| <br>Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalent balances held in foreign currencies | <br><b>4,970</b>       | <br>(429)       | <br>(4,252)     |
| <br>Increase in cash and cash equivalents   | <br><b>3,126</b>       | <br>9,089       | <br>197,851     |
| Cash retained by TSYS   | <b>(210,518)</b>       |                 |                 |
| Cash and due from banks at beginning of year  | <b>889,975</b>         | 880,886         | 683,035         |
| <br>Cash and due from banks at end of year  | <br><b>\$ 682,583</b>  | <br>889,975     | <br>880,886     |

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ==

**Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies****Business Operations**

The consolidated financial statements of Synovus include the accounts of Synovus Financial Corp. (Parent Company) and its consolidated subsidiaries. Synovus provides integrated financial services including banking, financial management, insurance, mortgage, and leasing services through 37 wholly-owned affiliate banks and other Synovus offices in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Florida, and Tennessee.

**Basis of Presentation**

The accounting and reporting policies of Synovus conform to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to general practices within the banking and financial services industries. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the balance sheet and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses for the period. Actual results could differ significantly from those estimates.

Material estimates that are particularly susceptible to significant change relate to the determination of the allowance for loan losses; the valuation of other real estate; the valuation of long-lived assets, goodwill, and other intangible assets; and the disclosures for contingent assets and liabilities. In connection with the determination of the allowance for loan losses and the valuation of certain impaired loans and other real estate, management obtains independent appraisals for significant properties and properties collateralizing impaired loans.

On December 31, 2007, Synovus completed the tax-free spin-off of Total System Services, Inc. (TSYS) common stock to Synovus shareholders. Accordingly, the results of operations and assets and liabilities of Synovus former majority owned subsidiary, TSYS, have been reported as discontinued operations. As a result of the spin-off of TSYS, Synovus has only one business segment as defined by Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 131,

Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information. Synovus statement of cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 include, without segregation, cash flows of both continuing operations and discontinued operations. See Note 2 for further discussion of discontinued operations and the TSYS spin-off.

Following is a description of the more significant of Synovus accounting and reporting policies.

**Cash Flow Information**

Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information is as follows:

| <i>(In millions)</i> | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                      | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |

Cash paid during the year for:

|   |    |                |       |       |
|---|----|----------------|-------|-------|
| Income taxes                                      | \$ | <b>440.7</b>   | 391.4 | 323.0 |
| Interest  |    | <b>1,068.9</b> | 806.4 | 505.7 |
| Non-cash investing and financing activities:      |    |                |       |       |
| Loans receivable transferred to other real estate |    | <b>111.1</b>   | 33.0  | 20.0  |
| Loans charged off to allowance for loan losses    |    | <b>131.2</b>   | 72.8  | 67.2  |
| Common stock issued in business combinations      |    | <b>1.9</b>     | 240.6 | 0.2   |

The tax-free spin-off of TSYS common stock completed on December 31, 2007 represents a \$684.0 million non-cash distribution of the net assets of TSYS, net of minority interest, to Synovus shareholders.

### **Federal Funds Sold, Federal Funds Purchased, Securities Purchased Under Resale Agreements, and Securities Sold Under Repurchase Agreements**

Federal funds sold, federal funds purchased, securities purchased under resale agreements, and securities sold under repurchase agreements generally mature in one day.

### **Trading Account Assets**

Trading account assets, which include both debt and equity securities, are reported at fair value. Fair value adjustments and fees from trading account activities are included as a component of other fee income. Gains and losses realized from the sale of trading account assets are determined by specific identification and are included as a component of other fee income on the trade date. Interest income on trading assets is reported as a component of interest income.

### **Mortgage Loans Held for Sale**

Mortgage loans held for sale are carried at the lower of aggregate cost or fair value, unless they are hedged by forward sales commitments in which case they are carried at fair value. Fair value is based on forward sales commitments, or upon quoted prices from secondary market investors. No valuation allowances were required at December 31, 2007 or 2006. The

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cost of mortgage loans held for sale is the mortgage note amount less discounts and unearned fees.

**Investment Securities Available for Sale**

Available for sale securities are recorded at fair value. Fair value is determined at a specific point in time, based on quoted market prices. Unrealized gains and losses on securities available for sale, net of the related tax effect, are excluded from earnings and are reported as a separate component of shareholders' equity, within accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), until realized.

A decline in the fair market value of any available for sale security below cost that is deemed other than temporary results in a charge to earnings and the establishment of a new cost basis for the security.

Premiums and discounts are amortized or accreted over the life of the related security as an adjustment to the yield using the effective interest method and prepayment assumptions. Dividend and interest income are recognized when earned. Realized gains and losses for securities classified as available for sale are included in earnings and are derived using the specific identification method for determining the amortized cost of securities sold.

Gains and losses on sales of investment securities are recognized on the settlement date, based on the amortized cost of the specific security. The financial statement impact of settlement date accounting versus trade date accounting is inconsequential.

**Loans and Interest Income**

Loans are reported at principal amounts outstanding less unearned income, net deferred fees and expenses, and the allowance for loan losses.

Interest income on consumer loans, made on a discount basis, is recognized in a manner which approximates the level yield method. Interest income on substantially all other loans is recognized on a level yield basis.

Loans on which the accrual of interest has been discontinued are designated as nonaccrual loans. Accrual of interest on loans is discontinued when reasonable doubt exists as to the full collection of interest or principal, or when they become contractually in default for 90 days or more as to either interest or principal, unless they are both well-secured and in the process of collection. When a loan is placed on nonaccrual status, previously accrued and uncollected interest is charged to interest income on loans, unless management believes that the accrued interest is recoverable through the liquidation of collateral. Interest payments received on nonaccrual loans are applied as a reduction of principal. Loans are returned to accruing status when they are brought fully current with respect to interest and principal and when, in the judgment of management, the loans are estimated to be fully collectible as to both principal and interest. Interest is accrued on impaired loans as long as such loans do not meet the criteria for nonaccrual classification.

**Allowance for Loan Losses**

The allowance for loan losses is established through the provision for losses on loans charged to operations. Loans are charged against the allowance for loan losses when management believes that the collection of principal is unlikely. Subsequent recoveries are added to the allowance. Management's evaluation of the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses is based on a formal analysis which assesses the probable loss within the loan portfolio. This analysis includes consideration of loan portfolio quality, historical performance, current economic conditions, level of nonperforming



loans, loan concentrations, and review of impaired loans.

Management believes that the allowance for loan losses is adequate. While management uses available information to recognize losses on loans, future additions to the allowance for loan losses may be necessary based on changes in economic conditions. In addition, various regulatory agencies, as an integral part of their examination process, periodically review the subsidiary banks' allowances for loan losses. Such agencies may require the subsidiary banks to recognize adjustments to the allowance for loan losses based on their judgments about information available to them at the time of their examination.

Management, considering current information and events regarding a borrower's ability to repay its obligations, considers a loan to be impaired when the ultimate collectibility of all amounts due, according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement, is in doubt. When a loan is considered to be impaired, it is placed on nonaccrual status and the amount of impairment is measured based on the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate. If the loan is collateral-dependent, the fair value of the collateral less estimated selling costs is used to determine the amount of impairment. Estimated losses on collateral dependent impaired loans are typically charged off. Estimated losses on all other impaired loans are included in the allowance for loan losses through a charge to the provision for losses on loans.

The accounting for impaired loans described above applies to all loans, except for large pools of smaller-balance, homogeneous loans that are collectively evaluated for impairment, and loans that are measured at fair value or at the lower of cost or fair value. The allowance for loan losses for loans not considered impaired and for large pools of smaller-balance,

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homogeneous loans is established through consideration of such factors as changes in the nature and volume of the portfolio, overall portfolio quality, individual loan risk ratings, loan concentrations, and historical charge-off trends.

**Premises and Equipment**

Premises and equipment, including leasehold improvements and purchased internal-use software, are reported at cost, less accumulated depreciation and amortization which are computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. The Company reviews long-lived assets, such as premises and equipment, for impairment whenever events and circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable.

**Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets**

Goodwill, which represents the excess of cost over the fair value of net assets acquired of purchased companies, is tested for impairment at least annually. Synovus has established its annual impairment test date as June 30. To test for goodwill impairment, Synovus identifies its reporting units and determines the carrying value of each reporting unit by assigning the assets and liabilities, including the existing goodwill and intangible assets, to those reporting units. Synovus then compares the carrying value of each unit to its fair value to determine whether impairment exists. No impairment losses have been recorded as a result of Synovus' annual goodwill impairment analyses during the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005. Due to a higher level of credit losses during the second half of 2007, Synovus retested goodwill for impairment as of December 31, 2007. No impairment losses were identified as a result of the December 31, 2007 test.

Identifiable intangible assets relate primarily to core deposit premiums, resulting from the valuation of core deposit intangibles acquired in business combinations or in the purchase of branch offices, customer relationships, and customer contract premiums resulting from the acquisition of investment advisory and transaction processing businesses. These identifiable intangible assets are amortized using accelerated methods over periods not exceeding the estimated average remaining life of the existing customer deposits, customer relationships, or contracts acquired. Amortization periods range from 3 to 15 years. Amortization periods for intangible assets are monitored to determine if events and circumstances require such periods to be reduced.

Goodwill and identifiable intangible assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. With the exception of goodwill, recoverability of the intangible assets is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of the asset to future undiscounted cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If such assets are considered impaired, the amount of impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying value of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets based on the discounted expected future cash flows to be generated by the assets. Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of their carrying value or fair value less costs to sell.

**Other Assets**

Other assets include accrued interest receivable and other significant balances as described below.

*Investments in Company-Owned Life Insurance Programs*

Investments in company-owned life insurance programs are recorded at the net realizable value of the underlying insurance contracts. The change in contract value during the period is recorded as an adjustment of premiums paid in determining the expense or income to be recognized under the contract during the period. Income or expense from

company-owned life insurance programs is included as a component of other operating income.

*Other Real Estate*

Other real estate, consisting of properties obtained through foreclosure or in satisfaction of loans, is reported at the lower of cost or fair value, determined on the basis of current appraisals, comparable sales, and other estimates of value obtained principally from independent sources, adjusted for estimated selling costs. At the time of foreclosure, any excess of the loan balance over the fair value of the real estate held as collateral is treated as a charge against the allowance for loan losses. Gains or losses on sale and any subsequent adjustments to the value are recorded as a component of other operating expenses.

*Private Equity Investments*

Private equity investments are recorded at fair value on the balance sheet with realized and unrealized gains and losses included in other operating income in the results of operations in accordance with AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide for Investment Companies. For private equity investments, Synovus uses information provided by the fund managers in the initial determination of estimated fair value. Valuation factors such as recent or proposed purchase or sale of debt or equity of Synovus, pricing by other dealers in similar securities, size of position held, liquidity of the market and changes in economic conditions affecting the issuer are used in the final determination of estimated fair value.

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**Derivative Instruments**

Synovus risk management policies emphasize the management of interest rate risk within acceptable guidelines. Synovus objective in maintaining these policies is to achieve consistent growth in net interest income while limiting volatility arising from changes in interest rates. Risks to be managed include both fair value and cash flow risks. Utilization of derivative financial instruments provides a valuable tool to assist in the management of these risks.

In accordance with SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, as amended by SFAS No. 138, Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, an Amendment of SFAS No. 133, all derivative instruments are recorded on the consolidated balance sheet at their respective fair values.

The accounting for changes in fair value (i.e., gains or losses) of a derivative instrument depends on whether it has been designated and qualifies as part of a hedging relationship and if so, on the reason for holding it. If certain conditions are met, entities may elect to designate a derivative instrument as a hedge of exposures to changes in fair values, cash flows, or foreign currencies. If the hedged exposure is a fair value exposure, the gain or loss on the derivative instrument is recognized in earnings in the period of change, together with the offsetting loss or gain on the hedged item attributable to the risk being hedged. If the hedged exposure is a cash flow exposure, the effective portion of the gain or loss on the hedged item is reported initially as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (outside earnings), and subsequently reclassified into earnings when the forecasted transaction affects earnings. Any amounts excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness, as well as the ineffective portion of the gain or loss on the derivative instrument, are reported in earnings immediately. If the derivative instrument is not designated as a hedge, the gain or loss on the derivative instrument is recognized in earnings in the period of change. At December 31, 2007, Synovus does not have any derivative instruments which are measured for ineffectiveness using the short-cut method.

With the exception of commitments to fund and sell fixed-rate mortgage loans and derivatives utilized to meet the financing, interest rate and equity risk management needs of its customers, all derivatives utilized by Synovus to manage its interest rate sensitivity are designed as either a hedge of a recognized fixed-rate asset or liability (a fair value hedge), or a hedge of a forecasted transaction or of the variability of future cash flows of a floating rate asset or liability (cash flow hedge). Synovus does not speculate using derivative instruments.

Synovus utilizes interest rate swap agreements to hedge the fair value risk of fixed-rate balance sheet liabilities, primarily deposit liabilities. Fair value risk is measured as the volatility in the value of these liabilities as interest rates change. Interest rate swaps entered into to manage this risk are designed to have the same notional value, as well as similar interest rates and interest calculation methods. These agreements entitle Synovus to receive fixed-rate interest payments and pay floating-rate interest payments based on the notional amount of the swap agreements. Swap agreements structured in this manner allow Synovus to effectively hedge the fair value risks of these fixed-rate liabilities. Ineffectiveness from fair value hedges is recognized in the consolidated statements of income as other operating income.

Synovus is potentially exposed to cash flow risk due to its holding of loans whose interest payments are based on floating rate indices. Synovus monitors changes in these exposures and their impact on its risk management activities and uses interest rate swap agreements to hedge the cash flow risk. These agreements entitle Synovus to receive fixed-rate interest payments and pay floating-rate interest payments. The maturity date of the agreement with the longest remaining term to maturity is July 9, 2012. These agreements allow Synovus to offset the variability of floating rate loan interest received with the variable interest payments paid on the interest rate swaps. The

ineffectiveness from cash flow hedges is recognized in the consolidated statements of income as other operating income.

In 2005, Synovus entered into certain forward starting swap contracts to hedge the cash flow risk of certain forecasted interest payments on a forecasted debt issuance. Upon the determination to issue debt, Synovus was potentially exposed to cash flow risk due to changes in market interest rates prior to the placement of the debt. The forward starting swaps allowed Synovus to hedge this exposure. Upon placement of the debt, these swaps were cash settled concurrent with the pricing of the debt. The effective portion of the cash flow hedge previously included in accumulated other comprehensive income is being amortized over the life of the debt issue as an adjustment to interest expense.

By using derivatives to hedge fair value and cash flow risks, Synovus exposes itself to potential credit risk from the counterparty to the hedging instrument. This credit risk is normally a small percentage of the notional amount and fluctuates as interest rates change. Synovus analyzes and approves credit risk for all potential derivative counterparties prior to execution of any derivative transaction. Synovus minimizes credit risk by dealing with highly rated counterparties, and by obtaining collateralization for exposures above certain predetermined limits.

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Synovus also holds derivative instruments which consist of commitments to fund fixed-rate mortgage loans to customers (interest rate lock commitments) and forward commitments to sell mortgage-backed securities and individual fixed-rate mortgage loans. Synovus' objective in obtaining the forward commitments is to mitigate the interest rate risk associated with the commitments to fund the fixed-rate mortgage loans and the mortgage loans that are held for sale. Both the interest rate lock commitments and the forward commitments are reported at fair value, with adjustments being recorded in current period earnings. Certain forward sales commitments are accounted for as hedges of mortgage loans held for sale.

Synovus also enters into derivative financial instruments to meet the financing, interest rate and equity risk management needs of its customers. Upon entering into these instruments to meet customer needs, Synovus enters into offsetting positions to minimize interest rate and equity price risk to Synovus. These derivative financial instruments are reported at fair value with any resulting gain or loss recorded in current period earnings. These instruments, and their offsetting positions, are recorded in other assets and other liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets.

**Non-Interest Income***Service Charges on Deposit Accounts*

Service charges on deposit accounts consist of non-sufficient funds fees, account analysis fees, and other service charges on deposits which consist primarily of monthly account fees. Non-sufficient funds fees are recognized at the time when the account overdraft occurs. Account analysis fees consist of fees charged to certain commercial demand deposit accounts based upon account activity (and reduced by a credit which is based upon cash levels in the account). These fees, as well as monthly account fees, are recorded under the accrual method of accounting.

*Fiduciary and Asset Management Fees*

Fiduciary and asset management fees are generally determined based upon market values of assets under management as of a specified date during the period. These fees are recorded under the accrual method of accounting as the services are performed.

*Brokerage and Investment Banking Revenue*

Brokerage revenue consists primarily of commission income, which represents the spread between buy and sell transactions processed, and net fees charged to customers on a transaction basis for buy and sell transactions processed. Commission income is recorded on a trade-date basis. Brokerage revenue also includes portfolio management fees which represent monthly fees charged on a contractual basis to customers for the management of their investment portfolios and are recorded under the accrual method of accounting.

Investment banking revenue represents fees for services arising from securities offerings or placements in which Synovus acts as the agent. It also includes fees earned from providing advisory services. Revenue is recognized at the time the underwriting is completed and the revenue is reasonably determinable.

*Mortgage Banking Income*

Mortgage banking income consists primarily of gains and losses from the sale of mortgage loans. Mortgage loans are sold servicing released, without recourse or continuing involvement and satisfy SFAS No. 140 criteria for sale accounting. Gains (losses) on the sale of mortgage loans are determined and recognized at the time the sale proceeds are received and represent the difference between net sales proceeds and the carrying value of the loans at the time of sale adjusted for recourse obligations, if any, retained by Synovus.

#### *Bankcard Fees*

Bankcard fees consist primarily of interchange and merchant fees earned, net of fees paid, on debit card and credit card transactions. Net fees are recognized into income as they are collected.

#### **Income Taxes**

Synovus files a consolidated federal tax return with its wholly-owned and significant majority owned subsidiaries. Synovus accounts for income taxes in accordance with the asset and liability method. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. Valuation allowances against the carrying amount of a deferred tax asset are established when necessary to reflect the decreased likelihood of full realization of a deferred tax asset in the future. The effect on deferred income tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

Synovus adopted the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 (FIN 48) as of January 1, 2007. FIN 48 establishes a single model to address accounting for uncertain

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tax positions. FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for income taxes by prescribing a minimum recognition threshold a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. FIN 48 provides a two-step process in the evaluation of a tax position. The first step is recognition. A company determines whether it is more-likely-than-not that a tax position will be sustained upon examination, including a resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes, based upon the technical merits of the position. The second step is measurement. A tax position that meets the more-likely-than-not recognition threshold is measured at the largest amount of benefit that is greater than 50 percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement. Upon adoption as of January 1, 2007, Synovus recognized a \$1.4 million decrease in the liability for uncertain tax positions, with a corresponding increase in retained earnings of \$1.4 million as a cumulative effect adjustment.

Significant estimates used in accounting for income taxes relate to the determination of taxable income, the determination of temporary differences between book and tax bases, as well as estimates on the realizability of tax credits.

**Share-Based Compensation**

Synovus adopted SFAS No. 123R, *Share-Based Payment*, effective January 1, 2006 and elected to use the modified prospective transition method. SFAS No. 123R was effective for all unvested awards at January 1, 2006 and for all awards granted or modified, repurchased, or cancelled after that date. This statement requires an entity to measure the cost of employee services received in exchange for an award of equity instruments based on the grant-date fair value of the award (with limited exceptions) and recognize compensation expense over the future service period.

Prior to adoption of SFAS No. 123R, Synovus accounted for its fixed share-based compensation in accordance with the provisions set forth in Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, and related interpretations. In accordance with APB Opinion No. 25, compensation expense was recorded on the grant date only to the extent that the current market price of the underlying stock exceeded the exercise price on the grant date.

**Postretirement Benefits**

Synovus sponsors a defined benefit health care plan for substantially all of its employees and early retirees. The expected costs of retiree health care and other postretirement benefits are being expensed over the period that employees provide service.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

Fair value estimates are made at a specific point in time, based on relevant market information and other information about the financial instrument. These estimates do not reflect any premium or discount that could result from offering for sale, at one time, the entire holdings of a particular financial instrument. Because no market exists for a portion of the financial instruments, fair value estimates are also based on judgments regarding future expected loss experience, current economic conditions, risk characteristics of various financial instruments, and other factors. These estimates are subjective in nature and involve uncertainties and matters of significant judgment and therefore cannot be determined with precision. Changes in assumptions could significantly affect the estimates.

Fair value estimates are based on existing balance sheet financial instruments, without attempting to estimate the value of anticipated future business and the value of assets and liabilities that are not considered financial instruments.



Significant assets and liabilities that are not considered financial instruments include deferred income taxes, premises and equipment, computer software, equity method investments, goodwill and other intangible assets. In addition, the income tax ramifications related to the realization of the unrealized gains and losses can have a significant effect on fair value estimates and have not been considered in any of the estimates.

### **Recently Adopted Accounting Standards**

In February 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 155, Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments. SFAS No. 155 amends SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, and SFAS No. 140, Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities. SFAS No. 155 resolves issues addressed in Statement No. 133 Implementation Issue No. D1, Application of Statement No. 133 to Beneficial Interests in Securitized Financial Assets. SFAS No. 155 eliminates the exemption from applying SFAS No. 133 to interests in securitized financial assets so that similar instruments are accounted for similarly regardless of the form of the instruments. SFAS No. 155 also permits election of fair value measurement at acquisition, at issuance, or when a previously recognized financial instrument is subject to a re-measurement event, on an instrument-by-instrument basis. The provisions of this statement were effective for all financial instruments acquired or issued after the beginning of the entity's first fiscal year that began after September 15, 2006. Synovus adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 155 effective January 1, 2007. The impact of adoption of SFAS No. 155

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was not material to Synovus' financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In March 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 156, Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets. SFAS No. 156 amends SFAS No. 140, Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities, with respect to the accounting for separately recognized servicing assets and servicing liabilities. SFAS No. 156 requires an entity to recognize a servicing asset or servicing liability each time it undertakes an obligation to service a financial asset by entering into a servicing contract in certain situations and requires that all separately recognized servicing assets and servicing liabilities be initially measured at fair value, if practicable. The provisions of this statement were effective as of the beginning of the first fiscal year that began after September 15, 2006. Synovus adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 156 effective January 1, 2007. The impact of adoption of SFAS No. 156 was not material to Synovus' financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In September 2006, the FASB's Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) reached a consensus on EITF Issue No. 06-5, Accounting for Purchases of Life Insurance - Determining the Amount That Could Be Realized in Accordance with FASB Technical Bulletin No. 85-4 (EITF 06-5). EITF 06-5 requires that a determination of the amount that could be realized under an insurance contract should (1) consider any additional amounts beyond cash surrender value included in the contractual terms of the policy and (2) be based on an assumed surrender at the individual policy or certificate level, unless all policies or certificates are required to be surrendered as a group. Synovus adopted EITF 06-05 effective January 1, 2007. The impact of adoption of EITF 06-05 was not material to Synovus' financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In September 2006, the SEC issued SAB No. 108, Considering the Effects of Prior Year Misstatements When Quantifying Misstatements in Current Year Financial Statements. In December 2006, Synovus adopted the provisions of SAB No. 108, which clarifies the way that a company should evaluate an identified unadjusted error for materiality. SAB No. 108 requires that the effect of misstatements that were not corrected at the end of the prior year be considered in quantifying misstatements in the current year financial statements. Two techniques were identified as being used by companies in practice to accumulate and quantify misstatements - the rollover approach and the iron curtain approach. The rollover approach, which is the approach that Synovus previously used, quantifies a misstatement based on the amount of the error originating in the current year income statement. Thus, this approach ignores the effects of correcting the portion of the current year balance sheet misstatement that originated in prior years. The iron curtain approach quantifies a misstatement based on the effects of correcting the misstatement existing in the balance sheet at the end of the current year, irrespective of the misstatement's year(s) of origination. The primary weakness of the iron curtain approach is that it does not consider the correction of prior year misstatements in the current year to be errors.

Using the rollover approach resulted in an accumulation of misstatements to Synovus' balance sheets that were deemed immaterial to Synovus' financial statements because the amounts that originated in each year were quantitatively and qualitatively immaterial. Synovus has elected, as allowed under SAB No. 108, to reflect the effect of initially applying this guidance by adjusting the carrying amount of the impacted accounts as of the beginning of 2006 and recording an offsetting adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings in 2006. Accordingly, Synovus recorded a cumulative adjustment to increase retained earnings by \$3.4 million upon the adoption of SAB No. 108.

The following table presents a description of the individual adjustments included in the cumulative adjustment to retained earnings:

| <i>(In millions)</i>                 | <b>Adjustment</b> | <b>Nature of<br/>Error<br/>Being<br/>Corrected</b>        | <b>Years<br/>Impacted</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Brokered time deposits               | \$ (10.3)         | Adjusted to reflect incorrect use of hedges               | 2003-2005                 |
| Deferred income tax liability        | 3.8               | Adjusted to reflect tax effect of incorrect use of hedges | 2003-2005                 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (0.8)             | Adjusted to reflect incorrect use of hedges               | 2004-2005                 |
| Deferred income tax liability        | 10.7              | Adjusted to reflect impact of calculation errors          | 1993-2005                 |
| Total increase in retained earnings  | \$ 3.4            |   |                           |

In the first quarter of 2003, Synovus entered into interest rate swaps to hedge the fair value of certain brokered time deposits. Effectiveness was measured using the short-cut method. Upon further review of these arrangements at September 30, 2005, Synovus determined that these hedges did not qualify for the shortcut method of hedge accounting as the broker placement fee for the related certificates of deposit was factored into the pricing of the swaps. The hedging relationships were redesignated on September 30, 2005, using the cumulative dollar offset method to measure effectiveness. The

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prior years adjustments were evaluated under the rollover approach and the correction of these misstatements was not material to Synovus results of operations in any of the years impacted. Brokered time deposits were increased by the amount of the cumulative fair value basis adjustment and the associated deferred tax liability was removed, resulting in a net decrease in shareholders equity of \$6.5 million, to correct the incorrect use of hedge accounting.

In the fourth quarter of 2004, Synovus entered into certain forward starting interest rate swaps to hedge the future interest payments on debt forecasted to be issued in 2005. Synovus accounted for these arrangements as cash flow hedges. Upon further review of these arrangements, during the second quarter of 2005, it was determined that the swaps did not qualify for hedge accounting treatment. The hedging relationships were redesignated during the second quarter of 2005. The prior years adjustments were evaluated under the rollover approach and the correction of these misstatements was not material to Synovus results of operations in any of the years impacted. Accumulated other comprehensive losses were decreased and retained earnings were increased by \$0.8 million, respectively, to correct the incorrect use of hedge accounting.

From 1993 through 2005, Synovus had errors in its calculation of deferred taxes for temporary differences related to certain business combinations and premises and equipment. The prior years errors were evaluated under the rollover approach and the correction of these misstatements was not material to Synovus results of operations in any of the years impacted. The deferred income tax liability was reduced by \$10.7 million to correct the calculation errors.

**Reclassifications**

Certain prior years amounts have been reclassified to conform to the presentation adopted in 2007.

**Note 2 Discontinued Operations***Transfer of Mutual Funds*

During 2007, Synovus transferred its proprietary mutual funds (Synovus Funds) to a non-affiliated third party. As a result of the transfer, Synovus received gross proceeds of \$8.0 million and incurred transaction related costs of \$1.1 million, resulting in a pre-tax gain of \$6.9 million, or \$4.2 million after-tax. The net gain has been reported as a component of income from discontinued operations on the accompanying consolidated statements of income. Financial results of the business associated with the Synovus Funds for 2007, 2006, and 2005 have not been presented as discontinued operations as such amounts are inconsequential. This business did not have significant assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenses associated with it.

*TSYS Spin-Off*

On December 31, 2007, Synovus completed the tax-free spin-off of its shares of TSYS common stock to Synovus shareholders. The distribution of approximately 80.6% of TSYS outstanding shares owned by Synovus was made to shareholders of record on December 18, 2007 (the record date). Each Synovus shareholder received 0.483921 of a share of TSYS common stock for each share of Synovus common stock held as of the record date. Synovus shareholders received cash in lieu of fractional shares for amounts of less than one share of TSYS common stock.

Pursuant to the agreement and plan of distribution, TSYS paid on a pro rata basis to its shareholders, including Synovus, a one-time cash dividend of \$600 million or \$3.0309 per TSYS share based on the number of TSYS shares outstanding as of the record date of December 17, 2007. Based on the number of TSYS shares owned by Synovus as of the record date, Synovus received \$483.8 million in proceeds from this one-time cash dividend. The dividend was

paid on December 31, 2007.

In accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, and SFAS No. 146, Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities, the current period and historical consolidated results of operations of TSYS, as well as all costs associated with the spin-off of TSYS, are now presented as a component of income from discontinued operations. The balance sheet as of December 31, 2007 does not include assets and liabilities of TSYS, while all prior period assets and liabilities of TSYS are presented as discontinued operations.

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The following amounts have been segregated from continuing operations and included in income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes and minority interest, in the consolidated statements of income:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>  | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| TSYS revenues  | \$ <b>1,835,412</b>             | 1,806,604   | 1,615,528   |
| TSYS income, net of minority interest and before income taxes                  | <b>335,567</b>                  | 327,995     | 260,682     |
| Income tax expense   | <b>143,668</b>                  | 126,181     | 103,286     |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes                       | <b>191,899</b>                  | 201,814     | 157,396     |
| Spin-off related expenses incurred by Synovus, before tax                      | <b>13,858</b>                   |             |             |
| Income tax benefit   | <b>(1,129)</b>                  |             |             |
| Spin-off related expenses incurred by Synovus, net of income tax benefit       | <b>12,729</b>                   |             |             |
| Gain on transfer of mutual funds, before income taxes                          | <b>6,885</b>                    |             |             |
| Income tax expense   | <b>2,685</b>                    |             |             |
| Gain on transfer of mutual funds, net of income taxes                          | <b>4,200</b>                    |             |             |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes and minority interest | \$ <b>183,370</b>               | 201,814     | 157,396     |

The following assets and liabilities have been segregated and included in assets of discontinued operations and liabilities of and minority interest in discontinued operations in the consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2006:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                                 | <b>December 31,</b> |
|---|---------------------|
|   | <b>2006</b>         |
| Cash  | \$ 176,922          |
| Interest earning deposits with banks                  | 74                  |
| Premises and equipment, net                           | 271,323             |
| Contract acquisition costs and computer software, net | 383,899             |
| Goodwill, net   | 153,796             |
| Other intangible assets, net                          | 27,891              |
| Other assets  | 370,951             |

|   |    |           |
|---|----|-----------|
| Assets of discontinued operations                               | \$ | 1,384,856 |
| Long-term debt  |    | 6,781     |
| Other liabilities   |    | 364,162   |
| Liabilities of and minority interest in discontinued operations | \$ | 370,943   |

Synovus adopted the provisions of FIN 48 as of January 1, 2007. Upon adoption, Synovus recognized a \$2.0 million increase in the liability for uncertain tax positions, a corresponding decrease in minority interest of \$377 thousand, and a decrease in retained earnings of \$1.6 million as a cumulative effect adjustment with respect to discontinued operations.

Cash flows of discontinued operations are presented below.

