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**First Bankers
Trustshares, Inc.**

Press Release

Gnuse Retires as Chairman of the Board of First Bankers Trustshares, Inc.

Daniels will be the successor

Quincy, Illinois May 15, 2018:

After nearly 30 years at the helm of First Bankers Trustshares, Inc., (The Company), Don Gnuse retired as Chairman of the Board. In 1988, Gnuse and several other community leaders formed First Bankers Trustshares, Inc, which then purchased First National Bank and Trust Company. Over the years the Company has seen tremendous growth and prosperity, and is now the parent company for First Bankers Trust Company, N. A. (The Bank) and First Bankers Trust Services, Inc. Gnuse is a native of Lewistown, Missouri where his family owned and operated the local bank, and still does today. His legacy in banking will long be remembered by many people.

Release time/date: 2:00 p.m. Central Time, May 15, 2018

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At the Company's board meeting William D. Daniels was elected Chairman of the Board of First Bankers Trustshares, Inc. In July, 1989 Daniels became a director of the holding company. He has served as a director on The Bank's board since January, 1984 and was Chairman prior to Gnuse assuming the position. Daniels brings many years of experience and expertise to the position. He is a partner with Harborstone Group, and previously was one of the owners of Penn-Daniels, Inc. which operated the Jack's Discount Stores.

Allen Shafer, President and Chief Executive Officer of First Bankers Trustshares, Inc. said "The board will greatly miss Don, but his values and commitment to customers and community will continue long after his retirement. Bill is an excellent choice to serve as our new Chairman. He has a thorough understanding of the Company and the customers and communities which we serve."

First Bankers Trustshares, Inc. is the holding company for First Bankers Trust Company, N.A., and First Bankers Trust Services, Inc. The company was incorporated on August 25, 1988, and is headquartered in Quincy, Illinois.

First Bankers Trustshares, Inc. common stock trades over-the-counter under the symbol "FBTT". For more information, visit <http://fbti.firstbankers.com>.

First Bankers Trust Company, N.A., is a community-oriented commercial bank offering a variety of financial services to meet the needs of the communities it serves, including personal banking, residential mortgage loans, consumer loans, small business loan and agricultural loans. The bank has branch locations in Quincy, Macomb, Mendon, Carthage, Rushville, and Springfield, Illinois, with a market presence in adjacent counties in Illinois and Missouri. For more information, visit <https://www.firstbankers.com>.

First Bankers Trust Services, Inc, is an independent trust company, serving more than 70,000 plan participants throughout the U.S. and distributing more than \$300 million in retirement benefits annually. Serving individual and institutional clients for more than 50 years, First Bankers Trust Services, Inc, through its team of experienced financial, legal and administrative professionals, provides ESOP/Employee Benefits, Personal Trust and Farm Services. The Trust Company serves clients nationwide. For more information, visit <https://www.fbtservices.com>.