

SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORP  
Form 10-K  
March 11, 2014

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act of 1934  
For the fiscal year ended: December 31, 2013

or

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Commission file number 0-6253

SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORPORATION  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Arkansas  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

71-0407808  
(I.R.S. employer  
identification No.)

501 Main Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas  
(Address of principal executive offices)

71601  
(Zip Code)

(870) 541-1000  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value  
(Title of each class)

The NASDAQ Global Select Market®  
(Name of each exchange on which registered)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.  
 Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.  
 Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.  Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).  Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge in definitive proxy or in information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [X]

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer [ ]

Accelerated filer [X]

Non-accelerated filer [ ] (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company [ ]

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act.). [ ] Yes [X] No

The aggregate market value of the Registrant's Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, held by non-affiliates on June 30, 2013, was \$384,422,087 based upon the last trade price as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market® of \$26.09.

The number of shares outstanding of the Registrant's Common Stock as of January 31, 2014, was 16,257,603.

Part III is incorporated by reference from the Registrant's Proxy Statement relating to the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on April 15, 2014.

## Introduction

The Company has chosen to combine our Annual Report to Shareholders with our Form 10-K, which is a document that U.S. public companies file with the Securities and Exchange Commission every year. Many readers are familiar with “Part II” of the Form 10-K, as it contains the business information and financial statements that were included in the financial sections of our past Annual Reports. These portions include information about our business that we believe will be of interest to investors. We hope investors will find it useful to have all of this information available in a single document.

The Securities and Exchange Commission allows us to report information in the Form 10-K by “incorporated by reference” from another part of the Form 10-K, or from the proxy statement. You will see that information is “incorporated by reference” in various parts of our Form 10-K.

A more detailed table of contents for the entire Form 10-K follows:

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## CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements contained in this Annual Report may not be based on historical facts and are “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements may be identified by reference to a future period(s) or by the use of forward-looking terminology, such as “anticipate,” “estimate,” “expect,” “foresee,” “believe,” “may,” “might,” “will,” “would,” “could” or “intend,” future or conditional verb tenses, and variations or negatives of such terms. These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, those relating to the Company’s future growth, revenue, assets, asset quality, profitability and customer service, critical accounting policies, net interest margin, non-interest revenue, market conditions related to the Company’s stock repurchase program, allowance for loan losses, the effect of certain new accounting standards on the Company’s financial statements, income tax deductions, credit quality, the level of credit losses from lending commitments, net interest revenue, interest rate sensitivity, loan loss experience, liquidity, capital resources, market risk, earnings, effect of pending litigation, acquisition strategy, legal and regulatory limitations and compliance and competition.

These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and may not be realized due to a variety of factors, including, without limitation: the effects of future economic conditions, governmental monetary and fiscal policies, as well as legislative and regulatory changes; the risks of changes in interest rates and their effects on the level and composition of deposits, loan demand and the values of loan collateral, securities and interest sensitive assets and liabilities; the costs of evaluating possible acquisitions and the risks inherent in integrating acquisitions; the effects of competition from other commercial banks, thrifts, mortgage banking firms, consumer finance companies, credit unions, securities brokerage firms, insurance companies, money market and other mutual funds and other financial institutions operating in our market area and elsewhere, including institutions operating regionally, nationally and internationally, together with such competitors offering banking products and services by mail, telephone, computer and the Internet; the failure of assumptions underlying the establishment of reserves for possible loan losses, fair value for covered loans, covered other real estate owned and FDIC indemnification asset; and those factors set forth under Item 1A. Risk-Factors of this report and other cautionary statements set forth elsewhere in this report. Many of these factors are beyond our ability to predict or control. In addition, as a result of these and other factors, our past financial performance should not be relied upon as an indication of future performance.

We believe the expectations reflected in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, based on information available to us on the date hereof. However, given the described uncertainties and risks, we cannot guarantee our future performance or results of operations and you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, and all written or oral forward-looking statements attributable to us are expressly qualified in their entirety by this section.

## PART I

### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

#### Company Overview

Simmons First National Corporation (the “Company”) is a multi-bank financial holding company registered under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. The Company is headquartered in Arkansas with total assets of \$4.4 billion, loans of \$2.4 billion, deposits of \$3.7 billion and equity capital of \$404 million as of December 31, 2013. We own seven community banks that are strategically located throughout Arkansas and conduct our operations through 131 branches, or “financial centers,” located in 63 communities in Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas.

We seek to build shareholder value by (i) focusing on strong asset quality, (ii) maintaining strong capital (iii) managing our liquidity position, (iv) improving our efficiency through specific initiatives and (v) opportunistically growing our business, both organically and through acquisitions of traditional private community banks and potential Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”)-assisted transactions. We believe the depth and experience of our corporate executive management team and the management teams and directors of each of our community banks has allowed us to achieve excellent asset quality, a strong capital position and increased liquidity, even in the current challenging economic climate.

#### Subsidiary Banks

Our lead bank, Simmons First National Bank (“SFNB”, or the “lead bank”), is a national bank which has been in operation since 1903. As of December 31, 2013, SFNB had total assets of \$3.2 billion, total loans of \$1.7 billion and total deposits of \$2.7 billion. Simmons First Trust Company N.A., a wholly owned subsidiary of SFNB, performs the trust and fiduciary business operations for SFNB and for our other subsidiary banks. Simmons First Investment Group, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of SFNB, is a broker-dealer registered with the SEC and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and performs the broker-dealer operations for SFNB. Simmons First Capital Management, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of SFNC, is a Registered Investment Advisor.

The following table shows our community subsidiary banks other than the lead bank:

Subsidiary	Year Acquired	Primary Market	As of December 31, 2013		
			Assets	Loans (In thousands)	Deposits
Simmons First Bank of Northeast Arkansas	1984	Northeast Arkansas	\$ 347,943	\$ 290,354	\$ 292,617
Simmons First Bank of South Arkansas	1984	Southeast Arkansas	198,946	104,350	177,382
Simmons First Bank of Russellville	1997	Russellville, Arkansas	187,093	95,654	148,962
Simmons First Bank of Searcy	1997	Searcy, Arkansas	151,871	98,095	115,866
Simmons First Bank of El Dorado	1999	South central Arkansas	214,661	80,881	184,125
Simmons First Bank of Hot Springs	2004	Hot Springs, Arkansas	167,909	76,414	131,567

Our subsidiary banks provide complete banking services to individuals and businesses throughout the market areas they serve. These banks offer consumer (credit card and other consumer), real estate (construction, single family residential and other commercial) and commercial (commercial, agriculture and financial institutions) loans, checking, savings and time deposits, securities and investment services and trust and investment management services (through Simmons First Trust Company N.A.).

#### Community Bank Strategy

Historically, we have utilized separately chartered community banks, supported by our main bank subsidiary, Simmons First National Bank (“SFNB” or “lead bank”), to provide full service banking products and services across our footprint. Our community banks have featured locally based management and boards of directors, community-focused growth strategies, and flexibility in their pricing of loans and deposits. Through the support of our lead bank we have provided products and services, such as a bank-issued credit card, that are usually offered only by larger banks.

Our separate charter model involved some additional administrative costs as a result of maintaining multiple bank charters, but allowed us to maintain strong management at the local level to meet the needs of local customers while ensuring good asset quality. In addition, we, along with our lead bank, provide efficiencies through consolidated back office support for information systems, loan review, compliance, human resources, accounting and internal audit. Likewise, through a standardizing initiative, our banks have shared a common name, signage and products that enabled us to maximize our branding and overall marketing strategy.

On March 5, 2014, we announced the planned consolidation of our six smaller subsidiary banks into the lead bank, Simmons First National Bank. Three banks, Jonesboro, Searcy and Hot Springs, will merge into SFNB in May, 2014. The remaining three banks, Lake Village, Russellville and El Dorado, will merge into SFNB in August, 2014. We made the decision to consolidate in order to effectively meet the increased regulatory burden facing banks, to reduce certain operating costs and more efficiently perform operational duties. Even though we will be under a single charter after consolidation, SFNB will operate as five separate regions. We will maintain the community banking spirit through local leaders making local decisions guided by local advisory boards. Below is a listing of our proposed regions:

Region	Headquarters
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South Arkansas Region	Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Central/Northeast Arkansas Region	Little Rock, Arkansas
Northwest Arkansas Region	Rogers, Arkansas
Kansas Region	Leawood, Kansas
Missouri Region	Clayton, Missouri

### Growth Strategy

Over the past 25 years, as we have expanded our markets and services, our growth strategy has evolved and diversified. From 1989 through 1991, in addition to our internal branching expansion, we acquired nine branches from the Resolution Trust Corporation, the federal agency that oversaw the sale or liquidation of assets of closed savings and loans institutions.

From 1995 to 2005, our strategic focus was on creating geographic diversification throughout Arkansas, driven primarily by acquisitions of other banking institutions. During this period we completed acquisitions of nine financial institutions and a total of 20 branches from five other banking institutions, some of which allowed us to enter key growth markets such as Conway, Hot Springs, Russellville, Searcy and Northwest Arkansas. In 2005, we initiated a de novo branching strategy to enter selected new Arkansas markets and to complement our presence in existing markets. From 2005 to 2008, we opened 12 new financial centers, a regional headquarters in Northwest Arkansas and a corporate office in Little Rock. We substantially completed our de novo branching strategy in 2008.

In late 2007, as we anticipated deteriorating economic conditions, we concentrated on maintaining our strong asset quality, building capital and improving our liquidity position. We intensified our focus on loan underwriting and on monitoring our loan portfolio in order to maintain asset quality, which is well above our peer group and the industry average. From late 2007 to December 31, 2009, our liquidity position (net overnight funds sold) improved by approximately \$150 million as a result of a strategic initiative to introduce deposit products that grew our core deposits in transaction and savings accounts and improved our deposit mix. Transaction and savings deposits increased from 48% of total deposits as of December 31, 2007, to 62% of total deposits as of December 31, 2009, to 63% of total deposits as of December 31, 2010, to 67% of total deposits as of December 31, 2011 and to 70% of total deposits as of December 31, 2012.

In December 2009, we completed a secondary stock offering by issuing a total of 3,047,500 shares of common stock, including the over-allotment, at a price of \$24.50 per share, less underwriting discounts and commissions. The net proceeds of the offering after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and offering expenses were approximately \$70.5 million. The additional capital positioned us to take advantage of unprecedented acquisition opportunities through FDIC-assisted transactions of failed banks.

In 2010, we expanded outside the borders of Arkansas by acquiring two failed institutions through FDIC-assisted transactions. The first was a \$100 million failed bank located in Springfield, Missouri and the second was a \$400 million failed thrift located in Olathe, Kansas. On both transactions, we entered into a loss share agreement with the FDIC, which provides significant protection of 80% of covered assets. As part of the acquisitions, we recognized a pre-tax bargain purchase gain of \$3.0 million and \$18.3 million, respectively, on the Missouri and Kansas transactions.

In 2012, we acquired two additional failed institutions through FDIC-assisted transactions. The first was a \$300 million failed bank located in St. Louis, Missouri and the second was a \$200 million failed bank located in Sedalia, Missouri. On both transactions, we again entered into a loss share agreement with the FDIC to provide 80% protection of a significant portion of the assets. As part of the acquisitions, we recognized a pre-tax bargain purchase gain of \$1.1 million and \$2.3 million, respectively, on the Missouri transactions.

In 2013, we completed the acquisition of Metropolitan National Bank (“Metropolitan” or “MNB”) from Rogers Bancshares, Inc. (“RBI”). The purchase was completed through an auction of the MNB stock by the U. S. Bankruptcy Court as a part of the Chapter 11 proceeding of RBI. MNB, which was headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas, served central and northwest Arkansas and had total assets of \$950 million. Upon completion of the acquisition, MNB and our Rogers, Arkansas chartered bank, Simmons First Bank of Northwest Arkansas were merged into our lead bank. As an in market acquisition, MNB had significant branch overlap with our existing branch footprint. We will complete the systems conversion for MNB on March 21, 2014 and will simultaneously close 27 branch locations that have overlapping footprints with other remaining locations. We continue to actively pursue additional acquisition opportunities that meet our strategic guidelines regarding mergers and acquisitions.

In September 2011, we reinstated our stock repurchase program as we continued to have one of the strongest capital positions within our peer group. A portion of our capital was allocated for our acquisition program, and we planned to leave this portion available for that purpose. However, we planned to utilize a portion of our annual earnings to repurchase shares from time to time at prevailing market prices, through open market or unsolicited negotiated transactions, depending upon market conditions. In August of 2013, we suspended the stock repurchase program in anticipation of the MNB acquisition.

On March 4, 2014 the Company filed a shelf registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). When declared effective, the shelf registration statement, will allow the Company to raise capital from time to time, up to an aggregate of \$200 million, through the sale of common stock, preferred stock, stock warrants, stock rights or a combination thereof, subject to market conditions. Specific terms and prices will be determined at the time

of any offering under a separate prospectus supplement that the Company is required to file with the SEC at the time of the specific offering.

### Acquisition Strategy

The opportunities we saw in FDIC acquisitions are diminishing. There are fewer opportunities today and we expect even fewer in the future. We intend to focus our near term acquisition strategy on traditional acquisitions. We believe that the challenging economic environment combined with more restrictive bank regulatory reforms will cause many financial institutions to seek merger partners in the near to intermediate future. We also believe our community banking philosophy, access to capital and successful acquisition history position us as a purchaser of choice for community banks seeking a strong partner.

We expect that our primary geographic target area for acquisitions will continue to be Arkansas and its contiguous states. Our priority will be to focus on acquisitions that would complement our current footprint in the Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri markets. The senior management teams of both our parent company and lead bank have had extensive experience during the past twenty-five years in acquiring banks, branches and deposits and post-acquisition integration of operations. We believe this experience positions us to successfully acquire and integrate banks.

With respect to negotiated community bank acquisitions:

- We have historically retained the target institution's senior management and have provided them with an appealing level of autonomy post-integration. We intend to continue to pursue negotiated community bank acquisitions and we believe that our history with respect to such acquisitions has positioned us as an acquirer of choice for community banks.
- We encourage acquired community banks, their boards and associates to maintain their community involvement, while empowering the banks to offer a broader array of financial products and services. We believe this approach leads to enhanced profitability after the acquisition.

#### Loan Risk Assessment

As part of our ongoing risk assessment, the Company has an Asset Quality Review Committee of management that meets quarterly to review the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses. The Committee reviews the status of past due, non-performing and other impaired loans, reserve ratios, and additional performance indicators for all of its subsidiary banks. The allowance for loan losses is determined based upon the aforementioned performance factors, and adjustments are made accordingly.

The Boards of Directors of each of our subsidiary banks review the adequacy of its allowance for loan losses on a monthly basis giving consideration to past due loans, non-performing loans, other impaired loans, and current economic conditions. Our loan review department monitors each of its subsidiary bank's loan information monthly. In addition, the loan review department prepares an analysis of the allowance for loan losses for each subsidiary bank twice a year, and reports the results to our Audit and Security Committee. In order to verify the accuracy of the monthly analysis of the allowance for loan losses, the loan review department performs a detailed review of each subsidiary bank's loan files on a semi-annual basis. Additionally, we have instituted a Special Asset Committee for the purpose of reviewing criticized loans in regard to collateral adequacy, workout strategies and proper reserve allocations.

The SFNB Board of Directors has delegated oversight of all acquired assets (covered and not covered by FDIC loss share agreements) to the Acquired Asset Loan Committee, comprised of the Corporate CEO, President and an Executive Vice President, along with several SFNB executives. The Board authorizes the Committee to transact loan origination, renewal and workout procedures relative to FDIC-assisted and traditional acquisitions.

#### Competition

There is significant competition among commercial banks in our various market areas. In addition, we also compete with other providers of financial services, such as savings and loan associations, credit unions, finance companies, securities firms, insurance companies, full service brokerage firms and discount brokerage firms. Some of our competitors have greater resources and, as such, may have higher lending limits and may offer other services that we do not provide. We generally compete on the basis of customer service and responsiveness to customer needs, available loan and deposit products, the rates of interest charged on loans, the rates of interest paid for funds, and the availability and pricing of trust and brokerage services.

#### Principal Offices and Available Information

Our principal executive offices are located at 501 Main Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601, and our telephone number is (870) 541-1000. We also have corporate offices in Little Rock, Arkansas. We maintain a website at <http://www.simmonsfirst.com>. On this website under the section "Investor Relations", we make our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission available free of charge, along with other Company news and announcements.

#### Employees

As of January 31, 2014, the Company and its subsidiaries had approximately 1,306 full time equivalent employees. None of the employees is represented by any union or similar groups, and we have not experienced any labor disputes or strikes arising from any such organized labor groups. We consider our relationship with our employees to be good.

## Executive Officers of the Company

The following is a list of all executive officers of the Company. The Board of Directors elects executive officers annually.

NAME	AGE	POSITION	YEARS SERVED
George A. Makris, Jr. (1)	57	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	1
David L. Bartlett	62	President and Chief Banking Officer	17
Robert A. Fehlman	49	Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	25
Marty D. Casteel	62	Executive Vice President and Secretary	25
David W. Garner	44	Executive Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer	16
Susan F. Smith	52	Executive Vice President/Corporate Strategy and Performance	16
Kevin J. Archer	50	Senior Vice President/Credit Policy and Risk Assessment	18
Sharon K. Burdine	48	Senior Vice President and Human Resources Director	16
Tina M. Groves	44	Senior Vice President/Manager, Audit/Compliance	8

(1)Mr. Makris was elected as CEO - Elect on August 13, 2012, effective January 1, 2013. He succeeded J. Thomas May as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer upon Mr. May's retirement on December 31, 2013.

## Board of Directors of the Company

The following is a list of the Board of Directors of the Company as of December 31, 2013, along with their principal occupation.

NAME	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION
George A. Makris, Jr. (1)	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Simmons First National Corporation
David L. Bartlett	President and Chief Banking Officer Simmons First National Corporation
William E. Clark, II	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Clark Contractors, LLC
Steven A. Cossé	President and Chief Executive Officer (retired) and Director Murphy Oil Corporation
Edward Drilling	President AT&T Arkansas
Sharon L. Gaber	Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs University of Arkansas

Eugene Hunt	Attorney Hunt Law Firm
W. Scott McGeorge	President Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel Company
Harry L. Ryburn	Orthodontist (retired)
Robert L. Shoptaw	Chairman of the Board Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield

(1) Mr. Makris was elected as CEO – Elect on August 13, 2012, effective January 1, 2013. He succeeded J. Thomas May as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer upon Mr. May’s retirement on December 31, 2013. Mr. Makris has served on the Board of Directors of the Company since 1997 and served as chairman of the Company’s Audit & Security Committee from 2007 until his resignation upon his election to CEO – Elect. Prior to his election, he served as President of M. K. Distributors, Inc.

## SUPERVISION AND REGULATION

### The Company

The Company, as a bank holding company, is subject to both federal and state regulation. Under federal law, a bank holding company generally must obtain approval from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System ("FRB") before acquiring ownership or control of the assets or stock of a bank or a bank holding company. Prior to approval of any proposed acquisition, the FRB will review the effect on competition of the proposed acquisition, as well as other regulatory issues.

The federal law generally prohibits a bank holding company from directly or indirectly engaging in non-banking activities. This prohibition does not include loan servicing, liquidating activities or other activities so closely related to banking as to be a proper incident thereto. Bank holding companies, including Simmons First National Corporation, which have elected to qualify as financial holding companies, are authorized to engage in financial activities. Financial activities include any activity that is financial in nature or any activity that is incidental or complimentary to a financial activity.

As a financial holding company, we are required to file with the FRB an annual report and such additional information as may be required by law. From time to time, the FRB examines the financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries. The FRB, through civil and criminal sanctions, is authorized to exercise enforcement powers over bank holding companies (including financial holding companies) and non-banking subsidiaries, to limit activities that represent unsafe or unsound practices or constitute violations of law.

We are subject to certain laws and regulations of the state of Arkansas applicable to financial and bank holding companies, including examination and supervision by the Arkansas Bank Commissioner. Under Arkansas law, a financial or bank holding company is prohibited from owning more than one subsidiary bank, if any subsidiary bank owned by the holding company has been chartered for less than five years and, further, requires the approval of the Arkansas Bank Commissioner for any acquisition of more than 25% of the capital stock of any other bank located in Arkansas. No bank acquisition may be approved if, after such acquisition, the holding company would control, directly or indirectly, banks having 25% of the total bank deposits in the state of Arkansas, excluding deposits of other banks and public funds.

Federal legislation allows bank holding companies (including financial holding companies) from any state to acquire banks located in any state without regard to state law, provided that the holding company (1) is adequately capitalized, (2) is adequately managed, (3) would not control more than 10% of the insured deposits in the United States or more than 30% of the insured deposits in such state, and (4) such bank has been in existence at least five years if so required by the applicable state law.

### Subsidiary Banks

During the fourth quarter of 2010, the Company realigned the regulatory oversight for its affiliate banks in order to create efficiencies through regulatory standardization. We operate as a multi-bank holding company and over the years, have acquired several banks. In accordance with the corporate strategy of leaving the bank structure unchanged, each acquired bank stayed intact as did its regulatory structure. As a result, the Company's eight affiliate banks were regulated by the Arkansas State Bank Department, the Federal Reserve, the FDIC, and/or the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency ("OCC").

Following the regulatory realignment, the lead bank remained a national bank regulated by the OCC while the other affiliate banks became state member banks with the Arkansas State Bank Department as their primary regulator and the Federal Reserve as their federal regulator. Because of the overlap in footprint, during the fourth quarter of 2013 we merged Simmons First Bank of Northwest Arkansas into SFNB in conjunction with our acquisition of Metropolitan, reducing the number of affiliate state member banks to six. On March 5, 2014, we announced the planned

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consolidation of our six smaller subsidiary banks into SFNB. After the subsidiary banks are merged into the lead bank, the OCC will remain SFNB's primary regulator.

The lending powers of each of the subsidiary banks are generally subject to certain restrictions, including the amount, which may be lent to a single borrower. All of our subsidiary banks are members of the FDIC, which provides insurance on deposits of each member bank up to applicable limits by the Deposit Insurance Fund. For this protection, each bank pays a statutory assessment to the FDIC each year.

Federal law substantially restricts transactions between banks and their affiliates. As a result, our subsidiary banks are limited in making extensions of credit to the Company, investing in the stock or other securities of the Company and engaging in other financial transactions with the Company. Those transactions that are permitted must generally be undertaken on terms at least as favorable to the bank as those prevailing in comparable transactions with independent third parties.

## Potential Enforcement Action for Bank Holding Companies and Banks

Enforcement proceedings seeking civil or criminal sanctions may be instituted against any bank, any financial or bank holding company, any director, officer, employee or agent of the bank or holding company, which is believed by the federal banking agencies to be violating any administrative pronouncement or engaged in unsafe and unsound practices. In addition, the FDIC may terminate the insurance of accounts, upon determination that the insured institution has engaged in certain wrongful conduct or is in an unsound condition to continue operations.

