From: <u>Tom Sittema</u>

To: <a href="mailto:comments.applications@rich.frb.org">comments.applications@rich.frb.org</a>; <a href="mailto:BankMergerApplication">BankMergerApplication</a>

Subject: SunTrust/BB&T Merger

**Date:** Wednesday, March 27, 2019 4:52:37 PM

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in support of the merger of these two fine banking institutions.

My name is Tom Sittema and I lead a boutique investment firm named RiverBridge Capital. I am also very involved in the local community in Orlando having served as president or chairman of numerous local community and civic organizations including the Economic Development Commission, the United Way Campaign, Florida Citrus Sports, and Lift Orlando. In those leadership capacities, I interact with a significant number of business and community leaders across our region on a recurring basis.

My support for this merger is largely based on the huge commitment SunTrust in particular has exhibited in this community. Their foundation has prioritized financial well-being and they have made enormous commitments of time, energy, and financial resources to the greater good of this community. They can always be counted on to not only provide financial commitments but also, and more importantly, important leadership for critical regional priorities.

In my opinion, they are the model banking organization for community and philanthropic leadership and support in all of Central Florida. I believe this merger will allow them a more significant and financially stable platform to not only continue these efforts but meaningfully increase them for the greater common good of the communities in which they serve.

I wholeheartedly support this merger and encourage your support as well. I am available should any questions arise. My number and contact information is below.

Thanks for your consideration.

Thomas K. Sittema Managing Partner RiverBridge Capital LLC

704-905-6994

tom.sittema@riverbridgecapital.com