



## MEDIA RELEASE

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**Legence Bank ACQUIRES and Opens Eight (8) New Southern Illinois Branches: Benton, Carbondale, Johnston City, Marion-Hill, Marion-Boulevard, Metropolis, Mounds, and Mt. Vernon on August 21**

Eldorado, IL--Legence Bank expands its branch network to fifteen, with the opening of the Benton, Carbondale, Johnston City, Marion-Hill, Marion-Boulevard, Metropolis, Mounds, and Mt. Vernon branches today. A wholly-owned subsidiary of the holding company First Eldorado Bancshares, Inc. in Eldorado, IL, Legence Bank acquired the eight southern Illinois branches from Marion, IL based MidCountry Bank. The branches have approximately \$146 million in deposits and bring Legence Bank's assets to approximately \$450 million.

"Today we realize an organizational dream and long term growth goal of strengthening our footprint in the southern Illinois market. The addition of eight branches will open a natural market extension where our team will continue providing excellent service, along with convenient personal and business banking solutions to our customers and communities we serve," said Kevin Beckemeyer, President and CEO of Legence Bank. We are excited to add the customers and employees of Benton, Carbondale, Johnston City, Marion-Hill, Marion-Boulevard, Metropolis, Mounds, and Mt. Vernon to the Legence family and we are honored to serve them today and in the years to come," said Martin B. Rowe, President and CEO of First Eldorado Bancshares, Inc. and a Legence Bank co-owner.

At Legence, we believe banking is much more than deposits and loans, we are intentional about helping individuals, families, businesses, and farmers thrive and be successful in our communities. We will take the necessary steps to ensure a smooth transition of service for our new customers, while continuing our long-term commitment to providing exemplary service to all of the communities we serve. At Legence Bank, we provide an enthusiastic, caring experience, every customer – every time.

Legence Bank is independently owned and community focused, providing our customers a premier financial institution and state of the art convenient financial products, services and solutions. Legence Bank owns fourteen branches in southern Illinois and one branch in southern Indiana. Legence Bank also operates the wholly owned subsidiary American Farm Mortgage Company, Inc. (AFMC). Located in Louisville, KY, AFMC originates and services over \$215 million

dollars in agricultural real estate loans nationwide. To learn more and review updates on the transition, please visit us at [LegenceBank.com](http://LegenceBank.com).

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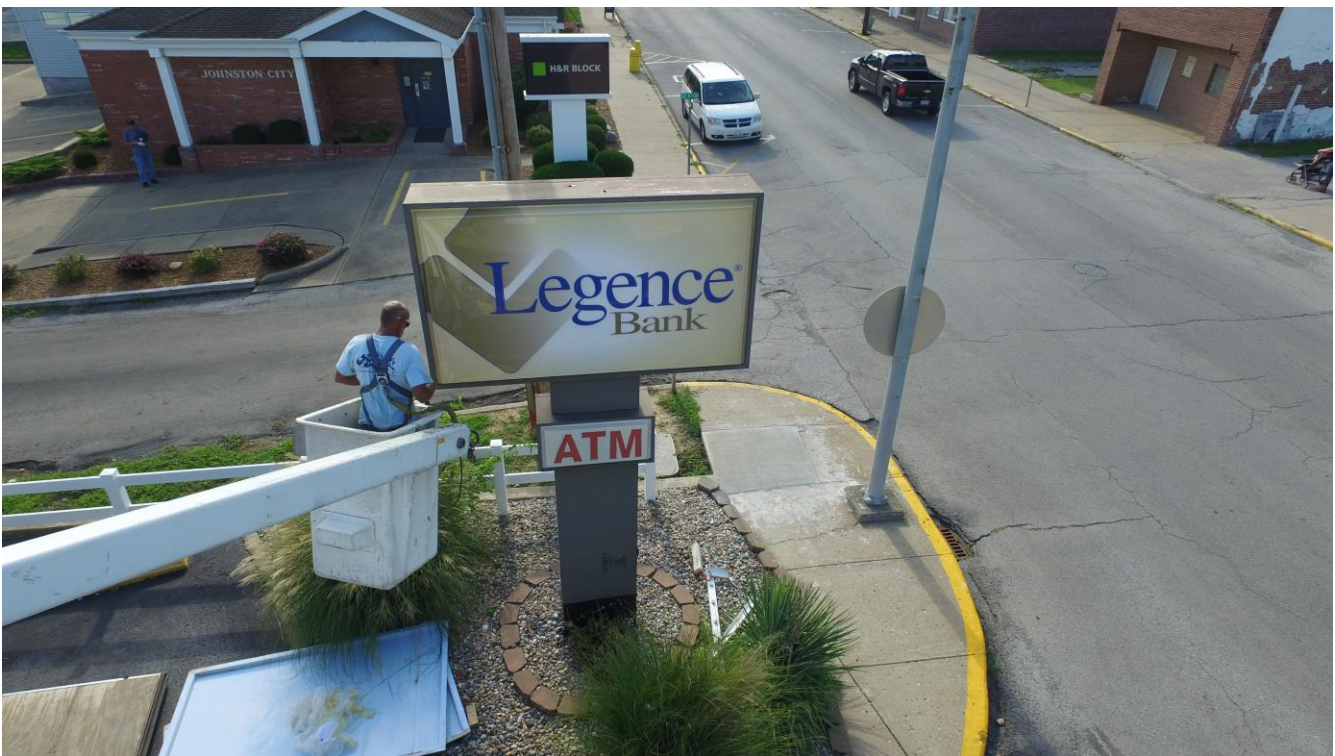
**FDIC**



Equal Housing Lender

**PHOTO #1, Johnston City Legence Bank sign:**

Installers put the finishing touches on placing the sign for the new Legence Bank in Johnston City, IL. Legence Bank purchased the former MidCountry Branch, along with the Benton, Carbondale, Marion-Hill, Marion-Boulevard, Metropolis, Mounds, and Mt. Vernon branches. All branches reopened as Legence Bank on August 21.



**PHOTO #2, Legence Bank – Marion Boulevard sign:**

An installer aligns the Legence Bank sign at the bank's new branch in Marion, IL. Legence Bank purchased the former MidCountry Branch, along with the Benton, Carbondale, Johnston City, Marion-Hill, Metropolis, Mounds, and Mt. Vernon branches. All branches reopened as Legence Bank on August 21.



**PHOTO #3, Legence Bank Mt. Vernon sign:**

An installer aligns the Legence Bank sign at the bank's new branch in Mt. Vernon, IL. Legence Bank purchased the former MidCountry Branch, along with the Benton, Carbondale, Johnston City, Marion-Hill, Marion-Boulevard, Metropolis, and Mounds branches. All branches reopened as Legence Bank on August 21.



**PHOTO #4, Legence Bank Carbondale sign:**

An installer hangs the Legence Bank sign at the bank's new branch in Carbondale, IL. Legence Bank purchased the former MidCountry Branch, along with the Benton, Johnston City, Marion-Hill, Marion-Boulevard, Metropolis, Mounds and Mt. Vernon branches. (insert other branches). All branches reopened as Legence Bank on August 21.



**PHOTO #5, Legence Bank Benton signs:**

All signage is complete at the new Legence Bank branch in Benton, IL. Legence Bank purchased the former MidCountry Branch, along with the Carbondale, Johnston City, Marion-Hill, Marion-Boulevard, Metropolis, Mounds, and Mt. Vernon branches. All branches reopened as Legence Bank on August 21.

