

## THE CEREGHINO GROUP

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# NEWS RELEASE

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### **BANNER CORPORATION ANNOUNCES FOURTH QUARTER CONFERENCE CALL AND WEBCAST**

Walla Walla, WA – January 6, 2006 – Banner Corporation (Nasdaq: BANR), the parent of Banner Bank, today announced that it will report its fourth quarter results before the market opens on Thursday, January 26, 2006. This will be followed by a conference call at 8:00 a.m. PST (11:00 a.m. EST). The call also will be broadcast live via the Internet.

The conference call can be accessed by dialing 303-262-2142. To listen to the call online, go to the company's website at [www.bannerbank.com](http://www.bannerbank.com) or to [www.fulldisclosure.com](http://www.fulldisclosure.com). Institutional investors may access the call via the subscriber-only site, [www.streetevents.com](http://www.streetevents.com). An archived recording of the call can be accessed by dialing 303-590-3000, access code 11049572#, until Thursday, February 2, 2006 or via the Internet at [www.fulldisclosure.com](http://www.fulldisclosure.com).

Banner Corporation is the parent of Banner Bank, a commercial bank that operates a total of 57 branch offices and twelve loan offices in 24 counties in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Banner serves the Pacific Northwest region with a full range of deposit services and business, commercial real estate, construction, residential, agricultural and consumer loans. Visit Banner Bank on the Web at [www.bannerbank.com](http://www.bannerbank.com).

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Note: Transmitted via Business Wire on January 6, 2006 at 10:24 a.m. PST.