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CONTACT: D. MICHAEL JONES,  
PRESIDENT AND CEO  
LLOYD W. BAKER, CFO  
(509) 527-3636

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **BANNER CORPORATION TO PRESENT AT KBW COMMUNITY BANK INVESTOR CONFERENCE**

Walla Walla, WA – July 27, 2007 – Banner Corporation (NASDAQ GSM: BANR), the parent company of Banner Bank, today announced that D. Michael Jones, President and CEO, and Lloyd Banker, CFO, are scheduled to present at the Keefe, Bruyette & Woods Eighth Annual Community Bank Investor Conference in New York. Banner's presentation is on Tuesday, July 31, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. EDT (10:30 a.m. PDT). The live and archived presentation can be viewed at [www.kbw.com](http://www.kbw.com).

#### **About Banner Corporation**

Banner Corporation is the parent company of Banner Bank, a commercial bank that operates a total of 77 branch offices and 13 loan offices in 28 counties in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. It is now also the parent of Islanders Bank which operates three branch offices in Washington's San Juan Islands. 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).

#### **About KBW**

KBW, Inc. through its subsidiaries Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc., Keefe, Bruyette & Woods Limited and KBW Asset Management, is a full service investment bank specializing in the North American and European financial services sectors. Founded in 1962, the firm is widely recognized as a leading authority in the banking, insurance, brokerage, asset management, mortgage banking and specialty finance sectors.

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NOTE: Transmitted on Business Wire at 3:30 a.m. PDT on July 27, 2007.