CB BANCSHARES INC/HI
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The following is a press release issued by Central Pacific Financial Corp. on July 22, 2003.

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NEWS RELEASE

CB BANCSHARES, IN UNPRECEDENTED DEFENSIVE MANEUVER SUES ITS OWN SHAREHOLDERS

HONOLULU July 22, 2003 Central Pacific Financial Corp. (NYSE: CPF) today issued the following statement in response to a lawsuit filed yesterday by CB Bancshares, Inc. (Nasdaq: CBBI) that seeks to restrict the rights of CBBI shareholders:

Once again, CB Bancshares has acted in complete disregard for corporate governance and shareholder democracy and mischaracterized the reasons for its actions. We are dismayed that they would ask a court to hold that over 30 percent of their shareholders had lost all voting rights, could not transfer their shares and would be

subject to having those shares redeemed by CB Bancshares at a price of $35.84 solely for calling for a special meeting to consider our offer. By suing the owners of 30 percent of its stock, CB Bancshares is desperately maneuvering to prevent the very people to whom it owes a fiduciary duty from exercising the simple right to call a meeting a right they have under their own bylaws and Hawaii law.

If CB Bancshares truly believed its shareholders did not support our offer, there would be no reason for it to resort to a policy of intimidation by lawsuit against those very shareholders.

This lawsuit is an utterly unprecedented assault on the people who own their company, on the intent of Hawaii law, and on shareholder democracy. It is without legal merit. We will challenge their position vigorously in court, and we will continue to move forward in a deliberate manner to make the powerful combination of our two banks a reality.

We have presented CB Bancshares with an opportunity to deliver to its shareholders a significant premium, a dramatically higher dividend, and the benefits of owning stock in a stronger, local bank focused on serving Hawaii better than our two banks can by themselves. CB Bancshares management knows we are committed to our offer and they surely know their shareholders support that offer, as reflected every day in the closing price of their stock. Yet rather than place its shareholders interests first by embracing this winning proposal, CB Bancshares chose yesterday to place them last by suing them.

FORWARD LOOKING INFORMATION

This document contains forward-looking statements. Such statements include, but are not limited to, (i) statements about the benefits of a merger between Central Pacific Financial Corp. (CPF) and CB Bancshares, Inc. (CBBI), including future financial and operating results, costs savings and accretion to reported and cash earnings that may be realized from such merger; (ii) statements with respect to CPF s plans, objectives, expectations and intentions and other statements that are not historical facts; and (iii) other statements identified by words such as believes , expects , anticipates , estimates , intends , plans , targets , projects and other similar expressions. These statements are based u current

beliefs and expectations of CPF s management and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements.

The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated results or other expectations expressed in the forward-looking statements: (1) the business of CPF and CBBI may not be integrated successfully or such integration may be more difficult, time-consuming or costly than expected; (2) expected revenue synergies and cost savings from the merger may not be fully realized or realized within the expected time frame; (3) revenues following the merger may be lower than expected; (4) deposit attrition, operating costs, customer loss and business disruption, including, without limitation, difficulties in maintaining relationships with employees, customers, clients or suppliers, may be greater than expected following the merger; (5) the regulatory approvals required for the merger may not be obtained on the proposed terms; (6) the failure of CPF s and CBBI s shareholders to approve the merger; (7) competitive pressures among depository and other financial institutions may increase significantly and may have an effect on pricing, spending, third-party relationships and revenues; (8) the strength of the United States economy in general and the strength of the Hawaii economy may be different than expected, resulting in, among other things, a deterioration in credit quality or a reduced demand for credit, including the resultant effect on the combined company s loan portfolio and allowance for loan losses; (9) changes in the U.S. legal and regulatory framework; and (10) adverse conditions in the stock market, the public debt market and other capital markets (including changes in interest rate conditions) and the impact of such conditions on the combined company s activities.

Additional factors that could cause CPF results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements can be found in CPF s reports (such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and available at the SEC s Internet web site (www.sec.gov). All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements concerning the proposed transaction or other matters attributable to CPF or any person acting on its behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements above. CPF does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect circumstances or events that occur after the date the forward-looking statement is made.

With respect to financial projections for CBBI contained in this document, neither CBBI nor any analyst has published any information for 2003, 2004 or 2005. In addition, CPF has not been given the opportunity to do any due diligence on CBBI other than reviewing its publicly available information. Therefore, management of CPF has created its own financial model for CBBI based on CBBI s historical performance and CPF s assumptions regarding the reasonable future performance of CBBI on a stand-alone basis. These assumptions may or may not prove to be correct. The assumptions are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond the control of CBBI. There is no assurance that these projections will be realized and actual results are likely to differ significantly from such projections.

CPF filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4 on April 28, 2003, to register the shares of CPF common stock to be issued in a proposed exchange offer, and filed amendments thereto on May 5, 2003, May 9, 2003 and July 17, 2003, respectively. The registration statement is not final and will be further amended. CPF filed a definitive proxy revocation statement on May 22, 2003 and a preliminary proxy statement on May 9, 2003 (as revised on May 20, 2003 and May 28, 2003) for solicitation of revocation of proxies and proxies, as applicable, from CBBI shareholders for special meetings of CBBI shareholders. Subject to future developments, CPF may file additional proxy statements for solicitation of proxies from CBBI or CPF shareholders, in connection with special meetings of such shareholders at a date or dates subsequent hereto and may file a tender offer statement. Investors and security holders are urged to read the registration statement and proxy statements and any other relevant documents (when available), including the tender offer statement if filed, filed with the SEC, as well as any amendments or supplements to those documents, because they contain and will contain important information. Investors and security holders may obtain a free copy of the registration statement, any amendments thereto and proxy statements and other relevant documents (when available), including the tender offer statement if filed, at the SEC s Internet web site at (www.sec.gov). The registration statement, any amendments thereto and proxy statements and other relevant documents (when available), including the tender offer statement if filed, may

also be obtained free of charge from CPF by directing such request to: Central Pacific Financial Corp., 220 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813, Attention: David Morimoto, (808) 544-0627.

CPF, its directors and executive officers and certain other persons may be deemed to be participants if CPF solicits proxies from CBBI and CPF shareholders. A detailed list of the names, affiliations and interests of the participants in any such solicitation is contained in CPF s definitive proxy revocation statement as filed on May 22, 2003 and a preliminary proxy statement as filed on May 9, 2003 (as revised on May 20, 2003 and May 28, 2003) for solicitation of revocation of proxies and proxies, as applicable. Information about the directors and executive officers of CPF and their ownership of and interests in CPF stock is set forth in the proxy statement for CPF s 2003 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

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