## Risk-Weighted Capital Requirements for the Company and the Subsidiary Banks

Since 1993, banking organizations (including financial holding companies, bank holding companies and banks) were required to meet a minimum ratio of Total Capital to Total Risk-Weighted Assets of 8%, of which at least 4% must be in the form of Tier 1 Capital. A well-capitalized institution is one that has at least a 10% "total risk-based capital" ratio. For a tabular summary of our risk-weighted capital ratios, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Capital" and Note 20, Stockholders' Equity, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

A banking organization's qualifying total capital consists of two components: Tier 1 Capital and Tier 2 Capital. Tier 1 Capital is an amount equal to the sum of common shareholders' equity, hybrid capital instruments (instruments with characteristics of debt and equity) in an amount up to 25% of Tier 1 Capital, certain preferred stock and the minority interest in the equity accounts of consolidated subsidiaries. For bank holding companies and financial holding companies, goodwill (net of any deferred tax liability associated with that goodwill) may not be included in Tier 1 Capital. Identifiable intangible assets may be included in Tier 1 Capital for banking organizations, in accordance with certain further requirements. At least 50% of the banking organization's total regulatory capital must consist of Tier 1 Capital.

Tier 2 Capital is an amount equal to the sum of the qualifying portion of the allowance for loan losses, certain preferred stock not included in Tier 1, hybrid capital instruments (instruments with characteristics of debt and equity), certain long-term debt securities and eligible term subordinated debt, in an amount up to 50% of Tier 1 Capital. The eligibility of these items for inclusion as Tier 2 Capital is subject to certain additional requirements and limitations of the federal banking agencies.

Under the risk-based capital guidelines, balance sheet assets and certain off-balance sheet items, such as standby letters of credit, are assigned to one of four-risk weight categories (0%, 20%, 50%, or 100%), according to the nature of the asset, its collateral or the identity of the obligor or guarantor. The aggregate amount in each risk category is adjusted by the risk weight assigned to that category to determine weighted values, which are then added to determine the total risk-weighted assets for the banking organization. For example, an asset, such as a commercial loan, assigned to a 100% risk category, is included in risk-weighted assets at its nominal face value, but a loan secured by a one-to-four family residence is included at only 50% of its nominal face value. The applicable ratios reflect capital, as so determined, divided by risk-weighted assets, as so determined. For information regarding upcoming changes to risk-based capital guidelines, see "Basel III Capital Rules" later in this section.

## Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act ("FDICIA"), enacted in 1991, requires the FDIC to increase assessment rates for insured banks and authorizes one or more "special assessments," as necessary for the repayment of funds borrowed by the FDIC or any other necessary purpose. As directed in FDICIA, the FDIC has adopted a transitional risk-based assessment system, under which the assessment rate for insured banks will vary according to the level of risk incurred in the bank's activities. The risk category and risk-based assessment for a bank is determined from its classification, pursuant to the regulation, as well capitalized, adequately capitalized or

undercapitalized.

FDICIA substantially revised the bank regulatory provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act and other federal banking statutes, requiring federal banking agencies to establish capital measures and classifications. Pursuant to the regulations issued under FDICIA, a depository institution will be deemed to be well capitalized if it significantly exceeds the minimum level required for each relevant capital measure; adequately capitalized if it meets each such measure; undercapitalized if it fails to meet any such measure; significantly undercapitalized if it is significantly below any such measure; and critically undercapitalized if it fails to meet any critical capital level set forth in regulations. The federal banking agencies must promptly mandate corrective actions by banks that fail to meet the capital and related requirements in order to minimize losses to the FDIC. The FDIC and OCC advised the Company that the subsidiary banks have been classified as well capitalized under these regulations.

The federal banking agencies are required by FDICIA to prescribe standards for banks and bank holding companies (including financial holding companies) relating to operations and management, asset quality, earnings, stock valuation and compensation. A bank or bank holding company that fails to comply with such standards will be required to submit a plan designed to achieve compliance. If no plan is submitted or the plan is not implemented, the bank or holding company would become subject to additional regulatory action or enforcement proceedings.

A variety of other provisions included in FDICIA may affect the operations of the Company and the subsidiary banks, including new reporting requirements, revised regulatory standards for real estate lending, "truth in savings" provisions, and the requirement that a depository institution give 90 days prior notice to customers and regulatory authorities before closing any branch.

#### Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act

On July 21, 2010, the President signed into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank Act"), which significantly changes the regulation of financial institutions and the financial services industry. The Dodd-Frank Act includes provisions affecting large and small financial institutions alike, including several provisions that profoundly affect how community banks, thrifts, and small bank and thrift holding companies are regulated in the future. Among other things, these provisions abolish the Office of Thrift Supervision and transfer its functions to the other federal banking agencies, relax rules regarding interstate branching, allow financial institutions to pay interest on business checking accounts, and impose new capital requirements on bank and thrift holding companies.

The Dodd-Frank Act requires that the amount of any interchange fee charged by a debit card issuer with respect to a debit card transaction must be reasonable and proportional to the cost incurred by the issuer. Effective October 1, 2011, the FRB set the interchange rate cap at \$0.21 per transaction plus five basis points multiplied by the value of the transaction. While the restrictions on interchange fees do not apply to banks that, together with their affiliates, have assets of less than \$10 billion, the rule has affected the competitiveness of debit cards issued by smaller banks.

The Dodd-Frank Act also established the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (the "CFPB") as an independent entity within the Federal Reserve, which will be given the authority to promulgate consumer protection regulations applicable to all entities offering consumer financial services or products, including banks. Additionally, the Dodd-Frank Act includes a series of provisions covering mortgage loan origination standards affecting, among other things, originator compensation, minimum repayment standards, and pre-payment penalties. The Dodd-Frank Act contains numerous other provisions affecting financial institutions of all types, many of which may have an impact on our operating environment in substantial and unpredictable ways.

Because many of the regulations required to implement the Dodd-Frank Act have been only recently issued, or have not yet been issued, the statute's effect on the financial services industry in general, and on us in particular, is uncertain at this time. The Dodd-Frank Act is likely to affect our cost of doing business, however, and may limit or expand the scope of our permissible activities and affect the competitive balance within our industry and market areas. Our management continues to actively review the provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act and to assess its probable impact on our business, financial condition, and results of operations. However, given the sweeping nature of the Dodd-Frank Act and other federal government initiatives, we expect that the Company's regulatory compliance costs will increase over time.

#### FDIC Deposit Insurance and Assessments

Our customer deposit accounts are insured up to applicable limits by the FDIC's Deposit Insurance Fund ("DIF). The Dodd-Frank Act permanently increased the deposit insurance coverage from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per depositor EESA, and extended until December 31, 2012 the period during which the FDIC would provide unlimited deposit insurance for "noninterest bearing transaction accounts". These accounts are now insured under the FDIC's general insurance coverage rules.

The Dodd-Frank Act, which was signed into law on July 21, 2010, changed how the FDIC calculates deposit insurance premiums payable by insured depository institutions. The Dodd-Frank Act directs the FDIC to amend its assessment regulations so that future assessments will generally be based upon a depository institution's average total consolidated assets minus the average tangible equity of the insured depository institution during the assessment period, whereas assessments were previously based on the amount of an institution's insured deposits. The minimum deposit insurance fund rate will increase from 1.15% to 1.35% by September 30, 2020, and the cost of the increase will be borne by depository institutions with assets of \$10 billion or more.



The Dodd-Frank Act also provides the FDIC with discretion to determine whether to pay rebates to insured depository institutions when its deposit insurance reserves exceed certain thresholds. Previously, the FDIC was required to give rebates to depository institutions equal to the excess once the reserve ratio exceeded 1.50%, and was required to rebate 50% of the excess over 1.35% but not more than 1.5% of insured deposits. The FDIC adopted a final rule on February 7, 2011 that implemented these provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act.

### Basel III Capital Rules

In July 2013, the Federal Reserve published final rules (the “Basel III Capital Rules”) implementing Basel III and establishing a new comprehensive capital framework for U.S. banks. The Basel III Capital Rules substantially revise the risk-based capital requirements applicable to bank holding companies and depository institutions compared to the current U.S. risk-based capital rules.

The Basel III Capital Rules define the components of capital and address other issues affecting the numerator in banking institutions’ regulatory capital ratios. The rules also address risk weights and other issues affecting the denominator in banking institutions’ regulatory capital ratios and replace the existing risk-weighting approach with a more risk-sensitive approach.

The Basel III Capital Rules expand the risk-weighting categories from the current four Basel I-derived categories (0%, 20%, 50% and 100%) to a much larger and more risk-sensitive number of categories, depending on the nature of the assets, generally ranging from 0% for U.S. government and agency securities, to 600% for certain equity exposures, and resulting in higher risk weights for a variety of asset categories, including many residential mortgages and certain commercial real estate.

The final rules include a new common equity Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets ratio of 4.5% and a common equity Tier 1 capital conservation buffer of 2.5% of risk-weighted assets. The rules also raise the minimum ratio of Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets from 4.0% to 6.0% and require a minimum leverage ratio of 4.0%. The Basel III Capital Rules are effective for the Company and its subsidiary banks on January 1, 2015, with full compliance with all of the final rule’s requirements phased in over a multi-year schedule. Management believes that, as of December 31, 2013, the Company and each of its subsidiary banks would meet all capital adequacy requirements under the Basel III Capital Rules on a fully phased-in basis if such requirements were currently effective.

### Pending Legislation

Because of concerns relating to competitiveness and the safety and soundness of the banking industry, Congress often considers a number of wide-ranging proposals for altering the structure, regulation, and competitive relationships of the nation’s financial institutions. We cannot predict whether or in what form any proposals will be adopted or the extent to which our business may be affected.

## ITEM 1A.

## RISK FACTORS

### Risks Related to Our Industry

Our business may be adversely affected by conditions in the financial markets and general economic conditions.

From 2007 through 2009, the United States was in a recession. Although there are some indicators of improvement, business activity across a wide range of industries and regions has been greatly reduced and local governments and many businesses are having difficulty due to the lack of consumer spending, the lack of liquidity in the credit markets and high unemployment.

Market conditions have also led to the failure or merger of a number of prominent financial institutions. Financial institution failures or near-failures have resulted in further losses as a consequence of defaults on securities issued by them and defaults under contracts entered into with such entities as counterparties. Furthermore, declining asset values, defaults on mortgages and consumer loans, and the lack of market and investor confidence, as well as other factors, have all combined to increase credit default swap spreads, to cause rating agencies to lower credit ratings, and to otherwise increase the cost and decrease the availability of liquidity, despite very significant declines in Federal Reserve borrowing rates and other government actions. Some banks and other lenders have suffered significant losses and have become reluctant to lend, even on a secured basis, due to the increased risk of default and the impact of declining asset values on the value of collateral. The foregoing has significantly weakened the strength and liquidity of some financial institutions worldwide.

The Company's financial performance generally, and in particular the ability of borrowers to pay interest on and repay principal of outstanding loans and the value of collateral securing those loans, is highly dependent upon the business environment in the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas, and in the United States as a whole. A favorable business environment is generally characterized by, among other factors, economic growth, efficient capital markets, low inflation, high business and investor confidence and strong business earnings. Unfavorable or uncertain economic and market conditions can be caused by: declines in economic growth, business activity or investor or business confidence; limitations on the availability or increases in the cost of credit and capital; increases in inflation or interest rates; natural disasters; or a combination of these or other factors.

The business environment in Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas could continue to deteriorate. There can be no assurance that these business and economic conditions will improve in the near term. The continuation of these conditions could adversely affect the credit quality of our loans and our results of operations and financial condition.

Recent legislative and regulatory initiatives to address difficult market and economic conditions may not stabilize the U.S. banking system.

In response to the financial crisis affecting the banking system and financial markets, the Dodd-Frank Act was enacted in 2010, as well as several programs that have been initiated by the U.S. Treasury, the FRB, and the FDIC to stabilize the financial system.

Some of the provisions of recent legislation and regulation that may adversely impact the Company include: the Durbin Amendment to the Dodd-Frank Act which mandates a limit to debit card interchange fees and Regulation E amendments to the EFTA regarding overdraft fees. These provisions may limit the type of products we offer, the methods by which we offer them, and the prices at which they are offered. These provisions may also increase our costs in offering these products.

The newly created CFPB has unprecedented authority over the regulation of consumer financial products and services. The CFPB has broad rule-making, supervisory and examination authority, as well as expanded data collecting and enforcement powers. The scope and impact of the CFPB's actions cannot be determined at this time, which creates significant uncertainty for the Company and the financial services industry in general.

These new laws, regulations, and changes may increase our costs of regulatory compliance. They may significantly affect the markets in which we do business, the markets for and value of our investments, and our ongoing operations, costs, and profitability. The future impact of the many provisions in the Dodd-Frank Act and other legislative and regulatory initiatives on the Company's business and results of operations will depend upon regulatory interpretation and rulemaking that will be undertaken over the next several months and years. As a result, we are unable to predict the ultimate impact of the Dodd-Frank Act or of other future legislation or regulation, including the extent to which it could increase costs or limit our ability to pursue business opportunities in an efficient manner, or otherwise adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Difficult market conditions have adversely affected our industry.

The financial markets have continued to experience significant volatility. In some cases, the financial markets have produced downward pressure on stock prices and credit availability for certain issuers without regard to those issuers' underlying financial strength. If financial market volatility worsens, or if there are more disruptions in the financial markets, including disruptions to the United States or international banking systems, there can be no assurance that we will not experience an adverse effect, which may be material, on our ability to access capital and on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

## Risks Related to Our Business

Our concentration of banking activities in Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas, including our real estate loan portfolio, makes us more vulnerable to adverse conditions in the particular local markets in which we operate.

Our subsidiary banks operate primarily within the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas, where the majority of the buildings and properties securing our loans and the businesses of our customers are located. Our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows are subject to changes in the economic conditions in these three states, the ability of our borrowers to repay their loans, and the value of the collateral securing such loans. We largely depend on the continued growth and stability of the communities we serve for our continued success. Declines in the economies of these communities or the states of Arkansas, Missouri or Kansas, in general could adversely affect our ability to generate new loans or to receive repayments of existing loans, and our ability to attract new deposits, thus adversely affecting our net income, profitability and financial condition.

The ability of our borrowers to repay their loans could also be adversely impacted by the significant changes in market conditions in the region or by changes in local real estate markets, including deflationary effects on collateral value caused by property foreclosures. This could result in an increase in our charge-offs and provision for loan losses. Either of these events would have an adverse impact on our results of operations.

Our loan portfolio in Northwest Arkansas has been more negatively impacted than our loan portfolio comprised from other regions in our markets. This fact results primarily from the acute contraction in that region's economy and its real estate markets as compared to Arkansas as a whole. A continued deterioration of the Northwest Arkansas economy or its failure to fully participate in an economic recovery could require us to further tighten our local lending standards and increase allowances for loan losses relative to loans made in the region.

A significant decline in general economic conditions caused by inflation, recession, unemployment, acts of terrorism or other factors beyond our control could also have an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, because multi-family and commercial real estate loans represent the majority of our real estate loans outstanding, a decline in tenant occupancy due to such factors or for other reasons could adversely impact the ability of our borrowers to repay their loans on a timely basis, which could have a negative impact on our results of operations.

Deteriorating credit quality, particularly in our credit card portfolio, may adversely impact us.

We have a significant consumer credit card portfolio. Although we experienced a decreased amount of net charge-offs in our credit card portfolio in 2013 and 2012, the amount of net charge-offs could worsen. While we continue to experience a better performance with respect to net charge-offs than the national average in our credit card portfolio, our net charge-offs were 1.33% of our average outstanding credit card balances for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to 1.50% of the average outstanding balances for the year ended on December 31, 2012. The current economic situation could adversely affect consumers in a more delayed fashion compared to commercial businesses in general. Increasing unemployment and diminished asset values may prevent our credit card customers from repaying their credit card balances which could result in an increased amount of our net charge-offs that could have a material adverse effect on our unsecured credit card portfolio.

Changes to consumer protection laws may impede our origination or collection efforts with respect to credit card accounts, change account holder use patterns or reduce collections, any of which may result in decreased profitability of our credit card portfolio.

Credit card receivables that do not comply with consumer protection laws may not be valid or enforceable under their terms against the obligors of those credit card receivables. Federal and state consumer protection laws regulate the creation and enforcement of consumer loans, including credit card receivables. For instance, the federal Truth in Lending Act was amended by the "Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009," or the "Credit CARD Act," which, among other things:

- prevents any increases in interest rates and fees during the first year after a credit card account is opened, and increases at any time on interest rates on existing credit card balances, unless (i) the minimum payment on the related account is 60 or more days delinquent, (ii) the rate increase is due to the expiration of a promotional rate, (iii) the account holder fails to comply with a negotiated workout plan or (iv) the increase is due to an increase in the index rate for a variable rate credit card;
- requires that any promotional rates for credit cards be effective for at least six months;
- requires 45 days notice for any change of an interest rate or any other significant changes to a credit card account;
- empowers federal bank regulators to promulgate rules to limit the amount of any penalty fees or charges for credit card accounts to amounts that are "reasonable and proportional to the related omission or violation;" and
-

requires credit card companies to mail billing statements 21 calendar days before the due date for account holder payments.

As a result of the Credit CARD Act and other consumer protection laws and regulations, it may be more difficult for us to originate additional credit card accounts or to collect payments on credit card receivables, and the finance charges and other fees that we can charge on credit card account balances may be reduced. Furthermore, account holders may choose to use credit cards less as a result of these consumer protection laws. Each of these results, independently or collectively, could reduce the effective yield on revolving credit card accounts and could result in decreased profitability of our credit card portfolio.

Our growth and expansion strategy may not be successful, and our market value and profitability may suffer.

We have historically employed, as important parts of our business strategy, growth through acquisition of banks and, to a lesser extent, through branch acquisitions and de novo branching. Any future acquisitions, including any FDIC-assisted transactions, in which we might engage will be accompanied by the risks commonly encountered in acquisitions. These risks include, among other risks:

- credit risk associated with the acquired bank's loans and investments;
- difficulty of integrating operations and personnel; and
- potential disruption of our ongoing business.

We anticipate that in addition to opportunities to acquire other banks in privately negotiated transactions, we may also have opportunities to bid to acquire the assets and liabilities of failed banks in FDIC-assisted transactions, although those opportunities are occurring less frequently. These acquisitions involve risks similar to acquiring existing banks. Because FDIC-assisted acquisitions are structured in a manner that would not allow us the time normally associated with due diligence investigations prior to committing to purchase the target bank or preparing for integration of an acquired bank, we may face additional risks in FDIC-assisted transactions. These risks include, among other things:

- loss of customers of the failed bank;
- strain on management resources related to collection and management of problem loans; and
- problems related to integration of personnel and operating systems.

In addition to pursuing the acquisition of existing viable financial institutions or the acquisition of assets and liabilities of failed banks in FDIC-assisted transactions, as opportunities arise we may also continue to engage in de novo branching to further our growth strategy. De novo branching and growing through acquisition involve numerous risks, including the following:

- the inability to obtain all required regulatory approvals;
- the significant costs and potential operating losses associated with establishing a de novo branch or a new bank;
- the inability to secure the services of qualified senior management;
- the local market may not accept the services of a new bank owned and managed by a bank holding company headquartered outside of the market area of the new bank;
- the risk of encountering an economic downturn in the new market;
- the inability to obtain attractive locations within a new market at a reasonable cost; and
- the additional strain on management resources and internal systems and controls.

We expect that competition for suitable acquisition candidates, whether such candidates are viable banks or are the subject of an FDIC-assisted transaction, will be significant. We may compete with other banks or financial service companies that are seeking to acquire our acquisition candidates, many of which are larger competitors and have greater financial and other resources. We cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully identify and acquire suitable acquisition targets on acceptable terms and conditions. Further, we cannot assure you that we will be successful in overcoming these risks or any other problems encountered in connection with acquisitions and de novo branching. Our inability to overcome these risks could have an adverse effect on our ability to achieve our business and growth strategy and maintain or increase our market value and profitability.

Our recent results do not indicate our future results and may not provide guidance to assess the risk of an investment in our common stock.

We may not be able to sustain our historical rate of growth or be able to expand our business. Various factors, such as economic conditions, regulatory and legislative considerations and competition, may also impede or prohibit our

ability to expand our market presence. We may also be unable to identify advantageous acquisition opportunities or, once identified, enter into transactions to make such acquisitions. If we are not able to successfully grow our business, our financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected.

Our cost of funds may increase as a result of general economic conditions, interest rates and competitive pressures.

Our cost of funds may increase as a result of general economic conditions, fluctuations in interest rates and competitive pressures. We have traditionally obtained funds principally through local deposits as we have a base of lower cost transaction deposits. Our costs of funds and our profitability and liquidity are likely to be adversely affected, if we have to rely upon higher cost borrowings from other institutional lenders or brokers to fund loan demand or liquidity needs. Also, changes in our deposit mix and growth could adversely affect our profitability and the ability to expand our loan portfolio.

We may not be able to raise the additional capital we need to grow and, as a result, our ability to expand our operations could be materially impaired.

Federal and state regulatory authorities require us and our subsidiary banks to maintain adequate levels of capital to support our operations. Many circumstances could require us to seek additional capital, such as:

- faster than anticipated growth;
- reduced earning levels;
- operating losses;
- changes in economic conditions;
- revisions in regulatory requirements; or
- additional acquisition opportunities.

Our ability to raise additional capital will largely depend on our financial performance, and on conditions in the capital markets which are outside our control. If we need additional capital but cannot raise it on terms acceptable to us, our ability to expand our operations or to engage in acquisitions could be materially impaired.

Accounting standards periodically change and the application of our accounting policies and methods may require management to make estimates about matters that are uncertain.

The regulatory bodies that establish accounting standards, including, among others, the Financial Accounting Standards Board and the SEC, periodically revise or issue new financial accounting and reporting standards that govern the preparation of our consolidated financial statements. The effect of such revised or new standards on our financial statements can be difficult to predict and can materially impact how we record and report our financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, our management must exercise judgment in appropriately applying many of our accounting policies and methods so they comply with generally accepted accounting principles. In some cases, management may have to select a particular accounting policy or method from two or more alternatives. In some cases, the accounting policy or method chosen might be reasonable under the circumstances and yet might result in our reporting materially different amounts than would have been reported if we had selected a different policy or method. Accounting policies are critical to fairly presenting our financial condition and results of operations and may require management to make difficult, subjective or complex judgments about matters that are uncertain.

The Federal Reserve Board's source of strength doctrine could require that we divert capital to our subsidiary banks instead of applying available capital towards planned uses, such as engaging in acquisitions or paying dividends to shareholders.

