
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):

November 15, 2005

United Community Banks, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Georgia

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)

No. 0-21656

(Commission File Number)

No. 58-180-7304

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

63 Highway 515, P.O. Box 398
Blairsville, Georgia 30512
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:

(706) 781-2265

Not applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240-13e-4(c))
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Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

On November 16, 2005, United Community Banks, Inc. issued a news release announcing its public offering of 1.35 million shares of common stock.

Item 8.01 Other Events

This current report on Form 8-K files certain exhibits to the shelf registration statement (the “Shelf Registration Statement”) of United Community Banks, Inc. (the “Company”) on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-116623).

On November 15, 2005, the Company entered into an underwriting agreement with Sandler O’Neill & Partners, L.P. as representative of the underwriters named therein (the “Underwriting Agreement”), in connection with the public offering of 1,350,000 shares of common stock of the Company at a public offering price of \$27.75 per share. The Company granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 202,500 shares of common stock pursuant to the Underwriting Agreement to cover over-allotments, if any. The offering is being made in connection with a prospectus and prospectus supplement filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

The Underwriting Agreement is being filed as Exhibit 1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K. The opinion of the Company’s counsel as to the legality of the common stock is being filed as Exhibit 5. Exhibits 1, 5, and 23 filed herewith are incorporated by reference into the Shelf Registration Statement.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(a) Financial statements: None

(b) Pro forma financial information: None

(c) Shell Company Transactions: None

(d) Exhibits:

- 1 Underwriting Agreement dated November 15, 2005 between the Company and Sandler O’Neill & Partners, L.P. as representatives of the underwriters named therein.
 - 5 Opinion of Kilpatrick Stockton, LLP, as to the legality of the common stock.
 - 23 Consent of Kilpatrick Stockton, LLP (included in Exhibit 5).
 - 99 Press Release, dated November 16, 2005.
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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

/s/ Thomas C. Gilliland

Thomas C. Gilliland
Executive Vice President

November 16, 2005

1,350,000 SHARES

UNITED COMMUNITY BANKS, INC.

COMMON STOCK
PAR VALUE \$1.00 PER SHARE

UNDERWRITING AGREEMENT

November 15, 2005

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.,
As representative of the several Underwriters
named in Schedule I hereto,
919 Third Avenue
6th Floor
New York, New York 10022

Ladies and Gentlemen:

United Community Banks, Inc., a Georgia corporation (the "Company"), proposes, subject to the terms and conditions stated herein, to issue and sell to Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P. and the other Underwriters named in Schedule I hereto (the "Underwriters"), for whom Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P. is acting as representative (the "Representative") an aggregate of 1,350,000 shares (the "Firm Shares") and, at the election of the Underwriters, up to 202,500 additional shares (the "Optional Shares") of the common stock, par value \$1.00 per share ("Stock"), of the Company (the Firm Shares and the Optional Shares that the Underwriters elect to purchase pursuant to Section 2 hereof being collectively called the "Shares").

The Company has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") a registration statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-116623) covering the registration of the Shares and other securities of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), including a related prospectus, which has become effective. The registration statement (including the exhibits thereto and schedules thereto, if any) as amended at the time it

became effective, or, if a post-effective amendment has been filed with respect thereto, as amended by such post-effective amendment at the time of its effectiveness (including in each case the information (if any) deemed to be part of such registration statement at the time of effectiveness pursuant to Rule 430A under the Act), is hereinafter referred to as the "Registration Statement." The term "Effective Date" shall mean each date that the Registration Statement and any post-effective amendment or amendments thereto became or become effective. The term "Base Prospectus" shall mean the prospectus referred to in Section 1(a)(i) hereof contained in the Registration Statement at the Effective Date. "Preliminary Prospectus" means any preliminary prospectus supplement to the Base Prospectus used prior to the filing of the Prospectus, together with the Base Prospectus; the term "Prospectus" means the final prospectus supplement to the Base Prospectus first filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Act, together with the Base Prospectus. Any registration statement filed pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Act is herein referred to as the "Rule 462(b) Registration Statement," and after such filing the term "Registration Statement" shall include the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement.

Any reference in this Agreement to the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus shall be deemed to refer to and include the documents incorporated by reference therein pursuant to Item 12 of Form S-3 under the Act, as of the effective date of the Registration Statement or the date of such Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus, as the case may be (it being understood that the several specific references in this Agreement to documents incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus are for clarifying purposes only and are not meant to limit the inclusiveness of any other definition herein). For purposes of this Agreement, all references to the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus, or the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement to any of the foregoing shall be deemed to include the copy filed with the Commission pursuant to its Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval system ("EDGAR"). All references in this Agreement to financial statements and schedules and other information that is "contained," "included" or "stated" in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus (or other references of like import) shall be deemed to mean and include all such financial statements and schedules and other information that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus, as the case may be.

1. (a) The Company represents and warrants to, and agrees with, each of the Underwriters that:

1. The Company satisfies the registrant eligibility requirements for the use of Form S-3 under the Act set forth in General Instruction I.A to such Form, and the transactions contemplated by this Agreement satisfy the transaction eligibility requirements for the use of such Form set forth in General Instruction I.B.1 to such Form; the Company has filed with the Commission the Registration Statement on such Form, including a Base Prospectus, for registration under the Act of the offering and sale of the Shares and other securities of the Company, and the Company may have filed with the Commission one or more amendments to such Registration Statement, each in the form previously delivered to you. Such Registration Statement, as so amended, has been declared effective by the Commission, and the Shares have been registered under the Registration Statement in compliance with the requirements for the use

of Form S-3. Although the Base Prospectus may not include all the information with respect to the Shares and the offering thereof required by the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder to be included in the Prospectus, the Base Prospectus includes all such information required by the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder to be included therein as of the Effective Date. The Company has complied, to the Commission's satisfaction, with all requests of the Commission for additional or supplemental information; and no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued and no proceeding for that purpose has been initiated or threatened by the Commission. After the execution of this Agreement, the Company will file with the Commission pursuant to Rules 415 and 424(b)(2) or (5) a final supplement to the Base Prospectus included in such Registration Statement relating to the Shares and the offering thereof, with such information as is required or permitted by the Act and as has been provided to and approved by the Underwriters prior to the date hereof or, to the extent not completed at the date hereof, containing only such specific additional information and other changes (beyond that contained in the Base Prospectus and any Preliminary Prospectus) as the Company has advised you, prior to the date hereof, will be included or made therein. If the Company has elected to rely on Rule 462(b) and the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement is not effective, (x) the Company will file a Rule 462(b) Registration Statement in compliance with, and that is effective upon filing pursuant to, Rule 462(b) and (y) the Company has given irrevocable instructions for transmission of the applicable filing fee in connection with the filing of the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement, in compliance with Rule 111 under the Act, or the Commission has received payment of such filing fee.

2. No order preventing or suspending the use of any Preliminary Prospectus has been issued by the Commission, and each Preliminary Prospectus, at the time of filing thereof, conformed in all material respects to the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder, and did not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; provided, however, that this representation and warranty shall not apply to any statements or omissions made in reliance upon and in conformity with information furnished in writing to the Company by an Underwriter through the Representative or the Underwriters' counsel expressly for use therein; there are no contracts or other documents required to be described in the Prospectus or to be filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement that have not been described or filed as required;

3. Each Preliminary Prospectus and the Prospectus when filed, if filed by electronic transmission, pursuant to EDGAR (except as may be permitted by Regulation S-T under the Act), was identical to the copy thereof delivered to the Underwriters for use in connection with the offer and sale of the Shares; the Registration Statement conforms, and the Prospectus and any further amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus will conform, in all material respects to the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder and do not and will not, as of the applicable effective date as to the Registration Statement and any amendment thereto, and as of the applicable filing date as to the Prospectus and any amendment or supplement thereto, contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; provided, however, that this representation and

warranty shall not apply to any statements or omissions made in reliance upon and in conformity with information furnished in writing to the Company by an Underwriter through the Representative or the Underwriters' counsel expressly for use therein;

4. The documents that are incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement or any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus or from which information is so incorporated by reference (the "Exchange Act Reports"), when they became effective or were filed with the Commission, as the case may be (or, if an amendment with respect to any such documents was filed or became effective, when such amendment was filed or became effective), complied in all material respects to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder, and, when read together with the other information in the Prospectus, at the time the Registration Statement became effective, at the time the Prospectus was issued and at any Time of Delivery (as defined below) did not and will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make to the statements therein not misleading;

5. The financial statements, including the related schedules and notes, filed with the Commission as a part of the Registration Statement and included in the Prospectus (the "Financial Statements") present fairly the consolidated financial position of the Company and its subsidiaries as of and at the dates indicated and the results of their operations and cash flows for the periods specified; such Financial Statements, unless otherwise noted therein have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as applied in the United States ("GAAP") applied on a consistent basis throughout the periods involved; no other financial statements or supporting schedules are required to be included in the Registration Statement; the income statement data, balance sheet data and earnings per share data for the six fiscal years ended December 31, 2004 as set forth in the Prospectus under the captions "Summary Consolidated Financial Data" fairly present the information therein on a basis consistent with that of the audited financial statements contained in the Registration Statement (unless otherwise noted); the income statement data and earnings per share data for the nine months ended September 30, 2005 and 2004 and balance sheet data as of September 30, 2005 and 2004 as set forth in the Prospectus under the captions "Summary Consolidated Financial Data" fairly present the information therein on a basis consistent with that of the unaudited financial statements contained in the Registration Statement; and any pro forma financial statements and the related notes thereto included or to be included in the Prospectus present fairly or will present fairly the information shown therein, have been or will be prepared in accordance with the Commission's rules and guidelines with respect to pro forma financial statements and have been or will be properly compiled on the bases described therein, and the assumptions used in the preparation thereof are or will be reasonable and the adjustments used therein are or will be appropriate to give effect to the transaction and circumstances referred to therein;

