

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS CONTACTS

Nancy Raciti
Opes Advisors
650.319.1634

nraciti@opesadvisors.com

Eric T. Trailer
Absolute Mortgage Banking
650.543.8001

etrailer@absolutemortgage.com

OPES ADVISORS ANNOUNCES ALLIANCE WITH ABSOLUTE MORTGAGE BANKING TO STRENGTHEN MORTGAGE BANKING OPERATIONS AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL VALUE DURING MORTGAGE ORIGINATION PROCESS

PALO ALTO, Calif., United States – April 30, 2008 – Opes Advisors, a wealth management and residential mortgage banking firm, announced today that it has formed a strategic partnership with Absolute Mortgage Banking. This cooperative effort will allow both companies to provide additional mortgage options and more competitive pricing to their clients. Further, with access to Opes Advisors’ wealth management division, Absolute Mortgage Banking can help clients ensure that their loan structure, and associated leverage, supports their long term financial goals. This is especially relevant in the Bay Area where home prices are significant and homeowners strive to maintain a comfortable lifestyle, provide a college education for their children and save enough for a long retirement.

“This alliance provides us the opportunity to come together to strengthen both companies. The combined efforts of our companies will allow us to help more clients to define and achieve their financial goals,” said Susan McHan, Co-founder, President and CEO of Opes Advisors. “The financial expertise and insights we provide to our mortgage clients is something that they find valuable and, because it is an integral part of our comprehensive mortgage services, it comes with no more cost than obtaining a mortgage from a conventional firm. In fact, as a mortgage bank, we underwrite, process

and fund all of our loans. This keeps our cost of funds lower and allows us to remain extremely competitive and efficient.”

Opes Advisors’ wealth management team includes Chartered Financial Analysts® (CFA®) and Certified Financial Planners™ (CFP®), which means they are experienced in the details of financial planning, securities and analysis and are held to a fiduciary standard of care and diligence that far exceeds industry norms.

“We are very excited about our alliance with Opes Advisors. And our borrowers will be too, as they’ll benefit from our expanded loan options and better pricing,” said Joel Spolin, Founder and President of Absolute Mortgage Banking. “And, unlike other mortgage firms, Opes has wealth management expertise in house and can provide borrowers strategic financial advice when they’re buying, selling or refinancing a home. Most homeowners have not had the opportunity to consider their entire financial picture during this process. Working with Opes Advisors’ wealth management team will let us offer our clients a depth of service that traditionally hasn’t been very accessible.”

About Opes Advisors

Opes Advisors is a premier financial advisory firm specializing in Wealth Management and Residential Mortgage Banking in the Greater Bay Area. Opes provides comprehensive advisory services in personal finance management including investment management, real estate financing and strategic tax and financial planning. Locations include Los Gatos, Palo Alto, San Mateo and Marin. <http://www.opesadvisors.com>

About Absolute Mortgage Banking

Absolute Mortgage Banking is a mortgage banking firm specializing in the origination of residential mortgages throughout California. As the oldest mortgage banking firm in the Palo Alto area, the firm has over 6,000 clients and generates on average over \$300 million in annual loan volume. The entire suite of mortgage programs and their optional features are available to the firm’s clients, including FHA programs. Because of the

firm's status, volume and expertise, Absolute Mortgage Banking yields its clients the highest levels of service at the best rates of interest. <http://www.absolutemortgage.com>

###