The FRB's policies and regulations require that a bank holding company, including a financial holding company, serve as a source of financial strength to its subsidiary banks, and further provide that a bank holding company may not conduct operations in an unsafe or unsound manner. It is the FRB's policy that a bank holding company should stand ready to use available resources to provide adequate capital to its subsidiary banks during periods of financial stress or adversity, such as during periods of significant loan losses, and that such holding company should maintain the financial flexibility and capital-raising capacity to obtain additional resources for assisting its subsidiary banks if such a need were to arise.

A bank holding company's failure to meet its obligations to serve as a source of strength to its subsidiary banks will generally be considered to be an unsafe and unsound banking practice or a violation of the FRB's regulations, or both. Accordingly, if the financial condition of our subsidiary banks were to deteriorate, we could be compelled to provide financial support to our subsidiary banks at a time when, absent such FRB policy, we may not deem it advisable to provide such assistance. Under such circumstances, there is a possibility that we may not either have adequate

available capital or feel sufficiently confident regarding our financial condition, to enter into acquisitions, pay dividends, or engage in other corporate activities.

We may incur environmental liabilities with respect to properties to which we take title.

A significant portion of our loan portfolio is secured by real property. In the course of our business, we may own or foreclose and take title to real estate and could become subject to environmental liabilities with respect to these properties. We may become responsible to a governmental agency or third parties for property damage, personal injury, investigation and clean-up costs incurred by those parties in connection with environmental contamination, or may be required to investigate or clean-up hazardous or toxic substances, or chemical releases at a property. The costs associated with environmental investigation or remediation activities could be substantial. If we were to become subject to significant environmental liabilities, it could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Our management has broad discretion over the use of proceeds from future stock offerings.

Although we generally indicate our intent to use the proceeds from stock offerings for general corporate purposes, including funding internal growth and selected future acquisitions, our Board of Directors retains significant discretion with respect to the use of the proceeds from possible future offerings. If we use the funds to acquire other businesses, there can be no assurance that any business we acquire will be successfully integrated into our operations or otherwise perform as expected.

#### Risks Related to Owning Our Stock

The holders of our subordinated debentures have rights that are senior to those of our shareholders. If we defer payments of interest on our outstanding subordinated debentures or if certain defaults relating to those debentures occur, we will be prohibited from declaring or paying dividends or distributions on, and from making liquidation payments with respect to our common stock.

We have \$20.6 million of subordinated debentures issued in connection with trust preferred securities. Payments of the principal and interest on the trust preferred securities are unconditionally guaranteed by us. The subordinated debentures are senior to our shares of common stock. As a result, we must make payments on the subordinated debentures (and the related trust preferred securities) before any dividends can be paid on our common stock and, in the event of our bankruptcy, dissolution or liquidation, the holders of the debentures must be satisfied before any distributions can be made to the holders of our common stock. We have the right to defer distributions on the subordinated debentures (and the related trust preferred securities) for up to five years, during which time no dividends may be paid to holders of our capital stock. If we elect to defer or if we default with respect to our obligations to make payments on these subordinated debentures, this would likely have a material adverse effect on the market value of our common stock. Moreover, without notice to or consent from the holders of our common stock, we may issue additional series of subordinated debt securities in the future with terms similar to those of our existing subordinated debt securities or enter into other financing agreements that limit our ability to purchase or to pay dividends or distributions on our capital stock.

We may be unable to, or choose not to, pay dividends on our common stock.

We cannot assure you of our ability to continue to pay dividends. Our ability to pay dividends depends on the following factors, among others:

- We may not have sufficient earnings since our primary source of income, the payment of dividends to us by our subsidiary banks, is subject to federal and state laws that limit the ability of those banks to pay dividends;
- FRB policy requires bank holding companies to pay cash dividends on common stock only out of net income available over the past year and only if prospective earnings retention is consistent with the organization's expected future needs and financial condition; and

- Our Board of Directors may determine that, even though funds are available for dividend payments, retaining the funds for internal uses, such as expansion of our operations, is a better strategy.

If we fail to pay dividends, capital appreciation, if any, of our common stock may be the sole opportunity for gains on an investment in our common stock. In addition, in the event our subsidiary banks become unable to pay dividends to us, we may not be able to service our debt or pay our other obligations or pay dividends on our common stock.

Accordingly, our inability to receive dividends from our subsidiary banks could also have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations and the value of your investment in our common stock.

There may be future sales of additional common stock or preferred stock or other dilution of our equity, which may adversely affect the value of our common stock.

We are not restricted from issuing additional common stock or preferred stock, including any securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, common stock or preferred stock or any substantially similar securities. The value of our common stock could decline as a result of sales by us of a large number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or similar securities in the market or the perception that such sales could occur.

Anti-takeover provisions could negatively impact our shareholders.

Provisions of our articles of incorporation and by-laws and federal banking laws, including regulatory approval requirements, could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us, even if doing so would be perceived to be beneficial to our shareholders. The combination of these provisions effectively inhibits a non-negotiated merger or other business combination, which, in turn, could adversely affect the market price of our common stock. These provisions could also discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for holders of our common stock to elect directors other than the candidates nominated by our Board of Directors.

#### ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

There are currently no unresolved Commission staff comments.

#### ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

The principal offices of the Company and the lead bank consist of an eleven-story office building and adjacent office space located in the central business district of the city of Pine Bluff, Arkansas. We have additional corporate offices located in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The Company and its subsidiaries own or lease additional offices in the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas. The Company and its seven banks conduct financial operations from 131 branches, or “financial centers”, located in 64 communities throughout Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas.

#### ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company and/or its subsidiaries have various unrelated legal proceedings, most of which involve loan foreclosure activity pending, which, in the aggregate, are not expected to have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Company and its subsidiaries.

## PART II

### ITEM MARKET FOR REGISTRANT’S COMMON EQUITY, AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS 5. AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol “SFNC.” Set forth below are the high and low sales prices for our common stock as reported by the NASDAQ Global Select Market for each quarter of the fiscal years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012. Also set forth below are dividends declared per share in each of these periods:

	Price Per Common Share		Quarterly Dividends Per Common Share
	High	Low	
2013			
1st quarter	\$ 26.25	\$ 24.11	\$ 0.21
2nd quarter	26.55	23.16	0.21
3rd quarter	31.50	24.06	0.21
4th quarter	38.54	29.64	0.21

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2012			
1st quarter	\$ 28.54	\$ 24.45	\$ 0.20
2nd quarter	26.53	22.55	0.20
3rd quarter	25.64	22.68	0.20
4th quarter	25.71	22.36	0.20

On January 31, 2014, the closing price for our common stock as reported on the NASDAQ was \$34.53. As of January 31, 2014, there were 1,248 shareholders of record of our common stock.

The timing and amount of future dividends are at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend upon our consolidated earnings, financial condition, liquidity and capital requirements, the amount of cash dividends paid to us by our subsidiaries, applicable government regulations and policies and other factors considered relevant by our Board of Directors. Our Board of Directors anticipates that we will continue to pay quarterly dividends in amounts determined based on the factors discussed above. However, there can be no assurance that we will continue to pay dividends on our common stock at the current levels or at all.

Our principal source of funds for dividend payments to our stockholders is distributions, including dividends, from our subsidiary banks, which are subject to restrictions tied to such institution's earnings. Under applicable banking laws, the declaration of dividends by SFNB in any year, in excess of its net profits, as defined, for that year, combined with its retained net profits of the preceding two years, must be approved by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. Further, as to Simmons First Bank of Northeast Arkansas, Simmons First Bank of El Dorado, Simmons First Bank of South Arkansas, Simmons First Bank of Hot Springs, Simmons First Bank of Russellville and Simmons First Bank of Searcy, regulators have specified that the maximum dividends state banks may pay to the parent company without prior approval is 75% of the current year earnings plus 75% of the retained net earnings of the preceding year. At December 31, 2013, approximately \$12.3 million was available for the payment of dividends by the subsidiary banks without regulatory approval. For further discussion of restrictions on the payment of dividends, see "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk – Liquidity and Market Risk Management," and Note 20, Stockholders' Equity, of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### Stock Repurchase

The Company made no purchases of its common stock during the three months ended December 31, 2013. During 2013, we repurchased 419,564 shares of stock with a weighted average repurchase price of \$25.89 per share. Under the current stock repurchase plan, we can repurchase an additional 154,136 shares.

#### Performance Graph

The performance graph below compares the cumulative total shareholder return on the Company's Common Stock with the cumulative total return on the equity securities of companies included in the NASDAQ Bank Stock Index and the S&P 500 Stock Index. The graph assumes an investment of \$100 on December 31, 2008 and reinvestment of dividends on the date of payment without commissions. The performance graph represents past performance and should not be considered to be an indication of future performance.

Index	Period Ending					
	12/31/08	12/31/09	12/31/10	12/31/11	12/31/12	12/31/13
Simmons First National Corporation	100.00	97.09	102.31	100.63	96.99	146.45
NASDAQ Bank Index	100.00	83.70	95.55	85.52	101.50	143.84
S&P 500 Index	100.00	126.46	145.51	148.59	172.37	228.19

## ITEM 6.

## SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table sets forth selected consolidated financial data concerning the Company and is qualified in its entirety by the detailed information and consolidated financial statements, including notes thereto, included elsewhere in this report. The income statement, balance sheet and per common share data as of and for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010 and 2009, were derived from consolidated financial statements of the Company, which were audited by BKD, LLP. Results from past periods are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for any future period.

Management believes that certain non-GAAP measures, including diluted core earnings per share, tangible book value, the ratio of tangible common equity to tangible assets, tangible stockholders' equity and return on average tangible equity, may be useful to analysts and investors in evaluating the performance of our Company. We have included certain of these non-GAAP measures, including cautionary remarks regarding the usefulness of these analytical tools, in this table. The selected consolidated financial data set forth below should be read in conjunction with the financial statements of the Company and related notes thereto and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included elsewhere in this report.

## Years Ended December 31

(In thousands, except per share & other data)

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
<b>Income statement data:</b>					
Net interest income	\$ 130,850	\$ 113,517	\$ 108,660	\$ 101,949	\$ 97,727
Provision for loan losses	4,118	4,140	11,676	14,129	10,316
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	126,732	109,377	96,984	87,820	87,411
Non-interest income	40,616	48,371	53,465	77,874	52,711
Non-interest expense	134,812	117,733	114,650	111,263	104,722
Income before taxes	32,536	40,015	35,799	54,431	35,400
Provision for income taxes	9,305	12,331	10,425	17,314	10,190
Net income	\$ 23,231	\$ 27,684	\$ 25,374	\$ 37,117	\$ 25,210
<b>Per share data:</b>					
Basic earnings	1.42	1.64	1.47	2.16	1.75
Diluted earnings	1.42	1.64	1.47	2.15	1.74
Diluted core earnings (non-GAAP) (1)	1.69	1.59	1.45	1.51	1.74
Book value	24.89	24.55	23.70	23.01	21.72
Tangible book value (non-GAAP) (2)	19.10	20.66	20.09	19.36	18.07
Dividends	0.84	0.80	0.76	0.76	0.76
Basic average common shares outstanding	16,339,335	16,908,904	17,309,488	17,204,200	14,375,323
Diluted average common shares outstanding	16,352,167	16,911,363	17,317,850	17,264,900	14,465,718
<b>Balance sheet data at period end:</b>					
Assets	4,383,100	3,527,489	3,320,129	3,316,432	3,093,322
Investment securities	957,965	687,483	697,656	613,662	646,915
Total loans	2,404,935	1,922,119	1,737,844	1,915,064	1,874,989

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Allowance for loan losses	27,442	27,882	30,108	26,416	25,016
Goodwill & other intangible assets	93,878	64,365	62,184	63,068	62,374
Non-interest bearing deposits	718,438	576,655	532,259	428,750	363,154
Deposits	3,697,567	2,874,163	2,650,397	2,608,769	2,432,172
Long-term debt	117,090	89,441	89,898	133,394	128,894
Subordinated debt & trust preferred	20,620	20,620	30,930	30,930	30,930
Stockholders' equity	403,832	406,062	407,911	397,371	371,247
Tangible stockholders' equity (non GAAP) (2)	309,954	341,697	345,727	334,303	308,873
Capital ratios at period end:					
Stockholders' equity to total assets	9.21%	11.51%	12.29%	11.98%	12.00%
Tangible common equity to tangible assets (non-GAAP) (3)	7.23%	9.87%	10.61%	10.28%	10.19%
Tier 1 leverage ratio	9.22%	10.81%	11.86%	11.33%	11.64%
Tier 1 risk-based ratio	13.02%	19.08%	21.58%	20.05%	17.91%
Total risk-based capital ratio	14.10%	20.34%	22.83%	21.30%	19.17%
Dividend payout	59.15%	48.78%	51.70%	35.35%	43.68%

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	Years Ended December 31				
	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
<b>Annualized performance ratios:</b>					
Return on average assets	0.64%	0.83%	0.77%	1.19%	0.85%
Return on average equity	5.33%	6.77%	6.25%	9.69%	8.26%
Return on average tangible equity (non-GAAP) (2) (4)	6.36%	8.05%	7.54%	11.71%	10.61%
Net interest margin (5)	4.21%	3.93%	3.85%	3.78%	3.78%
Efficiency ratio (6)	71.28%	70.17%	67.86%	65.28%	65.69%
<b>Balance sheet ratios: (7)</b>					
Nonperforming assets as a percentage of period-end assets	1.69%	1.29%	1.18%	1.12%	1.12%
Nonperforming loans as a percentage of period-end loans	0.53%	0.74%	1.02%	0.83%	1.35%
Nonperforming assets as a percentage of period-end loans & OREO	4.10%	2.74%	2.44%	2.18%	1.83%
Allowance/to nonperforming loans	297.89%	231.62%	186.14%	190.17%	98.81%
Allowance for loan losses as a percentage of period-end loans	1.57%	1.71%	1.91%	1.57%	1.33%
Net charge-offs (recoveries) as a percentage of average loans	0.27%	0.40%	0.49%	0.71%	0.58%
<b>Other data</b>					
Number of financial centers	131	92	84	85	84
Number of full time equivalent employees	1,343	1,068	1,083	1,075	1,091

(1) Diluted core earnings (net income excluding nonrecurring items) is a non-GAAP measure. The following nonrecurring items were excluded in the calculation of diluted core earnings per share (non-GAAP). In 2013, the Company recorded a \$0.25 decrease in EPS from merger related costs from its Metropolitan National Bank acquisition and a \$0.02 decrease in EPS from the closing costs of 7 underperforming branches. In 2012, the Company recorded a \$0.05 increase in EPS from the FDIC assisted transactions of Truman Bank and Excel Bank. In 2011, the Company recorded a \$0.04 increase in EPS from the sale of MasterCard stock. Also in 2011, the Company recorded a \$0.01 decrease in EPS from the closing cost of a branch and a \$0.01 EPS decrease from merger related costs from an FDIC-assisted acquisition. In 2010, the Company recorded a net \$0.65 increase in EPS from FDIC-assisted acquisitions (bargain purchase gains, merger related costs, gains from disposition of investment securities and costs from disposition of FHLB borrowings). Also in 2010, the Company recorded a \$0.01 decrease in EPS from costs to close nine branches.

(2) Because of our significant level of intangible assets, total goodwill and core deposit premiums, management believes a useful calculation for investors in their analysis of our Company is tangible book value per share (non-GAAP). This non-GAAP calculation eliminates the effect of goodwill and acquisition related intangible assets and is calculated by subtracting goodwill and intangible assets from total stockholders' equity, and dividing the resulting number by the common stock outstanding at period end. The following table reflects the reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure to the GAAP presentation of book value for the periods presented above:

(\$ in thousands, except per share data)	Years Ended December 31				
	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Stockholders' equity	\$ 403,832	\$ 406,062	\$ 407,911	\$ 397,371	\$ 371,247

## Less: Intangible assets

Goodwill	78,906	60,605	60,605	60,605	60,605
Other intangibles	14,972	3,760	1,579	2,463	1,769
Tangible stockholders' equity (non-GAAP) \$	309,954	\$ 341,697	\$ 345,727	\$ 334,303	\$ 308,873
Book value per share	\$ 24.89	\$ 24.55	\$ 23.70	\$ 23.01	\$ 21.72
Tangible book value per share (non-GAAP)	\$ 19.10	\$ 20.66	\$ 20.09	\$ 19.36	\$ 18.07
Shares outstanding	16,226,256	16,542,778	17,212,317	17,271,594	17,093,931

- (3) Tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio is tangible stockholders' equity (non-GAAP) divided by total assets less goodwill and other intangible assets as and for the periods ended presented above.
- (4) Return on average tangible equity is a non-GAAP measure that removes the effect of goodwill and intangible assets, as well as the amortization of intangibles, from the return on average equity. This non-GAAP measure is calculated as net income, adjusted for the tax-effected effect of intangibles, divided by average tangible equity.
- (5) Fully taxable equivalent (assuming an income tax rate of 39.225%).
- (6) The efficiency ratio is total non-interest expense less foreclosure expense and amortization of intangibles, divided by the sum of net interest income on a fully taxable equivalent basis plus total non-interest income less security gains, net of tax. For the year ended December 31, 2013, this calculation excludes merger related costs of \$6.4 million from non-interest expense. For the year ended December 31, 2012, this calculation excludes the gain on FDIC-assisted transactions of \$3.4 million from total non-interest income and excludes merger related costs of \$1.9 million from non-interest expense. For the year ended December 31, 2011, this calculation excludes the \$1.1 million gain on sale of MasterCard stock. For the year ended December 31, 2010, this calculation excludes the gain on FDIC-assisted transactions of \$21.3 million from total non-interest income and excludes merger related costs of \$2.6 million from non-interest expense. For the year ended December 31, 2009, this calculation excludes the FDIC special assessment of \$1.4 million from total non-interest expense.
- (7) Excludes all loans acquired and excludes foreclosed assets acquired, covered by FDIC loss share agreements, except for their inclusion in total assets.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Critical Accounting Policies

Overview

We follow accounting and reporting policies that conform, in all material respects, to generally accepted accounting principles and to general practices within the financial services industry. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. While we base estimates on historical experience, current information and other factors deemed to be relevant, actual results could differ from those estimates.

We consider accounting estimates to be critical to reported financial results if (i) the accounting estimate requires management to make assumptions about matters that are highly uncertain and (ii) different estimates that management reasonably could have used for the accounting estimate in the current period, or changes in the accounting estimate that are reasonably likely to occur from period to period, could have a material impact on our financial statements.

The accounting policies that we view as critical to us are those relating to estimates and judgments regarding (a) the determination of the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses, (b) acquisition accounting and valuation of covered loans and related indemnification asset, (c) the valuation of goodwill and the useful lives applied to intangible assets, (d) the valuation of employee benefit plans and (e) income taxes.

Allowance for Loan Losses on Loans Not Covered by Loss Share

The allowance for loan losses is management's estimate of probable losses in the loan portfolio. Loan losses are charged against the allowance when management believes the uncollectability of a loan balance is confirmed. Subsequent recoveries, if any, are credited to the allowance.

Prior to the fourth quarter of 2012, we measured the appropriateness of the allowance for loan losses in its entirety using (a) ASC 450-20 which includes quantitative (historical loss rates) and qualitative factors (management adjustment factors) such as (1) lending policies and procedures, (2) economic outlook and business conditions, (3) level and trend in delinquencies, (4) concentrations of credit and (5) external factors and competition; which are combined with the historical loss rates to create the baseline factors that are allocated to the various loan categories; (b) specific allocations on impaired loans in accordance with ASC 310-10; and (c) the unallocated amount.

The unallocated amount was evaluated on the loan portfolio in its entirety and was based on additional factors, such as (1) trends in volume, maturity and composition, (2) national, state and local economic trends and conditions, (3) the experience, ability and depth of lending management and staff and (4) other factors and trends that will affect specific loans and categories of loans, such as a heightened risk in agriculture, credit card and commercial real estate loan portfolios.

As of December 31, 2012, we refined our allowance calculation. As part of the refinement process, we evaluated the criteria previously applied to the entire loan portfolio, and used to calculate the unallocated portion of the allowance, and applied those criteria to each specific loan category. For example, the impact of national, state and local economic trends and conditions was evaluated by and allocated to specific loan categories.

After this refinement, the allowance is calculated monthly based on management's assessment of several factors such as (1) historical loss experience based on volumes and types, (2) volume and trends in delinquencies and nonaccruals, (3) lending policies and procedures including those for loan losses, collections and recoveries, (4) national, state and local economic trends and conditions, (5) concentrations of credit within the loan portfolio, (6) the experience, ability and depth of lending management and staff and (7) other factors and trends that will affect specific loans and categories of loans. We establish general allocations for each major loan category. This category also includes allocations to loans which are collectively evaluated for loss such as credit cards, one-to-four family owner occupied residential real estate loans and other consumer loans. General reserves have been established, based upon the aforementioned factors and allocated to the individual loan categories. Allowances are accrued for probable losses on specific loans evaluated for impairment for which the basis of each loan, including accrued interest, exceeds the discounted amount of expected future collections of interest and principal or, alternatively, the fair value of loan collateral. Any immaterial residual reserves are distributed among the loan portfolio categories based on their percent composition of the entire portfolio.

### Acquisition Accounting, Acquired Loans

We account for our acquisitions under ASC Topic 805, Business Combinations, which requires the use of the purchase method of accounting. All identifiable assets acquired, including loans, are recorded at fair value. No allowance for loan losses related to the acquired loans is recorded on the acquisition date as the fair value of the loans acquired incorporates assumptions regarding credit risk. Loans acquired are recorded at fair value in accordance with the fair value methodology prescribed in ASC Topic 820, exclusive of the shared-loss agreements with the FDIC. The fair value estimates associated with the loans include estimates related to expected prepayments and the amount and timing of undiscounted expected principal, interest and other cash flows.

Over the life of the acquired loans, we continue to estimate cash flows expected to be collected on pools of loans sharing common risk characteristics, which are treated in the aggregate when applying various valuation techniques. We evaluate at each balance sheet date whether the present value of our pools of loans determined using the effective interest rates has decreased significantly and if so, recognize a provision for loan loss in our consolidated statement of income. For any significant increases in cash flows expected to be collected, we adjust the amount of accretable yield recognized on a prospective basis over the pool's remaining life.

### Covered Loans and Related Indemnification Asset

Because the FDIC will reimburse us for losses incurred on certain acquired loans, an indemnification asset is recorded at fair value at the acquisition date. The indemnification asset is recognized at the same time as the indemnified loans, and measured on the same basis, subject to collectability or contractual limitations. The shared-loss agreements on the acquisition date reflect the reimbursements expected to be received from the FDIC, using an appropriate discount rate, which reflects counterparty credit risk and other uncertainties.

The shared-loss agreements continue to be measured on the same basis as the related indemnified loans, as prescribed by ASC Topic 805. Deterioration in the credit quality of the loans (immediately recorded as an adjustment to the allowance for loan losses) would immediately increase the basis of the shared-loss agreements, with the offset recorded through the consolidated statement of income. Increases in the credit quality or cash flows of loans (reflected as an adjustment to yield and accreted into income over the remaining life of the loans) decrease the basis of the shared-loss agreements, with such decrease being accreted into income over 1) the same period or 2) the life of the shared-loss agreements, whichever is shorter. Loss assumptions used in the basis of the indemnified loans are consistent with the loss assumptions used to measure the indemnification asset. Fair value accounting incorporates into the fair value of the indemnification asset an element of the time value of money, which is accreted back into income over the life of the shared-loss agreements.

