

SIMMONS FIRST NATIONAL CORP

Form 424B5

November 12, 2009

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**Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)  
Registration No. 333-161558**

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT  
(To prospectus dated August 26, 2009)**

**2,650,000 Shares**

**Class A Common Stock**

We are offering 2,650,000 shares of our Class A Common Stock.

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SFNC. On November 10, 2009, the last reported sale price of our common stock as reported on NASDAQ was \$25.60 per share.

**Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. See the sections entitled Risk Factors beginning on page S-9 of this prospectus supplement, page 3 of the accompanying base prospectus and those risk factors set forth in our reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.**

	<b>Per Share</b>	<b>Total</b>
Public offering price	\$ 24.50	\$ 64,925,000
Underwriting discount	1.286	3,407,900
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	23.214	61,517,100

The underwriters may also purchase up to an additional 397,500 shares in the aggregate from us at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to cover over-allotments.

*Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.*

**These securities are not savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of any bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.**

The shares will be ready for delivery on or about November 17, 2009.

**Stephens Inc.**

**Stifel Nicolaus**

**Raymond James**

The date of this prospectus supplement is November 11, 2009.

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### ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus are part of a shelf registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. Each time securities are sold under the accompanying base prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering, including the price, the amount of securities being offered and the plan of distribution. The shelf registration statement was declared effective by the SEC on September 9, 2009. This prospectus supplement describes, among other things, the specific details regarding this offering, including the price, the amount of common stock being offered, and the underwriting arrangements. The accompanying base prospectus provides general

information about us, some of which may not apply to this offering.

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This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering of our common stock and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying base prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into the accompanying base prospectus. The second part, the accompanying base prospectus, provides more general information. Generally, when we refer to this prospectus, we are referring to both parts of this document combined. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the information contained in the accompanying base prospectus or any document incorporated by reference therein filed prior to the date of this prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement. If any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date—for example, a document incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus—the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different or inconsistent information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer and sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus is accurate only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

### **CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus supplement and any additional prospectus supplement, including information incorporated by reference therein, may contain forward-looking statements for purposes of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, referred to as the Securities Act, and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, referred to as the Exchange Act. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about us, the industries in which we operate and other matters, as well as management's beliefs and assumptions and other statements regarding matters that are not historical facts. These statements include, in particular, statements about our plans, strategies and prospects. The actual results, performance or achievements of Simmons First National Corporation may be materially different from future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include statements using the words such as may, will, anticipate, should, would, believe, contemplate, expect, estimate, continue, intend, seeks or other expressions of the future.

These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and may not be realized due to a variety of factors, including, without limitation: the effects of future economic conditions, governmental monetary and fiscal policies, as well as legislative and regulatory changes; the risks of changes in interest rates and their effects on the level and composition of deposits, loan demand and the values of loan collateral, securities and interest sensitive assets and liabilities; the costs of evaluating possible acquisitions and the risks inherent in integrating acquisitions; the effects of competition from other commercial banks, thrifts, mortgage banking firms, consumer finance companies, credit unions, securities brokerage firms, insurance companies, money market and other mutual funds and other financial institutions operating in our market area and elsewhere, including institutions operating regionally, nationally and internationally, together with such competitors offering banking products and services by mail, telephone, computer and the Internet; the failure of assumptions underlying the establishment of reserves for possible loan losses; and those factors set forth under Risk Factors below, in our base prospectus and in our reports filed with the SEC. Many of these factors are beyond our ability to predict or control. In addition, as a result of these and other factors, our past financial performance should not be relied upon as an indication of future performance.

We believe the expectations reflected in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, based on information available to us on the date hereof. However, given the described uncertainties and risks, we cannot guarantee our future performance or results of operations and you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, and all written or oral forward-looking statements attributable to us are expressly qualified in their entirety by this section.

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**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY**

*This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus supplement. Because this is a summary, it may not contain all the information that may be important to you. Therefore, you should also read the more detailed information set forth in this prospectus supplement, our financial statements and documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, before making a decision to invest in our common stock. See *Where You Can Find More Information*. Unless we indicate otherwise, the words *we*, *our*, *us* and *Company* refer to Simmons First National Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiaries. Unless otherwise indicated, information presented herein is as of September 30, 2009.*

**Simmons First National Corporation**

**Company Overview**

Simmons First National Corporation is a multi-bank financial holding company registered under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. The Company is headquartered in Arkansas with total assets of \$2.9 billion, loans of \$1.9 billion, deposits of \$2.3 billion and equity capital of \$298 million as of September 30, 2009. We own eight community banks that are strategically located throughout Arkansas. We conduct our operations through 88 offices, of which 84 are branches, or financial centers, located in 47 communities in Arkansas.

We seek to build shareholder value by (i) focusing on strong asset quality, (ii) maintaining strong capital and managing our liquidity position, (iii) improving our efficiency, and (iv) opportunistically growing our business, both organically and through potential FDIC-assisted transactions and traditional private community bank acquisitions. The six members of our corporate executive team have an average of 28 years of experience in the banking sector and have served an average of 22 years at the Company. Additionally, our eight community bank CEO s have an average of 30 years of experience in the banking sector and have served an average of 22 years at the Company. We believe the depth and experience of our corporate executive management team and the management teams and directors of each of our community banks has allowed us to achieve excellent asset quality, a strong capital position and increased liquidity, even in the current challenging economic climate.

**Community Bank Strategy**

Our community banks feature locally based management and boards of directors, community-focused growth strategies, and flexibility in pricing of loans and deposits. Our community banks are supported by our main subsidiary bank, Simmons First National Bank, SFNB or lead bank, which allows our community banks to provide products and services, such as a bank-issued credit card, that are usually offered only by larger banks. We believe that our enterprise-wide support system enables us to out-product our smaller, Arkansas community bank competitors while our local focus allows us to out-service our larger interstate bank competitors.

Our community banking business model involves some additional administrative costs as a result of maintaining multiple bank charters, but has allowed us to maintain strong management at the local level to meet the needs of local customers while ensuring exceptional asset quality. In addition we, along with our lead bank, provide efficiencies through consolidated back office support for information systems, loan review, compliance, human resources, accounting and internal audit. Likewise, through a standardizing initiative, our banks share a common name, signage and products that enable us to maximize our branding and overall marketing strategy.

**Growth Strategy**

Over the past 20 years, as we have expanded our markets and services, our growth strategy has evolved and diversified. From 1989 through 1991, in addition to our internal branching expansion, we acquired nine branches from the Resolution Trust Corporation, the federal agency that oversaw the sale or liquidation of assets of closed savings and loans institutions.

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From 1995 to 2005, our strategic focus was on creating geographic diversification throughout Arkansas, driven primarily by acquisitions of other banking institutions. During this period we completed acquisitions of nine financial institutions and a total of 20 branches from five other banking institutions, some of which allowed us to enter key growth markets such as Conway, Hot Springs, Russellville, Searcy and Northwest Arkansas.

In 2005, we initiated a *de novo* branching strategy to enter selected new Arkansas markets and to complement our presence in existing markets. From 2005 to 2008, we opened 12 new financial centers, a regional headquarters in Northwest Arkansas and a corporate office in Little Rock. We substantially completed our *de novo* branching strategy in 2008.

In late 2007, as we anticipated deteriorating economic conditions, we concentrated on maintaining our strong asset quality, building capital and improving our liquidity position. We intensified our focus on loan underwriting and on monitoring our loan portfolio in order to maintain asset quality, which is well above our peer group and the industry average. From late 2007 to September 30, 2009, our liquidity position (net overnight funds sold) improved by approximately \$150 million as a result of a strategic initiative to introduce deposit products that grew our core deposits in transaction and savings accounts and improved our deposit mix. Transaction and savings deposits increased from 48% of total deposits as of December 31, 2007 to 61% of total deposits as of September 30, 2009.