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                                 | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| Cash provided by operating activities                 | \$ <b>341,728</b>               | 385,759     | 240,589     |
| Cash used in investing activities                     | <b>(162,476)</b>                | (164,179)   | (191,819)   |
| Cash used in financing activities                     | <b>(376,685)</b>                | (69,597)    | (38,755)    |
| Effect of exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents | <b>4,970</b>                    | (429)       | (4,252)     |
| Cash (used in) provided by discontinued operations    | \$ <b>(192,463)</b>             | 151,554     | 5,763       |

### **Note 3 Business Combinations**

Effective on March 25, 2006, Synovus acquired all of the issued and outstanding common shares of Riverside Bancshares, Inc., the parent company of Riverside Bank (Riverside), headquartered in Marietta, Georgia. Concurrent with the acquisition, Riverside was merged into a subsidiary of Synovus, Bank of North Georgia. The acquisition was accounted for using the purchase method of accounting, and accordingly, the results of operations of Riverside Bancshares have been included in Synovus consolidated financial statements beginning March 25, 2006.

The aggregate purchase price was \$171.4 million, consisting of 5,883,426 shares of Synovus common stock valued at \$159.8 million, stock options valued at \$11.4 million, and \$182 thousand in direct acquisition costs. During the first quarter of 2007, Synovus completed the allocation of the purchase price

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of this acquisition to the respective assets acquired, including identifiable intangible assets, and liabilities assumed.

The final purchase price allocation is presented below.

**Riverside Bancshares, Inc.**

*(In thousands)*

|   |        |             |
|---|--------|-------------|
| Cash and due from banks                     | \$     | 13,041      |
| Investment securities                       |        | 116,604     |
| Loans, net                                  |        | 469,983     |
| Premises and equipment                      |        | 11,973      |
| Goodwill                                    |        | 123,364     |
| Core deposits premium                       |        | 6,861       |
| Other intangible assets                     |        | 1,249       |
| Other assets                                |        | 22,389      |
| <br>Total assets acquired                   |        | <br>765,464 |
| <br>Deposits*                               |        | <br>491,739 |
| Federal funds purchased                     |        | 2,069       |
| Securities sold under repurchase agreements |        | 50,670      |
| Long-term debt                              |        | 37,683      |
| Other liabilities                           |        | 11,921      |
| <br>Total liabilities assumed               |        | <br>594,082 |
| <br>Net assets acquired                     | <br>\$ | <br>171,382 |

\* Includes time deposits in the amount of \$176.7 million.

Effective on April 1, 2006, Synovus acquired all of the issued and outstanding common shares of Banking Corporation of Florida, the parent company of First Florida Bank (First Florida), headquartered in Naples, Florida. The acquisition was accounted for using the purchase method of accounting, and accordingly, the results of operations of First Florida have been included in Synovus consolidated financial statements beginning April 1, 2006.

The aggregate purchase price was \$84.8 million, consisting of 2,938,791 shares of Synovus common stock valued at \$80.1 million, stock options valued at \$4.7 million and \$24 thousand in direct acquisition costs. During the first quarter of 2007, Synovus completed the allocation of the purchase price of this acquisition to the respective assets acquired, including identifiable intangible assets, and liabilities assumed.

The final purchase price allocation is presented below.



**Banking Corporation of Florida***(In thousands)*

|                               |        |             |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| Cash and due from banks       | \$     | 2,595       |
| Federal funds sold            |        | 4,782       |
| Investment securities         |        | 5,655       |
| Loans, net                    |        | 341,825     |
| Premises and equipment        |        | 2,317       |
| Goodwill                      |        | 54,849      |
| Core deposits premium         |        | 1,172       |
| Other intangible assets       |        | 937         |
| Other assets                  |        | 3,655       |
| <br>Total assets acquired     |        | <br>417,787 |
| <br>Deposits*                 |        | <br>321,283 |
| Long-term debt                |        | 10,269      |
| Other liabilities             |        | 1,405       |
| <br>Total liabilities assumed |        | <br>332,957 |
| <br>Net assets acquired       | <br>\$ | <br>84,830  |

\* Includes time deposits in the amount of \$231.9 million.

**Note 4 Trading Account Assets**

The following table summarizes trading account assets at December 31, 2007 and 2006.

|   |                      |             |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| <i>(In thousands)</i>                               | <b>2007</b>          | <b>2006</b> |
| U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities | \$ <b>162</b>        | 830         |
| Mortgage-backed securities                          | <b>16,839</b>        | 13,715      |
| State and municipal securities                      | <b>462</b>           | 54          |
| Other investments                                   | <b>340</b>           | 667         |
| <br>Total   | <br>\$ <b>17,803</b> | <br>15,266  |

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**Note 5 Investment Securities Available for Sale**

The amortized cost, gross unrealized gains and losses, and estimated fair values of investment securities available for sale at December 31, 2007 and 2006 are summarized as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                               | Amortized<br>Cost | December 31, 2007            |                               | Estimated<br>Fair<br>Value |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   |                   | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Gains | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Losses |                            |
| U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities | \$ 1,916,005      | 30,639                       | (1,263)                       | 1,945,381                  |
| Mortgage-backed securities                          | 1,436,445         | 6,714                        | (12,836)                      | 1,430,323                  |
| State and municipal securities                      | 161,697           | 3,178                        | (319)                         | 164,556                    |
| Equity securities                                   | 114,205           | 25                           |                               | 114,230                    |
| Other investments                                   | 12,560            |                              | (76)                          | 12,484                     |
| Total   | \$ 3,640,912      | 40,556                       | (14,494)                      | 3,666,974                  |

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                               | Amortized<br>Cost | December 31, 2006            |                               | Estimated<br>Fair<br>Value |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   |                   | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Gains | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Losses |                            |
| U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities | \$ 1,783,313      | 4,784                        | (17,527)                      | 1,770,570                  |
| Mortgage-backed securities                          | 1,291,895         | 4,054                        | (20,591)                      | 1,275,358                  |
| State and municipal securities                      | 192,593           | 4,059                        | (467)                         | 196,185                    |
| Equity securities                                   | 95,332            | 1,021                        |                               | 96,353                     |
| Other investments                                   | 13,976            |                              | (85)                          | 13,891                     |
| Total   | \$ 3,377,109      | 13,918                       | (38,670)                      | 3,352,357                  |

Gross unrealized losses on investment securities and the fair value of the related securities, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, at December 31, 2007 and 2006 were as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i> | Less than 12 Months |                      | December 31, 2007<br>12 Months or Longer |                      | Total         |                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
|                       | Fair<br>Value       | Unrealized<br>Losses | Fair<br>Value                            | Unrealized<br>Losses | Fair<br>Value | Unrealized<br>Losses |

|  |            |         |         |          |           |          |
|--|------------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|
| U.S. Treasury and U.S.<br>Government agency securities | \$ 104,857 | (218)   | 335,372 | (1,045)  | 440,229   | (1,263)  |
| Mortgage-backed securities                             | 356,124    | (1,314) | 527,472 | (11,522) | 883,596   | (12,836) |
| State and municipal securities                         | 8,459      | (55)    | 12,745  | (264)    | 21,204    | (319)    |
| Equity securities                                      |            |         |         |          |           |          |
| Other investments                                      |            |         | 1,674   | (76)     | 1,674     | (76)     |
| Total  | \$ 469,440 | (1,587) | 877,263 | (12,907) | 1,346,703 | (14,494) |

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|   | Less than 12 Months |                   | December 31, 2006<br>12 Months or Longer |                   | Total      |                   |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|--|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
|   | Fair Value          | Unrealized Losses | Fair Value                               | Unrealized Losses | Fair Value | Unrealized Losses |
| U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities | \$ 208,942          | (419)             | 1,118,599                                | (17,108)          | 1,327,541  | (17,527)          |
| Mortgage-backed securities                          | 205,418             | (618)             | 717,797                                  | (19,973)          | 923,215    | (20,591)          |
| State and municipal securities                      | 11,637              | (61)              | 20,281                                   | (406)             | 31,918     | (467)             |
| Equity securities                                   |                     |                   |  |                   |            |                   |
| Other investments                                   | 926                 | (74)              | 1,001                                    | (11)              | 1,927      | (85)              |
| Total   | \$ 426,923          | (1,172)           | 1,857,678                                | (37,498)          | 2,284,601  | (38,670)          |

**U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities.** The unrealized losses in this category consist primarily of unrealized losses in direct obligations of U.S. Government agencies and were caused by interest rate increases. Because Synovus has the ability and intent to hold these investments until a recovery of fair value, which may be at maturity, Synovus does not consider these investments to be other-than-temporarily impaired at December 31, 2007 or December 31, 2006.

**Mortgage-backed securities.** The unrealized losses on investment in mortgage-backed securities were caused by interest rate increases. At December 31, 2007, all of the collateralized mortgage obligations and mortgage-backed pass-through securities held by Synovus were issued or backed by U.S. Government agencies. These securities are rated AAA by both Moody's and Standard and Poor's. Because the decline in fair value is attributable to changes in interest rates and not credit quality and because Synovus has the ability and intent to hold these investments until a recovery of fair value, which may be at maturity, Synovus does not consider these investments to be other-than-temporarily impaired at December 31, 2007 or December 31, 2006.

The amortized cost and estimated fair value by contractual maturity of investment securities available for sale at December 31, 2007 are shown below. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because issuers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                                | Amortized Cost | Estimated Fair Value |
|--|----------------|----------------------|
| U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities: |                |                      |
| Within 1 year  | \$ 420,911     | 420,352              |
| 1 to 5 years   | 735,637        | 748,714              |
| 5 to 10 years  | 532,934        | 546,154              |
| More than 10 years                                   | 226,523        | 230,161              |

\$ 1,916,005 1,945,381

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| <i>(In thousands)</i>           | <b>Amortized<br/>Cost</b> | <b>Estimated<br/>Fair Value</b> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| State and municipal securities: |                           |                                 |
| Within 1 year                   | \$ 16,380                 | 16,450                          |
| 1 to 5 years                    | 62,151                    | 63,345                          |
| 5 to 10 years                   | 67,311                    | 68,801                          |
| More than 10 years              | 15,855                    | 15,960                          |
|                                 | \$ 161,697                | 164,556                         |
| Other investments:              |                           |                                 |
| Within 1 year                   | \$ 850                    | 848                             |
| 1 to 5 years                    | 1,247                     | 1,247                           |
| 5 to 10 years                   | 1,800                     | 1,800                           |
| More than 10 years              | 8,663                     | 8,589                           |
|                                 | \$ 12,560                 | 12,484                          |
| Equity securities               | \$ 114,205                | 114,230                         |
| Mortgage-backed securities      | \$ 1,436,445              | 1,430,323                       |
| Total investment securities:    | \$ 3,640,912              | 3,666,974                       |
| Within 1 year                   | \$ 438,141                | 437,650                         |
| 1 to 5 years                    | 799,035                   | 813,306                         |
| 5 to 10 years                   | 602,045                   | 616,755                         |
| More than 10 years              | 251,041                   | 254,710                         |
| Equity securities               | 114,205                   | 114,230                         |
| Mortgage-backed securities      | 1,436,445                 | 1,430,323                       |
|                                 | \$ 3,640,912              | 3,666,974                       |

A summary of sales transactions in the investment securities available for sale portfolio for 2007, 2006, and 2005 is as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i> | <b>Proceeds</b>  | <b>Gross<br/>Realized<br/>Gains</b> | <b>Gross<br/>Realized<br/>Losses</b> |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>2007</b>           | <b>\$ 25,482</b> | <b>1,056</b>                        | <b>(76)</b>                          |

|      |         |     |         |
|------|---------|-----|---------|
| 2006 | 130,457 |     | (2,118) |
| 2005 | 50,048  | 744 | (281)   |

At December 31, 2007 and 2006, investment securities with a carrying value of \$3.1 billion and \$2.9 billion, respectively, were pledged to secure certain deposits, securities sold under repurchase agreements, and Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) advance, as required by law and contractual agreements.

## Note 6 Loans

Loans outstanding, by classification, are summarized as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                   | <b>December 31,</b> |             |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2007</b>         | <b>2006</b> |
| Commercial:                             |                     |             |
| Commercial, financial, and agricultural | \$ 6,424,499        | 5,874,204   |
| Owner occupied                          | 4,239,639           | 4,054,728   |
| Real estate construction                | 8,007,794           | 7,517,611   |
| Real estate mortgage                    | 3,875,451           | 3,595,798   |
| Total commercial                        | 22,547,383          | 21,042,341  |
| Retail:                                 |                     |             |
| Real estate mortgage                    | 3,211,625           | 2,881,880   |
| Retail loans credit card                | 291,149             | 276,269     |
| Retail loans other                      | 494,591             | 500,757     |
| Total retail                            | 3,997,365           | 3,658,906   |
| Total loans                             | 26,544,748          | 24,701,247  |
| Unearned income                         | (46,163)            | (46,695)    |
| Total loans, net of unearned income     | \$ 26,498,585       | 24,654,552  |

Activity in the allowance for loan losses is summarized as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                              | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| Balance at beginning of year                       | \$ 314,459                      | 289,612     | 265,745     |
| Allowance for loan losses of acquired subsidiaries |                                 | 9,915       |             |
| Provision for losses on loans                      | 170,208                         | 75,148      | 82,532      |
| Recoveries of loans previously charged off         | 14,155                          | 12,590      | 8,561       |
| Loans charged off                                  | (131,209)                       | (72,806)    | (67,226)    |

|                        |    |                |         |         |
|------------------------|----|----------------|---------|---------|
| Balance at end of year | \$ | <b>367,613</b> | 314,459 | 289,612 |
|------------------------|----|----------------|---------|---------|

At December 31, 2007, the recorded investment in loans that were considered to be impaired was \$264.9 million. Included in this amount is \$233.2 million of impaired loans

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(which consist primarily of collateral dependent loans) for which there is no related allowance for loan losses determined in accordance with SFAS No. 114, Accounting by Creditors for Impairment of a Loan. The allowance on these loans is zero because estimated losses on collateral dependent impaired loans included in this total have been charged-off. Impaired loans at December 31, 2007 also include \$31.7 million of impaired loans for which the related allowance for loan losses is \$6.4 million. At December 31, 2007, all impaired loans were on non-accrual status.

At December 31, 2006, the recorded investment in loans that were considered to be impaired was \$42.2 million. Included in this amount was \$1.7 million of impaired loans for which the related allowance for loan losses was \$145 thousand, and \$40.5 million of impaired loans (which consist primarily of collateral dependent loans) for which there was no related allowance for loan losses determined in accordance with SFAS No. 114.

The allowance for loan losses on impaired loans was determined using either the fair value of the loans collateral, less estimated selling costs, or discounted cash flows. The average recorded investment in impaired loans was approximately \$148.1 million, \$67.1 million, and \$90.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively. There was no interest income recognized for the investment in impaired loans for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related amount of interest income recognized during the period that such loans were impaired was approximately \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2005.

Loans on nonaccrual status amount to \$341.9 million, \$96.2 million, and \$80.0 million, at December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively.

A substantial portion of the loans are secured by real estate in markets in which subsidiary banks are located throughout Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Florida. Accordingly, the ultimate collectibility of a substantial portion of the loan portfolio, and the recovery of a substantial portion of the carrying amount of real estate owned, are susceptible to changes in market conditions in these areas.

In the ordinary course of business, Synovus subsidiary banks have made loans to certain executive officers and directors (including their associates) of the Parent Company and its significant subsidiaries, as defined. Significant subsidiaries consist of Columbus Bank and Trust Company, Bank of North Georgia, and The National Bank of South Carolina. Management believes that such loans are made substantially on the same terms, including interest rate and collateral, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with unaffiliated customers. The following is a summary of such loans outstanding and the activity in these loans for the year ended December 31, 2007.

*(In thousands)*

|   |    |                  |
|---|----|------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2006                          | \$ | 298,409          |
| Adjustment for executive officer and director changes |    | (3,377)          |
| Adjusted balance at December 31, 2006                 |    | <b>295,032</b>   |
| New loans   |    | <b>321,594</b>   |
| Repayments  |    | <b>(303,110)</b> |
| Balance at December 31, 2007                          | \$ | <b>313,516</b>   |

**Note 7 Goodwill, Other Intangible Assets and Other Assets**

The following table shows the changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. There were no impairment losses for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006.

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                  | <b>Goodwill</b>               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Balance as of December 31, 2005        | \$ 338,686                    |
| Goodwill acquired                      | 177,271 <sup>(1)</sup>        |
| Impairment losses                      |                               |
| Other                                  | (238) <sup>(2)</sup>          |
| <b>Balance as of December 31, 2006</b> | <b>515,719</b>                |
| <b>Goodwill acquired</b>               | <b>3,419<sup>(3)(4)</sup></b> |
| <b>Impairment losses</b>               |                               |
| <b>Balance as of December 31, 2007</b> | <b>\$ 519,138</b>             |

(1) For the year ended December 31, 2006, \$585 thousand pertains to contingent consideration relating to the GLOBALT acquisition. Additionally, goodwill acquired during 2006 includes \$122.1 million resulting from the Riverside acquisition on March 25, 2006, and \$54.6 million resulting from the First Florida acquisition on April 1, 2006. See Note 3 for additional information regarding these acquisitions.

(2) During 2006, Synovus recorded a reduction in goodwill of \$238 thousand associated with the dissolution of a bank owned leasing company.

(3) During 2007, \$1.9 million pertains to contingent consideration relating to the GLOBALT acquisition.

(4) During the year ended December 31, 2007, Synovus finalized the purchase price allocation of the Riverside and First Florida acquisitions. This resulted in increases in goodwill of \$1.3 million and \$259 thousand for Riverside and First Florida, respectively.

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Other intangible assets as of December 31, 2007 and 2006 are presented in the following table:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>       | 2007                  |                          |        | 2006                  |                          |        |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------|
|                             | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net    | Gross Carrying Amount | Accumulated Amortization | Net    |
| Other intangible assets:    |                       |                          |        |                       |                          |        |
| Purchased trust revenues    | \$ 4,210              | (1,848)                  | 2,362  | 4,210                 | (1,567)                  | 2,643  |
| Acquired customer contracts | 5,270                 | (2,863)                  | 2,407  | 7,331                 | (2,585)                  | 4,746  |
| Core deposit premiums       | 46,331                | (23,663)                 | 22,668 | 46,331                | (19,232)                 | 27,099 |
| Other                       | 666                   | (96)                     | 570    | 1,247                 | (42)                     | 1,205  |
| Total carrying value        | \$ 56,477             | (28,470)                 | 28,007 | 59,119                | (23,426)                 | 35,693 |

Aggregate other intangible assets amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 was \$5.1 million, \$5.8 million, and \$5.3 million, respectively. Aggregate estimated amortization expense over the next five years is: \$5.1 million in 2008, \$4.7 million in 2009, \$4.4 million in 2010, \$4.1 million in 2011, and \$3.4 million in 2012.

*Other Assets*

Significant balances included in other assets at December 31, 2007 and 2006 are as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                             | 2007         | 2006    |
|---|--------------|---------|
| Accrued interest receivable                       | \$ 244,521   | 232,746 |
| Accounts receivable                               | 52,924       | 39,509  |
| Cash surrender value of bank owned life insurance | 361,737      | 204,027 |
| Other real estate (ORE)                           | 101,487      | 25,923  |
| Private equity investments                        | 58,039       | 38,853  |
| Prepaid expenses                                  | 40,505       | 39,551  |
| Net deferred income tax assets                    | 117,172      | 111,407 |
| Miscellaneous other assets                        | 208,680      | 140,264 |
| Total other assets                                | \$ 1,185,065 | 832,280 |

**Note 8 Interest Bearing Deposits**

A summary of interest bearing deposits at December 31, 2007 and 2006 is as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>              |    | <b>2007</b>       | <b>2006</b> |
|------------------------------------|----|-------------------|-------------|
| Interest bearing demand deposits   | \$ | <b>3,362,572</b>  | 3,228,350   |
| Money market accounts              |    | <b>7,557,031</b>  | 7,132,683   |
| Savings accounts                   |    | <b>442,824</b>    | 499,962     |
| Time deposits under \$100,000      |    | <b>2,773,815</b>  | 3,020,975   |
| Time deposits of \$100,000 or more |    | <b>4,063,755</b>  | 4,086,232   |
|                                    |    | <b>18,199,997</b> | 17,968,202  |
| Brokered time deposits*            |    | <b>3,287,396</b>  | 3,014,495   |
| Total interest bearing deposits    | \$ | <b>21,487,393</b> | 20,982,697  |

\* Brokered time deposits are in amounts of \$100,000 or more.

Interest bearing deposits include the unamortized balance of purchase accounting adjustments and the fair value basis adjustment for those time deposits which are hedged with interest rate swaps. Interest expense for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 on time deposits of \$100,000 or more was \$364.2 million, \$299.7 million, and \$171.7 million, respectively.

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The following table presents scheduled cash maturities of time deposits at December 31, 2007:

*(In thousands)*

|                          |    |            |
|--------------------------|----|------------|
| Maturing within one year | \$ | 8,828,946  |
| between 1 2 years        |    | 563,981    |
| 2 3 years                |    | 309,313    |
| 3 4 years                |    | 157,685    |
| 4 5 years                |    | 96,706     |
| Thereafter               |    | 168,335    |
|                          | \$ | 10,124,966 |

**Note 9 Long-Term Debt and Short-Term Borrowings**

Long-term debt at December 31, 2007 and 2006 consists of the following:

*(In thousands)*

|   | 2007       | 2006    |
|---|------------|---------|
| Parent Company:   |            |         |
| 4.875% subordinated notes, due February 15, 2013, with semi-annual interest payments and principal to be paid at maturity                               | \$ 300,000 | 300,000 |
| 5.125% subordinated notes, due June 15, 2017, with semi-annual interest payments and principal to be paid at maturity                                   | 450,000    | 450,000 |
| LIBOR + 3.45% debentures, redeemed in 2007  |            | 10,180  |
| LIBOR + 1.80% debentures, due April 19, 2035 with quarterly interest payments and principal to be paid at maturity (rate of 6.79% at December 31, 2007) | 10,150     | 10,218  |
| Hedge-related basis adjustment  | 11,533     | 887     |
| Total long-term debt Parent Company   | \$ 771,683 | 771,285 |

Subsidiaries:

|  |    |           |         |
|--|----|-----------|---------|
| Federal Home Loan Bank advances with interest and principal payments due at various maturity dates through 2018 and interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 6.09% at December 31, 2007 (weighted average interest rate of 4.83% at December 31, 2007) | \$ | 1,111,420 | 566,930 |
|--|----|-----------|---------|

|   |                     |           |
|---|---------------------|-----------|
| Other notes payable and capital leases with interest and principal payments due at various maturity dates through 2028 (weighted average interest rate of 4.32% at December 31, 2007) | <b>7,132</b>        | 5,143     |
| Total long-term debt subsidiaries   | <b>1,118,552</b>    | 572,073   |
| Total long-term debt  | <b>\$ 1,890,235</b> | 1,343,358 |

The provisions of the loan and security agreements associated with some of the promissory notes place certain restrictions, within specified limits, on payments of cash dividends, issuance of additional debt, creation of liens upon property, disposition of common stock or assets, and investments in subsidiaries. As of December 31, 2007, Synovus and its subsidiaries were in compliance with the covenants of the loan and security agreements.

The Federal Home Loan Bank advances are secured by certain loans receivable of approximately \$2.4 billion, as well as investment securities of approximately \$86.1 million at December 31, 2007.

Synovus has an unsecured line of credit with an unaffiliated bank for \$25 million with an interest rate of 50 basis points above the short-term index, as defined. The line of credit requires an annual commitment fee of .125% on the average daily available balance and draws can be made on demand (subject to compliance with certain restrictive covenants). There were no advances outstanding at December 31, 2007 and 2006.

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Required annual principal payments on long-term debt for the five years subsequent to December 31, 2007 are shown on the following table:

| <i>(In thousands)</i> | <b>Parent<br/>Company</b> | <b>Subsidiaries</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 2008                  | \$                        | 399,379             | 399,379      |
| 2009                  |                           | 392,464             | 392,464      |
| 2010                  |                           | 246,208             | 246,208      |
| 2011                  |                           | 33,394              | 33,394       |
| 2012                  |                           | 37,926              | 37,926       |

The following table sets forth certain information regarding federal funds purchased and securities sold under repurchase agreements, the principal components of short-term borrowings.

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                          | <b>2007</b>         | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
|--|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Balance at December 31                         | \$ <b>2,319,412</b> | 1,582,487   | 1,300,379   |
| Weighted average interest rate at December 31  | <b>3.81%</b>        | 4.97%       | 3.76%       |
| Maximum month end balance during the year      | \$ <b>2,767,055</b> | 1,986,919   | 2,026,224   |
| Average amount outstanding during the year     | <b>1,957,990</b>    | 1,578,163   | 1,197,342   |
| Weighted average interest rate during the year | <b>4.75%</b>        | 4.62%       | 2.87%       |

**Note 10 Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)**

The components of other comprehensive income (loss) for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 are as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i> | <b>Before-<br/>Tax<br/>Amount</b> | <b>2007<br/>Tax<br/>(Expense)<br/>or<br/>Benefit</b> | <b>Net of<br/>Tax<br/>Amount</b> | <b>Before-<br/>Tax<br/>Amount</b> | <b>2006<br/>Tax<br/>(Expense)<br/>or<br/>Benefit</b> | <b>Net of<br/>Tax<br/>Amount</b> | <b>Before-<br/>Tax<br/>Amount</b> | <b>2005<br/>Tax<br/>(Expense)<br/>or<br/>Benefit</b> | <b>Net of<br/>Tax<br/>Amount</b> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
|                       | \$ <b>29,859</b>                  | <b>(11,525)</b>                                      | <b>18,334</b>                    | 5,909                             | <b>(2,259)</b>                                       | 3,650                            | <b>(3,670)</b>                    | 1,430  | <b>(2,240)</b>                   |

|  |                  |                 |               |        |          |        |          |        |          |
|--|------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| Net unrealized gains (losses) on cash flow hedges                          |                  |                 |               |        |          |        |          |        |          |
| Net unrealized gains (losses) on investment securities available for sale: |                  |                 |               |        |          |        |          |        |          |
| Unrealized gains (losses) arising during the year                          | <b>51,794</b>    | <b>(19,940)</b> | <b>31,854</b> | 19,456 | (7,482)  | 11,974 | (45,639) | 17,568 | (28,071) |
| Reclassification adjustment for (gains) losses realized in net income      | <b>(980)</b>     | <b>377</b>      | <b>(603)</b>  | 2,118  | (824)    | 1,294  | (463)    | 180    | (283)    |
| Net unrealized gains (losses)  | <b>50,814</b>    | <b>(19,563)</b> | <b>31,251</b> | 21,574 | (8,306)  | 13,268 | (46,102) | 17,748 | (28,354) |
| Amortization of postretirement unfunded health benefit, net of tax         | <b>1,315</b>     | <b>(498)</b>    | <b>817</b>    |        |          |        |          |        |          |
| Foreign currency translation gains (losses)                                | <b>7,621</b>     | <b>(1,470)</b>  | <b>6,151</b>  | 16,688 | (3,813)  | 12,875 | (12,161) | 4,316  | (7,845)  |
| Other comprehensive income (loss)  | <b>\$ 89,609</b> | <b>(33,056)</b> | <b>56,553</b> | 44,171 | (14,378) | 29,793 | (61,933) | 23,494 | (38,439) |

Cash settlements on cash flow hedges were \$3.1 million, \$2.5 million, and \$7 thousand for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively, all of which were included in earnings. During 2007, 2006, and 2005, Synovus recorded cash (payments) receipts on terminated hedges of (\$1.3) million, \$159 thousand, and (\$6.2) million, respectively, which were deferred and are being amortized into earnings over the shorter of the remaining contract life or the maturity of the



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designated instrument as an adjustment to interest income (expense). There were two terminated cash flow hedges during 2007. There was one terminated cash flow hedge during 2006, and two terminated cash flow hedges during 2005. The corresponding net amortization on these settlements was approximately (\$816) thousand, (\$389) thousand, and (\$165) thousand in 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively. The change in unrealized gains (losses) on cash flow hedges was approximately \$30.3 million in 2007, \$5.6 million in 2006, and (\$3.8) million in 2005.

**Note 11 Earnings Per Share**

The following table displays a reconciliation of the information used in calculating basic and diluted earnings per share (EPS) for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005.

|  | Income from              |               | Weighted<br>Average<br>Shares | Income from              |                               |
|--|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
|  | Continuing<br>Operations | Net<br>Income |                               | Continuing<br>Operations | Net<br>Income<br>Per<br>Share |
| <i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i> |                          |               |                               |                          |                               |
| <b>Basic:</b>                                |                          |               |                               |                          |                               |
| <b>2007</b>                                  | \$ 342,935               | \$ 526,305    | 326,849                       | \$ 1.05                  | \$ 1.61                       |
| 2006   | 415,103                  | 616,917       | 321,241                       | 1.29                     | 1.92                          |
| 2005   | 359,050                  | 516,446       | 311,495                       | 1.15                     | 1.66                          |
| <b>Diluted:</b>                              |                          |               |                               |                          |                               |
| <b>2007</b>                                  | \$ 342,935               | \$ 526,305    | 329,863                       | \$ 1.04                  | \$ 1.60                       |
| 2006   | 415,103                  | 616,917       | 324,232                       | 1.28                     | 1.90                          |
| 2005   | 359,050                  | 516,446       | 314,815                       | 1.14                     | 1.64                          |

Basic earnings per share is computed by dividing net income by the average common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per share reflects the dilution that could occur if securities or other contracts to issue common stock were exercised or converted. The dilutive effect of outstanding options and restricted shares is reflected in diluted earnings per share by application of the treasury stock method.

The following represents potentially dilutive shares including options to purchase shares of Synovus common stock and non-vested shares that were outstanding during the periods noted below, but were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because the options exercise price and fair value of non-vested shares was greater than the average market price of the common shares during the period.

| Quarter Ended | Number<br>of Shares | Weighted Average<br>Exercise Price<br>Per Share |
|---------------|---------------------|---|
|---------------|---------------------|---|

|                           |                   |           |               |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|
| <b>December 31, 2007</b>  | <b>12,577,751</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>27.69*</b> |
| <b>September 30, 2007</b> | <b>4,902,564</b>  | <b>\$</b> | <b>29.38</b>  |
| <b>June 30, 2007</b>      | <b>2,500</b>      | <b>\$</b> | <b>32.57</b>  |
| <b>March 31, 2007</b>     | <b>2,500</b>      | <b>\$</b> | <b>32.57</b>  |
| December 31, 2006         | 11,863            | \$        | 30.61         |
| September 30, 2006        | 4,651,345         | \$        | 29.21         |
| June 30, 2006             | 5,727,935         | \$        | 28.79         |
| March 31, 2006            | 5,710,605         | \$        | 28.89         |
| December 31, 2005         | 4,725,260         | \$        | 29.21         |
| September 30, 2005        | 4,703,210         | \$        | 29.22         |
| June 30, 2005             | 2,933,225         | \$        | 29.05         |
| March 31, 2005            | 2,637,150         | \$        | 28.98         |

\* See the summary of stock option activity table in Note 15 for the options outstanding adjustment to the weighted-average exercise price for all options outstanding at December 31, 2007.

## **Note 12 Derivative Instruments, Commitments and Contingencies**

### **Derivative Instruments**

As part of its overall interest rate risk management activities, Synovus utilizes derivative instruments to manage its exposure to various types of interest rate risk. These derivative instruments consist of interest rate swaps, commitments to sell

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fixed-rate mortgage loans, and commitments to fund fixed-rate mortgage loans made to prospective mortgage loan customers. Mortgage rate lock commitments represent derivative instruments since it is intended that such loans will be sold.

Synovus originates first lien residential mortgage loans for sale into the secondary market and generally does not hold the originated loans for investment purposes. Mortgage loans are either converted to securities or are sold to a third party servicing aggregator.

At December 31, 2007, Synovus had commitments to fund fixed-rate mortgage loans to customers in the amount of \$59.5 million. The fair value of these commitments at December 31, 2007 was an unrealized loss of \$139 thousand, which was recorded as a component of mortgage banking income in the consolidated statements of income.

