

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

- QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2017
or
- TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
For the transition period from _____ to _____
Commission File Number: 001-36522



Investar Holding Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Louisiana
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

27-1560715
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

7244 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)
(225) 227-2222
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/> (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Emerging growth company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

The number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date, is as follows: Common stock, \$1.00 par value, 8,718,810 shares outstanding as of November 9, 2017 .

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SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

When included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, or in other documents that Investar Holding Corporation (the “Company”) files with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) or in statements made by or on behalf of the Company, words like “may,” “should,” “could,” “predict,” “potential,” “believe,” “think,” “will likely result,” “expect,” “continue,” “will,” “anticipate,” “seek,” “estimate,” “intend,” “plan,” “projection,” “would,” “outlook” and similar expressions or the negative version of those words are intended to identify forward-looking statements as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements involve a variety of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described therein. The Company’s forward-looking statements are based on assumptions and estimates that management believes to be reasonable in light of the information available at the time such statements are made. However, many of the matters addressed by these statements are inherently uncertain and could be affected by many factors beyond management’s control. A number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated by the forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, the following, any one or more of which could materially affect the outcome of future events:

- business and economic conditions generally and in the financial services industry in particular, whether nationally, regionally or in the markets in which we operate;
- our ability to achieve organic loan and deposit growth, and the composition of that growth;
- changes (or the lack of changes) in interest rates, yield curves and interest rate spread relationships that affect our loan and deposit pricing;
- the extent of continuing client demand for the high level of personalized service that is a key element of our banking approach as well as our ability to execute our strategy generally;
- our dependence on our management team, and our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel;
- changes in the quality or composition of our loan or investment portfolios, including adverse developments in borrower industries or in the repayment ability of individual borrowers;
- inaccuracy of the assumptions and estimates we make in establishing reserves for probable loan losses and other estimates;
- the concentration of our business within our geographic areas of operation in Louisiana;
- concentration of credit exposure;
- the ability to effectively integrate employees, customers, operations and branches from our recent acquisition of Citizens Bancshares, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Citizens Bank; and
- the satisfaction of the conditions to closing the pending acquisition of BOJ Bancshares, Inc. and the ability to subsequently integrate it effectively.

These factors should not be construed as exhaustive. Additional information on these and other risk factors can be found in Item 1A. “Risk Factors” and Item 7. “Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements” in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Because forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties, some of which cannot be predicted or quantified, you should not rely on any forward-looking statement as a prediction of future events. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to update our forward-looking statements, and we do not intend to release publicly any updates or changes in our expectations concerning the forward-looking statements or any changes in events, conditions or circumstances upon which any forward-looking statement may be based, except as required by law.

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION
ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
	(Unaudited)	
ASSETS		
Cash and due from banks	\$ 17,942	\$ 9,773
Interest-bearing balances due from other banks	30,566	19,569
Federal funds sold	—	106
Cash and cash equivalents	48,508	29,448
Available for sale securities at fair value (amortized cost of \$228,980 and \$166,258, respectively)	227,562	163,051
Held to maturity securities at amortized cost (estimated fair value of \$19,311 and \$19,612, respectively)	19,306	20,091
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses of \$7,605 and \$7,051, respectively	1,102,916	886,375
Other equity securities	7,744	5,362
Bank premises and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$7,362 and \$6,751, respectively	33,705	31,722
Other real estate owned, net	3,830	4,065
Accrued interest receivable	4,147	3,218
Deferred tax asset	2,604	2,868
Goodwill and other intangible assets, net	13,271	3,234
Bank owned life insurance	8,140	7,201
Other assets	4,690	2,325
Total assets	\$ 1,476,423	\$ 1,158,960
LIABILITIES		
Deposits:		
Noninterest-bearing	\$ 175,130	\$ 108,404
Interest-bearing	926,232	799,383
Total deposits	1,101,362	907,787
Advances from Federal Home Loan Bank	162,700	82,803
Repurchase agreements	24,892	39,087
Subordinated debt, net of unamortized issuance costs	18,157	—
Junior subordinated debt	3,609	3,609
Other borrowings	—	1,000
Accrued taxes and other liabilities	12,827	11,917
Total liabilities	1,323,547	1,046,203
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Preferred stock, no par value per share; 5,000,000 shares authorized	—	—
Common stock, \$1.00 par value per share; 40,000,000 shares authorized; 8,704,562 and 7,101,851 shares issued and outstanding, respectively	8,705	7,102
Surplus	113,458	81,499
Retained earnings	31,508	26,227
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(795)	(2,071)
Total stockholders' equity	152,876	112,757
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 1,476,423	\$ 1,158,960

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(Amounts in thousands, except share data)
(Unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
INTEREST INCOME				
Interest and fees on loans	\$ 12,893	\$ 10,011	\$ 33,456	\$ 29,277
Interest on investment securities	1,399	920	3,627	2,667
Other interest income	150	62	296	146
Total interest income	14,442	10,993	37,379	32,090
INTEREST EXPENSE				
Interest on deposits	2,137	1,934	5,817	5,212
Interest on borrowings	767	306	1,862	920
Total interest expense	2,904	2,240	7,679	6,132
Net interest income	11,538	8,753	29,700	25,958
Provision for loan losses	420	450	1,145	1,704
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	11,118	8,303	28,555	24,254
NONINTEREST INCOME				
Service charges on deposit accounts	281	79	474	264
Gain on sale of investment securities, net	27	204	242	428
Gain on sale of fixed assets, net	160	—	184	1,252
Gain on sale of other real estate owned, net	37	—	32	11
Gain on sale of loans, net	—	—	—	313
Servicing fees and fee income on serviced loans	352	510	1,153	1,638
Other operating income	310	236	768	666
Total noninterest income	1,167	1,029	2,853	4,572
Income before noninterest expense	12,285	9,332	31,408	28,826
NONINTEREST EXPENSE				
Depreciation and amortization	542	371	1,309	1,110
Salaries and employee benefits	5,136	3,945	13,195	11,708
Occupancy	317	265	826	743
Data processing	446	374	1,169	1,115
Marketing	124	102	271	316
Professional fees	263	312	726	966
Customer reimbursements	—	—	—	584
Acquisition expense	824	—	1,049	—
Other operating expenses	1,470	1,179	4,189	3,494
Total noninterest expense	9,122	6,548	22,734	20,036
Income before income tax expense	3,163	2,784	8,674	8,790
Income tax expense	1,032	747	2,756	2,758
Net income	\$ 2,131	\$ 2,037	\$ 5,918	\$ 6,032
EARNINGS PER SHARE				
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.85
Diluted earnings per share	0.24	0.29	0.71	0.84
Cash dividends declared per common share	0.03	0.01	0.07	0.03

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(Amounts in thousands)
(Unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net income	\$ 2,131	\$ 2,037	\$ 5,918	\$ 6,032
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Unrealized gain (loss) on investment securities:				
Unrealized gain (loss), available for sale, net of tax expense (benefit) of \$51, (\$98), \$711 and \$790, respectively	95	(182)	1,320	1,466
Reclassification of realized gain, net of tax expense of \$10, \$71, \$85 and \$150, respectively	(18)	(133)	(157)	(278)
Unrealized loss, transfer from available for sale to held to maturity, net of tax benefit of \$0, \$0, \$0, and \$1, respectively	—	—	(1)	(2)
Fair value of derivative financial instruments:				
Change in fair value of interest rate swap designated as a cash flow hedge, net of tax expense (benefit) of \$20, \$151, \$62 and (\$199), respectively	37	281	114	(370)
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	114	(34)	1,276	816
Total comprehensive income	<u>\$ 2,245</u>	<u>\$ 2,003</u>	<u>\$ 7,194</u>	<u>\$ 6,848</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

	Common Stock	Surplus	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balance, December 31, 2015	\$ 7,264	\$ 84,099	\$ 18,650	\$ (663)	\$ 109,350
Surrendered shares	(4)	(61)	—	—	(65)
Shares repurchased	(222)	(3,251)	—	—	(3,473)
Options and warrants exercised	12	153	—	—	165
Dividends declared, \$0.04 per share	—	—	(303)	—	(303)
Stock-based compensation	52	557	—	—	609
Net tax effect of stock-based compensation	—	2	—	—	2
Net income	—	—	7,880	—	7,880
Other comprehensive loss, net	—	—	—	(1,408)	(1,408)
Balance, December 31, 2016	\$ 7,102	\$ 81,499	\$ 26,227	\$ (2,071)	\$ 112,757
Common stock issued in offering, net of direct costs of \$1,991	1,624	30,885	—	—	32,509
Surrendered shares	(8)	(158)	—	—	(166)
Shares repurchased	(12)	(252)	—	—	(264)
Options and warrants exercised	67	822	—	—	889
Dividends declared, \$0.07 per share	—	—	(637)	—	(637)
Stock-based compensation and other activity	(68)	655	—	—	587
Net tax effect of stock-based compensation	—	7	—	—	7
Net income	—	—	5,918	—	5,918
Other comprehensive income, net	—	—	—	1,276	1,276
Balance, September 30, 2017 (Unaudited)	\$ 8,705	\$ 113,458	\$ 31,508	\$ (795)	\$ 152,876

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Amounts in thousands)
(Unaudited)

