

**For release:  
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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., St. Louis, Missouri, and its subsidiary bank holding company, The San Francisco Company, San Francisco, California, to acquire 100 percent of the outstanding voting shares of FBA Bancorp, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, thereby indirectly acquiring its subsidiary bank, First Bank of the Americas, S.S.B., Chicago, Illinois. Also approved is the companion application by First Bank, St. Louis, Missouri, to merge with First Bank of the Americas, S.S.B., and to retain the acquired facilities as full service branch offices.

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