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FARMERS STATE BANK LOOKS FORWARD TO THE FUTURE WITH APPOINTMENT OF STEVEN W. COOK AS NEW BANK PRESIDENT

September 6, 2017 (Harrisburg, IL.) – Farmers State Bank is honored to announce the appointment of Steven W. Cook as the new President of the bank, effective August 15, 2017. Cook takes the helm as President of the bank with the appointment of Charles M. Holland as the new CEO. Cook currently serves the company as Community Bank President in Marion, IL and has served in that capacity for the last twelve years. With strong and seasoned leadership in place, Farmers State Bank is positioned to exponentially build on its current growth and success.

“I’m excited to have Steve’s leadership at the reins of Farmers State Bank,” said Tom Franks, Chairman of the Board. “He brings years of integrity and community banking experience. I personally think Steve Cook is the best community banker in America.”

Cook earned a bachelor’s degree in business from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, and he later completed the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University in 2000. He began his career as a bank examiner with the State of Illinois Commissioner of Banks and Trust Companies. Later, Cook was a successful producer in the securities industry where he held his investment license and full line insurance producer licenses. In 1995 Steven accepted a position with Citizens Bank, now Fifth Third Bank, in Harrisburg, IL, as a commercial lender. He held various roles in multiple markets within the organization including Senior Lender, Regional Manager, and City Executive over the 10 years with the company and was recognized as a leading producer for the company. Cook joined Farmers State Bank as Community Bank President in 2005 and has played a major role in the company’s growth over his tenure here at Farmers. With over 28 years of industry experience and in-depth knowledge, Steven is a team oriented leader with the skills, experience, and commitment to take on the responsibilities of President.

Mr. Cook is actively involved in the community and is serving his second term as a member of the Marion Unit 2 Board of Education. Cook serves on the Marion Chamber of Commerce board of directors and is also a board member of the Southern Illinois Community Foundation. He is also a member of the Marion City Revolving Loan Fund Committee. In

addition, Cook serves on the board of directors for Farmers State Bank. He is member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Marion. Mr. Cook resides in Marion, IL with his wife, Moya, and four sons, Jeremy, Nathan, Jordan, and Matthew.

“It’s been an honor for me to work these past 12 years with an organization that values its employees, the communities, and the customers we serve,” said Steven Cook. “Farmers defines what it means to be a community bank in every sense and I am humbled and honored to help lead this organization to the next level in my new capacity. I look forward with excitement to what this group will accomplish in the years ahead.”

Farmers State Bank of Alto Pass is a locally owned and operated community bank. With two locations in Marion, as well as locations in Harrisburg and Alto Pass. Farmers is a full service bank, with a variety of products and services to best suit the customer’s needs. Farmers has grown from a bank with \$3,000,000 in assets in 1994 to over \$205,000,000 in total assets today.

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Steven W. Cook