



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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Acting Superintendent of Financial Institutions

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Department of Financial Institutions Announces Receivership and Sale of First State Bank

PHOENIX – Tom Wood, Acting Superintendent of the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions (“DFI”), today announced that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”) has been appointed receiver of First State Bank (“FSB”). FSB was a \$107-million bank, originally chartered in Arizona in September 1998. Sunwest Bank (“Sunwest”) has agreed to buy FSB and all its deposits, including those over the FDIC insurance limit. Sunwest is a California state-chartered bank headquartered in Tustin, CA. Sunwest had no business locations in Arizona before agreeing to buy FSB.

FSB’s seven offices will reopen on Tuesday, September 8th, as offices of Sunwest. Over the holiday weekend, FSB’s customers can write checks and use their debit cards and ATMs. Loan customers should continue to make their payments as usual.

Acting Superintendent Wood said, “Sunwest’s willingness to invest in Arizona shows the strength of the State Chartered community banking system in Arizona, and that our State is still a good place to do business. It also means that all of First State Bank’s depositors have been protected by the regulatory process.”

DFI and the FDIC have been coordinating the examination and supervision of this bank for months. Their cooperative efforts have culminated in this receivership action. DFI sought the receivership because the bank’s financial condition was unsafe and unsound.

Details of FSB’s situation can be found on the FDIC website at www.fdic.gov. Sunwest’s website is www.sunwestbank.com.

The Order appointing the Receiver may be found on the Department’s website: www.azdfi.gov

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