



**NEW YORK COMMUNITY  
BANCORP, INC.<sup>®</sup>**

# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NEW YORK COMMUNITY BANCORP, INC.**  
**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER JOSEPH R. FICALORA**  
**TO SPEAK AT RAYMOND JAMES AND RBC INVESTOR CONFERENCES**

Westbury, N.Y., March 1, 2016 – New York Community Bancorp, Inc. (NYSE: NYCB) (the “Company”) today announced that President and Chief Executive Officer Joseph R. Ficalora will speak about the Company’s proposed merger with Astoria Financial Corporation (NYSE: AF) and other recent strategic actions at two upcoming investor conferences next week: the Raymond James 37th Annual Institutional Investors Conference in Orlando, Florida and the 2016 RBC Capital Markets Financial Institutions Conference in New York.

Mr. Ficalora’s presentation at the Raymond James Conference will commence at 11:35 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on Monday, March 7th, and will be simultaneously webcast at the Company’s Investor Relations website, [ir.myNYCB.com](http://ir.myNYCB.com). A replay of the webcast will be available later in the day and will be archived, together with the accompanying PowerPoint slides, through March 14, 2016.

Mr. Ficalora’s presentation at the RBC Conference will commence at 11:40 a.m. EST on Wednesday, March 9th, and will be simultaneously webcast at [ir.myNYCB.com](http://ir.myNYCB.com). A replay of the webcast will be available later in the day and will be archived, together with the accompanying PowerPoint slides, through March 23, 2016.

**About New York Community Bancorp, Inc.**

One of the largest U.S. bank holding companies, with assets of \$50.3 billion, New York Community Bancorp, Inc. is a leading producer of multi-family loans on non-luxury, rent-regulated apartment buildings in New York City, and the parent of New York Community Bank and New York Commercial Bank. With deposits of \$28.4 billion and 257 branches in Metro New York, New Jersey, Florida, Ohio, and Arizona, the Company also ranks among the largest depositories in the United States.

Reflecting its growth through a series of acquisitions, the Community Bank currently operates through seven local divisions, each with a history of service and strength: Queens County Savings Bank, Roslyn Savings Bank, Richmond County Savings Bank, and Roosevelt Savings Bank in New York; Garden State Community Bank in New Jersey; Ohio Savings Bank in Ohio; and AmTrust Bank in Florida and Arizona. Similarly, New York Commercial Bank currently operates 18 of its 30 New York-based branches under the divisional name Atlantic Bank. Additional information about the Company and its bank subsidiaries is available at [www.myNYCB.com](http://www.myNYCB.com) and [www.NewYorkCommercialBank.com](http://www.NewYorkCommercialBank.com).

**Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information**

The information to be presented at the conferences mentioned herein, the related webcasts, and in other related communications may contain certain “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include, but are not limited to, the expected completion date, financial benefits, and other effects of the proposed merger of the Company and Astoria Financial Corporation (“Astoria Financial”).

Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of the words “anticipate,” “expect,” “intend,” “estimate,” “target,” and other words of similar import. Forward-looking statements are not historical facts but, instead, express only management’s beliefs regarding future results or events, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside of management’s control. It is possible that actual results and outcomes may differ, possibly materially, from the anticipated results or outcomes indicated in these forward-looking statements.

Factors that may cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, the reaction to the transaction of the companies’ customers, employees, and counterparties; customer disintermediation; inflation; expected synergies, cost savings, and other financial benefits of the proposed transaction might not be realized within the expected time frames or might be less than projected; the requisite stockholder and regulatory approvals for the proposed transaction might not be obtained; credit and interest rate risks associated with the Company’s and Astoria Financial’s respective businesses, customers, borrowings, repayment, investment, and deposit practices, and general economic conditions, either nationally or in the market areas in which the Company and Astoria Financial operate or anticipate doing business, are less favorable than expected; new regulatory or legal requirements or obligations; and other risks and important factors that could affect the Company’s and Astoria Financial’s future results are identified in their Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and other reports filed with the SEC.

Forward-looking statements are made only as of the date of the conferences mentioned and in other related communications, and neither the Company nor Astoria Financial undertakes any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained therein to reflect events or conditions after the date thereof.

**Important Additional Information**

This communication is being made in respect of the proposed merger transaction involving the Company and Astoria Financial. The Company has filed a registration statement on Form S-4 with the SEC, which includes a joint proxy statement of Astoria Financial and the Company and a prospectus of the Company, and each party will file other documents regarding the proposed transaction with the SEC. A definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus will also be sent to shareholders of Astoria Financial and of the Company seeking any required stockholder approvals. **Before making any voting or investment decision, investors and security holders of Astoria Financial and the Company are urged to carefully read the entire registration statement and joint proxy statement/prospectus, as well as any amendments or supplements to these documents, because they will contain important information about the proposed transaction.** The documents filed by the Company and Astoria Financial with the SEC may be obtained free of charge at the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, the documents filed by the Company may be obtained free of charge at its website at <http://ir.mynycb.com/> and the documents filed by Astoria Financial may be obtained free of charge at its website at <http://ir.astoriabank.com/>. Alternatively, these documents, when available, can be obtained free of charge from the Company upon written request to New York Community Bancorp, Inc., Attn: Corporate Secretary, 615 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, New York 11590 or by calling (516) 683-4420, or from Astoria Financial upon written request to Astoria Financial Corporation, Attn: Monte N. Redman, President, One Astoria Bank Plaza, Lake Success, New York 11042 or by calling (516) 327-3000.

The Company, Astoria Financial, their directors, executive officers, and certain other persons may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the Company’s and Astoria Financial’s stockholders in favor of the approval of the merger. Information about the directors and executive officers of the Company and their ownership of its common stock is set forth in the proxy statement for its 2015 annual meeting of stockholders, as previously filed with the SEC on April 24, 2015. Information about the directors and executive officers of Astoria Financial and their ownership of its common stock is set forth in the proxy statement for its 2015 annual meeting of stockholders, as previously filed with the SEC on April 17, 2015. Stockholders may obtain additional information regarding the interests of such participants by reading the registration statement and the proxy statement/prospectus.