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To: [BankMergerApplication](#)
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Subject: SunTrust BBT Merger
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To whom it may concern,

Seniors on a Mission exists to honor, love, and encourage independent senior adults, inspiring them to live invigorated lives filled with purpose and grace.

We accomplish our mission by creating day-long service opportunities that are age-appropriate, and team-oriented for people 60 - 108 years old. We are a small organization in Jacksonville Florida that was blessed back in 2014 to catch the eye of Lauren Butler, who was part of the Community Development Management team with SunTrust Bank. He came to one of our weekly service trips and unlike most bank executives, he stripped off his jacket, rolled up his sleeves and joined in the work for the entire day. He was a delight to talk with and entertained the senior adults as he work side by side with them. In one day, he brought more dignity, care and encouragement to 35 older people as a “visitor” than I had ever seen before. He sat across from them and looked directly into their faces and acknowledged them as people the community needed, while earning their trust and respect.

Trust and respect are two cherished qualities in people that reflect the culture of a company from the bottom up.

After his commitment to the seniors as people, he then solicited the financial support of his bank’s foundation to benefit our nonprofit organization, Seniors on a Mission, Inc. Each year for the past six years, Mr. Butler invested his time in our service trips and in an Action Council that we formed to help our small staff meet the needs of the growing organization. His leadership and genuine care for both our city and its aging population was recognized by our Board of Directors and he was asked to join our Board. Last year, Lauren Butler agreed to step into the Chairman of the Board position and helped lead us to the most successful friend-raiser event that we have ever had to share the story of Seniors on a Mission.

I believe a merger of two great banks with employees who are likeminded regarding their corporate responsibility of caring for those who are less fortunate in our communities, is something everyone should support. While I’m just one small nonprofit SunTrust has assisted, our seniors have given of their time to over 100 other nonprofit organizations in this city. Though the work we have accomplished for Junior Achievement Northeast Florida, we know how much SunTrust has done to educate the youth of our community as well as teaching young adults how to best navigate banking services.

I am obviously oblivious to the corporate reasoning for a merger, but I support the bringing together of two great companies who will continue to nurture the lives of the people where they operate they banking business. Their joint commitment to corporate responsibility can be nothing more than a win-win for the local community.

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