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 5,918	\$ 6,032
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	1,309	1,110
Provision for loan losses	1,145	1,704
Amortization of purchase accounting adjustments	(234)	(36)
Provision for other real estate owned	183	7
Net amortization of securities	834	893
Gain on sale of securities, net	(242)	(428)
Gain on sale of fixed assets, net	(184)	(1,252)
Gain on sale of other real estate owned, net	(32)	(11)
FHLB stock dividend	(65)	(48)
Stock-based compensation	587	457
Deferred taxes	(210)	92
Net change in value of bank owned life insurance	(154)	(137)
Amortization of subordinated debt issuance costs	23	—
Loans held for sale:		
Originations	—	(495)
Proceeds from sales	—	23,837
Gain on sale of loans	—	(313)
Net change in:		
Accrued interest receivable	(276)	(250)
Other assets	(195)	(339)
Accrued taxes and other liabilities	(1,045)	2,232
Net cash provided by operating activities	7,362	33,055
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Proceeds from sales of investment securities available for sale	82,537	14,416
Funds invested in securities available for sale	(95,614)	(60,664)
Proceeds from maturities, prepayments and calls of investment securities available for sale	19,702	12,058
Proceeds from maturities, prepayments and calls of investment securities held to maturity	741	4,893
Proceeds from redemption of other equity securities	1,307	—
Purchase of other equity securities	(3,624)	(1,505)
Net increase in loans	(88,313)	(84,951)
Proceeds from sales of other real estate owned	513	480
Proceeds from the sales of fixed assets	601	2,649
Purchases of fixed assets	(1,214)	(3,682)
Acquisition of trademark intangible	—	(100)
Purchase of bank owned life insurance	—	(3,500)
Purchase of other investments	(624)	(553)
Distributions from investments	12	—
Cash paid for Citizens, net of cash acquired	(1,235)	—
Net cash used in investing activities	(85,211)	(120,459)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Net (decrease) increase in customer deposits	(18,603)	169,693
Net decrease in repurchase agreements	(14,195)	(15,545)
Net increase (decrease) in short-term FHLB advances	38,500	(33,780)
Proceeds from long-term FHLB advances	45,000	5,000

Repayment of long-term FHLB advances	(3,603)	(9,774)
Cash dividends paid on common stock	(457)	(199)
Proceeds from public offering of common stock, net of issuance costs	32,509	—
Proceeds from stock options and warrants exercised	889	30
Payments to repurchase common stock	(264)	(2,832)
Proceeds from other borrowings	78	—
Repayment of other borrowings	(1,078)	—
Proceeds from subordinated debt, net of issuance costs	18,133	—
Net cash provided by financing activities	96,909	112,593
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	19,060	25,189
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	29,448	20,966
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u>\$ 48,508</u>	<u>\$ 46,155</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION
NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements of Investar Holding Corporation (the “Company”) have been prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include information or footnotes necessary for a complete presentation of financial position, results of operations, and cash flows in conformity with GAAP. However, in the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of the financial statements have been included. The results of operations for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2017 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the entire fiscal year. These statements should be read in conjunction with the Company’s audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, including the notes thereto, which were included as part of the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 9, 2017.

Nature of Operations

Investar Holding Corporation, headquartered in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, provides full banking services, excluding trust services, through its wholly-owned banking subsidiary, Investar Bank (the “Bank”), a Louisiana-chartered bank. The Company’s primary market is South Louisiana. At September 30, 2017, the Company operated 15 full service banking offices located throughout its market and had 227 employees.

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiary, the Bank. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements as well as the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates, and such differences could be material.

Material estimates that are particularly susceptible to significant change relate to the determination of the allowance for loan losses. While management uses available information to recognize losses on loans, future additions to the allowance may be necessary based on changes in local economic conditions. In addition, regulatory agencies, as an integral part of their examination process, periodically review the Company’s allowance for loan losses. Such agencies may require the Company to recognize additions to the allowance based on their judgments about information available to them at the time of their examination. Because of these factors, it is reasonably possible that the allowance for loan losses may change materially in the near term. However, the amount of the change that is reasonably possible cannot be estimated.

Other estimates that are susceptible to significant change in the near term relate to the determination of other-than-temporary impairments of securities and the fair value of financial instruments.

Investment Securities

The Company’s investments in securities are accounted for in accordance with applicable guidance contained in the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”), which requires the classification of securities into one of the following categories:

- Securities to be held to maturity (“HTM”): bonds, notes, and debentures for which the Company has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are reported at cost, adjusted for premiums and discounts that are recognized in interest income using the interest method over the period to maturity.
- Securities available for sale (“AFS”): available for sale securities consist of bonds, notes, and debentures that are available to meet the Company’s operating needs. These securities are reported at fair value.

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION
NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

Unrealized holding gains and losses, net of tax, on available for sale securities are reported as a net amount in other comprehensive income. Purchase premiums and discounts are recognized in interest income using the interest method over the terms of the securities. Realized gains and losses on the sale of investment securities are determined using the specific-identification method.

The Company follows FASB guidance related to the recognition and presentation of other-than-temporary impairment. The guidance specifies that if an entity does not have the intent to sell a debt security prior to recovery, the security would not be considered other-than-temporarily impaired unless there is a credit loss. When an entity does not intend to sell the security, and it is more likely than not that the entity will not have to sell the security before recovery of its cost basis, it will recognize the credit component of an other-than-temporary impairment of a debt security in earnings and the remaining portion in other comprehensive income.

Loans

The Company's loan portfolio categories include real estate, commercial and consumer loans. Real estate loans are further categorized into construction and development, 1-4 family residential, multifamily, farmland and commercial real estate loans. The consumer loan category includes loans originated through indirect lending. Indirect lending, which is lending initiated through third-party business partners, is largely comprised of loans made through automotive dealerships.

Loans for which management has the intent and ability to hold for the foreseeable future or until maturity or pay-off are stated at unpaid principal balances, adjusted by an allowance for loan losses. Interest on loans is calculated by using the simple interest method on daily balances of the principal amount outstanding. Loans are ordinarily placed on nonaccrual when a loan is specifically determined to be impaired or when principal or interest is delinquent for 90 days or more; however, management may elect to continue the accrual when the estimated net realizable value of collateral is sufficient to cover the principal balance and the accrued interest. Any unpaid interest previously accrued on nonaccrual loans is reversed from income. Interest income, generally, is not recognized on specific impaired loans unless the likelihood of further loss is remote. Interest payments received on such loans are applied as a reduction of the loan principal balance. Interest income on other nonaccrual loans is recognized only to the extent of interest payments received.

The Company considers a loan to be impaired when, based upon current information and events, it believes it is probable that the Company will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement. Factors considered by management in determining impairment include payment status, collateral value, and the probability of collecting scheduled principal and interest payments when due. Loans that experience insignificant payment delays and payment shortfalls generally are not classified as impaired. The Company's impaired loans include troubled debt restructurings and performing and non-performing loans for which full payment of principal or interest is not expected. Large groups of smaller balance homogenous loans are collectively evaluated for impairment. The Company calculates an allowance required for impaired loans based on the present value of expected future cash flows discounted at the loan's effective interest rate, the loan's observable market price or the fair value of its collateral. If the recorded investment in the impaired loan exceeds the measure of fair value, a valuation allowance is required as a component of the allowance for loan losses. Changes to the valuation allowance are recorded as a component of the provision for loan losses.

The Company follows the FASB accounting guidance on sales of financial assets, which includes participating interests in loans. For loan participations that are structured in accordance with this guidance, the sold portions are recorded as a reduction of the loan portfolio. Loan participations that do not meet the criteria are accounted for as secured borrowings.

Acquisition Accounting

Acquisitions are accounted for under the purchase method of accounting. Purchased assets and assumed liabilities are recorded at their respective acquisition date fair values, and identifiable intangible assets are recorded at fair value. If the consideration given exceeds the fair value of the net assets received, goodwill is recognized. If the fair value of the net assets received exceeds the consideration given, a bargain purchase gain is recognized. Fair values are subject to refinement for up to one year after the closing date of an acquisition as information relative to closing date fair values becomes available.

Purchased loans acquired in a business combination are recorded at their estimated fair value as of the acquisition date. The fair value of loans acquired is determined using a discounted cash flow model based on assumptions regarding the amount and timing of principal and interest prepayments, estimated payments, estimated default rates, estimated loss severity in the event of defaults, and current market rates. Estimated credit losses are included in the determination of fair value; therefore, an allowance for loan losses is not recorded on the acquisition date. The fair value adjustment is amortized over the life of the loan using the effective interest method, except for those loans accounted for under ASC Topic 310-30, discussed below.

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION
NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

The Company accounts for acquired impaired loans under ASC Topic 310-30, Loans and Debt Securities Acquired with Deteriorated Credit Quality (“ASC 310-30”). An acquired loan is considered impaired when there is evidence of credit deterioration since origination and it is probable, at the date of acquisition, that we will be unable to collect all contractually required payments. ASC 310-30 prohibits the carryover of an allowance for loan losses for acquired impaired loans. Over the life of the acquired loans, we continually estimate the cash flows expected to be collected on individual loans or on pools of loans sharing common risk characteristics. As of the end of each fiscal quarter, we evaluate the present value of the acquired loans using the effective interest rates. For any increases in cash flows expected to be collected, we adjust the amount of accretable yield recognized on a prospective basis over the loan’s or pool’s remaining life, while we recognize a provision for loan loss in the consolidated statement of operations if the cash flows expected to be collected have decreased.

Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made to the 2016 financial statements to be consistent with the 2017 presentation.

Concentrations of Credit Risk

The Company’s loan portfolio consists of the various types of loans described in Note 5, Loans. Real estate or other assets secure most loans. The majority of loans have been made to individuals and businesses in the Company’s market of South Louisiana. Customers are dependent on the condition of the local economy for their livelihoods and servicing their loan obligations. The Company does not have any significant concentrations in any one industry or individual customer.

New Accounting Pronouncement

Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2016-09, *Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting* was effective for the Company on January 1, 2017. ASU 2016-09 requires that all income tax effects related to vestings of share-based payment awards be reported in earnings as an increase (or decrease) to income tax expense. Previously, excess income tax benefits of a vested award were reported as an increase (or decrease) to additional paid-in capital to the extent that those benefits were greater than (or less than) the income tax benefits recognized in earnings during the award’s vesting period. The requirement to report those income tax effects in earnings has been applied to vestings occurring on or after January 1, 2017 and resulted in recording a \$83,000 tax benefit for the nine months ended September 30, 2017. ASU 2016-09 also requires that all income tax-related cash flows resulting from share-based payments be reported as operating activities in the statement of cash flows. We have elected to apply that change in cash flow classification on a prospective basis, and prior periods have not been adjusted. The impact of this change and that of the remaining provisions of ASU 2016-09 did not have a significant impact on our financial statements.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

FASB ASC Topic 815 “Derivatives and Hedging” Update No. 2017-12. The Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued ASU No. 2017-12 in August 2017. The ASU amends the hedge accounting model in Topic 815 to enable entities to better portray the economics of their risk management activities in the financial statements and enhance the transparency and understandability of hedge results. The amendments expand an entity’s ability to hedge nonfinancial and financial risk components and reduce complexity in fair value hedges of interest rate risk. The guidance eliminates the requirement to separately measure and report hedge ineffectiveness and generally requires the entire change in the fair value of a hedging instrument to be presented in the same income statement line as the hedged item. The guidance also eases certain documentation and assessment requirements and modifies the accounting for components excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness. This amended guidance is effective for the Company on January 1, 2019, and, given the current level of derivatives designated as hedges, is not expected to have a material impact on our consolidated operating results or financial condition.

FASB ASC Topic 718 “Compensation – Stock Compensation: Scope of Modification Accounting” Update No. 2017-09. The FASB issued ASU No. 2017-09 in May 2017. The ASU clarifies when changes to terms or conditions of a share-based payment award must be accounted for as a modification. Under the new guidance, an entity will not apply modification accounting to a share-based payment award if all of the following are the same immediately before and after the change: (i) the fair value of the award, (ii) the vesting conditions of the award, and (iii) the classification of the award as either an equity or liability instrument. ASU 2017-09 will be effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2018. Early adoption is permitted. The guidance requires companies to apply the requirements prospectively to awards modified on or after the adoption date. ASU 2017-09 is not expected to have a significant impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

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FASB ASC Subtopic 310-20 “Receivables – Nonrefundable Fees and Other Costs, Premium Amortization on Purchased Callable Debt Securities” Update No. 2017-08. The FASB issued ASU No. 2017-08 in March 2017. The amendments in the ASU shorten the amortization period for certain callable debt securities held at a premium. Specifically, the amendments require the premium to be amortized to the earliest call date. The amendments do not require an accounting change for securities held at a discount; the discount continues to be amortized to maturity. Update 2017-08 will be effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2019. Early adoption is permitted, including adoption in an interim period. If an entity early adopts in an interim period, any adjustments should be reflected as of the beginning of the fiscal year that includes that interim period. The amendments should be applied on a modified retrospective basis, with a cumulative-effect adjustment directly to retained earnings as of the beginning of the period of adoption. The Company is assessing the impact of ASU 2017-08 on its accounting and disclosures.

FASB ASC Topic 350 “Intangibles – Goodwill and Other: Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment” Update No. 2017-04. The FASB issued ASU No. 2017-04 in January 2017. The ASU simplifies how an entity is required to test goodwill for impairment by eliminating Step 2 from the goodwill impairment test. Therefore, any carrying amount which exceeds the reporting unit’s fair value, up to the amount of goodwill recorded, will be recognized as an impairment loss. ASU 2017-04 will be effective for the Company on January 1, 2020. The amendments will be applied prospectively on or after the effective date. Early adoption is permitted for interim or annual goodwill impairment tests performed on testing dates after January 1, 2017. Based on recent goodwill impairments tests, which did not require the application of Step 2, the Company does not expect the adoption of this ASU to have an immediate impact.

FASB ASC Topic 805 “Business Combinations: Clarifying the Definition of a Business” Update No. 2017-01. The FASB issued ASU No. 2017-01 in January 2017. The amendments in the ASU are intended to clarify the definition and the current interpretation of a business to assist companies and other reporting organizations with evaluating whether transactions should be accounted for as acquisitions or disposals of assets or businesses. The ASU will be effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2018. The amendments will be applied prospectively on or after the effective date. Early application of the amendments in this ASU is allowed for transactions, including when a subsidiary or group of assets is deconsolidated/derecognized, in which the acquisition date occurs before the issuance date or effective date of the amendments, only when the transaction has not been reported in financial statements that have been issued or made available for issuance. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on the Company’s financial statements.

FASB ASC Topic 230 “Statement of Cash Flows – Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments” Update No. 2016-15. The FASB issued ASU No. 2016-15 in August 2016. The amendments in the ASU address eight specific cash flow issues with the objective of reducing the existing diversity in practice, as the issues are either unclear or do not have specific guidance under current GAAP. ASU 2016-15 will be effective on January 1, 2018. The adoption of this standard is not expected to have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

FASB ASC Topic 326 “Financial Instruments – Credit Losses: Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments” Update No. 2016-13. The FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13 in June 2016. The amendments introduce an impairment model that is based on expected credit losses, rather than incurred losses, to estimate credit losses on certain types of financial instruments (e.g., loans and held-to-maturity securities), including certain off-balance sheet financial instruments (e.g., loan commitments). The expected credit losses should consider historical information, current information, and reasonable and supportable forecasts, including estimates of prepayments, over the contractual term. Financial instruments with similar risk characteristics may be grouped together when estimating expected credit losses. The ASU also amends the current AFS security impairment model for debt securities. The new model will require an estimate of expected credit losses when the fair value is below the amortized cost of the asset through the use of an allowance to record estimated credit losses (and subsequent recoveries). Non-credit related losses will continue to be recognized through other comprehensive income. In addition, the amendments provide for a simplified accounting model for purchased financial assets with a more-than-insignificant amount of credit deterioration since their origination. The initial estimate of expected credit losses would be recognized through an allowance for loan losses with an offset (i.e., increase) to the cost basis of the related financial asset at acquisition.

ASU 2016-13 will be effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2020. The amendments will be applied through a modified-retrospective approach, resulting in a cumulative-effect adjustment to retained earnings as of the beginning of the first reporting period in which the guidance is effective. A prospective transition approach is required for debt securities for which other-than-temporary impairment had been recognized before the effective date. Amounts previously recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income as of the date of adoption that relate to improvements in cash flows expected to be collected should continue to be accreted into income over the remaining life of the asset. Recoveries of amounts previously written off relating to improvements in cash flows after the date of adoption should be recorded in earnings when received. Management is currently evaluating the potential impact of ASU 2016-13 on the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

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FASB ASC Topic 825 “Financial Instruments – Overall” Update No. 2016-1. The FASB issued ASU No. 2016-1 in January 2016 to address certain aspects of recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of financial instruments. The ASU will not change the guidance for classifying and measuring investments in debt securities or loans; however, it will impact how entities measure certain equity investments, recognize changes in the fair value of financial liabilities measured under the fair value option that are attributable to instrument-specific credit risk, and disclose and present financial assets and liabilities in financial statements. The main provisions require investments in equity securities to be measured at fair value through net income, unless they qualify for a new practicability exception, the equity method of accounting, or consolidation, and require fair value changes arising from changes in instrument-specific credit risk for financial liabilities that are measured under the fair value option to be recognized in other comprehensive income. The amendments will also require entities to present financial assets and financial liabilities separately, grouped by measurement category and form of financial asset in the statement of financial position or in the accompanying notes to the financial statements. Entities will also no longer have to disclose the methods and significant assumptions for financial instruments measured at amortized cost, but will be required to measure such instruments under the “exit price” notion for disclosure purposes.

The amendments in this ASU are effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2018. The Company will record a cumulative-effect adjustment to beginning retained earnings as of the beginning of the first reporting period in which the guidance is adopted, with two exceptions. The amendments related to equity investments without readily determinable fair values will be effective prospectively. The requirement to use the exit price notion to measure fair value of financial instruments for disclosure purposes will also be applied prospectively.

The Company does not expect a significant cumulative-effect adjustment to be recorded at adoption or any significant impact to the consolidated financial statements associated with the accounting for its current equity investments. The Company does anticipate financial statement disclosures to be impacted, specifically related to financial instruments measured at amortized cost whose fair values are disclosed under the “entry price” notion, but is currently still in the process of determining the impact.

