

For Immediate Release

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## **FIRST COMMERCE BANK REPORTS CONTINUED GROWTH IN 2014**

Lakewood, NJ – First Commerce Bank’s fifth and newest office opened in Englewood on April 30, 2014. “Englewood is a key part of our expansion,” said Abraham S. Opatut, Chairman. “We invite everyone to experience personal, responsive community banking at First Commerce.” The branch has performed extremely well in the five months since its opening. The four other branches, located in Allentown, Closter, Lakewood, and Teaneck, continue to out-perform expectations. President and CEO C. Herbert Schneider attributes this success to First Commerce Bank’s focus on local communities.

“As a community bank, we know that the areas we serve all have unique needs, and it’s important for us to take an individualized approach to our branches. Each branch plays an integral role in the success of the bank, and we really owe that to how the communities have welcomed us and responded to our products and services. Our \$50,000,000 to Lend program has been very well received. Borrowers are amazed at how quickly loans are approved and closed. We make it as easy as possible for them.” In addition to their lending program, First Commerce Bank offers a wide range of deposit products, from Free Personal and Business Checking to a premium Money Market Express account.

That success is evident in looking at the bank’s growth in the first nine months of 2014. First Commerce Bank announced total asset growth of 31.3% for the first 9 months of 2014 to \$449.0 million. Net loans grew 36.4% over year end, totaling \$388.7 million at September 30, 2014. Total deposits expanded by \$105.7 million to \$393.1 million in the same period. Total capital also grew to \$44.6 million in the first nine months of 2014.

In addition to the five branches currently open, First Commerce Bank has plans to open additional branches in Montvale and Freehold in the first quarter of 2015, as part of their continuing expansion plans.

### **About First Commerce Bank**

Opened in January 2006 under the name of Northern State Bank, First Commerce Bank is an FDIC insured community bank serving Ocean, Monmouth and Bergen counties. Personal service and quick loan decisions combined with our convenient delivery channels help our clients to grow and prosper in today’s competitive market. For more information, please visit the Bank’s website at [www.firstcommercebk.com](http://www.firstcommercebk.com).