

## Midland States Bancorp, Inc. (Private; Effingham, IL) Agrees to Acquire Grant Park Bancshares, Inc. (Private; Grant Park, IL)

Deal Value: NA

Sandler O'Neill acted as exclusive financial advisor to Midland States Bancorp, Inc. in this transaction. This is Sandler O'Neill's 70th bank and thrift merger transaction since January 1, 2011. Sandler O'Neill has served as a financial advisor on more bank and thrift transactions than any other investment bank during that time period.<sup>1</sup>

Midland States Bancorp, Inc., parent of Midland States Bank, headquartered in Effingham, Illinois, has agreed to acquire Grant Park Bancshares, Inc., parent company of First National Bank of Grant Park. Terms were not disclosed.

First National Bank of Grant Park, with assets of \$105.2 million as of December 31, 2012, has its principal office in Grant Park, Illinois, and operates two additional branches located in Beecher and Bourbonnais, Illinois.

Leon Holschbach, President and CEO of Midland States Bancorp, Inc., said, "We are excited that First National Bank has agreed to join and grow with Midland. We see this as an exciting opportunity for our combined shareholders, customers and employees. This acquisition, our sixth bank acquisition in as many years, continues our plan of serving as a platform for growth for community banks in the Midwest."

Dan Stevenson, Regional Market President of Midland States Bank, said, "We welcome First National Bank customers to Midland and look forward to serving them with our community based banking approach and our expanded branch office footprint in our region. The addition of the First National branches and our future planned expansion into the Yorkville market, will compliment our presence in Joliet and Champaign."

J. Thomas Long, President and CEO of Grant Park Bancshares, commented, "This transaction allows for First National Bank of Grant Park to join a dynamic organization with a rich history. The transaction provides good value for our shareholders, as well as the opportunity to continue to participate in the future growth of Midland."

The agreement provides for Midland to acquire Grant Park Bancshares and then to merge First National Bank of Grant Park into Midland States Bank and operate the acquired branches under the Midland States name. The addition of these three offices will increase Midland's presence in Northern Illinois to 19 offices and a total of 34 locations in Illinois, one in Missouri and one in Wisconsin.

The agreement is subject to customary closing conditions and regulatory approval and is expected to close in the second quarter or early in the third quarter of 2013.

### Financial Highlights

(Dollars in millions)

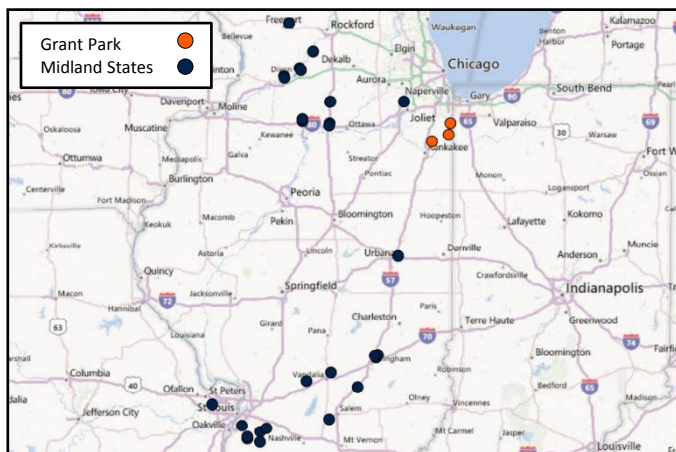
	Midland States Bancorp, Inc.	First National Bank of Grant Park
Total Assets	\$1,570.4	\$105.2
Net Loans	\$952.3	\$46.4
Total Deposits	\$1,281.4	\$92.5
Total Equity	\$129.3	\$10.3
Branches	31	3

Financial data as of December 31, 2012

<sup>1</sup> Includes bank or thrift transactions since 2011; excludes terminated transactions, self-advisory roles and does not combine the results of advisors which have merged until the date such merger was completed

Source: SNL Financial, Press Release

### Pro Forma Map



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