At December 31, 2007, outstanding commitments to sell fixed-rate mortgage loans amounted to approximately \$147.6 million. Such commitments are entered into to reduce the exposure to market risk arising from potential changes in interest rates, which could affect the fair value of mortgage loans held for sale and outstanding commitments to originate residential mortgage loans for resale.

The commitments to sell mortgage loans are at fixed prices and are scheduled to settle at specified dates that generally do not exceed 90 days. The fair value of outstanding commitments to sell mortgage loans at December 31, 2007 was an unrealized loss of \$705 thousand, which was recorded as a component of mortgage banking income in the consolidated statements of income.

Synovus utilizes interest rate swaps to manage interest rate risks, primarily arising from its core community banking activities. These interest rate swap transactions generally involve the exchange of fixed and floating rate interest rate payment obligations without the exchange of underlying principal amounts. Entering into interest rate derivatives potentially exposes Synovus to the risk of counterparties' failure to fulfill their legal obligations including, but not limited to, potential amounts due or payable under each derivative contract. Notional principal amounts often are used to express the volume of these transactions, but the amounts potentially subject to credit risk are much smaller.

The receive fixed interest rate swap contracts at December 31, 2007 are being utilized to hedge \$800 million in floating rate loans and \$1.96 billion in fixed-rate liabilities. A summary of interest rate contracts and their terms at December 31, 2007 and 2006 is shown below. In accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 133, the fair value (net unrealized gains and losses) of these contracts has been recorded on the consolidated balance sheets.

|                               | Notional      | Weighted<br>Average<br>Receive<br>Rate | Weighted<br>Average<br>Pay<br>Rate* | Weighted<br>Average<br>Maturity<br>In<br>Months | Unrealized<br>Gains | Unrealized<br>Losses | Net<br>Unrealized<br>Gains<br>(Losses) |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------|--|
| <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i> | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Rate</b>                            | <b>Rate*</b>                        | <b>Months</b>                                   | <b>Gains</b>        | <b>Losses</b>        | <b>(Losses)</b>                        |
| <b>December 31, 2007</b>      |               |  |                                     |   |                     |                      |  |
| <b>Receive fixed swaps:</b>   |               |  |                                     |   |                     |                      |  |
| Fair value hedges             | \$ 1,957,500  | 4.97%                                  | 4.87%                               | 25  | \$ 20,349           | (2,268)              | 18,081                                 |
| Cash flow hedges              | 800,000       | 8.06%                                  | 7.25%                               | 34  | 32,340              |                      | 32,340                                 |

|                      |                     |              |              |           |                  |                 |               |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$ 2,757,500</b> | <b>5.87%</b> | <b>5.56%</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>\$ 52,689</b> | <b>(2,268)</b>  | <b>50,421</b> |
| December 31, 2006    |                     |              |              |           |                  |                 |               |
| Receive fixed swaps: |                     |              |              |           |                  |                 |               |
| Fair value hedges    | \$ 2,082,500        | 4.91%        | 5.11%        | 31        | \$ 32,686        | (14,787)        | 17,899        |
| Cash flow hedges     | 700,000             | 7.91%        | 8.25%        | 38        | 4,265            | (2,253)         | 2,012         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$ 2,782,500</b> | <b>5.66%</b> | <b>5.90%</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>\$ 36,951</b> | <b>(17,040)</b> | <b>19,911</b> |

\* Variable pay rate based upon contract rates in effect at December 31, 2007 and 2006.

Synovus designates hedges of floating rate loans as cash flow hedges. These swaps hedge against the variability of cash flows from specified pools of floating rate prime based loans. Synovus calculates effectiveness of the hedging relationship quarterly using regression analysis for all cash flow hedges entered into after March 31, 2007. The cumulative dollar offset method is used for all hedges entered into prior to that date. As of December 31, 2007, cumulative ineffectiveness for Synovus portfolio of cash flow hedges represented a gain of approximately \$40 thousand. Ineffectiveness from cash flow hedges is recognized in the consolidated statements of income as other operating income.

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Synovus expects to reclassify from accumulated other comprehensive income approximately \$7.3 million as net-of-tax income during the next twelve months, as the related payments for interest rate swaps and amortization of deferred gains(losses) are recorded.

During 2007 and 2006, Synovus terminated certain cash flow hedges which resulted in a net pre-tax loss of \$1.3 million and a net pre-tax gain of \$159 thousand, respectively. These gains (losses) have been included as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) and are being amortized over the shorter of the remaining contract life or the maturity of the designated instrument as an adjustment to interest income (expense). The remaining unamortized deferred loss balances at December 31, 2007 and 2006 were \$4.4 million and \$4.0 million, respectively.

Synovus designates hedges of fixed rate liabilities as fair value hedges. These swaps hedge against the change in fair market value of various fixed rate liabilities due to changes in the benchmark interest rate LIBOR. Synovus calculates effectiveness of the hedging relationships quarterly using regression analysis for all fair value hedges entered into after March 31, 2007. The cumulative dollar offset method is used for all hedges entered into prior to that date, except for those hedges entered into prior to March 31, 2007 which have been redesignated and now use regression analysis. As of December 31, 2007, cumulative ineffectiveness for Synovus portfolio of fair value hedges represented a gain of approximately \$399 thousand. Ineffectiveness from fair value hedges is recognized in the consolidated statements of income as other operating income.

Synovus also enters into derivative financial instruments to meet the financing and interest rate risk management needs of its customers. Upon entering into these instruments to meet customer needs, Synovus enters into offsetting positions in order to minimize the risk to Synovus. These derivative financial instruments are reported at fair value with any resulting gain or loss recorded in current period earnings. As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, the notional amount of customer related derivative financial instruments, including both the customer position and the offsetting position, was \$2.96 billion and \$2.05 billion, respectively. At December 31, 2007, Synovus had derivative positions for customer interest rate risk management needs with unrealized gains of \$51.4 million and unrealized losses of \$52.3 million for a net unrealized loss of \$912 thousand.

Synovus also enters into derivative financial instruments to meet the equity risk management needs of its customers. Upon entering into these instruments to meet customer needs, Synovus enters into offsetting positions in order to minimize the risk to Synovus. These derivative financial instruments are recorded at fair value with any resulting gain or loss recorded in current period earnings. The notional amount of customer related equity derivative financial instruments, including both the customer position and the offsetting position, was \$10.7 million and \$19.8 million at December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. At December 31, 2007, Synovus had derivative positions for customer equity risk management needs with unrealized gains of \$8.0 million which were fully offset by unrealized losses of \$8.0 million.

**Loan Commitments and Letters of Credit**

Synovus is a party to financial instruments with off-balance sheet risk in the normal course of business to meet the financing needs of its customers. These financial instruments include commitments to extend credit and standby and commercial letters of credit. These instruments involve, to varying degrees, elements of credit and interest rate risk in excess of the amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements.

The carrying amount of loan commitments and letters of credit closely approximates the fair value of such financial instruments. Carrying amounts include unamortized fee income and, in some instances, allowances for any estimated credit losses from these financial instruments. These amounts are not material to Synovus consolidated balance sheets.

As of December 31, 2007, Synovus had standby and commercial letters of credit in the amount of \$2.20 billion. The standby letters of credit are conditional commitments issued by Synovus to guarantee the performance of a customer to a third party. The approximate terms of these commitments range from one to five years. Collateral is required to support letters of credit in accordance with management's evaluation of the creditworthiness of each customer.

The exposure to credit loss in the event of nonperformance by the other party to the financial instrument for commitments to extend credit, and standby and commercial letters of credit, is represented by the contract amount of those instruments. Synovus uses the same credit policies in making commitments and conditional obligations as it does for on-balance sheet instruments.

Commitments to extend credit are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is no violation of any condition established in the contract. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses and may require payment of a fee. Since many of the commitments are expected to expire without being drawn upon, total commitment amounts do not necessarily represent future cash requirements.

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Loan commitments and letters of credit at December 31, 2007 include the following:

*(In thousands)*

|  |        |                |
|--|--------|----------------|
| Standby and commercial letters of credit   | \$     | 2,208,517      |
| Commitments to fund commercial real estate, construction, and land development loans |        | 1,978,570      |
| Unused credit card lines   |        | 1,453,115      |
| Commitments under home equity lines of credit  |        | 1,066,752      |
| Other loan commitments   |        | 4,082,629      |
| <br>Total  | <br>\$ | <br>10,789,583 |

**Lease Commitments**

Synovus and its subsidiaries have entered into long-term operating leases for various facilities and equipment. Management expects that as these leases expire they will be renewed or replaced by similar leases based on need.

At December 31, 2007, minimum rental commitments under all such non-cancelable leases for the next five years and thereafter are as follows:

*(In thousands)*

|            |        |             |
|------------|--------|-------------|
| 2008       | \$     | 18,450      |
| 2009       |        | 17,120      |
| 2010       |        | 16,189      |
| 2011       |        | 15,470      |
| 2012       |        | 15,170      |
| Thereafter |        | 116,395     |
| <br>Total  | <br>\$ | <br>198,794 |

Rental expense on facilities was \$24.5 million, \$19.6 million, and \$17.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively.

**Visa Litigation**

Synovus is a member of the Visa USA network. Under Visa USA bylaws, Visa members are obligated to indemnify Visa USA and/or its parent company, Visa, Inc., for potential future settlement of, or judgments resulting from, certain litigation, which Visa refers to as the covered litigation. Synovus indemnification obligation is limited to its membership proportion of Visa USA. On November 7, 2007, Visa announced the settlement of its American Express litigation, and disclosed in its annual report to the SEC on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2007 that Visa had accrued a contingent liability for the estimated settlement of its Discover litigation. Accordingly, during 2007, Synovus has recognized a contingent liability in the amount of \$36.8 million as an estimate for its membership

proportion of the American Express settlement and the potential Discover settlement, as well as its membership proportion of the amount that Synovus estimates will be required for Visa to settle the remaining covered litigation. The timing for ultimate settlement of all covered litigation is not determinable at this time.

### **Legal Proceedings**

Synovus and its subsidiaries are subject to various legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of its business. In the ordinary course of business, Synovus and its subsidiaries are also subject to regulatory examinations, information gathering requests, inquiries and investigations. Synovus establishes accruals for litigation and regulatory matters when those matters present loss contingencies that Synovus determines to be both probable and reasonably estimable. In the pending regulatory matter described below, loss contingencies are not reasonably estimable in the view of management, and, accordingly, a reserve has not been established for this matter. Based on current knowledge, advice of counsel and available insurance coverage, management does not believe that the eventual outcome of pending litigation and/or regulatory matters, including the pending regulatory matter described below, will have a material adverse effect on Synovus' consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. However, in the event of unexpected future developments, it is possible that the ultimate resolution of these matters, if unfavorable, may be material to Synovus' results of operations for any particular period.

The FDIC is currently conducting an investigation of the policies, practices and procedures used by Columbus Bank and Trust Company (CB&T), a wholly owned banking subsidiary of Synovus, in connection with the credit card programs offered pursuant to its Affinity Agreement with CompuCredit Corporation (CompuCredit). CB&T issues credit cards that are marketed and serviced by CompuCredit pursuant to the Affinity Agreement. A provision of the Affinity Agreement generally requires CompuCredit to indemnify CB&T for losses incurred as a result of the failure of credit card programs offered pursuant to the Agreement to comply with applicable law. Synovus is subject to a per event 10% share of any such loss, but Synovus' 10% payment obligation is limited to a cumulative total of \$2 million for all losses incurred.

CB&T is cooperating with the FDIC's investigation. Synovus cannot predict the eventual outcome of the FDIC's investigation; however, the investigation has resulted in material changes to CB&T's policies, practices and procedures in connection with the credit card programs offered pursuant to the



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Affinity Agreement. It is likely that the investigation may result in further changes to CB&T's policies, practices and procedures in connection with the credit card programs offered pursuant to the Affinity Agreement and the imposition of one or more regulatory sanctions, including a civil money penalty and/or restitution of certain fees to affected cardholders. At this time, management of Synovus does not expect the ultimate resolution of the investigation to have a material adverse effect on its consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows primarily due to the expected performance by CompuCredit of its indemnification obligations described in the paragraph above.

**Note 13 Regulatory Requirements and Restrictions**

The amount of dividends paid to the Parent Company from each of the subsidiary banks is limited by various banking regulatory agencies. The amount of cash dividends available from subsidiary banks for payment in 2008, in the aggregate, without prior approval from the banking regulatory agencies, is approximately \$407 million. In prior years, certain Synovus banks have received permission and have paid cash dividends to the Parent Company in excess of these regulatory limitations.

Synovus is subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the federal banking agencies. Failure to meet minimum capital requirements can initiate certain mandatory, and possibly additional discretionary actions by regulators that, if undertaken, could have a direct material effect on the consolidated financial statements. Under capital adequacy guidelines and the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action, Synovus must meet specific capital guidelines that involve quantitative measures of assets, liabilities, and certain off-balance sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting practices. Capital amounts and classification are also subject to qualitative judgments by the regulators about components, risk weightings, and other factors.

Quantitative measures established by regulation to ensure capital adequacy require Synovus on a consolidated basis, and the Parent Company and subsidiary banks individually, to maintain minimum amounts and ratios of total and Tier I capital to risk-weighted assets as defined, and of Tier I capital to average assets, as defined. Management believes that as of December 31, 2007, Synovus meets all capital adequacy requirements to which it is subject.

As of December 31, 2007, the most recent notification from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta categorized all of the subsidiary banks as well-capitalized under the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action. To be categorized as well-capitalized, Synovus and its subsidiaries must maintain minimum total risk-based, Tier I risk-based, and Tier I leverage ratios as set forth in the table shown below on the following page. Management is not currently aware of the existence of any conditions or events occurring subsequent to December 31, 2007 which would affect the well-capitalized classification.

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The following table summarizes regulatory capital information at December 31, 2007 and 2006 on a consolidated basis and for each significant subsidiary, defined as any direct subsidiary of the Company with assets or net income exceeding 10% of the consolidated totals.

|  | Actual       |           | For Capital Adequacy Purposes |           | To be Well Capitalized Under Prompt Corrective Action Provisions |         |
|--|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|--|---------|
|  | 2007         | 2006      | 2007                          | 2006      | 2007   | 2006    |
| <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>              |              |           |                               |           |  |         |
| <b>Synovus Financial Corp.</b>             |              |           |                               |           |  |         |
| Tier I capital                             | \$ 2,870,558 | 3,254,603 | 1,260,201                     | 1,197,211 | n/a  | n/a     |
| Total risk-based capital                   | 3,988,171    | 4,319,062 | 2,520,403                     | 2,394,423 | n/a  | n/a     |
| Tier I capital ratio                       | 9.11%        | 10.87     | 4.00                          | 4.00      | n/a  | n/a     |
| Total risk-based capital ratio             | 12.66        | 14.43     | 8.00                          | 8.00      | n/a  | n/a     |
| Leverage ratio                             | 8.65         | 10.64     | 4.00                          | 4.00      | n/a  | n/a     |
| <b>Columbus Bank and Trust Company</b>     |              |           |                               |           |  |         |
| Tier I capital                             | \$ 864,588   | 1,405,072 | 208,864                       | 230,533   | 313,295  | 345,830 |
| Total risk-based capital                   | 912,800      | 1,440,232 | 417,727                       | 461,106   | 522,159  | 576,383 |
| Tier I capital ratio                       | 16.56%       | 24.38     | 4.00                          | 4.00      | 6.00   | 6.00    |
| Total risk-based capital ratio             | 17.48        | 24.99     | 8.00                          | 8.00      | 10.00  | 10.00   |
| Leverage ratio                             | 11.97        | 24.56     | 4.00                          | 4.00      | 5.00   | 5.00    |
| <b>Bank of North Georgia</b>               |              |           |                               |           |  |         |
| Tier I capital                             | \$ 453,127   | 380,545   | 202,754                       | 160,556   | 304,132  | 240,834 |
| Total risk-based capital                   | 514,948      | 424,567   | 405,509                       | 321,112   | 506,886  | 401,390 |
| Tier I capital ratio                       | 8.94%        | 9.48      | 4.00                          | 4.00      | 6.00   | 6.00    |
| Total risk-based capital ratio             | 10.16        | 10.58     | 8.00                          | 8.00      | 10.00  | 10.00   |
| Leverage ratio                             | 9.17         | 9.74      | 4.00                          | 4.00      | 5.00   | 5.00    |
| <b>The National Bank of South Carolina</b> |              |           |                               |           |  |         |
| Tier I capital                             | \$ 434,179   | 360,985   | 180,598                       | 152,762   | 270,897  | 229,143 |
| Total risk-based capital                   | 477,196      | 399,398   | 361,196                       | 305,524   | 451,495  | 381,905 |
| Tier I capital ratio                       | 9.62%        | 9.45      | 4.00                          | 4.00      | 6.00   | 6.00    |
| Total risk-based capital ratio             | 10.57        | 10.46     | 8.00                          | 8.00      | 10.00  | 10.00   |
| Leverage ratio                             | 9.39         | 8.77      | 4.00                          | 4.00      | 5.00   | 5.00    |

n/a - The prompt corrective action provisions are applicable at the bank level only

**Note 14 Employment Expenses and Benefit Plans**

Synovus generally provides noncontributory money purchase and profit sharing plans, and 401(k) plans, which cover all eligible employees. Annual discretionary contributions to these plans are set each year by the respective Boards of Directors of each subsidiary, but cannot exceed amounts allowable as a deduction for federal income tax purposes. Synovus made aggregate contributions to these money purchase, profit sharing, and 401(k) plans, recorded as expense, for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 of approximately \$19.5 million, \$43.1 million, and \$35.9 million, respectively.

Synovus has stock purchase plans for directors and employees whereby Synovus makes contributions equal to one-half of employee and director voluntary contributions. The funds are used to purchase outstanding shares of Synovus common stock. Synovus recorded as expense \$7.3 million, \$6.7 million, and \$6.1 million for contributions to these plans in 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively.

Synovus has entered into employment agreements with certain executives for past and future services which provide for current compensation in addition to salary in the form of deferred compensation payable at retirement or in the event of death, total disability, or termination of employment. The

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aggregate cost of these salary continuation plans and employment agreements is not material to the consolidated financial statements.

Synovus provides certain medical benefits to qualified retirees through a postretirement medical benefits plan. The benefit expense and accrued benefit cost is not material to the consolidated financial statements.

**Note 15 Share-Based Compensation**

*General Description of Share-Based Compensation Plans*

Synovus has various long-term incentive plans under which the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors has the authority to grant share-based compensation to Synovus employees. At December 31, 2007, Synovus had a total of 22,985,002 shares of its authorized but unissued common stock reserved for future grants under the 2007 Omnibus Plan. The general terms of each of these plans are substantially the same, permitting the grant of share-based compensation including stock options, non-vested shares, and stock appreciation rights. These plans generally include vesting periods ranging from two to three years and contractual terms ranging from five to ten years. Stock options are granted at exercise prices which equal the fair market value of a share of common stock on the grant-date. Synovus historically issues new shares to satisfy share option exercises.

Stock options granted in 2007 and 2006 generally become exercisable over a three-year period, with one-third of the total grant amount vesting on each anniversary of the grant-date, and expire ten years from the date of grant. Vesting for stock options granted during 2007 and 2006 accelerates upon retirement for plan participants who have reached age 62 and who also have no less than fifteen years of service at the date of their election to retire. For stock options granted after adoption of SFAS No. 123R, share-based compensation expense is recognized for plan participants on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the vesting period or the period until reaching retirement eligibility.

Stock options granted prior to 2006 generally become exercisable at the end of a two to three-year vesting period and expire seven to ten years from the date of grant. Vesting for stock options granted prior to 2006 accelerates upon retirement for plan participants who have reached age 50 and who also have no less than fifteen years of service at the date of their election to retire. Prior to adoption of SFAS No. 123R, share-based compensation expense was determined in Synovus pro forma disclosure over the nominal vesting period without consideration for retirement eligibility. Following adoption of SFAS No. 123R, share-based compensation expense for all new awards is recognized in income over the shorter of the vesting period or the period until reaching retirement eligibility.

Non-vested shares granted in 2007, 2006 and 2005 generally vest over a three-year period, with one-third of the total grant amount vesting on each anniversary of the grant-date. Share-based compensation expense is recognized for plan participants on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

*Impact of TSYS Spin-Off*

As described in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements, Synovus completed the tax-free spin-off of its shares of TSYS common stock to Synovus shareholders on December 31, 2007. Synovus share-based plans covering the majority of outstanding stock options on December 31, 2007 contained mandatory antidilution provisions designed to equalize the fair value of an award in an equity restructuring. Approximately 216 thousand of outstanding Synovus stock options were issued under plans of acquired banks which did not contain mandatory antidilution provisions. These options were fully vested. Thus, as a result of the spin-off transaction, all outstanding Synovus stock options

were modified as described below. Additionally, all holders of non-vested shares received TSYS shares based on the distribution ratio applicable to all Synovus shares in connection with the spin-off, which are subject to the same vesting period as their non-vested Synovus shares.

Outstanding Synovus stock options held by TSYS employees on December 31, 2007 were converted to TSYS stock options utilizing an adjustment ratio of the post-spin stock price (TSYS 10-day volume-weighted average post-spin stock price) to the pre-spin stock price (Synovus closing stock price immediately pre-spin).

The pre-spin and the post spin fair value of Synovus stock options was measured using the Black-Scholes-Merton option pricing model. Outstanding options were grouped and separately measured based on their remaining estimated life. The risk-free interest rate and expected stock price volatility assumptions were matched to the remaining estimated life of the options. The expected volatility for the pre-spin calculation was based on Synovus historical stock price volatility, and for the post-spin calculation, was determined using implied volatility which was based on historical volatility of peer companies. The dividend yield included in the pre-spin calculation was 3.4% while the dividend yield assumption in the post-spin calculation was 6.3%.

As a result of this modification, TSYS recognized in 2007 an expense of \$5.5 million for outstanding vested options. This expense is included as a component of discontinued operations in the accompanying consolidated statement of income, net of minority interest. Outstanding Synovus stock options held by Synovus employees were converted to equalize their fair value utilizing an adjustment ratio of the post-spin stock price (Synovus 10-day volume-weighted average post-spin stock price) to

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the pre-spin stock price (Synovus closing stock price immediately pre-spin). As a result of this modification, Synovus recognized in 2007 an expense of \$2.0 million, principally due to the modification of the outstanding Synovus stock options which were issued under plans of acquired banks that did not contain mandatory antidilutive provisions. This expense is included as a component of discontinued operations in the accompanying consolidated statement of income. The changes that resulted from the aforementioned conversion of stock options due to the spin-off of TSYS are reflected in Synovus' outstanding options as of December 31, 2007 in the tables that follow.

*Share-Based Compensation Expense*

Synovus' share-based compensation costs are recorded as a component of salaries and other personnel expense in the Consolidated Statements of Income. Total share-based compensation expense for continuing operations was \$15.9 million, \$18.0 million and \$862 thousand for 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The total income tax benefit recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income for share-based compensation arrangements was \$5.6 million, \$6.4 million and \$312 thousand for 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

No share-based compensation costs have been capitalized for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006. Aggregate compensation expense recognized in 2007 and 2006 with respect to Synovus stock options included \$2.3 million and \$5.3 million, respectively, that would have been recognized in previous years had the policy under SFAS No. 123R with respect to retirement eligibility been applied to awards granted prior to January 1, 2006.

As of December 31, 2007, there was total unrecognized compensation cost of approximately \$24.1 million related to the unvested portion of share-based compensation arrangements involving shares of Synovus stock.

Prior to the adoption of SFAS No. 123R, Synovus elected to calculate compensation cost for purposes of pro forma disclosure assuming that all options would vest and reverse any recognized compensation costs for forfeited awards when the awards were actually forfeited. SFAS No. 123R requires that compensation cost be recognized net of estimated forfeitures. The estimate of forfeitures is adjusted as actual forfeitures differ from estimates, resulting in compensation cost only for those awards that actually vest. The effect of the change in estimated forfeitures is recognized as compensation cost in the period of the change in estimate. In estimating the forfeiture rate, Synovus stratified its grantees and used historical experience to determine separate forfeiture rates for the different award grants. Currently, Synovus estimates forfeiture rates for its grantees in the range of 0% to 10%.

*Stock Option Awards*

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of stock options granted to key Synovus employees during 2007, 2006 and 2005 was \$7.22, \$6.40 and \$7.06, respectively. The fair value of the option grants was determined using the Black-Scholes-Merton option-pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions:

|                                 | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                 | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| Risk-free interest rate         | <b>4.8%</b>                     | 4.5         | 4.1         |
| Expected stock price volatility | <b>21.7</b>                     | 24.9        | 21.4        |
| Dividend yield                  | <b>2.6</b>                      | 2.8         | 2.4         |
| Expected life of options        | <b>6.0 years</b>                | 5.8 years   | 8.5 years   |

The expected volatility for stock option awards in 2007 and 2006 was determined with equal weighting of implied volatility and historical volatility, and for awards prior to 2006, was determined using implied volatility. The expected life for stock options granted during 2007 and 2006 was calculated using the simplified method, as prescribed by the SEC's Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107. The expected life for stock options granted prior to 2006 was determined from historical experience.

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A summary of stock option activity (including performance-accelerated stock options as described below) and changes during the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 is presented below:

| Stock Options  | 2007        |                                 | 2006        |                                 | 2005        |                                 |
|--|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
|  | Shares      | Weighted-Average Exercise Price | Shares      | Weighted-Average Exercise Price | Shares      | Weighted-Average Exercise Price |
| Outstanding at beginning of year   | 23,639,261  | \$ 22.83                        | 25,546,776  | \$ 22.66                        | 25,769,908  | \$ 21.51                        |
| Options granted  | 246,660     | 31.93                           | 868,966     | 27.66                           | 2,575,053   | 29.02                           |
| Options assumed in connection with acquisitions                                    |             |                                 | 877,915     | 8.36                            |             |                                 |
| Options exercised  | (4,362,785) | 18.74                           | (3,418,550) | 18.89                           | (2,551,310) | 17.34                           |
| Options forfeited  | (471,600)   | 19.34                           | (173,050)   | 27.49                           | (209,842)   | 24.05                           |
| Options expired  | (68,079)    | 19.19                           | (62,796)    | 21.01                           | (37,033)    | 22.84                           |
| Options converted to TSYS options on December 31, 2007 due to TSYS spin-off        | (5,437,719) | 27.32                           |             |                                 |             |                                 |
| Options outstanding and price adjustment due to TSYS spin-off on December 31, 2007 | 15,453,864  | (12.06)                         |             |                                 |             |                                 |
| Options outstanding at end of year   | 28,999,602  | \$ 10.58                        | 23,639,261  | \$ 22.83                        | 25,546,776  | \$ 22.66                        |
| Options exercisable at end of year   | 25,148,449  | \$ 10.10                        | 14,179,889  | \$ 21.21                        | 12,415,332  | \$ 21.75                        |

The following table summarizes information about Synovus stock options outstanding and exercisable at December 31, 2007.

|   | As of December 31, 2007 |                     |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
|   | Options Outstanding     | Options Exercisable |
| Weighted-average remaining contractual life | 4.92 years              | 4.36 years          |
| Aggregate intrinsic value                   | \$ (3,195,905)          | \$ 9,360,235        |



The intrinsic value of stock options exercised during the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 was \$44.6 million, \$31.8 million and \$27.8 million, respectively. The total grant date fair value of stock options vested during 2007 and 2006 was \$33.5 million and \$27.8 million, respectively. At December 31, 2007, there was approximately \$2.9 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested stock options. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average remaining period of 1.11 years.

Synovus granted performance-accelerated stock options to certain key executives in 2000 that fully vested during 2007. The exercise price per share was equal to the fair market value at the date of grant. The grant-date fair value was amortized on a straight-line basis over seven years with the portion related to periods prior to 2006 having previously been included in pro forma disclosures and the portion related to periods from January 1, 2006 through the vesting date in 2007 being recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

Summary information regarding these performance-accelerated stock options including adjustments resulting from the December 31, 2007 spin-off of TSYS is presented below. There were no performance-accelerated stock options granted during 2007, 2006, or 2005.

| <b>Year<br/>Options<br/>Granted</b> | <b>Number<br/>of Stock<br/>Options</b> | <b>Exercise<br/>Price<br/>Per Share</b> | <b>Options<br/>Outstanding at<br/>December 31,<br/>2007</b> |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 2000                                | 8,777,563                              | \$ 8.27-8.44                            | 7,921,214   |

#### *Non-Vested Shares*

In addition to the stock options described above, non-transferable, non-vested shares of Synovus common stock have been awarded to certain key Synovus employees and non-employee directors of Synovus. The weighted-average grant-date fair value of non-vested shares granted during 2007, 2006 and 2005 was \$28.37, \$27.19 and \$27.28, respectively. The total fair value of shares vested during 2007 and 2006 was \$5.9 million and \$235 thousand, respectively. Except for the grant of

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63,386 performance-vesting shares described below, the market value of the common stock at the date of issuance is amortized as compensation expense using the straight-line method over the vesting period of the awards. Dividends are paid on these non-vested shares during the holding period. These non-vested shares are entitled to voting rights.

A summary of non-vested shares outstanding (excluding the 63,386 performance-vesting shares as described below) and changes during the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 is presented below:

| Non-Vested Shares                       | Shares           |    | Weighted-Average<br>Grant-Date<br>Fair Value |
|---|------------------|----|--|
| Outstanding at January 1, 2005          |                  | \$ |  |
| Granted                                 | 82,583           |    | 27.28  |
| Vested                                  |                  |    |  |
| Forfeited                               |                  |    |  |
| Outstanding at December 31, 2005        | 82,583           |    | 27.28  |
| Granted                                 | 616,495          |    | 27.19  |
| Vested                                  | (8,520)          |    | 27.62  |
| Forfeited                               | (6,004)          |    | 27.13  |
| <b>Outstanding at December 31, 2006</b> | <b>684,554</b>   |    | <b>27.19</b>                                 |
| <b>Granted</b>                          | <b>574,601</b>   |    | <b>28.37</b>                                 |
| <b>Vested</b>                           | <b>(215,666)</b> |    | <b>27.32</b>                                 |
| <b>Forfeited</b>                        | <b>(20,946)</b>  |    | <b>27.23</b>                                 |
| <b>Outstanding at December 31, 2007</b> | <b>1,022,543</b> | \$ | <b>27.83</b>                                 |

As of December 31, 2007, there was approximately \$21.3 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to the foregoing non-vested share based compensation arrangements. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average remaining period of 1.62 years.

During 2005, Synovus authorized a total grant of 63,386 shares of non-vested stock to a key executive with a performance-vesting schedule (performance-vesting shares). These performance-vesting shares have seven one-year performance periods (2005-2011) during each of which the Compensation Committee establishes an earnings per share goal and, if such goal is attained during any performance period, 20% of the performance-vesting shares will vest. Compensation expense for each tranche of this grant is measured based on the quoted market value of Synovus stock as of the date that each period's earnings per share goal is determined and is recorded as a charge to expense on a straight-line basis during each year in which the performance criteria is to be met. The total fair value of performance-vesting shares vested during 2007 and 2006 was \$351 thousand and \$340 thousand, respectively.