Upon the determination of an incurred loss the indemnification asset will be reduced by the amount owed by the FDIC. A corresponding, claim receivable is recorded until cash is received from the FDIC. For further discussion of our acquisition and loan accounting, see Note 5, Loans Acquired, in the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this report.

### Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of an acquisition over the fair value of the net assets acquired. Other intangible assets represent purchased assets that also lack physical substance but can be separately distinguished from goodwill because of contractual or other legal rights or because the asset is capable of being sold or exchanged either on its own or in combination with a related contract, asset or liability. We perform an annual goodwill impairment test, and more than annually if circumstances warrant, in accordance with ASC Topic 350, Intangibles – Goodwill and Other, as amended by ASU 2011-08 – Testing Goodwill for Impairment. ASC Topic 350 requires that goodwill and intangible assets that have indefinite lives be reviewed for impairment at least annually, or more frequently if certain

conditions occur. Impairment losses on recorded goodwill, if any, will be recorded as operating expenses.

#### Income Taxes

We are subject to the federal income tax laws of the United States, and the tax laws of the states and other jurisdictions where we conduct business. Due to the complexity of these laws, taxpayers and the taxing authorities may subject these laws to different interpretations. Management must make conclusions and estimates about the application of these innately intricate laws, related regulations, and case law. When preparing the Company's income tax returns, management attempts to make reasonable interpretations of the tax laws. Taxing authorities have the ability to challenge management's analysis of the tax law or any reinterpretation management makes in its ongoing assessment of facts and the developing case law. Management assesses the reasonableness of its effective tax rate quarterly based on its current estimate of net income and the applicable taxes expected for the full year. On a quarterly basis, management also reviews circumstances and developments in tax law affecting the reasonableness of deferred tax assets and liabilities and reserves for contingent tax liabilities.

2013 Overview

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Our net income for the year ended December 31, 2013 was \$23.2 million and diluted earnings per share were \$1.42, compared to net income of \$27.7 million and \$1.64 diluted earnings per share in 2012. Net income for both 2013 and 2012 included several significant nonrecurring items that impacted net income, mostly related to our acquisitions. Excluding all nonrecurring items, core earnings for the year ended December 31, 2013 was \$27.6 million, or \$1.69 diluted core earnings per share, compared to \$26.9 million, or \$1.59 diluted core earnings per share in 2012. Diluted core earnings per share increased by \$0.10, or 6.3%. See Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures and Table 21 – Reconciliation of Core Earnings (non-GAAP) for additional discussion of non-GAAP measures.

On September 12, 2013 we announced the U.S. Bankruptcy Court approved a Stock Purchase Agreement between the Company and Rogers Bancshares, Inc., in which we purchased all the stock of Metropolitan National Bank (“Metropolitan” or “MNB”) for \$53.6 million in cash. We closed the transaction on November 25, 2013, increasing our combined company to \$4.4 billion in total assets, \$3.7 billion in deposits and \$2.4 billion in net loans at year end.

The Metropolitan franchise, headquartered in Little Rock, fits nicely into our footprint by expanding our presence in central and northwest Arkansas, the two leading growth market in our home state. Metropolitan has a rich history of providing exemplary customer service to the communities in which it is located. On March 21, 2014 we will complete the operational system conversion of Metropolitan with our flagship institution, Simmons First National Bank (“SFNB”), which will enable us to provide customers with innovative products, exceptional customer service and convenience throughout the combined service area. As a result of the MNB combination and in concert with the systems conversion, we will close 27 branches with footprints that overlap other branches. Additionally, at the close of business November 1, 2013 we merged Simmons First Bank of Northwest Arkansas into SFNB in anticipation of the Metropolitan acquisition.

As a result of the Metropolitan acquisition, we recognized \$4.0 million in after-tax merger related costs. During 2013, we closed six underperforming branches and recorded \$0.4 million in after-tax nonrecurring expenses related to those closures. During 2012, we recognized after-tax bargain purchase gains of \$2.1 million and after-tax merger related costs of \$1.2 million related to our FDIC-assisted acquisitions of Excel Bank of Sedalia, Missouri (“Excel”) and Truman Bank of St. Louis, Missouri (“Truman”). For additional information on Metropolitan and these FDIC transactions, see Note 2, Acquisitions, in the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this report.

We are pleased with the core earnings results for the year. As a result of acquisitions and efficiency initiatives in recent reporting periods, we have and will continue to recognize one-time revenue and expense items which may skew our short-term core business results but provide long-term performance benefits. Our focus continues to be improvement in core operating income.

We are also pleased with the positive trends in our balance sheet, as reflected in our organic loan growth of over 7% during the past year, which enabled us to produce a net interest margin of 4.21%. In addition, we completed the acquisition of a \$9.8 million credit card portfolio on September 30, 2013 and we continue to evaluate opportunities for additional credit card portfolio acquisitions.

Stockholders’ equity as of December 31, 2013 was \$403.8 million, book value per share was \$24.89 and tangible book value per share was \$19.10. Our ratio of stockholders’ equity to total assets was 9.2% and the ratio of tangible stockholders’ equity to tangible assets was 7.2% at December 31, 2013. The Company’s Tier I leverage ratio of 9.2%, as well as our other regulatory capital ratios, remain significantly above the “well capitalized”. See Table 18 – Risk-Based Capital for regulatory capital ratios.

During the first quarter we fully integrated the acquired locations, including system conversions, on our 2012 FDIC-assisted acquisitions. Those acquisitions were strategic in that they complement the footprint we have been building in the Kansas and Missouri markets. We continue to actively pursue the right opportunities to expand our presence in that geographic region through additional FDIC and/or traditional acquisitions going forward.

We believe our stock, even after the recent market increase in our stock value, continues to be an excellent investment. We increased our quarterly dividend from \$0.21 to \$0.22 per share, beginning with the first quarter of 2014. On an annual basis, the \$0.88 per share dividend results in a return in excess of 2.5%, based on our recent stock price. We repurchased approximately 420,000 shares at an average price of \$25.89 during 2013. During the third quarter, as a result of the Metropolitan acquisition announcement, we suspended our stock repurchase program.

Total loans, including loans acquired, were \$2.4 billion at December 31, 2013, an increase of \$483 million, or 25.1%, from the same period in 2012. Acquired loans increased by \$369 million, net of discounts, while legacy loans (all loans excluding acquired loans) grew \$114 million, or 7.0%. We are encouraged by the continued growth in our legacy loan portfolio throughout 2013. We have had nice legacy loan growth this year, particularly from the new lenders we have attracted in our targeted growth markets. Their production has exceeded our expectations for 2013.

Loans covered by FDIC loss share agreements, which provide 80% Government guaranteed protection against credit risk on those covered assets, were \$146.7 million at December 31, 2013, compared to \$210.8 million at December 31, 2012 due to expected paydowns.

Despite the continued challenges in the economy, we continue to have good asset quality. The allowance for loan losses as a percent of total loans was 1.57% at December 31, 2013. Non-performing loans equaled 0.53% of total loans. Non-performing assets were 1.69% of total assets. The allowance for loan losses was 298% of non-performing loans. The Company's net charge-offs for 2013 were 0.27% of total loans. Excluding credit cards, net charge-offs for 2013 were 0.15% of total loans.

Total assets were \$4.4 billion at December 31, 2013 compared to \$3.5 billion at December 31, 2012, an increase of \$850 million primarily due to the Metropolitan acquisition.

The Metropolitan acquisition was one of several that we anticipate making over the next few years, and enhances our coverage of central and northwest Arkansas. Our 2012 FDIC acquisitions were strategic in that they complement the footprint we have been building in the Kansas and Missouri markets. We fully expect to pursue other opportunities to expand our footprint in that geographic region through additional FDIC and/or traditional acquisitions going forward.

#### Net Interest Income

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Net interest income, our principal source of earnings, is the difference between the interest income generated by earning assets and the total interest cost of the deposits and borrowings obtained to fund those assets. Factors that determine the level of net interest income include the volume of earning assets and interest bearing liabilities, yields earned and rates paid, the level of non-performing loans and the amount of non-interest bearing liabilities supporting earning assets. Net interest income is analyzed in the discussion and tables below on a fully taxable equivalent basis. The adjustment to convert certain income to a fully taxable equivalent basis consists of dividing tax-exempt income by one minus the combined federal and state income tax rate of 39.225%.

The FRB sets various benchmark rates, including the Federal Funds rate, and thereby influences the general market rates of interest, including the deposit and loan rates offered by financial institutions. The FRB target for the Federal Funds rate, which is the cost to banks of immediately available overnight funds, has remained unchanged at 0.00% - 0.25% since December 16, 2008. Our loan portfolio is significantly affected by changes in the prime interest rate. The prime interest rate, which is the rate offered on loans to borrowers with strong credit, has remained unchanged at 3.25% since December 16, 2008.

Our practice is to limit exposure to interest rate movements by maintaining a significant portion of earning assets and interest bearing liabilities in short-term repricing. Historically, approximately 70% of our loan portfolio and approximately 80% of our time deposits have repriced in one year or less. These historical percentages are consistent with our current interest rate sensitivity.

For the year ended December 31, 2013, net interest income on a fully taxable equivalent basis was \$135.8 million, an increase of \$17.6 million, or 14.9%, from the same period in 2012. The increase in net interest income was the result of a \$14.2 million increase in interest income and a \$3.4 million decrease in interest expense.

The increase in interest income primarily resulted from a \$13.6 million increase in interest income on loans, consisting of a \$15.5 million increase in interest income on loans acquired and a \$1.8 million decrease in interest income on legacy loans. Although the increase in legacy loan volume during 2013 generated \$3.0 million of additional interest income, a 30 basis point decline in yield resulted in a \$4.8 million decrease in interest income, netting the \$1.8 million decrease from legacy loans.

The \$15.5 million increase in interest income from acquired loans resulted from two sources. First, the average balance of acquired loans increased by \$119.0 million from December 31, 2012 to 2013 because of the two FDIC-assisted transactions in 2012 and the Metropolitan acquisition in late 2013. Also, we recognized additional yield accretion in conjunction with the fair value of the loan pools acquired in the 2010 and 2012 FDIC-assisted transactions as discussed in Note 5, Loans Acquired, in the accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this report. Each quarter, we estimate the cash flows expected to be collected from the acquired loan pools. Beginning in the fourth quarter of 2011, the cash flows estimate has increased on the loans acquired in 2010 based on payment histories and reduced loss expectations of the loan pools. Beginning in the third quarter of 2013, the cash flows estimate has also increased on the loans acquired in 2012. This resulted in increased interest income that is spread on a level-yield basis over the remaining expected lives of the loan pools. The increases in expected cash flows also reduce the amount of expected reimbursements under the loss sharing agreements with the FDIC, which are recorded as indemnification assets. The estimated adjustments to the indemnification assets are amortized on a level-yield basis over the remainder of the loss sharing agreements or the remaining expected life of the loan pools, whichever is shorter, and are recorded in non-interest expense.

For the year ended December 31, 2013, the adjustments increased interest income by an additional \$7.1 million and decreased non-interest income by an additional \$7.3 million compared to 2012. The net decrease to 2013 pre-tax income was \$197,000 from 2012. Because these adjustments will be recognized over the estimated remaining lives of the loan pools and the remainder of the loss sharing agreements, respectively, they will impact future periods as well. The current estimate of the remaining accretable yield adjustment that will positively impact interest income is \$33.0 million and the remaining adjustment to the indemnification assets that will reduce non-interest income is \$25.6 million. Of the remaining adjustments, we expect to recognize \$21.4 million of interest income and a \$20.6 million reduction of non-interest income for a net addition to pre-tax income of approximately \$811,000 in 2014. The accretable yield adjustments recorded in future periods will change as we continue to evaluate expected cash flows from the acquired loan pools.

Our net interest margin was 4.21% for the year ended December 31, 2013, up 28 basis points from 2012. Our margin has been strengthened by a higher yield on covered loans, including the impact of the accretable yield adjustments discussed above. Also, the acquisition of loans, along with our ability to stabilize the size of our legacy loan portfolio, has allowed us to increase our level of higher yielding assets over 2012. Conversely, while keeping us prepared to benefit from rising interest rates, our high levels of liquidity continue to compress our margin.

Our net interest margin was 3.93% and 3.85% for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Tables 1 and 2 reflect an analysis of net interest income on a fully taxable equivalent basis for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, as well as changes in fully taxable equivalent net interest margin for the years 2013 versus 2012 and 2012 versus 2011.

Table 1: Analysis of Net Interest Income  
(FTE =Fully Taxable Equivalent)

(In thousands)	Years Ended December 31		
	2013	2012	2011
Interest income	\$ 143,113	\$ 129,134	\$ 129,056
FTE adjustment	4,951	4,705	4,970
Interest income - FTE	148,064	133,839	134,026
Interest expense	12,263	15,617	20,396
Net interest income - FTE	\$ 135,801	\$ 118,222	\$ 113,630
Yield on earning assets - FTE	4.59%	4.45%	4.54%
Cost of interest bearing liabilities	0.48%	0.66%	0.86%
Net interest spread - FTE	4.11%	3.79%	3.68%
Net interest margin - FTE	4.21%	3.93%	3.85%

Table 2: Changes in Fully Taxable Equivalent Net Interest Margin

(In thousands)	2013 vs. 2012	2012 vs. 2011
Increase (decrease) due to change in earning assets	\$ 24,120	\$ (3,414)
(Decrease) increase due to change in earning asset yields	(9,895)	3,227

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Increase due to change in interest rates paid on interest bearing liabilities	3,289	3,968
Increase due to change in interest bearing liabilities	65	811
Increase in net interest income	\$ 17,579	\$ 4,592

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Table 3 shows, for each major category of earning assets and interest bearing liabilities, the average (computed on a daily basis) amount outstanding, the interest earned or expensed on such amount and the average rate earned or expensed for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2013. The table also shows the average rate earned on all earning assets, the average rate expensed on all interest bearing liabilities, the net interest spread and the net interest margin for the same periods. The analysis is presented on a fully taxable equivalent basis. Nonaccrual loans were included in average loans for the purpose of calculating the rate earned on total loans.

Table 3: Average Balance Sheets and Net Interest Income Analysis

(In thousands)	Average Balance	Years Ended December 31								
		2013			2012			2011		
		Income/ Expense	Yield/ Rate (%)	Average Balance	Income/ Expense	Yield/ Rate (%)	Average Balance	Income/ Expense	Yield/ Rate (%)	
<b>ASSETS</b>										
<b>Earning assets:</b>										
Interest bearing balances due from banks	\$ 470,651	\$ 1,127	0.24	\$ 524,224	\$ 1,220	0.23	\$ 486,274	\$ 1,100	0.23	
Federal funds sold	4,186	19	0.45	3,107	7	0.23	886	6	0.68	
Investment securities - taxable	464,319	5,553	1.20	474,375	5,321	1.12	426,226	6,719	1.58	
Investment securities - non-taxable	315,445	12,647	4.01	208,056	12,060	5.8	207,929	12,784	6.15	
Mortgage loans held for sale	13,108	467	3.56	17,959	637	3.55	11,953	503	4.21	
Assets held in trading accounts	8,607	29	0.34	7,539	48	0.64	7,466	33	0.44	
Legacy loans	1,661,001	88,645	5.34	1,605,823	90,434	5.64	1,621,251	95,763	5.91	
Loans acquired	286,777	39,577	13.80	167,758	24,112	14.37	192,300	17,118	8.9	
Total interest earning assets	3,224,094	148,064	4.59	3,008,841	133,839	4.45	2,954,285	134,026	4.54	
Non-earning assets	382,408			327,322			330,342			
Total assets	\$ 3,606,502			\$ 3,336,163			\$ 3,284,627			
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>										
<b>Liabilities:</b>										

## Interest bearing liabilities:

Interest bearing transaction and savings deposits	\$ 1,490,457	\$ 2,461	0.17	\$ 1,308,171	\$ 2,682	0.21	\$ 1,217,218	\$ 3,611	0.3
Time deposits	859,913	5,938	0.69	861,004	7,943	0.92	913,009	11,314	1.24
Total interest bearing deposits	2,350,370	8,399	0.36	2,169,175	10,625	0.49	2,130,227	14,925	0.7

Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	93,574	219	0.23	91,444	310	0.34	103,557	450	0.43
Other borrowings	87,089	3,001	3.45	89,861	3,354	3.73	97,314	3,512	3.61
Subordinated debentures	20,620	644	3.12	28,268	1,328	4.7	30,930	1,509	4.88
Total interest bearing liabilities	2,551,653	12,263	0.48	2,378,748	15,617	0.66	2,362,028	20,396	0.86

## Non-interest bearing liabilities:

Non-interest bearing deposits	588,374			518,243			482,651		
Other liabilities	30,557			29,985			33,855		
Total liabilities	3,170,584			2,926,976			2,878,534		
Stockholders' equity	435,918			409,187			406,093		
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 3,606,502			\$ 3,336,163			\$ 3,284,627		
Net interest spread			4.11			3.79			3.68
Net interest margin		\$ 135,801	4.21		\$ 118,222	3.93		\$ 113,630	3.85

Table 4: Volume/Rate Analysis

(In thousands, on a fully taxable equivalent basis)	Years Ended December 31					
	2013 over 2012			2012 over 2011		
	Volume	Yield/ Rate	Total	Volume	Yield/ Rate	Total
<b>Increase (decrease) in</b>						
<b>Interest income</b>						
Interest bearing balances due from banks	\$ (128)	\$ 35	\$ (93)	\$ 87	\$ 33	\$ 120
Federal funds sold	2	10	12	7	(6)	1
Investment securities - taxable	(115)	347	232	697	(2,095)	(1,398)
Investment securities - non-taxable	5,024	(4,437)	587	8	(732)	(724)
Mortgage loans held for sale	(173)	3	(170)	223	(89)	134
Assets held in trading accounts	6	(25)	(19)	--	15	15
Legacy loans	3,042	(4,831)	(1,789)	310	(4,294)	(3,984)
Loans acquired	16,462	(997)	15,465	(4,746)	10,395	5,649
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,120</b>	<b>(9,895)</b>	<b>14,225</b>	<b>(3,414)</b>	<b>3,227</b>	<b>(187)</b>
<b>Interest expense</b>						
Interest bearing transaction and savings accounts	344	(565)	(221)	254	(1,183)	(929)
Time deposits	(10)	(1,995)	(2,005)	(614)	(2,757)	(3,371)
Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	7	(98)	(91)	(49)	(91)	(140)
<b>Other borrowed funds</b>						
Other borrowings	(101)	(252)	(353)	(275)	117	(158)
Subordinated debentures	(305)	(379)	(684)	(127)	(54)	(181)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(65)</b>	<b>(3,289)</b>	<b>(3,354)</b>	<b>(811)</b>	<b>(3,968)</b>	<b>(4,779)</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in net interest income</b>	<b>\$ 24,185</b>	<b>\$ (6,606)</b>	<b>\$ 17,579</b>	<b>\$ (2,603)</b>	<b>\$ 7,195</b>	<b>\$ 4,592</b>

**Provision for Loan Losses**

The provision for loan losses represents management's determination of the amount necessary to be charged against the current period's earnings in order to maintain the allowance for loan losses at a level considered appropriate in relation to the estimated risk inherent in the loan portfolio. The level of provision to the allowance is based on management's judgment, with consideration given to the composition, maturity and other qualitative characteristics of the portfolio, historical loan loss experience, assessment of current economic conditions, past due and non-performing loans and net loan loss experience. It is management's practice to review the allowance on a monthly basis, and, after considering the factors previously noted, to determine the level of provision made to the allowance.

The provision for loan losses for 2013, 2012 and 2011, was \$4.1, \$4.1 million and \$11.7 million, respectively. Even with a growing legacy portfolio, we were able to keep our 2013 provision at the same level as 2012, primarily due to our improving asset quality. See Allowance for Loan Losses section for additional information.

During 2012, we decreased our provision by approximately \$7.5 million, primarily due to our improving asset quality and a decrease from 2011 in net loan charge-offs.



## Non-Interest Income

Total non-interest income was \$40.6 million in 2013, compared to \$48.4 million in 2012 and \$53.5 million in 2011. Non-interest income for 2013 decreased \$7.8 million, or 16.0%, from 2012.

As previously discussed in the Net Interest Income section, there was a \$7.3 million decrease in non-interest income from 2012 to 2013 due to reductions of the indemnification assets resulting from increased cash flows expected to be collected from the FDIC covered loan portfolios. Included in 2013 non-interest income was a \$193,000 nonrecurring loss on sale of securities liquidated from the Truman and Excel acquisition portfolios, and included in 2012 non-interest income was \$3.4 million of nonrecurring bargain purchase gains on the Truman and Excel acquisitions (see Overview section for more discussion of the FDIC-assisted transactions). Excluding the indemnification assets adjustment and these nonrecurring items, non-interest income increased \$3.2 million, or 5.7%, from 2012. Approximately \$1.8 million of the increase was from the addition of Metropolitan.

Non-interest income is principally derived from recurring fee income, which includes service charges, trust fees and credit card fees. Non-interest income also includes income on the sale of mortgage loans, investment banking income, premiums on sale of student loans, income from the increase in cash surrender values of bank owned life insurance, gains (losses) from sales of securities and gains (losses) related to FDIC-assisted transactions and covered assets.

Table 5 shows non-interest income for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, as well as changes in 2013 from 2012 and in 2012 from 2011.

Table 5:

## Non-Interest Income

(In thousands)	Years Ended December 31			2013	
	2013	2012	2011	Change from 2012	
Trust income	\$ 5,842	\$ 5,473	\$ 5,375	\$ 369	6.74%
Service charges on deposit accounts	18,815	16,808	16,808	2,007	11.94
Other service charges and fees	3,458	2,961	2,980	497	16.78
Mortgage lending income	4,592	5,997	4,188	(1,405)	-23.43
Investment banking income	1,811	2,038	1,478	(227)	-11.14
Credit card fees	17,372	17,045	16,828	327	1.92
Bank owned life insurance income	1,319	1,463	1,481	(144)	-9.84
Gain on FDIC-assisted transactions	--	3,411	--	(3,411)	-100.00
Net (loss) gain on assets covered by FDIC loss share agreements	(16,188)	(9,793)	154	(6,395)	65.30
Other income	3,746	2,966	4,173	780	26.30
(Loss) gain on sale of securities, net	(151)	2	--	(153)	7650.00
Total non-interest income	\$ 40,616	\$ 48,371	\$ 53,465	\$ (7,755)	-16.03%

Recurring fee income (service charges, trust fee and credit card fees) for 2013 was \$45.5 million, an increase of \$3.2 million, or 7.57%, when compared with the 2012 amounts. Service charges on deposits accounts increased \$2.0 million due primarily to fees on accounts added through acquisitions and paper statement fees implemented during 2013. Credit card fees increased \$327,000 due primarily to a higher volume of credit and debit card transactions.

