

75**YEARS STRONG****FIRST
FEDERAL®****PRESS RELEASE: *For Immediate Release*****FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**Debbie S. George | 870.391.3427 | dgeorge@ffbh.com**25-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS GIVEN BY FIRST FEDERAL**

Harrison, Ark., May 2009 – Larry J. Brandt, Chief Executive Officer of First Federal Bank, presented 25-year service awards to two of First Federal's senior executives: Tommy Richardson, President/Chief Operations Officer, and Ross Mallioux, President-Western Division/Chief Lending Officer.

"I am pleased to recognize Tommy and Ross for their dedication to the Bank's core values of INTEGRITY, COMMITMENT, EXCELLENCE, TEAMWORK, INNOVATION, and PROFESSIONALISM," said Brandt. "Our executive leadership team has over 130 years of combined experience, an example of the stability and longevity of First Federal."

Tommy Richardson joined First Federal on June 25, 1984 as a staff accountant. He has held various management positions, including Chief Financial Officer, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, and Corporate Secretary. He has served in his current position of President since 2006. His main responsibility is to oversee Bank operations and manage personnel. He is also a member of the investment committee and is the Corporate Secretary for the company.

Richardson is a Certified Public Accountant. He is a Harrison High School graduate and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Harrison, as well as Past President of the Arkansas League of Savings Institutions, Past President and Secretary of Kiwanis Club, and Past Harrison Goblin Booster Club.

He and his wife Vickie live in Harrison. They enjoy their two sons, Tommy, Jr. and Andy, and their two grandchildren, Tommy (Trey) Richardson, III and Carly Richardson.

Ross Mallioux is responsible for the Bank's Western Region operations and all lending activities for the Bank. He began his career with First Federal on May 14, 1984. He has held various positions during his tenure, including Appraiser, Loan Officer, Branch Manager, Washington County Manager, Secondary Market Division Manager, Vice President, Senior Vice President, and Executive Vice President.

Mallioux is a 10-year member of the Mortgage Markets and Lending Technology Committee for the American Bankers Association and a member of the Operating Committee of Community Mortgage LLC (also associated with American Bankers Association). He is also a former Board Member of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce.

Mallioux holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas. He has previously been a licensed real estate appraiser and a licensed real estate broker. He and his wife Terri live in Fayetteville with their son, Trevor (10). They attend Fellowship Bible Church in Lowell.

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75**YEARS STRONG****PRESS RELEASE: *For Immediate Release*****About First Federal Bank**

First Federal is a community bank serving consumers and businesses in Northwest Arkansas with a full range of checking, savings, investment, and loan products and services. The Bank, founded in 1934, has \$803.4 million in assets as of March 31, 2009, and conducts business from 20 full-service branch locations, one stand-alone loan production office, and 31 ATMs. First Federal Bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc., whose stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol FFBH. For information on all the products and services we offer, visit us on the web at www.ffbh.com or contact our Account Information Center by phone toll free at 866-AIC-FFBH (870.365.8329 Harrison area) or by email at aic@ffbh.com.

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