FASB ASC Topic 606 “Revenue from Contracts with Customers” Update No. 2014-9. The FASB issued ASU No. 2014-9 in May 2014 which implements a common revenue standard and clarifies the principles used for recognizing revenue. The amendments in the ASU clarify that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. As part of that principle, the entity should identify the contract(s) with the customer, identify the performance obligation(s) of the contract, determine the transaction price, allocate that transaction price to the performance obligation(s), and then recognize revenue when or as the entity satisfies the performance obligation(s). The amendments also provide additional guidance/principles associated with gross vs. net presentation (i.e., principal versus agency considerations).

The amendments in ASU No. 2014-9 will be effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2018. Earlier application is permitted only as of annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, including interim reporting periods within that annual reporting period. The amendments will be applied through the election of one of two retrospective methods.

The Company intends to adopt the amendments beginning January 1, 2018 through the modified-retrospective transition method and does not expect to recognize a significant cumulative adjustment to equity upon implementation of the standard. Further, the Company does not expect a significant impact to the Company’s consolidated statements of comprehensive income or consolidated balance sheets from either a presentation or timing perspective, but is still analyzing some contracts.

NOTE 2. BUSINESS COMBINATIONS

On July 1, 2017, the Company completed the acquisition of Citizens Bancshares, Inc. (“Citizens”) and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Citizens Bank, located in Evangeline Parish, Louisiana. The Company acquired 100% of Citizens’ outstanding common shares for an aggregate amount of cash consideration equal to \$45.8 million, or approximately \$419.20 per share. The acquisition of Citizens expands the Company’s branch footprint in Louisiana and increases the core deposit base to help position the Company to continue to grow. On the date of acquisition, Citizens had approximately \$250 million in assets, \$130 million in net loans, \$212 million in deposits, and \$36 million in stockholders’ equity, and served the residents of Evangeline Parish through its three branch locations.

Acquisition related costs of \$0.8 million and \$1.0 million are included in acquisition expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of income, for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2017. These costs include system conversion and integrating operations charges as well as legal and consulting expenses.

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In connection with the acquisition, the Company recorded \$8.7 million of goodwill. Goodwill resulted from a combination of synergies and cost savings, expansion in Louisiana with the addition of three branch locations, enhanced products and services and a lower cost of funds. The Company also recorded a core deposit intangible of \$1.5 million. The change in goodwill and other intangibles at September 30, 2017 compared to December 31, 2016 is primarily attributable to the goodwill and core deposit intangible recorded as a result of the Citizens acquisition.

The table below shows the allocation of the consideration paid for Citizens' common equity to the acquired identifiable assets and liabilities assumed and the goodwill generated from the transaction (dollars in thousands). The fair values listed below, primarily related to loans, are subject to refinement for up to one year after the closing date of the acquisition as additional information becomes available.

Purchase price:	
Cash paid	\$ 45,800
Fair value of assets acquired:	
Cash and cash equivalents	44,565
Investment securities	69,897
Loans	129,189
Bank premises and equipment	3,337
Other intangible assets	1,462
Other assets	2,558
Total assets acquired	<u>251,008</u>
Fair value of liabilities acquired:	
Deposits	212,228
Other liabilities	1,652
Total liabilities assumed	<u>213,880</u>
Fair value of net assets acquired	<u>37,128</u>
Goodwill	<u>\$ 8,672</u>

Fair value adjustments to assets acquired and liabilities assumed are generally amortized using either an effective yield or straight-line basis over periods consistent with the average life, useful life and/or contractual term of the related assets and liabilities.

The fair value of net assets acquired includes a fair value adjustment to loans as of the acquisition date. The adjustment for the acquired loan portfolio is based on current market interest rates, and the Company's initial evaluation of credit losses identified.

The tables below present information about the loans acquired from Citizens as of the date of acquisition (dollars in thousands).

	Purchase Credit Impaired
Contractually required principal	\$ 9,809
Non-accretable difference	(1,546)
Cash flows expected to be collected	8,263
Accretable yield	—
Fair value of acquired loans	<u>\$ 8,263</u>

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	Non-Credit Impaired
Contractually required principal	\$ 122,755
Cash flows expected to be collected	122,060
Accretable yield	(1,134)
Fair value of acquired loans	\$ 120,926

The following unaudited supplemental pro forma information is presented to show estimated results assuming Citizens was acquired as of January 1, 2016. These unaudited pro forma results are not necessarily indicative of the operating results that the Company would have achieved had it completed the acquisition as of January 1, 2016 and should not be considered representative of future operating results. The pro forma net income for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2017 excludes the tax-affected amounts of \$0.8 million and \$2.0 million, respectively, of acquisition expenses recorded in noninterest expense by both the Company and Citizens.

	Unaudited Pro Forma for the			
	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
<i>(dollars in thousands)</i>				
Interest income	\$ 14,442	\$ 13,171	\$ 41,635	\$ 38,491
Noninterest income	1,167	1,254	3,350	5,241
Net income	2,686	2,582	7,510	7,710

NOTE 3. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following is a summary of the information used in the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 (in thousands, except share data).

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Net income	\$ 2,131	\$ 2,037	\$ 5,918	\$ 6,032
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding used in computation of basic earnings per share	8,702,559	7,059,953	8,203,645	7,137,398
Effect of dilutive securities:				
Restricted stock	27,741	15,546	18,756	8,991
Stock options	46,632	15,369	10,572	14,920
Stock warrants	20,585	11,575	47,022	11,360
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding plus effect of dilutive securities used in computation of diluted earnings per share	8,797,517	7,102,443	8,279,995	7,172,669
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.85
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.71	\$ 0.84

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NOTE 4. INVESTMENT SECURITIES

The amortized cost and approximate fair value of investment securities classified as available for sale are summarized below as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

September 30, 2017	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Obligations of other U.S. government agencies and corporations	\$ 55,789	\$ 77	\$ (370)	\$ 55,496
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	35,884	35	(388)	35,531
Corporate bonds	16,821	68	(331)	16,558
Residential mortgage-backed securities	116,246	197	(654)	115,789
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	3,218	5	(46)	3,177
Equity securities	1,022	23	(34)	1,011
Total	\$ 228,980	\$ 405	\$ (1,823)	\$ 227,562

December 31, 2016	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Obligations of other U.S. government agencies and corporations	\$ 29,809	\$ 68	\$ (387)	\$ 29,490
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	29,631	15	(1,791)	27,855
Corporate bonds	15,292	54	(378)	14,968
Residential mortgage-backed securities	88,295	193	(900)	87,588
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	2,520	—	(76)	2,444
Equity securities	711	46	(51)	706
Total	\$ 166,258	\$ 376	\$ (3,583)	\$ 163,051

Proceeds from sales of investment securities available for sale and gross gains and losses are summarized below as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Proceeds from sale	\$ 63,488	\$ 5,998	\$ 82,537	\$ 14,416
Gross gains	\$ 27	\$ 204	\$ 275	\$ 428
Gross losses	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (33)	\$ —

The amortized cost and approximate fair value of investment securities classified as held to maturity are summarized below as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

September 30, 2017	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	\$ 12,655	\$ 17	\$ —	\$ 12,672
Residential mortgage-backed securities	6,651	21	(33)	6,639
Total	\$ 19,306	\$ 38	\$ (33)	\$ 19,311

December 31, 2016	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	\$ 12,976	\$ 2	\$ (429)	\$ 12,549
Residential mortgage-backed securities	7,115	8	(60)	7,063
Total	\$ 20,091	\$ 10	\$ (489)	\$ 19,612

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Securities are classified in the consolidated balance sheets according to management's intent. The Company had no securities classified as trading as of September 30, 2017 or December 31, 2016 .

The aggregate fair values and aggregate unrealized losses on securities whose fair values are below book values are summarized in the tables below. Unrealized losses are generally due to changes in interest rates. The Company has the intent to hold these securities either until maturity or a forecasted recovery, and it is more likely than not that the Company will not have to sell the securities before the recovery of their cost basis. Due to the nature of the investment and current market prices, these unrealized losses are considered a temporary impairment of the securities.

The number of securities available for sale, fair value, and unrealized losses, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, are summarized below as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

	Count	Less than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
		Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
September 30, 2017							
Obligations of other U.S. government agencies and corporations	73	\$ 39,719	\$ (351)	\$ 1,162	\$ (19)	\$ 40,881	\$ (370)
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	24	16,960	(73)	9,367	(315)	26,327	(388)
Corporate bonds	23	3,002	(63)	7,652	(268)	10,654	(331)
Residential mortgage-backed securities	124	77,167	(597)	4,397	(57)	81,564	(654)
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	4	1,960	(41)	200	(5)	2,160	(46)
Equity securities	3	245	(9)	481	(25)	726	(34)
Total	251	\$ 139,053	\$ (1,134)	\$ 23,259	\$ (689)	\$ 162,312	\$ (1,823)

	Count	Less than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
		Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
December 31, 2016							
Obligations of other U.S. government agencies and corporations	45	\$ 22,819	\$ (382)	\$ 448	\$ (5)	\$ 23,267	\$ (387)
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	33	25,764	(1,791)	—	—	25,764	(1,791)
Corporate bonds	27	3,724	(132)	6,929	(246)	10,653	(378)
Residential mortgage-backed securities	110	60,433	(883)	1,778	(17)	62,211	(900)
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	4	2,444	(76)	—	—	2,444	(76)
Equity securities	3	50	(4)	492	(47)	542	(51)
Total	222	\$ 115,234	\$ (3,268)	\$ 9,647	\$ (315)	\$ 124,881	\$ (3,583)

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The number of securities held to maturity, fair value, and unrealized losses, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, are summarized below as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

	Less than 12 Months			12 Months or More		Total	
	Count	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
September 30, 2017							
Residential mortgage-backed securities	4	\$ 2,655	\$ (33)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,655	\$ (33)
Total	4	\$ 2,655	\$ (33)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,655	\$ (33)

	Less than 12 Months			12 Months or More		Total	
	Count	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses
December 31, 2016							
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	5	\$ 9,597	\$ (429)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 9,597	\$ (429)
Residential mortgage-backed securities	6	4,677	(60)	—	—	4,677	(60)
Total	11	\$ 14,274	\$ (489)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 14,274	\$ (489)

The unrealized losses in the Company's investment portfolio, caused by interest rate increases, are not credit issues and the Company does not intend to sell the securities. Furthermore, it is not more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell the securities before recovery of their amortized cost bases. The Company does not consider these securities to be other-than-temporarily impaired at September 30, 2017 or December 31, 2016 .

