

News Release

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Wilmington Trust Clarifies Bear Stearns Holdings

Wilmington, DE, March 17, 2008 – News reports of Wilmington Trust’s ownership of 27.3 million shares in Bear Stearns Company common stock are incomplete. Wilmington Trust does not own these shares directly but holds the shares in its capacity as trustee for clients and provides trust and administrative services to these clients. These services do not include extending credit or, for 99.9% of this portfolio, investment advice.

Wilmington Trust Corporation (NYSE: WL) is a financial services holding company that provides Regional Banking services throughout the mid-Atlantic region, Wealth Advisory Services for high-net-worth clients in 36 countries, and Corporate Client Services for institutional clients in 86 countries. Its wholly owned bank subsidiary, Wilmington Trust Company, which was founded in 1903, is one of the largest personal trust providers in the United States and the leading retail and commercial bank in Delaware. Wilmington Trust Corporation and its affiliates have offices in California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, the Cayman Islands, the Channel Islands, London, Dublin, Frankfurt, and Luxembourg.

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