6. Porter Keadle Moore, LLP, who have certified certain financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries, are independent public accountants as required by the Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder, and such accountants are not in

violation of the auditor independence requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules and regulations of the Commission promulgated thereunder (the "Sarbanes-Oxley Act");

7. The statistical and market related data contained in the Prospectus and Registration Statement are based on or derived from sources that the Company believes are reliable and accurate;

8. This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company;

9. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has sustained, since the date of the latest audited financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, any material loss or interference with its business from fire, explosion, flood or other calamity, whether or not covered by insurance, or from any labor dispute or court or governmental action, order or decree, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus; and, since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, there has not been any material change in the capital stock or long-term debt of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any material adverse change, or any development that may cause a prospective material adverse change, in or affecting the general affairs, management, financial position, business prospects, stockholders' equity or results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus;

10. The Company and its subsidiaries have good and marketable title in fee simple to all real property and good and marketable title to all personal property owned by them, in each case free and clear of all liens, encumbrances and defects except such as are described in the Prospectus or such as do not materially affect the value of such property and do not interfere with the use made and proposed to be made of such property by the Company and its subsidiaries; and any real property and buildings held under lease by the Company and its subsidiaries are held by them under valid, subsisting and enforceable leases with such exceptions as are not material and do not interfere with the use made and proposed to be made of such property and buildings by the Company and its subsidiaries;

11. The Company is a registered bank holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended ("BHCA") with respect to United Community Bank ("UCB-Georgia"), United Community Bank ("UCB-North Carolina") and United Community Bank Tennessee ("UCB-Tennessee") (UCB-Georgia, UCB-North Carolina, and UCB-Tennessee are collectively referred to in this Agreement as the "Banks") and has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation, with the corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Prospectus and to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement; the Company is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each other jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business;

12. Each subsidiary of the Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation and has the corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Prospectus and, in the case of each Bank, to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement; each subsidiary of the Company is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each other jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except for such jurisdictions where the failure to so qualify, or be in good standing, would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on the business, properties, assets, current or future consolidated financial position, business prospects, stockholders' equity or results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries taken as a whole or on the ability of the Company to consummate the transactions contemplated herein (a "Material Adverse Effect"); all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of each subsidiary has been duly authorized and validly issued, is fully paid and nonassessable and is owned by the Company, directly or through subsidiaries; the Company owns, directly or through subsidiaries, the issued and outstanding capital stock of each subsidiary free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, encumbrance or claim; the Company does not own or control, directly or indirectly, any corporation, association or other entity other than the subsidiaries listed in Exhibit 21 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004 and such other entities as are listed on Schedule II hereto; the activities of the subsidiaries of the Banks are permitted to subsidiaries of a Georgia or North Carolina state chartered commercial bank, as applicable (UCB-Tennessee has no subsidiaries), and the deposit accounts of the Banks are insured up to the applicable limits by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC");

13. The Company has an authorized capitalization as set forth in the Prospectus under the heading "Capitalization," and all of the issued shares of capital stock of the Company have been duly and validly authorized and issued, are fully paid and non-assessable and have been issued in compliance with federal and state securities laws; none of the outstanding shares of Stock were issued in violation of any preemptive rights, rights of first refusal or other similar rights to subscribe for or purchase securities of the Company; the description of the Company's stock option, stock bonus and other stock plans or arrangements and the options or other rights granted thereunder, set forth or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus accurately and completely presents, in all material respects, the information required to be shown with respect to such plans, arrangements, options and rights;

14. The unissued Shares to be issued and sold by the Company to the Underwriters hereunder have been duly and validly authorized and, when issued and delivered against payment therefor as provided herein, will be duly and validly issued and fully paid and non-assessable and will conform to the description of the Stock contained in the Prospectus;

15. Except as described in the Prospectus, (A) there are no outstanding rights (contractual or otherwise), warrants or options to acquire, or instruments convertible into or exchangeable for, or agreements or understandings with respect to the sale or issuance by the Company of, any shares of capital stock of or other equity interest in the Company; and (B) there

are no contracts, agreements or understandings between the Company and any person granting such person the right to require the Company to file a Registration Statement under the Act or otherwise register any securities the Company owned or to be owned by such person;

16. The issue and sale of the Shares by the Company and the compliance by the Company with all of the provisions of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated will not conflict with or result in a breach or violation of any of the terms or provisions of, or constitute a default under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement or other agreement or instrument to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is bound or to which any of the property or assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is subject, nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the articles of incorporation or charter (as applicable) or bylaws of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any statute or any order, rule or regulation of any federal, state, local or foreign court or governmental agency (each a "Governmental Entity") or body having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its subsidiaries or any of their properties; and no consent, approval, authorization, order, registration or qualification of or with any such court or governmental agency or body is required for the issue and sale of the Shares or the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, except the registration under the Act of the Shares and except as may be required under the rules and regulations of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") and such consents, approvals, authorizations, registrations or qualifications as may be required under state securities or Blue Sky laws in connection with the purchase and distribution of the Shares by the Underwriters;

17. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is in violation of its articles of incorporation or charter (as applicable) or bylaws or in default in the performance or observance of any material obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement, note, lease or other agreement or instrument to which it is a party or by which it or any of its properties may be bound;

18. The statements set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "Description of Common Stock," insofar as they purport to constitute a summary of the terms of the Stock, are accurate and complete;

19. Except as disclosed in the Prospectus, the Company and its subsidiaries are conducting their respective businesses in compliance in all material respects with all federal, state, local and foreign statutes, laws, rules, regulations, decisions, directives and orders applicable to them (including, without limitation, all regulations and orders of, or agreements with, the Georgia Department of Banking and Finance, the North Carolina Commissioner of Banks, and the Tennessee Department of Financial Institutions (collectively, the "State Regulatory Authorities"), the Federal Reserve Board (the "FRB") and the FDIC, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Fair Housing Act, the Community Reinvestment Act, the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, all other applicable fair lending laws or other laws relating to discrimination and the Bank Secrecy Act and Title III of the USA Patriot Act), and neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has received any communication from any Governmental

Entity asserting that the Company or any of its subsidiaries is not in compliance with any statute, law, rule, regulation, decision, directive or order (other than instances of noncompliance cited in examination reports of Governmental Entities that have not had are not reasonably expected to have, individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect);

20. Except as disclosed in the Prospectus, there are no legal or governmental actions or suits, investigations proceedings before or by any Governmental Entity, now pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened or contemplated by Government Entities or threatened in writing by others, to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or of which any property of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is the subject (A) that is required to be disclosed in the Registration Statement by the Act or by the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder and not disclosed therein or (B) that, if determined adversely to the Company or any of its subsidiaries, would, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect; all pending legal or governmental proceedings to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or of which any of their property is the subject, either individually or in the aggregate, that are not described in the Registration Statement, including ordinary routine litigation incidental to their respective businesses, would not have a Material Adverse Effect; and there are no contracts or documents of the Company or any of its subsidiaries that would be required to be described in the Registration Statement or to be filed as exhibits thereto by the Act or by the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder that have not been so described and filed;

21. Each of the Company and its subsidiaries possesses all permits, licenses, approvals, consents and other authorizations of (collectively, "Governmental Licenses"), and has made all filings, applications and registrations with, all Governmental Entities to permit the Company or such subsidiary to conduct the business now operated by the Company or its subsidiaries; the Company and its subsidiaries are in compliance with the terms and conditions of all such Governmental Licenses, except where the failure so to comply would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect; all of the Governmental Licenses are valid and in full force and effect, except where the invalidity of such Governmental Licenses or the failure of such Governmental Licenses to be in full force and effect would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect; and neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has received any notice of proceedings relating to the revocation or modification of any such Governmental Licenses that, singly or in the aggregate, if the subject of an unfavorable decision, ruling or finding, would result in a Material Adverse Effect;

22. To the knowledge of the Company and its subsidiaries, no change in any law or regulation is pending that would reasonably be expected to result, individually or in the aggregate, in a Material Adverse Effect, except as described in the Prospectus;

23. Each of the Company and its subsidiaries is in compliance in all material respects with all applicable federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations, including, without limitation, those applicable to emissions to the environment, waste management, and waste disposal (collectively, the "Environmental Laws"), except where such noncompliance would not be reasonably likely to have a Material Adverse Effect, or except as

disclosed in the Prospectus, and to the knowledge of the Company, there are no circumstances that would prevent, interfere with or materially increase the cost of such compliance in the future;

