

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

First Bankers Trust Company Selects Allen Shafer as New CEO

Quincy, Illinois – First Bankers Trust Company, N. A., headquartered in Quincy, Illinois, announced today that its Board of Directors has chosen Allen W. Shafer as the company's next President and Chief Executive Officer, the fourth CEO in the company's 70-year history. Shafer, who served most recently as Executive Vice President of Support Services of Great Western Bank in Des Moines, Iowa, will succeed Arthur Greenbank, who is retiring after 24 years of service to the bank. Greenbank will continue as a member of the Board of Directors.

"After a thorough succession planning and comprehensive search process, the board is pleased to have found the best individual to assume leadership of First Bankers Trust Company," said Donald K. Gnuse., Chairman of the First Bankers Trust Company Board of Directors. "Allen has a track record of strong leadership in the banking industry. This combined with his deep business banking knowledge, sales ability and strategic aptitude makes Allen qualified to lead First Bankers Trust Company successfully into the future."

The Board of Directors conducted an extensive search with the assistance of an outside recruitment firm. They interviewed numerous highly qualified candidates before making a final decision.

"Allen is the best choice from a pool of interested and highly qualified candidates," said Bill Daniels, member of the Board of Directors. "He's been a successful executive at a regional Midwestern bank. Even more important, he's a great fit with First Bankers Trust Company's mission to combine excellence in operating practices, superior financial performance, social responsibility and an absolute commitment to the highest ethical standards. We're delighted he's accepted the position."

"I am honored and grateful to the Board for the opportunity to lead this company of dedicated and talented professionals that are committed to continuous improvement and customer satisfaction," said Shafer. "This is a terrific opportunity in a wonderful community."

Shafer holds a bachelor's in economics and political science from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Iowa. He joined Great Western Bank in Des Moines, Iowa, in 2002 as Group President, going on to hold the positions of Regional President, Chief Credit Officer and most recently Executive Vice President of Support Services. In all, Shafer has over 30 years of experience in the financial industry. He has served in several community leadership positions, including Rotary of Des Moines A. M., Plymouth Church Stewardship Committee, Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, Children and Families of Iowa, and President of Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival.

Shafer and his wife Alison are both from Fairfield, Iowa, where Allen grew up on a farm. Their parents continue to live in Fairfield. They have two children, Emma, a Sophomore at Butler University in Indianapolis, and Ethan a Junior at Des Moines Roosevelt High School.

Art Greenbank, who will retire from the CEO post after a brief transition period, expressed confidence in the Board's choice. "Allen understands the types of communities we serve. His Midwestern values match those of our team members and customers," said Greenbank. "I am very pleased with the Board's decision, and I am confident Allen will ensure that First Bankers Trust Company continues to be a leader in the markets we serve."

Gruse thanked the First Bankers Trust Company management team for not allowing the search process to disrupt the company's operations or strategic activities. "Art Greenbank and his team have done a remarkable job of staying focused and moving forward during this period of transition," said Gruse. "The First Bankers Trust Company team can take pride in the fact that it has maintained its status as the preferred partner to our suppliers, a valued corporate citizen of our communities and an institution which receives consistently strong ratings from our regulators. These efforts made our selection work easier, and allowed the process to go smoothly."

First Bankers Trustshares, Inc. is a bank holding company incorporated on August 25, 1988 and is headquartered in Quincy, Illinois. First Bankers Trust Company, N. A., a subsidiary of First Bankers Trustshares, Inc., is a commercial bank employing approximately 200 full and part time associates that primarily serve the communities of Quincy, Mendon, Carthage, Rushville, Macomb and Springfield, Illinois; and have market presence in adjacent counties in Illinois and Missouri. It is the largest bank in Adams County. As of December, 31, 2015, First Bankers Trustshares, Inc., had assets of \$906,672,000.

www.firstbankers.com | First Bankers Trust Company... where customers are always "First".

Attachments: Allen W. Shafer headshot
 First Bankers Trust Company Historical Timeline

