



NEWS RELEASE

The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
St. Louis Little Rock Louisville Memphis

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT - Jackie A. Himmelberg
314-444-8311

95-82

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Louis, Missouri, September 7, 1995 -- The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, acting pursuant to delegated authority for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, today approved the notification of New Era Bancorporation, Inc., Fredericktown, Missouri ("New Era"), to acquire 100 percent of the outstanding voting shares of St. Francois County Financial Corp., Farmington, Missouri ("St. Francois"), thereby acquiring its wholly-owned subsidiary, St. Francois County Bank, F.S.B., Farmington, Missouri ("Thrift"), pursuant to Section 4(c)(8) of the Bank Holding Company Act. Immediately following consummation, St. Francois will be merged into New Era. Also immediately following consummation, New Era's subsidiary bank, New Era Bank, Fredericktown, Missouri, will purchase all the assets and assume all the liabilities of Thrift, and the present office of Thrift will be operated as a branch of New Era Bank.

* * *