Our capital levels have remained strong during the current economic downturn. As part of our strategic focus on building capital, we suspended our stock repurchase program in July 2008. Additionally, despite our strong capital position, in October 2008 we applied, and were one of the earliest banks approved, for funding of up to \$60 million under the U.S. Treasury's Capital Purchase Program, referred to as the CPP. After careful consideration and analysis and due to significant improvement in the economy, we determined that participation in the CPP was not necessary nor in the best interest of our shareholders. We notified the Treasury in July 2009 that we did not intend to participate in the CPP.

## **Acquisition Strategy**

We believe we are strategically positioned to leverage our strong capital position to grow through acquisitions. In the near term, the disruptions in the financial markets continue to create opportunities for strong financial institutions to acquire selected assets and deposits of failed banks through FDIC-assisted transactions on attractive terms. We intend to focus our near term acquisition strategy on such transactions.

We also believe that the challenging economic environment combined with more restrictive bank regulatory reform will cause many financial institutions to seek merger partners in the intermediate future. We believe our community bank model, strong capital and successful acquisition history position us as a purchaser of choice for community banks seeking a strong partner.

We expect that our primary geographic target area for acquisitions, both FDIC-assisted and negotiated, will fall within a 325 mile radius of central Arkansas. Our first priority will be to focus on acquisitions within Arkansas while also seeking acquisitions within our target area in states contiguous to Arkansas.

The senior management teams of both our parent company and lead bank have had extensive experience during the past twenty years in acquiring banks, branches and deposits and post-acquisition integration of operations. We believe this experience positions us to successfully acquire and integrate banks on both an FDIC-assisted and unassisted basis.

With respect to FDIC-assisted transactions:

We believe one of our key strengths is our management depth at the community bank level that will enable us to redeploy our human resources to integrate and operate an acquired institution's business with minimal disruption to our existing operations. From our management pool we have assembled an in-house acquisition team to focus on evaluating and executing FDIC-assisted transactions.

We have retained a consultant with FDIC-assisted transaction experience that has supplemented our management's acquisition experience with additional training focused on the unique aspects of acquiring, converting and integrating banks through FDIC-assisted transactions.

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With respect to negotiated community bank acquisitions:

We have historically retained the target institution's senior management and have provided them with an appealing level of autonomy post-integration. We intend to continue to pursue negotiated community bank acquisitions and we believe that our history with respect to such acquisitions has positioned us as an acquirer of choice for community banks.

We encourage acquired community banks, their boards and associates to maintain their community involvement, while empowering the banks to offer a broader array of financial products and services. We believe this approach leads to enhanced profitability after the acquisition.

**Efficiency Initiatives**

In 2008, we began two significant initiatives to improve our operating performance by implementing cost efficiencies and selected revenue enhancements. These initiatives have led to cost savings and revenue enhancements in 2009 and are expected to lead to further improvements in 2010 and beyond.

Our first such initiative was an effort to leverage our corporate buying power to renegotiate our existing vendor contracts at lower prices and to maximize the return on our investment in technology. We have begun to benefit from operating expense savings as a result of more favorable contract terms with our vendors in 2009 with the full annualized benefits expected to be realized in 2010.

Our second initiative, which is larger in scope, is to identify and implement process improvements. We are reviewing our business processes in an effort to improve our profitability while preserving the quality of our customer service. The scope of this initiative includes implementing revenue enhancements, further consolidating back office processes and refining our organizational structure. We intend to begin implementing this initiative in 2010 and to continue its implementation in 2011. We expect to experience significant savings and revenue enhancements as this initiative takes effect.

**Table of Contents****Recent Quarterly Financial Summary**

The following table sets forth selected historical financial and other data for the three most recent quarterly periods ended as of the dates shown. The summary consolidated financial data for these quarterly periods are derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference herein and should be read in conjunction with those unaudited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto. In the opinion of management, our unaudited consolidated financial statements for these quarterly periods include all normal recurring adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of results for the unaudited interim periods. You should read the information in the table below in conjunction with those unaudited consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto. In addition, you should read the information contained in the table below in conjunction with the section entitled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, and with our consolidated financial statements and related notes incorporated by reference herein. Results from past periods are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for any future period.

<i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i> <i>(Unaudited)</i>	<b>As of and for the Quarters Ended</b>		
	<b>September 30, 2009</b>	<b>June 30, 2009</b>	<b>March 31, 2009</b>
Net income	\$ 7,660	\$ 5,509	\$ 5,236
Earnings per share - diluted	0.54	0.39	0.37
Net interest margin	3.97%	3.71%	3.68%
Return on average assets	1.04%	0.75%	0.72%
Return on average equity	10.20%	7.48%	7.25%
Efficiency ratio(1)	62.35%	65.97%	70.56%
Book value per share	\$ 21.20	\$ 20.82	\$ 20.85
Tangible book value per share (non-GAAP)(2)	16.75	16.35	16.35
Cash dividends per share	0.19	0.19	0.19
Total assets	2,915,437	2,897,831	2,943,579
Total loans	1,925,101	1,943,460	1,917,332
Total deposits	2,331,269	2,319,144	2,369,502
Total shareholders' equity	297,823	292,215	292,170
Net charge-offs to average loans	0.40%	0.44%	0.73%
Non-performing loans to total loans	0.99%	1.02%	1.03%

- (1) The efficiency ratio is total non-interest expense less foreclosure expense and amortization of intangibles, divided by the sum of net interest income on a fully taxable equivalent basis plus total non-interest income less security gains, net of tax. For the quarter ended June 30, 2009 this calculation excludes the FDIC special assessment of \$1.5 million from total non-interest expense.
- (2) Because of our significant level of intangible assets, total goodwill and core deposit premiums, management believes a useful calculation for investors in their analysis of our Company is tangible book value per share (non-GAAP). This non-GAAP calculation eliminates the effect of goodwill and acquisition related intangible assets and is calculated by subtracting goodwill and intangible assets from total stockholders' equity, and dividing the resulting number by the common stock outstanding at period end.
- The following table reflects the reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure to the GAAP presentation of book value for the periods presented above:

<i>(In thousands, except per share data)</i> <i>(Unaudited)</i>	<b>As of and for the Quarters Ended</b>		
	<b>September 30, 2009</b>	<b>June 30, 2009</b>	<b>March 31, 2009</b>
Stockholders equity	\$ 297,823	\$ 292,215	\$ 292,170
Less: Intangible assets			
Goodwill	60,605	60,605	60,605
Other intangibles	1,970	2,172	2,373
Tangible stockholders equity (non-GAAP)	\$ 235,248	\$ 229,438	\$ 229,192
Book value per share	\$ 21.20	\$ 20.82	\$ 20.85
Tangible book value per share (non-GAAP)	\$ 16.75	\$ 16.35	\$ 16.35
Shares outstanding	14,045,631	14,036,274	14,013,839

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**Table of Contents****Subsidiary Banks**

Our lead bank, SFNB, is a national bank which has been in operation since 1903. SFNB's primary market area, with the exception of its nationally provided credit card product, is southeastern, central and western Arkansas. As of September 30, 2009, SFNB had total assets of \$1.4 billion, total loans of \$951 million and total deposits of \$1.1 billion. Simmons First Trust Company N.A., a wholly owned subsidiary of SFNB, performs the trust and fiduciary business operations for SFNB and us. Simmons First Investment Group, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of SFNB, is a broker-dealer registered with the SEC and a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers and performs the broker-dealer operations for SFNB.

