

First Farmers and Merchants Corporation Releases Results for First Half of 2013

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COLUMBIA, Tenn. – First Farmers and Merchants Corporation, the parent of First Farmers & Merchants Bank, saw its growth continue during the first half of 2013, the bank said today in releasing its results for the first six months of the year.

From January to June 2013, the community bank's net interest income was up 6.5 percent and net income up a robust 23 percent over the same period of 2012. Assets increased 1.8 percent, loans climbed 11.7 percent and deposit growth was 3.9 percent also over the same time frame.

Additionally, the corporation declared its 123rd consecutive semi-annual dividend, which amounted to \$1.9 million paid to over 2,000 shareholders.

"First Farmers and Merchants Corporation has been consistently providing solid financial services to our communities and returns to our shareholders," said T. Randy Stevens, chairman and CEO, First Farmers and Merchants Corporation. "The continued growth trend of the first half of 2013, along with our team's dedication to controlling expenses, has ensured our overall financial position remains strong."

First Farmers & Merchants Bank is one of the largest independent community banks in Middle Tennessee, with nineteen full-service banking offices in seven southern Middle Tennessee counties. For more information, visit www.myfirstfarmers.com.