

From: [Mason, Sharon](#)
To: ["comments.applications@rich.frb.org"](mailto:comments.applications@rich.frb.org); [BankMergerApplication](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL MESSAGE]BB&T / SunTrust Merger
Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 8:12:21 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

I am writing you to support the merger of BB&T and SunTrust. BB&T and SunTrust have both been outstanding community partners, supporting needs in our community in numerous ways through serving in leadership roles on chamber and non-profit boards, leading key initiatives to meet needs in our community, and volunteering time to make a difference. Both organizations have also had a long history and culture of community support of not only their local chambers of commerce, but many other non-profits and local chambers in the communities they serve.

For example, SVP with BB&T Georgia Corporate Banking Group Drew Shambarger has made a major impact in leadership roles that have helped advance a thriving economy for our community. Drew serves and has served for many years on our Cobb Chamber Board of Directors, Finance Committee, Select Cobb Economic Development Strategy Board, Strategic Planning Steering Committee, Leadership Cobb, Membership Campaign Division Chair and has also chaired key non-profits in the community such as MUST Ministries. Drew is very well respected in our state, makes a tremendous difference and is a great role model and leader for your company.

Drew Shambargers' leadership as well as the leadership of Bill Kilburg, and Martin Small with BB&T and Cynthia Livingston, Joe Beach and Kirby Thompson with SunTrust have all been great examples of how both BB&T and SunTrust leaders invest in the community as they have all been very involved in our chamber and community. As one of the largest chambers of commerce in the southeast and top 1.5% chambers in the nation (5 star accreditation named by the U.S. Chamber), their leadership and involvement has made a tremendous difference over the years in the work we do to advance a thriving economy. We have now recruited more than 29,000 high quality jobs and more than \$3 billion in private new investment to our community in the last six years, started Cobb Workforce Partnership, expanded our Transportation & Mobility strategy, and started a business incubator/entrepreneur accelerator to help businesses start and prosper, just to name a few examples.

I am certain that with the joint organization of BB&T and SunTrust with the culture of community support and the talented employees you have, they will make an even great impact for their customers and for their communities as a joint organization.

Thank you,

Sharon Mason | Cobb Chamber
President & CEO

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