The weighted average tax equivalent yield, amortized cost and approximate fair value of debt securities, by contractual maturity (including mortgage-backed securities), are shown below as of the dates presented. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties (dollars in thousands).

	Securities Available for Sale			Securities Held to Maturity		
	Weighted Average T.E. Yield	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Weighted Average T.E. Yield	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
September 30, 2017						
Due within one year	2.03%	\$ 1,985	\$ 1,985	7.17%	\$ 685	\$ 686
Due after one year through five years	2.36	15,748	15,772	7.17	3,095	3,101
Due after five years through ten years	2.88	27,635	27,274	7.17	2,745	2,750
Due after ten years	2.48	182,590	181,520	3.54	12,781	12,774
Total debt securities		\$ 227,958	\$ 226,551		\$ 19,306	\$ 19,311

	Securities Available for Sale			Securities Held to Maturity		
	Weighted Average T.E. Yield	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Weighted Average T.E. Yield	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
December 31, 2016						
Due within one year	1.61%	\$ 1,753	\$ 1,750	7.17%	\$ 685	\$ 686
Due after one year through five years	2.27	10,509	10,476	7.17	3,095	3,089
Due after five years through ten years	2.77	27,173	26,771	7.17	2,745	2,637
Due after ten years	2.51	126,112	123,348	3.52	13,566	13,200
Total debt securities		\$ 165,547	\$ 162,345		\$ 20,091	\$ 19,612

NOTE 5. LOANS

The Company's loan portfolio consists of the following categories of loans as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

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	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Construction and development	\$ 122,501	\$ 90,737
1-4 Family	252,003	177,205
Multifamily	50,770	42,759
Farmland	14,130	8,207
Commercial real estate	462,422	380,716
Total mortgage loans on real estate	901,826	699,624
Commercial and industrial	125,230	85,377
Consumer	83,465	108,425
Total loans	\$ 1,110,521	\$ 893,426

The table below provides an analysis of the aging of loans as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017							
	Past Due and Accruing				Nonaccrual	Total Past Due & Nonaccrual	Current	Total Loans
	30-59 days	60-89 days	90 or more days					
Construction and development	\$ 27	\$ 34	\$ —	\$ 29	\$ 90	\$ 122,411	\$ 122,501	
1-4 Family	241	340	267	555	1,403	250,600	252,003	
Multifamily	—	—	—	—	—	50,770	50,770	
Farmland	111	—	67	—	178	13,952	14,130	
Commercial real estate	626	—	—	67	693	461,729	462,422	
Total mortgage loans on real estate	1,005	374	334	651	2,364	899,462	901,826	
Commercial and industrial	11	10	—	6	27	125,203	125,230	
Consumer	510	90	8	1,176	1,784	81,681	83,465	
Total loans	\$ 1,526	\$ 474	\$ 342	\$ 1,833	\$ 4,175	\$ 1,106,346	\$ 1,110,521	

	December 31, 2016							
	Past Due and Accruing				Nonaccrual	Total Past Due & Nonaccrual	Current	Total Loans
	30-59 days	60-89 days	90 or more days					
Construction and development	\$ 48	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 480	\$ 528	\$ 90,209	\$ 90,737	
1-4 Family	427	—	—	47	474	176,731	177,205	
Multifamily	—	—	—	—	—	42,759	42,759	
Farmland	—	—	—	—	—	8,207	8,207	
Commercial real estate	—	—	—	—	—	380,716	380,716	
Total mortgage loans on real estate	475	—	—	527	1,002	698,622	699,624	
Commercial and industrial	30	—	—	443	473	84,904	85,377	
Consumer	378	149	1	1,008	1,536	106,889	108,425	
Total loans	\$ 883	\$ 149	\$ 1	\$ 1,978	\$ 3,011	\$ 890,415	\$ 893,426	

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Credit Quality Indicators

Loans are categorized into risk categories based on relevant information about the ability of borrowers to service their debt, such as current financial information, historical payment experience, credit documentation, public information, and current economic trends, among other factors. The following definitions are utilized for risk ratings, which are consistent with the definitions used in supervisory guidance:

Pass - Loans not meeting the criteria below are considered pass. These loans have high credit characteristics and financial strength. The borrowers at least generate profits and cash flow that are in line with peer and industry standards and have debt service coverage ratios above loan covenants and our policy guidelines. For some of these loans, a guaranty from a financially capable party mitigates characteristics of the borrower that might otherwise result in a lower grade.

Special Mention - Loans classified as special mention possess some credit deficiencies that need to be corrected to avoid a greater risk of default in the future. For example, financial ratios relating to the borrower may have deteriorated. Often, a special mention categorization is temporary while certain factors are analyzed or matters addressed before the loan is re-categorized as either pass or substandard.

Substandard - Loans classified as substandard are inadequately protected by the current net worth and paying capacity of the borrower or the liquidation value of any collateral. If deficiencies are not addressed, it is likely that this category of loan will result in the Bank incurring a loss. Where a borrower has been unable to adjust to industry or general economic conditions, the borrower's loan is often categorized as substandard.

Doubtful - Loans classified as doubtful have all the weaknesses inherent in those classified as substandard, with the added characteristic that the weaknesses make collection or liquidation in full, on the basis of currently existing facts, conditions, and values, highly questionable and improbable.

Loss - Loans classified as loss are considered uncollectible and of such little value that their continuance as recorded assets is not warranted. This classification does not mean that the assets have absolutely no recovery or salvage value, but rather it is not practical or desirable to defer writing off these assets.

The table below presents the Company's loan portfolio by category and credit quality indicator as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017			
	Pass	Special Mention	Substandard	Total
Construction and development	\$ 122,454	\$ —	\$ 47	\$ 122,501
1-4 Family	251,010	64	929	252,003
Multifamily	49,927	—	843	50,770
Farmland	14,063	—	67	14,130
Commercial real estate	461,110	—	1,312	462,422
Total mortgage loans on real estate	898,564	64	3,198	901,826
Commercial and industrial	123,042	—	2,188	125,230
Consumer	81,883	406	1,176	83,465
Total loans	<u>\$ 1,103,489</u>	<u>\$ 470</u>	<u>\$ 6,562</u>	<u>\$ 1,110,521</u>

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	December 31, 2016			
	Pass	Special Mention	Substandard	Total
Construction and development	\$ 90,238	\$ —	\$ 499	\$ 90,737
1-4 Family	177,091	20	94	177,205
Multifamily	42,759	—	—	42,759
Farmland	8,207	—	—	8,207
Commercial real estate	380,716	—	—	380,716
Total mortgage loans on real estate	699,011	20	593	699,624
Commercial and industrial	83,215	59	2,103	85,377
Consumer	106,916	501	1,008	108,425
Total loans	\$ 889,142	\$ 580	\$ 3,704	\$ 893,426

The Company had no loans that were classified as doubtful or loss as of September 30, 2017 or December 31, 2016 .

Loan participations and whole loans sold to and serviced for others are not included in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. The balance of loans serviced for others was \$204.6 million and \$274.9 million as of September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 , respectively. The unpaid principal balance of these loans was approximately \$258.3 million and \$319.6 million as of September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 , respectively. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 , the Company recognized \$0.4 million and \$1.2 million , respectively, of servicing fees and other fees collected on serviced loans.

In the ordinary course of business, the Company makes loans to its executive officers, principal stockholders, directors and to companies in which these individuals are principal owners. Loans outstanding to such related party borrowers (including companies in which they are principal owners) amounted to approximately \$26.1 million and \$20.0 million as of September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 , respectively. These loans are all current and performing according to the original terms. These loans were made on substantially the same terms, including interest rates and collateral, as those prevailing at the time for comparable transactions with persons not related to the Company or the Bank and did not involve more than normal risk of collectability or present other unfavorable features.

The table below shows the aggregate amount of loans to such related parties as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 19,957	\$ 17,992
New loans	10,047	5,058
Repayments and changes in relationship	(3,896)	(3,093)
Balance, end of period	\$ 26,108	\$ 19,957

Loans Acquired with Deteriorated Credit Quality

The Company accounts for certain loans acquired as acquired impaired loans under ASC 310-30 due to evidence of credit deterioration at acquisition and the probability that the Company will be unable to collect all contractually required payments.

The table below shows the changes in the accretable yield on acquired impaired loans for the periods presented (dollars in thousands).