The following is a summary of performance-vesting shares outstanding at December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005:

| <b>Performance-Vesting Shares</b>       | <b>Shares</b>   | <b>Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value</b> |
|---|-----------------|---|
| Outstanding at January 1, 2005          |                 | \$  |
| Granted                                 | 12,677          | 26.82   |
| Vested                                  |                 |   |
| Forfeited                               |                 |   |
| Outstanding at December 31, 2005        | 12,677          | 26.82   |
| Granted                                 | 12,677          | 27.72   |
| Vested                                  | (12,677)        | 26.82   |
| Forfeited                               |                 |   |
| <b>Outstanding at December 31, 2006</b> | <b>12,677</b>   | <b>27.72</b>                                  |
| <b>Granted</b>                          |                 |   |
| <b>Vested</b>                           | <b>(12,677)</b> | <b>27.72</b>                                  |
| <b>Forfeited</b>                        |                 |   |
| <b>Outstanding at December 31, 2007</b> |                 | <b>\$</b>                                     |

At December 31, 2007, there remained 38,032 performance-vesting shares to be granted between 2008 and 2011.

Cash received from option exercises under all share-based payment arrangements of Synovus common stock for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 was \$63.8 million, \$65.5 million, and \$43.1 million, respectively.

As stock options for the purchase of Synovus common stock are exercised and non-vested shares vest, Synovus recognizes a tax benefit which is recorded as a component of additional paid-in capital within shareholders' equity for tax benefits not recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income. Synovus recognized such tax benefits in the amount of \$15.9 million, \$11.4 million and \$9.5 million for the years 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively.

Synovus elected to adopt the alternative method of calculating the beginning pool of excess tax benefits as permitted by FASB Staff Position (FSP) No. SFAS 123R-3, Transition Election Related to Accounting for the Tax Effects of Share-Based Payment Awards. This is a simplified method to determine the pool of excess tax benefits that is used in determining the tax effects of share-based compensation in the Consolidated Statements of Income and cash flow reporting for awards that were outstanding as of the adoption of SFAS No. 123R.

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*Pro forma*

Had Synovus determined compensation expense based on the fair value at the grant date for its stock option grants under SFAS No. 123, income from continuing operations and net income would have been reduced to the pro forma amounts indicated in the following table for 2005. Due to the adoption of SFAS No. 123R in 2006, such pro forma information is not applicable for years subsequent to 2005.

|  | <b>For The Year Ended<br/>December 31, 2005</b>      |                       |
|--|--|-----------------------|
|  | <b>Income<br/>from<br/>Continuing<br/>Operations</b> | <b>Net<br/>Income</b> |
| <i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i>   |  |                       |
| Income from continuing operations/net income, as reported  | \$ 359,050   | 516,446               |
| Add: Share-based employee compensation expense recognized, net of tax  | 517  | 1,117                 |
| Deduct: Total share-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based methods for all awards, net of related tax effects | (9,425)  | (15,167)              |
| Pro forma  | \$ 350,142   | 502,396               |
| Earnings per share:  |  |                       |
| Basic-as reported  | \$ 1.15  | 1.66                  |
| Basic-pro forma  | 1.12   | 1.61                  |
| Diluted-as reported  | 1.14   | 1.64                  |
| Diluted-pro forma  | 1.11   | 1.60                  |

The following table provides aggregate information regarding grants under all Synovus equity compensation plans through December 31, 2007.

| <b>Plan Category<sup>(1)</sup></b> | <b>(a)<br/>Number of<br/>securities<br/><br/>to be issued<br/>upon exercise of<br/>outstanding<br/>options</b> | <b>(b)<br/>Weighted-average<br/>exercise price<br/>of<br/>outstanding<br/>options</b> | <b>(c)<br/>Number of shares<br/>remaining available<br/>for<br/>issuance excluding<br/>shares reflected<br/><br/>in column (a)</b> |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
|                                    | 28,065,124 <sup>(2)</sup>  | \$ 10.77  | 22,985,002 <sup>(3)</sup>  |

Shareholder approved equity compensation  
plans for shares of Synovus stock  
Non-shareholder approved equity compensation  
plans

|       |            |    |       |            |
|-------|------------|----|-------|------------|
| Total | 28,065,124 | \$ | 10.77 | 22,985,002 |
|-------|------------|----|-------|------------|

- (1) Does not include information for equity compensation plans assumed by Synovus in mergers. A total of 934,478 shares of common stock were issuable upon exercise of options granted under plans assumed in mergers and outstanding at December 31, 2007. The weighted average exercise price of all options granted under plans assumed in mergers and outstanding at December 31, 2007 was \$5.00. Synovus cannot grant additional awards under these assumed plans.
- (2) Does not include an aggregate number of 1,022,543 shares of non-vested stock which will vest over the remaining years through 2011.
- (3) Includes 22,985,002 shares available for future grants as share awards under the 2007 Omnibus Plan.

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**Note 16 Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The following table presents the carrying and estimated fair values of on-balance sheet financial instruments at December 31, 2007 and 2006. The estimated fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties.

The carrying and estimated fair values relating to derivative instruments and off-balance sheet financial instruments are discussed in Note 12.

The fair value of derivative instruments, consisting of interest rate contracts, is equal to the estimated net amount that Synovus would receive or pay to terminate the interest rate swap contracts at the reporting date, and is determined based on statements from the counterparties, taking into account current interest rates and the credit-worthiness of the counterparties. The fair value of derivative instruments consisting of commitments to fund and sell fixed-rate mortgage loans is determined based on quoted market prices.

Cash and due from banks, interest earning deposits with banks, and federal funds sold and securities purchased under resale agreements are repriced on a short-term basis; as such, the carrying value closely approximates fair value.

The fair values of trading account assets and available for sale investment securities is determined based on quoted market prices. If a quoted market price is not available, fair value is estimated using quoted market prices for similar securities.

The fair value of mortgage loans held for sale is based on quoted prices from secondary market investors.

The fair value of loans is estimated for portfolios of loans with similar financial characteristics. Loans are segregated by type, such as commercial, mortgage, home equity, credit card, and other consumer loans. Commercial loans are further segmented into certain collateral code groupings. The fair value of the loan portfolio is calculated by discounting contractual cash flows using estimated market discount rates which reflect the credit and interest rate risk inherent in the loan.

The fair value of deposits with no stated maturity, such as non-interest bearing demand accounts, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, and savings accounts, is estimated to be equal to the amount payable on demand as of that respective date. The fair value of time deposits is based on the discounted value of contractual cash flows. The discount rate is estimated using the rates currently offered for deposits of similar remaining maturities.

Short-term debt that matures within ten days is assumed to be at fair value. The fair value of other short-term and long-term debt with fixed interest rates is calculated by discounting contractual cash flows using estimated market discount rates.

| <i>(In thousands)</i> | <b>2007</b>               |                                 | <b>2006</b>               |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                       | <b>Carrying<br/>Value</b> | <b>Estimated<br/>Fair Value</b> | <b>Carrying<br/>Value</b> | <b>Estimated<br/>Fair Value</b> |

Financial assets:

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|   |    |                   |                   |            |            |
|---|----|-------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Cash and due from banks   | \$ | <b>682,583</b>    | <b>682,583</b>    | 713,053    | 713,053    |
| Interest earning deposits with banks                                    |    | <b>10,950</b>     | <b>10,950</b>     | 19,315     | 19,315     |
| Federal funds sold and securities purchased under resale agreements     |    | <b>76,086</b>     | <b>76,086</b>     | 101,091    | 101,091    |
| Trading account assets  |    | <b>17,803</b>     | <b>17,803</b>     | 15,266     | 15,266     |
| Mortgage loans held for sale  |    | <b>153,437</b>    | <b>153,471</b>    | 175,042    | 175,277    |
| Investment securities available for sale                                |    | <b>3,666,974</b>  | <b>3,666,974</b>  | 3,352,357  | 3,352,357  |
| Loans, net  |    | <b>26,130,972</b> | <b>26,143,015</b> | 24,340,093 | 24,315,920 |
| Derivative asset positions  |    | <b>112,160</b>    | <b>112,160</b>    | 67,652     | 67,652     |
| Financial liabilities:  |    |                   |                   |            |            |
| Non-interest bearing deposits   |    | <b>3,472,423</b>  | <b>3,472,423</b>  | 3,545,766  | 3,545,766  |
| Interest bearing deposits   |    | <b>21,487,393</b> | <b>21,502,929</b> | 20,982,697 | 20,948,689 |
| Federal funds purchased and securities sold under repurchase agreements |    | <b>2,319,412</b>  | <b>2,319,412</b>  | 1,582,487  | 1,582,487  |
| Long-term debt  |    | <b>1,890,235</b>  | <b>1,844,505</b>  | 1,343,358  | 1,321,114  |
| Derivative liability positions  |    | <b>62,650</b>     | <b>62,650</b>     | 48,270     | 48,270     |

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**Note 17 Income Taxes**

The aggregate amount of income taxes included in the consolidated statements of income and in the consolidated statements of changes in shareholders' equity for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2007, is presented below:

| <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>   | <b>2007</b>       | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
|---|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Consolidated Statements of Income:</b>                             |                   |             |             |
| Income taxes related to continuing operations                         | \$ <b>184,739</b> | 230,435     | 204,290     |
| Income taxes related to discontinued operations                       | <b>145,224</b>    | 126,181     | 103,286     |
| <b>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders Equity:</b>     |                   |             |             |
| Income taxes related to:  |                   |             |             |
| Cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle                 | <b>230</b>        |             |             |
| Postretirement unfunded health benefit obligation                     | <b>498</b>        | (1,966)     |             |
| SAB No. 108 adjustment  |                   | 14,544      |             |
| Unrealized gains (losses) on investment securities available for sale | <b>19,563</b>     | 8,306       | (17,748)    |
| Unrealized gain (losses) on cash flow hedges                          | <b>11,525</b>     | 2,259       | (1,430)     |
| Gains and losses on foreign currency translation                      | <b>1,470</b>      | 3,813       | (4,316)     |
| Share-based compensation  | <b>(15,937)</b>   | (11,390)    | (9,505)     |
| Total   | \$ <b>347,312</b> | \$ 372,182  | 274,577     |

For the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, income tax expense (benefit) consists of:

| <i>(In thousands)</i> | <b>2007</b>       | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Current:              |                   |             |             |
| Federal               | \$ <b>203,129</b> | 234,366     | 192,691     |
| State                 | <b>14,955</b>     | 22,767      | 25,517      |
|                       | <b>218,084</b>    | 257,133     | 218,208     |
| Deferred:             |                   |             |             |
| Federal               | <b>(29,272)</b>   | (27,294)    | (10,656)    |
| State                 | <b>(4,073)</b>    | 596         | (3,262)     |
|                       | <b>(33,345)</b>   | (26,698)    | (13,918)    |



|                          |    |                |         |         |
|--------------------------|----|----------------|---------|---------|
| Total income tax expense | \$ | <b>184,739</b> | 230,435 | 204,290 |
|--------------------------|----|----------------|---------|---------|

Income tax expense as shown in the consolidated statements of income differed from the amounts computed by applying the U.S. Federal income tax rate of 35% to income from continuing operations before income taxes as a result of the following:

| <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>                         |    | <b>2007</b>    | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
|---|----|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Taxes at statutory federal income tax rate            | \$ | <b>184,685</b> | 225,938     | 197,169     |
| Tax-exempt income                                     |    | <b>(3,249)</b> | (3,964)     | (3,745)     |
| State income taxes, net of federal income tax benefit |    | <b>7,073</b>   | 15,186      | 14,466      |
| Tax credits   |    | <b>(2,643)</b> | (4,020)     | (1,261)     |
| Other, net  |    | <b>(1,127)</b> | (2,705)     | (2,339)     |
| Total income tax expense                              | \$ | <b>184,739</b> | 230,435     | 204,290     |
| Effective income tax rate                             |    | <b>35.01%</b>  | 35.70       | 36.26       |

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ==

The tax effects of temporary differences that gave rise to significant portions of the deferred income tax assets and liabilities at December 31, 2007 and 2006 are presented below:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>   | <b>2007</b>       | <b>2006</b> |
|---|-------------------|-------------|
| Deferred income tax assets:                                     |                   |             |
| Provision for losses on loans                                   | \$ <b>140,862</b> | 120,695     |
| Finance lease transactions                                      | <b>18,991</b>     | 12,484      |
| Deferred revenue  | <b>6,603</b>      | 7,901       |
| Deferred compensation   | <b>10,953</b>     | 9,326       |
| Share-based compensation  | <b>7,258</b>      | 6,903       |
| Provision for postretirement benefits under SFAS No. 158        | <b>1,186</b>      | 1,530       |
| Unrealized loss on derivative instruments                       | <b>3,930</b>      | 3,941       |
| Visa litigation expense   | <b>14,056</b>     |             |
| Net unrealized loss on cash flow hedges                         |                   | 1,698       |
| Net unrealized loss on investment securities available for sale |                   | 9,525       |
| Other   | <b>13,511</b>     | 10,772      |
| <b>Total deferred income tax assets</b>                         | <b>217,350</b>    | 184,775     |
| Deferred income tax liabilities:                                |                   |             |
| Excess tax over financial statement depreciation                | <b>(56,632)</b>   | (48,251)    |
| Purchase accounting adjustments                                 | <b>(11,285)</b>   | (14,036)    |
| Net unrealized gain on cash flow hedges                         | <b>(9,827)</b>    |             |
| Net unrealized gain on investment securities available for sale | <b>(10,039)</b>   |             |
| Ownership interest in partnership                               | <b>(6,939)</b>    | (5,010)     |
| Other   | <b>(5,456)</b>    | (6,071)     |
| <b>Total gross deferred income tax liabilities</b>              | <b>(100,178)</b>  | (73,368)    |
| <b>Net deferred income tax assets</b>                           | <b>\$ 117,172</b> | 111,407     |

Synovus has determined that a valuation allowance with respect to deferred tax assets is not necessary as of December 31, 2007. Synovus files income tax returns in the U.S. Federal jurisdiction and various state jurisdictions, and is subject to examinations by these taxing authorities unless statutory examination periods lapse. Synovus U.S. Federal income tax return is filed on a consolidated basis, and for all periods presented, includes the formerly majority owned subsidiary, TSYS. Most state income tax returns are filed on a separate entity basis. Synovus is no longer subject to U.S. Federal income tax examinations for years before 2004 and with few exceptions, Synovus is no longer subject to income tax examinations from state and local tax authorities for years before 2001. There is currently no Federal tax examination in progress. However, certain tax examinations are in progress by the relevant state tax authorities. Although Synovus is unable to determine the ultimate outcome of these examinations, Synovus believes that its liability for uncertain tax positions relating to these jurisdictions for such years is adequate.

Synovus adopted the provisions of FIN 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes* an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 as of January 1, 2007. FIN 48 establishes a single model to address accounting for uncertain tax positions. FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for income taxes by prescribing a minimum recognition threshold a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. FIN 48 provides a two-step process in the evaluation of a tax position. The first step is recognition. A company determines whether it is more-likely-than-not that a tax position will be sustained upon examination, including a resolution of any related appeals or litigation processes, based upon the technical merits of the position. The second step is measurement. A tax position that meets the more-likely-than-not recognition threshold is measured at the largest amount of benefit that is greater than 50 percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ==

Upon adoption as of January 1, 2007, Synovus recognized a \$1.4 million decrease in the liability for uncertain tax positions, of continuing operations, with a corresponding increase in retained earnings of \$1.4 million as a cumulative effect adjustment. During the twelve months ended December 31, 2007, Synovus decreased its liability for prior year uncertain income tax positions as a discrete item by a net amount of approximately \$4.1 million (net of the Federal tax effect) including \$1.4 million in interest and penalties. This decrease resulted from the completion of a routine state tax examination, expiring state audit period statutes and other new information impacting the potential resolution of material uncertain tax positions.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows<sup>(1)</sup>:

*(In thousands)*

|  |    |         |
|--|----|---------|
| Balance at December 31, 2006                             | \$ | 9,057   |
| Current activity:  |    |         |
| Additions based on tax positions related to current year |    | 2,193   |
| Additions for tax positions of prior years               |    |         |
| Deductions for tax positions of prior years              |    | (4,176) |
| Settlements  |    |         |
| Balance at December 31, 2007                             | \$ | 7,074   |

(1) Unrecognized state tax benefits are not adjusted for the Federal tax impact.

Synovus recognizes accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized income tax benefits as a component of income tax expense. Accrued interest and penalties on unrecognized tax benefits totaled \$1.9 million and \$1.1 million as of January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007, respectively. The total amount of unrecognized income tax benefits as of January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007 that, if recognized, would affect the effective tax rate is \$7.2 million and \$5.4 million (net of the Federal benefit on state tax issues) respectively, which includes interest and penalties of \$1.3 million and \$0.7 million.

The total liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 at December 31, 2007 is \$5.4 million. Synovus is not able to reasonably estimate the amount by which the liability will increase or decrease over time; however, at this time, Synovus does not expect a significant payment related to these obligations within the next year. Synovus expects that approximately \$36 thousand of uncertain tax positions will be either settled or resolved during the next twelve months.

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ==

**Note 18 Condensed Financial Information of Synovus Financial Corp. (Parent Company only)****Condensed Balance Sheets**

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                                      | <b>December 31,</b> |               |
|--|---------------------|---------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>         | <b>2006</b>   |
| <b>Assets</b>  |                     |               |
| Cash   | \$ 2,157            | 3,294         |
| Investment in consolidated bank subsidiaries, at equity    | 3,873,821           | 4,189,420     |
| Investment in consolidated nonbank subsidiaries, at equity | 60,447              | 57,541        |
| Notes receivable from bank subsidiaries                    | 140,532             | 167,439       |
| Notes receivable from nonbank subsidiaries                 | 2,382               | 3,773         |
| Other assets   | 258,288             | 165,377       |
| <br>Total assets   | <br>\$ 4,337,627    | <br>4,586,844 |
| <b>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>                |                     |               |
| Liabilities:   |                     |               |
| Long-term debt   | \$ 771,683          | 771,285       |
| Other liabilities  | 124,354             | 106,909       |
| <br>Total liabilities                                      | <br>896,037         | <br>878,194   |
| Shareholders' equity:                                      |                     |               |
| Common stock   | 335,529             | 331,214       |
| Additional paid-in capital                                 | 1,101,209           | 1,033,055     |
| Treasury stock   | (113,944)           | (113,944)     |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)              | 31,439              | (2,129)       |
| Retained earnings  | 2,087,357           | 2,460,454     |
| <br>Total shareholders' equity                             | <br>3,441,590       | <br>3,708,650 |
| <br>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity             | <br>\$ 4,337,627    | <br>4,586,844 |

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ==

**Condensed Statements of Income**

| <i>(In thousands)</i>   | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| Income:   |                                 |             |             |
| Cash dividends received from bank subsidiaries                                    | \$ <b>365,024</b>               | 245,687     | 251,202     |
| Management and information technology fees from affiliates                        | <b>117,934</b>                  | 107,133     | 85,092      |
| Securities gains, net   |                                 |             | 166         |
| Interest income   | <b>6,693</b>                    | 5,503       | 3,698       |
| Other income  | <b>42,347</b>                   | 29,996      | 17,332      |
| Total income  | <b>531,998</b>                  | 388,319     | 357,490     |
| Expenses:   |                                 |             |             |
| Interest expense  | <b>41,224</b>                   | 41,343      | 41,560      |
| Other expenses  | <b>250,944</b>                  | 218,803     | 166,856     |
| Total expenses  | <b>292,168</b>                  | 260,146     | 208,416     |
| Income before income taxes and equity in undistributed net income of subsidiaries | <b>239,830</b>                  | 128,173     | 149,074     |
| Allocated income tax benefit  | <b>(50,854)</b>                 | (45,260)    | (38,471)    |
| Income before equity in undistributed net income of subsidiaries                  | <b>290,684</b>                  | 173,433     | 187,545     |
| Equity in undistributed net income of subsidiaries                                | <b>52,251</b>                   | 241,670     | 171,505     |
| Income from continuing operations   | <b>342,935</b>                  | 415,103     | 359,050     |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes and minority interest    | <b>183,370</b>                  | 201,814     | 157,396     |
| Net income  | \$ <b>526,305</b>               | 616,917     | 516,446     |

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## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ==

**Condensed Statements of Cash Flows**

| <i>(In thousands)</i>   | <b>Years ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| <b>Operating Activities</b>   |                                 |             |             |
| Net income  | \$ 526,305                      | 616,917     | 516,446     |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |                                 |             |             |
| Equity in undistributed income of subsidiaries                                    | (244,150)                       | (443,484)   | (328,901)   |
| Depreciation, amortization, and accretion, net                                    | 20,063                          | 22,235      | 17,243      |
| Share-based compensation  | 21,540                          | 9,889       | 862         |
| Net increase (decrease) in other liabilities                                      | 18,034                          | 43,158      | (3,029)     |
| Net (increase) decrease in other assets   | (100,708)                       | (37,106)    | 7,302       |
| Gain on sale of other assets  |                                 | (1,940)     |             |
| Other, net  | 47,690                          | 9,416       | (1,370)     |
| Net cash provided by operating activities   | 288,774                         | 219,085     | 208,553     |
| <b>Investing Activities</b>   |                                 |             |             |
| Net investment in subsidiaries  | (71,963)                        | (33,757)    | (85,887)    |
| Equity method investments   | (12,186)                        |             | (10)        |
| Purchases of premises and equipment   | (22,670)                        | (26,941)    | (17,503)    |
| Proceeds from sale of other assets  |                                 | 2,135       |             |
| Net decrease (increase) in short-term notes receivable from bank subsidiaries     | 26,907                          | 30,238      | (170,399)   |
| Net decrease (increase) in short-term notes receivable from non-bank subsidiaries | 1,391                           | 241         | (2,384)     |
| Net cash used in investing activities   | (78,521)                        | (28,084)    | (276,183)   |
| <b>Financing Activities</b>   |                                 |             |             |
| Dividends paid to shareholders  | (264,930)                       | (244,654)   | (224,303)   |
| Principal repayments on long-term debt  | (10,310)                        | (10,310)    | (200,000)   |
| Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt  |                                 |             | 445,644     |
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock  | 63,850                          | 65,510      | 43,125      |
| Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities                               | (211,390)                       | (189,454)   | 64,466      |
| (Decrease) increase in cash   | (1,137)                         | 1,547       | (3,164)     |
| Cash at beginning of year   | 3,294                           | 1,747       | 4,911       |
| Cash at end of year   | \$ 2,157                        | 3,294       | 1,747       |

For the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, the Parent Company paid income taxes (net of refunds received) of \$429.8 million, \$380.9 million, and \$315.0 million, and interest in the amount of \$41.5 million, \$41.7 million, and \$41.3 million, respectively.

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ==

**Note 19 Supplemental Financial Data**

Components of other operating income and other operating expenses in excess of 1% of total revenues for any of the respective years are as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i>                  | <b>Years ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| Income:                                |                                 |             |             |
| Income from private equity investments | <b>\$ 15,457</b>                | 5,341       | 2,242       |
| Expenses:                              |                                 |             |             |
| Third-party processing expenses        | <b>38,639</b>                   | 35,961      | 28,024      |

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors and Shareholders  
Synovus Financial Corp.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Synovus Financial Corp. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity and comprehensive income, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2007. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Synovus Financial Corp. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2007, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, Synovus Financial Corp. changed its method of accounting for income tax uncertainties during 2007 and changed its method of accounting for stock-based compensation and pension and other postretirement plans and applied the provisions of Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 108 in 2006.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Synovus Financial Corp.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), and our report dated February 29, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Atlanta, Georgia  
February 29, 2008

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**MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON INTERNAL  
CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

The management of Synovus Financial Corp. (the Company) is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

The Company's management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework*.

Based on our assessment, we believe that, as of December 31, 2007, the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective based on the criteria set forth in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework*.

Richard E. Anthony  
Chairman &  
Chief Executive Officer

Thomas J. Prescott  
Executive Vice President &  
Chief Financial Officer

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors and Shareholders  
Synovus Financial Corp.:

We have audited Synovus Financial Corp.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Synovus Financial Corp.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Synovus Financial Corp. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Synovus Financial Corp. as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity and comprehensive income, and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2007, and our report dated February 29, 2008

expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

Atlanta, Georgia  
February 29, 2008

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## Selected Financial Data ==

| <i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i>  | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |             |             |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> | <b>2004</b> | <b>2003</b> |
| <b>Income Statement:</b>  |                                 |             |             |             |             |
| Total revenues(b)   | \$ <b>1,536,996</b>             | 1,487,337   | 1,292,166   | 1,186,898   | 1,070,988   |
| Net interest income   | <b>1,148,948</b>                | 1,125,789   | 965,216     | 859,531     | 762,456     |
| Provision for losses on loans   | <b>170,208</b>                  | 75,148      | 82,532      | 75,319      | 71,777      |
| Non-interest income   | <b>389,028</b>                  | 359,430     | 327,413     | 327,441     | 311,023     |
| Non-interest expense  | <b>840,094</b>                  | 764,533     | 646,757     | 621,675     | 575,408     |
| Income from continuing operations,<br>net of income taxes                               | <b>342,935</b>                  | 415,103     | 359,050     | 314,941     | 274,586     |
| Income from discontinued operations,<br>net of income taxes and minority<br>interest(a) | <b>183,370</b>                  | 201,814     | 157,396     | 122,092     | 114,339     |
| Net income  | <b>526,305</b>                  | 616,917     | 516,446     | 437,033     | 388,925     |
| <b>Per share data:</b>  |                                 |             |             |             |             |
| Basic earnings per share  |                                 |             |             |             |             |
| Income from continuing operations   | <b>1.05</b>                     | 1.29        | 1.15        | 1.02        | 0.91        |
| Net income  | <b>1.61</b>                     | 1.92        | 1.66        | 1.42        | 1.29        |
| Diluted earnings per share  |                                 |             |             |             |             |
| Income from continuing operations   | <b>1.04</b>                     | 1.28        | 1.14        | 1.01        | 0.90        |
| Net income  | <b>1.60</b>                     | 1.90        | 1.64        | 1.41        | 1.28        |
| Cash dividends declared   | <b>0.82</b>                     | 0.78        | 0.73        | 0.69        | 0.66        |
| Book value  | <b>10.43</b>                    | 11.39       | 9.43        | 8.52        | 7.43        |
| <b>Balance Sheet:</b>   |                                 |             |             |             |             |
| Investment securities   | <b>3,666,974</b>                | 3,352,357   | 2,958,320   | 2,695,593   | 2,529,257   |
| Loans, net of unearned income   | <b>26,498,585</b>               | 24,654,552  | 21,392,347  | 19,480,396  | 16,464,914  |
| Deposits  | <b>24,959,816</b>               | 24,528,463  | 20,806,979  | 18,591,402  | 15,953,702  |
| Long-term debt  | <b>1,890,235</b>                | 1,343,358   | 1,928,005   | 1,873,247   | 1,530,798   |
| Shareholders' equity  | <b>3,441,590</b>                | 3,708,650   | 2,949,329   | 2,641,289   | 2,245,039   |
| Average total shareholders' equity  | <b>3,935,910</b>                | 3,369,954   | 2,799,496   | 2,479,404   | 2,166,777   |
| Average total assets  | <b>32,895,295</b>               | 29,831,172  | 26,293,003  | 23,275,001  | 20,412,853  |
| <b>Performance ratios and other data:</b>   |                                 |             |             |             |             |
| Return on average assets(c)   | <b>1.60%</b>                    | 2.07        | 1.96        | 1.88        | 1.91        |
| Return on average equity(c)   | <b>13.37</b>                    | 18.31       | 18.45       | 17.63       | 17.95       |
| Net interest margin, before fees  | <b>3.85</b>                     | 4.12        | 4.03        | 3.92        | 3.89        |
| Net interest margin, after fees   | <b>3.97</b>                     | 4.27        | 4.18        | 4.21        | 4.26        |
| Efficiency ratio  | <b>55.14</b>                    | 51.18       | 49.79       | 52.06       | 53.34       |
| Dividend payout ratio(d)  | <b>51.25</b>                    | 40.99       | 44.51       | 48.94       | 51.56       |
| Average shareholders' equity to average<br>assets                                       | <b>11.96</b>                    | 11.30       | 10.65       | 10.65       | 10.61       |
| Average shares outstanding, basic   | <b>326,849</b>                  | 321,241     | 311,495     | 307,262     | 302,010     |
| Average shares outstanding, diluted   | <b>329,863</b>                  | 324,232     | 314,815     | 310,330     | 304,928     |

- (a) On December 31, 2007, Synovus Financial Corp. ( Synovus ) completed the tax-free spin-off of its shares of Total System Services, Inc. ( TSYS ) common stock to Synovus shareholders. In accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, and SFAS No. 146, Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities, the current period and historical consolidated results of operations and financial position of TSYS, as well as all costs recorded by Synovus associated with the spin-off of TSYS, are now presented as discontinued operations. Additionally, discontinued operations for the year ended December 31, 2007 include a \$4.2 million after-tax gain related to the transfer of Synovus proprietary mutual funds to a non-affiliated third party.
- (b) Consists of net interest income and non-interest income, excluding securities gains (losses).
- (c) December 31, 2007 ratio includes both continuing and discontinued operations.
- (d) Determined by dividing cash dividends declared per share by diluted net income per share.

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**Executive Summary**

The following financial review provides a discussion of Synovus' financial condition, changes in financial condition, and results of operations as well as a summary of Synovus' critical accounting policies. This section should be read in conjunction with the preceding audited consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes.

**About Our Business**

Synovus is a financial services holding company, based in Columbus, Georgia, with approximately \$33 billion in assets. Synovus provides integrated financial services including banking, financial management, insurance, mortgage and leasing services through 37 wholly-owned subsidiary banks and other Synovus offices in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Florida. At December 31, 2007, our banks ranged in size from \$100.7 million to \$6.1 billion in total assets.

**Our Key Financial Performance Indicators**

In terms of how we measure success in our business, the following are our key financial performance indicators:

Loan Growth  
Core Deposit Growth  
Net Interest Margin

Credit Quality  
Fee Income Growth  
Expense Management

**2007 Financial Performance vs. 2006  
(including discontinued operations)**

**Consolidated**

Net income: \$526.3 million, down 14.7%, compared to \$616.9 million for 2006 (excluding expenses related to the TSYS spin-off, Visa litigation, and the Bank of America termination fee, net income of \$579.8 million, down 0.7%, compared to \$583.7 million for 2006).

Diluted earnings per share (EPS): \$1.60, down 16.1% from 2006 (2007 EPS of \$1.76 excluding expenses related to the TSYS spin-off and Visa litigation).

Loan growth: up \$1.8 billion, or 7.5% compared to 2006.

Core deposit growth (total deposits less brokered time deposits): up \$158.4 million, or 0.7%, compared to 2006

Net interest margin: 3.97%, compared to 4.27% for 2006.

Credit quality:

Nonperforming assets ratio of 1.67%, compared to 0.50% at year-end 2006, and



Past dues over 90 days and still accruing interest as a percentage of total loans of 0.13% compared to 0.14% at year-end 2006, and

Net charge-off ratio of 0.46%, compared to 0.26% for 2006.

Non-interest income growth: \$389.0 million, up 8.2% from 2006.

Non-interest expense up 9.9% from 2006 (up 5.1% excluding Visa litigation expenses).

Return on assets: 1.60% compared to 2.07% for 2006.

Return on equity: 13.37% compared to 18.31% for 2006.

Additionally during 2007:

On November 7, 2007, Visa announced that it had reached a settlement with American Express regarding certain litigation. Synovus has a membership interest in Visa and, along with other banks, has an obligation to share in certain losses under various agreements with Visa in connection with this and other litigation. Synovus recorded a \$12.0 million liability during the three months ended September 30, 2007 related to the American Express settlement, and recorded an additional Visa litigation accrual of \$24.8 million during the three months ended December 31, 2007 as an estimate of Synovus indemnification obligations arising from other covered litigation of Visa.

