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Southern National Bancorp of Virginia Inc. announces the appointment of Bruce Jennings to its Board of Directors

For immediate release

Monday, November 28, 2011

McLean, Virginia, November 28, 2011– Southern National Bancorp of Virginia Inc. (NASDAQ: SONA), the holding company for Sonabank, announced today the appointment of Bruce Jennings to the Board of Directors. Bruce Jennings is President and owner of S.O. Jennings Construction Corporation, owner of Fairfax City Self Storage and a general partner of Gateway Partnerships. Jennings has been an active member of Sonabank’s Advisory Board since 2006, and was active on the Advisory Board of Southern Financial Bank from 1999-2004. Jennings previously served on the Board of Directors of Horizon Bank of Virginia from 1990-1999 when it was acquired by Southern Financial Bank. He has been a member of the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors since 1993, and served as Chairman in 2003. Jennings has also been a member of the Fairfax Rotary Club since 1992, and served as President from 2008-2009.

“We have known Bruce for many years,” said Georgia Derrico, CEO of Sonabank. “He is a respected Northern Virginia businessman whose judgment we value highly.”

Jennings will be serving on the Board of Directors, effective immediately.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that relate to future events or the future performance of Southern National Bancorp of Virginia, Inc. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of performance or results. These forward-looking statements are based on the current beliefs and expectations of the respective management of Southern National Bancorp and are inherently subject to significant business, economic, and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond their respective control. In addition, these forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions with respect to future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. Actual results may differ materially from the anticipated results discussed or implied in

these forward-looking statements because of numerous possible uncertainties. Words like "may," "plan," "contemplate," "anticipate," "believe," "intend," "continue," "expect," "project," "predict," "estimate," "could," "should," "would," "will," and similar expressions should be considered as identifying forward-looking statements, although other phrasing may be used. Such forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and may not be realized due to a variety of factors. Additional factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements are discussed in the reports (such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q) filed by Southern National Bancorp. These factors should be considered, and undue reliance should not be placed on such forward-looking statements. No obligation is undertaken by Southern National Bancorp to update such forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the issuance of this press release.