



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 1, 2021

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<u>Legence Bank Announces Completion of</u> <u>Kotner Title & Abstract Acquisition</u>

Eldorado, IL--Legence Bank, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the holding company First Eldorado Bancshares, Inc. in Eldorado, IL, announces completion of Kotner Title & Abstract acquisition on July 1, 2021. Kotner Title & Abstract is a leading land title and real estate settlement service provider located in Harrisburg, IL and serving many other counties in southern Illinois.

This acquisition continues Legence Bank's growth strategy and focus on being a full-service provider. Kevin Beckemeyer, President and Chief Executive Officer of Legence Bank commented, "Kotner Title & Abstract has provided great service for our customers and lenders. Kotner Title & Abstract signifies high quality service and customer experience, which makes them a natural fit for our team at Legence Bank. Bringing them into the First Eldorado Bancshares family allows us to increase the full spectrum of services we offer southern Illinois. This addition will be a compliment to our mortgage services, our commercial banking services, and our commercial real estate services. We will take the necessary steps to ensure a smooth transition of service for our existing and new customers, while continuing our long-term commitment to providing exemplary service to all of the communities we serve."

This acquisition continues to show Legence Bank's commitment to investing in improving financial solutions in the southern Illinois market areas. Legence Bank continues their goal of adding capabilities and scale to create a seamless beginning to end experience in all of our services provided. "We have worked with the Kotner Title team for years and hold their staff in the highest regard. I am looking forward to continuing my role with Legence Bank, while also managing the current team at Kotner Title & Abstract. This acquisition is an excellent opportunity to bring the companies together to benefit the community," commented Gloria Tison, VP General Counsel of Legence Bank.

"Legence Bank believes the purpose of a community bank is to make a community stronger and better—helping families, businesses, and farmers achieve financial success is why we exist. We have been serving the southern Illinois area for 115 years. With this acquisition, we continue to reach our long-term growth goal, and strengthen our footprint in the Southern Illinois market. Kotner Title & Abstract 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. We are more than pleased to announce this acquisition, and our loyal and dedicated team looks forward to welcoming the customers of Kotner Title & Abstract to our Legence family," said Martin B. Rowe, President and CEO of First Eldorado Bancshares, Inc.

Legence Bank operates twelve branches in southern Illinois and one branch in Evansville, IN. Legence Bank is independently owned and community focused, providing individuals, families, businesses and farmers a premier financial institution and state of the art convenient financial products, services and customized solutions. As an Approved Lender for SBA and a Preferred Lender for FSA, Legence is able to make the loan approval process much more efficient and quick for our customers. At Legence Bank, we provide an enthusiastic, caring experience, every customer – every time. Legence Bank also operates the wholly owned subsidiary American Farm Mortgage & Financial Services. Located in Louisville, KY, AFMFS originates and services over \$175 million in agricultural real estate loans nationwide. For more information, please visit LegenceBank.com.

Established in 1940, Kotner Title & Abstract, formerly known as Kotner Title Insurance Company, has been a constant fixture in the Southern Illinois title and abstract market for years. Their highly skilled Title and Escrow Officers bring many years of dedicated service to every client and project. The Kotner Title & Abstract team provides high-quality service and customer satisfaction with their teamwork, communication and training. To learn more, visit kotnertitle.com.

Paul Cambridge with Armstrong Teasdale is serving as legal counsel to Legence Bank.



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