



First Busey Corporation Earnings Release for Quarter Ending June 30, 2006

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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Net income increased \$759,000 or 12.1% to \$7,035,000 for the quarter ending June 30, 2006, as compared to \$6,276,000 for the comparable period in 2005. For the quarter ending June 30, 2006, earnings per share on a fully-diluted basis were \$0.33, an increase of \$0.02 or 6.5% from \$0.31 for the comparable period in 2005. On a year-to-date basis, net income increased \$1,090,000 or 8.5% to \$13,902,000 as compared to \$12,812,000 for the comparable period in 2005. For the six-month period ending June 30, 2006, earnings per share on a fully-diluted basis were \$0.65, an increase of \$0.03 or 4.8% from \$0.62 for the comparable period in 2005.

Net interest income increased \$2,102,000 or 12.3% to \$19,251,000 in the second quarter of 2006 compared to \$17,149,000 in the comparable quarter in 2005. Interest income increased \$8,206,000 during the second quarter of 2006 compared to the same period in 2005 due primarily to loan growth combined with higher yields on investment securities and outstanding loans. Interest expense increased \$6,104,000 during the second quarter of 2006 compared to the same period in 2005. The increase in interest expense reflects the combination of growth in deposits and long-term debt and a market driven increase in deposit and borrowing rates. The increase in long-term debt is primarily associated with the July 2005, acquisition of Tarpon Coast National Bank.

Provision for loan losses was \$300,000 during the second quarter of 2006 compared to \$1,425,000 in the comparable period of 2005. As a percentage of total outstanding loans, the allowance for loan losses was 1.27% as of June 30, 2006 and 1.34% as of June 30, 2005.

Non-interest income increased \$940,000 or 15.8% to \$6,904,000 during the second quarter of 2006. Growth in non-interest income is due primarily to growth in customer service fees, trust fees, and net security gains.

Non-interest expense increased \$2,635,000 or 21.7% to \$14,787,000 during the quarter ended June 30, 2006, due primarily to increased operating costs and amortization expense associated with growth in the Florida market.

First Busey Statutory Trust IV issued \$30,000,000 trust preferred securities on June 15, 2006, for the primary purpose of redeeming outstanding trust preferred securities under First Busey Capital Trust I in the amount of \$25,000,000. The annual interest rate under the new securities is fixed for five years at 6.94% versus 9.00% on the redeemed securities. The offering and associated lower interest rate provides an additional \$5,000,000 in liquidity with an approximate annual after-tax interest expense reduction of \$90,500.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
	(in thousands, except per share data)			
Earnings & Per Share Data				
Net income	\$7,035	\$6,276	\$13,902	\$12,812
Basic earnings per share	0.33	0.31	0.65	0.63
Fully diluted earnings per share	0.33	0.31	0.65	0.62
Dividends per share	0.16	0.14	0.32	0.28
Average Balances				
Assets	\$2,297,781	\$2,014,470	\$2,276,421	\$2,000,229
Investment securities	324,806	310,795	328,351	319,349
Loans	1,791,837	1,553,819	1,770,244	1,522,930
Earning assets	2,122,695	1,880,471	2,104,425	1,865,819
Deposits	1,820,999	1,603,725	1,807,986	1,590,417
Stockholders' equity	171,943	140,684	171,088	139,587
Performance Ratios				
Return on average assets	1.23%	1.25%	1.23%	1.29%
Return on average equity	16.41%	17.89%	16.39%	18.51%
Net interest margin	3.74%	3.74%	3.72%	3.69%
Efficiency ratio	55.90%	51.45%	55.58%	50.87%

Loan Performance				
Net credit losses	\$402	\$87	\$498	\$213
Accruing loans 90+ days past due	1,347	1,270	1,347	1,270
Non-accrual loans	4,656	1,880	4,656	1,880
Foreclosed assets	561	3,811	561	3,811

BUSE Stock Performance

First Busey Corporation began trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market on October 1, 1998. Below is information for BUSE representing the annualized total return as compared to other indices for the 5 year period ending June 30, 2006.

As of June 30, 2006:

Closing Price	\$20.47
Price/earnings ratio	14.83x
Price/book ratio	252%
52-week price range	\$18.03 - \$21.25
Book value per share	\$8.11
YTD dividend per share	\$0.32

Annualized total return for the 5 year period ending June 30, 2006:

BUSE	13.66%
S&P 500 Index	2.49%
NASDAQ Composite	0.86%

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (unaudited)

	June 30,	
	2006	2005
	(in thousands, except per share data)	
Assets		
Cash and due from banks	\$61,099	\$55,611
Federal funds sold	-	1,600
Investment securities	319,984	305,991
Loans	1,839,443	1,575,742
Less allowance for loan losses	(23,392)	(21,119)
Net loans	\$1,816,051	\$1,554,623
Premises and equipment, net	40,799	27,635
Goodwill and other intangibles	58,804	35,247
Other assets	45,638	47,155
Total assets	\$2,342,375	\$2,027,862
Liabilities & Stockholders' Equity		
Non-interest bearing deposits	\$251,544	\$205,212
Interest-bearing deposits	1,610,657	1,427,502
Total deposits	\$1,862,201	\$1,632,714
Federal funds purchased & securities sold under agreements to repurchase	68,497	37,532
Short-term borrowings	-	1,000
Long-term debt	168,863	151,801
Junior subordinated debt owed to unconsolidated trusts	55,000	50,000
Other liabilities	13,907	10,941
Total liabilities	\$2,168,468	\$1,883,988
Common stock	\$22	\$21