Recurring fee income for 2012 was \$42.3 million, an increase of \$296,000, or 0.7%, when compared with the 2011 amounts. Service charges on deposits accounts remained unchanged from 2011 as we were able to offset a significant decline in fee income from regulatory changes related to overdrafts on point-of-sale transactions. Credit card fees

increased \$217,000 due primarily to a higher volume of credit and debit card transactions. The increase in total fees due to transaction volume was significantly reduced as a direct result of the implementation of new regulation in 2012 related to the pricing of debit card interchange fees.

Mortgage banking income decreased by \$1.4 million, or 23.4%, in 2013 compared to 2012, primarily due to a market driven increase in mortgage rates leading to substantially lower residential refinancing volume. Mortgage banking income increased by \$1.8 million, or 43.2%, in 2012 compared to 2011, primarily due to historically low mortgage rates leading to a significant increase in residential refinancing volume.

Investment banking income decreased by \$227,000, or 11.1%, in 2013 compared to 2012. The decrease was primarily due to an industry-wide decline in dealer-bank activities. Investment banking income increased by \$560,000, or 37.9%, in 2012 compared to 2011. The increase was due to a favorable mark-to-market adjustment on trading investments during 2012, with unfavorable adjustments in 2011.

Net gain (loss) on assets covered by FDIC loss share agreements decreased by \$6.4 million in 2013 compared to 2012. As previously described, due to the increase in cash flows expected to be collected from the FDIC-covered loan portfolios, an additional \$7.3 million of amortization, a reduction of non-interest income, was recorded during 2013 as compared to 2012, related to reductions of expected reimbursements under the loss sharing agreements with the FDIC, which are recorded as indemnification assets. Income from the normal accretion of the FDIC indemnification assets, net of amortization of the FDIC true-up liability, increased by \$1.1 million from the previous year and gains from the sale of covered assets increased by \$0.2 million. Net gain (loss) on assets covered by FDIC loss share agreements decreased by \$9.6 million in 2012 compared to 2011.

Other non-interest income for 2013 increased by \$780,000 from 2012, primarily due to increased gains on sale of foreclosed assets. Other non-interest income for 2012 decreased by \$1.2 million from 2011, primarily due to a \$1.1 million gain from the sale of MasterCard stock in the second quarter of 2011. On May 31, 2006, MasterCard Incorporated completed its Initial Public Offering ("IPO"). As a part of the IPO, approximately 41% of the equity was issued to member-banks as Class B common stock. Conversion of Class B shares to Class A shares was restricted as to the timing and number of shares eligible until the fourth anniversary of the IPO. As a member-bank the Company received 4,077 shares of MasterCard Class B stock. As there was no market or readily ascertainable fair market value for the class B shares, they were recorded with no basis value. On May 31, 2010, restrictions on the conversion of the Class B shares to Class A shares expired, permitting Class B stockholders to convert Class B shares into an equal number of Class A shares for prompt disposition to the public. On May 13, 2011, the Company applied for conversion of its Class B shares to Class A common stock and recorded a \$1.1 million pre-tax gain upon conversion approval by MasterCard Incorporated and immediately sold the Class A shares.

We recorded \$151,000 in net realized losses on sale of securities during 2013, with \$2,000 in net realized gains on sale of securities during 2012. As part of our acquisition strategy related to Truman and Excel, we liquidated much of the acquired investment portfolios, resulting in net realized losses of \$193,000 in 2013.

#### Non-Interest Expense

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Non-interest expense consists of salaries and employee benefits, occupancy, equipment, foreclosure losses and other expenses necessary for the operation of the Company. Management remains committed to controlling the level of non-interest expense through the continued use of expense control measures that have been installed. We utilize an extensive profit planning and reporting system involving all subsidiaries. Based on a needs assessment of the business plan for the upcoming year, monthly and annual profit plans are developed, including manpower and capital expenditure budgets. These profit plans are subject to extensive initial reviews and monitored by management on a monthly basis. Variances from the plan are reviewed monthly and, when required, management takes corrective action intended to ensure financial goals are met. We also regularly monitor staffing levels at each affiliate to ensure productivity and overhead are in line with existing workload requirements.

Non-interest expense for 2013 was \$134.8 million, an increase of \$17.1 million or 14.51%, from 2012. This increase includes approximately \$6.4 million of merger related costs for our acquisition of Metropolitan and \$0.6 million of one-time expenses related to the closure of six branch locations during 2013. Also included in non-interest expense are merger related costs of \$1.9 million and \$0.4 million in 2012 and 2011, respectively. Normalizing for these merger related and branch closure costs, non-interest expense increased by 10.3% in 2013 from 2012. This increase is primarily the result of normal operating expenses for the Metropolitan, Excel and Truman acquisitions. See the Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures section for details of the nonrecurring items

Non-interest expense for 2012 was \$117.7 million, an increase of \$3.1 million or 2.7%, from 2011. This increase includes approximately \$2.5 million of incremental normal operating expenses for our 2012 FDIC-assisted acquisitions. Also included in non-interest expense are merger related costs of \$1.9 million and \$0.4 million in 2012 and 2011, respectively. Normalizing for these incremental operating expenses, merger related costs and other nonrecurring items, non-interest expense decreased by 0.7% in 2012 from 2011. This decrease is the result of the implementation of our efficiency initiatives

Salary and employee benefits increased to \$74.1 million in 2013 from \$67.0 million in 2012, an increase of \$7.4 million, or 11.1%. Occupancy expense increased to \$10.0 million in 2013 from \$8.6 million in 2012, an increase of \$1.4 million, or 16.63%. Furniture and fixture expense increased to \$7.6 million in 2013 from \$6.9 million in 2012, an increase of \$741,000, or 10.8%. While expenses remained relatively flat from 2011 to 2012, the associates and locations added late in 2012 with the Truman and Excel acquisitions and late in 2013 with the Metropolitan acquisition temporarily, but significantly, impacted our salary and branch location expenses.

Deposit insurance expense during 2013 increased to \$2.5 million from \$2.1 million in 2012, an increase of \$396,000, or 19.0%. Deposit insurance expense during 2012 decreased \$301,000, or 12.6%, from \$2.4 million in 2011. The 2013 increase is attributable to growth in our total assets. The 2012 decrease was primarily due to a decrease in deposit insurance premiums resulting from changes in the FDIC's assessment base and rates.

Core deposit premium amortization expense recorded for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, was \$600,000, \$347,000 and \$884,000, respectively. The current year increase is the result of core deposit premiums recorded as the result of the Metropolitan acquisition and a full year of amortization expense related to the Truman and Excel acquisitions. The Company's estimated amortization expense for each of the following five years is: 2014 – \$1.394 million; 2015 – \$1.388 million; 2016 – \$1.385 million; 2017– \$1.385 million; and 2018 – \$1.385 million. The estimated amortization expense decreases as core deposit premiums fully amortize in future years.

Table 6 below shows non-interest expense for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011, respectively, as well as changes in 2013 from 2012 and in 2012 from 2011.

Table 6:

## Non-Interest Expense

(In thousands)	Years Ended December 31			2013		2012	
	2013	2012	2011	Change from 2012		Change from 2011	
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 74,078	\$ 66,999	\$ 65,058	\$ 7,079	10.57%	\$ 1,941	2.98%
Occupancy expense, net	10,034	8,603	8,443	1,431	16.63	160	1.90
Furniture and equipment expense	7,623	6,882	6,633	741	10.77	249	3.75
Other real estate and foreclosure expense	1,337	992	678	345	34.78	314	46.31
Deposit insurance	2,482	2,086	2,387	396	18.98	(301)	-12.61
Merger related costs	6,376	1,896	357	4,480	236.29	1,539	431.09
Other operating expenses							
Professional services	4,473	4,851	4,574	(378)	-7.79	277	6.06
Postage	2,531	2,488	2,486	43	1.73	2	-0.08
Telephone	2,323	2,391	2,480	(68)	-2.84	(89)	-3.59
Credit card expense	6,869	6,906	6,565	(37)	-0.54	341	5.19
Operating supplies	1,511	1,419	1,653	92	6.48	(234)	-14.16
Amortization of core deposits	600	347	884	253	72.91	(537)	-60.75
Other expense	14,575	11,873	12,452	2,702	22.76	(579)	-4.65
Total non-interest expense	\$ 134,812	\$ 117,733	\$ 114,650	\$ 17,079	14.51%	\$ 3,083	2.69%

## Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes for 2013 was \$9.3 million, compared to \$12.3 million in 2012 and \$10.4 million in 2011. The effective income tax rates for the years ended 2013, 2012 and 2011 were 28.6%, 30.8% and 29.1%, respectively.

## Loan Portfolio

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Our legacy loan portfolio, excluding loans acquired, averaged \$1.661 billion during 2013 and \$1.608 billion during 2012. As of December 31, 2013, total loans, excluding loans acquired, were \$1.743 billion, compared to \$1.629 billion on December 31, 2012, an increase of \$114.1 million, or 7.0%. This organic loan growth in 2013 represents a significant improvement over recent years. This marks the second consecutive time since 2008 that we have seen annual growth in our legacy loan portfolio as of year-end. The most significant components of the loan portfolio were loans to businesses (commercial loans, commercial real estate loans and agricultural loans) and individuals (consumer loans, credit card loans and single-family residential real estate loans).

We seek to manage our credit risk by diversifying the loan portfolio, determining that borrowers have adequate sources of cash flow for loan repayment without liquidation of collateral, obtaining and monitoring collateral, providing an appropriate allowance for loan losses and regularly reviewing loans through the internal loan review process. The loan portfolio is diversified by borrower, purpose and industry and, in the case of credit card loans, which are unsecured, by geographic region. We seek to use diversification within the loan portfolio to reduce credit risk, thereby minimizing the adverse impact on the portfolio, if weaknesses develop in either the economy or a particular segment of borrowers. Collateral requirements are based on credit assessments of borrowers and may be used to recover the debt in case of default. We use the allowance for loan losses as a method to value the loan portfolio at its estimated collectable amount. Loans are regularly reviewed to facilitate the identification and monitoring of deteriorating credits.

Consumer loans consist of credit card loans, student loans and other consumer loans. Consumer loans were \$309.7 million at December 31, 2013, or 17.8% of total loans, compared to \$325.0 million, or 20.0% of total loans at December 31, 2012. The \$15.3 million consumer loan decrease from 2012 to 2013 is primarily due to a \$8.2 million decrease in our student loan portfolio, as expected. The remaining balance of our consumer loan portfolio decreased by \$7.1 million, with small declines in our credit card, direct and indirect lending areas.

Simmons First had been in the student loan business since 1966, and we believe that the banking industry had been very efficient in serving the students and the schools in Arkansas. However, U.S. government legislation finalized during the first quarter of 2010 eliminated the private sector from providing student loans after the 2009-2010 school year. Therefore, after June 30, 2010, the Company and the banking industry were no longer providers of student loans.

As for our current student loan portfolio, we have sold the loans we originated during the 2009-2010 school year under the program established in 2008 in which the government will purchase the loans at par plus a premium. Sales of these loans during the third quarter of 2010 left approximately \$61.3 million of student loans in our portfolio that will not qualify for the government purchase program. Payoffs and consolidations have left approximately \$25.9 million of student loans in our portfolio at December 31, 2013. We currently plan to continue servicing the remaining student loans internally until the loans pay off, we find a suitable buyer or the students consolidate their loans.

The credit card portfolio balance at December 31, 2013, decreased by \$601,000, or 0.3%, when compared to the same period in 2012. After several years of significant growth, our credit card portfolio stabilized during 2010 and has remained at a similar balance each year end since.

Real estate loans consist of construction loans, single family residential loans and commercial loans. Real estate loans were \$1.165 billion at December 31, 2013, or 66.9% of total loans, compared to \$1.063 billion, or 65.3% of total loans at December 31, 2012, an increase of \$101.9 million, or 9.6%. Our construction and development ("C&D") loans increased by \$8.3 million, or 6.0%, single family residential loans increased by \$35.4 million, or 9.9%, and commercial real estate ("CRE") loans increased by \$58.1 million, or 10.2%. Considering the continuing challenges in the economy, we believe it is important to note that we have no significant concentrations in our real estate loan portfolio mix. Our C&D loans represent only 8.4% of our loan portfolio and CRE loans (excluding C&D) represent

35.9% of our loan portfolio, both of which compare very favorably to our peers.

Commercial loans consist of non-real estate loans related to businesses and agricultural loans. Commercial loans were \$263.2 million at December 31, 2013, or 15.1% of total loans, compared to the \$235.1 million, or 14.4% of total loans at December 31, 2012, an increase of \$28.1 million, or 11.9%.

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Table 7: Loan Portfolio

(In thousands)	Years Ended December 31				
	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
<b>Consumer</b>					
Credit cards	\$ 184,935	\$ 185,536	\$ 189,970	\$ 190,329	\$ 189,154
Student loans	25,906	34,145	47,419	61,305	114,296
Other consumer	98,851	105,319	109,211	118,581	139,647
<b>Total consumer</b>	<b>309,692</b>	<b>325,000</b>	<b>346,600</b>	<b>370,215</b>	<b>443,097</b>
<b>Real Estate</b>					
Construction	146,458	138,132	109,825	153,772	180,759
Single family residential	392,285	356,907	355,094	364,442	392,208
Other commercial	626,333	568,166	536,372	548,360	596,517
<b>Total real estate</b>	<b>1,165,076</b>	<b>1,063,205</b>	<b>1,001,291</b>	<b>1,066,574</b>	<b>1,169,484</b>
<b>Commercial</b>					
Commercial	164,329	141,336	141,422	150,501	172,091
Agricultural	98,886	93,805	85,728	86,171	84,866
<b>Total commercial</b>	<b>263,215</b>	<b>235,141</b>	<b>227,150</b>	<b>236,672</b>	<b>256,957</b>
Other	4,655	5,167	4,728	10,003	5,451
<b>Total loans, excluding loans acquired, before allowance for loan losses</b>	<b>\$ 1,742,638</b>	<b>\$ 1,628,513</b>	<b>\$ 1,579,769</b>	<b>\$ 1,683,464</b>	<b>\$ 1,874,989</b>

Table 8 reflects the remaining maturities and interest rate sensitivity of loans, excluding all loans acquired, at December 31, 2013.

Table 8: Maturity and Interest Rate Sensitivity of Loans

(In thousands)	Maturity			Total
	1 year or less	Over 1 year through 5 years	Over 5 years	
Consumer	\$ 263,451	\$ 44,325	\$ 1,916	\$ 309,692
Real estate	505,041	626,942	33,093	1,165,076
Commercial	187,712	74,963	540	263,215
Other	3,545	945	165	4,655
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 959,749</b>	<b>\$ 747,175</b>	<b>\$ 35,714</b>	<b>\$ 1,742,638</b>
Predetermined rate	\$ 526,543	\$ 733,950	\$ 32,850	\$ 1,293,343
Floating rate	433,206	13,225	2,864	449,295
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 959,749</b>	<b>\$ 747,175</b>	<b>\$ 35,714</b>	<b>\$ 1,742,638</b>

#### Loans Acquired

On November 25, 2013, Simmons First National Corporation completed the acquisition of Metropolitan, in which the Company purchased all the stock of Metropolitan for \$53.6 million in cash. The acquisition was conducted in accordance with the provisions of Section 363 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. Included in the acquisition were

loans with a fair value of \$457.4 million and foreclosed assets with a fair value of \$42.9 million.

On September 30, 2013 we acquired a \$9.8 million credit card portfolio for a premium of \$1.3 million.

On September 14, 2012, the Company acquired certain assets and assumed substantially all of the deposits and certain other liabilities of Truman in an FDIC-assisted transaction that generated a pre-tax bargain-purchase gain of \$1.1 million. On October 19, 2012, the Company acquired certain assets and assumed certain deposits and other liabilities of Excel in an FDIC-assisted transaction that generated a pre-tax purchase gain of \$2.3 million. In 2010, we acquired substantially all of the assets and assumed substantially all of the deposits and certain other liabilities of two other failed banks in FDIC-assisted transactions. Loans comprise the majority of the assets acquired. The majority of the loans acquired, along with the majority of the foreclosed assets acquired, are subject to loss share agreements with the FDIC whereby SFNB is indemnified against 80% of losses. These loans and foreclosed assets, as well as the related indemnification asset from the FDIC, are presented as covered assets in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

A summary of the covered assets, along with the acquired loans and foreclosed assets held for sale that are not covered under FDIC loss share agreements, are reflected in Table 9 below:

(In thousands)	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012
Loans acquired, covered by FDIC loss share (net of discount)	\$ 146,653	\$ 210,842
Foreclosed assets covered by FDIC loss share	20,585	27,620
FDIC indemnification asset	48,791	75,286
Total covered assets	\$ 216,029	\$ 313,748
Loans acquired, not covered by FDIC loss share (net of discount)	\$ 515,644	\$ 82,764
Foreclosed assets acquired, not covered by FDIC loss share	45,459	11,796
Total assets acquired, not covered by FDIC loss share	\$ 561,103	\$ 94,560

Approximately \$429.0 million of the loans acquired in the Metropolitan acquisition were evaluated and are being accounted for in accordance with ASC Topic 310-20, Nonrefundable Fees and Other Costs. The fair value discount is being accreted into interest income over the weighted average life of the loans using a constant yield method. These loans are not considered to be impaired loans. We evaluated the remaining loans purchased in conjunction with the acquisition of Metropolitan for impairment in accordance with the provisions of ASC Topic 310-30, Loans and Debt Securities Acquired with Deteriorated Credit Quality. Purchased loans are considered impaired if there is evidence of credit deterioration since origination and if it is probable that not all contractually required payments will be collected.

We evaluated all of the loans purchased in conjunction with the acquisition of Truman, Excel and our previous FDIC-assisted transactions in accordance with the provisions of ASC Topic 310-30. All loans acquired in the FDIC transactions, both covered and not covered, were deemed to be impaired loans. These loans were not classified as nonperforming assets at December 31, 2013, or December 31, 2012, as the loans are accounted for on a pooled basis and the pools are considered to be performing. See Note 2 and Note 5 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion of loans acquired.

### Asset Quality

A loan is considered impaired when it is probable that we will not receive all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loans. Impaired loans include non-performing loans (loans past due 90 days or more and nonaccrual loans) and certain other loans identified by management that are still performing.

Non-performing loans are comprised of (a) nonaccrual loans, (b) loans that are contractually past due 90 days and (c) other loans for which terms have been restructured to provide a reduction or deferral of interest or principal, because of deterioration in the financial position of the borrower. The subsidiary banks recognize income principally on the accrual basis of accounting. When loans are classified as nonaccrual, generally, the accrued interest is charged off and no further interest is accrued. Loans, excluding credit card loans, are placed on a nonaccrual basis either: (1) when there are serious doubts regarding the collectability of principal or interest, or (2) when payment of interest or principal is 90 days or more past due and either (i) not fully secured or (ii) not in the process of collection. If a loan is determined by management to be uncollectible, the portion of the loan determined to be uncollectible is then charged to the allowance for loan losses.

Credit card loans are classified as impaired when payment of interest or principal is 90 days past due. Litigation accounts are placed on nonaccrual until such time as deemed uncollectible. Credit card loans are generally charged off when payment of interest or principal exceeds 180 days past due, but are turned over to the credit card recovery department, to be pursued until such time as they are determined, on a case-by-case basis, to be uncollectible.

Historically, we have sold our student loans into the secondary market before they reached payout status, thus requiring no servicing by the Company. Currently, since the government takeover of the student loan origination business in 2010, there is no secondary market for student loans; therefore, we are now required to service loans that have converted to a payout basis. Student loans are classified as impaired when payment of interest or principal is 90 days past due. Approximately \$2.3 million of government guaranteed student loans were over 90 days past due as of December 31, 2013. Under existing rules, when these loans exceed 270 days past due, the Department of Education will purchase them at 97% of principal and accrued interest. Although these student loans remain guaranteed by the federal government, because they are over 90 days past due they are included in our non-performing assets.

Total non-performing assets, excluding all loans acquired and foreclosed assets covered by FDIC loss share agreements, increased by \$28.5 million from December 31, 2012, to December 31, 2013. The increase in non-performing assets is related to the Metropolitan acquisition, in which we acquired \$42.9 million in non-covered foreclosed assets. Total non-performing loans decreased by \$2.9 million from December 31, 2012 to December 31, 2013, while foreclosed assets held for sale, excluding all acquired foreclosed assets, decreased by \$2.2 million during the period.

Total non-performing assets, excluding all loans acquired and foreclosed assets covered by FDIC loss share agreements, increased by \$6.5 million from December 31, 2011, to December 31, 2012. The increase in non-performing assets is related to the Truman and Excel transactions, in which we acquired \$13.6 million in non-covered foreclosed assets, with \$11.8 million remaining at December 31, 2012. Normalizing for the acquired non-covered foreclosed assets, our non-performing assets decreased \$5.2 million, primarily related to charge-offs of two credits with specific reserves. As a result of these credit charge-offs, non-performing assets, including TDRs and the acquired non-covered foreclosed assets, as a percent of total assets were 1.61% at December 31, 2012, compared to 1.52% at December 31, 2011.

Total non-performing assets increased by \$1.9 million from December 31, 2010, to December 31, 2011. During 2011, we moved two classified credits, previously reported as performing troubled debt restructurings (“TDRs”), to nonaccrual status. We were also able to rid ourselves of several significant non-performing assets through liquidation or customer refinancing at other financial institutions. As a result of these credit reclassifications and dispositions, non-performing assets, including TDRs, as a percent of total assets decreased to 1.52% at December 31, 2011, compared to 1.71% at December 31, 2010. We remain aggressive in the identification, quantification and resolution of problem loans.

From time to time, certain borrowers are experiencing declines in income and cash flow. As a result, many borrowers are seeking to reduce contractual cash outlays, the most prominent being debt payments. In an effort to preserve our net interest margin and earning assets, we are open to working with existing customers in order to maximize the collectability of the debt.

When we restructure a loan to a borrower that is experiencing financial difficulty and grant a concession that we would not otherwise consider, a troubled debt restructuring results and the Company classifies the loan as a TDR. The Company grants various types of concessions, primarily interest rate reduction and/or payment modifications or extensions, with an occasional forgiveness of principal.

Under ASC Topic 310-10-35, Subsequent Measurement, a TDR is considered to be impaired, and an impairment analysis must be performed. We assess the exposure for each modification, either by collateral discounting or by calculation of the present value of future cash flows, and determine if a specific allocation to the allowance for loan losses is needed.