The following table shows our community subsidiary banks other than the lead bank:

Subsidiary	Year Acquired	Primary Market	As of September 30, 2009		
			Assets	Loans	Deposits
Simmons First Bank of Jonesboro Simmons First Bank of South Arkansas	1984	Northeast Arkansas	\$ 309,683	\$ 269,726	\$ 258,237
Simmons First Bank of Northwest Arkansas	1984	Southeast Arkansas	160,819	100,006	131,537
Simmons First Bank of Russellville	1995	Northwest Arkansas	279,537	181,556	225,801
Simmons First Bank of Searcy	1997	Russellville, Arkansas	195,039	109,862	139,879
Simmons First Bank of El Dorado, N.A.	1997	Searcy, Arkansas	149,231	107,795	113,839
Simmons First Bank of Hot Springs	1999	South central Arkansas	271,836	125,506	229,534
	2004	Hot Springs, Arkansas	171,034	79,380	121,203

Our subsidiary banks provide complete banking services to individuals and businesses throughout the market areas they serve. These banks offer consumer (credit card, student and other consumer), real estate (construction, single family residential and other commercial) and commercial (commercial, agriculture and financial institutions) loans, checking, savings and time deposits, trust and investment management services and securities and investment services.

**Credit Cards**

We held the 62<sup>nd</sup> largest credit card portfolio in the U.S. as of August 31, 2009 with a balance of \$175 million. Since the 1960s, we have offered these products through our lead bank. Our portfolio had an all-in yield, net of any credit losses, of 15.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Our number of accounts has grown 12.5% since December 31, 2008 to over 114,000 accounts as of September 30, 2009. This growth has been balanced by a lower approval rate for credit card applications of only 21%, which is down from an approval rate of approximately 34% during 2007. Our strong credit underwriting is reflected in our credit card charge-off ratio of 2.58% for the quarter ended September 30, 2009. This is 836 basis points better than the industry average charge-off ratio of 10.94% as reported by Moody's Investors Service for the same three month period. Our portfolio is geographically diversified, with 40% of our credit card customers in Arkansas and no geographic concentration greater than 7% in any other state. Our credit card customers carry an average balance of approximately \$2,000. Their average credit limit is approximately \$4,700 and their average FICO score is approximately 750. We believe these attributes contribute to the success of our credit card product offering in terms of both growth and credit quality.

**Principal Offices**



Our principal executive offices are located at 501 Main Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601, and our telephone number is (870) 541-1000. We also have corporate offices in Little Rock, Arkansas. We maintain a website at <http://www.simmonsfirst.com>. The information contained on our website is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

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**THE OFFERING**

Common stock we are offering	2,650,000 shares
Common stock to be outstanding after this offering	16,695,631 shares
Public offering price per share	\$24.50
Use of proceeds	We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes, including funding possible future acquisitions of other financial services businesses, for working capital needs, for investments in our subsidiaries to support our continued growth or for possible repayment of debt or other securities.
Nasdaq Global Select Market symbol	SFNC
Risk factors	Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider the information under Risk Factors beginning on page S-9 and the other information included in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus and our reports filed under the Exchange Act before investing in our securities.

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after the offering is based on actual shares outstanding as of September 30, 2009 and does not include 397,500 shares of common stock reserved for issuance in connection with the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares to cover over-allotments. In addition, the number of shares of common stock to be outstanding after this offering excludes the following, in each case as of September 30, 2009:

374,933 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of options outstanding under our various equity incentive plans, having a weighted average exercise price of \$21.76 per share; and  
143,992 additional shares of common stock reserved for issuance pursuant to our various equity incentive plans.

**Table of Contents****SELECTED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA**

The following tables set forth selected consolidated historical financial and other data for the periods ended and as of the dates indicated. The selected consolidated balance sheet data presented below as of December 31, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005 and 2004 and the selected consolidated income statement data presented below for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005 and 2004 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference herein, except certain of the per share data described in detail below. The summary consolidated financial data for the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, are derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference herein and should be read in conjunction with those unaudited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto. In the opinion of management, our unaudited consolidated financial statements for the three-month and nine month periods ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, include all normal recurring adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of results for the unaudited interim periods. Results from past periods are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for any future period. Management believes that certain non-GAAP measures, including diluted core earnings per share, tangible book value, the ratio of tangible common equity to tangible assets, tangible stockholders' equity and return on average tangible equity, may be useful to analysts and investors in evaluating the performance of our Company. We have included certain of these non-GAAP measures, including cautionary remarks regarding the usefulness of these analytical tools, in our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 and in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, June 30 and September 30, 2009, which we have filed with the SEC. This selected historical financial data should be read in conjunction with the section entitled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, and with our consolidated financial statements and related notes incorporated by reference herein.

	As of and for the Three Months Ended September 30		As of and for the Nine Months Ended September 30		2008	As of and for the Years Ended	
	2009 (Unaudited)	2008	2009 (Unaudited)	2008		2007	2006
& other data)	\$ 25,393	\$ 24,347	\$ 72,506	\$ 70,236	\$ 94,017	\$ 92,116	\$ 88,804
	2,789	2,214	7,549	5,895	8,646	4,181	3,762
or loan losses	22,604	22,133	64,957	64,341	85,371	87,935	85,042
	14,963	11,288	39,780	37,997	49,326	46,003	43,947
	26,307	24,441	78,916	71,776	96,360	94,197	89,068
	11,260	8,980	25,821	30,562	38,337	39,741	39,921
	3,600	2,506	7,416	9,278	11,427	12,381	12,440
	\$ 7,660	\$ 6,474	\$ 18,405	\$ 21,284	\$ 26,910	\$ 27,360	\$ 27,481
	0.54	0.47	1.31	1.53	1.93	1.95	1.93

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	0.54	0.46	1.30	1.51	1.91	1.92	1.90
-GAAP)(1)	0.54	0.46	1.30	1.33	1.73	1.97	1.90
	21.20	20.12	21.20	20.12	20.69	19.57	18.24
)	16.75	15.58	16.75	15.58	16.16	14.97	13.68
	0.19	0.19	0.57	0.57	0.76	0.73	0.68
ending	14,042,813	13,951,373	14,018,949	13,940,573	13,945,249	14,043,626	14,226,481
standing	14,132,410	14,119,828	14,108,546	14,109,028	14,107,943	14,241,182	14,474,812
	\$ 2,915,437	\$ 2,860,192	\$ 2,915,437	\$ 2,860,192	\$ 2,923,109	\$ 2,692,447	\$ 2,651,413
	571,615	576,072	571,615	576,072	646,134	530,930	527,126
	1,925,101	1,936,279	1,925,101	1,936,279	1,933,074	1,850,454	1,783,495
	25,830	25,548	25,830	25,548	25,841	25,303	25,385
	62,575	63,382	62,575	63,382	63,180	63,987	64,804
	325,594	318,660	325,594	318,660	334,998	310,181	305,327
	2,331,269	2,294,392	2,331,269	2,294,392	2,336,333	2,182,857	2,175,531
	130,630	126,089	130,630	126,089	127,741	51,355	52,381
	30,930	30,930	30,930	30,930	30,930	30,930	30,930
	297,823	280,817	297,823	280,817	288,792	272,406	259,016
GAAP)(2)	235,248	217,435	235,248	217,435	225,612	208,419	194,212
	10.22%	9.82%	10.22%	9.82%	9.88%	10.12%	9.77%
assets	8.25%	7.77%	8.25%	7.77%	7.89%	7.93%	7.51%
	9.60%	8.83%	9.60%	8.83%	9.15%	9.06%	8.83%
	13.89%	12.54%	13.89%	12.54%	13.24%	12.43%	12.38%
	15.14%	13.79%	15.14%	13.79%	14.50%	13.69%	13.64%
	35.19%	41.30%	43.85%	37.75%	39.79%	38.02%	35.79%

