



VIRGINIA CENTER FOR
**INCLUSIVE
COMMUNITIES**

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Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
P.O. Box 27622
Richmond, VA 23261
Via email: comments.applications@rich.frb.org

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide the following comments in support of the work that SunTrust Bank is doing with nonprofits in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as you consider their proposed merger with BB&T.

The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities is a nonprofit 501c3 organization, dedicated to helping schools, businesses, and communities across the Commonwealth of Virginia achieve success through inclusion. We provide over 400 workshops, trainings, and retreats each year, educating over 22,000 Virginians annually on issues of prejudice, bias, and discrimination.

SunTrust Bank has been an important and longstanding partner and supporter of VCIC's mission and work. Representatives from SunTrust's diversity and inclusion offices, and commercial banking executives serve on VCIC's local chapter advisory groups. In this role, they provide essential local community connections, guidance, and support to our program team and our organization as a whole. Additionally, SunTrust has been a generous funder of VCIC's program work, supporting and attending our Humanitarian Awards Dinners across the Commonwealth for almost 35 years now. Finally, SunTrust Bank departments and employees are also valued participants in VCIC's training and education efforts, actively participating in programs such as our annual Workplace Inclusion Network, and volunteering for many of our programs providing anti-bias and anti-bullying education to middle school and high school age youth.

VCIC deeply values and appreciates the way that SunTrust Bank has demonstrated a deep organizational commitment to supporting diversity and inclusion – and the nonprofit organizations that advance respect and tolerance – across our Commonwealth. We look forward to continuing our strong partnership with SunTrust employees and offices through their merger with BB&T and beyond.

I welcome you to contact me for further comment or with any questions regarding this letter. I can be reached directly at jjzur@inclusiveVA.org, or by calling 804-515-7950.

Sincerely,



Jonathan C. Zur
President & CEO



ACHIEVING SUCCESS THROUGH INCLUSION.

The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities works with schools, businesses, and communities to achieve success through inclusion.