On December 31, 2007, Synovus completed the spin-off of its shares of TSYS common stock to Synovus shareholders. Synovus owned approximately 80.6% of TSYS outstanding shares on the date of the spin-off. Each Synovus shareholder received 0.483921 of a share of TSYS common stock for each share of Synovus common stock held on December 18, 2007. Synovus shareholders received cash in lieu of fractional shares for amounts of less than one TSYS share.

Synovus opened 24 new retail branch banking locations and relocated 4 existing retail branches to new facilities in 2007.

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Presentation of net income and diluted earnings per share excluding expenses associated with the Visa litigation, TSYS spin-off, and Bank of America termination fee are non-GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) financial measures. The following tables reconcile net income and diluted net income per share, comparing non-GAAP financial measures to GAAP financial measures:

| <i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i>  | <b>Years Ended<br/>December 31,</b> |             | <b>% Chg</b> |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
|   | <b>2007</b>                         | <b>2006</b> |              |
| <b>Consolidated:</b>  |                                     |             |              |
| Net income, as reported   | \$ 526,305                          | 616,917     | (14.7)%      |
| Visa litigation expense, net of income taxes  | 22,478                              |             | nm           |
| Spin-off related expenses, net of income taxes and minority interest                                  | 30,977                              |             | nm           |
| Bank of America termination fee, net of accelerated amortization, income taxes, and minority interest |                                     | (33,200)    | nm           |
| Net income, as adjusted   | \$ 579,760                          | 583,717     | (0.7)%       |
| <b>Diluted net income per share:</b>  |                                     |             |              |
| Net income, as reported   | \$ 1.60                             | 1.90        | (16.1)%      |
| Visa litigation expense, net of income taxes  | 0.07                                |             | nm           |
| Spin-off related expenses, net of income taxes and minority interest                                  | 0.09                                |             | nm           |
| Bank of America termination fee, net of accelerated amortization, income taxes, and minority interest |                                     | (0.10)      | nm           |
| Diluted net income per share, as adjusted   | \$ 1.76                             | 1.80        | (2.4)%       |

nm = not meaningful

| <i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i>   | <b>Years Ended<br/>December 31,</b> |             | <b>% Chg</b> |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>                         | <b>2006</b> |              |
| Income from continuing operations, as reported | \$ 342,935                          | 415,103     | (17.4)%      |
| Visa litigation expense, net of income taxes   | 22,478                              |             | nm           |
| Income from continuing operations, as adjusted | \$ 365,413                          | 415,103     | (12.0)%      |
| <b>Diluted net income per share:</b>           |                                     |             |              |
| Income from continuing operations, as reported | \$ 1.04                             | 1.28        | (18.8)%      |

|  |                |      |         |
|--|----------------|------|---------|
| Visa litigation expense, net of income taxes                     | <b>0.07</b>    |      | nm      |
| Income from continuing operations per diluted share, as adjusted | \$ <b>1.11</b> | 1.28 | (13.5)% |

nm = not meaningful

Synovus believes that the above non-GAAP financial measures provide meaningful information to assist investors in understanding Synovus financial results, exclusive of items that management believes are not reflective of its operating results. The non-GAAP measures should not be considered by themselves or as a substitute for the GAAP measures. The non-GAAP measures should be considered as an additional view of the way Synovus financial measures are affected by the non-recurring spin-off related expenses, Visa litigation expenses, and the Bank of America termination fee.

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

The accounting and financial reporting policies of Synovus conform to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to general practices within the banking and financial services industries. Synovus has identified certain of its accounting policies as critical accounting policies. In determining which accounting policies are critical in nature, Synovus has identified the policies that require significant judgment or involve complex estimates. The application of these policies has a significant impact on Synovus financial

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statements. Synovus' financial results could differ significantly if different judgments or estimates are applied in the application of these policies.

**Allowance for Loan Losses**

Notes 1 and 6 to Synovus' consolidated financial statements contains a discussion of the allowance for loan losses. The allowance for loan losses at December 31, 2007 was \$367.6 million.

During the second quarter of 2007, Synovus implemented certain refinements to its allowance for loan losses methodology, specifically the way that loss factors are derived. These refinements resulted in a reallocation of the factors used to determine the allocated and unallocated components of the allowance along with a more disaggregated approach to estimate the required allowance by loan portfolio classification. These changes did not have a significant impact on the total allowance for loan losses or provision for losses on loans upon implementation.

The allowance for loan losses is determined based on an analysis which assesses the probable loss within the loan portfolio. The allowance for loan losses consists of two components: the allocated and unallocated allowances. Both components of the allowance are available to cover inherent losses in the portfolio. Significant judgments or estimates made in the determination of the allowance for loan losses consist of the risk ratings for loans in the commercial loan portfolio, the valuation of the collateral for loans that are classified as impaired loans, and the qualitative loss factors.

*Commercial Loans Risk Ratings and Loss Factors*

Commercial loans are assigned a risk rating on a nine point scale. For commercial loans that are not considered impaired, the allocated allowance for loan losses is determined based upon the loss percentage factors that correspond to each risk rating.

The risk ratings are based on the borrowers' credit risk profile, considering factors such as debt service history and capacity, inherent risk in the credit (e.g., based on industry type and source of repayment), and collateral position. Ratings 6 through 9 are modeled after the bank regulatory classifications of special mention, substandard, doubtful, and loss. Loss percentage factors are based on the probable loss including qualitative factors. The probable loss considers the probability of default, the loss given default, and certain qualitative factors as determined by loan category and risk rating. The probability of default and loss given default are based on industry data. The qualitative factors consider credit concentrations, recent levels and trends in delinquencies and nonaccrual loans, and growth in the loan portfolio. The occurrence of certain events could result in changes to the loss factors. Accordingly, these loss factors are reviewed periodically and modified as necessary.

Each loan is assigned a risk rating during the approval process. This process begins with a rating recommendation from the loan officer responsible for originating the loan. The rating recommendation is subject to approvals from other members of management and/or loan committees depending on the size and type of credit. Ratings are re-evaluated at least every twelve months in connection with the loan review process at each bank. Additionally, an independent holding company credit review function evaluates each bank's risk rating process at least every twelve to eighteen months.

*Impaired Loans*

Management considers a loan to be impaired when the ultimate collectibility of all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement are in doubt. A majority of our impaired loans are collateral dependent. The

impairment on these loans is determined based upon fair value estimates (net of selling costs) of the respective collateral. The actual losses on these loans could differ significantly if the fair value of the collateral is different from the estimates used by Synovus in determining the impairment. The majority of Synovus' impaired loans are secured by real estate. The fair value of these real estate properties is generally determined based upon appraisals performed by a certified or licensed appraiser. Management also considers other factors or recent developments which could result in adjustments to the collateral value estimates indicated in the appraisals. Estimated losses on collateral dependent impaired loans are typically charged-off. Estimated losses on all other impaired loans are included in the allowance for loan losses through a charge to the provision for losses on loans.

*Retail Loans Loss Factors*

The allocated allowance for loan losses for retail loans is generally determined by segregating the retail loan portfolio into pools of homogeneous loan categories. Loss factors applied to these pools are based on the probable loss including qualitative factors. The probable loss considers the probability of default, the loss given default, and certain qualitative factors as determined by loan category and risk rating. The probability of default and loss given default are based on industry data. The qualitative factors consider credit concentrations, recent levels and trends in delinquencies and nonaccrual loans, and growth in the loan portfolio. The occurrence of certain events could result in changes to the loss factors. Accordingly, these loss factors are reviewed periodically and modified as necessary.

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*Unallocated Component*

The unallocated component of the allowance for loan losses is considered necessary to provide for certain environmental and economic factors that effect the probable loss inherent in the entire loan portfolio. Unallocated loss factors included in the determination of the unallocated allowance are economic factors, changes in the experience, ability, and depth of lending management and staff, and changes in lending policies and procedures, including underwriting standards. Certain macro- economic factors and changes in business conditions and developments could have a material impact on the collectibility of the overall portfolio. As an example, a rapidly rising interest rate environment could have a material impact on certain borrowers' ability to pay. The unallocated component is meant to cover such risks.

**Income Taxes**

Notes 1 and 17 to Synovus' consolidated financial statements contain a discussion of income taxes. The calculation of Synovus' income tax provision is complex and requires the use of estimates and judgments in its determination. As part of Synovus' overall business strategy, management must consider tax laws and regulations that apply to the specific facts and circumstances under consideration. This analysis includes the amount and timing of the realization of income tax liabilities or benefits. Management closely monitors tax developments on both the state and federal level in order to evaluate the effect they may have on Synovus' overall tax position. At December 31, 2007, Synovus concluded that it did not need a valuation allowance for its deferred income tax assets and had an accrual of \$7.1 million for unrecognized tax benefits.

**Asset Impairment**

*Goodwill*

Under SFAS No. 142 (SFAS 142), *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*, goodwill is required to be tested for impairment annually. The combination of the income approach utilizing the discounted cash flow (DCF) method and the market approach, utilizing readily available market valuation multiples, is used to estimate the fair value.

Under the DCF method, the fair value of the reporting unit reflects the present value of the projected earnings that will be generated by each reporting unit after taking into account the revenues and expenses associated with the reporting unit, the relative risk that the cash flows will occur, the contribution of other assets, and an appropriate discount rate to reflect the value of invested capital. Cash flows are estimated for future periods based on historical data and projections provided by management. If the actual cash flows are not consistent with Synovus' estimates, an impairment charge may result.

Under the market approach, the fair value of the reporting unit reflects the price at which similar companies are exchanged. The multiples utilized are the average price to tangible book value, and the average price to the previous twelve months' earnings multiple.

Notes 3 and 7 to Synovus' consolidated financial statements contain a discussion of goodwill. The net carrying value of goodwill as of December 31, 2007 was \$519.1 million. Based on the 2007 assessments, Synovus concluded that goodwill was not impaired.

*Long-Lived Assets and Other Intangibles*

The Company reviews long-lived assets, such as property and equipment and other intangibles subject to amortization, including core deposit premiums and customer relationships, for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the actual cash flows are not consistent with the Company's estimates, an impairment charge may result.

### Acquisitions

Table 1 summarizes the acquisitions completed during the past three years.

#### Table 1 Acquisitions

*(Dollars in thousands)*

| <b>Company and Location</b>                       | <b>Date Closed</b> | <b>Total Assets</b> | <b>Shares Issued</b> | <b>Cash</b> |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Banking Corporation of Florida<br>Naples, Florida | April 1, 2006      | \$ 417,787          | 2,938,791            |             |
| Riverside Bancshares, Inc.<br>Marietta, Georgia   | March 25,<br>2006  | 765,464             | 5,883,426            |             |

This information is presented in further detail in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements.

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**Discontinued Operations***Transfer of Mutual Funds*

During 2007, Synovus transferred its proprietary mutual funds to a non-affiliated third party. As a result of the transfer, Synovus received gross proceeds of \$8.0 million and incurred transaction related costs of \$1.1 million, resulting in a pre-tax gain of \$6.9 million, or \$4.2 million, after tax. The net gain has been reported as a component of income from discontinued operations on the consolidated statement of income. Financial results for 2007, 2006, and 2005 of the business have not been presented as discontinued operations as such amounts are inconsequential. This business did not have significant assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenses associated with it.

*TSYS Spin-off*

On December 31, 2007, Synovus completed the tax-free spin-off of its shares of TSYS common stock to Synovus shareholders. Synovus owned approximately 80.6% of TSYS outstanding shares on the date of the spin-off. Each Synovus shareholder received 0.483921 of a share of TSYS common stock for each share of Synovus common stock held as of December 18, 2007. Synovus shareholders received cash in lieu of fractional shares for amounts of less than one TSYS share.

Pursuant to the agreement and plan of distribution, TSYS paid on a pro rata basis to its shareholders, including Synovus, a one-time cash dividend of \$600 million or \$3.0309 per TSYS share based on the number of TSYS shares outstanding as of the record date of December 17, 2007. Synovus received \$483.8 million in proceeds from this one-time cash dividend. The dividend was paid on December 31, 2007.

In accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, and SFAS No. 146, Accounting for Costs associated with Exit or Disposal Activities, the current period and historical consolidated results of operations of TSYS, as well as all costs associated with the spin-off of TSYS, are now presented as income from discontinued operations. The balance sheet as of the record date of December 31, 2007 does not include assets and liabilities of TSYS, while all prior period assets and liabilities of TSYS are presented as discontinued operations.

The following table shows the components of income from discontinued operations for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005:

**Table 2 Discontinued Operations***(In thousands)*

|  | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| TSYS net income, net of minority interest<br>(excluding spin-off related expenses) | \$ <b>210,147</b>               | 201,814     | 157,396     |
| Spin-off related expenses, net of income taxes:                                    |                                 |             |             |



|  |    |                 |         |         |
|--|----|-----------------|---------|---------|
| TSYS, net of minority interest   |    | <b>(18,248)</b> |         |         |
| Synovus  |    | <b>(12,729)</b> |         |         |
| Gain on transfer of mutual funds, net of income taxes                                |    | <b>4,200</b>    |         |         |
| Total income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes and minority interest | \$ | <b>183,370</b>  | 201,814 | 157,396 |

See note 2 to the consolidated financial statements for further discussion regarding discontinued operations.

### **Earning Assets, Sources of Funds, and Net Interest Income**

#### *Earning Assets and Sources of Funds*

Average total assets for 2007 were \$32.90 billion or 10.3% over 2006 average total assets of \$29.83 billion. Average earning assets for 2007 were \$29.11 billion, which represented 88.5% of average total assets. Average earning assets increased \$2.59 billion, or 9.8%, over 2006. The \$2.59 billion increase consisted primarily of a \$2.18 billion increase in average net loans and a \$395.0 million increase in average investment securities available for sale. The primary funding source for this earning asset growth was a \$2.04 billion increase in average deposits. Average shareholders equity for 2007 was \$3.94 billion, which represents an increase of \$566.0 million over 2006.

For 2006, average total assets increased \$3.54 billion, or 13.5% from 2005. Average earning assets for 2006 were \$26.52 billion, which represented 88.9% of average total assets. For more detailed information on the average balance sheets

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for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, refer to Table 4.

*Net Interest Income*

Net interest income (interest income less interest expense) is a major component of net income, representing the earnings of the primary business of gathering funds from customer deposits and other sources and investing those funds in loans and investment securities. Our long-term objective is to manage those assets and liabilities to maximize net interest income while balancing interest rate, credit, liquidity, and capital risks.

Net interest income is presented in this discussion on a tax-equivalent basis, so that the income from assets exempt from federal income taxes is adjusted based on a statutory marginal federal tax rate of 35% in all years (See Table 3). The net interest margin is defined as taxable-equivalent net interest income divided by average total interest earning assets and provides an indication of the efficiency of the earnings from balance sheet activities. The net interest margin is affected by changes in the spread between interest earning asset yields and interest bearing liability costs (spread rate), and by the percentage of interest earning assets funded by non-interest bearing funding sources.

Net interest income for 2007 was \$1.15 billion, up \$23.2 million, or 2.1%, from 2006. On a taxable-equivalent basis, net interest income was \$1.15 billion, up \$22.4 million, or 2.0%, over 2006. During 2007, average interest earning assets increased \$2.59 billion, or 9.8%, with the majority of this increase attributable to loan growth. Increases in the level of deposits and other borrowed funds were the primary funding sources for the increase in earning assets.

*Net Interest Margin*

The net interest margin after fees was 3.97% for 2007, down 30 basis points from 2006. The yield on earning assets increased 9 basis points, which was offset by a 39 basis point increase in the effective cost of funds, which includes non-interest bearing funding sources, primarily demand deposits.

The yields on earning assets were positively impacted by higher realized yields on investment securities, which increased 45 basis points, primarily due to the maturity of lower yielding investments that were reinvested at higher rates available during 2007. Loan yields, which increased 4 basis points, were favorably impacted by a 10 basis point increase in the average prime rate in 2007 as compared to 2006 and the maturity and replacement of lower yielding fixed rate loans throughout the year. These positive impacts on loan yields were partially offset by an increase in the cost to carry the elevated levels of nonperforming assets in 2007 compared to 2006. The primary factors driving the 39 basis point increase in the effective cost of funds were a 53 basis point increase in the cost of non-brokered time deposits and a customer driven shift from lower cost deposit types such as NOW and savings accounts to higher cost time deposits and money market accounts. A continued competitive pricing environment in our marketplace also contributed to the increase in the cost of funds.

The net interest margin after fees was 4.27% for 2006, up 9 basis points from 2005. The yield on earning assets increased 116 basis points, which was partially offset by a 107 basis point increase in the effective cost of funds, which includes non-interest bearing funding sources, primarily demand deposits.

The primary increase in the yield on earning assets came from increased yields on loans, which increased 127 basis points, primarily due to increased yields on the variable rate portion of the loan portfolio. These loan yields were favorably impacted by a 177 basis point increase in the average prime rate in 2006 as compared to 2005. The primary factors driving the 107 basis point increase in the effective cost of funds were a 137 basis point increase in the cost of non-brokered time deposits and a 156 basis point increase in the cost of money market accounts. These rate increases

were a result of the higher interest rate environment and growth in these accounts as consumer preference continued to favor higher yielding deposit accounts. A more competitive pricing environment in our marketplace also contributed to the increase in the cost of funds.

**Table 3 Net Interest Income**

*(In thousands)*

|   |    | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|---|----|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|   |    | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| Interest income                         | \$ | <b>2,238,404</b>                | 2,016,466   | 1,496,261   |
| Taxable-equivalent adjustment           |    | <b>5,059</b>                    | 5,790       | 6,392       |
| Interest income, taxable-equivalent     |    | <b>2,243,463</b>                | 2,022,256   | 1,502,653   |
| Interest expense                        |    | <b>1,089,456</b>                | 890,677     | 531,046     |
| Net interest income, taxable-equivalent | \$ | <b>1,154,007</b>                | 1,131,579   | 971,607     |

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**Table 4 Consolidated Average Balances, Interest, and Yields**  
(Dollars in thousands)

|                          | 2007                 |                  |                | 2006               |           |                | 2005               |           |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|
|                          | Average<br>Balance   | Interest         | Yield/<br>Rate | Average<br>Balance | Interest  | Yield/<br>Rate | Average<br>Balance | Interest  |
| <b>Investing assets:</b> |                      |                  |                |                    |           |                |                    |           |
| Investments, net(a)(b)   | \$ 25,467,316        | 2,043,589        | 8.02%          | \$ 23,254,146      | 1,857,005 | 7.99%          | \$ 20,406,761      | 1,372,400 |
| Loans, net(a)(b)(c)      | 55,007               | 3,987            | 7.25           | 61,792             | 4,408     | 7.13           | 63,582             | 4,200     |
| Loan losses              | (335,032)            |                  |                | (309,658)          |           |                | (279,533)          |           |
|                          | <b>25,187,291</b>    | <b>2,047,576</b> | <b>8.13</b>    | 23,006,280         | 1,861,413 | 8.09           | 20,190,810         | 1,376,700 |
| Securities available     |                      |                  |                |                    |           |                |                    |           |
| Government securities    | 3,429,175            | 164,631          | 4.80           | 3,009,962          | 129,219   | 4.29           | 2,609,113          | 98,700    |
| Investment               | 174,431              | 11,817           | 6.77           | 198,691            | 13,498    | 6.79           | 216,773            | 15,000    |
| Other securities         | 3,603,606            | 176,448          | 4.90           | 3,208,653          | 142,717   | 4.45           | 2,825,886          | 113,700   |
| Other assets             | 52,274               | 3,418            | 6.53           | 43,201             | 2,691     | 6.23           | 11,380             | 600       |
| Deposits with            | 21,025               | 1,104            | 5.25           | 8,763              | 375       | 4.28           | 6,288              | 100       |
| Good and                 |                      |                  |                |                    |           |                |                    |           |
| Acquired under           |                      |                  |                |                    |           |                |                    |           |
| Assets                   | 97,462               | 5,258            | 5.39           | 123,804            | 6,422     | 5.19           | 120,809            | 4,000     |
| Assets held for sale     | 152,007              | 9,659            | 6.35           | 132,332            | 8,638     | 6.53           | 113,969            | 7,300     |
| Earning assets           | <b>29,113,665</b>    | <b>2,243,463</b> | <b>7.71</b>    | 26,523,033         | 2,022,256 | 7.62           | 23,269,142         | 1,502,600 |
| From banks               | 529,306              |                  |                | 538,949            |           |                | 620,480            |           |
| Equipment, net           | 514,280              |                  |                | 442,753            |           |                | 388,289            |           |
| Other                    | 52,735               |                  |                | 26,000             |           |                | 22,690             |           |
|                          | 1,355,137            |                  |                | 1,039,837          |           |                | 792,899            |           |
| Continued                | 1,330,172            |                  |                | 1,260,600          |           |                | 1,199,503          |           |
|                          | <b>\$ 32,895,295</b> |                  |                | \$ 29,831,172      |           |                | \$ 26,293,003      |           |

**Shareholders**  
**Equity bearing**

|                         |               |              |       |               |              |       |               |          |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------|---------------|--------------|-------|---------------|----------|
| demand                  | \$ 3,125,802  | 68,779       | 2.20  | \$ 3,006,308  | 57,603       | 1.92  | \$ 2,975,016  | 35,0     |
| accounts                | 7,714,360     | 336,286      | 4.36  | 6,515,079     | 269,899      | 4.14  | 5,203,104     | 133,6    |
| ts                      | 483,368       | 2,525        | 0.52  | 542,793       | 3,538        | 0.65  | 555,205       | 1,9      |
| less brokered           |               |              |       |               |              |       |               |          |
|                         | 7,004,347     | 348,332      | 4.97  | 6,340,959     | 281,366      | 4.44  | 4,918,782     | 150,9    |
| deposits                | 3,084,006     | 156,550      | 5.08  | 2,855,191     | 134,263      | 4.70  | 2,557,659     | 86,7     |
| urchased and<br>under   |               |              |       |               |              |       |               |          |
| ements                  | 1,957,990     | 92,970       | 4.75  | 1,578,163     | 72,958       | 4.62  | 1,197,342     | 34,3     |
|                         | 1,619,536     | 84,014       | 5.19  | 1,515,306     | 71,050       | 4.69  | 2,082,031     | 88,2     |
| earing liabilities      | 24,989,409    | 1,089,456    | 4.36  | 22,353,799    | 890,677      | 3.98  | 19,489,139    | 531,0    |
| earing demand           |               |              |       |               |              |       |               |          |
|                         | 3,409,506     |              |       | 3,518,312     |              |       | 3,416,053     |          |
|                         | 246,213       |              |       | 234,022       |              |       | 146,654       |          |
| nd minority<br>ontinued |               |              |       |               |              |       |               |          |
|                         | 314,257       |              |       | 355,085       |              |       | 441,661       |          |
| equity                  | 3,935,910     |              |       | 3,369,954     |              |       | 2,799,496     |          |
| and<br>equity           | \$ 32,895,295 |              |       | \$ 29,831,172 |              |       | \$ 26,293,003 |          |
| ome/margin              |               | 1,154,007    | 3.97% |               | 1,131,579    | 4.27% |               | 971,6    |
| lent adjustment         |               | (5,059)      |       |               | (5,790)      |       |               | (6,3     |
| ome, actual             |               | \$ 1,148,948 |       |               | \$ 1,125,789 |       |               | \$ 965,2 |

(a) Average loans are shown net of unearned income. Nonperforming loans are included.

(b) Interest income includes loan fees as follows: 2007 \$36.2 million, 2006 \$40.4 million, 2005 \$33.5 million.

(c) Reflects taxable-equivalent adjustments, using the statutory federal income tax rate of 35%, in adjusting interest on tax-exempt loans and investment securities to a taxable-equivalent basis.

(d) Includes average net unrealized gains (losses) on investment securities available for sale of (\$15.1) million, (\$54.5) million, and (\$22.6) million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively.

(e) On December 31, 2007, Synovus completed the tax-free spin-off of its shares of TSYS common stock to Synovus shareholders; accordingly, the assets and liabilities of TSYS are presented as discontinued operations.

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**Table 5 Rate/Volume Analysis**  
(In thousands)

|   | 2007 Compared to 2006<br>Change Due to (a) |                 |                | 2006 Compared to 2005<br>Change Due to (a) |                |                |
|---|--|-----------------|----------------|--|----------------|----------------|
|   | Volume                                     | Yield/<br>Rate  | Net<br>Change  | Volume                                     | Yield/<br>Rate | Net<br>Change  |
| Interest earned on:   |  |                 |                |  |                |                |
| Taxable loans, net  | \$ 176,832                                 | 9,752           | 186,584        | \$ 191,629                                 | 292,912        | 484,541        |
| Tax-exempt loans, net(b)  | (484)                                      | 63              | (421)          | (120)                                      | 266            | 146            |
| Taxable investment securities   | 17,984                                     | 17,428          | 35,412         | 15,152                                     | 15,341         | 30,493         |
| Tax-exempt investment securities(b)                                     | (1,647)                                    | (34)            | (1,681)        | (1,251)                                    | (252)          | (1,503)        |
| Trading account assets  | 565  | 162             | 727            | 1,798                                      | 250            | 2,048          |
| Interest earning deposits with banks                                    | 524  | 206             | 730            | 68   | 134            | 202            |
| Federal funds sold and securities purchased under resale agreements     | (1,367)                                    | 202             | (1,165)        | 101  | 2,240          | 2,341          |
| Mortgage loans held for sale  | 1,285                                      | (264)           | 1,021          | 1,177                                      | 158            | 1,335          |
| <b>Total interest income</b>  | <b>193,692</b>                             | <b>27,515</b>   | <b>221,207</b> | <b>208,554</b>                             | <b>311,049</b> | <b>519,603</b> |
| Interest paid on:   |  |                 |                |  |                |                |
| Interest bearing demand deposits  | 2,294                                      | 8,882           | 11,176         | 369  | 22,149         | 22,518         |
| Money market accounts   | 49,650                                     | 16,737          | 66,387         | 33,718                                     | 102,492        | 136,210        |
| Savings deposits  | (386)                                      | (627)           | (1,013)        | (43)                                       | 1,623          | 1,580          |
| Time deposits (less brokered time deposits)                             | 29,454                                     | 37,512          | 66,966         | 43,661                                     | 86,746         | 130,407        |
| Brokered time deposits  | 10,754                                     | 11,533          | 22,287         | 10,086                                     | 37,463         | 47,549         |
| Federal funds purchased and securities sold under repurchase agreements | 17,548                                     | 2,464           | 20,012         | 10,930                                     | 27,686         | 38,616         |
| Other borrowed funds  | 4,888                                      | 8,076           | 12,964         | (24,029)                                   | 6,780          | (17,249)       |
| <b>Total interest expense</b>   | <b>114,202</b>                             | <b>84,577</b>   | <b>198,779</b> | <b>74,692</b>                              | <b>284,939</b> | <b>359,631</b> |
| <b>Net interest income</b>  | <b>\$ 79,490</b>                           | <b>(57,062)</b> | <b>22,428</b>  | <b>\$ 133,844</b>                          | <b>26,128</b>  | <b>159,972</b> |

(a) The change in interest due to both rate and volume has been allocated to the yield/rate component.

- (b) Reflects taxable-equivalent adjustments, using the statutory federal income tax rate of 35%, in adjusting interest on tax-exempt loans and investment securities to a taxable-equivalent basis.

**Non-Interest Income**

Non-interest income consists of a wide variety of fee generating services. Total non-interest income was \$389.0 million in 2007, up 8.2% compared to 2006. Total non-interest income for 2006 was \$359.4 million, up 9.8% over 2005. Table 6 shows the principal components of non-interest income.

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**Table 6 Non-Interest Income***(In thousands)*

|  | 2007       | 2006    | 2005    |
|--|------------|---------|---------|
| Service charges on deposits              | \$ 112,142 | 112,417 | 109,960 |
| Fiduciary and asset management fees      | 50,761     | 48,627  | 45,454  |
| Brokerage and investment banking revenue | 31,980     | 26,729  | 24,487  |
| Mortgage banking income                  | 27,006     | 29,255  | 28,682  |
| Bankcard fees                            | 47,770     | 44,303  | 38,813  |
| Securities gains (losses), net           | 980        | (2,118) | 463     |
| Other fee income                         | 39,307     | 38,743  | 34,148  |
| Other operating income                   | 79,082     | 61,474  | 45,407  |
| Total non-interest income                | \$ 389,028 | 359,430 | 327,414 |

**Service charges on deposits** represent the single largest fee income component. Service charges on deposits totaled \$112.1 million in 2007, a decrease of 0.2% from the previous year, and \$112.4 million in 2006, an increase of 2.2% from 2005. Service charges on deposit accounts consist of non-sufficient funds (NSF) fees (which represent approximately two thirds of the total), account analysis fees, and all other service charges. NSF fees increased by \$1.7 million or 2.2% over 2006. Account analysis fees were up \$744 thousand or 5.2% from 2006 levels. All other service charges on deposit accounts, which consist primarily of monthly fees on consumer demand deposit and savings accounts, were down \$2.7 million or 12.5% compared to 2006. The decline in all other service charges was largely due to growth in the number of checking accounts with no monthly service charges as well as the discontinuance of certain online banking fees.

**Fiduciary and asset management fees** are derived from providing estate administration, employee benefit plan administration, personal trust, corporate trust, investment management and financial planning services. Fiduciary and asset management fees were \$50.8 million for 2007, an increase of 4.4% over the prior year, and \$48.6 million for 2006, an increase of 7.0% from 2005. The increase in fiduciary and asset management fees for 2007 over 2006 is primarily due to an increase in managed assets in 2007 compared to 2006. The increase for 2006 over 2005 is primarily due to higher average rates of return being earned on managed assets in 2006 as well as certain one-time termination fees recognized in 2006.

At December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, the market value of assets under management was approximately \$9.56 billion, \$8.80 billion and \$8.56 billion, respectively. Assets under management at December 31, 2007 and 2006 increased 8.7% and 2.8% from December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Assets under management consist of all assets where Synovus has investment authority. Assets under advisement were approximately \$3.53 billion, \$3.82 billion, and \$3.60 billion at December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Assets under advisement consist of non-managed assets as well as non-custody assets where Synovus earns a consulting fee. Assets under advisement at December 31, 2007 and 2006 decreased 7.8% and increased 6.2% from December 31, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Total assets under management and advisement were \$13.09 billion at December 31, 2007 compared to \$12.63 billion



at December 31, 2006 and \$12.16 billion at December 31, 2005. Many of the fees charged are based on asset values, and increases in these values would directly impact fees earned.

**Brokerage and investment banking revenue** was \$32.0 million in 2007, a 19.6% increase over the \$26.7 million reported in 2006. Brokerage assets were \$4.08 billion and \$4.14 billion as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. The increase in revenue was primarily driven by our retail brokerage unit. Synovus began to integrate the retail brokerage sales force into the bank structure during 2006 with the unit fully integrated in 2007 and has experienced accelerated revenue growth following this re-organization.

Total brokerage and investment banking revenue for 2006 was \$26.7 million, up 9.2% over 2005. The increase in revenue was mainly driven by a full year's production of our capital markets unit during 2006 and only a partial year in 2005.

**Mortgage banking income** was \$27.0 million in 2007, a 7.7% decrease from 2006 levels. Mortgage production volume is \$1.43 billion in 2007, down 5.5% compared to 2006. The decline in mortgage banking income and production volume in 2007 compared to 2006 is due to a slow-down in residential housing during the latter half of 2007.

Total mortgage banking income for 2006 was \$29.3 million, up 2.0% from 2005 levels. Total mortgage production volume was \$1.51 billion in 2006, flat compared to 2005.