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	As of and for the Three Months Ended September 30		As of and for the Nine Months Ended September 30		As of and for the Years Ended Dec			
	2009 (Unaudited)	2008	2009 (Unaudited)	2008	2008	2007	2006	2005
(per share data & other data)								
Return ratios:								
Return on assets	1.04%	0.89%	0.84%	1.00%	0.94%	1.03%	1.07%	
Return on equity	10.20%	9.11%	8.33%	10.11%	9.54%	10.26%	10.93%	
Return on tangible equity (non-GAAP)(2)(5)	13.13%	11.98%	10.80%	13.30%	12.54%	13.78%	15.03%	
Return on core deposit assets	3.97%	3.84%	3.79%	3.77%	3.75%	3.96%	3.96%	
Return on core deposit assets as a percentage of period-end	62.35%	65.95%	66.09%	66.69%	66.84%	64.94%	64.81%	
Return on loans as a percentage of period-end	0.86%	0.63%	0.86%	0.63%	0.64%	0.51%	0.45%	
Return on securities as a percentage of period-end	0.99%	0.72%	0.99%	0.72%	0.81%	0.60%	0.56%	
Return on other assets as a percentage of period-end	1.30%	0.93%	1.30%	0.93%	0.96%	0.75%	0.67%	
Return on earning assets as a percentage of period-end	135.03%	182.25%	135.03%	182.25%	165.12%	226.10%	252.46%	3
Return on securities as a percentage of period-end	1.34%	1.32%	1.34%	1.32%	1.34%	1.37%	1.42%	
Return on other assets as a percentage of period-end	0.40%	0.50%	0.52%	0.40%	0.43%	0.23%	0.22%	
Number of employees	84	84	84	84	84	83	81	
Number of equivalent employees	1,111	1,125	1,111	1,125	1,123	1,128	1,134	

(1) Diluted core earnings (net income excluding nonrecurring items) is a non-GAAP measure. The following nonrecurring items were excluded in the calculation of diluted core earnings per share (non-GAAP). In 2008, the Company recorded a \$0.13 increase in EPS from the cash proceeds on a mandatory Visa stock redemption and a \$0.05 increase in EPS from the reversal of Visa, Inc.'s litigation expense recorded in 2007. In 2007, the Company recorded a \$0.05 reduction in EPS from litigation expense associated with the recognition of certain contingent liabilities related to Visa, Inc.'s litigation. In 2004, the Company recorded a \$0.03 reduction in EPS from the write-off of deferred debt issuance cost associated with the redemption of trust preferred securities.

(2) Because of our significant level of intangible assets, total goodwill and core deposit premiums, management believes a useful calculation for investors in their analysis of our Company is tangible book value per share (non-GAAP). This non-GAAP calculation eliminates the effect of goodwill and acquisition related intangible assets and is calculated by subtracting goodwill and intangible assets from total stockholders' equity, and dividing the resulting number by the common stock outstanding at period end.

The following table reflects the reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure to the GAAP presentation of book value for the periods presented above:

	As of and for the Three Months Ended September 30		As of and for the Nine Months Ended September 30		2008	As of and for the Years End	
	2009	2008	2009	2008		2007	2006
& other data)	(Unaudited)		(Unaudited)				
	\$ 297,823	\$ 280,817	\$ 297,823	\$ 280,817	\$ 288,792	\$ 272,406	\$ 259,016
	60,605	60,605	60,605	60,605	60,605	60,605	60,605
	1,970	2,777	1,970	2,777	2,575	3,382	4,199
	\$ 235,248	\$ 217,435	\$ 235,248	\$ 217,435	\$ 225,612	\$ 208,419	\$ 194,212
	\$ 21.20	\$ 20.12	\$ 21.20	\$ 20.12	\$ 20.69	\$ 19.57	\$ 18.24
GAAP)	\$ 16.75	\$ 15.58	\$ 16.75	\$ 15.58	\$ 16.16	\$ 14.97	\$ 13.68
	14,045,631	13,958,932	14,045,631	13,958,932	13,960,680	13,918,368	14,196,855

- (3) Tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio is tangible stockholders' equity (non-GAAP) divided by total assets less goodwill and other intangible assets as and for the periods ended presented above.
- (4) Tier 1 leverage ratio is Tier 1 capital to quarterly average total assets less intangible assets and gross unrealized gains/losses on available-for-sale investments.
- (5) Return on average tangible equity is a non-GAAP measure that removes the effect of goodwill and intangible assets, as well as the amortization of intangibles, from the return on average equity. This non-GAAP measure is calculated as net income, adjusted for the tax-effected effect of intangibles, divided by average tangible equity.
- (6) Fully taxable equivalent (assuming an income tax rate of 37.5%).
- (7) The efficiency ratio is total non-interest expense less foreclosure expense and amortization of intangibles, divided by the sum of net interest income on a fully taxable equivalent basis plus total non-interest income less security gains, net of tax. For the nine months ended September 30, 2009 this calculation excludes the FDIC special assessment of \$1.5 million from total non-interest expense. For the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and for the year ended December 31, 2008, this calculation adds the VISA litigation expense reversal of \$1.2 million to total non-interest expense and excludes gain on partial redemption of Visa shares of \$3.0 million from total non-interest income. For the year ended December 31, 2007, this calculation excludes VISA litigation expense of \$1.2 million from total non-interest expense. For the year ended December 31, 2004, this calculation excludes the write-off of deferred debt issuance costs of \$0.8 million from non-interest expense.

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**RISK FACTORS**

*Investing in shares of our common stock involves significant risks, including the risks described below. You should carefully consider the following information about these risks, together with the other information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus and our reports filed under the Exchange Act before purchasing shares of our common stock. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be negatively affected if the events contemplated by these risks come to fruition. If this were to happen, the value of our common stock could decline significantly and you could lose all or part of your investment.*

**Risks Related to Our Industry**

*Our business may be adversely affected by conditions in the financial markets and economic conditions generally.*

Since December 2007, the United States has been in a recession. Business activity across a wide range of industries and regions has been greatly reduced and local governments and many businesses are having difficulty due to the lack of consumer spending, the lack of liquidity in the credit markets and high unemployment.

Market conditions have also led to the failure or merger of a number of prominent financial institutions. Financial institution failures or near-failures have resulted in further losses as a consequence of defaults on securities issued by them and defaults under contracts entered into with such entities as counterparties. Furthermore, declining asset values, defaults on mortgages and consumer loans, and the lack of market and investor confidence, as well as other factors, have all combined to increase credit default swap spreads, to cause rating agencies to lower credit ratings, and to otherwise increase the cost and decrease the availability of liquidity, despite very significant declines in Federal Reserve borrowing rates and other government actions. Some banks and other lenders have suffered significant losses and have become reluctant to lend, even on a secured basis, due to the increased risk of default and the impact of declining asset values on the value of collateral. The foregoing has significantly weakened the strength and liquidity of some financial institutions worldwide.

The Company's financial performance generally, and in particular the ability of borrowers to pay interest on and repay principal of outstanding loans and the value of collateral securing those loans, is highly dependent upon on the business environment in the state of Arkansas and in the United States as a whole. A favorable business environment is generally characterized by, among other factors, economic growth, efficient capital markets, low inflation, high business and investor confidence and strong business earnings. Unfavorable or uncertain economic and market conditions can be caused by: declines in economic growth, business activity or investor or business confidence; limitations on the availability or increases in the cost of credit and capital; increases in inflation or interest rates; natural disasters; or a combination of these or other factors.

The business environment in Arkansas could continue to deteriorate. There can be no assurance that these business and economic conditions will improve in the near term. The continuation of these conditions could adversely affect the credit quality of our loans and our results of operations and financial condition.