24. Except as disclosed in the Prospectus, there is no claim under any Environmental Law, including common law, pending or, to the best knowledge of the Company, threatened against the Company or its subsidiaries (an "Environmental Claim"), that would be reasonably likely to have a Material Adverse Effect, and, to the knowledge of the Company, under applicable law, there are no past or present actions, activities, circumstances, events or incidents, including, without limitation, releases of any material into the environment, that are reasonably likely to form the basis of any Environmental Claim against the Company or its subsidiaries that would be reasonably likely to have a Material Adverse Effect;

25. Each of the Company and its subsidiaries owns or possesses adequate rights to use all material patents, patent applications, trademarks, service marks, trade names, trademark registrations, service mark registrations, copyrights and licenses necessary for the conduct of its business and has no reason to believe that the conduct of its business will conflict with, and has not received any notice of any claim of conflict with, any such rights of others;

26. No relationship, direct or indirect, exists between or among the Company on the one hand, and the directors, officers, customers or suppliers of the Company on the other hand, that is required to be described in the Registration Statement by the Act or by the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder that has not been so described;

27. The Company is not and, after giving effect to the offering and sale of the Shares and after receipt of payment for the Shares and the application of such proceeds as described in the Prospectus, will not be an "investment company" or an entity "controlled" by an "investment company", as such terms are defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act");

28. The Company is in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act;

29. The Company has not taken and will not take, directly or indirectly, any action designed to or that might be reasonably expected to cause or result in stabilization or manipulation of the price of the Stock to facilitate the sale or resale of the Shares;

30. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries nor, to the knowledge of the Company, any director, officer, agent, employee or other person associated with or acting on behalf of the Company or any of its subsidiaries has (i) used any corporate funds for any unlawful contribution, gift, entertainment or other unlawful expense relating to political activity; (ii) made any direct or indirect unlawful payment to any foreign or domestic government official or employee from corporate funds; (iii) violated or is in violation of any provision of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977; or (iv) made any bribe, rebate, payoff, influence payment, kickback or other unlawful payment;

31. The Company maintains a system of accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that (A) transactions are executed in accordance with management's general or specific authorization; (B) transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP and to maintain accountability for assets; (C) access to assets is permitted only in accordance with management's general or specific authorization; and (D) the recorded accountability for assets is compared with existing assets at reasonable intervals and appropriate action is taken with respect to any differences;

32. The Company has established and maintains disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act); such disclosure controls and procedures (A) are designed to ensure that material information relating to the Company, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to the Company's Chief Executive Officer and its Chief Financial Officer by others within those entities, particularly during the periods in which the Exchange Act Reports are being prepared, (B) have been evaluated for effectiveness as of the end of the applicable annual or quarterly period reported to the Commission and (C) are effective to perform the functions for which they were established; the Company's auditors, the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors and the Underwriters have been advised of: (A) any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls that could adversely affect the Company's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data, and (B) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a role in the Company's internal controls; any material weaknesses in internal controls have been identified for the Company's auditors; since the date of the most recent evaluation of such disclosure controls and procedures, there have been no significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses; and the Company reasonably expects to file with the Commission in a timely manner management's annual report on internal control over financial reporting, required by Item 308(a) of Regulation S-K under the Act and the Exchange Act, and the related attestation report of Porter Keadle Moore, LLP, required by Item 308(b) of Regulation S-K under the Act and the Exchange Act;

33. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is subject or is party to, or has received any notice or advice that any of them may become subject or party to any investigation with respect to, any corrective, suspension or cease-and-desist order, agreement, consent agreement or other regulatory enforcement action, proceeding or order with or by, or is a party to any commitment letter or similar undertaking to, or is subject to any directive by, or has been a recipient of any supervisory letter from, or has adopted any board resolutions at the request of, any Governmental Entity charged with the supervision or regulation of depository institutions or engaged in the insurance of deposits (including the FDIC) or the supervision or regulation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries that currently relates to or restricts in any material respect their business or their management (each, a "Regulatory Agreement"), nor has the Company or any of its subsidiaries been advised by any such Governmental Entity that it is considering issuing or requesting any such Regulatory Agreement; there is no unresolved violation, criticism or exception by any such Governmental Entity with respect to any report or

statement relating to any examinations of the Company or any of its subsidiaries that, in the reasonable judgment of the Company, is expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect;

34. Each "employee benefit plan" (as defined under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, and the regulations and published interpretations thereunder (collectively, "ERISA")) established or maintained by the Company, its subsidiaries or their "ERISA Affiliates" (as defined below) is in compliance in all material respects with ERISA; "ERISA Affiliate" means, with respect to the Company or a subsidiary, any member of any group of organizations described in Section 414(b), (c), (m) or (o) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the regulations and published interpretations thereunder (the "Code") of which the Company or such subsidiary is a member; no "reportable event" (as defined under ERISA) has occurred or is reasonably expected to occur with respect to any "employee benefit plan" established or maintained by the Company, its subsidiaries or any of their ERISA Affiliates; no "employee benefit plan" established or maintained by the Company, its subsidiaries or any of their ERISA Affiliates, if such "employee benefit plan" were terminated, would have any "amount of unfunded benefit liabilities" (as defined under ERISA); none of the Company, its subsidiaries nor any of their ERISA Affiliates has incurred or reasonably expects to incur any liability under (A) Title IV of ERISA with respect to termination of, or withdrawal from, any "employee benefit plan" or (B) Sections 412, 4971, 4975 or 4980B of the Code; each "employee benefit plan" established or maintained by the Company, its subsidiaries or any of their ERISA Affiliates that is intended to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code is so qualified, and nothing has occurred whether by action or failure to act, that would cause the loss of such qualification;

35. The Company and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, are insured by insurers of recognized financial responsibility against such losses and risks and in such amounts as are customary in the business in which they are engaged; and neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has any reason to believe that it will not be able to renew its existing insurance coverage from similar insurers as may be necessary to continue its business at a cost that would not have a Material Adverse Effect; neither the Company nor any subsidiary has been denied any insurance coverage that it has sought or for which it has applied;

36. Except as disclosed in the Prospectus, there are no contracts, agreements or understandings between the Company and any person that would give rise to a valid claim against the Company, or any Underwriter, for a brokerage commission, finder's fee or other like payment;

37. The Company and its consolidated subsidiaries and its other subsidiaries have filed all necessary federal, state and foreign income and franchise tax returns or have properly requested extensions thereof and have paid all taxes required to be paid by any of them; the Company has made adequate charges, accruals and reserves in the applicable financial statements referred to in Section 1(a)(v) above in respect of all federal, state and foreign income and franchise taxes for all periods as to which the tax liability of the Company or any of its consolidated subsidiaries or any of its other subsidiaries has not been finally determined;

38. The Company is in compliance with the corporate governance and other rules and requirements of the Nasdaq National Market; and

39. No forward-looking statement (within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act) contained in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus has been made or reaffirmed without a reasonable basis or has been disclosed other than in good faith.

(b) Each Bank represents and warrants to, and agrees with, each of the Underwriters that:

1. Such Bank has been duly chartered and is validly existing as a commercial bank in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its organization, with the corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Prospectus and to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement; such Bank is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each other jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business;

2. Neither such Bank nor any of its subsidiaries is in violation of its certificate of incorporation or charter (as applicable) or bylaws or is in default in the performance or observance of any material obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement, note, lease or other agreement or instrument to which it is a party or by which it or any of its properties may be bound;

3. This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by such Bank; and

4. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement by such Bank and the compliance by the Bank with all of the provisions of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated will not conflict with or result in a breach or violation of any of the terms or provisions of, or constitute a default under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement or other agreement or instrument to which the Bank or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which the Bank or any of its subsidiaries is bound or to which any of the property or assets of the Bank or any of its subsidiaries are subject, nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the certificate of incorporation or charter (as applicable) or bylaws of the Bank or any statute or any order, rule or regulation of any Governmental Entity having jurisdiction over the Bank or any of its subsidiaries or any of its properties.

(c) Any certificate signed by an officer of the Company or a Bank and delivered to you or to counsel for the Underwriters shall be deemed to be a representation and warranty by the Company or the Bank, as the case may be, to each Underwriter as to the matters set forth therein.

2. Subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, (a) the Company agrees to issue and sell to each of the Underwriters, severally and not jointly, and each of the Underwriters agrees, severally and not jointly, to purchase from the Company, at a purchase price per share of \$26.22, the number of Firm Shares set forth opposite the name of such Underwriter in Schedule I hereto and (b) in the event and to the extent that the Underwriters shall exercise their election to purchase Optional Shares as provided below, the Company agrees to issue and sell to each of the Underwriters, and each of the Underwriters agrees, severally and not jointly, to purchase from the Company, at the purchase price per share set forth in clause (a) of this Section 2, that portion of the number of Optional Shares as to which such election shall have been exercised (to be adjusted by you so as to eliminate fractional shares) determined by multiplying such number of Optional Shares by a fraction, the numerator of which is the maximum number of Optional Shares that such Underwriter is entitled to purchase as set forth opposite the name of such Underwriter in Schedule I hereto and the denominator of which is the maximum number of Optional Shares that all of the Underwriters are entitled to purchase hereunder.

