

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**KLESEL JOINS GROWING BRANCH MANAGEMENT TEAM AT  
FIRST FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK**

**COLUMBIA, Tenn. – August 14, 2008** – Financial services professional Patrick Klesel has joined the branch management team at First Farmers & Merchants Bank.

Klesel comes to F&M from Regions Bank in Columbia, where he was Loan Officer focusing on both loans and investments, a position he held for three years. Prior to that, he was Credit Manager at Wells Fargo Financial in Columbia specializing in real estate and personal loans. Before that, he held the same title and responsibilities at Wells Fargo in Tullahoma. He is currently training through various departments of the bank while plans for a new branch are being finalized.

“We’re delighted to have Patrick with us,” said Tim Pettus, president of F&M Bank. “The combination of his knowledge of the banking business, as well as of Maury County, will serve us well as we continue to finalize our expansion plans.”

Originally from West Virginia, Klesel holds both a Finance degree and an MBA from Tennessee Technological University. He also played on the university’s golf team. Klesel is treasurer of the United Way of Maury County and sits on the Board of Grace Church of the Nazarene. Additionally, he is a new member of the Columbia Kiwanis Club.

He is married to the former Alana White of Columbia, whose mother, Katie White, teaches at Zion Christian Academy and whose father, John White, works at the GM plant in Spring Hill and coaches at Zion Christian.

***About First Farmers & Merchants Bank***

*Founded in 1909, First Farmers & Merchants Bank (Member FDIC) is one of the most successful independent banks in Tennessee, with total assets of more than \$823 million and deposits in excess of \$698 million. An additional \$2.6 billion in assets is held by its Trust & Financial Management Department. Headquartered in Columbia, Tenn., the bank operates 20 offices in a seven-county area that includes Lawrence, Maury, Marshall, Hickman, Dickson, Giles and Williamson counties. It is distinguished by its commitment to traditional, personal banking relationships that incorporate state-of-the-art technology to provide the highest possible level of service. For additional information, visit [www.fandmbank.com](http://www.fandmbank.com) or call the main office at 931.388.3145.*

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