**Bankcard fees** totaled \$47.8 million in 2007, an increase of 7.8% over the previous year, and \$44.3 million in 2006, an increase of 14.2% from 2005. Bankcard fees consist of credit card merchant and interchange fees and debit card interchange fees. Debit card interchange fees were \$15.5 million in 2007, an increase of 6.3% over the previous year, and

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\$14.6 million in 2006, an increase of 21.0% from 2005. The increase in debit card interchange fees for 2007 was primarily driven by an increase in volume and a higher retention rate. Credit card fees were \$32.3 million in 2007, an increase of 8.6% compared to 2006, and \$29.7 million in 2006, an increase of 11.1% compared to 2005. The increase in credit card fees for 2007 was primarily due to an increase in volume.

**Other fee income** includes fees for letters of credit, safe deposit box fees, access fees for automatic teller machine use, official check issuance fees, and other miscellaneous fee-related income. The increase for 2007 was primarily due to additional fee income generated from customer interest rate swap transactions of \$1.6 million, offset slightly by trading losses. For the year ended December 31, 2006, \$1.9 million of the total increase over the year ended December 31, 2005 was due to additional fee income generated from customer interest rate swap transactions, and \$1.2 million was due to trading gains.

**Other operating income** was \$79.1 million in 2007, compared to \$61.5 million in 2006. The main components of other operating income are income from company-owned life insurance policies, insurance commissions, and other items discussed below.

Other operating income includes \$15.5 million, \$5.3 million, and \$2.4 million of income from increases in the fair value of venture capital investments in 2007, 2006, and 2005 respectively. Other operating income for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 also includes \$6.3 million and \$2.5 million, respectively, from gains resulting from the sale and redemption of MasterCard common stock.

**Non-Interest Expense****2007 vs. 2006**

Reported total non-interest expense for 2007 was \$840.1 million, up \$75.6 million or 9.9% over 2006. Table 7 summarizes this data for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005.

**Table 7 Non-Interest Expense***(In thousands)*

|                                      | <b>Years Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                      | <b>2007</b>                     | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
| Salaries and other personnel expense | \$ 455,158                      | 450,373     | 370,223     |
| Net occupancy and equipment expense  | 112,888                         | 100,270     | 90,549      |
| Other operating expenses             | 235,248                         | 213,890     | 185,985     |
| Visa litigation expense              | 36,800                          |             |             |
| Total non-interest expense           | \$ 840,094                      | 764,533     | 646,757     |

During 2007, Synovus recognized litigation expenses of \$36.8 million associated with indemnification obligations arising from Synovus ownership interest in Visa. See **Commitments and Contingencies** on page 70 for further discussion of the Visa litigation expense. Excluding the Visa litigation expense, total non-interest expense increased

\$38.8 million or 5.1% over 2006.

**Total salaries and other personnel expense** increased \$4.8 million, or 1.1%, in 2007 compared to 2006. Total employees were 7,385 at December 31, 2007, up 196 or 2.7% from 7,189 employees at December 31, 2006. In addition to merit and promotional salary adjustments, this category was also impacted by total performance-based incentive compensation which was approximately \$25.0 million in 2007, a \$38.3 million or 60.5% decrease from 2006 levels.

**Net occupancy and equipment expense** increased \$12.6 million, or 12.6% during 2007, driven by the net addition of 19 branches from 2006. Rent expense increased by approximately \$4.5 million and repairs and maintenance increased by \$2.1 million in 2007 as compared to 2006.

**Other operating expenses** increased \$21.4 million, or 10.0%, over 2006. The largest expense category increase was from repossession and recovery, which increased \$12.4 million, or 377.7%, in 2007 as compared to 2006 due primarily to losses and expenses associated with higher levels of foreclosed real estate.

The *efficiency ratio* (non-interest expense divided by the sum of federal taxable equivalent net interest income and non-interest income excluding net securities gains and losses) was 54.45% for 2007 compared to 51.18% in 2006. The net overhead ratio (non-interest expense less non-interest income -

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excluding net securities gains and losses divided by total average assets) was 1.43% for both 2007 and 2006.

**2006 vs. 2005**

Non-interest expense increased \$117.8 million, or 18.2%, in 2006 over 2005. This increase reflects the impact of share-based compensation, required by SFAS No. 123R Share-Based Payment, which was effective January 1, 2006. The increase for 2006, excluding share-based compensation and the impact of acquisitions completed in 2006, was 13.4%.

**Total salaries and other personnel expense** increased \$80.2 million or 21.6%. Incremental share-based compensation expense was \$17.0 million of the total increase. Approximately \$7.3 million was related to the net effect of acquisitions completed in 2006. The remaining net increase related to normal merit and promotional salary adjustments as well as increases in the total number of employees, and performance based incentive compensation.

**Net occupancy and equipment expense** increased \$9.7 million or 10.7% during 2006. Approximately \$2.2 million of the total increase was related to the net effect of acquisitions completed in 2006. Rent expense increased by approximately \$2.0 million during 2006. Depreciation increased by \$3.0 million.

**Other operating expenses** increased \$27.9 million, or 15.0%, over 2005. Approximately \$5.0 million of the total increase was related to the net effect of acquisitions completed in 2006. The largest expense category increase was from third party processing services. Excluding acquisitions, third party processing services increased \$9.2 million, or 31.1%, in 2006 compared to 2005.

**Investment Securities Available for Sale**

The investment securities portfolio consists principally of debt and equity securities classified as available for sale. Investment securities available for sale provide Synovus with a source of liquidity and a relatively stable source of income. The investment securities portfolio also provides management with a tool to balance the interest rate risk of its loan and deposit portfolios. At December 31, 2007, approximately \$3.1 billion of these investment securities were pledged as required collateral for certain deposits, securities sold under repurchase agreements, and FHLB advances. See Table 9 for maturity and average yield information of the investment securities available for sale portfolio.

The investment strategy focuses on the use of the investment securities portfolio to manage the interest rate risk created by the inherent mismatch between the loan and deposit portfolios. Synovus' interest rate risk management strategy during 2007 was to maintain a relatively neutral interest rate risk position. In coordination with this strategy, Synovus held portfolio duration at a relatively constant level for the year. The average duration of Synovus' investment securities portfolio was 3.49 years at December 31, 2007 compared to 3.69 years at December 31, 2006.

Due to strong loan demand at subsidiary banks, there is little need for investment securities to utilize unpledged deposits. As such, the investment securities are primarily U.S. Government agencies and Government agency sponsored mortgage-backed securities, both of which have a high degree of liquidity and limited credit risk. A mortgage-backed security depends on the underlying pool of mortgage loans to provide a cash flow pass-through of principal and interest. At December 31, 2007, all of the collateralized mortgage obligations and mortgage-backed pass-through securities held by Synovus were issued or backed by Federal agencies.

As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, the estimated fair value of investment securities available for sale as a percentage of their amortized cost was 100.7% and 99.3%, respectively. The investment securities available for sale portfolio had

gross unrealized gains of \$40.6 million and gross unrealized losses of \$14.5 million, for a net unrealized gain of \$26.1 million as of December 31, 2007. As of December 31, 2006, the investment securities available for sale portfolio had a net unrealized loss of \$24.8 million. Shareholders' equity included a net unrealized gain of \$16.0 million and a net unrealized loss of \$15.2 million on the available for sale portfolio as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

During 2007, the average balance of investment securities available for sale increased to \$3.60 billion, compared to \$3.21 billion in 2006. Synovus earned a taxable-equivalent rate of 4.90% and 4.45% for 2007 and 2006, respectively, on its investment securities available for sale portfolio. As of December 31, 2007 and 2006, average investment securities available for sale represented 12.4% and 12.1%, respectively, of average interest earning assets.

The calculation of weighted average yields for investment securities available for sale in Table 9 is based on the amortized cost and effective yields of each security. The yield on state and municipal securities is computed on a taxable-equivalent basis using the statutory federal income tax rate of 35%. Maturity information is presented based upon contractual maturity. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because issuers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

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**Table 8 Investment Securities Available for Sale***(In thousands)*

|   | <b>2007</b>         | <b>December 31,<br/>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities | <b>\$ 1,945,381</b> | 1,770,570                    | 1,624,612   |
| Mortgage-backed securities                          | <b>1,430,323</b>    | 1,275,358                    | 1,006,728   |
| State and municipal securities                      | <b>164,556</b>      | 196,185                      | 212,371     |
| Other investments                                   | <b>126,714</b>      | 110,244                      | 114,609     |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$ 3,666,974</b> | 3,352,357                    | 2,958,320   |

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**Table 9 Maturities and Average Yields of Investment Securities Available for Sale**  
(Dollars in thousands)

|  | <b>December 31, 2007</b>     |                |
|--|------------------------------|----------------|
|  | <b>Investment Securities</b> |                |
|  | <b>Available for Sale</b>    |                |
|  | <b>Estimated</b>             | <b>Average</b> |
|  | <b>Fair Value</b>            | <b>Yield</b>   |
| U.S. Treasury and U.S. Government agency securities: |                              |                |
| Within 1 year  | \$ 420,352                   | 4.00%          |
| 1 to 5 years   | 748,714                      | 4.80           |
| 5 to 10 years  | 546,154                      | 5.48           |
| More than 10 years                                   | 230,161                      | 5.66           |
| Total  | \$ 1,945,381                 | 4.91           |
| State and municipal securities:                      |                              |                |
| Within 1 year  | \$ 16,450                    | 6.59           |
| 1 to 5 years   | 63,345                       | 7.06           |
| 5 to 10 years  | 68,801                       | 7.31           |
| More than 10 years                                   | 15,960                       | 7.10           |
| Total  | \$ 164,556                   | 7.12           |
| Other investments:                                   |                              |                |
| Within 1 year  | \$ 848                       | 4.04           |
| 1 to 5 years   | 1,247                        | 6.24           |
| 5 to 10 years  | 1,800                        | 9.50           |
| More than 10 years                                   | 8,589                        | 8.86           |
| Total  | \$ 12,484                    | 8.36           |
| Equity securities                                    | \$ 114,230                   | 5.95           |
| Mortgage-backed securities                           | \$ 1,430,323                 | 4.95           |
| Total investment securities:                         |                              |                |
| Within 1 year  | \$ 437,650                   | 4.10           |
| 1 to 5 years   | 813,306                      | 4.98           |
| 5 to 10 years  | 616,755                      | 5.70           |
| More than 10 years                                   | 254,710                      | 5.86           |
| Equity securities                                    | 114,230                      | 5.95           |
| Mortgage-backed securities                           | 1,430,323                    | 4.95           |

|       |              |       |
|-------|--------------|-------|
| Total | \$ 3,666,974 | 5.07% |
|-------|--------------|-------|

**Loans**

Since lending activities are a significant source of revenue, our main objective is to adhere to sound lending practices. When analyzing prospective loans, management considers both interest rate and credit quality objectives in determining whether to extend a given loan and the appropriate pricing for that loan. Operating under a decentralized structure, management emphasizes lending in the local markets we

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serve. Synovus strives to maintain a diversified loan portfolio to spread risk and reduce exposure to economic downturns that may occur in different segments of the economy, geographic locations, or in particular industries. Table 10 illustrates that a significant portion of the loan portfolio is in the real estate sector. However, as discussed further, these loans are diversified by geography, industry and loan type. The loan policy discourages loans to highly speculative real estate developments, highly leveraged transactions, and other industries known for excessive risk.

*Portfolio Composition*

Synovus continues to operate its successful relationship banking model, and has continued to maintain and further develop a strong presence in each of its local markets. The loan portfolio spreads across five southeastern states with diverse economies. The Georgia banks represent a majority with 52.5% of the consolidated portfolio. South Carolina represents 15%, followed by Alabama with 14.1%, Florida with 13.6%, and Tennessee with 4.8%.

The commercial loan portfolio consists of commercial and industrial and real estate loans. These loans are granted primarily on the borrower's general credit standing and on the strength of the borrower's ability to generate repayment cash flows from income sources. Real estate construction and mortgage loans are secured by commercial real estate as well as 1-4 family residences, and represent extensions of credit used as interim or permanent financing of real estate properties.

The presentation of commercial loans extended for the purpose of financing owner-occupied properties has been separately classified in 2007. Prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the presentation adopted in 2007.

Total commercial real estate loans at December 31, 2007 were \$11.88 billion or 44.8% of the total loan portfolio. As shown on Table 15, the commercial real estate loan portfolio is diversified among various property types: investment properties, 1-4 family properties, and land acquisition.

The commercial real estate loan portfolio at December 31, 2007 and 2006 includes loans in the Atlanta market totaling \$3.06 billion and 2.94 billion, respectively, of which \$1.69 billion at each year end are 1-4 family property loans.

Included in the commercial category are \$4.24 billion in loans for the purpose of financing owner-occupied properties. The primary source of repayment on these loans is revenue generated from products or services offered by the business or organization. The secondary source of repayment on these loans is the real estate.

Total retail loans as of December 31, 2007 were \$4.0 billion. Retail loans consist of residential mortgages, home equity lines, credit card loans, and other installment loans. Synovus does not have indirect automobile loans. Retail lending decisions are made based upon the cash flow or earning power of the borrower that represents the primary source of repayment. However, in many lending transactions collateral is taken to provide an additional measure of security. Collateral securing these loans provides a secondary source of repayment in that the collateral may be liquidated. Synovus determines the need for collateral on a case-by-case basis. Factors considered include the purpose of the loan, current and prospective credit-worthiness of the customer, terms of the loan, and economic conditions.

*Portfolio Growth*

At December 31, 2007, total loans outstanding were \$26.50 billion, an increase of 7.5% over 2006. Average loans increased 9.5% or \$2.18 billion compared to 2006, representing 86.5% of average earning assets and 76.6% of average total assets. The year-over-year growth of \$1.84 billion was diverse due in part to retail and commercial strategies

which are essential for maintaining a balance in our growth. Growth in the commercial and industrial loan portfolio was 7.4% compared to a growth rate of 6.9% for the commercial real estate portfolio. The retail portfolio grew by 9.3% with most of the growth driven by home equity lines and consumer mortgages.

Total commercial real estate loans increased by \$769.8 million, or 6.9% from year-end 2006. The commercial real estate portfolio growth was led by strong growth in income-producing properties, as market conditions resulted in substantially slower growth in the 1-4 family residential properties.

Commercial and industrial loans increased by \$735.2 million or 7.4% from year-end 2006. Commercial, financial, and agricultural loans increased \$550.3 million or 9.4% over 2006. Owner occupied loans increased \$184.9 million or 4.6% from year end 2006.

Retail loans increased by \$338.5 million or 9.3% from year-end 2006. Real estate mortgage loans grew \$329.7 million, or 11.4%, driven by another year of strong growth in home equity loans. Home equity loans, our primary retail loan product, increased \$179.7 million or 13.2% compared to a year ago. Our home equity loan portfolio consists primarily of loans with strong credit scores, conservative debt-to-income ratios, and appropriate loan-to-value ratios. The utilization rate (total amount outstanding as a percentage of total available lines) of this portfolio at December 31, 2007 and 2006 was approximately 58% and 56%, respectively. These loans are primarily

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extended to customers who have an existing banking relationship with Synovus.

In addition to home equity lines, retail real estate mortgage also includes \$1.67 billion in mortgage loans at December 31, 2007. Mortgage loans grew by \$150.1 million or 9.9% from year end 2006. These loans are primarily extended to customers who have an existing banking relationship with Synovus.

Retail loans also include \$291.1 million in credit card loans at December 31, 2007. These loans grew by 5.4% since year end 2006. Consistent with prior years, credit card growth is driven by cross-selling efforts to existing customers.

Table 11 shows the maturity of selected loan categories as of December 31, 2007. Also provided are the amounts due after one year, classified according to the sensitivity in interest rates.

Actual repayments of loans may differ from the contractual maturities reflected in Table 11 because borrowers have the right to prepay obligations with and without prepayment penalties. Additionally, the refinancing of such loans or the potential delinquency of such loans could create differences between the contractual maturities and the actual repayment of such loans.

**Table 10 Loans by Type**

(Dollars in thousands)

|       | 2007         |       | 2006       |       | December 31,<br>2005 |       | 2004       |       | 2003      |
|-------|--------------|-------|------------|-------|----------------------|-------|------------|-------|-----------|
|       | Amount       | % *   | Amount     | % *   | Amount               | % *   | Amount     | % *   | Amount    |
| ed    | \$ 6,424,499 | 24.2% | 5,874,204  | 23.8% | 5,268,042            | 24.6% | 5,064,828  | 26.0% | 4,651,86  |
|       | 4,239,639    | 16.0  | 4,054,728  | 16.4  | 3,685,026            | 17.2  | 3,399,356  | 17.5  | 3,012,09  |
|       | 8,007,794    | 30.2  | 7,517,611  | 30.5  | 5,745,169            | 26.8  | 4,574,364  | 23.5  | 3,365,74  |
|       | 3,875,451    | 14.7  | 3,595,798  | 14.6  | 3,392,989            | 15.9  | 3,315,863  | 17.0  | 2,676,06  |
| cial  | 22,547,383   | 85.1  | 21,042,341 | 85.3  | 18,091,226           | 84.5  | 16,354,411 | 84.0  | 13,705,76 |
|       | 3,211,625    | 12.1  | 2,881,880  | 11.8  | 2,559,339            | 12.0  | 2,298,681  | 11.8  | 1,865,70  |
|       | 291,149      | 1.1   | 276,269    | 1.1   | 268,348              | 1.3   | 256,298    | 1.3   | 232,93    |
| other | 494,591      | 1.9   | 500,757    | 2.0   | 521,521              | 2.4   | 612,957    | 3.1   | 691,55    |
|       | 3,997,365    | 15.1  | 3,658,906  | 14.9  | 3,349,208            | 15.7  | 3,167,936  | 16.2  | 2,790,18  |

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|       |                      |              |            |       |            |       |            |       |           |
|-------|----------------------|--------------|------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|-----------|
| me    | <b>26,544,748</b>    |              | 24,701,247 |       | 21,440,434 |       | 19,522,347 |       | 16,495,94 |
|       | <b>(46,163)</b>      | <b>(0.2)</b> | (46,695)   | (0.2) | (48,087)   | (0.2) | (41,951)   | (0.2) | (31,03    |
| et of |                      |              |            |       |            |       |            |       |           |
| me    | <b>\$ 26,498,585</b> | <b>100.0</b> | 24,654,552 | 100.0 | 21,392,347 | 100.0 | 19,480,396 | 100.0 | 16,464,91 |

\* Loan balance in each category, expressed as a percentage of total loans, net of unearned income.

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**Table 11 Loan Maturity and Interest Rate Sensitivity**  
(In thousands)

|  | <b>December 31,<br/>2007</b> |   |                                |              |
|--|------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------|
|  | <b>One Year<br/>Or Less</b>  | <b>Over One<br/>Year<br/>Through Five<br/>Years</b> | <b>Over<br/>Five<br/>Years</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Selected loan categories:                    |                              |   |                                |              |
| Commercial, financial, and agricultural      | \$ 3,909,524                 | 2,185,545   | 329,431                        | 6,424,500    |
| Real estate-construction                     | 6,178,964                    | 1,711,637   | 117,194                        | 8,007,795    |
| Total  | \$ 10,088,488                | 3,897,182   | 446,625                        | 14,432,295   |
| Loans due after one year:                    |                              |   |                                |              |
| Having predetermined interest rates          |                              |   | \$ 1,874,112                   |              |
| Having floating or adjustable interest rates |                              |   | 2,469,695                      |              |
| Total  |                              |   | \$ 4,343,807                   |              |

**Provision and Allowance for Loan Losses**

Despite credit standards, internal controls, and a continuous loan review process, the inherent risk in the lending process results in periodic charge-offs. The provision for losses on loans is the charge to operating earnings necessary to maintain an adequate allowance for loan losses. Through the provision for loan losses, Synovus maintains an allowance for losses on loans that management believes is adequate to absorb probable losses within the loan portfolio. However, future additions to the allowance may be necessary based on changes in economic conditions, as well as changes in assumptions regarding a borrower's ability to pay and/or collateral values. In addition, various regulatory agencies, as an integral part of their examination procedures, periodically review each bank's allowance for loan losses. Based on their judgments about information available to them at the time of their examination, such agencies may require the banks to recognize additions to their allowance for loan losses.

*Allowance for Loan Losses Methodology*

During the second quarter of 2007, Synovus implemented certain refinements to its allowance for loan losses methodology, specifically the way that loss factors are derived. These refinements resulted in a reallocation of the factors used to determine the allocated and unallocated components of the allowance along with a more disaggregated approach to estimate the required allowance by loan portfolio classification. These changes did not have a significant impact on the total allowance for loan losses or provision for losses on loans upon implementation.

To determine the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses, a formal analysis is completed quarterly to assess the probable loss within the loan portfolio. This assessment, conducted by lending officers and each bank's loan administration department, as well as an independent holding company credit review function, includes analyses of historical performance, past due trends, the level of nonperforming loans, reviews of certain impaired loans, loan activity since the previous quarter, consideration of current economic conditions, and other pertinent information. Each loan is assigned a rating, either individually or as part of a homogeneous pool, based on an internally developed risk rating system. The resulting conclusions are reviewed and approved by senior management.

The allowance for loan losses consists of two components: the allocated and unallocated allowances. Both components of the allowance are available to cover inherent losses in the portfolio. The allocated component of the allowance is determined by type of loan within the commercial and retail portfolios. The allocated allowance for commercial loans includes an allowance for impaired loans which is determined as described in the following paragraph. Additionally, the allowance for commercial loans includes an allowance for non-impaired loans which is based on application of loss reserve factors to the components of the portfolio based on the assigned loan grades. The allocated allowance for retail loans is generally determined on pools of homogeneous loan categories. Loss percentage factors are based on the probable loss including qualitative factors. The probable loss considers the probability of default, the loss given default, and certain qualitative factors as determined by loan category and loan grade. The probability of default and loss given default are based on industry data. The qualitative factors consider credit concentrations, recent levels and trends in delinquencies and nonaccrual loans, and growth in the portfolio. The occurrence of certain events could result in changes to the loss factors.

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Accordingly, these loss factors are reviewed periodically and modified as necessary. The unallocated component of the allowance is established for losses that specifically exist in the remainder of the portfolio, but have yet to be identified. The unallocated component also compensates for the uncertainty in estimating loan losses. The unallocated component of the allowance is based upon economic factors, changes in the experience, ability, and depth of lending management and staff, and changes in lending policies and procedures, including underwriting standards. Certain macro-economic factors and changes in business conditions and developments could have a material impact on the collectibility of the overall portfolio.

Considering current information and events regarding the borrowers' ability to repay their obligations, management considers a loan to be impaired when the ultimate collectibility of all principal and interest amounts due, according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement, is in doubt. When a loan becomes impaired, management calculates the impairment based on the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate. If the loan is collateral dependent, the fair value of the collateral is used to measure the amount of impairment. The amount of impairment and any subsequent changes are recorded through a charge to earnings, as an adjustment to the allowance for loan losses. When management considers a loan, or a portion thereof, as uncollectible, it is charged against the allowance for loan losses. A majority of Synovus' impaired loans are collateral dependent. Accordingly, Synovus has determined the impairment on these loans based upon fair value estimates (net of selling costs) of the respective collateral. Any deficiency of the collateral coverage is charged against the allowance. The required allowance (or the actual losses) on these impaired loans could differ significantly if the ultimate fair value of the collateral is significantly different from the fair value estimates used by Synovus in estimating such potential losses.

A summary by loan category of loans charged off, recoveries of loans previously charged off, and additions to the allowance through provision expense is presented in Table 12.

Total net charge-offs were \$117.1 million or .46% of average loans for 2007 compared to \$60.2 million or .26% for 2006. Commercial real estate construction and mortgage represented \$72.2 million or 61.7% of total net charge offs for 2007. Net charge offs in these categories also increased by \$64.4 million from 2006 levels, representing more than the total increase of \$56.8 million in consolidated net charge offs for the year. The West Florida market (which includes Synovus banks in Pensacola, Valparaiso, Tampa Bay and Naples) and Atlanta market represented \$41.1 million and \$17.3 million, respectively, of the total real estate construction and mortgage net charge-offs for 2007. Retail real estate mortgage net charge-offs were \$6.1 million in 2007 compared to \$3.1 million in 2006.

**Allocation of the Allowance for Loan Losses**

As noted previously, during 2007 Synovus implemented certain refinements to its allowance for loan losses methodology, specifically the way that loss factors are derived. These refinements resulted in a reallocation of the factors used to determine the allocated and unallocated components of the allowance along with a more disaggregated approach to estimate the required allowance by loan portfolio classification. While these changes did not have a significant impact on the total allowance for loan losses or provision for losses on loans, the changes did impact the amounts allocated to each component of the portfolio.

Table 13 shows a five year comparison of the allocation of the allowance for loan losses. The allocation of the allowance for loan losses is based on several essential loss factors which could differ from the specific amounts or loan categories in which charge-offs may ultimately occur.

Commercial, financial and agricultural loans had an allocated allowance of \$94.7 million or 1.5% of loans in the respective category at December 31, 2007, compared to \$74.6 million or 1.3% at December 31, 2006. The increase in

the allocated allowance is due to loan growth of 9.4% from the previous year-end, negative credit migration, and reallocation of loss factors as a result of the methodology refinement.

At December 31, 2007, the allocated component of the allowance for loan losses related to commercial real estate construction loans was \$116.8 million, up 58.3% from \$73.8 million in 2006. As a percentage of commercial real estate construction loans, the allocated allowance in this category was 1.5% at December 31, 2007, compared to .98% the previous year-end. The increase is primarily due to negative credit migration in the 1-4 family construction and residential development portfolios within the Atlanta and West Florida markets.

The unallocated allowance is .14% of total loans and 10.3% of the total allowance at December 31, 2007. This compares to .26% of total loans and 20.0% of the total allowance at December 31, 2006. The decrease in the unallocated allowance during 2007 is primarily due to the aforementioned refinements to the allowance for loan losses methodology implemented during 2007. These refinements resulted in a reallocation of the factors used to determine the allocated and unallocated components of the allowance. Management believes that this level of unallocated allowance is adequate to provide for probable losses that are inherent in the loan portfolio and that have not been fully provided through the allocated allowance. Factors considered in determining the adequacy of the unallocated allowance include economic factors, changes in the experience, ability, and depth of lending management and staff, and changes in lending policies and procedures, including underwriting standards.



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**Table 12 Allowance for Loan Losses***(Dollars in thousands)*

|  |                   | <b>December 31,</b> |             |             |             |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | <b>2007</b>       | <b>2006</b>         | <b>2005</b> | <b>2004</b> | <b>2003</b> |
| Allowance for loan losses at beginning of year                   | <b>\$ 314,459</b> | 289,612             | 265,745     | 226,059     | 199,841     |
| Allowance for loan losses of acquired/divested subsidiaries, net |                   | 9,915               |             | 5,615       | 10,534      |
| Loans charged off:   |                   |                     |             |             |             |
| Commercial:  |                   |                     |             |             |             |
| Commercial, financial, and agricultural                          | <b>35,443</b>     | 44,676              | 38,087      | 30,697      | 37,535      |
| Owner occupied   | <b>1,347</b>      | 2,695               | 2,603       | 613         | 205         |
| Real estate construction   | <b>61,055</b>     | 3,899               | 1,367       | 383         | 2,918       |
| Real estate mortgage   | <b>13,318</b>     | 4,795               | 3,972       | 2,532       | 2,328       |
| Total commercial   | <b>111,163</b>    | 56,065              | 46,029      | 34,225      | 42,986      |
| Retail:  |                   |                     |             |             |             |
| Real estate mortgage   | <b>6,964</b>      | 3,604               | 4,393       | 2,327       | 2,972       |
| Retail loans credit card   | <b>8,172</b>      | 8,270               | 11,383      | 7,728       | 7,631       |
| Retail loans other   | <b>4,910</b>      | 4,867               | 5,421       | 6,688       | 10,616      |
| Total retail   | <b>20,046</b>     | 16,741              | 21,197      | 16,743      | 21,219      |
| Total loans charged off  | <b>131,209</b>    | 72,806              | 67,226      | 50,968      | 64,205      |
| Recoveries on loans previously charged off:                      |                   |                     |             |             |             |
| Commercial:  |                   |                     |             |             |             |
| Commercial, financial, and agricultural                          | <b>7,735</b>      | 7,304               | 3,890       | 5,334       | 3,454       |
| Owner occupied   | <b>119</b>        | 185                 | 331         | 712         | 167         |
| Real estate construction   | <b>1,713</b>      | 132                 | 50          | 172         | 189         |
| Real estate mortgage   | <b>471</b>        | 729                 | 152         | 114         | 158         |
| Total commercial   | <b>10,038</b>     | 8,350               | 4,423       | 6,332       | 3,968       |
| Retail:  |                   |                     |             |             |             |
| Real estate mortgage   | <b>894</b>        | 527                 | 511         | 521         | 330         |
| Retail loans credit card   | <b>1,669</b>      | 2,130               | 1,828       | 1,612       | 1,467       |
| Retail loans other   | <b>1,553</b>      | 1,583               | 1,799       | 1,255       | 2,347       |
| Total retail   | <b>4,116</b>      | 4,240               | 4,138       | 3,388       | 4,144       |
| Recoveries of loans previously charged off                       | <b>14,154</b>     | 12,590              | 8,561       | 9,720       | 8,112       |

|   |                   |         |         |         |         |
|---|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Net loans charged off   | <b>117,054</b>    | 60,216  | 58,665  | 41,248  | 56,093  |
| Provision expense   | <b>170,208</b>    | 75,148  | 82,532  | 75,319  | 71,777  |
| Allowance for loan losses at end of year  | <b>\$ 367,613</b> | 314,459 | 289,612 | 265,745 | 226,059 |
| Allowance for loan losses to loans, net of unearned income                          | <b>1.39%</b>      | 1.28    | 1.35    | 1.36    | 1.37    |
| Ratio of net loans charged off to average loans outstanding, net of unearned income | <b>0.46%</b>      | 0.26    | 0.29    | 0.23    | 0.36    |

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**Table 13 Allocation of Allowance for Loan Losses**  
(Dollars in thousands)

|   | 2007       |       | 2006    |       | December 31,<br>2005 |       | 2004    |       | 2003    |       |
|---|------------|-------|---------|-------|----------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
|   | Amount     | % *   | Amount  | % *   | Amount               | % *   | Amount  | % *   | Amount  | % *   |
| Commercial:                             |            |       |         |       |                      |       |         |       |         |       |
| Commercial, financial, and agricultural | \$ 94,741  | 24.2  | 74,649  | 23.8  | 83,995               | 24.6  | 77,293  | 25.9  | 66,418  | 28.8  |
| Owner occupied                          | 29,852     | 16.0  | 38,712  | 16.4  | 34,000               | 17.2  | 22,609  | 17.4  | 18,452  | 18.3  |
| Real estate construction                | 116,791    | 30.2  | 73,799  | 30.5  | 55,095               | 26.8  | 47,596  | 23.5  | 37,450  | 20.0  |
| Real estate mortgage                    | 41,737     | 14.7  | 40,283  | 14.6  | 40,108               | 15.9  | 46,973  | 17.1  | 35,159  | 16.3  |
| Commercial                              | 283,121    | 85.1  | 227,443 | 85.3  | 213,198              | 84.5  | 194,471 | 83.9  | 157,479 | 83.4  |
| Residential:                            |            |       |         |       |                      |       |         |       |         |       |
| Real estate mortgage                    | 27,817     | 12.1  | 6,625   | 11.8  | 6,445                | 12.0  | 5,335   | 11.8  | 4,032   | 11.1  |
| Real estate loans                       |            |       |         |       |                      |       |         |       |         |       |
| Debit card                              | 10,900     | 1.1   | 8,252   | 1.1   | 8,733                | 1.3   | 8,054   | 1.4   | 7,602   | 1.1   |
| Real estate loans other                 | 8,017      | 1.9   | 9,237   | 2.0   | 8,403                | 2.4   | 7,086   | 3.1   | 8,006   | 4.4   |
| Commercial retail                       | 46,734     | 15.1  | 24,114  | 14.9  | 23,581               | 15.7  | 20,475  | 16.3  | 19,640  | 17.1  |
| Unearned income allocated               |            | (0.2) |         | (0.2) |                      | (0.2) |         | (0.2) |         | (0.2) |
| Total allowance for loan losses         | \$ 367,613 | 100.0 | 314,459 | 100.0 | 289,612              | 100.0 | 265,745 | 100.0 | 226,059 | 100.0 |

\* Loan balance in each category expressed as a percentage of total loans, net of unearned income.