The Company hereby grants to the Underwriters the right to purchase at their election up to 202,500 Optional Shares, at the purchase price per share set forth in clause (a) of the paragraph above, for the sole purpose of covering sales of shares in excess of the number of Firm Shares. Any such election to purchase Optional Shares may be exercised only by written notice from you to the Company, given within a period of 30 calendar days after the date of this Agreement, setting forth the aggregate number of Optional Shares to be purchased and the date on which such Optional Shares are to be delivered, as determined by you but in no event earlier than the First Time of Delivery (as defined in Section 4 hereof) or, unless you and the Company otherwise agree in writing, no earlier than two or later than ten business days after the date of such notice.

3. Upon the authorization by you of the release of the Firm Shares, the several Underwriters propose to offer the Firm Shares for sale upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Prospectus.

4. (a) The Shares to be purchased by each Underwriter hereunder, in definitive form, and in such authorized denominations and registered in such names as the Representative may request upon at least forty-eight hours' prior notice to the Company shall be delivered by or on behalf of the Company to the Representative through the facilities of the Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), for the account of such Underwriter, against payment by or on behalf of such Underwriter of the purchase price therefor by wire transfer of Federal (same day) funds to the account specified by the Company to the Representative at least 48 hours in advance. The Company will cause the certificates representing the Shares to be made available for checking and packaging at least twenty-four hours prior to the Time of Delivery (as defined below) with respect thereto at the office of DTC or its designated custodian (the "Designated Office"). The time and date of such delivery and payment shall be, with respect to the Firm Shares, 10:00 a.m., Eastern time, on November 21, 2005 or such other time and date as the Representative and the Company may agree upon in writing, and, with respect to the Optional Shares, 10:00 a.m., New York time, on the date specified by the Representative in the written notice given by the Representative of the Underwriters' election to purchase such Optional Shares, or such other time and date as the Representative and the Company may agree upon in writing. Such time and

date for delivery of the Firm Shares is herein called the "First Time of Delivery," such time and date for delivery of the Optional Shares, if not the First Time of Delivery, is herein called the "Second Time of Delivery," and each such time and date for delivery is herein called a "Time of Delivery."

(b) The documents to be delivered at each Time of Delivery by or on behalf of the parties hereto pursuant to Section 7 hereof, including the cross receipt for the Shares and any additional documents requested by the Underwriters pursuant to Section 7(k) hereof, will be delivered at the Atlanta, Georgia offices of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP (the "Closing Location"), and the Shares will be delivered at the Designated Office, all at such Time of Delivery. A meeting will be held at the Closing Location at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on the New York Business Day next preceding such Time of Delivery, at which meeting the final drafts of the documents to be delivered pursuant to the preceding sentence will be available for review by the parties hereto. For the purposes of this Section 4, "New York Business Day" shall mean each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday that is not a day on which banking institutions in New York are generally authorized or obligated by law or executive order to close.

5. The Company agrees with each of the Underwriters:

(a) To prepare the Prospectus in a form approved by you and to file such Prospectus pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Act not later than the Commission's close of business on the second business day following the execution and delivery of this Agreement, or, if applicable, such earlier time as may be required by Rule 430A(a)(3) under the Act; to make no further amendment or any supplement to the Registration Statement or Prospectus that shall be disapproved by you promptly after reasonable notice thereof; to advise you, promptly after it receives notice thereof, of the time when any amendment to the Registration Statement has been filed or becomes effective or any supplement to the Prospectus or any amended Prospectus has been filed and to furnish you with copies thereof; to advise you, promptly after it receives notice thereof, of the issuance by the Commission of any stop order or of any order preventing or suspending the use of any Preliminary Prospectus or Prospectus, of the suspension of the qualification of the Shares for offering or sale in any jurisdiction, of the initiation or threatening of any proceeding for any such purpose, or of any request by the Commission for the amending or supplementing of the Registration Statement or Prospectus or for additional information; and, in the event of the issuance of any stop order or of any order preventing or suspending the use of any Preliminary Prospectus or prospectus or suspending any such qualification, promptly to use its best efforts to obtain the withdrawal of such order;

(b) Promptly from time to time to take such action as you may reasonably request to qualify the Shares for offering and sale under the securities laws of such jurisdictions as you may request and to comply with such laws so as to permit the continuance of sales and dealings therein in such jurisdictions for as long as may be necessary to complete the distribution of the Shares, provided that in connection therewith the Company shall not be required to qualify as a foreign corporation or to file a general consent to service of process in any jurisdiction;

(c) Prior to 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on the New York Business Day next succeeding the date of this Agreement and from time to time, to furnish the Underwriters with copies of the Prospectus at such locations and in such quantities as you may from time to time reasonably request, and, if the delivery of a prospectus is required at any time in connection with the offering or sale of the Shares and if at such time any event shall have occurred as a result of which the Prospectus as then amended or supplemented would include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made when such Prospectus is delivered, not misleading, or, if for any other reason it shall be necessary during such period to amend or supplement the Prospectus or to file under the Exchange Act any document incorporated by reference in the Prospectus in order to comply with the Act or the Exchange Act, to notify you and upon your request to file such document and to prepare and furnish without charge to each Underwriter and to any dealer in securities as many written and electronic copies as you may from time to time reasonably request of an amended Prospectus or a supplement to the Prospectus that will correct such statement or omission or effect such compliance, and in case any Underwriter is required to deliver a prospectus in connection with sales of any of the Shares at any time nine months or more after the time of issue of the Prospectus, upon your request but at the expense of such Underwriter, to prepare and deliver to such Underwriter as many copies as you may reasonably request of an amended or supplemented Prospectus complying with Section 10(a)(3) of the Act;

(d) To make generally available to its securityholders as soon as practicable, but in any event not later than eighteen months after the effective date of the Registration Statement (as defined in Rule 158(c) under the Act), an earnings statement of the Company and its subsidiaries (which need not be audited) complying with Section 11(a) of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder (including, at the option of the Company, Rule 158);

(e) During the period beginning from the date hereof and continuing to and including the date 90 days after the date of the Prospectus, not to, and to use its best efforts not to allow its directors, and executive officers to, directly or indirectly, offer, sell, contract or grant any option to sell, pledge, transfer or establish an open "put equivalent position" within the meaning of Rule 16a-1(h) under the Exchange Act, or otherwise dispose of or transfer, or announce the offering of, or file a registration statement under the Act in respect of, except as provided hereunder, any securities of the Company that are substantially similar to the Shares, including but not limited to any securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, Stock or any such substantially similar securities (other than pursuant to employee stock option or restricted stock plans existing on, or upon the conversion or exchange of convertible or exchangeable securities outstanding as of, the date of this Agreement), without your prior written consent;

(f) During a period of five years from the effective date of the Registration Statement, to furnish to its shareholders as soon as practicable after the end of each fiscal year an annual report (including a balance sheet and statements of income, stockholders' equity and cash flows of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries certified by independent public accountants) and, as soon as practicable after the end of each of the first three quarters of each

fiscal year (beginning with the fiscal quarter ending after the effective date of the Registration Statement), to make available to its shareholders consolidated summary financial information of the Company and its subsidiaries for such quarter in reasonable detail;

(g) During a period of five years from the effective date of the Registration Statement, to furnish to you copies of all reports or other communications (financial or other) furnished to shareholders, and to deliver to you (i) as soon as they are available, copies of any reports and financial statements furnished to or filed with the Commission or any national securities exchange on which any class of securities of the Company is listed; and (ii) consistent with the Company's obligations under Regulation FD, such additional information concerning the business and financial condition of the Company as you may from time to time reasonably request (such financial statements to be on a consolidated basis to the extent the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries are consolidated in reports furnished to its shareholders generally or to the Commission);

(h) To use the net proceeds received by it from the sale of the Shares pursuant to this Agreement in the manner specified in the Prospectus under the caption "Use of Proceeds";

(i) If the Company elects to rely on Rule 462(b), the Company shall file a Rule 462(b) Registration Statement with the Commission in compliance with Rule 462(b) by 10:00 p.m., Eastern Time on the date of this Agreement, and the Company shall at the time of filing either pay to the Commission the filing fee for the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement or give irrevocable instructions for the payment of such fee pursuant to Rule 111(b) under the Act;

(j) To use its best efforts to list for quotation the Shares on the Nasdaq National Market System;

(k) During the period beginning on the date hereof and ending on the later of the fifth anniversary of the First Time of Delivery or the date on which the Underwriters receive full payment in satisfaction of any claim for indemnification or contribution to which they may be entitled pursuant to Section 9 of this Agreement, neither the Company nor the Banks shall, without the prior written consent of Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., take or permit to be taken any action that could result in the Banks' common stock becoming subject to any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien or encumbrance; provided, however, that this covenant shall be null and void if the FRB, any State Regulatory Agency, the FDIC, or any other federal agency having jurisdiction over any Bank, by regulation, policy statement or interpretive release or by written order or written advice addressed to the Bank or Banks and specifically addressing the provisions of Section 8 hereof, permits indemnification of the Underwriters by the Banks as contemplated by such provisions;

(l) The Company will comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; and

(m) The Company will comply with the corporate governance and other rules and requirement of the Nasdaq National Market.

