

April 17, 2019



FDIC Atlanta Regional Office
10 10th Street, NW, Suite 800
Atlanta, GA 30309-3849

RE: SunTrust and BB&T Merger

To Whom It May Concern:

Knoxville Habitat for Humanity and SunTrust Bank have enjoyed a strong partnership for nearly 20 years, and we are pleased to submit this letter in support of the proposed merger between SunTrust and BB&T.

Knoxville Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that creates a pathway to homeownership for low income Knox County residents. In our 34-year history of creating affordable home ownership in Knox County we have built over 600 new homes, rehabilitated 100 homes and are in the early stages of developing our 4th subdivision. In addition to our vital role of creating affordable housing, we also provide critical home repair services to low-income seniors enabling them to live safely and age comfortably in their home. Through Habitat for Heroes, we provide an affordable, fast-tracked path to homeownership for low-income veterans and their families. The hallmark of our proven success with families is our homeowner education program. This program (generally dubbed, "sweat equity") requires each partner family to complete 500 hours of homeowner education that equips them to be successful homeowners.

All of our partner families earn 80% or less than the area median income, with the majority earning 45%-60% of the AMI. While our families have stable employment and steady incomes, they do not earn enough to qualify for conventional mortgages. The Habitat process of building homes with community partners and then selling the homes to partner families at an affordable rate (0% interest for 30 years), is a proven pathway out of generational poverty.

SunTrust has fully embraced our mission and been a key partner in serving low income families and making Knoxville a vibrant and quality city in which to make a home. SunTrust has been an indispensable partner in helping us achieve our mission. SunTrust, along with their employees, have funded and built homes, provided key leadership and governance through service on our board of directors, and heavily supported our homeowner education program for many years.

We believe that the merger with BB&T will ultimately create a stronger bank with even more resources to invest in local communities, therefore we enthusiastically support this merger and encourage its approval.

Sincerely,

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Kelle R. Shultz
President & CEO

A black rectangular redaction box covers the handwritten signature of Angie Hatcher Sledge.

Angie Hatcher Sledge
Chief Development Officer