Common stock to be issued	292	-
Surplus	45,103	28,147
Retained earnings	136,820	121,453
Other comprehensive income	5,459	7,744
Treasury stock	(11,729)	(11,026)
Unearned ESOP shares	(2,058)	(2,456)
Deferred compensation for stock grants	(2)	(9)
Total stockholders' equity	\$173,907	\$143,874
Total liabilities & stockholders' equity	\$2,342,375	\$2,027,862

Per Share Data

Book value per share	\$8.11	\$6.99
Tangible book value per share	\$5.37	\$5.28
Ending number of shares outstanding	21,444,766	20,592,251

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	June 30,		June 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
	(in thousands, except per share data)			
Interest and fees on loans	\$32,465	\$24,921	\$62,447	\$47,783
Interest on investment securities	3,157	2,501	6,282	5,042
Other interest income	69	63	122	223
Total interest income	\$35,691	\$27,485	\$68,851	\$53,048
Interest on deposits	\$12,713	\$7,671	\$24,044	\$14,446
Interest on short-term borrowings	817	352	1,305	581
Interest on long-term debt	1,864	1,511	3,714	3,052
Junior subordinated debt owed to unconsolidated trusts	1,046	802	2,039	1,559
Total interest expense	\$16,440	\$10,336	\$31,102	\$19,638
Net interest income	\$19,251	\$17,149	\$37,749	\$33,410
Provision for loans losses	300	1,425	700	2,115
Net interest income after provision	\$18,951	\$15,724	\$37,049	\$31,295
Trust fees	\$1,642	\$1,471	\$3,158	\$2,911
Commissions and brokers' fees	710	525	1,379	1,051
Fees for customer services	2,802	2,519	5,338	4,852
Gain on sale of loans	538	589	1,072	1,012
Net security gains	862	250	1,086	412
Other	350	610	1,044	1,281
Total non-interest income	\$6,904	\$5,964	\$13,077	\$11,519
Salaries and wages	\$6,772	\$5,438	\$13,269	\$10,635
Employee benefits	1,445	1,175	2,948	2,379
Net occupancy expense	1,257	1,121	2,504	2,068
Furniture and equipment expense	948	743	1,748	1,426
Data processing expense	490	578	894	1,067
Amortization expense	352	195	704	390
Other operating expenses	3,523	2,902	6,863	5,436

Total non-interest expense	\$14,787	\$12,152	\$28,930	\$23,401
Income before income taxes	\$11,068	\$9,536	\$21,196	\$19,413
Income taxes	4,033	3,260	7,294	6,601
Net Income	\$7,035	\$6,276	\$13,902	\$12,812
Per Share Data				
Basic earnings per share	\$0.33	\$0.31	\$0.65	\$0.63
Fully-diluted earnings per share	\$0.33	\$0.31	\$0.65	\$0.62
Diluted average shares outstanding	21,433,249	20,514,271	21,446,704	20,549,358

CORPORATE PROFILE

First Busey Corporation (Nasdaq: BUSE) is a financial holding company headquartered in Urbana, Illinois. First Busey Corporation has two wholly-owned banking subsidiaries with locations in three states. Busey Bank is headquartered in Urbana, Illinois and has twenty-two banking centers serving Champaign, McLean, Ford, Peoria, and Tazewell Counties in Illinois. Busey Bank also has a banking center in Indianapolis, Indiana, and a loan production office in Ft. Myers, Florida. On June 30, 2006, Busey Bank had total assets of \$1.9 billion. On July 29, 2005, First Busey Corporation acquired Tarpon Coast Bancorp, Inc. and its primary subsidiary, Tarpon Coast National Bank, Port Charlotte, Florida. Busey Bank Florida and Tarpon Coast National Bank merged at the close of business on February 17, 2006, and the resultant bank is Busey Bank, N.A. Busey Bank N.A. is a federally-chartered bank headquartered in Port Charlotte, Florida, with eight banking centers serving Lee, Charlotte, and Sarasota Counties in Southwest Florida. Busey Bank N.A. had total assets of \$432 million as of June 30, 2006. Busey provides electronic delivery of financial services through Busey e-bank, <http://www.busey.com>.

Busey Investment Group is a wholly-owned subsidiary of First Busey Corporation and owns three subsidiaries. First Busey Trust & Investment Co. specializes in asset management and trust services. First Busey Securities, Inc. (member NASD/SIPC) is a full-service broker/dealer subsidiary. Busey Insurance Services, Inc. is a provider of personal insurance products. Busey Investment Group has approximately \$2.3 billion in assets under care.

First Busey Corporation's common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Stock Exchange under the symbol "BUSE." First Busey Corporation has a repurchase program in effect under which it is authorized to purchase up to 750,000 shares of stock.

SOURCE First Busey Corporation