*Recent legislative and regulatory initiatives to address difficult market and economic conditions may not stabilize the U.S. banking system.*

Under the Troubled Asset Relief Program, or TARP, the U.S. Treasury is authorized to purchase from financial institutions and their holding companies up to \$700 billion in mortgage loans, mortgage-related securities and certain other financial instruments, including debt and equity securities issued by financial institutions and their holding

companies. The purpose of TARP is to restore confidence and stability to the U.S. banking system and to encourage financial institutions to increase their lending to customers and to each other. The Treasury allocated \$250 billion toward TARP's Capital Purchase Program to fund the purchase of equity securities from participating institutions.

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Numerous actions have been taken by the United States Congress, the Federal Reserve, the Treasury, the FDIC, the SEC and other governmental agencies to address the recent liquidity and credit crisis. These actions have included, among others:

- encouraging residential mortgage loan restructuring and modification to provide homeowners relief;
- establishing significant liquidity and credit facilities for financial institutions and investment banks;
- lowering of the federal funds rate;
- taking emergency action against short selling practices;
- establishing a temporary guaranty program for money market funds;
- establishing a commercial paper funding facility to provide back-stop liquidity to commercial paper issuers; and
- coordinating international efforts to address illiquidity and other weaknesses in the banking sector.

A significant goal of these legislative and regulatory actions is to stabilize the U.S. banking system. The legislative and regulatory initiatives described above may not have their desired effects or may have unintended consequences. Should these or other legislative or regulatory initiatives fail to stabilize the financial markets, our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects could be materially and adversely affected.

***Recent increases in deposit insurance coverage and the FDIC's efforts to restore the deposit insurance fund have increased our FDIC insurance assessments and resulted in higher noninterest expense. Additional increases in deposit insurance rates may occur and continue to negatively impact our operations.***

The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, referred to as EESA, temporarily raised the limit on federal deposit insurance coverage from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per depositor. The limits are scheduled to return to \$100,000 on January 1, 2014. The temporary increase in insured deposits has been accompanied by a higher assessment for our subsidiary banks and will adversely affect our results of operations as an increase in noninterest expense.

Separate from the EESA, in October 2008, the FDIC announced the Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program referred to as the TLG Program. Banks that participate in the TLG Program are subject to a coverage charge of ten basis points per annum for noninterest-bearing deposit accounts exceeding the existing deposit insurance limit of \$250,000. In August 2009, the FDIC issued a final rule regarding the extension of the deposit guarantee portion of the TLG Program. Under this rule, the expiration of the program is extended to June 30, 2010. In connection with the extension, the annual fees associated with the deposit guarantee portion of the TLG Program increase from ten basis points to 15 to 25 basis points after December 31, 2009. The particular rate to be assessed will be based upon the risk category to which an institution is assigned.

In addition, the large number of recent bank failures combined with the potential for significant numbers of additional bank failures has placed significant stress on the deposit insurance fund. In order to maintain a strong funding position and restore reserve ratios of the deposit insurance fund, the FDIC increased assessment rates of insured institutions uniformly by seven cents for every \$100 of deposits beginning with the first quarter of 2009, with additional charges which began April 1, 2009.

In May 2009, the FDIC voted to amend the deposit insurance fund restoration plan and impose a special assessment of 5 basis points of each insured institution's assets less its Tier 1 capital as of June 30, 2009, which was collected on September 30, 2009. Based on our deposit levels at June 30, 2009, we accrued a special assessment amount of approximately \$1.3 million. The amended rule also permits the FDIC to impose an additional emergency special assessment after June 30, 2009, of up to five basis points if necessary to maintain public confidence in federal deposit insurance. The imposed special assessment, as well as any future increases in assessments, will adversely affect our noninterest expense and results of operations.

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In September 2009, the FDIC announced that it would require insured banks to prepay their estimated FDIC assessments for the next three years on December 30, 2009. We expect the amount of our prepaid assessment to be approximately \$10.0 million.

Should more bank failures occur, the FDIC's premium assessments may continue to increase or accelerate. We are generally unable to control the amount of premiums that we are required to pay for FDIC insurance. There is a significant possibility that the FDIC will further increase or accelerate the timing of payment of FDIC insurance premiums, whether or not there are more bank failures.

### ***Current levels of market volatility are unprecedented.***

The financial markets have continued to experience significant volatility. In some cases, the financial markets have produced downward pressure on stock prices and credit availability for certain issuers without regard to those issuers underlying financial strength. If financial market volatility continues or worsens, or if there are more disruptions in the financial markets, including disruptions to the United States or international banking systems, there can be no assurance that we will not experience an adverse effect, which may be material, on our ability to access capital and on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

## **Risks Related to Our Business**

### ***Our concentration of banking activities in Arkansas, including our real estate loan portfolio, makes us more vulnerable to adverse conditions in the particular Arkansas markets in which we operate.***

Our subsidiary banks operate exclusively within the state of Arkansas, where the majority of the buildings and properties securing our loans and the businesses of our customers are located. Our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows are subject to changes in the economic conditions in our home state, the ability of our borrowers to repay their loans, and the value of the collateral securing such loans. We largely depend on the continued growth and stability of the communities we serve for our continued success. Declines in the economies of these communities or the state of Arkansas in general could adversely affect our ability to generate new loans or to receive repayments of existing loans, and our ability to attract new deposits, thus adversely affecting our net income, profitability and financial condition.

The ability of our borrowers to repay their loans could also be adversely impacted by the significant changes in market conditions in the region or by changes in local real estate markets, including deflationary effects on collateral value caused by property foreclosures. This could result in an increase in our charge-offs and provision for loan losses. Either of these events would have an adverse impact on our results of operations.

Our loan portfolio in Northwest Arkansas has been more negatively impacted than our loan portfolio comprised from other regions in Arkansas. This fact results primarily from the acute contraction in that region's economy and its real estate markets as compared to Arkansas as a whole. In 2009 we have put an additional \$5 million in capital into our Northwest Arkansas bank. A continued deterioration of the Northwest Arkansas economy or its failure to fully participate in an economic recovery could require us to further tighten our local lending standards, inject more capital into our Northwest Arkansas bank and increase allowances for loan losses relative to loans made in the region.

A significant decline in general economic conditions caused by inflation, recession, unemployment, acts of terrorism or other factors beyond our control could also have an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, because multi-family and commercial real estate loans represent the majority of our real estate loans outstanding, a decline in tenant occupancy due to such factors or for other reasons could adversely impact the ability of our borrowers to repay their loans on a timely basis, which could have a negative impact on our results of

operations.

***Deteriorating credit quality, particularly in our credit card portfolio, may adversely impact us.***

We have a significant consumer credit card portfolio. We have experienced an increased amount of net charge-offs in our credit card portfolio in 2009, which could continue or worsen. While we continue to experience a better performance with respect to net charge-offs than the national average in our credit card portfolio, our net

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charge-offs nevertheless increased to 2.58% of our average outstanding credit card balances for the quarter ended September 30, 2009 from 1.80% of the average outstanding balances for the quarter ended on September 30, 2008. The current economic downturn could adversely affect consumers in a more delayed fashion compared to commercial businesses in general. Increasing unemployment and diminished asset values may prevent our credit card customers from repaying their credit card balances which could result in an increased amount of our net charge-offs that could have a material adverse effect on our unsecured credit card portfolio.

