

# **FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES**

*of Arkansas, Inc.*

P. O. Box 550  
200 West Stephenson  
Harrison, AR 72601

**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

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## **FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES OF ARKANSAS, INC. ANNOUNCES A QUARTERLY CASH DIVIDEND**

**Harrison, Arkansas – May 22, 2002** - (NASDAQ NMS:FFBH) First Federal Bancshares of Arkansas, Inc. (the "Corporation"), a unitary savings and loan holding company for First Federal Bank of Arkansas, FA (the "Bank") announced today that its Board of Directors, declared a \$.12 (twelve cent) cash dividend on the common stock of the Corporation payable on June 21, 2002 to the stockholders of record at the close of business on June 6, 2002.

Larry J. Brandt, President/CEO of the Corporation, stated, "Our strong capital base and continued profitability afford us the opportunity to pay our 22<sup>nd</sup> consecutive quarterly cash dividend. Such action demonstrates our commitment to and confidence in our future prospects."

The Bank, in its 68th year, conducts business from 16 offices in Northcentral and Northwest Arkansas. At March 31, 2002, the Corporation had total assets of \$691.1 million, total liabilities of \$619.2 million and stockholders' equity of \$71.9 million.