

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - June 25, 2014

National Bank of South Central Illinois sets \$40 million commercial lending goal for the next 12 months

National Bank is literally putting their "money where their mouth is", by setting an aggressive 12 month goal to lend \$40 million dollars to businesses in South Central Illinois and the St. Louis region. A Lending Goal Meter on national-bank.com will measure the ongoing success of the campaign.

National Bank is proud to have assembled a homegrown team of seasoned lenders ready to take the time to understand local business and structure creative solutions to secure the financing they need. "The past recession and tightening credit markets has limited local businesses the accessibility to borrow funds. National Bank will make every effort to help business owners grow out of what has been a tough period to borrow money", says Thomas Carley, Senior Lending Officer at National Bank. That commitment is spelled out in 10 specific Codes of Conduct promised to every business customer. The Code includes a prompt response to all loan requests, loan updates throughout the loan process and the promise that all commercial lending decisions will be made locally in South Central Illinois. Every branch location proudly displays the National Bank Code of Conduct with the 10 promises to the business community.

National Bank has 11 locations spread throughout South Central Illinois. The bank is locally owned by Country Bancorp, Inc. with roots going back over 130 years. Commercial lending decisions that require committee approval are made weekly in South Central Illinois. Local ownership provides valuable insight into the unique lending needs of the business community.

National Bank has been the local choice for business banking and a leader in lending to the Ag Industry for many years. With their seasoned lending team and 11 locations, National Bank is aggressively applying that same philosophy to the commercial lending landscape. The 12 month Commercial Lending Goal runs through June 30, 2015. The Lending Goal Meter will be displayed on the national-bank.com homepage to measure the ongoing success for business lending.

National Bank is headquartered in Hillsboro, Illinois and will soon be relocating into their newly constructed 22,000 square foot Banking Center. The Bank can be contacted from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday and 8:30am to 12:00pm on Saturday at 800-717-3991.