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## Cole Taylor Bank Provides Financing for the Donald J. Marquez Charter School

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ROSEMONT, Ill., Sept. 20 /PRNewswire/ -- Cole Taylor Bank is pleased to have provided financing for a new charter school, the Donald J. Marquez School, located at 2916 West 47th Street, in Chicago's Brighton Park neighborhood. The school, which was named for a Chicago police officer killed in the line of duty in 2002, is the fifth school in Chicago chartered by UNO Charter School Network, Inc. (UCSN) of the **United Neighborhood Organization** (UNO) and the third school for which Cole Taylor Bank provided financing.

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"The performance of UNO's UCSN charter schools more than demonstrates their value to the communities they serve, which are also the communities we serve," said Bruce W. Taylor, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Taylor Capital Group, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Cole Taylor Bank. "Cole Taylor Bank is privileged to have participated in the financing of many educational and community-based development projects under UNO's sponsorship."

The Donald J. Marquez School opened on September 4, 2007 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, honoring the slain Chicago Police Officer who grew up and lived in the Brighton Park neighborhood, where the new school is located. Marquez, a 20-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department was shot to death on March 18, 2002 while trying to serve court papers. The 47-year old man left behind a wife and four children.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony, which was attended by the slain officer's family, fellow police officers, and local and state legislative leaders, UNO director and UCSN president Juan Rangel acknowledged Cole Taylor Bank's community relations officer Karen Thomas and relationship banker Delonda Belanger, for their important role in the development of the school.

UNO is Chicago's largest not-for-profit Hispanic community-based organization. Each of its five charter schools are public schools that focus on individualized attention in smaller classroom settings. The Donald J. Marquez Charter School is an elementary school for 520 students and will offer an active after school program that includes fine arts classes, music lessons and sports programs. It also will be unique in that the school will offer a law enforcement program.

About Cole Taylor Bank

Cole Taylor Bank, a subsidiary of Taylor Capital Group, Inc. (NASDAQ:TAYC), specializes in meeting the unique financing, cash

management and wealth management needs of the owners of Chicago's closely-held companies. One of Chicago's largest independent banks with more than \$3 billion in assets, Cole Taylor Bank has supplied sound financial guidance to Chicago-area businesses for more than 75 years. Cole Taylor Bank is a member of FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

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