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For Immediate Release

IL Lt. Gov. salutes Pembroke Township CU on ICU Day

Basic banking services, community re-investment break the cycle of poverty

Naperville, IL., October 17, 2008 -- Illinois Lt. Governor Pat Quinn was joined by credit union and community officials at a press conference he held on International Credit Union Day to celebrate the success of Pembroke Township Credit Union, a branch of Credit Union 1 that opened just over a year ago.

"I'm a lifelong credit union member," Quinn said. "Credit unions are an ideal way for everyday citizens to save, borrow and build personal and community wealth. Today, I congratulate Credit Union 1 on bringing sound financial services to the people of Pembroke because it's the kind of community reinvestment this community deserves."

Pembroke Township is a rural community about 60 miles south of Chicago in Kankakee County. It is one of the poorest communities in Illinois and the nation.

Located in Hopkins Park, Illinois Village Hall, Pembroke Credit Union opened its doors on April 17, 2007. In just under two years, it has grown to include 362 members, more than \$193,000 in total shares, 185 checking accounts and 39 loans totaling more than \$350,000. Before Pembroke Credit Union opened, residents had to drive at least 25 miles to Kankakee just to cash a check. Pembroke Credit Union was the first financial institution in history to open its doors in the area.

Also in attendance at the event were representatives from Credit Union 1 and the Illinois Credit Union League (ICUL).

"In providing services to the residents of Pembroke Township, Credit Union 1 is fulfilling credit union's mission of 'People Helping People'," said Paul Simons, President/CEO, Credit Union 1. "Without Lt. Governor Quinn, financial services for the underserved residents of Pembroke Township may never have happened."

"On behalf of the credit unions of Illinois, we truly appreciate the Lt. Governor's on-going support and are honored by the opportunity to be part of today's celebration," said Keith Sias, ICUL Director of State Governmental Affairs.

Quinn was also joined by Hopkins Park Mayor Samuel Payton, and Rachel Lakes-Bingham, a resident of Hopkins Park and office manager of Pembroke Township Credit Union, who shared how the credit union has positively impacted the community.

"The payday loan industry took a hit when Credit Union 1 came to town," Quinn said. "With this year's theme, 'It Belongs to Me,' we're reminding the people of Illinois that despite the current economic uncertainty our nation faces, breaking the cycle of poverty can be done if we build a community of active, informed consumers."

In 2005, Lt. Governor Quinn and Team Illinois, which is led by the Department of Human Services, worked together to create a plan to bring financial services to the area. Quinn's office brokered the agreement to make Credit Union 1 a reality for the residents of Hopkins Park/Pembroke Township.

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Note 1: The Illinois Credit Union League (ICUL) is the primary trade association for credit unions in Illinois, which provides members with information, legislation and education. Membership is open to any credit union operating in accordance with the Illinois Credit Union Act or the Federal Credit Union Act. There are 434 credit unions in Illinois with more than 2.7 million members.

Note 2: Credit Union 1 was chartered in 1958 as Chanute Military Credit Union on the Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois to serve military personnel and their families. With the government's announcement of plans to close the Chanute Air Force Base, the credit union expanded its field of membership and we changed its name to Credit Union 1 in 1982. Today, the credit union holds \$516 million in assets and serves more than 87,000 members throughout the state of Illinois and Indiana, as well as worldwide.