

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM
WASHINGTON, D.C.

STATE OF GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND FINANCE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Written Agreement by and among

FIRST CHEROKEE BANCSHARES, INC.
Woodstock, Georgia

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA
Atlanta, Georgia

and

BANKING COMMISSIONER OF THE
STATE OF GEORGIA
Atlanta, Georgia

Docket No. 09-203-WA/RB-HC

WHEREAS, First Cherokee Bancshares, Inc., Woodstock, Georgia (“First Cherokee”), a registered bank holding company, owns and controls First Cherokee State Bank, Woodstock, Georgia (“Bank”), a state chartered nonmember bank, and a nonbank subsidiary;

WHEREAS, it is the common goal of First Cherokee, the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (the “Reserve Bank”), and the Banking Commissioner of the State of Georgia (the “Commissioner”) to maintain the financial soundness of First Cherokee so that First Cherokee may serve as a source of strength to the Bank;

WHEREAS, First Cherokee, the Reserve Bank, and the Commissioner have mutually agreed to enter into this Written Agreement (the “Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, on 12/16/09, the board of directors of First Cherokee, at a duly constituted meeting, adopted a resolution authorizing and directing Carl Hames to enter into this Agreement on behalf of First Cherokee, and consenting to compliance with each and every provision of this Agreement by First Cherokee and its institution-affiliated parties, as defined in sections 3(u) and 8(b)(3) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, as amended (the “FDI Act”) (12 U.S.C. §§ 1813(u) and 1818(b)(3)).

NOW, THEREFORE, First Cherokee, the Reserve Bank, and the Commissioner agree as follows:

Dividends and Distributions

1. (a) First Cherokee shall not declare or pay any dividends without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank, the Director of the Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation (the “Director”) of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the “Board of Governors”), and the Commissioner.

(b) First Cherokee shall not directly or indirectly take dividends or any other form of payment representing a reduction in capital from the Bank without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank and the Commissioner.

(c) First Cherokee and the nonbank subsidiary shall not make any distributions of interest, principal, or other sums on subordinated debentures or trust preferred securities without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank, the Director, and the Commissioner.

(d) All requests for prior approval shall be received by the Reserve Bank and the Commissioner at least 30 days prior to the proposed dividend declaration date, proposed distribution on subordinated debentures, and required notice of deferral on trust preferred securities. All requests shall contain, at a minimum, current and projected information on First Cherokee's capital, earnings, and cash flow; the Bank's capital, asset quality, earnings, and allowance for loan and lease losses ("ALLL"); and identification of the sources of funds for the proposed payment or distribution. For requests to declare or pay dividends, First Cherokee must also demonstrate that the requested declaration or payment of dividends is consistent with the Board of Governors' Policy Statement on the Payment of Cash Dividends by State Member Banks and Bank Holding Companies, dated November 14, 1985 (Federal Reserve Regulatory Service, 4-877 at page 4-323).

Debt and Stock Redemption

2. (a) First Cherokee and the nonbank subsidiary shall not, directly or indirectly, incur, increase, or guarantee any debt without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank and the Commissioner. All requests for prior written approval shall contain, but not be limited to, a statement regarding the purpose of the debt, the terms of the debt, the planned source(s) for debt repayment, and an analysis of the cash flow resources available to meet such debt repayment.

(b) First Cherokee shall not, directly or indirectly, purchase or redeem any shares of its stock without the prior written approval of the Reserve Bank and the Commissioner.

Compliance with Laws and Regulations

3 (a) In appointing any new director or senior executive officer, or changing the responsibilities of any senior executive officer so that the officer would assume a different senior executive officer position, First Cherokee shall comply with the notice provisions of section 32

of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1831i) and Subpart H of Regulation Y of the Board of Governors (12 C.F.R. §§ 225.71 *et seq.*).

(b) First Cherokee shall comply with the restrictions on indemnification and severance payments of section 18(k) of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1828(k)) and Part 359 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's regulations (12 C.F.R. Part 359).

Progress Reports

4. Within 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter following the date of this Agreement, the board of directors shall submit to the Reserve Bank and the Commissioner written progress reports detailing the form and manner of all actions taken to secure compliance with the provisions of this Agreement and the results thereof, and a parent company only balance sheet, income statement, and, as applicable, report of changes in stockholders' equity.

Communications

5. All communications regarding this Agreement shall be sent to:

- (a) Mr. Robert D. Hawkins
Assistant Vice President
Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
1000 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30349-4470
- (b) Mr. Robert Braswell
Commissioner
Georgia Department of Banking and Finance
2990 Brandywine Road, Suite 200
Atlanta, Georgia 30341
- (c) Mr. Carl C. Hames, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer
First Cherokee Bancshares, Inc.
9860 Highway 92
Woodstock, Georgia 30188

Miscellaneous

6. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement, the Reserve Bank and the Commissioner may, in their sole discretion, grant written extensions of time to First Cherokee to comply with any provision of this Agreement.

7. The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon First Cherokee and its institution-affiliated parties, in their capacities as such, and their successors and assigns.

8. Each provision of this Agreement shall remain effective and enforceable until stayed, modified, terminated, or suspended in writing by the Reserve Bank and the Commissioner.

9. The provisions of this Agreement shall not bar, estop, or otherwise prevent the Board of Governors, the Reserve Bank, the Commissioner, or any other federal or state agency from taking any other action affecting First Cherokee, the Bank, the nonbank subsidiary, or any of their current or former institution-affiliated parties and their successors and assigns.

10. Pursuant to section 50 of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1831aa), this Agreement is enforceable by the Board of Governors under section 8 of the FDI Act (12 U.S.C. § 1818).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the 22nd day of December, 2009.

FIRST CHEROKEE BANCSHARES, INC.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF
ATLANTA

By: /s/ Carl C. Hames, Jr.
Carl C. Hames, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ Robert D. Hawkins
Robert D. Hawkins
Vice President

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF BANKING
AND FINANCE

By: /s/ Robert M. Braswell
Robert M. Braswell
Commissioner