

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Central Bank to Partner with First State Community Bank

*Farmington and Lebanon, Missouri (July 9, 2015)* – First State Bancshares, Inc., the \$1.7 billion parent company of First State Community Bank based in Farmington, Missouri, announced today the execution of a definitive agreement to acquire Central Bank in Lebanon and Conway, Missouri.

“We are proud to partner with an organization that holds our same values, including a commitment to community service, local management, competitive technology and flexible lending options,” said Steve Hite, Vice Chairman of Central Bank. “First State is also committed to Central’s local leadership and will operate with a local board. Because of FSCB’s commitment, our customers will continue to see familiar faces at all of our locations.”

“Our team at First State Bancshares is excited to partner with such a strong institution,” said Greg Allen, Chairman and CEO of First State Bancshares. “Central and its leadership team mirror ours in many ways. We will work hard to maintain the long tradition of strength and support that Central Bank provides to the Lebanon and Conway communities.”

Central Bank’s five offices added to First State Community Bank’s existing branches will expand First State Bancshares’ footprint to 50 locations throughout Missouri. The acquisition is subject to approval by federal and state regulatory bodies, and is expected to close in the second half of this year.

Customers can visit [www.fscb.com/central](http://www.fscb.com/central) to learn more about First State Community Bank and its partnership with Central Bank.

In connection with the acquisition, Central Bank was advised by the investment banking firm of Donnelly Penman & Partners and the law firm of Howard & Howard. First State Community Bank was advised by the law firm Barack Ferrazzano Krischbaum & Nagelberg LLP and by investment banking firm Sandler O’Neill + Partners LP.

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Since 1954, FSCB has been known for its friendly service, community involvement and sound lending decisions. FSCB is owned and operated by First State Bancshares, Inc., a financial services holding company based in Farmington, Mo.

FSCB is a full-service financial institution, with a variety of loan and deposit products and services. The bank also owns First State Insurance Agency (FSIA), a full-service independent insurance agency. Investment and financial advisory services are available through First State Financial Management, Inc (FSFM), a wholly owned subsidiary of First State Bancshares, Inc.



First State  
Community Bank