

HSBC Branch Divestiture Information

November 10, 2011

First Niagara Bank, N.A. (“First Niagara Bank”) and HSBC Bank USA, N.A. (“HSBC”, and together with First Niagara Bank, the “Banks”) have agreed to sell 26 HSBC branches (eighteen in Erie County, New York, seven in Niagara County, New York, and one in Orleans County, New York), with deposits that totaled approximately \$1.64 billion as of June 30, 2011, in order to resolve competitive concerns raised by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Antitrust Division (the “DOJ”) about the proposed acquisition of certain deposits and the assumption of certain liabilities of 195 HSBC branches by First Niagara (the “Acquisition”). The divestitures will include all deposits and all loans associated with the divested branches other than those relationships except by agreement with the DOJ.

The Acquisition is subject to the approval of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (the “OCC”) and other customary conditions. The DOJ has agreed it will advise the OCC that it believes the Acquisition will not have a significantly adverse effect on competition and that it concurs in authorizing the consummation of the Acquisition, provided that the Banks divest the deposits and loans associated with the divested branches, the Banks commit to the OCC that they will comply with their agreement with the DOJ, and the Banks’ commitments to the DOJ are included as a condition to any approval by the OCC of the Acquisition.

The Banks will work with the purchaser or purchasers of the divested branches to ensure as seamless a transition as possible. It is expected that the sale of the branches will be consummated within six months following completion of the Acquisition. The Banks expect that the transfer of customer accounts will be made directly by HSBC to such purchaser or purchasers.

Anyone with inquiries regarding this announcement should contact HSBC at 800-975-HSBC (4722) or send a message via HSBC’s website www.us.hsbc.com or First Niagara at 800-421-0004 or send a message via First Niagara’s website www.fnfg.com.

About First Niagara

First Niagara Financial Group, Inc., through its wholly owned subsidiary, First Niagara Bank, N.A., is a multi-state community-oriented bank that currently has \$31 billion in assets, \$20 billion in deposits, 333 branches and 5,000 employees providing financial services to individuals, families and businesses across Upstate New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Massachusetts. For more information, visit www.fnfg.com.

About HSBC

HSBC Bank USA, National Association, with total assets of \$195.1 billion as of 30 June 2011 (US GAAP), serves around 4 million customers through its personal financial services, commercial banking, private banking, asset management, and global banking and markets segments. It operates more than 470 bank branches throughout the United States. There are over 370 in New York state as well as branches in Connecticut, Washington, D.C., Florida, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, California, Delaware, Illinois, Oregon and Washington State. HSBC Bank USA, N.A. is the principal subsidiary of HSBC USA Inc., an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC North America Holdings Inc., one of the nation's largest bank holding companies by assets. HSBC Bank USA, N.A. is a member of the FDIC.

BRANCHES TO BE DIVESTED

Bank	State	County	Address	City	Zip
HSBC	NY	Erie	5556 Main St	Williamsville	14221
HSBC	NY	Erie	2344 Niagara Falls Blvd	Tonawanda	14150
HSBC	NY	Erie	6525 Transit Rd	East Amherst	14051
HSBC	NY	Erie	366 Kenmore Ave	Buffalo	14223
HSBC	NY	Erie	3107 Bailey Ave	Buffalo	14215
HSBC	NY	Erie	2635 Main St	Buffalo	14214
HSBC	NY	Erie	201 Amherst St	Buffalo	14207
HSBC	NY	Erie	4455 Transit Rd	Williamsville	14221
HSBC	NY	Erie	5151 Broadway	Depew	14043
HSBC	NY	Erie	703 Ridge Rd	Lackawanna	14218
HSBC	NY	Erie	306 West Ferry St	Buffalo	14213
HSBC	NY	Erie	2345 Union Rd	West Seneca	14224
HSBC	NY	Erie	1017 Broadway	Buffalo	14212
HSBC	NY	Erie	1107 Lovejoy St	Buffalo	14206
HSBC	NY	Erie	9094 Erie Rd	Angola	14006
HSBC	NY	Erie	8591 Main St	Eden	14057
HSBC	NY	Erie	4191 North Buffalo St	Orchard Park	14127
HSBC	NY	Erie	11 Main St	Hamburg	14075
HSBC	NY	Niagara	2952 Saunders Settlement Rd	Sanborn	14132
HSBC	NY	Niagara	8301 Niagara Falls Blvd	Niagara Falls	14304
HSBC	NY	Niagara	721 Center St	Lewiston	14092
HSBC	NY	Niagara	150 Main St	Lockport	14094
HSBC	NY	Niagara	5740 South Transit Rd	Lockport	14904
HSBC	NY	Niagara	8683 Main St	Barker	14012
HSBC	NY	Niagara	Main St & Park Ave	Middleport	14105
HSBC	NY	Orleans	514 Main St	Medina	14103