***Changes to consumer protection laws may impede our origination or collection efforts with respect to credit card accounts, change account holder use patterns or reduce collections, any of which may result in decreased profitability of our credit card portfolio.***

Credit card receivables that do not comply with consumer protection laws may not be valid or enforceable under their terms against the obligors of those credit card receivables. Federal and state consumer protection laws regulate the creation and enforcement of consumer loans, including credit card receivables. For instance, the federal Truth in Lending Act was recently amended by the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009, or the Credit CARD Act, which, among other things:

prevents any increases in interest rates and fees during the first year after a credit card account is opened, and increases at any time on interest rates on existing credit card balances, unless (i) the minimum payment on the related account is 60 or more days delinquent, (ii) the rate increase is due to the expiration of a promotional rate, (iii) the account holder fails to comply with a negotiated workout plan or (iv) the increase is due to an increase in the index rate for a variable rate credit card;

requires that any promotional rates for credit cards be effective for at least six months;

requires 45 days notice for any change of an interest rate or any other significant changes to a credit card account;

empowers federal bank regulators to promulgate rules to limit the amount of any penalty fees or charges for credit card accounts to amounts that are reasonable and proportional to the related omission or violation; and

requires credit card companies to mail billing statements 21 calendar days before the due date for account holder payments.

As a result of the Credit CARD Act and other consumer protection laws and regulations, it may be more difficult for us to originate additional credit card accounts or to collect payments on credit card receivables, and the finance charges and other fees that we can charge on credit card account balances may be reduced. Furthermore, account holders may choose to use credit cards less as a result of these consumer protection laws. Each of these results, independently or collectively, could reduce the effective yield on revolving credit card accounts and could result in decreased profitability of our credit card portfolio.

***Our growth and expansion strategy may not be successful, and our market value and profitability may suffer.***

We have historically employed, as important parts of our business strategy, growth through acquisition of banks and, to a lesser extent, through branch acquisitions and *de novo* branching. Any future acquisitions, including any FDIC-assisted transactions, in which we might engage will be accompanied by the risks commonly encountered in acquisitions. These risks include, among other risks:

credit risk associated with the acquired bank's loans and investments;

difficulty of integrating operations and personnel; and

potential disruption of our ongoing business.

In the current economic environment, we anticipate that in addition to opportunities to acquire other banks in privately negotiated transactions, we may also have opportunities to bid to acquire the assets and liabilities of failed banks in FDIC-assisted transactions. These acquisitions involve risks similar to acquiring

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existing banks. Because FDIC-assisted acquisitions are structured in a manner that would not allow us the time normally associated with due diligence investigations prior to committing to purchase the target bank or preparing for integration of an acquired bank, we may face additional risks in FDIC-assisted transactions. These risks include, among other things:

- loss of customers of the failed bank;
- strain on management resources related to collection and management of problem loans; and
- problems related to integration of personnel and operating systems.

In addition to pursuing the acquisition of existing viable financial institutions or the acquisition of assets and liabilities of failed banks in FDIC-assisted transactions, as opportunities arise we may also continue to engage in *de novo* branching to further our growth strategy. *De novo* branching and growing through acquisition involve numerous risks, including the following:

- the inability to obtain all required regulatory approvals;
- the significant costs and potential operating losses associated with establishing a *de novo* branch or a new bank;
- the inability to secure the services of qualified senior management;
- the local market may not accept the services of a new bank owned and managed by a bank holding company headquartered outside of the market area of the new bank;
- the risk of encountering an economic downturn in the new market;
- the inability to obtain attractive locations within a new market at a reasonable cost; and
- the additional strain on management resources and internal systems and controls.

We expect that competition for suitable acquisition candidates, whether such candidates are viable banks or are the subject of an FDIC-assisted transaction, will be significant. We may compete with other banks or financial service companies that are seeking to acquire our acquisition candidates, many of which competitors are larger and have greater financial and other resources. We cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully identify and acquire suitable acquisition targets on acceptable terms and conditions. Further, we cannot assure you that we will be successful in overcoming these risks or any other problems encountered in connection with acquisitions and *de novo* branching. Our inability to overcome these risks could have an adverse effect on our ability to achieve our business and growth strategy and maintain or increase our market value and profitability.

***Our recent results do not indicate our future results and may not provide guidance to assess the risk of an investment in our common stock.***

We may not be able to sustain our historical rate of growth or be able to expand our business. Various factors, such as economic conditions, regulatory and legislative considerations and competition, may also impede or prohibit our ability to expand our market presence. We may also be unable to identify advantageous acquisition opportunities or, once identified, enter into transactions to make such acquisitions. If we are not able to successfully grow our business, our financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected.

***Our cost of funds may increase as a result of general economic conditions, interest rates and competitive pressures.***

Our cost of funds may increase as a result of general economic conditions, fluctuations in interest rates and competitive pressures. We have traditionally obtained funds principally through local deposits as we have a base of lower cost transaction deposits. Our costs of funds and our profitability and liquidity are likely to be adversely affected, if we have to rely upon higher cost borrowings from other institutional lenders or brokers to fund loan demand or liquidity needs. Also, changes in our deposit mix and growth could adversely affect our profitability and the ability to expand our loan portfolio.

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***We have been active in making student loans and this part of our business could decrease or terminate in the future.***

Our subsidiary banks historically have been active in the student loan market and our student loan portfolio has been profitable in the past. Recent interruptions in the credit markets and certain changes in the federal government programs affecting student loans, however, have decreased the marketability of student loans and increased our holding period for such loans. These events have increased our expenses associated with making and holding student loans and have decreased the profitability of making such loans. The federal government is currently considering additional revisions to the student loan program which may either eliminate participation by banks or substantially reduce the profitability to banks of participating in student loan programs. Future regulatory and legislative changes may further decrease the profitability of our student loan portfolio and may cause us to decrease the size of the student loan portfolio or eliminate it all together. Eliminating or decreasing that portfolio could adversely affect our profitability in the future.

***We may not be able to raise the additional capital we need to grow and, as a result, our ability to expand our operations could be materially impaired.***

Federal and state regulatory authorities require us and our subsidiary banks to maintain adequate levels of capital to support our operations. Many circumstances could require us to seek additional capital, such as:

- faster than anticipated growth;
- reduced earning levels;
- operating losses;
- changes in economic conditions;
- revisions in regulatory requirements; or
- additional acquisition opportunities.

Our ability to raise additional capital will largely depend on our financial performance, and on conditions in the capital markets which are outside our control. If we need additional capital but cannot raise it on terms acceptable to us, our ability to expand our operations or to engage in acquisitions could be materially impaired.

***Accounting standards periodically change and the application of our accounting policies and methods may require management to make estimates about matters that are uncertain.***

The regulatory bodies that establish accounting standards, including, among others, the Financial Accounting Standards Board and the SEC, periodically revise or issue new financial accounting and reporting standards that govern the preparation of our consolidated financial statements. The effect of such revised or new standards on our financial statements can be difficult to predict and can materially impact how we record and report our financial condition and results of operations.

In addition, our management must exercise judgment in appropriately applying many of our accounting policies and methods so they comply with generally accepted accounting principles. In some cases, management may have to select a particular accounting policy or method from two or more alternatives. In some cases, the accounting policy or method chosen might be reasonable under the circumstances and yet might result in our reporting materially different

amounts than would have been reported if we had selected a different policy or method. Accounting policies are critical to fairly presenting our financial condition and results of operations and may require management to make difficult, subjective or complex judgments about matters that are uncertain.

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***The Federal Reserve Board's source of strength doctrine could require that we divert capital to our subsidiary banks instead of applying available capital towards planned uses, such as engaging in acquisitions or paying dividends to shareholders.***

The Federal Reserve Board's policies and regulations require that a bank holding company, including a financial holding company, serve as a source of financial strength to its subsidiary banks, and further provide that a bank holding company may not conduct operations in an unsafe or unsound manner. It is the Federal Reserve Board's policy that a bank holding company should stand ready to use available resources to provide adequate capital to its subsidiary banks during periods of financial stress or adversity, such as during periods of significant loan losses, and that such holding company should maintain the financial flexibility and capital-raising capacity to obtain additional resources for assisting its subsidiary banks if such a need were to arise.

