

The Bank that Puts You First.



*Everett Johnson, Vice President
First Bank AgCredit*

Johnson Appointed President of Cattlemen's Association

First Bank & Trust Company, a diversified financial services firm today announced that its agriculture division will have representation on the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association. Everett Johnson, Vice President and Agricultural Lender for First Bank AgCredit will serve as President of the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association. Johnson's term is effective February 2009.

"The North Carolina Cattlemen's Association is membership driven, and deals with issues management," stated Bryan Blinson, Executive Director of the association. "The staff and membership look forward to the leadership of Mr. Johnson. His extensive experience in the livestock industry as well as the financial industry will be very helpful during these turbulent times."

The appointment of Johnson to the cattlemen's association in North Carolina is not the first time First Bank AgCredit has received state recognition. In 2008, the agriculture division received special recognition from the Virginia Agribusiness Council. The award was in recognition of outstanding service and support of Virginia agribusinesses. First Bank AgCredit was also recognized in December 2008 by the American Bankers Association as the 27th bank in the nation based on banks with the largest farm loan portfolios. *"I consider it a privilege and an honor to represent First Bank & Trust by serving on this board,"* stated Johnson. *"We have had strong economic ties to the agricultural community for many years, and First Bank & Trust's partnership with this association solidifies our dedication to the agriculture industry."*

About First Bank & Trust Company

First Bank & Trust Company, one of the top community banks in the United States, is a diversified financial services firm with office locations in southwest Virginia, northeast Tennessee, and New River and Shenandoah Valleys. Financial objectives are addressed by offering free checking products for personal and business accounts, and assessing lending solutions managed by mortgage, agricultural and commercial lending divisions. Comprehensive financial solutions are available through trust and brokerage service representatives.

About First Bank AgCredit

First Bank AgCredit was established in 2002, and is committed to serving the unique needs of the agriculture industry in Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. First Bank AgCredit is the only USDA-FSA preferred lender in Virginia, and was ranked 27th in the nation by American Banker magazine. The ranking included 150 community banks, and was based on banks with the largest farm loan portfolio. First Bank & Trust Company is a member of the Virginia Agribusiness Council and was honored in 2008 with the *Special Recognition of an Agribusiness Award*.

About the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association

The North Carolina Cattlemen's Association and the North Carolina Cattlemen's Beef Council coordinate the promotion of beef and the beef industry. The NCCA, through its membership dues, assists producers in legislative, regulatory and production issues, while the NCCBC promotes beef through the administration of the beef check off system.



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For more information, visit www.firstbank.com or contact Nicole Franks nfranks@firstbank.com