Once an obligation has been restructured because of such credit problems, it continues to be considered a TDR until paid in full; or, if an obligation yields a market interest rate and no longer has any concession regarding payment amount or amortization, then it is not considered a TDR at the beginning of the calendar year after the year in which the improvement takes place. We had TDRs totaling \$10.2 million and \$14.1 million at December 31, 2013, and December 31, 2012, respectively. The majority of our TDRs are in the CRE portfolio.

We return TDRs to accrual status only if (1) all contractual amounts due can reasonably be expected to be repaid within a prudent period, and (2) repayment has been in accordance with the contract for a sustained period, typically at least six months.

We continue to maintain good asset quality, compared to the industry. The allowance for loan losses as a percent of total loans was 1.57% as of December 31, 2013. Non-performing loans equaled 0.53% of total loans. Non-performing assets were 1.69% of total assets. The allowance for loan losses was 298% of non-performing loans. Our net charge-offs to total loans for 2013 were 0.27%. Excluding credit cards, the net charge-offs to total loans were 0.15%. Net credit card charge-offs to total credit card loans for 2013 were 1.33%, compared to 1.50% in 2012, and nearly 200 basis points better than the industry average charge-off ratio as reported by the Federal Reserve for all banks during the fourth quarter of 2013.

We do not own any securities backed by subprime mortgage assets, and offer no mortgage loan products that target subprime borrowers.

Table 10 presents information concerning non-performing assets, including nonaccrual and restructured loans and other real estate owned (excluding all loans acquired and excluding other real estate covered by FDIC loss share agreements).

Table 10: Non-performing Assets

(In thousands, except ratios)	2013	2012	2011
Nonaccrual loans (1)	\$ 6,261	\$ 9,123	\$ 12,9
Loans past due 90 days or more (principal or interest payments):			
Government guaranteed student loans (2)	2,264	2,234	2,4
Other loans	687	681	7
Total loans past due 90 days or more	2,951	2,915	3,2
Total non-performing loans	9,212	12,038	16,1
Other non-performing assets:			
Foreclosed assets held for sale	19,361	21,556	22,8
Acquired foreclosed assets held for sale, not covered	45,459	11,796	
Other non-performing assets	75	221	
Total other non-performing assets	64,895	33,573	22,8
Total non-performing assets	\$ 74,107	\$ 45,611	\$ 39,0
Performing TDRs	\$ 9,497	\$ 11,015	\$ 11,3
Allowance for loan losses to non-performing loans	297.89%	231.62%	186
Non-performing loans to total loans	0.53	0.74	1
Non-performing loans to total loans (excluding government guaranteed student loans) (2)	0.40	0.60	0
Non-performing assets to total assets (3)	1.69	1.29	1
Non-performing assets to total assets (excluding government guaranteed student loans) (2) (3)	1.64	1.23	1

(1) Includes nonaccrual TDRs of approximately \$0.7 million at December 31, 2013, and \$3.1 million at December 31, 2012.

(2) Student loans past due 90 days or more are included in non-performing loans. Student loans are guaranteed by the federal government and will be purchased at 97% of principal and accrued interest when they exceed 270 days past due; therefore, non-performing ratios have been calculated excluding these loans.

(3) Excludes all loans acquired and excludes other real estate acquired, covered by FDIC loss share agreements, except for their inclusion in total assets.

There was no interest income on the nonaccrual loans recorded for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011.

At December 31, 2013, impaired loans, net of government guarantees and acquired loans, were \$18.3 million compared to \$30.8 million at December 31, 2012. On an ongoing basis, management evaluates the underlying collateral on all impaired loans and allocates specific reserves, where appropriate, in order to absorb potential losses if the collateral were ultimately foreclosed.



## Allowance for Loan Losses

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### Overview

The allowance for loan losses is a reserve established through a provision for loan losses charged to expense, which represents management's best estimate of probable losses that have been incurred within the existing portfolio of loans. The allowance, in the judgment of management, is necessary to reserve for estimated loan losses and risks inherent in the loan portfolio. The Company's allowance for loan loss methodology includes allowance allocations calculated in accordance with ASC Topic 310-10, Receivables, and allowance allocations calculated in accordance with ASC Topic 450-20, Loss Contingencies. Accordingly, the methodology is based on our internal grading system, specific impairment analysis, qualitative and quantitative factors.

As mentioned above, allocations to the allowance for loan losses are categorized as either specific allocations or general allocations.

### Specific Allocations

A loan is considered impaired when it is probable that we will not receive all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan, including scheduled principal and interest payments. For a collateral dependent loan, our evaluation process includes a valuation by appraisal or other collateral analysis. This valuation is compared to the remaining outstanding principal balance of the loan. If a loss is determined to be probable, the loss is included in the allowance for loan losses as a specific allocation. If the loan is not collateral dependent, the measurement of loss is based on the difference between the expected and contractual future cash flows of the loan.

### General Allocations

The general allocation is calculated monthly based on management's assessment of several factors such as (1) historical loss experience based on volumes and types, (2) volume and trends in delinquencies and nonaccruals, (3) lending policies and procedures including those for loan losses, collections and recoveries, (4) national, state and local economic trends and conditions, (5) concentrations of credit within the loan portfolio, (6) the experience, ability and depth of lending management and staff and (7) other factors and trends that will affect specific loans and categories of loans. We establish general allocations for each major loan category. This category also includes allocations to loans which are collectively evaluated for loss such as credit cards, one-to-four family owner occupied residential real estate loans and other consumer loans.

### Reserve for Unfunded Commitments

In addition to the allowance for loan losses, we have established a reserve for unfunded commitments, classified in other liabilities. This reserve is maintained at a level sufficient to absorb losses arising from unfunded loan commitments. The adequacy of the reserve for unfunded commitments is determined monthly based on methodology similar to our methodology for determining the allowance for loan losses. Net adjustments to the reserve for unfunded commitments are included in other non-interest expense.

An analysis of the allowance for loan losses for the last five years is shown in table 11.

Table 11: Allowance for Loan Losses

(In thousands)	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 27,882	\$ 30,108	\$ 26,416	\$ 25,016	\$ 25,841
Loans charged off					
Credit card	3,263	3,516	4,703	5,321	5,336
Other consumer	1,561	1,198	1,890	2,471	2,758
Real estate	1,628	4,095	3,165	9,564	4,814
Commercial	382	543	1,411	1,246	1,920
Total loans charged off	6,834	9,352	11,169	18,602	14,828
Recoveries of loans previously charged off					
Credit card	901	858	979	1,035	920
Other consumer	591	575	604	884	673
Real estate	592	1,383	981	3,657	1,393
Commercial	192	170	621	297	701
Total recoveries	2,276	2,986	3,185	5,873	3,687
Net loans charged off	4,558	6,366	7,984	12,729	11,141
Provision for loan losses	4,118	4,140	11,676	14,129	10,316
Balance, end of year	\$ 27,442	\$ 27,882	\$ 30,108	\$ 26,416	\$ 25,016
Net charge-offs to average loans (1)	0.27%	0.40%	0.49%	0.71%	0.58%
Allowance for loan losses to period-end loans (1)	1.57%	1.71%	1.91%	1.57%	1.33%
Allowance for loan losses to net charge-offs (1)	602.06%	438.05%	377.10%	207.53%	224.54%

(1) Excludes all acquired loans.

#### Provision for Loan Losses

The amount of provision added to the allowance each year was based on management's judgment, with consideration given to the composition of the portfolio, historical loan loss experience, assessment of current economic conditions, past due and non-performing loans and net loss experience. It is management's practice to review the allowance on a monthly basis, and after considering the factors previously noted, to determine the level of provision made to the allowance.

#### Allowance for Loan Losses Allocation

Prior to the fourth quarter of 2012, we measured the appropriateness of the allowance for loan losses in its entirety using (a) ASC 450-20 which includes quantitative (historical loss rates) and qualitative factors (management adjustment factors) such as (1) lending policies and procedures, (2) economic outlook and business conditions, (3) level and trend in delinquencies, (4) concentrations of credit and (5) external factors and competition; which are combined with the historical loss rates to create the baseline factors that are allocated to the various loan categories; (b) specific allocations on impaired loans in accordance with ASC 310-10; and (c) the unallocated amount.

The unallocated amount was evaluated on the loan portfolio in its entirety and was based on additional factors, such as (1) trends in volume, maturity and composition, (2) national, state and local economic trends and conditions, (3) the experience, ability and depth of lending management and staff and (4) other factors and trends that will affect specific loans and categories of loans, such as a heightened risk in agriculture, credit card and commercial real estate loan portfolios.

As of December 31, 2012, we refined our allowance calculation. As part of the refinement process, we evaluated the criteria previously applied to the entire loan portfolio, and used to calculate the unallocated portion of the allowance, and applied those criteria to each specific loan category. For example, the impact of national, state and local economic trends and conditions was evaluated by and allocated to specific loan categories.

As a result of this refined allowance calculation, the Company allocated (i) \$1.8 million previously included as unallocated allowance to its credit card portfolio segment, (ii) \$5.3 million previously included as unallocated allowance to its real estate portfolio segment, including (a) \$3.2 million to commercial real estate and (b) \$2.1 million to 1-4 family real estate and (iii) \$1.6 million previously included as unallocated allowance to its commercial portfolio segment, including (a) \$1.3 million to agricultural and (b) \$0.3 million to other commercial. These allocations totaling \$8.7 million were previously included in our unallocated allowance prior to the fourth quarter of 2012.

The Company may also consider additional qualitative factors in future periods for allowance allocations, including, among other factors, (1) seasoning of the loan portfolio, (2) the offering of new loan products, (3) specific industry conditions affecting portfolio segments and (4) the Company's expansion into new markets. As a result of the refined allowance calculation, the allocation of our allowance may not be comparable with periods prior to December 31, 2012.

Our allocation of the allowance for loan losses remained relatively unchanged from December 31, 2010 to December 31, 2011 in each loan category, including the allocation to credit card loans. Annualized net credit card charge-offs to credit card loans decreased from 2.37% at December 31, 2010 to 2.06% at December 31, 2011. Although we continued to have minimal credit card losses compared to the industry, credit card loans are unsecured loans. The economic downturn could adversely affect consumers in a more delayed fashion compared to commercial business in general. Increasing unemployment and diminished asset values could prevent our credit card customers from repaying their credit card balances which could result in an increased amount of our net charge-offs that could have a significant adverse effect on our unsecured credit card portfolio.

The unallocated allowance for loan losses for December 31, 2011, was based on our concerns over the uncertainty of the national economy and the economy in Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas. The impact of market pricing in the poultry, timber and catfish industries in Arkansas remained uncertain. We were also cautious regarding the continued softening of the real estate market, specifically in the Northwest Arkansas region. The housing industry remained one of the weakest links for economic recovery. Although the unemployment rate in Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas was lagging behind the national average, it remained at historically high levels. We actively monitor the status of these industries and economic factors as they relate to our loan portfolio and make changes to the allowance for loan losses as necessary. Based on our analysis of loans and external uncertainties, we believe the allowance for loan losses in its entirety was appropriate for the year ended December 31, 2011.

The following table sets forth the sum of the amounts of the allowance for loan losses attributable to individual loans within each category, or loan categories in general and, prior to December 31, 2012, the unallocated allowance. As previously discussed, we refined our allowance calculation during 2012 such that we no longer maintain unallocated allowance. The table also reflects the percentage of loans in each category to the total loan portfolio, excluding loans acquired, for each of the periods indicated. These allowance amounts have been computed using the Company's internal grading system, specific impairment analysis, qualitative and quantitative factor allocations. The amounts shown are not necessarily indicative of the actual future losses that may occur within individual categories. We had no allocation of our allowance to loans acquired for any of the periods presented.

Table 12: Allocation of Allowance for Loan Losses

	2013		2012		December 31 2011		2010		2009	
	Allowance Amount	% of loans(1)	Allowance Amount	% of loans(1)	Allowance Amount	% of loans(1)	Allowance Amount	% of loans(1)	Allowance Amount	% of loans(1)
Credit cards	\$ 5,430	10.6%	\$ 7,211	11.4%	\$ 5,513	12.0%	\$ 5,549	11.3%	\$ 5,808	10.1%
	1,758	7.2%	1,574	8.6%	1,638	9.9%	1,703	10.7%	1,719	13.5%

O t h e r  
consumer

Real estate	16,885	66.9%	15,453	65.3%	10,117	63.4%	9,692	63.4%	11,164	62.4%
Commercial	3,205	15.1%	3,446	14.4%	2,063	14.4%	2,277	14.1%	2,451	13.7%
Other	164	0.2%	198	0.3%	209	0.3%	255	0.5%	161	0.3%
Unallocated	--		--		10,568		6,940		3,713	
Total	\$ 27,442	100.0%	\$ 27,882	100.0%	\$ 30,108	100.0%	\$ 26,416	100.0%	\$ 25,016	100.00%

(1) Percentage of loans in each category to total loans, excluding loans acquired.

## Investments and Securities

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Our securities portfolio is the second largest component of earning assets and provides a significant source of revenue. Securities within the portfolio are classified as either held-to-maturity, available-for-sale or trading.

Held-to-maturity securities, which include any security for which management has the positive intent and ability to hold until maturity, are carried at historical cost, adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. Premiums and discounts are amortized and accreted, respectively, to interest income using the constant yield method over the period to maturity. Interest and dividends on investments in debt and equity securities are included in income when earned.

Available-for-sale securities, which include any security for which management has no immediate plans to sell, but which may be sold in the future, are carried at fair value. Realized gains and losses, based on amortized cost of the specific security, are included in other income. Unrealized gains and losses are recorded, net of related income tax effects, in stockholders' equity. Premiums and discounts are amortized and accreted, respectively, to interest income, using the constant yield method over the period to maturity. Interest and dividends on investments in debt and equity securities are included in income when earned.

Our philosophy regarding investments is conservative based on investment type and maturity. Investments in the portfolio primarily include U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. Government agencies, mortgage-backed securities and municipal securities. Our general policy is not to invest in derivative type investments or high-risk securities, except for collateralized mortgage-backed securities for which collection of principal and interest is not subordinated to significant superior rights held by others.

Held-to-maturity and available-for-sale investment securities were \$745.7 million and \$212.3 million, respectively, at December 31, 2013, compared to the held-to-maturity amount of \$496.1 million and available-for-sale amount of \$191.3 million at December 31, 2012. Based on our level of pledging and our history of holding securities to maturity, our strategy sets portfolio targets of approximately 75% held-to-maturity and 25% available-for-sale.

As of December 31, 2013, \$395.2 million, or 53.0%, of the held-to-maturity securities were invested in U.S. Treasury securities and obligations of U.S. government agencies, 51.0% of which will mature in less than five years. In the available-for-sale securities, \$182.2 million, or 85.8%, were in U.S. Treasury and U.S. government agency securities, 51.0% of which will mature in less than five years.

In order to reduce our income tax burden, \$315.4 million, or 42.3%, of the held-to-maturity securities portfolio, as of December 31, 2013, was invested in tax-exempt obligations of state and political subdivisions. In the available-for-sale securities, there was \$7.9 million invested in tax-exempt obligations of state and political subdivisions. Most of the state and political subdivision debt obligations are non-rated bonds and represent relatively small, Arkansas and Texas issues, which are evaluated on an ongoing basis. There are no securities of any one state or political subdivision issuer exceeding ten percent of our stockholders' equity at December 31, 2013.

We had approximately \$34.4 million, or 4.62% of the held-to-maturity portfolio invested in mortgaged-backed securities at December 31, 2013. In the available-for-sale securities, approximately \$1.9 million, or 0.89% were invested in mortgaged-backed securities. Securities with limited marketability, such as stock in the Federal Reserve Bank and the Federal Home Loan Bank, are carried at cost and are reported as other available for sale securities.

As of December 31, 2013, the held-to-maturity investment portfolio had gross unrealized gains of \$2.2 million and gross unrealized losses of \$16.5 million.

We had \$151,000 of gross realized gains and \$302,000 of realized losses from the sale of available for sale securities during the year ended December 31, 2013. As part of its acquisition strategy related to Truman and Excel, we liquidated the acquired mortgage-backed securities, resulting in \$193,000 of net realized losses during 2013. There were \$2,000 of realized gains from the sale of available for sale securities and no realized losses during the year ended December 31, 2012. We had no gross realized gains or losses during the year ended December 31, 2011 from the sale of available for sale securities.

Trading securities, which include any security held primarily for near-term sale, are carried at fair value. Gains and losses on trading securities are included in other income. Our trading account is established and maintained for the benefit of investment banking. The trading account is typically used to provide inventory for resale and is not used to take advantage of short-term price movements.

Declines in the fair value of held-to-maturity and available-for-sale securities below their cost that are deemed to be other than temporary are reflected in earnings as realized losses. In estimating other-than-temporary impairment losses, management considers, among other things, (i) the length of time and the extent to which the fair value has been less than cost, (ii) the financial condition and near-term prospects of the issuer and (iii) the intent and ability of the Company to retain its investment in the issuer for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery in fair value.

The unrealized losses on our investment securities were caused by interest rate increases. The contractual terms of those investments do not permit the issuer to settle the securities at a price less than the amortized cost bases of the investments. Because we do not intend to sell the investments and it is not more likely than not that we will be required to sell the investments before recovery of their amortized cost bases, which may be maturity, we do not consider those investments to be other-than-temporarily impaired at December 31, 2013.

Management has the ability and intent to hold the securities classified as held to maturity until they mature, at which time we expect to receive full value for the securities. Furthermore, as of December 31, 2013, management also had the ability and intent to hold the securities classified as available-for-sale for a period of time sufficient for a recovery of cost. The unrealized losses are largely due to increases in market interest rates over the yields available at the time the underlying securities were purchased. The fair value is expected to recover as the bonds approach their maturity date or repricing date or if market yields for such investments decline. Management does not believe any of the securities are impaired due to reasons of credit quality. Accordingly, as of December 31, 2013, management believes the impairments detailed in the table below are temporary.

Table 13 presents the carrying value and fair value of investment securities for each of the years indicated.

(In thousands)	Years Ended December 31							
	2013				2012			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized (Losses)	Estimated Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized (Losses)	Estimated Fair Value
<b>Held-to-Maturity</b>								
U.S. Government agencies	\$ 395,198	\$ 50	\$ (10,535)	\$ 384,713	\$ 288,098	\$ 135	\$ (679)	\$ 287,554
Mortgage-backed securities	34,425	17	(442)	34,000	49	1	--	50
State and political subdivisions	315,445	2,165	(5,498)	312,112	207,374	5,140	(160)	212,354
Other securities	620	--	--	620	620	--	--	620
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 745,688</b>	<b>\$ 2,232</b>	<b>\$ (16,475)</b>	<b>\$ 731,445</b>	<b>\$ 496,141</b>	<b>\$ 5,276</b>	<b>\$ (839)</b>	<b>\$ 500,578</b>
<b>Available-for-Sale</b>								
U.S. Treasury	\$ 4,001	\$ --	\$ (16)	\$ 3,985	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --
U.S. Government agencies	183,781	8	(5,572)	178,217	152,708	65	(292)	152,481
	1,735	156	--	1,891	20,436	287	(89)	20,634

Mortgage-backed securities

State and political subdivisions	7,860	4	(3)	7,861	2,989	--	(1)	2,988
Other securities	19,840	484	(1)	20,323	14,787	456	(4)	15,239
Total	\$ 217,217	\$ 652	\$ (5,592)	\$ 212,277	\$ 190,920	\$ 808	\$ (386)	\$ 191,342

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Table 14 reflects the amortized cost and estimated fair value of securities at December 31, 2013, by contractual maturity and the weighted average yields (for tax-exempt obligations on a fully taxable equivalent basis, assuming a 39.225% tax rate) of such securities. Expected maturities will differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations, with or without call or prepayment penalties.

Table 14: Maturity Distribution of Investment Securities

(In thousands)	December 31, 2013						Total Par Value	Fair Value
	1 year or less	Over 1 year through 5 years	Over 5 years through 10 years	Over 10 years	No fixed maturity	Amortized Cost		
<b>Held-to-Maturity</b>								
U.S. Government agencies	\$ 5,000	\$ 196,507	\$ 193,691	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 395,198	\$ 397,747	\$ 384,713
Mortgage-backed securities	--	26	173	34,226	--	34,425	34,826	34,000
State and political subdivisions	21,340	58,932	83,094	152,079	--	315,445	316,517	312,112
Other securities	--	--	--	620	--	620	620	620
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 26,340</b>	<b>\$ 255,465</b>	<b>\$ 276,958</b>	<b>\$ 186,925</b>	<b>\$ --</b>	<b>\$ 745,688</b>	<b>\$ 749,710</b>	<b>\$ 731,445</b>
Percentage of total	3.5%	34.3%	37.1%	25.1%	--	100.0%		
Weighted average yield	3.2%	1.5%	2.6%	5.1%	--	2.9%		
<b>Available-for-Sale</b>								
U.S. Government agencies	\$ 300	\$ 88,690	\$ 94,791	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 183,781	\$ 183,607	\$ 178,217
U.S. Government treasury	--	4,001	--	--	--	4,001	4,000	3,985
Mortgage-backed securities	--	53	787	895	--	1,735	1,748	1,891
State and political subdivisions	664	6,988	208	--	--	7,860	7,807	7,861
Other securities	1,018	574	--	--	18,248	19,840	20,231	20,323
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,982</b>	<b>\$ 100,306</b>	<b>\$ 95,786</b>	<b>\$ 895</b>	<b>\$ 18,248</b>	<b>\$ 217,217</b>	<b>\$ 217,393</b>	<b>\$ 212,277</b>
Percentage of total	0.9%	46.2%	44.1%	0.4%	8.4%	100.0%		
Weighted average yield	1.7%	0.9%	1.4%	5.3%	1.0%	1.1%		

Deposits

Deposits are our primary source of funding for earning assets and are primarily developed through our network of 131 financial centers. We offer a variety of products designed to attract and retain customers with a continuing focus on developing core deposits. Our core deposits consist of all deposits excluding time deposits of \$100,000 or more and brokered deposits. As of December 31, 2013, core deposits comprised 86.3% of our total deposits.

We continually monitor the funding requirements at each subsidiary bank along with competitive interest rates in the markets it serves. Because of our community banking philosophy, subsidiary bank executives in the local markets establish the interest rates offered on both core and non-core deposits. This approach ensures that the interest rates being paid are competitively priced for each particular deposit product and structured to meet the funding requirements. We believe we are paying a competitive rate when compared with pricing in those markets.

We manage our interest expense through deposit pricing and do not anticipate a significant change in total deposits. We believe that additional funds can be attracted and deposit growth can be accelerated through deposit pricing if it experiences increased loan demand or other liquidity needs. We also utilize brokered deposits as an additional source of funding to meet liquidity needs.