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	Acquired Impaired
Balance, period ended December 31, 2015	\$ 395
Transfers from non-accretable difference to accretable yield	1
Accretion to interest income	(121)
Balance, period ended December 31, 2016	\$ 275
Transfers from non-accretable difference to accretable yield	28
Accretion to interest income	(303)
Balance, period ended September 30, 2017	\$ —

NOTE 6. ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN LOSSES

The table below shows a summary of the activity in the allowance for loan losses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 7,320	\$ 7,091	\$ 7,051	\$ 6,128
Provision for loan losses	420	450	1,145	1,704
Loans charged off	(155)	(173)	(635)	(509)
Recoveries	20	15	44	60
Balance, end of period	\$ 7,605	\$ 7,383	\$ 7,605	\$ 7,383

The following tables outline the activity in the allowance for loan losses by collateral type for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, and show both the allowances and portfolio balances for loans individually and collectively evaluated for impairment as of September 30, 2017 and 2016 (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30, 2017							
	Construction & Development	Farmland	1-4 Family	Multifamily	Commercial Real Estate	Commercial & Industrial	Consumer	Total
Allowance for loan losses:								
Beginning balance	\$ 806	\$ 54	\$ 1,276	\$ 361	\$ 3,036	\$ 683	\$ 1,104	\$ 7,320
Provision	28	6	(19)	(21)	227	135	64	420
Charge-offs	—	—	—	—	—	(77)	(78)	(155)
Recoveries	14	—	2	—	—	—	4	20
Ending balance	\$ 848	\$ 60	\$ 1,259	\$ 340	\$ 3,263	\$ 741	\$ 1,094	\$ 7,605

	Three months ended September 30, 2016							
	Construction & Development	Farmland	1-4 Family	Multifamily	Commercial Real Estate	Commercial & Industrial	Consumer	Total
Allowance for loan losses:								
Beginning balance	\$ 779	\$ 61	\$ 1,280	\$ 310	\$ 2,430	\$ 1,028	\$ 1,203	\$ 7,091
Provision	(48)	—	64	43	613	(336)	114	450
Charge-offs	—	—	—	—	—	—	(173)	(173)
Recoveries	4	—	3	—	—	—	8	15
Ending balance	\$ 735	\$ 61	\$ 1,347	\$ 353	\$ 3,043	\$ 692	\$ 1,152	\$ 7,383

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	Construction & Development	Farmland	1-4 Family	Multifamily	Commercial Real Estate	Commercial & Industrial	Consumer	Total
Allowance for loan losses:								
Beginning balance	\$ 579	\$ 60	\$ 1,377	\$ 355	\$ 2,499	\$ 759	\$ 1,422	\$ 7,051
Provision	241	—	(122)	(15)	764	252	25	1,145
Charge-offs	—	—	—	—	—	(270)	(365)	(635)
Recoveries	28	—	4	—	—	—	12	44
Ending balance	<u>\$ 848</u>	<u>\$ 60</u>	<u>\$ 1,259</u>	<u>\$ 340</u>	<u>\$ 3,263</u>	<u>\$ 741</u>	<u>\$ 1,094</u>	<u>\$ 7,605</u>
Ending allowance balance for loans individually evaluated for impairment	—	—	—	—	—	—	336	336
Ending allowance balance for loans collectively evaluated for impairment	\$ 848	\$ 60	\$ 1,259	\$ 340	\$ 3,263	\$ 741	\$ 758	\$ 7,269
Ending allowance balance for loans acquired with deteriorated credit quality	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Loans receivable:								
Balance of loans individually evaluated for impairment	\$ 186	\$ —	\$ 1,452	\$ —	\$ 651	\$ 6	\$ 1,182	\$ 3,477
Balance of loans collectively evaluated for impairment	122,315	14,130	250,551	50,770	461,771	125,224	82,283	1,107,044
Total period-end balance	<u>\$ 122,501</u>	<u>\$ 14,130</u>	<u>\$ 252,003</u>	<u>\$ 50,770</u>	<u>\$ 462,422</u>	<u>\$ 125,230</u>	<u>\$ 83,465</u>	<u>\$ 1,110,521</u>
Balance of loans acquired with deteriorated credit quality	\$ 55	\$ —	\$ 2,814	\$ 1,806	\$ 3,033	\$ 1,884	\$ 5	\$ 9,597

Nine months ended September 30, 2016

	Construction & Development	Farmland	1-4 Family	Multifamily	Commercial Real Estate	Commercial & Industrial	Consumer	Total
Allowance for loan losses:								
Beginning balance	\$ 644	\$ 22	\$ 1,213	\$ 246	\$ 2,156	\$ 513	\$ 1,334	\$ 6,128
Provision	95	39	130	107	886	159	288	1,704
Charge-offs	(14)	—	(7)	—	—	—	(488)	(509)
Recoveries	10	—	11	—	1	20	18	60
Ending balance	<u>\$ 735</u>	<u>\$ 61</u>	<u>\$ 1,347</u>	<u>\$ 353</u>	<u>\$ 3,043</u>	<u>\$ 692</u>	<u>\$ 1,152</u>	<u>\$ 7,383</u>
Ending allowance balance for loans individually evaluated for impairment	—	—	—	—	331	149	267	747
Ending allowance balance for loans collectively evaluated for impairment	\$ 735	\$ 61	\$ 1,347	\$ 353	\$ 2,712	\$ 543	\$ 885	\$ 6,636
Ending allowance balance for loans acquired with deteriorated credit quality	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Loans receivable:								
Balance of loans individually evaluated for impairment	\$ 649	\$ —	\$ 1,975	\$ —	\$ 4,931	\$ 3,063	\$ 942	\$ 11,560
Balance of loans collectively evaluated for impairment	91,706	8,281	173,417	42,560	360,291	74,249	84,764	835,268
Total period-end balance	<u>\$ 92,355</u>	<u>\$ 8,281</u>	<u>\$ 175,392</u>	<u>\$ 42,560</u>	<u>\$ 365,222</u>	<u>\$ 77,312</u>	<u>\$ 85,706</u>	<u>\$ 846,828</u>
Balance of loans acquired with deteriorated credit quality	\$ 677	\$ —	\$ 564	\$ 1,033	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,274

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Impaired Loans

The Company considers a loan to be impaired when, based on current information and events, the Company determines that it will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the loan agreement, including scheduled interest payments. Generally, those loans rated special mention or lower are evaluated for impairment each quarter. Determination of impairment is treated the same across all classes of loans. When the Company identifies a loan as impaired, it measures the impairment based on the present value of expected future cash flows, discounted at the loan's effective interest rate, except when the sole (remaining) source of repayment for the loans is the operation or liquidation of the collateral. In these cases when foreclosure is probable, the Company uses the current fair value of the collateral, less selling costs, instead of discounted cash flows. If the Company determines that the value of the impaired loan is less than the recorded investment in the loan (net of previous charge-offs, deferred loan fees or costs and unamortized premium or discount), the Company recognizes impairment through an allowance estimate or a charge-off to the allowance for loan losses.

When the ultimate collectability of the total principal of an impaired loan is in doubt and the loan is on nonaccrual, all payments are applied to principal, under the cost recovery method. When the ultimate collectability of the total principal of an impaired loan is not in doubt and the loan is on nonaccrual, contractual interest is credited to interest income when received, under the cash basis method.

The following tables include the recorded investment and unpaid principal balances for impaired loans with the associated allowance amount, if applicable, as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017		
	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Principal Balance	Related Allowance
<u>With no related allowance recorded:</u>			
Construction and development	\$ 186	\$ 205	\$ —
1-4 Family	1,452	1,573	—
Commercial real estate	651	666	—
Total mortgage loans on real estate	2,289	2,444	—
Commercial and industrial	6	6	—
Consumer	185	199	—
Total	2,480	2,649	—
<u>With related allowance recorded:</u>			
Consumer	997	1,032	336
Total	997	1,032	336
<u>Total loans:</u>			
Construction and development	186	205	—
1-4 Family	1,452	1,573	—
Commercial real estate	651	666	—
Total mortgage loans on real estate	2,289	2,444	—
Commercial and industrial	6	6	—
Consumer	1,182	1,231	336
Total	\$ 3,477	\$ 3,681	\$ 336

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	December 31, 2016		
	Recorded Investment	Unpaid Principal Balance	Related Allowance
With no related allowance recorded:			
Construction and development	\$ 645	\$ 661	\$ —
1-4 Family	1,673	1,701	—
Commercial real estate	608	623	—
Total mortgage loans on real estate	2,926	2,985	—
Commercial and industrial	15	16	—
Consumer	153	166	—
Total	3,094	3,167	—
With related allowance recorded:			
Commercial and industrial	428	430	136
Consumer	855	873	287
Total	1,283	1,303	423
Total loans:			
Construction and development	645	661	—
1-4 Family	1,673	1,701	—
Commercial real estate	608	623	—
Total mortgage loans on real estate	2,926	2,985	—
Commercial and industrial	443	446	136
Consumer	1,008	1,039	287
Total	\$ 4,377	\$ 4,470	\$ 423