A bank holding company's failure to meet its obligations to serve as a source of strength to its subsidiary banks will generally be considered to be an unsafe and unsound banking practice or a violation of the Federal Reserve Board's regulations, or both. Accordingly, if the financial condition of our subsidiary banks were to deteriorate, we could be compelled to provide financial support to our subsidiary banks at a time when, absent such Federal Reserve Board policy, we may not deem it advisable to provide such assistance. Under such circumstances, there is a possibility that we may not either have adequate available capital or feel sufficiently confident regarding our financial condition, to enter into acquisitions, pay dividends, or engage in other corporate activities.

***We may incur environmental liabilities with respect to properties to which we take title.***

A significant portion of our loan portfolio is secured by real property. In the course of our business, we may own or foreclose and take title to real estate and could become subject to environmental liabilities with respect to these properties. We may become responsible to a governmental agency or third parties for property damage, personal injury, investigation and clean-up costs incurred by those parties in connection with environmental contamination, or may be required to investigate or clean-up hazardous or toxic substances, or chemical releases at a property. The costs associated with environmental investigation or remediation activities could be substantial. If we were to become subject to significant environmental liabilities, it could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

***Our management has broad discretion over the use of proceeds from this offering.***

Although we have indicated our intent to use the proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, including funding internal growth and selected future acquisitions, our Board of Directors retains significant discretion with respect to the use of proceeds from this offering. If we use the funds to acquire other businesses, there can be no assurance that any business we acquire will be successfully integrated into our operations or otherwise perform as expected. Likewise, other uses of the proceeds from this offering may not generate favorable returns for us.

**Risks Related to Owning Our Stock**

***The holders of our subordinated debentures have rights that are senior to those of our shareholders. If we defer payments of interest on our outstanding subordinated debentures or if certain defaults relating to those debentures occur, we will be prohibited from declaring or paying dividends or distributions on, and from making liquidation payments with respect to our common stock.***

We have \$30.9 million of subordinated debentures issued in connection with trust preferred securities. Payments of the principal and interest on the trust preferred securities are unconditionally guaranteed by us. The subordinated debentures are senior to our shares of common stock. As a result, we must make payments on the subordinated

debentures (and the related trust preferred securities) before any dividends can be paid on our common stock and, in the event of our bankruptcy, dissolution or liquidation, the holders of the debentures must be satisfied before any distributions can be made to the holders of our common stock. We have the right to defer distributions on the subordinated debentures (and the related trust preferred securities) for up to five years, during which time no dividends may be paid to holders of our capital stock. If we elect to defer or if we default with respect to our obligations to make payments on these subordinated debentures, this would likely have a material

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adverse effect on the market value of our common stock. Moreover, without notice to or consent from the holders of our common stock, we may issue additional series of subordinated debt securities in the future with terms similar to those of our existing subordinated debt securities or enter into other financing agreements that limit our ability to purchase or to pay dividends or distributions on our capital stock.

***We may be unable to, or choose not to, pay dividends on our common stock.***

We cannot assure you of our ability to continue to pay dividends. Our ability to pay dividends depends on the following factors, among others:

We may not have sufficient earnings since our primary source of income, the payment of dividends to us by our subsidiary banks, is subject to federal and state laws that limit the ability of those banks to pay dividends;

Federal Reserve Board policy requires bank holding companies to pay cash dividends on common stock only out of net income available over the past year and only if prospective earnings retention is consistent with the organization's expected future needs and financial condition; and

Our Board of Directors may determine that, even though funds are available for dividend payments, retaining the funds for internal uses, such as expansion of our operations, is a better strategy.

If we fail to pay dividends, capital appreciation, if any, of our common stock may be the sole opportunity for gains on an investment in our common stock. In addition, in the event our subsidiary banks become unable to pay dividends to us, we may not be able to service our debt or pay our other obligations or pay dividends on our common stock. Accordingly, our inability to receive dividends from our subsidiary banks could also have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations and the value of your investment in our common stock.

***There may be future sales of additional common stock or preferred stock or other dilution of our equity, which may adversely affect the value of our common stock.***

We are not restricted from issuing additional common stock or preferred stock, including any securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, common stock or preferred stock or any substantially similar securities. The value of our common stock could decline as a result of sales by us of a large number of shares of common stock or preferred stock or similar securities in the market or the perception that such sales could occur.

***Anti-takeover provisions could negatively impact our shareholders.***

Provisions of our articles of incorporation and by-laws and federal banking laws, including regulatory approval requirements, could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us, even if doing so would be perceived to be beneficial to our shareholders. The combination of these provisions effectively inhibits a non-negotiated merger or other business combination, which, in turn, could adversely affect the market price of our common stock. These provisions could also discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for holders of our common stock to elect directors other than the candidates nominated by our Board of Directors.

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**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We expect to receive net proceeds from the sale of common stock offered hereby of approximately \$61.4 million (or approximately \$70.6 million if the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full), after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated expenses payable by us. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes, including funding possible future acquisitions of other financial services businesses, for working capital needs, for investments in our subsidiaries to support our continued growth or for possible repayment of debt or other securities. With respect to acquisitions, we may use proceeds of the offering to take advantage of opportunities such as FDIC-assisted acquisitions or negotiated acquisitions. Depending on our evaluation of the optimal use of the proceeds of the offering, we may determine to apply proceeds to the repurchase of our outstanding trust preferred securities.

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The following table sets forth our unaudited consolidated capitalization as of September 30, 2009:

on an actual basis; and

on an as-adjusted basis, to give effect to the sale of 2,650,000 shares of common stock offered by us at the public offering price of \$24.50 per share in this offering, and after deducting the underwriting discount and our estimated offering expenses.

	<b>As of September 30, 2009</b>	
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>As Adjusted</b>
<i>(In thousands, except share data)</i>		
<b>Certain long-term debt</b>		
Subordinated debt and trust preferred	\$ 30,930	\$ 30,930
Certain long-term debt	\$ 30,930	\$ 30,930
<b>Stockholders equity</b>		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; authorized 40,040,000 shares; no shares issued and outstanding at September 30, 2009	\$	\$
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 60,000,000 shares authorized; shares issued and outstanding 14,045,631 at September 30, 2009; as adjusted, shares issued and outstanding 16,695,631 at September 30, 2009.	140	167
Capital surplus	41,048	102,378
Retained earnings	255,062	255,062
Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,573	1,573
Total stockholders equity	297,823	359,180
Long-term debt and stockholders equity	\$ 328,753	\$ 390,110
<b>Per share data</b>		
Book value	\$ 21.20	\$ 21.51
Tangible book value (non-GAAP)(1)	16.75	17.77
<b>Consolidated capital ratios</b>		
Tangible common equity to tangible assets (non-GAAP)(1)	8.25%	10.18%
Tier 1 leverage ratio(2)	9.60%	11.50%
Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio	13.89%	16.89%
Total risk-based capital ratio	15.14%	18.14%

(1) Tangible book value per share, a non-GAAP measure, eliminates the effect of goodwill and acquisition related intangible assets and is calculated by subtracting goodwill and intangible assets from total stockholders equity, and dividing the resulting number by the common stock outstanding as of the period end. For additional

information regarding this non-GAAP measure and a reconciliation of the measure to book value, reference is made to the lead in paragraph immediately prior to the table under the caption Selected Historical Financial Data on page S-7 of this prospectus supplement, and to note 2 following such table.

- (2) Tier 1 leverage ratio is Tier 1 capital to quarterly average total assets less intangible assets and gross unrealized gains/losses on available for sale investments.