Our total deposits as of December 31, 2013 were \$3.698 billion, an increase of \$823.4 million, or 28.7%, from \$2.874 billion at December 31, 2012. Included in total deposits at December 31, 2013 were \$850 million from the Metropolitan acquisition. We have continued our strategy to move more volatile time deposits to less expensive, revenue enhancing transaction accounts throughout 2013. Non-interest bearing transaction accounts increased \$141.8 million to \$718.4 million at December 31, 2013, compared to \$576.7 million at December 31, 2012. Interest bearing transaction and savings accounts were \$1.863 billion at December 31, 2013, a \$441.5 million increase compared to \$1.421 billion on December 31, 2012. Total time deposits increased approximately \$240.1 million to \$1.117 billion at December 31, 2013, from \$876.4 million at December 31, 2012. In an attempt to utilize some of our excess liquidity, we have priced deposits in a manner to encourage a reduction in non-relationship time deposits. We had \$16.8 million and \$16.6 million of brokered deposits at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Table 15 reflects the classification of the average deposits and the average rate paid on each deposit category which is in excess of 10 percent of average total deposits for the three years ended December 31, 2013.

Table 15: Average Deposit Balances and Rates

(In thousands)	2013		December 31 2012		2011	
	Average Amount	Average Rate Paid	Average Amount	Average Rate Paid	Average Amount	Average Rate Paid
Non-interest bearing transaction accounts	\$ 588,374	--	\$ 518,243	--	\$ 482,651	--
Interest bearing transaction and savings deposits	1,490,457	0.17%	1,308,171	0.21%	1,217,218	0.30%
Time deposits						
\$100,000 or more	372,830	0.72%	368,437	0.95%	380,362	1.24%
Other time deposits	487,083	0.67%	492,567	0.90%	532,647	1.24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,938,744</b>	<b>0.29%</b>	<b>\$ 2,687,418</b>	<b>0.40%</b>	<b>\$ 2,612,878</b>	<b>0.57%</b>

The Company's maturities of large denomination time deposits at December 31, 2013 and 2012 are presented in table 16.

Table 16: Maturities of Large Denomination Time Deposits

(In thousands)	Time Certificates of Deposit (\$100,000 or more) December 31			
	2013		2012	
	Balance	Percent	Balance	Percent
<b>Maturing</b>				
Three months or less	\$ 123,384	24.4%	\$ 95,928	25.9%
Over 3 months to 6 months	107,033	21.2%	78,335	21.1%
Over 6 months to 12 months	192,468	38.1%	107,238	28.9%
Over 12 months	81,897	16.2%	89,097	24.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 504,782</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$ 370,598</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



### Fed Funds Purchased and Securities Sold under Agreements to Repurchase

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Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase were \$107.9 million at December 31, 2013, as compared to \$104.1 million at December 31, 2012.

We have historically funded our growth in earning assets through the use of core deposits, large certificates of deposits from local markets, FHLB borrowings and Federal funds purchased. Management anticipates that these sources will provide necessary funding in the foreseeable future.

### Other Borrowings and Subordinated Debentures

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Our total debt was \$137.7 million and \$110.1 million at December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The outstanding long-term debt balance for December 31, 2013 includes \$71.1 million in FHLB long-term advances, \$46.0 million in notes payable and \$20.6 million of trust preferred securities. The outstanding balance for December 31, 2012 included \$89.4 million in FHLB long-term advances and \$20.6 million of trust preferred securities.

During 2013 we increased total debt by \$27.6 million, or 25.1%, from 2012. The increase was due to our \$46.0 million notes payable, unsecured debt from corresponded banks used as partial funding for our Metropolitan acquisition. These notes carry a 3.25% floating rate to be repaid in three years or less. During the year ended December 31, 2013, we reduced our FHLB advances by \$18.4 million from December 31, 2012 due to scheduled payoffs.

Aggregate annual maturities of long-term debt at December 31, 2013 are presented in table 17.

Table 17: Maturities of Long-Term Debt

(In thousands)	Year	Annual Maturities
	2014	\$ 9,397
	2015	15,267
	2016	47,657
	2017	21,991
	2018	6,593
	Thereafter	36,805
	Total	\$ 137,710

### Capital

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#### Overview

At December 31, 2013, total capital reached \$403.8 million. Capital represents shareholder ownership in the Company – the book value of assets in excess of liabilities. At December 31, 2013, our equity to asset ratio was 9.2% compared to 11.5% at year-end 2012. The decrease is primarily a result of asset growth from the Metropolitan acquisition.

#### Capital Stock

On February 27, 2009, at a special meeting, our shareholders approved an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation to establish 40,040,000 authorized shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value. The aggregate liquidation preference of all shares of preferred stock cannot exceed \$80,000,000. As of December 31, 2013, no preferred stock has been issued.

On March 4, 2014 the Company filed a shelf registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). When declared effective, the shelf registration statement, will allow us to raise capital from time to time, up to an aggregate of \$200 million, through the sale of common stock, preferred stock, stock warrants, stock rights or a combination thereof, subject to market conditions. Specific terms and prices are determined at the time of any offering under a separate prospectus supplement that the Company is required to file with the SEC at the time of the specific offering.

## Stock Repurchase

During 2007, the Company approved a stock repurchase program which authorized the repurchase of up to 700,000 shares of common stock. On July 23, 2012, we announced the substantial completion of the existing stock repurchase program and the adoption by our Board of Directors of a new stock repurchase program. The new program authorizes the repurchase of up to 850,000 additional shares of Class A common stock, or approximately 5% of the shares outstanding. The shares are to be purchased from time to time at prevailing market prices, through open market or unsolicited negotiated transactions, depending upon market conditions. Under the repurchase program, there is no time limit for the stock repurchases, nor is there a minimum number of shares that we intend to repurchase. We may discontinue purchases at any time that management determines additional purchases are not warranted. We intend to use the repurchased shares to satisfy stock option exercises, payment of future stock awards and dividends and general corporate purposes.

During 2013, we repurchased 419,564 shares of stock with a weighted average repurchase price of \$25.89 per share. Under the current stock repurchase plan, an additional 154,136 shares are available for repurchase. As a result of our announced acquisition of Metropolitan National Bank, we suspended stock repurchases in August of 2013.

## Cash Dividends

We declared cash dividends on our common stock of \$0.84 per share for the twelve months ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$0.80 per share for the twelve months ended December 31, 2012. The timing and amount of future dividends are at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend upon our consolidated earnings, financial condition, liquidity and capital requirements, the amount of cash dividends paid to us by our subsidiaries, applicable government regulations and policies and other factors considered relevant by our Board of Directors. Our Board of Directors anticipates that we will continue to pay quarterly dividends in amounts determined based on the factors discussed above. However, there can be no assurance that we will continue to pay dividends on our common stock at the current levels or at all. See Item 5, Market for Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters, for additional information regarding cash dividends.

## Parent Company Liquidity

The primary liquidity needs of the Parent Company are the payment of dividends to shareholders and the funding of debt obligations. The primary sources for meeting these liquidity needs are the current cash on hand at the parent company and the future dividends received from the seven affiliate banks. Payment of dividends by the subsidiary banks is subject to various regulatory limitations. See Item 7A, Liquidity and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk, for additional information regarding the parent company's liquidity.

## Risk-Based Capital

Our subsidiaries are subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the federal banking agencies. Failure to meet minimum capital requirements can initiate certain mandatory and possibly additional discretionary actions by regulators that, if undertaken, could have a direct material effect on our financial statements. Under capital adequacy guidelines and the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action, we must meet specific capital guidelines that involve quantitative measures of our assets, liabilities and certain off-balance-sheet items as calculated under regulatory accounting practices. Our capital amounts and classifications are also subject to qualitative judgments by the regulators about components, risk weightings and other factors.

Quantitative measures established by regulation to ensure capital adequacy require us to maintain minimum amounts and ratios (set forth in the table below) of total and Tier 1 capital (as defined in the regulations) to risk-weighted assets (as defined) and of Tier 1 capital (as defined) to average assets (as defined). Management believes that, as of

December 31, 2013, we meet all capital adequacy requirements to which we are subject.

As of the most recent notification from regulatory agencies, the subsidiaries were well capitalized under the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action. To be categorized as well capitalized, the Company and subsidiaries must maintain minimum total risk-based, Tier 1 risk-based and Tier 1 leverage ratios as set forth in the table. There are no conditions or events since that notification that management believes have changed the institutions' categories.

Our risk-based capital ratios at December 31, 2013 and 2012 are presented in table 18 below:

Table 18:	Risk-Based Capital		December 31	
			2013	2012
(In thousands, except ratios)				
<b>Tier 1 capital</b>				
Stockholders' equity		\$ 403,832	\$ 406,062	
Trust preferred securities		20,000	20,000	
Goodwill and core deposit premiums		(75,501)	(48,966)	
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities, net of income taxes		3,002	(257)	
<b>Total Tier 1 capital</b>		<b>351,333</b>	<b>376,839</b>	
<b>Tier 2 capital</b>				
Qualifying unrealized gain on available-for-sale equity securities		45	19	
Qualifying allowance for loan losses		28,967	24,743	
<b>Total Tier 2 capital</b>		<b>29,012</b>	<b>24,762</b>	
<b>Total risk-based capital</b>		<b>\$ 380,345</b>	<b>\$ 401,601</b>	
<b>Risk weighted assets</b>		<b>\$ 2,697,630</b>	<b>\$ 1,974,800</b>	
<b>Ratios at end of year</b>				
Tier 1 leverage ratio		9.22%	10.81%	
Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio		13.02%	19.08%	
Total risk-based capital ratio		14.10%	20.34%	
<b>Minimum guidelines</b>				
Tier 1 leverage ratio		4.00%	4.00%	
Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio		4.00%	4.00%	
Total risk-based capital ratio		8.00%	8.00%	
<b>Well capitalized guidelines</b>				
Tier 1 leverage ratio		5.00%	5.00%	
Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio		5.00%	5.00%	
Total risk-based capital ratio		10.00%	10.00%	

#### Regulatory Capital Changes

In July 2013, the Company's primary federal regulator, the Federal Reserve, published final rules (the "Basel III Capital Rules") establishing a new comprehensive capital framework for U.S. banks. The rules implement the Basel Committee's December 2010 framework known as "Basel III" for strengthening international capital standards. The Basel III Capital Rules substantially revise the risk-based capital requirements applicable to bank holding companies and depository institutions compared to the current U.S. risk-based capital rules.

The Basel III Capital Rules define the components of capital and address other issues affecting the numerator in banking institutions' regulatory capital ratios. The rules also address risk weights and other issues affecting the denominator in banking institutions' regulatory capital ratios and replace the existing risk-weighting approach with a more risk-sensitive approach.

The Basel III Capital Rules expand the risk-weighting categories from the current four Basel I-derived categories (0%, 20%, 50% and 100%) to a much larger and more risk-sensitive number of categories, depending on the nature of the assets, generally ranging from 0% for U.S. government and agency securities, to 600% for certain equity exposures, and resulting in higher risk weights for a variety of asset categories, including many residential mortgages and certain commercial real estate.

The final rules include a new common equity Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets ratio of 4.5% and a common equity Tier 1 capital conservation buffer of 2.5% of risk-weighted assets. The rules also raise the minimum ratio of Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets from 4.0% to 6.0% and require a minimum leverage ratio of 4.0%. The Basel III Capital Rules are effective for the Company and its subsidiary banks on January 1, 2015, with full compliance with all of the final rule's requirements phased in over a multi-year schedule. Management believes that, as of December 31, 2013, the Company and each of its subsidiary banks would meet all capital adequacy requirements under the Basel III Capital Rules on a fully phased-in basis if such requirements were currently effective.

#### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements and Aggregate Contractual Obligations

In the normal course of business, the Company enters into a number of financial commitments. Examples of these commitments include but are not limited to long-term debt financing, operating lease obligations, unfunded loan commitments and letters of credit.

Our long-term debt at December 31, 2013, includes notes payable, FHLB long-term advances and trust preferred securities, all of which we are contractually obligated to repay in future periods.

Operating lease obligations entered into by the Company are generally associated with the operation of a few of our financial centers located throughout the states of Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri. Our financial obligation on these locations is considered immaterial due to the limited number of financial centers that operate under an agreement of this type. Historically, we have purchased all of our automated teller machines ("ATMs") and depreciated them over their estimated lives. In December 2012, we entered into a five-year operating lease agreement with our service provider to replace and maintain all outdated ATMs and the related operating software.

Commitments to extend credit and letters of credit are legally binding, conditional agreements generally having fixed expiration or termination dates. These commitments generally require customers to maintain certain credit standards and are established based on management's credit assessment of the customer. The commitments may expire without being drawn upon. Therefore, the total commitment does not necessarily represent future funding requirements.

The funding requirements of the Company's most significant financial commitments at December 31, 2013 are shown in table 19.

Table 19: Funding Requirements of Financial Commitments

(In thousands)	Payments due by period				Total
	Less than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	Greater than 5 Years	
Long-term debt	\$ 9,397	\$ 62,924	\$ 28,584	\$ 36,805	\$ 137,710
ATM lease commitments	942	1,884	1,884	--	4,710
Credit card loan commitments	464,108	--	--	--	464,108
Other loan commitments	408,388	--	--	--	408,388
Letters of credit	10,349	--	--	--	10,349

## Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures

We have \$93.9 million and \$64.4 million total goodwill and other intangible assets for the periods ended December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively. Because of our high level of intangible assets, management believes a useful calculation is return on tangible equity (non-GAAP). This non-GAAP calculation for the twelve months ended December 31, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010 and 2009, which is similar to the GAAP calculation of return on average stockholders' equity, is presented in table 20.

Table 20:

## Return on Tangible Equity

(In thousands, except ratios)

2013 2012 2011 2010 2009

## Twelve months ended

Return on average stockholders' equity: (A/C)	5.33%	6.77%	6.25%	9.69%	8.26%
Return on average tangible equity - (non-GAAP): (A+B)/(C-D)	6.36%	8.05%	7.54%	11.71%	10.61%
(A) Net income	\$ 23,231	\$ 27,684	\$ 25,374	\$ 37,117	\$ 25,210
(B) Amortization of intangibles, net of taxes	365	212	537	478	503
(C) Average stockholders' equity	435,918	409,187	406,093	383,141	305,210
(D) Average goodwill and other intangible assets	64,700	62,499	62,631	62,125	62,789

The table below presents computations of core earnings (net income excluding nonrecurring items {gain from the sale of MasterCard stock, gains on FDIC-assisted transactions and the related merger costs, liquidation gains and losses from FDIC-assisted transactions and the one-time costs of branch right sizing}) and diluted core earnings per share (non-GAAP). Nonrecurring items are included in financial results presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

We believe the exclusion of these nonrecurring items in expressing earnings and certain other financial measures, including "core earnings," provides a meaningful base for period-to-period and company-to-company comparisons, which management believes will assist investors and analysts in analyzing the core financial measures of the Company and predicting future performance. This non-GAAP financial measure is also used by management to assess the performance of the Company's business because management does not consider these nonrecurring items to be relevant to ongoing financial performance. Management and the Board of Directors utilize "core earnings" (non-GAAP) for the following purposes:

- Preparation of the Company's operating budgets
- Monthly financial performance reporting
- Monthly "flash" reporting of consolidated results (management only)
- Investor presentations of Company performance

We believe the presentation of "core earnings" on a diluted per share basis, "diluted core earnings per share" (non-GAAP), provides a meaningful base for period-to-period and company-to-company comparisons, which management believes will assist investors and analysts in analyzing the core financial measures of the Company and predicting future performance. This non-GAAP financial measure is also used by management to assess the performance of the Company's business, because management does not consider these nonrecurring items to be relevant to ongoing financial performance on a per share basis. Management and the Board of Directors utilize "diluted core earnings per share" (non-GAAP) for the following purposes:

- Calculation of annual performance-based incentives for certain executives
- Investor presentations of Company performance

We believe that presenting these non-GAAP financial measures will permit investors and analysts to assess the performance of the Company on the same basis as that applied by management and the Board of Directors.

“Core earnings” and “diluted core earnings per share” (non-GAAP) have inherent limitations and are not required to be uniformly applied and are not audited. To mitigate these limitations, we have procedures in place to identify and approve each item that qualifies as nonrecurring to ensure that the Company’s “core” results are properly reflected for period-to-period comparisons. Although these non-GAAP financial measures are frequently used by stakeholders in the evaluation of a company, they have limitations as analytical tools and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for analyses of results as reported under GAAP. In particular, a measure of earnings that excludes nonrecurring items does not represent the amount that effectively accrues directly to stockholders (i.e., nonrecurring items are included in earnings and stockholders’ equity).

During the third and fourth quarter of 2013, we recorded after-tax merger related costs of \$3.9 million related to the Metropolitan acquisition, resulting in a nonrecurring charge of \$0.25 to diluted earnings per share. During the third and fourth quarters, we closed seven underperforming branches at a cost of \$390,000 after-tax, resulting in a nonrecurring charge of \$0.02 to diluted earnings per share. Also, as part of our 2012 acquisition strategy, we sold many of the investment securities from Excel and Truman, resulting in an after-tax loss of \$117,000.

During the third quarter of 2012, we recorded an after-tax bargain purchase gain of \$681,000 on the FDIC-assisted acquisition of Truman, along with merger related costs of \$495,000, after tax. These nonrecurring items related to Truman contributed \$0.01 to diluted earnings per share.

During the fourth quarter of 2012, we recorded an after-tax bargain purchase gain of \$1.4 million on the FDIC-assisted acquisition of Excel, along with merger related costs of \$657,000, after tax. Also, as part of our acquisition strategy, FHLB advances were paid off resulting in a \$106,000 pre-payment expense, after tax. These nonrecurring items related to Excel contributed \$0.04 to diluted earnings per share.

During the second quarter of 2011, we recorded an after-tax gain of \$688,000 on the sale of MasterCard stock, contributing \$0.04 to diluted earnings per share. Also during the second quarter, as a result of our right sizing initiative, we recorded a nonrecurring charge of \$0.01 to diluted earnings per share.

During the first and second quarters of 2011, we recorded after-tax merger related costs of \$217,000 on the FDIC-assisted acquisition of Security Savings Bank in Olathe, Kansas (“SSB”), resulting in a nonrecurring charge of \$0.01 to diluted earnings per share.

During the fourth quarter of 2010, we recorded an after-tax bargain purchase gain of \$18.3 million on the FDIC-assisted acquisition of SSB, along with merger related costs of \$1.2 million, after tax. Also, as part of our acquisition strategy, the investment portfolio was liquidated resulting in an after-tax gain of \$193,000, and FHLB advances were paid off resulting in a \$361,000 pre-payment expense, after tax. These nonrecurring items related to SSB contributed \$0.56 to diluted earnings per share.

During the second quarter of 2010, we recorded an after tax bargain purchase gain of \$1.8 million on the FDIC-assisted acquisition of Southwest Community Bank in Springfield, Missouri (“SWCB”), along with merger related costs of \$351,000. These nonrecurring items related to SWCB contributed \$0.09 to diluted earnings per share. Also during the second quarter of 2010, as a result of our branch right sizing initiative, we recorded a nonrecurring charge of \$0.01 to diluted earnings per share.

See table 21 below for the reconciliation of non-GAAP financial measures, which exclude nonrecurring items for the periods presented.

Table 21: Reconciliation of Core Earnings (non-GAAP)

(In thousands, except share data)	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Twelve months ended					
Net Income	\$ 23,231	\$ 27,684	\$ 25,374	\$ 37,117	\$ 25,210
Nonrecurring items					
Gain on sale of MasterCard stock	--	--	(1,132)	--	--
Gain on FDIC-assisted transactions	--	(3,411)	--	(21,314)	--
Merger related costs	6,376	1,896	357	2,611	--
Loss (gain) from sale of securities	193	--	--	(317)	--
FHLB prepayment penalties	--	175	--	594	--
Branch right sizing	641	--	141	372	--
Tax effect (39.225%) (1)	(2,829)	526	248	6,978	--
Net nonrecurring items	4,381	(814)	(386)	(11,076)	--
Core earnings (non-GAAP)	\$ 27,612	\$ 26,870	\$ 24,988	\$ 26,041	\$ 25,210
Diluted earnings per share					
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.42	\$ 1.64	\$ 1.47	\$ 2.15	\$ 1.74
Nonrecurring items					
Gain on sale of MasterCard stock	--	--	(0.07)	--	--
Gain on FDIC-assisted transactions	--	(0.21)	--	(1.23)	--
Merger related costs	0.39	0.12	0.02	0.15	--
Gain from sale of securities	0.01	--	--	(0.02)	--
FHLB prepayment penalties	--	0.01	--	0.03	--
Branch right sizing	0.04	--	0.01	0.02	--
Tax effect (39.225%) (1)	(0.17)	0.03	0.02	0.41	--
Net nonrecurring items	0.27	(0.05)	(0.02)	(0.64)	--
Diluted core earnings per share (non-GAAP)	\$ 1.69	\$ 1.59	\$ 1.45	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.74

(1) For 2010, effective tax rate of 39.225%, adjusted for additional fair value deduction related to the donation of a closed branch with a fair value significantly higher than its book value.

## Quarterly Results

Selected unaudited quarterly financial information for the last eight quarters is shown in table 22.

Table 22:

## Quarterly Results

(In thousands, except per share data)	First	Second	Quarter Third	Fourth	Total
<b>2013</b>					
Net interest income	\$ 30,075	\$ 29,582	\$ 31,564	\$ 39,629	\$ 130,850
Provision for loan losses	919	1,034	1,081	1,084	4,118
Non-interest income	11,313	11,273	10,313	7,717	40,616
Non-interest expense	31,912	30,319	30,903	41,678	134,812
Net income	5,937	6,576	6,932	3,786	23,231
Basic earnings per share	0.36	0.40	0.43	0.23	1.42
Diluted earnings per share	0.36	0.40	0.43	0.23	1.42
<b>2012</b>					
Net interest income	\$ 27,718	\$ 27,251	\$ 27,941	\$ 30,607	\$ 113,517
Provision for loan losses	771	775	1,299	1,295	4,140
Non-interest income	10,723	11,093	11,812	14,743	48,371
Non-interest expense	28,637	28,244	28,686	32,166	117,733
Net income	6,355	6,536	6,760	8,033	27,684
Basic earnings per share	0.37	0.38	0.41	0.48	1.64
Diluted earnings per share	0.37	0.38	0.41	0.48	1.64

## ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

## Liquidity and Market Risk Management

## Parent Company

The Company has leveraged its investment in subsidiary banks and depends upon the dividends paid to it, as the sole shareholder of the subsidiary banks, as a principal source of funds for dividends to shareholders, stock repurchases and debt service requirements. At December 31, 2013, undivided profits of the Company's subsidiary banks were approximately \$181.1 million, of which approximately \$12.3 million was available for the payment of dividends to the Company without regulatory approval. In addition to dividends, other sources of liquidity for the Company are the sale of equity securities and the borrowing of funds.

## Subsidiary Banks

Generally speaking, the Company's subsidiary banks rely upon net inflows of cash from financing activities, supplemented by net inflows of cash from operating activities, to provide cash used in investing activities. Typical of most banking companies, significant financing activities include: deposit gathering; use of short-term borrowing facilities, such as federal funds purchased and repurchase agreements; and the issuance of long-term debt. The subsidiary banks' primary investing activities include loan originations and purchases of investment securities, offset by loan payoffs and investment maturities.

