



**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

1401 Highway 62-65 North
P. O. Box 550
Harrison, AR 72602

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Tabitha Campbell / Vice President, FFIS Manager
870.365.8348 / tabitha.campbell@uvestmail.com

FIRST FEDERAL INVESTMENT SERVICES ANNOUNCES PROMOTION

HARRISON, Ark., February 2009 – Tabitha Campbell, Vice President/First Federal Investment Services (FFIS) Manager, is pleased to announce that **Rhonda Laborde** has been promoted to Assistant Vice President/Investment Specialist II.

“Rhonda understands the vital importance of tailoring financial products and insurance services to client needs,” said Campbell. “She has been a valued member of our team since October 2002 and is dedicated to serving our customers.”

Laborde received her Bachelor’s of Science degree from Louisiana Tech University and is Series 7, 66, and Insurance Licensed through UVEST Financial Services. She is the President of the Board for Hospice of the Hills, a Kiwanis Board Member, and past Board Member for Main Street Harrison. Laborde is also a Boone County Master Gardener and a member of the Garden Path Garden Club. She and her husband Joseph enjoy their two children, Troy (18) and Lacey (17). Laborde and her family attend The Tabernacle, a Messianic Christian congregation.

She is available by appointment to provide clients with personalized and professional financial guidance. She can be reached at 870.365.8312 or by email at rhonda.laborde@uvestmail.com.

About First Federal Investment Services

Through First Federal’s partnership with UVEST Financial Services, customers have access to a wide variety of financial products and services, including professional money management, financial planning, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, annuities, IRAs, life insurance, long term care and much more. First Federal Investment Services was chosen by readers of the *Harrison Daily Times* as the Best Financial Consultant Firm for 2007 and 2008.

About First Federal Bank

First Federal is a community bank serving consumers and businesses in Northcentral and Northwest Arkansas with a full range of checking, savings, investment, and loan products and services. The Bank, founded in 1934, has \$795.2 million in assets as of December 31, 2008, 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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About UVEST

Since 1982, UVEST Financial Services (UVEST) has offered quality investment and insurance programs to financial institutions. A premiere provider of third-party brokerage, today UVEST delivers customized solutions in a consultative environment to over 300 financial institutions in more than 40 states. UVEST is dedicated to providing proven program management, product expertise, advanced technology, and superior customer service support, all tailored to meet the unique needs of each client. UVEST is a registered broker dealer and is an FINRA/SIPC member firm. For more information, visit www.uvest.com.

Securities, insurance products, and investment advisory services are offered by UVEST Financial Services and its affiliates. Member FINRA / SIPC and a SEC-registered investment advisor. UVEST and First Federal Investment Services are separate entities. Investment products are not FDIC insured, not bank guaranteed, and may lose value.

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