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**Table of Contents****PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDENDS DECLARED**

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol SFNC. Set forth below are the high and low sales prices for our common stock as reported by the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the two most recently completed fiscal years, the first three fiscal quarters of the current fiscal year, and the period from October 1, 2009 through November 10, 2009. Also set forth below are dividends declared per share in each of these periods:

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Dividends Declared</b>
<b>2007</b>			
First Quarter	\$ 32.19	\$ 25.33	\$ 0.18
Second Quarter	30.49	25.75	0.18
Third Quarter	29.00	22.33	0.18
Fourth Quarter	29.48	23.11	0.19
<b>2008</b>			
First Quarter	\$ 29.90	\$ 24.00	\$ 0.19
Second Quarter	32.99	27.82	0.19
Third Quarter	43.92	26.20	0.19
Fourth Quarter	35.00	22.41	0.19
<b>2009</b>			
First Quarter	\$ 29.54	\$ 20.30	\$ 0.19
Second Quarter	30.02	23.90	0.19
Third Quarter	30.84	26.15	0.19
Fourth Quarter (from October 1 to November 10, 2009)	30.00	25.15	

On November 10, 2009, the closing price for our common stock as reported on the NASDAQ was \$25.60. As of October 30, 2009, there were 1,343 shareholders of record of our common stock.

The timing and amount of future dividends are at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend upon our consolidated earnings, financial condition, liquidity and capital requirements, the amount of cash dividends paid to us by our subsidiaries, applicable government regulations and policies and other factors considered relevant by our Board of Directors. Our Board of Directors anticipates that we will continue to pay quarterly dividends in amounts determined based on the factors discussed above. However, there can be no assurance that we will continue to pay dividends on our common stock at the current levels or at all. Capital distributions, including dividends, by our subsidiaries are subject to restrictions tied to such institution's earnings. For a description of these restrictions, see the section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008 entitled "Market For Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters," which is incorporated by reference herein. Our subsidiary banks are subject to legal limitations on the amount of dividends that can be paid to us without prior approval of the applicable regulatory agencies. At September 30, 2009, our subsidiary banks had approximately \$12.6 million available for payment of dividends to us, without prior approval of the regulatory agencies.

**Table of Contents****UNDERWRITING**

We are offering the shares of common stock described in this prospectus supplement through Stephens Inc., as the representative of the several underwriters. We have entered into an underwriting agreement with the underwriters, dated as of November 10, 2009. Subject to the terms and conditions of the underwriting agreement, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters, and each underwriter has severally agreed to purchase, the respective number of shares of common stock listed next to its name in the following table:

<b>Underwriters</b>	<b>Number of Shares of Common Stock</b>
Stephens Inc.	1,325,000
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated	795,000
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.	530,000
Total	2,650,000

The underwriting agreement provides that underwriters' obligations are several, which means that each underwriter is required to purchase a specific number of shares of common stock, but it is not responsible for the commitment of any other underwriter. The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters' several obligations to purchase the shares of common stock depend on the satisfaction of the conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, including:

- the representations and warranties made by us to the underwriters are true;
- there is no material adverse change in the financial markets; and
- we deliver customary closing documents and legal opinions to the underwriters.

The underwriters are committed to purchase and pay for all of the shares of common stock being offered by this prospectus, if any such shares of common stock are purchased. However, the underwriters are not obligated to purchase or pay for the shares of common stock covered by the underwriters' over-allotment option described below, unless and until they exercise this option.

The shares of common stock are being offered by the several underwriters, subject to prior sale by us, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of certain legal matters by counsel for the underwriters and other conditions, as provided in the underwriting agreement. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify this offering and to reject orders in whole or in part.

**Over-Allotment Option**

We have granted to the underwriters an over-allotment option, exercisable no later than 30 days from the date of the underwriting agreement, to purchase up to an aggregate of 397,500 additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount and commission set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. An over-allotment involves sales by an underwriter of shares in excess of the number of shares the underwriters are obligated to purchase, which creates a syndicate short position.

To the extent that the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option, the underwriters will become obligated, so long as the conditions of the underwriting agreement are satisfied, to purchase the additional shares of our common stock in proportion to their respective initial purchase amounts. We will be obligated to sell the shares of our common stock to the underwriters to the extent the over-allotment option is exercised. The underwriters may exercise this option only to cover over-allotments made in connection with the sale of the shares of our common stock offered by this prospectus supplement.

### **Commissions and Expenses**

The underwriters propose to initially offer shares of our common stock directly to the public at \$24.50 per share and to certain dealers at such price less a concession not in excess of \$0.772 per share. After the offering, the underwriters may change the public offering price and concession and discount to broker/dealers. If all of the shares of our common stock are not sold at the public offering price, the representative of the underwriters may change the public offering price and the other selling terms.

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The following table shows the per share and total underwriting discount that we will pay to the underwriters. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares of our common stock.

	<b>Per Share</b>	<b>Total Without Option Exercised</b>	<b>Total With Option Exercised</b>
Public offering price	\$ 24.50	\$ 64,925,000	\$ 74,663,750
Underwriting discount	\$ 1.286	\$ 3,407,900	\$ 3,919,085

We estimate that our share of the total offering expenses, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$160,000.

Certain of the underwriters and their affiliates have in the past provided, and may in the future from time to time provide, investment banking and other financing and banking services to us, for which they have in the past received, and may in the future receive, customary fees and reimbursement for their expenses.

**Lock-Up Agreements**

We, and each of our executive officers and directors, have agreed, for the period beginning on and including the date of this prospectus supplement through and including the date that is 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, not to:

offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant for the sale of, or otherwise dispose of or transfer any shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for shares of our common stock, whether the common stock is owned on the date of this prospectus supplement or acquired after the date of this prospectus supplement, or file any registration statement relating to any of the restricted activities, or

enter into any swap or any other agreement or any transaction that transfers the economic consequence of ownership of our common stock, whether the swap or transaction is to be settled by delivery of our common stock or other securities, in cash or otherwise.

These restrictions are expressly agreed to in order to preclude us, and our executive officers and directors, from engaging in any hedging or other transaction or arrangement that is designed to, or which reasonably could be expected to, lead to or result in a sale, disposition or transfer, in whole or in part, of any of the economic consequences of ownership of our common stock, whether such transaction would be settled by delivery of our common stock or other securities, in cash or otherwise.

The 90-day restricted period will be automatically extended if:

during the period that begins on the date that is 15 calendar days plus three business days before the last day of the 90-day restricted period and ends on the last day of the 90-day restricted period, we issue an earnings release or material news or a material event relating to us occurs; or

prior to the expiration of the 90-day restricted period, we announce that we will release earnings results during the 16-day period beginning on the last day of the 90-day restricted period.

The restrictions described in the preceding paragraph will not apply to:

a bona fide gift or gifts by any of our executive officers or directors, provided that the donee or donees thereof agree to be bound in writing by the restrictions described in the preceding paragraph;

a transfer by any of our executive officers or directors to any trust or family limited partnership for the direct or indirect benefit of that executive officer or director or his or her immediate family, provided that the trustee of the trust or the general partner of the partnership, agrees to be bound in writing by such restrictions and provided further that any such transfer shall not involve a disposition

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for value. Immediate family means any relationship by blood, marriage or adoption, not more remote than first cousin;

pledges by the director or executive officer in bona fide transactions outstanding as of the date of the agreement to a lender;

transfers pursuant to the exercise of stock options that have been granted by us prior to the date of this prospectus supplement, where the shares of our common stock received upon the exercise are held subject to the restrictions listed above;

transfers by the director or executive officer pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 plans in effect as of the date of this prospectus supplement; or

transfers made with the prior written consent of Stephens Inc.