6. The Company covenants and agrees with the several Underwriters that the Company will pay or cause to be paid the following, whether or not the transactions contemplated herein are completed: (i) the reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Underwriters in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby, including, without limitation, disbursements, fees and expenses of Underwriters' counsel (not to exceed \$100,000) and marketing, syndication and travel expenses; (ii) the fees, disbursements and expenses of the Company's counsel and accountants in connection with the registration of the Shares under the Act and all other expenses in connection with the preparation, printing and filing of amendments and supplements thereto and the mailing and delivering of copies thereof to the Underwriters and dealers; (iii) the cost of printing or producing any agreement among Underwriters, this Agreement, the Blue Sky survey, closing documents (including any compilations thereof) and any other documents in connection with the offering, purchase, sale and delivery of the Shares; (iv) all expenses in connection with the qualification of the Shares for offering and sale under state securities as provided in Section 5(b) hereof, including the fees and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters in connection with such qualification and in connection with the Blue Sky survey; (v) all fees and expenses in connection with listing the Shares on the Nasdaq National Market; (vi) the filing fees incident to, and the fees and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters in connection with, securing any required review by the NASD of the terms of the sale of the Shares; (vii) the cost of preparing stock certificates; (viii) the cost and charges of any transfer agent or registrar; (ix) the cost of obtaining all securities and regulatory approvals, if any, from any applicable Governmental Entity; and (x) all other costs and expenses incident to the performance of its obligations hereunder that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this Section.

7. The obligations of the several Underwriters hereunder, as to the Shares to be delivered at each Time of Delivery, shall be subject, in their discretion, to the condition that all representations and warranties and other statements of the Company herein are, at and as of such Time of Delivery, true and correct, the condition that the Company shall have performed all of its obligations hereunder theretofore to be performed, and the following additional conditions:

(a) The Prospectus shall have been filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) within the applicable time period prescribed for such filing by the rules and regulations under the Act and in accordance with Section 5(a) hereof (or a post-effective amendment shall have been filed and declared effective in accordance with the requirements of Rule 430A); if the Company has elected to rely upon Rule 462(b), the Rule 462(b) Registration Statement shall have become effective by 10:00 P.M., Eastern Time, on the date of this Agreement; no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or any part thereof shall have been issued and no proceeding for that purpose shall have been initiated or threatened by the Commission; and all requests for additional information on the part of the Commission shall have been complied with to your reasonable satisfaction; and the NASD shall have raised no obligation to the fairness and reasonableness of the underwriting terms and arrangements;

(b) Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP, counsel for the Underwriters, shall have furnished to you such written opinion or opinions, dated such Time of Delivery, with

respect to such matters as you may reasonably request, and such counsel shall have received such papers and information as they may reasonably request to enable them to pass upon such matters;

(c) Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, counsel for the Company, shall have furnished to you their written opinion (upon which Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP may rely), dated such Time of Delivery, in form and substance satisfactory to you, with respect to the matters set forth the attached Exhibit A, or to such further effect as Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP may reasonably request;

(d) On the date of the Prospectus at a time prior to the execution of this Agreement, at 9:30 a.m., Eastern Time, on the effective date of any post-effective amendment to the Registration Statement filed subsequent to the date of this Agreement and also at each Time of Delivery, Porter Keadle Moore, LLP shall have furnished to you a letter or letters, dated the respective dates of delivery thereof, in form and substance satisfactory to you, with respect to the financial statements of the Company and certain financial information contained in the Prospectus.

(e) (i) Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries shall have sustained, since the date of the latest audited financial statements included or incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, any loss or interference with its business from fire, explosion, flood or other calamity, whether or not covered by insurance, or from any labor dispute or court or governmental action, order or decree, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus, and (ii) since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Prospectus there shall not have been any change in the capital stock or long-term debt of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (except for advances to one or more of the Banks from the Federal Home Loan Banks in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice) or any change, or any development involving a prospective change, in or affecting the general affairs, management, financial position, stockholders' equity or results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries, otherwise than as set forth or contemplated in the Prospectus, the effect of which, in any such case described in clause (i) or (ii), is in the judgment of the Representative so material and adverse as to make it impracticable or inadvisable to proceed with the public offering or the delivery of the Shares being delivered at such Time of Delivery on the terms and in the manner contemplated in the Prospectus;

(f) On or after the date hereof (i) no downgrading shall have occurred in the rating accorded the Company's debt securities by any "nationally recognized statistical rating organization," as that term is defined by the Commission for purposes of Rule 436(g)(2) under the Act, and (ii) no such organization shall have publicly announced that it has under surveillance or review, with possible negative implications, its rating of any of the Company's debt securities;

(g) On or after the date hereof there shall not have occurred any of the following: (i) a suspension or material limitation in trading in securities generally on the New York Stock Exchange or on the Nasdaq; (ii) a suspension or material limitation in trading in the Company's securities on the Nasdaq; (iii) a general moratorium on commercial banking

activities declared by the Federal, New York, Georgia, Tennessee or North Carolina authorities or a material disruption in commercial banking or securities settlement or clearance services in the United States; (iv) the outbreak or escalation of hostilities involving the United States or the declaration by the United States of a national emergency or war; or (v) the occurrence of any other calamity or crisis or any change in financial, political or economic conditions in the United States or elsewhere, including without limitation, as a result of terrorist activities occurring after the date hereof, if the effect of any such event specified in clause (iv) or (v), in the judgment of the Representative makes it impracticable or inadvisable to proceed with the public offering or the delivery of the Shares being delivered at such Time of Delivery on the terms and in the manner contemplated in the Prospectus;

(h) The Shares to be sold at such Time of Delivery shall have been duly listed for quotation on the Nasdaq National Market;

(i) The Company has obtained and delivered to the Underwriters executed copies of an agreement from each officer and director of the Company, substantially to the effect set forth in Subsection 5(e) hereof in form and substance satisfactory to you;

(j) The Company shall have complied with the provisions of Section 5(c) hereof with respect to the furnishing of prospectuses on the New York Business Day next succeeding the date of this Agreement; and

(k) The Company shall have furnished or caused to be furnished to you at such Time of Delivery certificates of officers of the Company satisfactory to you as to the accuracy of the representations and warranties of the Company herein at and as of such Time of Delivery, as to the performance by the Company of all of its obligations hereunder to be performed at or prior to such Time of Delivery, as to the matters set forth in subsections (a) and (e) of this Section and as to such other matters as you may reasonably request.

If any condition specified in this Section shall not have been fulfilled when and as required to be fulfilled, this Agreement may be terminated by you, on behalf of the Underwriters, by notice to the Company at any time on or prior to the Time of Delivery. If the sale of the Shares provided for herein is not consummated because any condition set forth in this Section 7 is not satisfied, because of any termination pursuant to Section 11(a) hereof, or because of any refusal, inability or failure on the part of the Company to perform any agreement herein or comply with any provision hereof, the Company will reimburse the Underwriters upon demand for all documented out-of-pocket expenses (including reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel) that shall have been incurred by the Underwriters in connection with the proposed offering of the Shares. In addition, such termination shall be subject to Section 6 hereof, and Sections 1, 8 and 10 hereof shall survive any such termination and remain in full force and effect.

8. (a) The Company and the Banks, jointly and severally, will indemnify and hold harmless each Underwriter against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities, joint or several, to which such Underwriter may become subject, under the Act or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon an

untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Preliminary Prospectus, the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, or any amendment or supplement thereto, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, and will reimburse each Underwriter for any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such Underwriter in connection with investigating or defending any such action or claim as such expenses are incurred; provided, however, that the Company and the Banks shall not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage or liability arises out of or is based upon an untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission made in any Preliminary Prospectus, the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or any such amendment or supplement in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by any Underwriter through the Representative expressly for use therein (provided that the Company, the Banks and the Underwriters hereby acknowledge and agree that the only information that the Underwriters have furnished to the Company specifically for inclusion in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) are the share allocation, concession and reallocation figures appearing in the Prospectus in the section entitled "Underwriting"). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the indemnification provided for in this paragraph (a) shall be limited with respect to each Bank to the extent that any Governmental Entity provides to the Company or any Bank (i) a notice of charges, (ii) an advisement that a notice of assessment of civil money penalties is being considered, or (iii) a notice of assessment of civil money penalties as a result of Bank indemnification. The Company and the Banks agree to notify the Representative immediately upon receipt of such notice or advisement and to seek in good faith the withdrawal of such notice or advisement from such Governmental Entity. If such notice or advisement is not withdrawn after such good faith efforts, then the indemnification obligation hereunder shall be limited for each Bank to an aggregate amount equal to the largest amount that would be permitted under such notice or advisement.

(b) Each Underwriter will indemnify and hold harmless the Company against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities to which the Company may become subject, under the Act or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon an untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Preliminary Prospectus, the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, or any amendment or supplement thereto, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, in each case to the extent, but only to the extent, that such untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission was made in any Preliminary Prospectus, the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or any such amendment or supplement in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by such Underwriter through the Representative expressly for use therein (provided that the Company and the Underwriters hereby acknowledge and agree that the only information that the Underwriters have furnished to the Company specifically for inclusion in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) are the share allocation, concession and reallocation figures appearing in the Prospectus in the section entitled "Underwriting"); and will reimburse the Company for any legal

or other expenses reasonably incurred by the Company in connection with investigating or defending any such action or claim as such expenses are incurred.

