

March 23, 2012

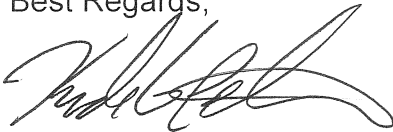
Mr. Craig Schwartz
Director
fTLD Registry Services, LLC
c/o American Bankers Association
1120 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Schwartz,

On behalf of Sterling Bank, we are writing to express our financial and organizational support for fTLD Registry Services, LLC's (FRS) application for the .bank Top-Level Domain. We appreciate FRS' leadership during the past couple years to get to a place where you should be the defacto protected Internet space operated for, and governed by, the financial services industry. As Sterling has been the victim of multiple spoofing attempts, we are acutely aware of the value of having a secure .bank To-Level Domain. Sterling is just under \$10 billion in assets. At that size, we regularly rely on service providers to assist us in providing safe and secure solutions and pathways. We believe industry ownership and governance positions FRS to meet the business, security, and technological developments that arise from the introduction of new generic Top-Level Domains.

We appreciate the opportunity to voice our support for this initiative. Please do not hesitate to reach me at 509-368-4301 or via email at kade.peterson@bankatsterling.com should you have any questions.

Best Regards,



Kade G. Peterson
Executive Vice President- Operations & Technology