**Nonperforming Assets and Past Due Loans**

Nonperforming assets consist of loans classified as non-accrual or restructured, and real estate acquired through foreclosure. Accrual of interest on loans is discontinued when reasonable doubt exists as to the full collection of interest or principal, or when they become contractually in default for 90 days or more as to either interest or principal, unless they are both well-secured and in the process of collection. Non-accrual loans consist of those loans on which recognition of interest income has been discontinued. Loans may be restructured as to rate, maturity, or

other terms as determined on an individual credit basis. Demand and time loans, whether secured or unsecured, are generally placed on non-accrual status when principal and/or interest is 90 days or more past due, or earlier if it is known or expected that the collection of all principal and/or interest is unlikely. Loans past due 90 days or more, which based on a determination of collectibility are accruing interest, are classified as past due loans. Non-accrual loans are reduced by the direct application of interest and principal payments to loan principal, for accounting purposes only.

Nonperforming assets increased \$321 million to \$443.6 million at December 31, 2007 compared to year-end 2006. The nonperforming assets as a percentage of loans ratio increased to 1.67% as of December 31, 2007 compared to .50% as of year-end 2006. The increase in nonperforming assets was driven by residential real estate. Total nonperforming loans increased \$245.5 million or 254% over year end 2006. 1-4 family property loans represent 64.1% of total nonperforming loans at December 31, 2007. Additionally, land acquisition loans represent 10.4% of total nonperforming loans at December 31, 2007. Nonperforming loans within the 1-4 family property and land acquisition portfolio sectors are concentrated in the Atlanta and West Florida markets, which together represent 70.3% of total nonperforming loans at December 31, 2007. At December 31, 2007, nonperforming loans in the West Florida market totaled \$129.5 million while nonperforming loans in the Atlanta market totaled \$111.2 million. West Florida and Atlanta represent 30.8% of our total loan portfolio at December 31, 2007.

Due to deterioration in the 1-4 family construction and residential development portfolio sectors, Synovus is

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responding by increasing special asset resources and regional credit support. These resources are actively working through market issues that are occurring, primarily in the Atlanta and West Florida markets.

Other real estate totaled \$101.5 million at December 31, 2007, which represented a \$75.6 million increase over year end 2006. Residential real estate represented \$83.1 million of the total. The Atlanta and West Florida markets represented \$70.0 million of other real estate at December 31, 2007.

As a percentage of total loans outstanding, loans 90 days past due and still accruing interest were .13% at December 31, 2007. This compares to .14% at year-end 2006. These loans are in the process of collection, and management believes that sufficient collateral value securing these loans exists to cover contractual interest and principal payments.

Management continuously monitors non-performing and past due loans, to prevent further deterioration regarding the condition of these loans. Management believes non-performing loans and past due loans over 90 days and still accruing include all material loans where known information about possible credit problems of borrowers causes management to have serious doubts as to the collectibility of amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement.

**Table 14 Nonperforming Assets and Past Due Loans**

*(Dollars in thousands)*

|  |             | <b>December 31,</b> |             |             |             |
|--|-------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | <b>2007</b> | <b>2006</b>         | <b>2005</b> | <b>2004</b> | <b>2003</b> |
| Nonperforming loans  | \$ 342,082  | 96,622              | 82,175      | 80,456      | 67,442      |
| Other real estate  | 101,487     | 25,923              | 16,500      | 21,492      | 28,422      |
| Nonperforming assets   | \$ 443,569  | 122,545             | 98,675      | 101,948     | 95,864      |
| Loans 90 days past due and still accruing interest total outstanding | \$ 33,663   | 34,495              | 16,023      | 18,138      | 21,138      |
| As a % of loans  | 0.13%       | 0.14                | 0.07        | 0.09        | 0.13        |
| Allowance for loan losses  | \$ 367,613  | 314,459             | 289,612     | 265,745     | 226,059     |
| Allowance for loan losses as a % of loans                            | 1.39%       | 1.28                | 1.35        | 1.36        | 1.37        |
| As a % of loans and other real estate:                               |             |                     |             |             |             |
| Nonperforming loans  | 1.29%       | 0.39                | 0.38        | 0.41        | 0.41        |
| Other real estate  | 0.38%       | 0.11                | 0.08        | 0.11        | 0.17        |
| Nonperforming assets   | 1.67%       | 0.50                | 0.46        | 0.52        | 0.58        |
|  | 107.46%     | 325.45              | 352.43      | 330.30      | 335.19      |

Allowance for loan losses to nonperforming  
loans

Interest income on non-performing loans outstanding on December 31, 2007, that would have been recorded if the loans had been current and performed in accordance with their original terms was \$32.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2007. Interest income recorded on these loans for the year ended December 31, 2007 was \$19.9 million.

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**Table 15**

| Loan Type   | December 31, 2007   |   | December 31, 2006   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | Loans<br>as a<br>Percentage<br>of Total<br>Loans<br>Outstanding | Nonperforming<br>Loans as a<br>Percentage<br>of Total<br>Nonperforming<br>Loans | Loans<br>as a<br>Percentage<br>of Total<br>Loans<br>Outstanding | Nonperforming<br>Loans as a<br>Percentage<br>of Total<br>Nonperforming<br>Loans |
| <b>Commercial Real Estate</b>                                 |   |   |   |   |
| Multi-family  | 1.8%  | 0.5   | 2.0%  | 0.2   |
| Hotels  | 2.3   | 0.0   | 2.6   | 1.3   |
| Office buildings  | 3.6   | 1.8   | 3.6   | 4.5   |
| Shopping centers  | 3.2   | 0.2   | 3.1   |   |
| Commercial development  | 3.6   | 2.3   | 3.6   |   |
| Other investment property                                     | 2.6   | 1.3   | 1.8   | 0.1   |
| <b>Total Investment Properties</b>                            | <b>17.1</b>   | <b>6.1</b>  | 16.7  | 6.1   |
| 1-4 family construction                                       | 8.4   | 30.8  | 9.5   | 5.8   |
| 1-4 family perm/mini-perm                                     | 4.8   | 10.0  | 4.8   | 8.0   |
| Residential development                                       | 8.7   | 23.3  | 8.3   | 2.0   |
| <b>Total 1-4 Family Properties</b>                            | <b>21.9</b>   | <b>64.1</b>   | 22.6  | 15.8  |
| <b>Land Acquisition</b>                                       | <b>5.8</b>  | <b>10.4</b>   | 5.7   | 8.7   |
| <b>Total Commercial Real Estate</b>                           | <b>44.8</b>   | <b>80.6</b>   | 45.0  | 30.6  |
| <b>Commercial, Financial, Agricultural<br/>Owner-Occupied</b> | <b>24.3</b>   | <b>12.2</b>   | 23.8  | 43.3  |
|   | <b>16.0</b>   | <b>3.6</b>  | 16.5  | 16.0  |
| <b>Total Commercial and Industrial Loans</b>                  | <b>40.3</b>   | <b>15.8</b>   | 40.3  | 59.3  |
| Home Equity   | 5.8   | 1.1   | 5.5   | 3.5   |
| Consumer Mortgages  | 6.3   | 2.0   | 6.2   | 4.6   |
| Credit Card   | 1.1   |   | 1.1   |   |
| Other Retail Loans  | 1.9   | 0.5   | 2.1   | 2.0   |
| <b>Total Retail</b>   | <b>15.1</b>   | <b>3.6</b>  | 14.9  | 10.1  |
| <b>Unearned Income</b>  | <b>(0.2)</b>  |   | (0.2)   |   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100.0%</b>   | <b>100.0%</b>   | 100.0%  | 100.0   |

Table 15 shows the composition of the loan portfolio and nonperforming loans classified by loan type as of December 31, 2007 and 2006. The commercial real estate category is further segmented into the various property types determined in accordance with the purpose of the loan. Commercial real estate represents 44.8% of total loans and is diversified among many property types. These include commercial investment properties, 1-4 family properties, and land acquisition. Commercial investment properties, as shown in Table 15, represent 17.1% of total loans and 38% of total commercial real estate loans at December 31, 2007. No category of commercial investment properties exceeds 5% of the total loan portfolio. The greatest concentration in commercial real estate is 1-4 family properties, which include 1-4 family construction, commercial 1-4 family mortgages, and residential development loans. These properties are further diversified geographically; approximately 29% of 1-4 family property loans are secured by properties in the Atlanta market and approximately 12.9% are secured by properties in coastal markets. Land acquisition represents less than 6% of total loans.

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**Deposits**

Deposits provide the most significant funding source for interest earning assets. Table 16 shows the relative composition of average deposits for 2007, 2006, and 2005. Refer to Table 17 for the maturity distribution of time deposits of \$100,000 or more. These larger deposits represented 29.5% and 28.9% of total deposits at December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. Synovus continues to maintain a strong base of large denomination time deposits from customers within the local market areas of subsidiary banks. Synovus also utilizes national market brokered time deposits as a funding source while continuing to maintain and grow its local market large denomination time deposit base. Time deposits over \$100,000 at December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005 were \$7.35 billion, \$7.10 billion, and \$5.24 billion, respectively. Interest expense for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, and 2005, on these large denomination deposits was \$364.2 million, \$299.7 million, and \$171.7 million, respectively.

In 2007, Synovus continued to focus on growing in-market core deposits, particularly money market interest bearing and non-interest bearing demand deposits, with the objective of diversifying the composition of deposits and reducing reliance on wholesale funding. Core deposits (total deposits excluding brokered time deposits) grew 0.7% from December 31, 2006 to December 31, 2007. Core deposit growth for the year was primarily in money market and interest bearing demand deposit accounts. This growth was partially offset by the run-off of higher priced certificates of deposit. From December 31, 2005 to December 31, 2006, core deposits grew 16.2%, and grew 12.2% during the same period excluding the impact of acquisitions and brokered time deposits.

Average deposits increased \$2.04 billion or 9.0%, to \$24.82 billion in 2007 from \$22.78 billion in 2006. Average interest bearing deposits, which include interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, savings deposits, and time deposits, increased \$2.15 billion or 11.2% from 2006. Average non-interest bearing demand deposits decreased \$108.8 million or 3.1% during 2007. Average interest bearing deposits increased \$3.05 billion or 18.8% from 2005 to 2006, while average non-interest bearing demand deposits increased \$102.26 million, or 3.0%. See Table 4 for further information on average deposits, including average rates paid in 2007, 2006, and 2005.

**Table 16 Average Deposits**

| <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>               | <b>2007</b>       | <b>% *</b>  | <b>2006</b> | <b>% *</b> | <b>2005</b> | <b>% *</b> |
|---|-------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Non-interest bearing demand deposits        | \$ 3,409,506      | 13.7        | 3,518,312   | 15.4       | 3,416,053   | 17.4       |
| Interest bearing demand deposits            | 3,125,802         | 12.6        | 3,006,308   | 13.2       | 2,975,016   | 15.2       |
| Money market accounts                       | 7,714,360         | 31.1        | 6,515,079   | 28.6       | 5,203,104   | 26.5       |
| Savings deposits                            | 483,368           | 1.9         | 542,793     | 2.4        | 555,205     | 2.8        |
| Time deposits under \$100,000               | 2,940,919         | 11.9        | 2,791,759   | 12.3       | 2,294,158   | 11.7       |
| Time deposits \$100,000 and over            | 4,063,428         | 16.4        | 3,549,200   | 15.6       | 2,624,623   | 13.4       |
|   | <b>21,737,383</b> | <b>87.6</b> | 19,923,451  | 87.5       | 17,068,159  | 87.0       |
| Brokered time deposits (\$100,000 and over) | 3,084,006         | 12.4        | 2,855,191   | 12.5       | 2,557,660   | 13.0       |

|                        |               |       |            |       |            |       |
|------------------------|---------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| Total average deposits | \$ 24,821,389 | 100.0 | 22,778,642 | 100.0 | 19,625,819 | 100.0 |
|------------------------|---------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|

\* Average deposits balance in each category expressed as percentage of total average deposits.

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**Table 17 Maturity Distribution of Time Deposits of \$100,000 or More**

| <i>(In thousands)</i>           | <b>December 31, 2007</b> |           |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 3 months or less                | \$                       | 2,473,842 |
| Over 3 months through 6 months  |                          | 2,370,033 |
| Over 6 months through 12 months |                          | 1,597,767 |
| Over 12 months                  |                          | 914,823   |
| Total outstanding               | \$                       | 7,356,465 |

**Market Risk And Interest Rate Sensitivity**

Market risk reflects the risk of economic loss resulting from adverse changes in market prices and interest rates. This risk of loss can be reflected in either diminished current market values or reduced current and potential net income. Synovus' most significant market risk is interest rate risk. This risk arises primarily from Synovus' core community banking activities of extending loans and accepting deposits.

Managing interest rate risk is a primary goal of the asset liability management function. Synovus attempts to achieve consistent growth in net interest income while limiting volatility arising from changes in interest rates. Synovus seeks to accomplish this goal by balancing the maturity and repricing characteristics of assets and liabilities along with the selective use of derivative instruments. Synovus manages its exposure to fluctuations in interest rates through policies established by its Asset Liability Management Committee (ALCO) and approved by the Board of Directors. ALCO meets periodically and has responsibility for developing asset liability management policies, reviewing the interest rate sensitivity of the Company, and developing and implementing strategies to improve balance sheet structure and interest rate risk positioning.

Simulation modeling is the primary tool used by Synovus to measure its interest rate sensitivity. On at least a quarterly basis, the following twenty-four month time period is simulated to determine a baseline net interest income forecast and the sensitivity of this forecast to changes in interest rates. The baseline forecast assumes an unchanged or flat interest rate environment. These simulations include all of our earning assets, liabilities and derivative instruments. Forecasted balance sheet changes, primarily reflecting loan and deposit growth expectations, are included in the periods modeled. Projected rates for new loans and deposits are based on management's outlook and local market conditions.

The magnitude and velocity of rate changes among the various asset and liability groups exhibit different characteristics for each possible interest rate scenario; additionally, customer loan and deposit preferences can vary in response to changing interest rates. Simulation modeling enables Synovus to capture the effect of these differences. Synovus is also able to model expected changes in the shape of interest rate yield curves for each rate scenario. Simulation also enables Synovus to capture the effect of expected prepayment level changes on selected assets and liabilities subject to prepayment.

Synovus entered 2007 with a neutral to moderately asset sensitive interest rate risk positioning. Asset sensitivity was generally limited to significant interest rate movements of 200 basis points or more. This positioning would be expected to result in an increase in net interest income in a rising interest rate environment and a decrease in net interest income in a declining rate environment. During 2007 Synovus maintained a relatively neutral interest rate risk position. The year-end 2007 position indicates a moderately asset sensitive position, primarily in significantly declining rate scenarios. This position is due to the lower current level of interest rates and their impact on the ability to reduce rates on low cost deposits due to implied floors on these deposit rates. An expectation of higher prepayment levels on fixed rate assets also contributes to this asset sensitive position.

Synovus rate sensitivity position is indicated by selected results of net interest income simulations. In these simulations, Synovus has modeled the impact of a gradual increase and decrease in short-term interest rates of 100 and 200 basis points to determine the sensitivity of net interest income for the next twelve months. As illustrated in Table 18, the net interest income sensitivity model indicates that, compared with a net interest income forecast assuming stable rates, net interest income is projected to decrease by 0.1% and increase by 1.5% if interest rates increased by 100 and 200 basis points, respectively, and decrease by 1.5% and 2.7% if interest rates decreased by 100 and 200 basis points, respectively. These changes were within Synovus policy limit of a maximum 5% negative change.

The actual realized change in net interest income would depend on several factors. These factors include, but are not limited to, actual realized growth in asset and liability volumes, as well as the mix experienced over these time horizons. Market conditions and their resulting impact on loan, deposit, and wholesale funding pricing would also be a primary determinant in the realized level of net interest income.

Synovus is also subject to market risk in certain of its fee income business lines. Financial management services revenues, which include trust, brokerage, and financial planning fees, can be affected by risk in the securities markets, primarily

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the equity securities market. A significant portion of the fees in this unit are determined based upon a percentage of asset values. Weaker securities markets and lower equity values could have an adverse impact on the fees generated by these operations. Mortgage banking income is also subject to market risk. Mortgage loan originations are sensitive to levels of mortgage interest rates and therefore, mortgage revenue could be negatively impacted during a period of rising interest rates. The extension of commitments to customers to fund mortgage loans also subjects Synovus to market risk. This risk is primarily created by the time period between making the commitment and closing and delivering the loan. Synovus seeks to minimize this exposure by utilizing various risk management tools, the primary of which are forward sales commitments and best efforts commitments.

**Table 18 Twelve Month Net Interest Income Sensitivity**

| <b>Change in<br/>Short-Term<br/>Interest Rates<br/>(In basis points)</b> | <b>Estimated change in Net Interest Income<br/>As of<br/>December 31,<br/>2007</b> | <b>As of<br/>December 31,<br/>2006</b> |
|--|--|--|
| <b>+ 200</b>   | <b>1.5%</b>  | <b>2.5%</b>                            |
| <b>+ 100</b>   | <b>(0.1)%</b>  | <b>0.3%</b>                            |
| <b>Flat</b>  |  |  |
| <b>- 100</b>   | <b>(1.5)%</b>  | <b>(1.0)%</b>                          |
| <b>- 200</b>   | <b>(2.7)%</b>  | <b>(2.7)%</b>                          |

**Derivative Instruments for Interest Rate Risk Management**

As part of its overall interest rate risk management activities, Synovus utilizes derivative instruments to manage its exposure to various types of interest rate risks. The primary instruments utilized by Synovus are interest rate swaps where Synovus receives a fixed rate of interest and pays a floating rate tied to either the prime rate or LIBOR. These swaps are utilized to hedge the variability of cash flows or fair values of on-balance sheet assets and liabilities.

Interest rate derivative contracts utilized by Synovus include end-user hedges, all of which are designated as hedging specific assets or liabilities. These hedges are executed and managed in coordination with the overall interest rate risk management function. Management believes that the utilization of these instruments provides greater financial flexibility and efficiency in managing interest rate risk.

The notional amount of interest rate swap contracts utilized by Synovus as part of its overall interest rate risk management activities as of December 31, 2007 and 2006 was \$2.76 billion and \$2.78 billion, respectively. The notional amounts represent the amount on which calculations of interest payments to be exchanged are based.

Entering into interest rate derivatives contracts potentially exposes Synovus to the risk of counterparties' failure to fulfill their legal obligations including, but not limited to, potential amounts due or payable under each derivative contract. This credit risk is normally a small percentage of the notional amount and fluctuates based on changes in interest rates. Synovus analyzes and approves credit risk for all potential derivative counterparties prior to execution of any derivative transaction. Synovus minimizes credit risk by dealing with highly-rated counterparties, and by obtaining collateralization for exposures above certain predetermined limits.

A summary of these interest rate contracts and their terms at December 31, 2007 and 2006 is shown in Table 19. The fair value (net unrealized gains and losses) of these contracts has been recorded on the consolidated balance sheets.

During 2007, a total of \$1.8 billion in notional amounts of interest rate contracts matured and \$185 million were terminated. A total notional amount of \$270 million matured in 2006 and \$50 million were terminated. Interest rate contracts contributed additional net interest expense of \$4.2 million and a one basis point decrease in the net interest margin for 2007. For 2006, interest rate contracts contributed an increase in net interest expense of \$8.0 million and a three basis point decrease to the net interest margin.

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**Table 19 Interest Rate Contracts**

|                               | Notional            | Weighted<br>Average<br>Receive | Weighted<br>Average<br>Pay | Weighted<br>Average<br>Maturity<br>In<br>Months | Unrealized<br>Gains | Unrealized<br>Losses | Net<br>Unrealized<br>Gains<br>(Losses) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------|--|
| <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i> | Amount              | Rate                           | Rate *                     |   |                     |                      |  |
| <b>December 31, 2007</b>      |                     |                                |                            |   |                     |                      |  |
| <b>Receive fixed swaps:</b>   |                     |                                |                            |   |                     |                      |  |
| Fair value hedges             | \$ 1,957,500        | 4.97%                          | 4.87%                      | 25  | \$ 20,349           | (2,268)              | 18,081                                 |
| Cash flow hedges              | 800,000             | 8.06%                          | 7.25%                      | 34  | 32,340              |                      | 32,340                                 |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>\$ 2,757,500</b> | <b>5.87%</b>                   | <b>5.56%</b>               | <b>28</b>                                       | <b>\$ 52,689</b>    | <b>(2,268)</b>       | <b>50,421</b>                          |
| <b>December 31, 2006</b>      |                     |                                |                            |   |                     |                      |  |
| <b>Receive fixed swaps:</b>   |                     |                                |                            |   |                     |                      |  |
| Fair value hedges             | \$ 2,082,500        | 4.91%                          | 5.11%                      | 31  | \$ 32,686           | (14,787)             | 17,899                                 |
| Cash flow hedges              | 700,000             | 7.91%                          | 8.25%                      | 38  | 4,265               | (2,253)              | 2,012                                  |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>\$ 2,782,500</b> | <b>5.66%</b>                   | <b>5.90%</b>               | <b>32</b>                                       | <b>\$ 36,951</b>    | <b>(17,040)</b>      | <b>19,911</b>                          |

\* Variable pay rate based upon contract rates in effect at December 31, 2007 and 2006

**Liquidity**

Liquidity represents the availability of funding to meet the needs of depositors, borrowers, and creditors at a reasonable cost, on a timely basis, and without adverse consequences. Synovus' strong capital position, solid core deposit base, and excellent credit ratings are the cornerstones of its liquidity management activities.

The Synovus Asset Liability Management Committee (ALCO), operating under liquidity and funding policies approved by the Board of Directors, actively analyzes and manages the liquidity position in coordination with the subsidiary banks. These subsidiaries maintain liquidity in the form of cash, investment securities, and cash derived from prepayments and maturities of both their investment and loan portfolios. Liquidity is also enhanced by the acquisition of new deposits. The subsidiary banks monitor deposit flows and evaluate alternate pricing structures to retain and grow deposits. Liquidity is also enhanced by the subsidiary banks' strong reputation in the national deposit markets. This reputation allows subsidiary banks to issue longer-term certificates of deposit across a broad geographic base to enhance their liquidity and funding positions. An additional liquidity source for selected Synovus subsidiary banks is available through their membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank System. At year-end 2007, most Synovus affiliate banks had access to incremental funding, subject to available collateral and Federal Home Loan Bank credit policies, through utilization of Federal Home Loan Bank advances.

Certain Synovus subsidiary banks have access to overnight federal funds lines with various financial institutions. These lines allow Synovus banks to meet immediate liquidity needs if required. These lines total approximately

\$3.7 billion and are extended at the ongoing discretion of the correspondent financial institutions. Synovus' strong credit rating is a primary determinant in the continued availability of these lines. Should Synovus' credit rating decline to a level below investment grade, these lines' availability would be significantly diminished. For this reason, selected Synovus banks maintain additional sources of liquidity including collateralized borrowing accounts with the Federal Reserve Bank.

The Parent Company requires cash for various operating needs including dividends to shareholders, business combinations, capital infusions into subsidiaries, the servicing of debt, and the payment of general corporate expenses. The primary source of liquidity for the Parent Company is dividends and management fees from the subsidiary banks. As a short-term liquidity source, the Parent Company has access to a \$25 million line of credit with an unaffiliated banking organization. Synovus had no borrowings outstanding on this line of credit at December 31, 2007. The Parent Company also enjoys a solid reputation and credit standing in the capital markets and has the ability to raise substantial amounts of funds in the form of either short or long-term borrowings. Maintaining adequate credit ratings is essential to Synovus' continued cost-effective access to these capital market funding sources.

The consolidated statements of cash flows detail cash flows from operating, investing, and financing activities. Net



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cash provided by operating activities was \$665.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2007, while financing activities provided \$2.01 billion. Investing activities used \$2.68 billion of these amounts, resulting in a net decrease in cash and cash equivalents of \$3.1 million. Cash of \$210.5 million was retained by TSYS as a result of the tax-free spin-off of TSYS to Synovus shareholders on December 31, 2007.

Management is not aware of any trends, events, or uncertainties that will have, or that are reasonably likely to have a material impact on liquidity, capital resources, or operations. Further, management is not aware of any current recommendations by regulatory agencies which, if they were to be implemented, would have such effect. Table 20 sets forth certain information about contractual cash obligations at December 31, 2007.

**Table 20 Contractual Cash Obligations**

| <i>(In thousands)</i>              | <b>1 Year or<br/>Less</b> | <b>Payments Due After December 31, 2007</b> |                    |                          | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
|                                    |                           | <b>Over 1 -<br/>3 Years</b>                 | <b>4 - 5 Years</b> | <b>After<br/>5 Years</b> |              |
| Long-term debt                     | \$ 399,046                | 637,774                                     | 70,500             | 764,042                  | 1,871,362    |
| Capital lease obligations          | 333                       | 899   | 820                | 5,079                    | 7,131        |
| Operating leases                   | 18,450                    | 33,309                                      | 30,640             | 116,395                  | 198,794      |
| Total contractual cash obligations | \$ 417,829                | 671,982                                     | 101,960            | 885,516                  | 2,077,287    |

**Capital Resources**

Synovus has always placed great emphasis on maintaining a strong capital base and continues to exceed regulatory capital requirements. Management is committed to maintaining a capital level sufficient to assure shareholders, customers, and regulators that Synovus is financially sound, and to enable Synovus to sustain an appropriate degree of leverage to provide a desirable level of profitability. Synovus has the ability to generate internal capital growth sufficient to support the asset growth it has experienced. Total shareholders' equity of \$3.4 billion represented 10.42% of total assets at December 31, 2007.

As noted in the section titled, Discontinued Operations, Synovus completed the tax-free spin-off of TSYS to Synovus shareholders on December 31, 2007.

The completion of the spin-off resulted in a reduction in total shareholder's equity at December 31, 2007 of \$684.0 million. Accordingly, the decrease in regulatory capital and respective ratios at December 31, 2007 compared to December 31, 2006 is primarily due to the decrease in shareholder's equity resulting from the spin-off.

The regulatory banking agencies use a risk-adjusted calculation to aid them in their determination of capital adequacy by weighting assets based on the credit risk associated with on- and off-balance sheet assets. The majority of these risk-weighted assets for Synovus are on-balance sheet assets in the form of loans. Approximately 12.5% of risk-weighted assets are considered off-balance sheet assets and primarily consist of letters of credit and loan commitments that Synovus enters into in the normal course of business. Capital is categorized into two types: Tier I and Tier II. As a financial holding company, Synovus and its subsidiary banks are required to maintain capital levels

required for a well-capitalized institution, as defined in the regulations. The regulatory agencies define a well-capitalized bank as one that has a leverage ratio of at least 5%, a Tier I capital ratio of at least 6%, and a total risk-based capital ratio of at least 10%. At December 31, 2007, Synovus and all subsidiary banks were in excess of the minimum capital requirements with a consolidated Tier I capital ratio of 9.11% and a total risk-based capital ratio of 12.66%, compared to Tier I and total risk-based capital ratios of 10.87% and 14.43%, respectively, in 2006 as shown in Table 21. The decline in capital and respective capital ratios from 2006 to 2007 was primarily due to the spin-off of TSYS.

In addition to the risk-based capital standards, a minimum leverage ratio of 4% is required for the highest-rated financial holding companies that are not undertaking significant expansion programs. An additional 1% to 2% may be required for other companies, depending upon their regulatory ratings and expansion plans. The leverage ratio is defined as Tier I capital divided by quarterly average assets, net of certain intangibles. Synovus had a leverage ratio of 8.65% at December 31, 2007 and 10.64% at December 31, 2006, significantly exceeding regulatory requirements.

As of February 15, 2008, there were approximately 24,609 shareholders of record of Synovus common stock, some of which are holders in nominee name for the benefit of a number of different shareholders. Table 22 displays high and low stock price quotations of Synovus common stock which are based on actual transactions.

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**Table 21 Capital Ratios**

| <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>   | <b>December 31,</b>  |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
|   | <b>2007</b>          | <b>2006</b>          |
| Tier I capital:   |                      |                      |
| Shareholders' equity  | \$ 3,441,590         | \$ 3,708,650         |
| Net unrealized gains (losses) on investment securities available for sale | (16,024)             | 15,227               |
| Net unrealized gains (losses) on cash flow hedges                         | (15,415)             | 4,410                |
| Disallowed intangibles  | (547,278)            | (733,129)            |
| Disallowed deferred tax assets  | (6,862)              | (5,935)              |
| Other deductions from Tier 1 Capital                                      | (4,464)              | (2,855)              |
| Deferred tax liability on core deposit premium related to acquisitions    | 8,776                | 11,035               |
| Minority interest   |                      | 236,709              |
| Qualifying trust preferred securities                                     | 10,235               | 20,491               |
| <b>Total Tier I capital</b>   | <b>2,870,558</b>     | <b>3,254,603</b>     |
| Tier II capital:  |                      |                      |
| Qualifying subordinated debt  | 750,000              | 750,000              |
| Eligible portion of the allowance for loan losses                         | 367,613              | 314,459              |
| <b>Total Tier II capital</b>  | <b>1,117,613</b>     | <b>1,064,459</b>     |
| <b>Total risk-based capital</b>   | <b>\$ 3,988,171</b>  | <b>\$ 4,319,062</b>  |
| <b>Total risk-adjusted assets</b>   | <b>\$ 31,505,022</b> | <b>\$ 29,930,284</b> |
| Tier I capital ratio  | 9.11%                | 10.87%               |
| Total risk-based capital ratio  | 12.66                | 14.43                |
| Leverage ratio  | 8.65                 | 10.64                |
| Regulatory minimums (for well-capitalized status):                        |                      |                      |
| Tier I capital ratio  | 6.00%                | 6.00%                |
| Total risk-based capital ratio  | 10.00                | 10.00                |
| Leverage ratio  | 5.00                 | 5.00                 |

**Market and Stock Price Information**

Table 22 presents stock price information for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 based on the closing stock price as reported on the New York Stock Exchange.

**Table 22 Stock Price Information**

|   | <b>High</b>     | <b>Low</b>   |
|---|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>2007</b>                             |                 |              |
| <b>Quarter ended December 31, 2007</b>  | <b>\$ 28.94</b> | <b>22.54</b> |
| <b>Quarter ended September 30, 2007</b> | <b>31.47</b>    | <b>26.42</b> |
| <b>Quarter ended June 30, 2007</b>      | <b>33.31</b>    | <b>30.70</b> |
| <b>Quarter ended March 31, 2007</b>     | <b>33.39</b>    | <b>30.61</b> |
| <b>2006</b>                             |                 |              |
| Quarter ended December 31, 2006         | \$ 30.99        | 28.99        |
| Quarter ended September 30, 2006        | 29.73           | 25.83        |
| Quarter ended June 30, 2006             | 28.00           | 25.77        |
| Quarter ended March 31, 2006            | 28.61           | 26.51        |

### **Dividends**

Synovus (and its predecessor companies) has paid cash dividends on its common stock in every year since 1891. Synovus dividend payout ratio was 51.25%, 40.99%, and 44.51%, in 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively. Due to the TSYS spin-off, Synovus intends to adjust its cash dividends so that Synovus shareholders who retain their TSYS shares will initially receive, in the aggregate, the same cash dividends per share that existed before the spin-off. As a result, Synovus intends to lower its annual cash dividends per share in 2008 from \$0.82 to \$0.68 and TSYS intends for its annual dividend per share to remain at \$0.28, which translates to an aggregate expected \$0.82 dividend per share in 2008 to Synovus shareholders who retain their TSYS shares. Decisions regarding future dividend will be made independently by the Synovus Board of Directors and the TSYS Board of Directors for their respective companies. In addition to the Company's general financial condition, Synovus Board of Directors considers other factors in determining the amount of dividends to be paid each year. These factors include consideration of capital and liquidity needs based on projected balance sheet growth, acquisition activity, earnings growth, as well as the capital position.

