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INVESTAR BANK CLOSES ON ACQUISITION OF FIRST COMMUNITY BANK

Sign-Change Ceremony Raises the Investar Name for the First Time in Tangipahoa Parish and Marks Expansion in St. Tammany Parish

BATON ROUGE – <u>Investar Bank</u> today officially entered the Tangipahoa Parish market and expanded its St. Tammany coverage with the closing on its acquisition of First Community Bank and a sign-change ceremony at First Community's main office and headquarters in Hammond, La.

The transaction increases Investar's northshore New Orleans presence and further expands its high-touch community banking franchise in southeast Louisiana.

"This is an exciting day for Investar and all of the customers of First Community Bank," said John D'Angelo, president and CEO of Investar, just before he revealed the Investar name atop a towering pylon outside the office. "I've known about First Community for some time and have admired the bank's commitment to customer service and its understanding of the marketplace. Now, working with our new associates under the Investar banner, we'll be able to serve even more customers with the kind of high-touch community banking that has been the hallmark of Investar since its founding."

D'Angelo also pointed out that Investar's strong capital should be a comfort to customers and the communities served by the former First Community. Investar's Tier 1 Capital Ratio was a strong 11.05% at March 31, 2013.

"Financial strength is always reassuring to customers, but it's even more important during these uncertain economic times," he said. "With our foundation of solid capital and strong performance, customers know we have the resources to serve their needs and to support the communities where they, and our associates, live and work."

Until operational conversion, which will not take place until June 20-23, First Community customers will see no changes in their banking services and should continue to use their checks, make loan payments, conduct online banking and take advantage of other First Community services as before. All signs have been changed to Investar, and most of the receipts and forms that customers

receive bear the Investar sign. Any remaining customer touchpoints will be updated as part of the operational conversion.

For added customer service and convenience prior to the June operational conversion, the customers of either bank may begin using any Investar or First Community branch, where associates are ready to serve all of customers' financial services needs, and any of the banks' conveniently located ATMs surcharge-free, all effective immediately. First Community customers will have full access to all Investar products, service and delivery channels June 24.

"The customers of Tangipahoa and St. Tammany parishes who have relied on First Community for their personal and business financial services will be extremely pleased with Investar's commitment to serving them well," said Cordell White, who serves as Investar's regional president for Tangipahoa Parish, and for neighboring Livingston Parish where Investar already had a presence. He previously served as CEO of First Community.

Investar will have 9 branches in the following markets following completion of the First Community transaction: Hammond (1), Mandeville (2), Denham Springs (1), Baton Rouge (2), Port Allen (1), Prairieville (1) and Metairie (1). A 10th location is expected to open later this year, in Lafayette.

<u>Investar Bank</u>, which had total assets of \$400 million at March 31, 2013, provides comprehensive products and services for <u>businesses and individuals</u>. The bank is considered well-capitalized for regulatory purposes, with a Tier 1 Capital Ratio of 11.05%.

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