

Rory Mallard to Manage Both Williamson County **Branch Offices of First Farmers and Merchants Bank**

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FRANKLIN, Tenn. – Rory Mallard, currently private banking/business banking officer at the Cool Springs office of First Farmers & Merchants Bank, has been appointed manager of the bank’s Cool Springs and new McEwen Drive branch offices, the bank announced today.

The banking veteran will oversee both short- and long-range growth of the two banking centers.

The Cool Springs office is located at 300 Billingsly Court. The new McEwen office, slated to open in mid-April, is located at 1536 West McEwen Drive

“In the short time Rory has been with us, he’s proven his ability to manage critical operations and build strong customer relationships,” said R. Craig Holland, Williamson County President for First Farmers & Merchants Bank. “His knowledge of the marketplace and banking expertise will also be invaluable in helping customers in Williamson County with all of their banking, investment and financial needs.”

The 3,600 square foot McEwen branch office will be a full-service financial center with both in-branch and drive-thru retail banking. It will offer a full array of bank products, including investment services, an ATM, and self-entry safe deposit boxes using palm recognition technology.

Mallard joined First Farmers last summer after a six-year career at Fifth Third Bank in Nashville where he was manager of their Music Row Financial Center. He was also inducted into Fifth Third’s President’s Circle for outstanding performance. Prior to Fifth Third, he was a financial advisor trainee at Morgan Stanley and a senior personal banker at Bank of America in Nashville.

Mallard is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University. He presently serves on the board of directors for the Medius Circle, an organization within the United Way of Williamson County. In addition, he is on the Williamson County Advisory Board for the Better Business Bureau. He and his wife, Amy, and their two children live in Franklin.