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Presented in the tables below is the average recorded investment of the impaired loans and the related amount of interest income recognized during the time within the period that the loans were impaired. The average balances are calculated based on the month-end balances of the loans during the periods reported (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30,			
	2017		2016	
	Average Recorded Investment	Interest Income Recognized	Average Recorded Investment	Interest Income Recognized
<u>With no related allowance recorded:</u>				
Construction and development	\$ 187	\$ 2	\$ 1,014	\$ 3
1-4 Family	1,231	18	2,082	8
Commercial real estate	632	8	702	2
Total mortgage loans on real estate	2,050	28	3,798	13
Commercial and industrial	22	—	1,692	—
Consumer	196	—	269	2
Total	2,268	28	5,759	15
<u>With related allowance recorded:</u>				
Commercial real estate	—	—	1,440	—
Total mortgage loans on real estate	—	—	1,440	—
Commercial and industrial	—	—	1,126	—
Consumer	933	—	668	—
Total	933	—	3,234	—
<u>Total loans:</u>				
Construction and development	187	2	1,014	3
1-4 Family	1,231	18	2,082	8
Commercial real estate	632	8	2,142	2
Total mortgage loans on real estate	2,050	28	5,238	13
Commercial and industrial	22	—	2,818	—
Consumer	1,129	—	937	2
Total	\$ 3,201	\$ 28	\$ 8,993	\$ 15

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	2017		2016	
	Average Recorded Investment	Interest Income Recognized	Average Recorded Investment	Interest Income Recognized
<u>With no related allowance recorded:</u>				
Construction and development	\$ 389	\$ 8	\$ 1,150	\$ 80
1-4 Family	1,517	61	1,940	51
Commercial real estate	613	35	680	5
Total mortgage loans on real estate	2,519	104	3,770	136
Commercial and industrial	163	—	1,000	—
Consumer	322	1	396	9
Total	3,004	105	5,166	145
<u>With related allowance recorded:</u>				
Commercial real estate	—	—	480	—
Total mortgage loans on real estate	—	—	480	—
Commercial and industrial	—	—	596	—
Consumer	813	1	466	5
Total	813	1	1,542	5
<u>Total loans:</u>				
Construction and development	389	8	1,150	80
1-4 Family	1,517	61	1,940	51
Commercial real estate	613	35	1,160	5
Total mortgage loans on real estate	2,519	104	4,250	136
Commercial and industrial	163	—	1,596	—
Consumer	1,135	2	862	14
Total	\$ 3,817	\$ 106	\$ 6,708	\$ 150

Troubled Debt Restructurings

In situations where, for economic or legal reasons related to a borrower's financial difficulties, the Company grants a concession for other than an insignificant period of time to the borrower that the Company would not otherwise consider, the related loan is classified as a troubled debt restructuring ("TDR"). The Company strives to identify borrowers in financial difficulty early and work with them to modify their loans to more affordable terms before such loans reach nonaccrual status. These modified terms may include rate reductions, principal forgiveness, payment forbearance and other actions intended to minimize the economic loss and to avoid foreclosure or repossession of the collateral. In cases in which the Company grants the borrower new terms that provide for a reduction of either interest or principal, or otherwise include a concession, the Company identifies the loan as a TDR and measures any impairment on the restructuring as previously noted for impaired loans.

Loans classified as TDRs, consisting of eighteen credits, totaled approximately \$1.6 million at September 30, 2017, compared to eighteen credits totaling \$2.4 million at December 31, 2016. Eight of the restructured loans were considered TDRs due to modification of terms through adjustments to maturity, nine of the restructured loans were considered TDRs due to a reduction in the interest rate to a rate lower than the current market rate, and one restructured loan was considered a TDR due to modification of terms through principal payment forbearance, paying interest only for a specified period of time. As of September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, all restructured loans were performing under their modified terms. The Company individually evaluates each TDR for allowance purposes, primarily based on collateral value, and excludes these loans from the loan population that is collectively evaluated for impairment.

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At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 , there were no available balances on loans classified as TDRs that the Company was committed to lend.

The table below presents the TDR pre- and post-modification outstanding recorded investments by loan categories for loans modified during the nine month periods ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 (dollars in thousands).

Troubled Debt Restructurings	September 30, 2017			September 30, 2016		
	Number of Contracts	Pre-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment	Post-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment	Number of Contracts	Pre-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment	Post-Modification Outstanding Recorded Investment
1-4 Family	—	\$ —	\$ —	10	\$ 632	\$ 632
Consumer	1	6	6	—	—	—
Total		<u>\$ 6</u>	<u>\$ 6</u>		<u>\$ 632</u>	<u>\$ 632</u>

There were no loans modified under TDRs during the previous twelve month period that subsequently defaulted during the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 .

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NOTE 7. SUBORDINATED DEBT SECURITIES

On March 24, 2017, the Company issued and sold \$18.6 million in aggregate principal amount of its 6.00% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Subordinated Notes (the "Notes") due March 30, 2027. Beginning on March 30, 2022, the Company may redeem the Notes, in whole or in part, at their principal amount plus any accrued and unpaid interest. The Notes bear an interest rate of 6.00% per annum until March 30, 2022, on which date the interest rate will reset quarterly to an annual interest rate equal to the then-current LIBOR plus 394.5 basis points.

The carrying value of subordinated debt was \$18.2 million at September 30, 2017. The subordinated debt securities are recorded net of issuance costs of \$ 0.4 million, which are being amortized using the straight-line method over the life of the Notes.

NOTE 8. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Common Stock

On March 22, 2017, the Company completed a common stock offering of 1.6 million shares of its common stock at a price of \$21.25 per share. The common stock offering generated net proceeds of \$32.5 million. Total stockholders' equity was \$152.9 million at September 30, 2017, compared to \$112.8 million at December 31, 2016.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Activity within the balances in accumulated other comprehensive income(loss), net is shown in the tables below (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30,					
	2017			2016		
	Beginning of Period	Net Change	End of Period	Beginning of Period	Net Change	End of Period
Unrealized gain (loss), available for sale, net	\$ 824	\$ 95	\$ 919	\$ 2,747	\$ (182)	\$ 2,565
Reclassification of realized gain, net	(1,822)	(18)	(1,840)	(1,541)	(133)	(1,674)
Unrealized loss, transfer from available for sale to held to maturity, net	7	—	7	10	—	10
Change in fair value of interest rate swap designated as a cash flow hedge, net	82	37	119	(1,029)	281	(748)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	\$ (909)	\$ 114	\$ (795)	\$ 187	\$ (34)	\$ 153

	Nine months ended September 30,					
	2017			2016		
	Beginning of Period	Net Change	End of Period	Beginning of Period	Net Change	End of Period
Unrealized gain (loss), available for sale, net	\$ (401)	\$ 1,320	\$ 919	\$ 1,099	\$ 1,466	\$ 2,565
Reclassification of realized gain, net	(1,683)	(157)	(1,840)	(1,396)	(278)	(1,674)
Unrealized loss, transfer from available for sale to held to maturity, net	8	(1)	7	12	(2)	10
Change in fair value of interest rate swap designated as a cash flow hedge, net	5	114	119	(378)	(370)	(748)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	\$ (2,071)	\$ 1,276	\$ (795)	\$ (663)	\$ 816	\$ 153

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NOTE 9. STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

Equity Incentive Plan. The Company previously granted equity awards to its employees and non-employee directors under its 2014 Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan (the “2014 Plan”). Effective May 24, 2017, the Company’s shareholders approved its 2017 Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan (the “Plan”) and ceased using the 2014 Plan. The Plan authorizes the grant of various types of equity grants and awards, such as restricted stock, stock options and stock appreciation rights to eligible participants, which include all of the Company’s employees, non-employee directors, and consultants. The Plan has reserved 600,000 shares of common stock for grant, award or issuance to eligible participants, including shares underlying granted options. The Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors, which determines, within the provisions of the Plan, those eligible employees to whom, and the times at which, grants and awards will be made. The Compensation Committee, in its discretion, may delegate its authority and duties under the Plan to specified officers; however, only the Compensation Committee may approve the terms of grants and awards to the Company’s executive officers and directors.

Stock Options

The Company uses a Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate the fair value of share-based awards. The Black-Scholes option pricing model incorporates various highly subjective assumptions, including expected term and expected volatility. Stock option expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 was \$57,000 and \$0.2 million, respectively, and \$48,000 and \$0.1 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively.

The assumptions presented below were used for the options granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2017.

Expected dividends	0.22%
Expected volatility	20.46%
Risk-free interest rate	2.19%
Expected term (in years)	7.0
Weighted-average grant date fair value	\$ 5.39

At September 30, 2017, there was \$0.7 million of unrecognized compensation cost related to stock options that is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.98 years.

The table below summarizes stock option activity for the periods presented.

	Nine months ended September 30,			
	2017		2016	
	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number of Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding at beginning of period	319,364	\$ 14.37	278,352	\$ 14.37
Granted	36,177	20.25	46,512	14.28
Forfeited	(5,334)	14.00	—	—
Exercised	(17,791)	13.53	(2,166)	14.00
Outstanding at end of period	332,416	\$ 15.06	322,698	\$ 14.36
Exercisable at end of period	124,426	\$ 14.38	91,383	\$ 14.15

At September 30, 2017, the shares underlying outstanding stock options and exercisable stock options had aggregate intrinsic values of \$3.0 million and \$1.2 million, respectively.

Time Vested Restricted Stock Awards

During the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, the Company issued shares of time vested restricted stock with vesting terms ranging from 2 to 5 years. The total share-based compensation expense to be recognized for these awards is determined based on the market price of the Company’s common stock at the grant date applied to the total number of shares awarded and is amortized over the vesting period.

