



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: David Crader, CEO Bank of Missouri 573-335-3100

Raymond DePriest, President Bank Star of the BootHeel 573-695-4441

THE BANK OF MISSOURI TO ACQUIRE BANK STAR OF THE BOOTHEEL

PERRYVILLE, MO, July 23, 2015—The Bank of Missouri has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Bank Star of the BootHeel, a subsidiary of bank holding company BancStar, Inc., headquartered in St. Louis.

Bank Star of the BootHeel, a \$94 million asset independent bank, has branches in Steele and Caruthersville, both in Missouri. Its main banking office is in Steele.

The \$1.1billion Bank of Missouri, headquartered in Perryville, has 21 locations throughout Missouri.

The proposed transaction remains subject to the approval of the bank regulatory authorities. It is anticipated that the merger will be finalized in December 2015.

"The right opportunity presented itself for The Bank of Missouri to combine with Bank Star of the BootHeel. This is a tried and true model that works well for the growth and success of The Bank of Missouri," said David Crader, Chief Executive Officer of The Bank of Missouri. "Furthermore, acquiring locations in Steele and Caruthersville fits the strategic model of growth for our bank. This merger also provides a bright future for the valued employees of Bank Star of the BootHeel.

"We are truly excited to be part of the Steele and Caruthersville communities. We promise to continue providing quality customer service as well as a strong commitment to all of our communities in which we serve," Crader added.

Raymond DePriest, Bank Star of the BootHeel President states, "I anticipate a successful union between our two banks. Our customers will still experience great service, plus they can take advantage of expanded locations. Customers will still be greeted and served by the same friendly faces they know and trust. They will also enjoy more ways to make the most of their money."

Joseph C. Stewart, III, Chairman of BancStar, Inc., also indicated that the merger will bring added benefits to customers of Bank Star of the BootHeel by noting that customers will have "more branches, more ATMS, and a greater variety of banking services in southeast Missouri."

The Bank of Missouri, chartered in 1891 as Bank of Perryville, is a full service financial institution offering a variety of loan and deposit products and services.

Bank Star of the BootHeel, chartered in 1904 as the Bank of Steele, is a subsidiary of the St. Louis-based BancStar Inc., a bank holding company with three bank charters, seven retail branches and nearly \$260 million in assets.

#