April 12, 2019

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
P.O. Box 27622
Richmond, VA 23261

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my privilege to write this letter of support for SunTrust Banks, Inc. and its intended merger with BB&T Corporation. SunTrust has been a valued partner of Grameen America since 2016. A leader in community reinvestment and a champion of financial well-being for all, the SunTrust Foundation has contributed $250,000 in grant funding and SunTrust Bank has provided $1.5M in loans towards Grameen America’s microlending branch in Charlotte, NC.

Founded by Nobel Peace Laureate Muhammad Yunus in 2008, Grameen America is dedicated to helping women who live in poverty build small businesses to create better lives for their families. Through non-recourse microloans, training and support, Grameen helps low-income women entrepreneurs expand their businesses, increase their income and establish a financial identity. An important pillar of our program is Asset Building, through which we help members open no-fee, no-minimum-balance personal savings accounts with partner banks to foster a habit of saving. SunTrust is our Asset Building partner at one of our newest branches in Miami, offering members the possibility to invest in their futures.

SunTrust’s partnership and generosity have created a notable positive impact on communities in Charlotte and Miami. Since opening in December 2012, the Grameen America program in Charlotte has served 7,839 women entrepreneurs through 30,576 loans totaling $83M. As of December 2018, 438 low-income women in Miami were contributing to SunTrust savings accounts.

We look forward to continued partnership with SunTrust Bank and BB&T after the merger to further improve the financial well-being and socioeconomic status of those living in the communities in which the banks operate. For this reason and others, I fully support both institutions during this intended merger.

I extend my appreciation to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and its Charlotte Branch for the opportunity to express my opinion.

With gratitude,

Andrea Jung

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