Liquidity represents an institution's ability to provide funds to satisfy demands from depositors and borrowers by either converting assets into cash or accessing new or existing sources of incremental funds. A major responsibility of management is to maximize net interest income within prudent liquidity constraints. Internal corporate guidelines have been established to constantly measure liquid assets as well as relevant ratios concerning earning asset levels and purchased funds. The management and board of directors of each subsidiary bank monitor these same indicators and make adjustments as needed.

In response to tightening credit markets in 2007 and anticipating potential liquidity pressures in 2008, the Company's management strategically planned to enhance the liquidity of each of its subsidiary banks during 2008 and 2009. We grew core deposits through various initiatives, and built additional liquidity in each of our subsidiary banks by securing additional long-term funding from FHLB borrowings. During 2013, management's strategy was to systematically utilize some of the excess liquidity through the purchase of certain out-of-state municipal obligations, adding tax-advantaged interest income while maintaining more than sufficient liquidity levels. At December 31, 2013, each subsidiary bank was within established guidelines and total corporate liquidity remains strong. At December 31, 2013, cash and cash equivalents, trading and available-for-sale securities and mortgage loans held for sale were 17.6% of total assets, as compared to 21.6% at December 31, 2012, as a result of the modification of our liquidity strategy in 2013.

## Liquidity Management

The objective of our liquidity management is to access adequate sources of funding to ensure that cash flow requirements of depositors and borrowers are met in an orderly and timely manner. Sources of liquidity are managed so that reliance on any one funding source is kept to a minimum. Our liquidity sources are prioritized for both availability and time to activation.

Our liquidity is a primary consideration in determining funding needs and is an integral part of asset/liability management. Pricing of the liability side is a major component of interest margin and spread management. Adequate liquidity is a necessity in addressing this critical task. There are five primary and secondary sources of liquidity available to the Company. The particular liquidity need and timeframe determine the use of these sources.

The first source of liquidity available to the Company is Federal funds. Federal funds, primarily from downstream correspondent banks, are available on a daily basis and are used to meet the normal fluctuations of a dynamic balance sheet. In addition, the Company and its subsidiary banks have approximately \$71 million in Federal funds lines of credit from upstream correspondent banks that can be accessed, when needed. In order to ensure availability of these upstream funds, we have a plan for rotating the usage of the funds among the upstream correspondent banks, thereby providing approximately \$40 million in funds on a given day. Historical monitoring of these funds has made it possible for us to project seasonal fluctuations and structure our funding requirements on a month-to-month basis.

A second source of liquidity is the retail deposits available through our network of subsidiary banks throughout Arkansas. Although this method can be a somewhat more expensive alternative to supplying liquidity, this source can be used to meet intermediate term liquidity needs.

Third, our subsidiary banks have lines of credits available with the Federal Home Loan Bank. While we use portions of those lines to match off longer-term mortgage loans, we also use those lines to meet liquidity needs. Approximately \$521 million of these lines of credit are currently available, if needed.

Fourth, we use a laddered investment portfolio that ensures there is a steady source of intermediate term liquidity. These funds can be used to meet seasonal loan patterns and other intermediate term balance sheet fluctuations. Approximately 22% of the investment portfolio is classified as available-for-sale. We also use securities held in the securities portfolio to pledge when obtaining public funds.

Fifth, we have a network of correspondent banks from which we can access debt to meet liquidity needs, as was demonstrated by our recent \$46 million of unsecured debt issued for partial funding of the Metropolitan acquisition.

Finally, we have the ability to access large deposits from both the public and private sector to fund short-term liquidity needs.

We believe the various sources available are ample liquidity to satisfy our current short-term, intermediate-term and long-term operations.

## Market Risk Management

Market risk arises from changes in interest rates. We have risk management policies to monitor and limit exposure to market risk. In asset and liability management activities, policies designed to minimize structural interest rate risk are in place. The measurement of market risk associated with financial instruments is meaningful only when all related and offsetting on- and off-balance-sheet transactions are aggregated, and the resulting net positions are identified.

## Interest Rate Sensitivity

Interest rate risk represents the potential impact of interest rate changes on net income and capital resulting from mismatches in repricing opportunities of assets and liabilities over a period of time. A number of tools are used to monitor and manage interest rate risk, including simulation models and interest sensitivity gap analysis. Management uses simulation models to estimate the effects of changing interest rates and various balance sheet strategies on the level of the Company's net income and capital. As a means of limiting interest rate risk to an acceptable level, management may alter the mix of floating and fixed-rate assets and liabilities, change pricing schedules and manage investment maturities during future security purchases.





## Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

The management of Simmons First National Corporation (the "Company") is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. The Company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of the Company's financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

As of December 31, 2013, management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on the criteria for effective internal control over financial reporting established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (1992 edition) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). This assessment excluded internal control over financial reporting for the operations of Metropolitan National Bank ("Metropolitan") of Little Rock, Arkansas, as allowed by the SEC for current year acquisitions. Metropolitan was acquired on November 25, 2013 and represented 16.4% of assets at December 31, 2013 and its banking operations represented 2.7% of total consolidated revenue for the year ended December 31, 2013. Based on this assessment, management determined that the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2013, based on the specified criteria.

BKD, LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm that audited the consolidated financial statements of the Company included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, has issued an attestation report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2013. The report, which expresses an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2013, immediately follows.



We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements of Simmons First National Corporation and our report dated March 11, 2014, expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

BKD, LLP

/s/ BKD, LLP

Pine Bluff, Arkansas  
March 11, 2014

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Undivided profits	318,577	309,053
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income	(3,002)	257
Total stockholders' equity	403,832	406,062
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 4,383,100	\$ 3,527,489

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.









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Net change in other borrowed funds	(8,988)	(8,922)	(44,257)
Repayment of subordinated debentures	-	(10,310)	-
Net change in federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	3,809	(32,144)	5,627
Net shares issued under stock compensation plans	936	323	474
Repurchase of common stock	(10,848)	(17,567)	(3,283)
Net cash used in financing activities	(42,901)	(255,494)	(12,967)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH EQUIVALENTS	1,583	(32,409)	118,146
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	537,797	570,206	452,060
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 539,380	\$ 537,797	\$ 570,206

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.



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Comprehensive income					19,972
Stock issued as bonus shares – 75,006 shares	1	228	-	-	229
Vesting bonus shares, net of forfeitures – (829 shares)	-	1,390	-	-	1,390
Stock issued for employee stock purchase plan – 5,244 shares	-	126	-	-	126
Exercise of stock options – 24,290 shares	-	604	-	-	604
Stock granted under stock-based compensation plans	-	27	-	-	27
Securities exchanged under stock option plan – (669 shares)	-	(23)	-	-	(23)
Repurchase of common stock – (419,564 shares)	(4)	(10,844)	-	-	(10,848)
Cash dividends – \$0.84 per share	-	-	-	(13,707)	(13,707)
Balance, December 31, 2013	\$ 162	\$ 88,095	\$ (3,002)	\$ 318,577	\$ 403,832

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.



include cash and non-interest bearing balances due from banks, interest bearing balances due from banks and federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell.

#### Investment Securities

Held-to-maturity securities, which include any security for which the Company has the positive intent and ability to hold until maturity, are carried at historical cost adjusted for amortization of premiums and accretion of discounts. Premiums and discounts are amortized and accreted, respectively, to interest income using the constant yield method over the period to maturity.











The Company records premises held for sale at the lower of (1) cost less accumulated depreciation or (2) fair value less estimated selling expenses. These assets are assessed for impairment at the time they are reclassified as held for sale and periodically thereafter.

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The fair value of commitments to extend credit, letters of credit and lines of credit is not presented since management believes the fair value to be insignificant.

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not reflected in these financial statements.

Quantitative measures established by regulation to ensure capital adequacy require the Company to maintain minimum amounts and ratios (set forth in the table below) of total and Tier 1 capital (as defined in the regulations) to risk-weighted assets (as defined) and of Tier 1 capital (as defined) to average assets (as defined). Management believes that, as of December 31, 2013, the Company meets all capital adequacy requirements to which it is subject.

As of the most recent notification from regulatory agencies, the subsidiaries were well capitalized under the regulatory framework for prompt corrective action. To be categorized as well capitalized, the Company and subsidiaries must maintain minimum total risk-based, Tier 1 risk-based and Tier 1 leverage ratios as set forth in the table. There are no conditions or events since that notification that management believes have changed the institutions' categories.





## NOTE 21: CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (PARENT COMPANY ONLY)

## CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS

DECEMBER 31, 2013 and 2012

(In thousands)	2013	2012
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,956	\$ 23,107
Investment securities	4,973	3,928
Investments in wholly-owned subsidiaries	452,688	368,847
Intangible assets, net	133	133
Premises and equipment	633	604
Other assets	12,726	33,829
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 476,109</b>	<b>\$ 430,448</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Long-term debt	\$ 66,620	\$ 20,620
Other liabilities	5,657	3,766
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>72,277</b>	<b>24,386</b>
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Common stock	162	165
Surplus	88,095	96,587
Undivided profits	318,577	309,053
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income		
Unrealized appreciation on available-for-sale securities, net of income taxes of (\$1,938) and \$166 at December 31, 2013 and 2012 respectively	(3,002)	257
<b>Total stockholders' equity</b>	<b>403,832</b>	<b>406,062</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 476,109</b>	<b>\$ 430,448</b>

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF INCOME  
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011

(In thousands)	2013	2012	2011
<b>INCOME</b>			
Dividends from subsidiaries	\$ 23,051	\$ 45,061	\$ 19,291
Other income	8,409	7,155	6,189
	31,460	52,216	25,480
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Income before income taxes and equity in undistributed net income of subsidiaries	17,839	15,830	13,756
	13,621	36,386	11,724
Provision for income taxes	(3,510)	(3,195)	(2,743)
<b>Income before equity in undistributed net income of subsidiaries</b>	<b>17,131</b>	<b>39,581</b>	<b>14,467</b>
<b>Equity in (distribution in excess of) undistributed net income of subsidiaries</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>(11,897)</b>	<b>10,907</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 23,231</b>	<b>\$ 27,684</b>	<b>\$ 25,374</b>



CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
 YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011

(In thousands)	2013	2012	2011
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 23,231</b>	<b>\$ 27,684</b>	<b>\$ 25,374</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
Equity in other comprehensive loss of subsidiaries	(3,259)	(182)	(73)
<b>COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 19,972</b>	<b>\$ 27,502</b>	<b>\$ 25,301</b>

 CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
 YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011

(In thousands)	2013	2012	2011
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net income	\$ 23,231	\$ 27,684	\$ 25,374
Items not requiring (providing) cash			
Depreciation and amortization	145	167	187
Deferred income taxes	81	75	120
Equity in (distribution in excess of) undistributed net income of bank subsidiaries	(6,100)	11,897	(10,907)
Changes in			
Other assets	19,978	(20,712)	(3,738)
Other liabilities	1,891	-	(2,493)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>39,226</b>	<b>19,111</b>	<b>8,543</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net purchases of premises and equipment	(174)	(84)	(143)
Additional (return from) investment in subsidiary	(27,400)	310	-
Purchase of available-for-sale securities	(1)	-	-
Purchase of Metropolitan National Bank stock	(53,600)	-	-
<b>Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities</b>	<b>(81,175)</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>(143)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Repayment of subordinated debentures	-	(10,310)	-
Issuance of long-term debt	46,000	-	-
Issuance of common stock, net	2,353	1,711	1,678
Payment to repurchase common stock	(10,848)	(17,567)	(3,283)
Dividends paid	(13,707)	(13,495)	(13,156)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>23,798</b>	<b>(39,661)</b>	<b>(14,761)</b>
<b>DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>(18,151)</b>	<b>(20,324)</b>	<b>(6,361)</b>

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	23,107	43,431	49,792
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 4,956	\$ 23,107	\$ 43,431

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ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

No items are reportable.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures. The Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have reviewed and evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) and Rule 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of December 31, 2013. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company's current disclosure controls and procedures were effective for the period.

(b) Changes in Internal Controls. The Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer, regularly review our disclosure controls and procedures and make changes intended to ensure the quality of our financial reporting. On November 25, 2013, we completed our acquisition of Metropolitan National Bank, and as a result, we extended our oversight and monitoring processes that support our internal control over financial reporting during the fourth quarter of 2013, to include the operations of Metropolitan. Otherwise, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the Company's fourth quarter of its 2013 fiscal year that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

No items are reportable.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Incorporated herein by reference from the Company's definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held April 15, 2014, to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A on or about March 17, 2014.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Incorporated herein by reference from the Company's definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held April 15, 2014, to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A on or about March 17, 2014.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

Incorporated herein by reference from the Company's definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held April 15, 2014, to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A on or about March 17, 2014.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Incorporated herein by reference from the Company's definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held April 15, 2014, to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A on or about March 17, 2014.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

Incorporated herein by reference from the Company's definitive proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held April 15, 2014, to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A on or about March 17, 2014.

## PART IV

## ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

## (a) 1 and 2. Financial Statements and any Financial Statement Schedules

The financial statements and financial statement schedules listed in the accompanying index to the consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules are filed as part of this report.

## (b) Listing of Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
2.1	Purchase and Assumption Agreement, dated as of May 14, 2010, among Federal Insurance Deposit Corporation, Receiver of Southwest Community Bank, Springfield, Missouri, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and Simmons First National Bank (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K, as amended, for May 19, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
2.2	Purchase and Assumption Agreement, dated as of October 15, 2010, among Federal Insurance Deposit Corporation, Receiver of Security Savings Bank F.S.B., Olathe, Kansas, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and Simmons First National Bank (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K, as amended, for October 21, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
2.3	Purchase and Assumption Agreement Whole Bank All Deposits, among Federal Insurance Deposit Corporation, Receiver of Truman Bank, St. Louis, Missouri, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and Simmons First National Bank, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, dated as of September 14, 2012 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K, as amended, for September 20, 2012 (File No. 000-06253)).
2.4	Loan Sale Agreement, by and between Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, as Receiver for Truman Bank, St. Louis, Missouri, and Simmons First National Bank, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, dated as of September 14, 2012 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K, as amended, for September 20, 2012 (File No. 000-06253)).
2.5	Purchase and Assumption Agreement Whole Bank All Deposits, among Federal Insurance Deposit Corporation, Receiver of Excel Bank, Sedalia, Missouri, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and Simmons First National Bank, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, dated as of October 19, 2012 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K, as amended, for October 25, 2012 (File No. 000-06253)).
2.6	Stock Purchase Agreement by and between Simmons First National Corporation and Rogers Bancshares, Inc., dated as of September 10, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K for September 12, 2013 (File No. 000-06253)).
3.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation of Simmons First National Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Quarterly Report on Form 10 Q

for the Quarter ended March 31, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).

- 3.2 Amended By-Laws of Simmons First National Corporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to Simmons First National Corporation's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended September 30, 2013 (File No. 000-06253)).
  
- 10.1 Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, dated as of December 16, 2003, among the Company, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Delaware and each of J. Thomas May, Barry L. Crow and Bob Fehlman as administrative trustees, with respect to Simmons First Capital Trust II (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).

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- 10.2 Guarantee Agreement, dated as of December 16, 2003, between the Company and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as guarantee trustee, with respect to Simmons First Capital Trust II (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.3 Junior Subordinated Indenture, dated as of December 16, 2003, among the Company and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee, with respect to the junior subordinated note held by Simmons First Capital Trust II (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.4 Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, dated as of December 16, 2003, among the Company, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Delaware and each of J. Thomas May, Barry L. Crow and Bob Fehlman as administrative trustees, with respect to Simmons First Capital Trust III (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.5 Guarantee Agreement, dated as of December 16, 2003, between the Company and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as guarantee trustee, with respect to Simmons First Capital Trust III (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.6 Junior Subordinated Indenture, dated as of December 16, 2003, among the Company and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee, with respect to the junior subordinated note held by Simmons First Capital Trust III (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.7 Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, dated as of December 16, 2003, among the Company, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, Deutsche Bank Trust Company Delaware and each of J. Thomas May, Barry L. Crow and Bob Fehlman as administrative trustees, with respect to Simmons First Capital Trust IV (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.8 Guarantee Agreement, dated as of December 16, 2003, between the Company and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as guarantee trustee, with respect to Simmons First Capital Trust IV (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.9 Junior Subordinated Indenture, dated as of December 16, 2003, among the Company and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as trustee, with respect to the junior subordinated note held by Simmons First Capital Trust IV (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.10 Notice of discretionary bonuses to J. Thomas May, David L. Bartlett, Robert A. Fehlman, Marty D. Casteel and Robert C. Dill (incorporated by reference to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K for January 25, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).

- 10.11 Deferred Compensation Agreements, adopted January 25, 2010, between Simmons First National Corporation and Robert A. Fehlman and Marty D. Casteel (incorporated by reference to Exhibits 10.2 and 10.3 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K for January 25, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.12 Simmons First National Corporation Executive Retention Program, adopted January 25, 2010, and notice of retention bonuses to David Bartlett, Robert A. Fehlman and Marty D. Casteel (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K for January 25, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).

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- 10.13 Simmons First National Corporation Executive Stock Incentive Plan – 2010, adopted January 25, 2010 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Current Report on Form 8-K for January 25, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.14 Deferred Compensation Agreement for Marty D. Casteel (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Current Report on Form 8-K for January 25, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.15 Simmons First National Corporation Executive Retention Program (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Current Report on Form 8-K for January 25, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.16 Simmons First National Corporation Executive Stock Incentive Plan - 2010 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Current Report on Form 8-K for January 25, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.17 Change in Control Agreement for J. Thomas May (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10(a) to Simmons First National Corporation’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed August 9, 2001 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.18 Change in Control Agreement for Robert A. Fehlman (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed January 29, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.19 Change in Control Agreement for David Bartlett (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed March 2, 2006 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.20 Change in Control Agreement for Marty D. Casteel (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed January 29, 2010 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.21 Change in Control Agreement for Robert Dill (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.21 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Amendment to the Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the Year ended December 31, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.22 Amendment to Change in Control Agreement for Robert C. Dill (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.22 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Amendment to the Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the Year ended December 31, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.23 Amended and Restated Deferred Compensation Agreement for J. Thomas May (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Amendment to the Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the Year ended December 31, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.24 First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Deferred Compensation Agreement for J. Thomas May (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.24 to Simmons First National Corporation’s Amendment to the Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the Year ended December 31, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.25

Second Amendment to the Amended and Restated Deferred Compensation Agreement for J. Thomas May (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.25 to Simmons First National Corporation's Amendment to the Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the Year ended December 31, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).

- 10.26 Executive Salary Continuation Agreement for David L. Bartlett (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.26 to Simmons First National Corporation's Amendment to the Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the Year ended December 31, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.27 409A Amendment to the Simmons First Bank of Hot Springs Executive Salary Continuation Agreement for David Bartlett (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.27 to Simmons First National Corporation's Amendment to the Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the Year ended December 31, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).

- 10.28 Simmons First National Corporation Incentive and Non-Qualified Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed May 19, 2006 (File No. 333-134276)).
- 10.29 Simmons First National Corporation Executive Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed May 19, 2006 (File No. 333-134301)).
- 10.30 Simmons First National Corporation Executive Stock Incentive Plan – 2001 (incorporated by reference to Definitive Additional Materials to Simmons First National Corporation's Definitive Proxy Materials on Schedule 14A filed April 2, 2001 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.31 Simmons First National Corporation Executive Stock Incentive Plan – 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.2 to Simmons First National Corporation's Definitive Proxy Materials on Schedule 14A filed March 10, 2006 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.32 First Amendment to Simmons First National Corporation Executive Stock Incentive Plan – 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K filed June 4, 2007 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.33 Simmons First National Corporation Outside Director's Stock Incentive Plan - 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.3 to Simmons First National Corporation's Definitive Proxy Materials on Schedule 14A filed March 10, 2006 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.34 Amended and Restated Simmons First National Corporation Outside Director's Stock Incentive Plan - 2006 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Definitive Proxy Materials on Schedule 14A filed March 10, 2008 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.35 Simmons First National Corporation Dividend Reinvestment Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-3D filed May 20, 1998 (File No. 333-53119)).
- 10.36 Simmons First National Corporation Amended and Restated Dividend Reinvestment Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-3D filed July 14, 2004 (File No. 333-117350)).
- 10.37 Form of Lock-Up Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 12, 2009 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 10.38 Simmons First National Corporation Executive Stock Incentive Plan - 2010 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed January 28, 2013 (File No. 333-186254)).
- 10.39 Simmons First National Corporation Chief Executive Officer Long Term Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K filed February 28, 2014 (File No. 000-6253)).
- 10.40 Simmons First National Corporation Outside Director Stock Incentive Plan - 2014 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Simmons First National Corporation's Current Report on Form 8-K

filed February 28, 2014 (File No. 000-6253)).

- 12.1 Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges.\*
- 14 Code of Ethics, dated December 2003, for CEO, CFO, controller and other accounting officers (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 14 to Simmons First National Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2003 (File No. 000-06253)).
- 23 Consent of BKD, LLP.\*
- 31.1 Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) Certification – George A. Makris, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.\*
- 31.2 Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) Certification – Robert A. Fehlman, Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.\*
- 31.3 Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) Certification – David W. Garner, Executive Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer.\*
- 32.1 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Sections 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – George A. Makris, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.\*

- 32.2 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Sections 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – Robert A. Fehlman, Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer.\*
- 32.3 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Sections 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 – David W. Garner, Executive Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer.\*
- 101.INS XBRL Instance Document.\*\*
- 101.SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema.\*\*
- 101.CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase.\*\*
- 101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase.\*\*
- 101.LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase. \*\*
- 101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase.\*\*

\* Filed herewith

\*\* Pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, these interactive data files are deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, are deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Act of 1934, as amended, and otherwise are not subject to liability under those sections.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

/s/ Marty D. Casteel

March 11,  
2014

Marty D. Casteel, Secretary

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities indicated on or about March 11, 2014.

Signature	Title
/s/ George A. Makris, Jr. George A. Makris, Jr.	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Director
/s/ Robert A. Fehlman Robert A. Fehlman	Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Principal Financial Officer)
/s/ David W. Garner David W. Garner	Executive Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)
/s/ David L. Bartlett David L. Bartlett	President and Chief Banking Officer and Director
/s/ William E. Clark II William E. Clark II	Director
/s/ Steven A. Cossé Steven A. Cossé	Director
/s/ Edward Drilling Edward Drilling	Director
/s/ Sharon L. Gaber Sharon L. Gaber	Director
/s/ Eugene Hunt Eugene Hunt	Director
/s/ W. Scott McGeorge W. Scott McGeorge	Director
/s/ Harry L. Ryburn Harry L. Ryburn	Director

/s/ Robert L. Shoptaw  
Robert L. Shoptaw

Director

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