



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First State Bank Named Large Family Business of the Year

The Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University's Institute for Family Business honored the 2019 Texas Family Business of the Year Award winners on November 8 at the Paul L. Foster Campus for Business and Innovation

GAINESVILLE, TX— (November 18, 2019) The awards program celebrated its 30th anniversary by recognizing outstanding firms throughout the State of Texas who demonstrate a commitment to business continuity while serving their employees, community and industry. Among the winners was First State Bank who was named Large Family Business of the Year, placing them in a category of more than 151 employees.

“It was a joy for us to celebrate these wonderful Texas family businesses in a way that honored them while showcasing our beautiful campus,” said William J. Worthington, Institute for Family Business director.

Through the Texas Family Business of the Year program and other activities, the Institute for Family Business at Baylor University promotes the tenets of Firm-Family-Faith on a global scale through scholarly research, student learning, and engaged fellowship between family owned businesses at Baylor University.

“This is an amazing award, all the more meaningful because it’s my alma mater and my Baylor family recognizing my First State Bank family,” said Ryan Morris, First State Bank Chief Executive Officer. “It is truly an honor to be recognized across Texas as the Large Family Business of the Year, and an affirmation of the incredible culture we’ve built. Our mission is to place our home, neighbors and family ahead of profits, which continues to set us apart in the industry and fuels our success,” Morris said.

“There is a special honor in being asked to manage a multi-generational legacy, and a great joy in seeing your family succeed,” said Frank Morris, First State Bank Chairman of the Board. “Our First State Bank family has grown significantly, but continues to care for that legacy that began in Gainesville and has now grown across North Texas. This award is a tremendous honor and recognition of what we’ve done, and I’m even more excited to see where we go from here,” Morris said.

About First State Bank

Chartered in 1905, First State Bank is the oldest state bank in Texas and the first state-chartered bank to reach the centennial milestone. First State Bank combines the friendly customer service of hometown banking with innovation and technology to bring a

unique banking experience to the communities it serves. With over \$1 billion in assets and 11 locations in Cooke, Denton, Montague and Wise counties, the bank is committed to the communities and people it serves.

ABOUT BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

Baylor University is a private Christian University and a nationally ranked research institution. The University provides a vibrant campus community for more than 17,000 students by blending interdisciplinary research with an international reputation for educational excellence and a faculty commitment to teaching and scholarship. Chartered in 1845 by the Republic of Texas through the efforts of Baptist pioneers, Baylor is the oldest continually operating University in Texas. Located in Waco, Baylor welcomes students from all 50 states and more than 90 countries to study a broad range of degrees among its 12 nationally recognized academic divisions.

ABOUT HANKAMER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AT BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

At Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business, integrity stands shoulder-to-shoulder with analytic and strategic strengths. The School's top-ranked programs combine rigorous classroom learning, hands-on experience in the real world, a solid foundation in Christian values and a global outlook. Making up approximately 25 percent of the University's total enrollment, undergraduate students choose from 16 major areas of study. Graduate students choose from full-time, executive or online MBA or other specialized master's programs, and Ph.D. programs in Information Systems, Entrepreneurship or Health Services Research. The Business School also has campuses located in Austin and Dallas, Texas.

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