

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Stern Brothers Closes One of First FHLB Transactions Under
Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 Legislation**
Siena Heights University, \$8.7 Million

April 29, 2009 (St. Louis) – Stern Brothers & Co. is pleased to announce the closing of a \$8.7 Million Series 2009 (AA/A-1+ rated) bond issue for Siena Heights University; one of very few closings that have occurred anywhere as a result of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 legislation allowing Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLB) to provide their credit on non-housing deals. Veteran banker Charlie Forrest and Vice President Bill Reisner served as lead bankers on the transaction.

“This legislation provided an opportunity that few firms have had the privilege to experience. Charlie Forrest and Bill Reisner are two extremely talented and dedicated individuals that represented our Firm and were able to take a new opportunity and turn it into a real solution for Siena Heights,” said Stern Brothers COO Tim Hosler.

Siena Heights, located in Adrian, Michigan, is a higher-educational institution that had previously held bonds backed by a regional bank letter of credit.

“The university was having difficulties getting their bonds remarketed due to the deterioration of the regional bank’s credit. The proceeds from this transaction refunded the 2006 bond issue, paid the termination fee on the swap agreement that was in place and paid cost of issuance for doing the series 2009 issues. It is an important transaction as being one of very few that have closed with the help of FHLB,” said Vice President William Reisner.

The transaction closed on April 28.

“We are very pleased to have been able to work with Siena Heights on this landmark project. This is one of few transactions that have closed anywhere under this piece of legislation, allowing FHLB to provide their credit on non-housing deals. It’s important to make sure people know that this opportunity exists now. Our goal is to educate people on what we can potentially do for them as a result,” said company spokesperson Kimberly Goldstone.

Bill Reisner recently presented on this topic at the FHLB Topeka Annual Management on April 23 and 24. Several other engagements are in the works.

Stern Brothers & Co., member SIPC, is a woman-owned independent introducing broker-dealer that specializes in providing its clients with money saving financial solutions and long-term value by completing complex transactions on schedule. Since its founding in 1917, Stern Brothers & Co. has been assisting private and public decision makers finance major capital projects with timely, well-designed and low-cost tax-exempt and taxable bond issues. Stern Brothers & Co. has offices in St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles and Tampa. For more information, please visit www.sternbrothers.com.

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