(c) Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party under subsection (a) or (b) above of notice of the commencement of any action, such indemnified party shall, if a claim in respect thereof is to be made against the indemnifying party under such subsection, notify the indemnifying party in writing of the commencement thereof; but the omission so to notify the indemnifying party shall not relieve it from any liability that it may have to any indemnified party otherwise than under such subsection. In case any such action shall be brought against any indemnified party and it shall notify the indemnifying party of the commencement thereof, the indemnifying party shall be entitled to participate therein and, to the extent that it shall wish, jointly with any other indemnifying party similarly notified, to assume the defense thereof, with counsel satisfactory to such indemnified party (who shall not, except with the consent of the indemnified party which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, be counsel to the indemnifying party) provided, however, if the defendants in any such action include both the indemnified party and the indemnifying party and the indemnified party shall have reasonably concluded that a conflict may arise between the positions of the indemnifying party and the indemnified party in conducting the defense of any such action or that there may be legal defenses available to its and/or other indemnified parties that are different from or additional to those available to the indemnifying party, the indemnified party or parties shall have the right to select separate counsel to assume such legal defenses and to otherwise participate in the defense of such action on behalf of such indemnified party or parties, and, after notice from the indemnifying party to such indemnified party of its election so to assume the defense thereof, the indemnifying party shall not be liable to such indemnified party under such subsection for any legal expenses of other counsel or any other expenses, in each case subsequently incurred by such indemnified party, in connection with the defense thereof other than reasonable costs of investigation unless (i) the indemnified party shall have employed separate counsel in accordance with the proviso to the preceding sentence (it being understood, however, that the indemnifying party shall not be liable for the expenses of more than one separate counsel (together with local counsel), approved by the indemnifying party or (ii) the indemnifying party shall not have employed counsel satisfactory to the indemnified party within a reasonable time after notice of commencement of the action, in each of which cases the fees and expenses of counsel shall be at the expense of the indemnifying party. The indemnifying party under this Section 8 shall not be liable for any settlement of any proceedings effected without its written consent, but if settled with such consent or if there be a final judgment for the plaintiff, the indemnifying party agrees to indemnify the indemnified party against any loss, claim, damage, liability or expense by reason of such settlement or judgment. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, if at any time an indemnified party shall have requested an indemnifying party to reimburse the indemnified party for fees and expenses of counsel as contemplated by this Section 8(c), the indemnifying party agrees that it shall be liable for any settlement of any proceeding effected without its written consent if (i) such settlement is entered into more than 30 days after receipt by such indemnifying party of the aforesaid request and (ii) such indemnifying party shall not have reimbursed the indemnified party in accordance with such request (other than those fees and expenses that are being contested in good faith) prior to the date of such settlement. No indemnifying party shall, without the written consent of the indemnified party, effect the

settlement or compromise of, or consent to the entry of any judgment with respect to, any pending or threatened action or claim in respect of which indemnification or contribution may be sought hereunder (whether or not the indemnified party is an actual or potential party to such action or claim) unless such settlement, compromise or judgment (i) includes an unconditional release of the indemnified party from all liability arising out of such action or claim and (ii) does not include a statement as to or an admission of fault, culpability or a failure to act, by or on behalf of any indemnified party.

(d) If the indemnification provided for in this Section 8 is unavailable to or insufficient to hold harmless an indemnified party under subsection (a) or (b) above in respect of any losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) referred to therein, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such indemnified party as a result of such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other from the offering of the Shares. If, however, the allocation provided by the immediately preceding sentence is not permitted by applicable law or if the indemnified party failed to give the notice required under subsection (c) above, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to such amount paid or payable by such indemnified party in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only such relative benefits but also the relative fault of the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other in connection with the statements or omissions that resulted in such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof), as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other shall be deemed to be in the same proportion as the total net proceeds from the offering (before deducting expenses) received by the Company bear to the total underwriting discounts and commissions received by the Underwriters, in each case as set forth in the table on the cover page of the Prospectus. The relative fault shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information supplied by the Company on the one hand or the Underwriters on the other and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission. The Company, the Banks and the Underwriters agree that it would not be just and equitable if contributions pursuant to this subsection (d) were determined by pro rata allocation (even if the Underwriters were treated as one entity for such purpose) or by any other method of allocation that does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to above in this subsection (d). The amount paid or payable by an indemnified party as a result of the losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) referred to above in this subsection (d) shall be deemed to include any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such indemnified party in connection with investigating or defending any such action or claim. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection (d), no Underwriter shall be required to contribute any amount in excess of the amount by which the total price at which the Shares underwritten by it and distributed to the public were offered to the public exceeds the amount of any damages that such underwriter has otherwise been required to pay by reason of any such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission. No person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. The

Underwriters' obligations in this subsection (d) to contribute are several in proportion to their respective underwriting obligations and not joint. For purposes of this Section 8, each officer and employee of an Underwriter and each person, if any, who controls an Underwriter within the meaning of the Act and the Exchange Act shall have the same rights to contribution as such Underwriter, and each director of the Company, each officer of the Company who signed the Registration Statement, and each person, if any, who controls the Company with the meaning of the Act and the Exchange Act shall have the same rights to contribution as the Company.

(e) The obligations of the Company and the Banks under this Section 8 shall be in addition to any liability that the Company or the Banks may otherwise have and shall extend, upon the same terms and conditions, to each person, if any, who controls any Underwriter within the meaning of the Act or who is an affiliate or partner of any Underwriter; and the obligations of the Underwriters under this Section 8 shall be in addition to any liability that the respective Underwriters may otherwise have and shall extend, upon the same terms and conditions, to each officer and director of the Company, and to each other person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of the Act or who is an affiliate of the Company.

9. (a) If any Underwriter shall default in its obligation to purchase the Shares that it has agreed to purchase hereunder at a Time of Delivery, you may in your discretion arrange for you or another party or other parties to purchase such Shares on the terms contained herein. If within thirty-six hours after such default by any Underwriter you do not arrange for the purchase of such Shares, then the Company shall be entitled to a further period of thirty-six hours within which to procure another party or other parties satisfactory to you to purchase such Shares on such terms. In the event that, within the respective prescribed periods, you notify the Company that you have so arranged for the purchase of such Shares, or the Company notifies you that it has so arranged for the purchase of such Shares, you or the Company shall have the right to postpone such Time of Delivery for a period of not more than seven days, in order to effect whatever changes may thereby be made necessary in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, or in any other documents or arrangements, and the Company agrees to file promptly any amendments to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus that in your opinion may thereby be made necessary. The term "Underwriter" as used in this Agreement shall include any person substituted under this Section with like effect as if such person had originally been a party to this Agreement with respect to such Shares.

(b) If, after giving effect to any arrangements for the purchase of the Shares of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters by you and the Company as provided in subsection (a) above, the aggregate number of such Shares that remains unpurchased does not exceed one-tenth of the aggregate number of all the Shares to be purchased at such Time of Delivery, then the Company shall have the right to require each non-defaulting Underwriter to purchase the number of shares that such Underwriter agreed to purchase hereunder at such Time of Delivery and, in addition, to require each non-defaulting Underwriter to purchase its pro rata share (based on the number of Shares that such Underwriter agreed to purchase hereunder) of the Shares of such defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters for which such arrangements have not been made; but nothing herein shall relieve a defaulting Underwriter from liability for its default.

(c) If, after giving effect to any arrangements for the purchase of the Shares of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters by you and the Company as provided in subsection (a) above, the aggregate number of such Shares that remains unpurchased exceeds one-tenth of the aggregate number of all the Shares to be purchased at such Time of Delivery, or if the Company shall not exercise the right described in subsection (b) above to require non-defaulting Underwriters to purchase Shares of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters, then this Agreement (or, with respect to the Second Time of Delivery, the obligations of the Underwriters to purchase and of the Company to sell the Optional Shares) shall thereupon terminate, without liability on the part of any non-defaulting Underwriter or the Company, except for the expenses to be borne by the Company as provided in Section 6 hereof and the indemnity and contribution agreements in Section 8 hereof; but nothing herein shall relieve a defaulting Underwriter from liability for its default.

10. The respective indemnities, agreements, representations, warranties and other statements of the Company and the several Underwriters, as set forth in this Agreement or made by or on behalf of them, respectively, pursuant to this Agreement, shall remain in full force and effect, regardless of any investigation (or any statement as to the results thereof) made by or on behalf of any Underwriter or any controlling person of any Underwriter, or the Company, or any officer or director or controlling person of the Company, and shall survive delivery of and payment for the Shares.

