Oconee Financial Corporation Reports Third Quarter 2023 Results

WATKINSVILLE, Ga., November 9, 2023/PRNewswire/ -- Oconee Financial Corporation ("Oconee") (OTCQX: OSBK) is pleased to report results for the third quarter of 2023. Unaudited net income for the three months ending September 30, 2023, was \$2.9 million or \$3.19 per common share. This compares to \$1.0 million or \$1.15 per common share for the third quarter of 2022, an increase of 184%. The increase in net earnings for the third quarter 2023 was mainly attributable to increases in non-interest income of \$2.1 million and net interest income of \$947,000, offset by an increase in non-interest expense of \$1.0 million over the same period of 2022. The increase in non-interest income was due to the recording of a bargain purchase gain of \$2.1 million from the merger with Elberton Federal Savings & Loan Association ("Elberton Federal"). \$259,000 of the increase in non-interest expense was attributable to expenses related to the Elberton Federal merger. The net interest income increase was mainly due to increases in interest income on loans of \$1.2 million, interest income on investments of \$546,000, and interest income on interest-bearing bank balances of \$560,000, offset by increases in interest expense on deposits and interest expense on borrowings of \$1.3 million.

Unaudited net income, YTD as of September 30, 2023, was \$5.1 million, or \$5.52 per common share. This compares to \$2.9 million or \$3.18 per common share for YTD as of September 30 of the prior year. This represents an increase of 78% in year-to-date net earnings as compared to the same period in 2022. YTD earnings for 2023 also includes expenses related to our merger with Elberton Federal of \$556,000 and the recorded bargain purchase gain of \$2.1 million.

Total assets as of September 30, 2023, were \$579.9 million, compared to total assets of \$536.7 million as of December 31, 2022, an increase of 8%. Total loans were \$331.8 million and total deposits were \$504.9 million as of September 30, 2023. This compared to total loans of \$295.6 million and total deposits of \$494.9 million at December 31, 2022. As of September 30, 2023, total loans increased 12.2% and total deposits increased 2.0% versus December 31, 2022. The Increase in total deposits and total assets is primarily due to the merger with Elberton. Elberton loans of \$19.5 million and deposits of \$16.1 million are included in the increase. Book value per share at September 30, 2023 was \$37.81 versus \$32.43 at December 31, 2022. The increase in book value per share during the year was largely due to retention of earnings, the bargain purchase gain noted above as well as a year-to-date increase in Other Comprehensive Income, which includes an increase in the fair value of derivatives offset by an increase in the Bank's unrealized loss in the investment portfolio, .

Neil Stevens, President and Chief Executive Officer of Oconee, commenting on the third quarter's results noted, "We were pleased with the third quarter results for 2023. These results, even after excluding the bargain purchase gain and related merger expenses, compare favorably to last year's third quarter results. We continue to successfully navigate a challenging interest rate environment and are seeing good loan production and sound credit quality.

During third quarter, we expanded into the Northeast Georgia market with the merger and opening of our Elberton financial center. Effective July 31, 2023, Oconee Financial Corporation completed its acquisition of Elberton Federal and its related common stock offering, in a conversion merger transaction. Stevens said "we welcome the addition of Elberton Federal, its team of experienced bankers, and our newest shareholders and customers in Elbert County. We aim to provide them the same high level of service and care our current customers and shareholders enjoy".

Oconee Financial Corporation is headquartered in Watkinsville, Georgia and operates six full-service financial centers in Georgia, located in Oconee, Athens Clarke, Gwinnett and Macon-Bibb counties, including its newest location in Elbert County. In February 2023, Oconee State bank celebrated 63 years of service and continues to be the only locally owned and operated community bank headquartered in Oconee County. Oconee State Bank proudly serves its communities, providing unparalleled commitment to personalized service, innovative products and solutions, and brings exceptional value to all stakeholders, through local ownership, involvement, and decision making. The bank strives to be essential to those it serves, by creating remarkable experiences that significantly mark the lives of others. Oconee Financial Corporation was established in January 1999 to serve as the holding company of Oconee State Bank.

Please visit Oconee State Bank's website, www.oconeestatebank.com for a full listing of products and services.

