

**For release:
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**Contact: Charles B. Henderson
(314) 444-8311**

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, acting pursuant to delegated authority for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, today approved the applications by First Banks, Inc., Hazelwood, Missouri, to acquire 100 percent of Coast Financial Holdings, Inc., Bradenton, Florida, and thereby indirectly acquire its subsidiary bank, Coast Bank of Florida, Bradenton, Florida, as well as, to acquire up to 19.9 percent of Coast Financial Holdings, Inc., in certain circumstances. Also approved is the companion application by First Bank, St. Louis, Missouri, to merge with Coast Bank of Florida and to retain the acquired facilities as branch offices.

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