

Great Southern Bancorp, Inc. (Springfield, MO) has agreed to acquire 12 branches in St. Louis, MO and related deposits and loans from Fifth Third Bancorp.

Terms of the Transaction Were Not Disclosed

Sandler O'Neill served as exclusive financial advisor to Great Southern Bancorp, Inc. on the acquisition of these branches.

This transaction represents Sandler O'Neill's 63rd bank branch transaction since January 1, 2011. During that time period, Sandler O'Neill has advised on branch transactions totaling 570 branches and \$29.0 billion in deposits, more than any other investment bank¹.

About the Transaction:

Springfield, Mo. – Great Southern Bank, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Great Southern Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ: GSBC) announced today that it has entered into a purchase and assumption agreement to acquire 12 branches and related deposits and loans from Cincinnati-based Fifth Third Bank. The acquisition, currently representing approximately \$261 million in deposits and \$155 million in loans, is expected to be completed in January 2016, pending regulatory approval. This acquisition will increase Great Southern's St. Louis-area banking center total from eight to 20 offices. Based on the expected amount of loans to be acquired and deposits assumed, it is anticipated that beginning in 2016 this transaction will be accretive to earnings in the range of \$0.07 to \$0.09 per common share annually.

"Great Southern has served the St. Louis-area market with a physical presence since 2005. During the last 10 years, thanks to our excellent St. Louis team of associates, we have continuously attracted and developed customer relationships, making St. Louis our second largest market. This transaction will significantly strengthen our presence in this vibrant region," said Great Southern President and CEO Joseph W. Turner. "We warmly welcome Fifth Third's retail and small business customers and its strong team of associates to Great Southern and look forward to working with them to build even stronger relationships with area customers."

"We expect to transfer Fifth Third customer accounts to Great Southern at the end of January 2016," said Turner. "Our goal is to make this transition as smooth and timely as possible so that our newest customers can take advantage of our broad range of products and services, including our attractive online and mobile banking options."

With total assets of \$4.1 billion, Great Southern currently offers banking and investment services. Headquartered in Springfield, Mo., the Company operates 110 retail banking centers and more than 200 ATMs in Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota and Nebraska, and loan production offices in Tulsa, Okla., and Dallas, Texas.

(1) Includes all completed and pending branch transactions since January 1, 2011; Source: SNL Financial

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