OCONEE FINANCIAL CORPORATION BALANCE SHEET

	9/30/2023		12/31/2022	
		(Unaudited)		
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash and due from banks	\$	52,077,900	\$	51,430,016
Securities available for sale (at fair value)		155,731,434		159,640,457
Other investment		1,458,674		285,500
Mortgage loans held for sale		2,879,547		140,409
Loans, net of unearned income		336,308,650		300,130,642
Allowance for loan loss		(4,477,382)		(4,549,357)
Loans, net		331,831,268		295,581,285
Premises and equipment		8,781,786		8,000,576
Other assets		27,127,018		21,669,411
Total Assets	\$	579,887,626	\$	536,747,654
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Liabilities:				
Deposits	\$	504,868,729	\$	494,869,684
Federal Home Loan Bank Advances		22,250,000		
Subordinated debenture, net of capitalized expenses		9,336,355		9,818,393
Dividends payable				
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		3,905,768		2,976,386
Total Liabilities		540,360,851		507,664,463
Stockholder's Equity:				
Common Stock		2,094,776		1,795,900
Restricted Stock		(72,695)		(43,528)
Additional Paid in Capital		7,043,013		4,176,342
Stock Subscription				
Retained earnings		43,007,068		36,764,762
Unrealized gain/loss on securities and derivatives		(12,545,387)		(13,610,285)
Total Stockholder's Equity		39,526,775		29,083,191
Total Liabilities and Stockholder's Equity	\$	579,887,626	\$	536,747,654
Book Value Per Share	\$	37.81	\$	32.43

OCONEE FINANCIAL CORPORATION STATEMENT OF INCOME-QTD

	9/30/2023	9/30/2022	
	(Unaudited)		
Interest Income:			
Loans	\$ 4,733,783	\$ 3,534,167	
Securities available for sale	100 110	100.156	
State, County & Municipal	189,440	188,176	
Treasuries & Agencies	1,087,633	553,324	
Corporate	104,790	94,766	
Federal funds sold & other	744,849	184,664	
Total Interest Income	6,860,496	4,555,096	
Interest Expense:			
Deposits	1,289,891	178,823	
Other	407,967	160,356	
Total Interest Expense	1,697,858	339,179	
Net interest income	5,162,637	4,215,916	
Provision for loan losses	75,998		
Net income after provision for loan losses	5,086,639	4,215,916	
Noninterest income			
Service charges on deposit accounts	161,756	163,274	
Gain (loss) on Sale of Assets		0	
Bargain Purchase Gain - Elberton Federal	2,058,797		
Securities gains (losses), net	2,237	749	
Mortgage banking income	329,546	246,892	
SBA loan related income	200,259	169,851	
Commissions on investment sales	42,660	38,849	
Other	350,720	412,861	
Total noninterest income	3,145,975	1,032,476	
Noninterest expense			
Salaries and employee benefits	2,850,574	2,304,341	
Occupancy	367,261	283,741	
Other operating	1,750,251	1,334,835	
Total noninterest expense	4,968,086	3,922,917	
Income before provision for income taxes	3,264,528	1,325,475	
Provision for income taxes	331,629	293,244	
Net Income	\$ 2,932,899	\$ 1,032,230	
Period-Ending Outstanding Shares	1,045,512	896,074	
Weighted Average Shares Outstanding	920,582	896,823	
QTD Earnings Per Common Share	\$ 3.19	\$ 1.15	
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OCONEE FINANCIAL CORPORATION STATEMENT OF INCOME-YTD

	9/30/2023		9/30/2022	
	(Unaudited)		
Interest Income: Loans Securities available for sale	\$	13,042,308	\$	10,157,749
State, County & Municipal		568,664		576,141
Treasuries & Agencies		3,137,208		1,178,880
Corporate		294,322		284,505
Federal funds sold & other		1,424,397		311,793
Total Interest Income	-	18,466,899	-	12,509,068
		10,100,000		12,000,000
Interest Expense: Deposits		2,644,659		507,950
Other		878,002		472,330
Total Interest Expense		3,522,660		980,280
Net interest income		14,944,239		11,528,788
				11,520,700
Provision for loan losses		102,141		
Net income after provision for loan losses		14,842,098		11,528,788
Noninterest income				
Service charges on deposit accounts		483,374		486,663
Gain (loss) on Sale of Assets		3,900		218,227
Bargain Purchase Gain - Elberton Federal		2,058,797		
Securities gains (losses), net		2,237		749
Mortgage banking income		702,065		863,766
SBA loan related income		712,006		985,214
Commissions on investment sales		103,452		100,484
Other		1,115,537		1,225,014
Total noninterest income		5,181,368		3,880,117
Noninterest expense				
Salaries and employee benefits		8,027,456		6,867,311
Occupancy		986,627		891,742
Other operating		4,898,714		3,952,804
Total noninterest expense		13,912,797		11,711,857
Income before provision for income taxes		6,110,669		3,697,048
Provision for income taxes		1,031,341		844,965
Net Income	\$	5,079,328	\$	2,852,083
Period-Ending Outstanding Shares		1,045,512		896,074
Weighted Average Shares Outstanding		920,582		896,823
YTD Earnings Per Common Share	\$	5.52	\$	3.18