

Monday, July 14, 2014 3:02 AM PT  Extra

Regal Financial to merge into Idaho-based Northwest Bank in cash deal

By [Nicole De Dios](#) and [Nirav Vyas](#)

Boise, Idaho-based [Northwest Bank](#) (\$258.0 million) has entered into a definitive merger agreement with Seattle-based [Regal Financial Bank](#) (\$98.6 million), in a [deal](#) that will see the latter adopt the name Northwest Bank while continuing to operate from its current location.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

According to SNL data, offers for bank and thrift targets in the West region between July 11, 2013, and July 11, 2014, averaged 137.87% of book, 141.80% of tangible book and had a median of 20.71x last-12-months earnings, on an aggregate basis.

Brandon Elieff has been named Washington president for the resulting entity, according to an announcement on Northwest Bank's website. For the last three years, he worked as senior lender for the Pacific Northwest region in Seattle for Chicago-based [Northern Trust Corp.](#)

Elieff said in the statement that the deal "presents Northwest Bank with an excellent entry into the Puget Sound market where we have many contacts and excellent prospects for growth." Steven Wasson, president and CEO of Northwest Bank, added in the release that the merger will provide an experienced Small Business Administration lending team and a physical presence in Seattle in order to serve more clients in the Pacific Northwest.

Pending regulatory and shareholder approvals, the all-cash deal is set to close in the third quarter.

Northwest Bank is a subsidiary of [Western Capital Corp.](#), which is, in turn, owned in part by Bellevue, Wash.-based [GWY LLC](#).

In August 2012, Northwest Bank, then called Western Capital Bank, [completed](#) its [acquisition](#) of Lake Oswego, Ore.-based [Northwest Bank](#) in a transaction structured as a merger through an exchange of cash and stock; the merged company adopted the name Northwest Bank.

Performance Trust Capital Partners acted as financial adviser to Regal in the deal, with Al Glowasky and Alex Bowers as lead bankers. Graham & Dunn PC acted as legal counsel to the seller, led by Stephen Klein and Kumi Yamamoto Baruffi.

SNL data shows GWY will enter King County, Wash., with one branch to be ranked No. 28 with a 0.14% share of approximately \$60.51 billion in total market deposits.

Click [here](#), or on the map below, to access a larger version of a branch map as a PDF. To use SNL's branch analytics tools to create custom maps, click [here](#).



Article updated at 10:43 a.m. ET on July 14, 2014, to include adviser information. Article updated at 7:57 a.m. ET on July 15, 2014, to update market share data and a branch map.