11. (a) The Representative may terminate this Agreement, by notice to the Company, at any time on or prior to the Time of Delivery if, since the time of execution of this Agreement or, in the case of (i) below, since the date of the most recent balance sheet included in the Financial Statements, there has occurred, (i) any Material Adverse Effect, or (ii) a suspension or material limitation in trading in the Company's securities on the Nasdaq National Market; (iii) a general moratorium on commercial banking activities declared by the Federal, New York, Georgia, North Carolina or Tennessee authorities or a material disruption in commercial banking or securities settlement or clearance services in the United States; or (iv) the outbreak or escalation of hostilities involving the United States or the declaration by the United States of a national emergency or war; or (v) the occurrence of any other calamity or crisis or any change in financial, political or economic conditions in the United States or elsewhere, including without limitation, as a result of terrorist activities occurring after the date hereof, if the effect of any such event specified in clause (iv) or (v), in the judgment of the Representative makes it impracticable or inadvisable to proceed with the public offering or the delivery of the Shares being delivered at such Time of Delivery on the terms and in the manner contemplated in the Prospectus.

(b) If this Agreement is terminated pursuant to this Section 11, such termination shall be without liability of any party to any other party except as provided in Section 6 hereof and provided further that Sections 1, 8 and 10 hereof shall survive such termination and remain in full force and effect.

12. In all dealings hereunder, you shall act on behalf of each of the Underwriters, and the parties hereto shall be entitled to act and rely upon any statement, request, notice or agreement on behalf of any Underwriter made or given by you.

All statements, requests, notices and agreements hereunder shall be in writing, and if to the Underwriters shall be delivered or sent by mail, telex or facsimile transmission to you as the Representative at 919 Third Avenue, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10022, Attention: General Counsel; and if to the Company shall be delivered or sent by mail or facsimile to 63 Highway 515, P.O. Box 398, Blairsville, Georgia 30514, Attention: Jimmy Tallent; provided, however, that any notice to an Underwriter pursuant to Section 8(c) hereof shall be delivered or sent by mail, telex or facsimile transmission to such Underwriter at its address set forth in its Underwriters' Questionnaire, or telex constituting such Questionnaire, which address will be supplied to the Company by you upon request. Any such statements, requests, notices or agreements shall take effect upon receipt thereof.

13. This Agreement shall be binding upon, and inure solely to the benefit of, the Underwriters, the Company and, to the extent provided in Sections 8 and 10 hereof, the officers and directors of the Company and each person who controls the Company or any Underwriter, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, and no other person shall acquire or have any right under or by virtue of this Agreement. No purchaser of any of the Shares from any Underwriter shall be deemed a successor or assign by reason merely of such purchase.

14. Time shall be of the essence of this Agreement. As used herein, the term "business day" shall mean any day when the Commission's office in Washington, D.C. is open for business.

15. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, WITHOUT REGARD TO CONFLICT OF LAWS PRINCIPLES OF SAID STATE OTHER THAN SECTION 5-1401 OF THE NEW YORK GENERAL OBLIGATIONS LAW.

THE COMPANY, ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES, HEREBY IRREVOCABLY SUBMITS TO THE EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION OF THE FEDERAL AND NEW YORK STATE COURTS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK IN CONNECTION WITH ANY SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING RELATED TO THIS AGREEMENT OR ANY OF THE MATTERS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY, IRREVOCABLY WAIVES ANY DEFENSE OF LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND IRREVOCABLY AGREES THAT ALL CLAIMS IN RESPECT OF ANY SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING MAY BE HEARD AND DETERMINED IN ANY SUCH COURT. THE COMPANY, ON BEHALF OF ITSELF AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES, IRREVOCABLY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT IT MAY EFFECTIVELY DO SO UNDER APPLICABLE LAW, ANY OBJECTION THAT IT MAY NOW OR HEREAFTER HAVE TO THE LAYING OF VENUE OF ANY SUCH SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING BROUGHT IN ANY SUCH COURT AND ANY CLAIM THAT ANY SUCH SUIT, ACTION

OR PROCEEDING BROUGHT IN ANY SUCH COURT HAS BEEN BROUGHT IN AN INCONVENIENT FORUM.

16. This Agreement may be executed by any one or more of the parties hereto in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

17. No amendment or waiver of any provision of this Agreement, nor any consent or approval to any departure therefrom, shall in any event be effective unless the same shall be in writing and signed by the parties hereto.

[Signatures on Next Page]

If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding, please sign and return to us four counterparts hereof, and upon the acceptance hereof by you, on behalf of each of the Underwriters, this letter and such acceptance hereof shall constitute a binding agreement between each of the Underwriters, the Company and the Banks. It is understood that your acceptance of this letter on behalf of each of the Underwriters is pursuant to the authority set forth in a form of Agreement among Underwriters, but without warranty on your part as to the authority of the signer thereof.

Very truly yours,

UNITED COMMUNITY BANKS, INC.

By: /s/ Jimmy C. Tallent

Name: Jimmy C. Tallent
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

UNITED COMMUNITY BANK
[GEORGIA]

By: /s/ Rex S. Schuette

Name: Rex S. Schuette
Title: Chief Financial Officer

UNITED COMMUNITY BANK
[NORTH CAROLINA]

By: /s/ Rex S. Schuette

Name: Rex S. Schuette
Title: Chief Financial Officer

UNITED COMMUNITY BANK TENNESSEE

By: /s/ Rex S. Schuette

Name: Rex S. Schuette
Title: Chief Financial Officer

Accepted as of the date hereof:

SANDLER O'NEILL & PARTNERS, L.P.
As representative of the Underwriters

By: Sandler O'Neill & Partners Corp.,
the sole general partner

By: /s/ Michael Lacovard

Name: Michael Lacovard

Title: Secretary

Schedule I

UNDERWRITER	TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRM SHARES TO BE PURCHASED	NUMBER OF OPTIONAL SHARES TO BE PURCHASED IF MAXIMUM OPTION EXERCISED
Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P.	742,500	111,376
Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc.	303,750	45,562
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.	303,750	45,562
Total	1,350,000	202,500

List of Subsidiaries

United Community Development Corp.

United Community Charitable Foundation, Inc.

List of Shareholders

A. William Bennett
Robert H. Blalock
Guy Freeman
Bill M. Gilbert
Thomas C. Gilliland
Robert L. Head, Jr.
Charles E. Hill
Hoyt Holloway
Alan Kumler
Clarence W. Mason, Sr.
Craig Metz
W.C. Nelson, Jr.
Rex Schuette
Jimmy C. Tallent
Tim Wallis
Ray Williams

Form of Opinion of Company Counsel

1. The Company is a registered bank holding company under the BHCA; the Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the State of Georgia, with power and authority (corporate and other) to own its properties and conduct its business as described in the Prospectus and to enter into and performs its obligations under the Agreement;

2. The Company has an authorized capitalization as set forth in the Prospectus under the heading "Capitalization," and all of the issued shares of capital stock of the Company (including the Shares being delivered at such Time of Delivery) have been duly and validly authorized and issued and are fully paid and nonassessable; and the Shares conform to the description of the Stock contained in the Prospectus;

3. Except as described in the Prospectus, (A) there are no outstanding rights (contractual or otherwise), warrants or options to acquire, or instruments convertible into or exchangeable for, or agreements or understandings with respect to the sale or issuance of, any shares of capital stock of or other equity interests in the Company; and (B) there are no contracts, agreements or understandings between the Company and any person granting such person the right to require the Company to file a registration statement under the Act or otherwise register any securities of the Company owned or to be owned by such person;

4. The Company has been duly qualified as a foreign corporation for the transaction of business and is in good standing under the laws of each other jurisdiction in which it owns or leases properties or conducts any business so as to require such qualification, or is subject to any liability or disability by reason of failure to be so qualified in any jurisdiction, except where such failure to be so qualified would not have a Material Adverse Effect;

5. Each of the Company's subsidiaries either has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation or has been duly chartered and is validly existing as a Georgia, North Carolina, or Tennessee state chartered commercial bank, as applicable, in each case, in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation and has the corporate power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Prospectus; each of the Company's subsidiaries is duly qualified as a foreign corporation to transact business and is in good standing in each other jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except for such jurisdictions where the failure to so qualify, or be in good standing would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect; the activities of the subsidiaries of the Banks are activities permitted to subsidiaries of a Georgia, North Carolina, or Tennessee state chartered commercial bank, as applicable, under applicable law and the rules and regulations of the State Regulatory Agencies, and the deposit accounts of the Banks are insured up to the applicable limits by the FDIC; all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of each subsidiary has been duly authorized and validly issued, is fully paid and nonassessable and is

owned by the Company, directly or through subsidiaries; the Company owns, directly or through subsidiaries, the issued and outstanding capital stock of each subsidiary free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, encumbrance or claim; the Company does not own or control, directly or indirectly, any corporation, association or other entity other than the subsidiaries listed in Exhibit 21 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004 and such other entities as are listed on Schedule II hereto;

6. Except as disclosed in the Prospectus, the Company and its subsidiaries are conducting their respective businesses in compliance in all material respects with all laws, rules, regulations, decisions, directives and orders (including, without limitation, all regulations and orders of, or agreements with, the FDIC, the FRB, the State Regulatory Agencies, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Fair Housing Act, the Community Reinvestment Act, the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act and all other applicable fair lending laws or other laws relating to discrimination and the Bank Secrecy Act and Title III of the USA Patriot Act), and neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has received any communication from any Governmental Entity asserting that the Company or any of its subsidiaries is not in compliance with any statute, law, rule, regulation, decision, directive or order; there is no action, suit, investigation or proceeding before or by any government, governmental instrumentality or court, domestic or foreign, now pending or, to the knowledge of such counsel, threatened or contemplated against or affecting the Company or any of its subsidiaries (A) that is required to be disclosed in the Registration Statement and not disclosed therein, (B) that could result, individually or in the aggregate, in any Material Adverse Effect, (C) that could materially and adversely affect the properties, assets or leasehold interests of the Company and its subsidiaries, considered as one enterprise, or (D) that could adversely affect the consummation of the transactions contemplated in the Agreement; all pending legal or governmental proceedings to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or of which any of their property is the subject, that are not described in the Registration Statement, including ordinary routine litigation incidental to their respective businesses, either individually or in the aggregate, would not have a Material Adverse Effect;

