

# FIRST FEDERAL BANCSHARES

*of Arkansas, Inc.*

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200 West Stephenson  
Harrison, AR 72601

FOR  
IMMEDIATE

RELEASE

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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

**Harrison, Arkansas – November 20, 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 \$.14 (fourteen cent) cash dividend on the common stock of the Corporation payable on December 18, 2002 to the stockholders of record at the close of business on December 3, 2002.

Larry J. Brandt, President/CEO of the Corporation, stated, "This will be our 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive cash dividend. Our strong capital base and continued profitability afford us the opportunity to pay another 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 September 30, 2002, the Corporation had total assets of \$676.1 million, total liabilities of \$607.7 million and stockholders' equity of \$68.4 million.