

NEWS RELEASE

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 18, 1996

ST. LOUIS — 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 application of Arkansas Banking Company, Jonesboro, Arkansas, to acquire 100 percent of the outstanding voting shares of Mercantile Bank of Batesville, N.A., Batesville, Arkansas.