7. The Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and the Banks;

8. The issue and sale of the Shares being delivered at such Time of Delivery by the Company and the compliance by the Company with all of the provisions of the Agreement and the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated will not conflict with or result in a breach or violation of any of the terms or provisions of, or constitute a default under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement or other agreement or instrument known to such counsel to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which the Company or any of its subsidiaries is bound or to which any of the property or assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is subject, nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the articles of incorporation or charter (as applicable) or bylaws of the Company or any statute or any order, rule or regulation known to such counsel of any court or Governmental Entity;

9. No consent, approval, authorization, order, registration or qualification of or with any court or Governmental Entity is required for the issue and sale of the Shares or the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated by the Agreement, except the

registration under the Act of the Shares, and except as may be required under the rules and regulations of the NASD and such consents, approvals, authorizations, registrations or qualifications as may be required under state securities or Blue Sky laws in connection with the purchase and distribution of the Shares by the Underwriters;

10. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is in violation of its articles of incorporation or charter (as applicable) or bylaws or, to such counsel's knowledge, in default in the performance or observance of any material obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement, lease or other agreement or instrument to which it is a party or by which it or any of its properties may be bound;

11. The statements set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "Description of Common Stock," insofar as they purport to constitute a summary of the terms of the Stock, and under the caption "Underwriting," insofar as they purport to describe the provisions of the laws and documents referred to therein, are accurate and complete;

12. To the best of such counsel's knowledge, each of the Company and its subsidiaries possesses all Governmental Licenses and has made all filings, applications and registrations with all Governmental Entities that are required in order to permit the Company or such subsidiary to conduct its business as presently conducted, except where the failure to possess such Governmental License or to have made such filing, application or registration would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect; all of the Governmental Licenses are valid and in full force and effect, except where the invalidity of such Governmental Licenses to be in full force and effect, individually or in the aggregate, would not have a Material Adverse Effect; and neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has received any notice of proceedings relating to the revocation or modification of any such Governmental Licenses that, individually or in the aggregate, if the subject of an unfavorable decision, ruling or finding, would result in a Material Adverse Effect;

13. To the best of such counsel's knowledge, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries is subject or is party to, or has received any notice or advice that any of them may become subject or party to any investigation with respect to, any Regulatory Agreement, nor has the Company or any of its subsidiaries been advised by any Governmental Entity that it is considering issuing or requesting any such Regulatory Agreement; there is no unresolved violation, criticism or exception by any Governmental Entity with respect to any report or statement relating to any examinations of the Company or any of its subsidiaries that, in the reasonable judgment of the Company, is expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect;

14. The Company is not, and after giving effect to the offering and sale of the Shares and after receipt of payment for the Shares and the application of such proceeds as described in the Prospectus, will not be, an "investment company" or an entity "controlled" by an "investment company", as such terms are defined in the Investment Company Act;

15. The documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus (other than the financial statements and related schedules therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion), when they were filed with the Commission, complied as to form in all material respects with the requirements of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission

thereunder; and they have no reason to believe that any such documents, when such documents were so filed, contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made when such documents were so filed, not misleading;

16. The Registration Statement and the Prospectus and any further amendments and supplements thereto made by the Company prior to such Time of Delivery (other than the financial statements and related schedules therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion) comply as to form in all material respects with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder; and such counsel does not know of any contracts or other agreements of a character required to be incorporated by reference into the Prospectus or required to be filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement or required to be described in the Registration Statement or Prospectus that are not filed or incorporated by reference or described as required; and

17. The Company is in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the corporate governance and other rules and regulations of the Nasdaq National Market.

In addition, although they do not assume any responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the statements contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, except for those referred to in the opinion in subsection (xii) above, they have no reason to believe that, as of its effective date, the Registration Statement or any further amendment thereto made by the Company prior to such Time of Delivery (other than the financial statements and related schedules therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion) contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading or that, as of its date, the Prospectus or any further amendment or supplement thereto made by the Company prior to such Time of Delivery (other than the financial statements and related schedules therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion) contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading or that, as of such Time of Delivery, either the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or any further amendment or supplement thereto made by the Company prior to such Time of Delivery (other than the financial statements and related schedules therein, as to which such counsel need express no opinion) contains an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and they do not know of any amendment to the Registration Statement required to be filed that has not been filed.



Suite 2800 1100 Peachtree
St. Atlanta GA 30309-4530
t 404 815 6500 f 404 815 6555
www.KilpatrickStockton.com

November 16, 2005

United Community Banks, Inc.
63 Highway 515
Blairsville, Georgia 30512

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to United Community Banks, Inc., a Georgia corporation (the "**Company**"), in connection with the offer and sale of up to 1,552,500 shares (the "**Shares**") of common stock, \$1.00 par value per share ("**Common Stock**"), of the Company registered pursuant to its registration statement on Form S-3, File No. 333-116623 (the "**Registration Statement**") filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "**Commission**"). This opinion is being furnished pursuant to the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K.

In such capacity, we have examined the originals or copies of such documents, corporate records, certificates of public officials and officers of the Company, and other instruments related to the authorization and issuance of the Shares as we deemed relevant or necessary for the opinion expressed herein. In addition, we have examined the Registration Statement and that certain Underwriting Agreement, dated as of November 15, 2005, by and between the Company, United Community Bank — Georgia, United Community Bank — North Carolina, United Community Bank - Tennessee, on the one hand, and Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., for itself and as representative of Keefe Bruyette & Woods, Inc. and Raymond James & Associates, Inc., on the other hand, relating to the sale of the Shares (the "**Underwriting Agreement**"), and have made such other investigation of law and fact as we have deemed necessary in order to enable us to render this opinion. With respect to matters of fact, we have relied upon information provided to us by the Company with no further investigation. With respect to all examined documents, we have assumed the genuineness of signatures on original documents and the conformity to such original documents of all copies submitted to us as certified, conformed or photographic copies, and as to certificates of public officials, we have assumed the same to have been properly given and to be accurate.

Based on and subject to the foregoing, it is our opinion that the Shares, and their offer and sale, have been duly authorized by appropriate corporate actions and approved by the Board of Directors, and that the Shares, when sold in the manner and for the consideration contemplated by the Registration Statement and the Underwriting Agreement, will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

The opinions set forth herein are limited to the laws of the State of Georgia, and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any other law.

Letter to United Community Banks, Inc.

November 16, 2005

Page 2

This opinion letter is provided solely for your benefit in connection with the offer and sale of the Shares and may not be relied upon, quoted or used by any other person or entity or for any other purpose without our prior written consent. We hereby consent to the use of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and further consent to the use of our name in the "Legal Matters" section of the Prospectus and Prospectus Supplement constituting a part of the Registration Statement, and any amendments thereto.

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP

By: /s/ Richard R. Cheatham

Richard R. Cheatham, a Partner



For Immediate Release

For more information:

Rex S. Schuette
Chief Financial Officer
706-781-2265
rex_schuette@ucbi.com

**UNITED COMMUNITY BANKS, INC.
PRICES PUBLIC OFFERING OF
1.35 MILLION SHARES OF COMMON STOCK**

Blairsville, GA., November 16, 2005 — United Community Banks, Inc. (NASDAQ: UCBI) announced today the sale by the company of 1.35 million shares of its common stock at \$27.75 per share. The company has granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 202,500 additional shares to cover over-allotments, if any. The offering is expected to close on November 21, 2005, subject to customary closing conditions.

Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P. was book runner and lead manager for the offering and Keefe Bruyette & Woods, Inc. and Raymond James & Associates, Inc. were co-managers. The offering was made pursuant to an effective shelf registration statement filed with the SEC.

This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy the securities described herein, nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state or jurisdiction in which such an offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or jurisdiction. The common stock offering may be made only by means of a prospectus and related prospectus supplement. Copies of the prospectus supplement and the prospectus relating

to the offering may be obtained from Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., 919 Third Avenue, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10022.

About United Community Banks, Inc.:

Headquartered in Blairsville, United Community Banks is the third-largest bank holding company in Georgia. At September 30, 2005, United Community Banks had assets of \$5.7 billion and operated 24 community banks with 88 banking offices located throughout north Georgia, metro Atlanta, coastal Georgia, western North Carolina and east Tennessee. The company specializes in providing community banking services to individuals and small to mid-size businesses in its markets. United Community Banks also offers the convenience of 24-hour access to its services through a network of ATMs, telephone and on-line banking. United Community Banks common stock is listed on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol UCBI. Additional information can be found at the company's web site, ucbi.com