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Contacts:

Scott Agnoli, Investors Bank
973.924.5175, SAgnoli@myinvestorsbank.com

Laura Bishop, LBC
609.405.0129, Laura@Laura-Bishop.com

Investors Bank Salutes SJ Armed Services Enlistees with \$5,000 in Grants
Bank Funds Our Community Salutes' Voorhees Recognition Ceremony

SHORT HILLS, New Jersey – Investors Bank helped salute South Jersey high school graduates entering the armed services earlier this summer through a recognition ceremony held by Our Community Salutes of South Jersey. The two grants, totaling \$5,000, from Investors Bank, in partnership with the Roma Bank Community Foundation, provided funding for a dinner at the Mansion, which honored 50 Camden County graduates, their parents/guardians, veterans, and community leaders; in all 400 people attended.

“Supporting OCS is not only good for our country, but also for our community, as these recognized young people are more likely to return to their hometowns after their service, and bring with them high level job skills and an renewed appreciation for citizenship,” said Dr. Kenneth E. Hartman, Founder and President of Our Community Salutes. “Investors Bank’s Voorhees Branch Manager Hector Melendez has been one of our greatest supporters. As the Bank’s slogan states, he had our ‘best interest’ in mind from the very start.”

Our Community Salutes of South Jersey applied for the grants from the Investors Foundation and Roma Bank Community Foundation; Roma Bank became part of Investors Bank in early December 2013. The foundation supports non-profit organizations that enrich diverse communities served by Investors Bank.

“Our Community Salutes honors our young people who choose the less-traveled and less glamorous path than most of their peers,” said Carmine Pannullo, a Senior Market Manager for Investors Bank. “Investors Bank is proud to support this national organization which started in Cherry Hill six years ago.”

The goal of OCS is to honor new recruits and their parents/guardians with dinners and ceremonies, attended by high-ranking military officers; their motto is “the first to say thank you.” Since its inception in 2009, by Dr. Hartman, there are now 50 OCS chapters in more than 20 states and Puerto Rico. This past year, OCS held more than 40 ceremonies and, in 2016, OCS expects to honor more than 10,000 graduating high school seniors.

Hartman is a former Army First Lieutenant and recently was awarded the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal by the United States Army, one of the highest honors civilians are eligible to receive. He is extremely passionate about OCS.

“Our Community Salutes is about these kids and their families, but I really do believe that this is a terrific example of community re-investment, because you want these kids to come back and fill the jobs in the community that they left,” said Hartman. “Supporting OCS is good for communities.”

(More)



Our Community Salutes
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Photo Caption: Dr. Kenneth E. Hartman, center, Founder and President of Our Community Salutes, is presented with one of two \$2,500 checks from Investors Bank by Carmine Pannullo, left, Investors Bank Senior Market Manager, and Hector Melendez, Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager – Voorhees.

About Investors Bank

Investors Bank is a full-service community bank that has been serving customers since 1926. With over \$20.04 billion in assets and more than 130 retail branches in New Jersey, New York City and Long Island, Investors Bank delivers personalized services and products tailored to the needs of its customers. Investors' consumer banking services include complete deposit products, online banking, home equity loans and lines of credit and a full array of mortgage loans. Serving the business community, Investors provides deposit accounts, cash management services, business loans and lines of credit, and commercial real estate financing solutions to small and middle market companies, professional services firms, municipalities and other businesses. Investors Bank is a member of the FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

About Our Community Salutes (OCS)

Our Community Salutes is a national non-profit organization created to help communities recognize and honor their graduating high school seniors, and their parents/guardians, who plan to enlist in the armed services after graduation. Since its inception in 2009, Senior/Enlistee Recognition Ceremonies have been held in more than 60 communities throughout the country, all planned and run by volunteers.

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