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Michael D. Sharkey Joins Cole Taylor Bank As Executive Vice President
• **30 Year Chicago Banking Veteran To Lead Asset Based Lending**

ROSEMONT, IL - July 7, 2008 – Cole Taylor Bank today announced that Michael D. Sharkey has joined Cole Taylor Bank as an Executive Vice President, responsible for the bank’s Asset Based Lending group. Mr. Sharkey most recently led LaSalle Bank’s asset based lending business, which grew into one of largest such groups in the U.S.

“Mike is recognized as one of the top banking talents in the country and Cole Taylor is fortunate to have him,” said Bruce Taylor, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Taylor Capital Group, parent company of Cole Taylor Bank. “With Mark Hoppe in his leadership role and other key additions, we have embarked on a campaign to make Cole Taylor the top relationship bank in our market and the addition of Mike Sharkey is a significant step towards that goal.”

Cole Taylor earlier this year announced the hiring of 35 commercial lenders – doubling the size of its commercial lending team -- along with a series of actions taken to further strengthen the bank around its target market of owner-operated small and medium sized businesses.

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“We are delighted that Mike Sharkey, my colleague and friend for more than fifteen years, is joining Cole Taylor Bank,” said Mark Hoppe, Cole Taylor President and Chief Executive Officer. “His extensive experience and leadership skills greatly enhance our already strong asset based lending team and raise this strategically important business to a market leader. Mike understands the importance of relationships and appreciates the unique challenges of owner-operated businesses.”

Editors/Reporters: Cole Taylor will provide complete Mike Sharkey bio information upon request. Contact Jim Prendergast at 312.588.3378 or jim@thekineogroup.com

About Taylor Capital Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: TAYC)

Taylor Capital Group, Inc., is a \$3.6 billion bank holding company for Cole Taylor Bank, a Chicago-based commercial bank specializing in serving the business banking, real estate lending and wealth management requirements of closely held and family-owned small- and medium-sized businesses. Cole Taylor is a member of the FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

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