Table 23 presents information regarding dividends declared during the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006.

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**Table 23 Dividends**

| <b>Date Declared</b>     | <b>Date Paid</b>       |    | <b>Per Share<br/>Amount</b> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| <b>2007</b>              |                        |    |                             |
| <b>November 30, 2007</b> | <b>January 2, 2008</b> | \$ | <b>.2050</b>                |
| <b>September 5, 2007</b> | <b>October 1, 2007</b> |    | <b>.2050</b>                |
| <b>May 24, 2007</b>      | <b>July 2, 2007</b>    |    | <b>.2050</b>                |
| <b>March 8, 2007</b>     | <b>April 2, 2007</b>   |    | <b>.2050</b>                |
| <b>2006</b>              |                        |    |                             |
| November 21, 2006        | January 2, 2007        | \$ | .1950                       |
| August 15, 2006          | October 2, 2006        |    | .1950                       |
| May 16, 2006             | July 1, 2006           |    | .1950                       |
| February 22, 2006        | April 1, 2006          |    | .1950                       |

**Commitments and Contingencies**

Synovus believes it has sufficient capital, liquidity, and future cash flows from operations to meet operating needs over the next year. Table 24 and Note 9 to the consolidated financial statements provide additional information on short-term and long-term borrowings.

Synovus and its subsidiaries are subject to various legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of its business. In the ordinary course of business, Synovus and its subsidiaries are also subject to regulatory examinations, information gathering requests, inquiries and investigations. Synovus establishes accruals for litigation and regulatory matters when those matters present loss contingencies that Synovus determines to be both probable and reasonably estimable. In the pending regulatory matter described below, loss contingencies are not reasonably estimable in the view of management, and, accordingly, a reserve has not been established for this matter. Based on current knowledge, advice of counsel and available insurance coverage, management does not believe that the eventual outcome of pending litigation and/or regulatory matters, including the pending regulatory matter described below, will have a material adverse effect on Synovus' consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. However, in the event of unexpected future developments, it is possible that the ultimate resolution of these matters, if unfavorable, may be material to Synovus' results of operations for any particular period.

The FDIC is currently conducting an investigation of the policies, practices and procedures used by Columbus Bank and Trust Company (CB&T), a wholly owned banking subsidiary of Synovus, in connection with the credit card programs offered pursuant to its Affinity Agreement with CompuCredit Corporation (CompuCredit). CB&T issues credit cards that are marketed and serviced by CompuCredit pursuant to the Affinity Agreement. A provision of the Affinity Agreement generally requires CompuCredit to indemnify CB&T for losses incurred as a result of the failure of credit card programs offered pursuant to the Agreement to comply with applicable law. Synovus is subject to a per event 10% share of any such loss, but Synovus' 10% payment obligation is limited to a cumulative total of \$2 million for all losses incurred.

CB&T is cooperating with the FDIC's investigation. Synovus cannot predict the eventual outcome of the FDIC's investigation; however, the investigation has resulted in material changes to CB&T's policies, practices and procedures in connection with the credit card programs offered pursuant to the Affinity Agreement. It is likely that the investigation may result in further changes to CB&T's policies, practices and procedures in connection with the credit card programs offered pursuant to the Affinity Agreement and the imposition of one or more regulatory sanctions, including a civil money penalty and/or restitution of certain fees to affected cardholders. At this time, management of Synovus does not expect the ultimate resolution of the investigation to have a material adverse effect on its consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows primarily due to the expected performance by CompuCredit of its indemnification obligations described in the paragraph above.

Synovus is a member of the Visa USA network. On October 2, 2007, the Visa organization of affiliated entities completed a series of restructuring transactions which resulted in the combination of certain of Visa's affiliated operating companies, including Visa USA into Visa, Inc. Visa's 2007 restructuring was part of a series of steps toward Visa, Inc.'s planned initial public offering (IPO). Visa, Inc. intends to use the IPO proceeds for a variety of purposes including, but not limited to, redemption of a portion of Visa members' interests and establishment of an escrow fund for judgments and/or settlements of certain Visa USA related litigation (the "covered litigation").

As a result of Visa's reorganization, Synovus exchanged its membership interest in Visa USA for an equity interest in Visa, Inc. The equity interest will initially be comprised of Class USA shares, which are subject to a true-up process based on performance against projections for the trailing four quarters reported in Visa's final and effective registration statement on Form S-1. Subsequent to the true-up process, Class USA shares will be converted to Class B shares, which will be subject to transfer restrictions until the latter of (a) the third anniversary of the effective date of Visa's IPO, or (b) the date

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## Financial Review ==

on which all of Visa's covered litigation (as defined above) has been resolved.

Synovus has assigned no value to its Visa shares. Should Visa complete its IPO as planned, Synovus will recognize a gain upon the redemption of Class B shares by Visa, and will subsequently recognize a gain upon release from transfer restrictions on the remainder of its Class B shares. The amount and timing of potential gains is not determinable at this time.

Prior to Visa's October 2, 2007 restructuring, Visa USA members approved Visa's restructuring plan, including its retrospective responsibility plan, which included confirmation, by Visa USA members, of their obligation under Visa USA bylaws to indemnify Visa, Inc. for potential future settlement of, or judgments resulting from the covered litigation. Synovus' indemnification obligation is limited to its membership proportion of Visa USA. On November 7, 2007, Visa announced the settlement of its American Express litigation, and disclosed in its annual report to the SEC on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2007 that Visa had accrued a contingent liability for the estimated settlement of its Discover litigation. Accordingly, during 2007, Synovus has recognized a contingent liability in the amount of \$36.8 million as an estimate for its membership proportion of the American Express settlement and the potential Discover settlement, as well as its membership proportion of the amount that Synovus estimates will be required for Visa to settle the remaining covered litigation. The timing for ultimate settlement of all covered litigation is not determinable at this time.

**Short-Term Borrowings**

The following table sets forth certain information regarding federal funds purchased and securities sold under repurchase agreements, the principal components of short-term borrowings.

**Table 24 Short-Term Borrowings**

| <i>(Dollars in thousands)</i>                  | <b>2007</b>         | <b>2006</b> | <b>2005</b> |
|--|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Balance at December 31                         | \$ <b>2,319,412</b> | 1,582,487   | 1,300,379   |
| Weighted average interest rate at December 31  | <b>3.81%</b>        | 4.97%       | 3.76%       |
| Maximum month end balance during the year      | \$ <b>2,767,055</b> | 1,986,919   | 2,026,224   |
| Average amount outstanding during the year     | \$ <b>1,957,990</b> | 1,578,163   | 1,197,342   |
| Weighted average interest rate during the year | <b>4.75%</b>        | 4.62%       | 2.87%       |

**Income Tax Expense**

Income taxes based on income from continuing operations were \$184.7 million in 2007, down from \$230.4 million in 2006, and \$204.3 million in 2005. The effective income tax rate was 35.0%, 35.7%, and 36.3%, in 2007, 2006, and 2005, respectively. See Note 17 to the consolidated financial statements for a detailed analysis of income taxes.

Synovus files income tax returns in the U.S. Federal jurisdiction and various state and foreign jurisdictions. Synovus' U.S. Federal income tax return is filed on a consolidated basis. Most state and foreign income tax returns are filed on a separate entity basis. Synovus is no longer subject to U.S. Federal income tax examinations by the IRS for years before 2004, and with few exceptions is no longer subject to income tax examinations from state or foreign authorities for years before 2001.

In the normal course of business, Synovus is subject to examinations from various tax authorities. These examinations may alter the timing or amount of taxable income or deductions or the allocation of income among tax jurisdictions. During the year ended December 31, 2007, Synovus decreased its liability for prior year uncertain income tax positions by a net amount of approximately \$4.1 million (net of the Federal tax effect) including \$1.4 million in interest. This decrease resulted from the completion of a routine state tax examination, expiring state audit period statutes and other new information impacting the potential resolution of material uncertain tax positions subsequent to the adoption of FIN 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 .

The total liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 at December 31, 2007 is \$5.4 million. Synovus is not able to reasonably estimate the amount by which the liability will increase or decrease over time; however, at this time, Synovus does not expect a significant payment related to these obligations within the next year.

Synovus continually monitors and evaluates the potential impact of current events and circumstances on the estimates and assumptions used in the analysis of its income tax positions, and, accordingly, Synovus effective tax rate may fluctuate in the future.

### **Inflation**

Inflation has an important impact on the growth of total assets in the banking industry and may create a need to increase equity capital at higher than normal rates in order to maintain an appropriate equity to assets ratio. Synovus has been able to maintain a high level of equity through retention of an appropriate percentage of its net income. Synovus deals with the effects of inflation by managing its interest rate sensitivity position through its asset/liability management



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## Financial Review ==

program and by periodically adjusting its pricing of services and banking products to take into consideration current costs.

**Parent Company**

The Parent Company's assets, primarily its investment in subsidiaries, are funded, for the most part, by shareholders equity. It also utilizes short-term and long-term debt. The Parent Company is responsible for providing the necessary funds to strengthen the capital of its subsidiaries, acquire new businesses, fund internal growth, pay corporate operating expenses, and pay dividends to its shareholders. These operations are funded by dividends and fees received from subsidiaries, and borrowings from outside sources.

In connection with dividend payments to the Parent Company from its subsidiary banks, certain rules and regulations of the various state and federal banking regulatory agencies limit the amount of dividends which may be paid. Approximately \$407 million in dividends could be paid in 2008 to the Parent Company from its subsidiary banks without prior regulatory approval. Synovus expects to receive regulatory approval to allow certain subsidiaries to pay dividends in excess of their respective regulatory limits.

**Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

The following table sets forth information regarding Synovus' purchases of its common stock on a monthly basis during the three months ended December 31, 2007:

| <b>Month</b>  | <b>Total<br/>Number<br/>of Shares<br/>Purchased<sup>(1)</sup></b> | <b>Average Price<br/>Paid per Share</b> | <b>Total Number of<br/>Shares Purchased<br/>as Part of Publicly<br/>Announced Plans<br/>or Programs<sup>(2)</sup></b> | <b>Maximum<br/>Number of<br/>Shares That<br/>May Yet Be<br/>Purchased<br/>Under the Plans<br/>or Programs</b> |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| October 2007  |   | \$                                      |   |   |
| November 2007 | 213,579   | 26.44                                   |   |   |
| December 2007 | 254,222   | 25.67                                   |   |   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>467,801</b>  | <b>\$ 26.02</b>                         |   |   |

(1) Consists of delivery of previously owned shares to Synovus in payment of the exercise price of stock options.

(2) Synovus does not currently have a publicly announced share repurchase plan in place.

**Recently Issued Accounting Standards**

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS No. 157). SFAS No. 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in GAAP, and expands disclosures about fair

value measurements. This statement does not introduce any new requirements mandating the use of fair value; rather, it unifies the meaning of fair value and adds additional fair value disclosures. The provisions of this statement are effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. As permitted under FASB Staff Position No. FAS 157-2, Synovus has elected to defer the application of SFAS No. 157 to non-financial assets and liabilities until January 1, 2009. SFAS No. 157 will not have a material impact on Synovus' financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities* (SFAS No. 159). SFAS No. 159 permits entities to make an irrevocable election, at specified election dates, to measure eligible financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. As of January 1, 2008, Synovus has elected the fair value option for mortgage loans held for sale and hedged callable brokered certificates of deposit. This statement also establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. The provisions of this statement are effective as of the beginning of the first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. SFAS No. 159 will not have a material impact on Synovus' financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In September 2006, the EITF reached a consensus on EITF Issue No. 06-4, *Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements* (EITF 06-04). EITF 06-4 requires an employer to recognize a liability for future benefits based on the substantive agreement with the employee. EITF 06-4 requires a company to use the guidance prescribed in FASB Statement No. 106, *Employers Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions* and Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 12, *Omnibus Opinion*, when entering into an endorsement split-dollar life insurance agreement and recognizing the liability. EITF 06-4 is effective for fiscal periods beginning after December 15, 2007. Synovus does not expect the impact of EITF 06-4 on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows to be material.

In November 2006, the EITF reached a consensus on EITF Issue No. 06-10, *Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Collateral Assignment Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements* (EITF 06-10). Under EITF 06-10, an employer should recognize a liability for the postretirement benefit related to a collateral assignment split-dollar life insurance arrangement. The recognition of an asset should be based on the nature and substance of the collateral, as well as the terms of the arrangement such as (1) future cash flows to which the employer is entitled and (2) employee's obligation (and ability) to repay the employer. EITF 06-10 is effective for fiscal periods beginning after December 15, 2007.

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Synovus does not expect the impact of EITF 06-10 on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows to be material.

In November 2006, the EITF reached a consensus on EITF Issue No. 06-11, Accounting for Income Tax Benefits of Dividends on Share-based Payment Awards (EITF 06-11). Employees may receive dividend payments (or the equivalent of) on vested and non-vested share-based payment awards. Under EITF 06-11, the Task Force concluded that a realized income tax benefit from dividends (or dividend equivalents) that are charged to retained earnings and are paid to employees for equity classified nonvested equity shares, nonvested equity share units, and outstanding equity share options should be recognized as an increase in additional paid-in capital. Once the award is settled, the Company should determine whether the cumulative tax deduction exceeded the cumulative compensation cost recognized on the income statement. If the total tax benefit exceeds the tax effect of the cumulative compensation cost, the excess would be an increase to additional paid-in capital. EITF 06-11 is effective for fiscal periods beginning after September 15, 2007. Synovus does not expect the impact of EITF 06-11 on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows to be material.

In November 2007, the SEC issued Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 109, Written Loan Commitments Recorded at Fair Value Through Earnings SAB 109 supercedes SAB 105, Application of Accounting Principles to Loan Commitments. SAB 109, consistent with SFAS No. 156, Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets, and SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities, requires that the expected net future cash flows related to the associated servicing of the loan should be included in the measurement of all written loan commitments that are accounted for at fair value through earnings. A separate and distinct servicing asset or liability is not recognized for accounting purposes until the servicing rights have been contractually separated from the underlying loan by sale or securitization of the loan with servicing retained. The provisions of this bulletin are effective for derivative loan commitments issued or modified in fiscal quarters beginning after December 15, 2007. Synovus does not expect the impact of SAB 109 on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows to be material.

In December 2007, the SEC issued SAB 110, Share-Based Payment. SAB 110 allows eligible public companies to continue to use a simplified method for estimating the expense of stock options if their own historical experience isn't sufficient to provide a reasonable basis. Under SAB 107, Share-Based Payment, the simplified method was scheduled to expire for all grants made after December 31, 2007. The SAB describes disclosures that should be provided if a company is using the simplified method for all or a portion of its stock option grants beyond December 31, 2007. The provisions of this bulletin are effective on January 1, 2008. Synovus plans to retain use of the simplified method allowed by SAB 110 for determining the expected term component for share options granted during 2008.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS 141R, Business Combinations. SFAS 141R clarifies the definitions of both a business combination and a business. All business combinations will be accounted for under the acquisition method (previously referred to as the purchase method). This standard defines the acquisition date as the only relevant date for recognition and measurement of the fair value of consideration paid. SFAS 141R requires the acquirer to expense all acquisition related costs. SFAS 141R will also require acquired loans to be recorded net of the allowance for loan losses on the date of acquisition. SFAS 141R defines the measurement period as the time after the acquisition date during which the acquirer may make adjustments to the provisional amounts recognized at the acquisition date. This period cannot exceed one year, and any subsequent adjustments made to provisional amounts are done retrospectively and restate prior period data. The provisions of this statement are effective for business combinations during fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. Synovus has not determined the impact that SFAS 141R will have on its financial position and results of operations and believes that such determination will not be meaningful until Synovus enters into a business combination.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in consolidated financial statements An Amendment of ARB No. 51. SFAS No. 160 requires noncontrolling interests to be treated as a separate component of equity, not as a liability or other item outside of equity. Disclosure requirements include net income and comprehensive income to be displayed for both the controlling and noncontrolling interests and a separate schedule that shows the effects of any transactions with the noncontrolling interests on the equity attributable to the controlling interest. The provisions of this statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. This statement should be applied prospectively except for the presentation and disclosure requirements which shall be applied retrospectively for all periods presented. Synovus does not expect the impact of SFAS No. 160 on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows to be material.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

Certain statements contained in this document which are not statements of historical fact constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act (the Act ). These forward-looking statements include, among others, statements regarding: (i) management's belief with respect to the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses; (ii) the expected financial impact of

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## Financial Review ==

recent accounting pronouncements; (iii) management's estimate with respect to its indemnification obligation in connection with the Visa covered litigation; (iv) management's belief with respect to legal proceedings and other claims, including the pending regulatory matter with respect to credit card programs offered by CB&T pursuant to its agreement with CompuCredit; (v) management's belief with respect to the adequacy of unallocated allowance for loan losses; (vi) management's belief with respect to the existence of sufficient collateral for past due loans, and the inclusion of all material loans in which serious doubt exists as to collectibility in nonperforming loans and loans past due over 90 days and still accruing; (vii) management's belief with respect to the use of derivatives to manage interest rate risk; (viii) the Board of Directors' present intent to continue to pay adjusted cash dividends and the expected initial amount of the aggregated Synovus and TSYS dividend; (ix) management's belief with respect to having sufficient capital, liquidity, and future cash flows from operations to meet operating needs over the next year; and the assumptions underlying such statements. In addition, certain statements in future filings by Synovus with the Securities and Exchange Commission, in press releases, and in oral and written statements made by or with the approval of Synovus which are not statements of historical fact constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Act. Examples of forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to: (i) projections of revenues, income or loss, earnings or loss per share, the payment or non-payment of dividends, capital structure, efficiency ratios and other financial terms; (ii) statements of plans and objectives of Synovus or its management or Board of Directors, including those relating to products or services; (iii) statements of future economic performance; and (iv) statements of assumptions underlying such statements. Words such as believes, anticipates, expects, intends, targeted, estimates, projects, plans, may, could, should, would, and similar expressions are intended to forward-looking statements but are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements.

These statements are based on the current beliefs and expectations of Synovus' management and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those contemplated by such forward-looking statements. A number of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements in this document. Many of these factors are beyond Synovus' ability to control or predict. These factors include, but are not limited to: (i) competitive pressures arising from aggressive competition from other financial service providers; (ii) factors that affect the delinquency rate of Synovus' loans and the rate at which Synovus' loans are charged off; (iii) changes in the cost and availability of funding due to changes in the deposit market and credit market, or the way in which Synovus is perceived in such markets, including a reduction in our debt ratings; (iv) the strength of the U.S. economy in general and the strength of the local economies in which operations are conducted may be different than expected; (v) the effects of and changes in trade, monetary and fiscal policies, and laws, including interest rate policies of the Federal Reserve Board; (vi) inflation, interest rate, market and monetary fluctuations; (vii) the timely development of and acceptance of new products and services and perceived overall value of these products and services by users; (viii) changes in consumer spending, borrowing, and saving habits; (ix) technological changes are more difficult or expensive than anticipated; (x) acquisitions are more difficult to integrate than anticipated; (xi) the ability to increase market share and control expenses; (xii) the effect of changes in governmental policy, laws and regulations, or the interpretation or application thereof, including restrictions, limitations and/or penalties arising from banking, securities and insurance laws, regulations and examinations; (xiii) the impact of the application of and/or the effect of changes in accounting policies and practices, as may be adopted by the regulatory agencies, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or other authoritative bodies; (xiv) changes in Synovus' organization, compensation, and benefit plans; (xv) the costs and effects of litigation, investigations or similar matters, or adverse facts and developments related thereto including the FDIC's investigation of the policies, practices and procedures used by CB&T in connection with the credit card programs offered pursuant to its Affinity Agreement with CompuCredit; (xvi) a deterioration in credit quality or a reduced demand for credit; (xvii) Synovus' inability to successfully manage any impact from slowing economic conditions or consumer spending; (xviii) successfully managing the potential both for patent protection and patent liability in the context of rapidly developing legal framework for expansive software patent protection; (xix) the impact on Synovus' business, as well as

on the risks set forth above, of various domestic or international military or terrorist activities or conflicts; (xx) the expected benefits associated with the spin-off may not be achieved; (xxi) Synovus' indemnification obligation in connection with the Visa covered litigation may be greater than expected; and (xxii) the success of Synovus at managing the risks involved in the foregoing.

These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which the statements are made, and Synovus undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which the statement is made to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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## Summary of Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited) ==

Presented below is a summary of the unaudited consolidated quarterly financial data for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006.

| <i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i>  | <b>Fourth<br/>Quarter</b> | <b>Third<br/>Quarter</b> | <b>Second<br/>Quarter</b> | <b>First<br/>Quarter</b> |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>2007</b>   |                           |                          |                           |                          |
| <b>Interest income</b>  | <b>\$ 553,787</b>         | <b>572,317</b>           | <b>564,492</b>            | <b>547,899</b>           |
| <b>Net interest income</b>  | <b>286,685</b>            | <b>290,839</b>           | <b>288,475</b>            | <b>282,949</b>           |
| <b>Provision for losses on loans</b>  | <b>70,642</b>             | <b>58,770</b>            | <b>20,281</b>             | <b>20,515</b>            |
| <b>Income from continuing operations before income taxes</b>                          | <b>79,832</b>             | <b>125,838</b>           | <b>166,864</b>            | <b>155,140</b>           |
| <b>Income from continuing operations</b>  | <b>53,142</b>             | <b>83,577</b>            | <b>105,809</b>            | <b>100,407</b>           |
| <b>Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes and minority interest</b> | <b>28,717</b>             | <b>51,366</b>            | <b>56,941</b>             | <b>46,346</b>            |
| <b>Net income</b>   | <b>81,859</b>             | <b>134,943</b>           | <b>162,750</b>            | <b>146,753</b>           |
| <b>Basic earnings per share</b>   |                           |                          |                           |                          |
| <b>Income from continuing operations</b>  | <b>.16</b>                | <b>.26</b>               | <b>.32</b>                | <b>.31</b>               |
| <b>Net income</b>   | <b>.25</b>                | <b>.41</b>               | <b>.50</b>                | <b>.45</b>               |
| <b>Diluted earnings per share</b>   |                           |                          |                           |                          |
| <b>Income from continuing operations</b>  | <b>.16</b>                | <b>.25</b>               | <b>.32</b>                | <b>.30</b>               |
| <b>Net income</b>   | <b>.25</b>                | <b>.41</b>               | <b>.49</b>                | <b>.45</b>               |
| <b>2006</b>   |                           |                          |                           |                          |
| <b>Interest income</b>  | <b>\$ 545,630</b>         | <b>533,629</b>           | <b>497,713</b>            | <b>439,493</b>           |
| <b>Net interest income</b>  | <b>288,871</b>            | <b>290,755</b>           | <b>285,214</b>            | <b>260,949</b>           |
| <b>Provision for losses on loans</b>  | <b>18,675</b>             | <b>18,390</b>            | <b>18,534</b>             | <b>19,549</b>            |
| <b>Income from continuing operations before income taxes</b>                          | <b>164,360</b>            | <b>170,377</b>           | <b>165,283</b>            | <b>145,517</b>           |
| <b>Income from continuing operations</b>  | <b>104,976</b>            | <b>109,983</b>           | <b>106,384</b>            | <b>93,760</b>            |
|   | <b>70,571</b>             | <b>44,083</b>            | <b>46,413</b>             | <b>40,746</b>            |

Income from discontinued operations, net of income taxes and  
minority interest

|                                   |         |         |         |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Net income                        | 175,547 | 154,066 | 152,797 | 134,506 |
| Basic earnings per share          |         |         |         |         |
| Income from continuing operations | .32     | .34     | .33     | .30     |
| Net income                        | .54     | .48     | .47     | .43     |
| Diluted earnings per share        |         |         |         |         |
| Income from continuing operations | .32     | .34     | .33     | .30     |
| Net income                        | .54     | .47     | .47     | .43     |

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**PROXY**

**CERTIFICATE OF BENEFICIAL OWNER**

o

Mark Here  
for Address  
Change or  
Comments

**SEE REVERSE SIDE**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE PROPOSALS LISTED BELOW.**

|  |                             | For                   | Withhold              | For All Except        |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. To elect the following 19 individuals as directors: |                             |                       |                       |                       |
| (01) Daniel P. Amos                                    | (11) Alfred W. Jones III    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| (02) Richard E. Anthony                                | (12) Mason H. Lampton       |                       |                       |                       |
| (03) James H. Blanchard                                | (13) Elizabeth C. Ogie      |                       |                       |                       |
| (04) Richard Y. Bradley                                | (14) H. Lynn Page           |                       |                       |                       |
| (05) Frank W. Brumley                                  | (15) J. Neal Purcell        |                       |                       |                       |
| (06) Elizabeth W. Camp                                 | (16) Melvin T. Stith        |                       |                       |                       |
| (07) Gardiner W. Garrard, Jr.                          | (17) Philip W. Tomlinson    |                       |                       |                       |
| (08) T. Michael Goodrich                               | (18) William B. Turner, Jr. |                       |                       |                       |
| (09) Frederick L. Green, III                           | (19) James D. Yancey        |                       |                       |                       |
| (10) V. Nathaniel Hansford                             |                             |                       |                       |                       |

**INSTRUCTION: To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee, mark the For All Except box and strike a line through the nominee's name in the list to the left. Your shares will be voted for the remaining nominee(s).**

|    |   | For                   | Against               | Abstain               |
|----|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2. | To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP as Synovus independent auditor for the year 2008. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

**PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN AND DATE THIS PROXY.**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please provide the required information. THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE SIGNED TO BE VALID. If you do not complete and sign this Certificate of Beneficial Owner, your shares covered by the Proxy to the left will be voted on the basis of one vote per share.

|    |   | Yes                   | No                    |
|----|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| A. | Are you the beneficial owner, in all capacities, of more than 1,139,063 shares of Synovus Common Stock? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

**If you answered No to Question A, do not answer B or C. Your shares represented by the Proxy to the left are entitled to ten votes per share.**

|    |   | Yes                   | No                    |
|----|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| B. | If your answer to Question A was Yes, have you acquired more than 1,139,063 shares of Synovus Common Stock since February 15, 2004 (including shares received as a stock dividend)? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

**If you answered No to Question B, do not answer Question C. Your shares represented by the Proxy to the left are entitled to ten votes per share.**

C.

If you answered Yes to Question B, please describe below the date and nature of your acquisition of all shares of Synovus Common Stock you have acquired since February 15, 2004 (including shares acquired as a result of a stock dividend). Your response to Question C will determine which of the shares represented by the Proxy will be entitled to ten votes per share.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information provided herein is true and correct. I understand that the Board of Directors of Synovus Financial Corp. may require me to provide additional information or evidence to document my beneficial ownership of these shares and I agree to provide such evidence if so requested

**NOTE BOTH SIGNATURE LINES ARE REQUIRED WHEN CERTIFYING YOUR SHARES**

|                              |  |                              |   |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Shareholder sign here</b> | <b>Date</b>                              | <b>Shareholder sign here</b> | <b>Date</b>                                     |
| <b>Co-owner sign here</b>    | <b>Date</b>                              | <b>Co-owner sign here</b>    | <b>Date</b>                                     |
|                              | <b>Sign Here to Vote<br/>your Shares</b> |                              | <b>Sign Here to<br/>Certify your<br/>Shares</b> |

**5 FOLD AND DETACH HERE 5**

**WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF INTERNET OR TELEPHONE VOTING, BOTH ARE AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK.**

**Internet and telephone voting are available through 11:59 PM Eastern Time the day prior to annual meeting day.**

**Your Internet or telephone vote authorizes the named proxies to vote your shares in the same manner as if you marked, signed and returned your proxy card.**

**INTERNET**

**TELEPHONE**

**<http://www.proxyvoting.com/snv>**

**1-866-540-5760**

Use the Internet to vote your proxy. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site.

**OR** Use any touch-tone telephone to vote your proxy. Have your proxy card in hand when you call.

If you vote your proxy by Internet or by telephone, you do NOT need to mail back your proxy card.  
To vote by mail, mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

Choose **MLink**<sup>SM</sup> for fast, easy and secure 24/7 online access to your future proxy materials, investment plan statements, tax documents and more. Simply log on to **Investor Service Direct**<sup>®</sup> at [www.bnymellon.com/shareowner/isd](http://www.bnymellon.com/shareowner/isd) where step-by-step instructions will prompt you through enrollment.

You can view the Annual Report and Proxy Statement on the Internet at [www.synovus.com/annual/2007](http://www.synovus.com/annual/2007)

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**SYNOVUS FINANCIAL CORP.  
POST OFFICE BOX 120, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31902-0120  
ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD APRIL 24, 2008  
THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

By signing on the reverse side, I hereby appoint Thomas J. Prescott and Liliana McDaniel as Proxies, each of them singly and each with power of substitution, and hereby authorize them to represent and to vote as designated below all the shares of common stock of Synovus Financial Corp. held on record by me or with respect to which I am entitled to vote on February 15, 2008 at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on April 24, 2008 or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

THIS PROXY WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED WILL BE VOTED AS DIRECTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED. IF THIS PROXY IS SIGNED AND RETURNED AND DOES NOT SPECIFY A VOTE ON ANY PROPOSAL, THE PROXY WILL BE VOTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The Board of Directors is not aware of any matters likely to be presented for action at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders other than the matters listed herein. However, if any other matters are properly brought before the Annual Meeting, the persons named in this Proxy or their substitutes will vote upon such other matters in accordance with their best judgement. This Proxy is revocable at any time prior to its use.

By signing on the reverse side, I acknowledge receipt of NOTICE of the ANNUAL MEETING and the PROXY STATEMENT and hereby revoke all Proxies previously given by me for the ANNUAL MEETING.

IN ADDITION TO VOTING AND SIGNING THE PROXY, YOU MUST ALSO COMPLETE AND SIGN THE CERTIFICATION TO BE ENTITLED TO TEN VOTES PER SHARE.

**Address Change/Comments (Mark the corresponding box on the reverse side)**

**5 FOLD AND DETACH HERE 5**

IF YOU DO NOT VOTE BY PHONE OR OVER THE INTERNET, PLEASE VOTE, DATE AND SIGN ON THE REVERSE SIDE AND RETURN PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

Please sign exactly as your name appears on this Proxy. When shares are held by joint tenants, both must sign. When signing in a fiduciary or representative capacity, give your full title as such. If a corporation, please sign in full corporate name by an authorized officer. If a partnership, please sign in full partnership name by an authorized person.

***You can now access your Synovus Financial Corp. account online.***

Access your Synovus Financial Corp. stockholder account online via Investor ServiceDirect® (ISD).

The transfer agent for Synovus Financial Corp. now makes it easy and convenient to get current information on your shareholder account.

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*Visit us on the web at <http://www.bnymellon.com/shareowner/isd>  
For Technical Assistance Call 1-877-978-7778 between 9am-7pm  
Monday-Friday Eastern Time*

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