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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**American Savings Bank recognized as *Lender of the Year* by the
Small Business Administration**

HONOLULU, HAWAII, November 4, 2014—American Savings Bank (ASB) took top honors at the Small Business Administration (SBA) 15th Annual SBA Lender Awards. ASB was honored for making the most SBA Loans (161) in the Hawaii District and took top honors in their lending category for mid-size lenders in several award categories:

Lender of the Year:

Category II, American Savings Bank

Third Party Lender of the Year for the 504 Loan Program:

Category II, American Savings Bank

Lending officer making the most loans to veteran owned businesses in Hawaii:

Tie, Richard Tokunaga, American Savings Bank

Lender making the most loans to support exporting:

American Savings Bank

Lending officer making the most loans to support exporting:

Dan Nguyen, American Savings Bank

“Small business drives our island economy and we are proud that for more than 85 years ASB has supported small business growth. We applaud the achievements of Hawaii’s small business owners and recognize the crucial roles they play, strengthening our economy and the community,” said Rich Wacker, President and CEO of American Savings Bank.

According to the SBA, there were more than 24,000 small business employers in Hawaii, representing more than 96 percent of all employers and providing jobs for 54.1 percent of the private-sector work force.

Since 1925, ASB has served Hawaii’s businesses and communities by providing a full range of financial products and services including business and consumer banking, home loans, insurance, and investments. ASB is one of Hawaii’s leading financial institutions, with online and mobile banking services and branch locations statewide offering evening, weekend and holiday hours. For five consecutive years, ASB has been named one of *Hawaii Business Magazine’s* “Best Places to Work.” For over 85 years, ASB has been helping build strong communities. Through the *Seeds of Service* program, ASB team members have contributed more than 16,000 hours of volunteer



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service, and the bank has given millions of dollars to Hawaii schools, non-profits and community organizations.

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