



NEWS RELEASE

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 12, 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 Chester Bancorp, Inc., Chester, Illinois, to become a bank holding company through the acquisitions of Chester National Bank, Chester, Illinois ("Illinois Bank"), and Chester National Bank of Missouri, Perryville, Missouri ("Missouri Bank"). Illinois Bank is the proposed successor to the conversion of Chester Savings Bank, FSB, Chester, Illinois, from a mutual savings institution to a stock savings institution, and then to a national bank. Missouri Bank is a proposed de novo bank to be chartered for the purpose of purchasing the assets and assuming the liabilities of the Perryville, Missouri branch of Chester Savings Bank, FSB.

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