

Midcountry Bank Honored By USDA For Increasing Rural Home Ownership



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MARION , III. (Jan. 22, 2010) [MidCountry Bank](#) was recently recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (USDA) for utilizing federally-guaranteed mortgages that increased, and made more affordable, home ownership in rural Illinois. Each year the USDA honors lenders that excel in using the federal agency's guaranteed loan program in rural areas.

"In this difficult housing marketing, MidCountry Bank is committed to using Rural Development's guaranteed home loan program to help as many homebuyers as possible," said Jim Davis, a Rural Development specialist in the USDA's Marion , Ill. , office. "They helped borrowers buy their first homes, or upgrade to better homes. We are extremely pleased with MidCountry Bank's achievement."

MidCountry Bank provided Illinois homebuyers with more than \$1 million in Rural Development-backed loans in 2009. With the Rural Development guarantee, MidCountry Bank offers 100 percent loans with no required down payment, no private monthly mortgage insurance (PMI), no maximum purchase prices, competitive fixed interest rates, and 30-year terms. The program also includes flexible credit guidelines and generous income limits.

"This program has helped put many families into a home and strengthened rural communities by providing stability in a challenging

housing market. It is easily the best 100-percent program in the market," said MidCountry Bank Regional President Randy Forby. "We're proud to have received this honor from the USDA, and even more so to have helped families throughout rural Illinois realize their dreams of homeownership."

For nearly a decade, MidCountry Bank has been serving the communities of southern Illinois and central Minnesota with a full spectrum of financial products that are matched with excellent customer service. Its retail banking division offers a variety of deposit and loan products to meet consumers' needs, its business division helps small business by providing them with the financing they need to grow, and its military banking division serves those who serve our nation with personal loans and award-winning financial education programs. Every MidCountry Bank associate is dedicated to creating a high-quality and well-respected financial services organization, and is committed to the values of integrity, fairness, honesty, excellence, and compassion.

For more information, visit MidCountryBank.com,

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