The table below summarizes the time vested restricted stock award activity for the periods presented.

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	Nine months ended September 30,			
	2017		2016	
	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Balance at beginning of period	93,366	\$ 14.75	60,592	\$ 14.85
Granted	54,724	20.18	54,837	14.67
Forfeited	(8,259)	16.05	(2,550)	15.25
Earned and issued	(25,949)	14.80	(15,255)	14.80
Balance at end of period	113,882	\$ 17.25	97,624	\$ 14.76

At September 30, 2017, there was \$1.7 million of unrecognized compensation cost related to time vested restricted stock awards that is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 3.38 years.

NOTE 10. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company currently holds interest rate swap contracts to manage exposure against the variability in the expected future cash flows (future interest payments) attributable to changes in the 1-month LIBOR associated with the forecasted issuances of 1-month fixed rate debt arising from a rollover strategy. An interest rate swap is an agreement whereby one party agrees to pay a fixed rate of interest on a notional principal amount in exchange for receiving a floating rate of interest on the same notional amount, for a predetermined period of time, from a second party. The amounts relating to the notional principal amount are not actually exchanged. The maximum length of time over which the Company is currently hedging its exposure to the variability in future cash flows for forecasted transactions is approximately 2.9 years. The total notional amount of the derivative contracts is \$50.0 million.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, a gain of \$37,000 and \$0.1 million, respectively, have been recognized in "Other comprehensive income" in the accompanying consolidated statements of comprehensive income for the change in fair value of the interest rate swaps compared to a gain of \$0.3 million and a loss of \$0.4 million, respectively, recognized for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016. The swap contracts had a fair value of \$0.2 million as of September 30, 2017 and have been recorded in "Other assets" in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet. The accumulated gain of \$0.1 million included in "Accumulated other comprehensive loss" in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet would be reclassified to current earnings if the hedge transactions become probable of not occurring. The Company expects the hedges to remain fully effective during the remaining term of the swap contracts.

NOTE 11. FAIR VALUES OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In accordance with FASB ASC Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure* ("ASC 820"), disclosure of fair value information about financial instruments, whether or not recognized in the balance sheet, is required. The fair value of a financial instrument is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date under current market conditions. Fair value is best determined based upon quoted market prices. In cases where quoted market prices are not available, fair values are based on estimates using present value or other valuation techniques. Those techniques are significantly affected by the assumptions used, including the discount rate and estimates of future cash flows, and the fair value estimates may not be realized in an immediate settlement of the instruments. Accordingly, the aggregate fair value amounts presented do not represent the underlying value of the Company.

If there has been a significant decrease in the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability, a change in valuation technique or the use of multiple valuation techniques may be appropriate. In such instances, determining the price at which willing market participants would transact at the measurement date under current market conditions depends on the facts and circumstances and requires use of significant judgment. The fair value is a reasonable point within the range that is most representative of fair value under current market conditions.

Fair Value Hierarchy

In accordance with ASC 820, the Company groups its financial assets and financial liabilities measured at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets and liabilities are traded and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value.

Level 1 – Valuation is based upon quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities traded in active markets.

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Level 2 – Valuation is based upon observable inputs other than quoted prices included in level 1, such as quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.

Level 3 – Valuation is based upon unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities. This includes certain pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies, and similar techniques that use significant unobservable inputs.

A financial instrument's categorization within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The following methods and assumptions were used by the Company in estimating fair value disclosures for financial instruments:

Cash and Due from Banks – For these short-term instruments, fair value is the carrying value. Cash and due from banks is classified in level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

Federal Funds Sold – The fair value is the carrying value. The Company classifies these assets in level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

Investment Securities and Other Equity Securities – Where quoted prices are available in an active market, the Company classifies the securities within level 1 of the valuation hierarchy. Securities are defined as both long and short positions. Level 1 securities include highly liquid government bonds and exchange-traded equities.

If quoted market prices are not available, the Company estimates fair values using pricing models and discounted cash flows that consider standard input factors such as observable market data, benchmark yields, interest rate volatilities, broker/dealer quotes, and credit spreads. Examples of such instruments, which would generally be classified within level 2 of the valuation hierarchy, include Government Sponsored Enterprise obligations, corporate bonds and other securities. Mortgage-backed securities are included in level 2 if observable inputs are available. In certain cases where there is limited activity or less transparency around inputs to the valuation, the Company classifies those securities in level 3. Equity securities are valued based on market quoted prices and are classified in level 1 as they are actively traded.

Loans – For variable-rate loans that re-price frequently and with no significant change in credit risk, fair values are based on carrying values. Fair values for certain mortgage loans (for example, 1-4 family residential), credit card loans, and other consumer loans are based on quoted market prices of similar instruments sold in conjunction with securitization transactions, adjusted for differences in loan characteristics. Fair values for other loans (for example, commercial real estate and investment property mortgage loans, commercial and industrial loans) are estimated using discounted cash flow analyses, using market interest rates for comparable loans. Fair values for nonperforming loans, which are loans for which the accrual of interest has stopped or loans that are contractually 90 past due on which interest continues to accrue, are estimated using discounted cash flow analyses or underlying collateral values, where applicable. The Company classifies loans in level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

Deposit Liabilities – The fair values disclosed for noninterest-bearing demand deposits are, by definition, equal to the amount payable on demand at the reporting date (that is, their carrying amounts). These noninterest-bearing deposits are classified in level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The carrying amounts of variable-rate (for example interest-bearing checking, savings, and money market accounts), fixed-term money market accounts and certificates of deposit approximate their fair values at the reporting date. Fair values for fixed-rate certificates of deposit are estimated using a discounted cash flow calculation that applies market interest rates on comparable instruments to a schedule of aggregated expected monthly maturities on time deposits. All interest-bearing deposits are classified in level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

Short-Term Borrowings – The carrying amounts of federal funds purchased, borrowings under repurchase agreements, and other short-term borrowings approximate their fair values. The Company classifies these borrowings in level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Long-Term Borrowings – The fair values of long-term borrowings are estimated using discounted cash flows analyses based on the Company's current incremental borrowing rates for similar types of borrowing arrangements. The fair value of the Company's long-term debt is therefore classified in level 3 in the fair value hierarchy.

Subordinated Debt Securities - The fair value of subordinated debt is estimated based on current market rates on similar debt in the market. The Company classifies this debt in level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

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Derivative Instruments – The fair value for interest rate swap agreements are based upon the amounts required to settle the contracts. These derivative instruments are classified in level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities Measured on a Recurring Basis

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis are summarized in the table below as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands).

	Estimated Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
September 30, 2017				
Assets:				
Obligations of other U.S. government agencies	\$ 55,496	\$ —	\$ 55,496	\$ —
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	35,531	—	15,933	19,598
Corporate bonds	16,558	—	15,230	1,328
Residential mortgage-backed securities	115,789	—	115,789	—
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	3,177	—	3,177	—
Equity securities	1,011	1,011	—	—
Derivative financial instruments	184	—	184	—
Total assets	<u>\$ 227,746</u>	<u>\$ 1,011</u>	<u>\$ 205,809</u>	<u>\$ 20,926</u>

December 31, 2016

Assets:				
Obligations of other U.S. government agencies	\$ 29,490	\$ —	\$ 29,490	\$ —
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	27,855	—	10,199	17,656
Corporate bonds	14,968	—	14,344	624
Residential mortgage-backed securities	87,588	—	87,588	—
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	2,444	—	2,444	—
Equity securities	706	706	—	—
Derivative financial instruments	8	—	8	—
Total assets	<u>\$ 163,059</u>	<u>\$ 706</u>	<u>\$ 144,073</u>	<u>\$ 18,280</u>

The Company reviews fair value hierarchy classifications on a quarterly basis. Changes in the Company's ability to observe inputs to the valuation may cause reclassification of certain assets or liabilities within the fair value hierarchy. The tables below provide a reconciliation for assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs, or Level 3 inputs, for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and September 30, 2016 (dollars in thousands).

	Obligations of State and Political Subdivisions	Corporate Bonds	Total
Balance at December 31, 2016	\$ 17,656	\$ 624	\$ 18,280
Realized gains (losses) included in net income	—	—	—
Unrealized gains (losses) included in other comprehensive income	1,942	4	1,946
Purchases	—	700	700
Sales	—	—	—
Transfers into Level 3	—	—	—
Transfers out of Level 3	—	—	—
Balance at September 30, 2017	<u>\$ 19,598</u>	<u>\$ 1,328</u>	<u>\$ 20,926</u>

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	Obligations of State and Political Subdivisions	Corporate Bonds	Total
Balance at December 31, 2015	\$ 10,395	\$ 1,136	\$ 11,531
Realized gains (losses) included in net income	—	—	—
Unrealized gains (losses) included in other comprehensive income	319	(27)	292
Purchases	9,065	—	9,065
Sales	—	—	—
Transfers into Level 3	—	—	—
Transfers out of Level 3	—	(485)	(485)
Balance at September 30, 2016	<u>\$ 19,779</u>	<u>\$ 624</u>	<u>\$ 20,403</u>

Fair Value of Assets Measured on a Nonrecurring Basis

Assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis are summarized in the table below as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands).

	Estimated Fair Value	Valuation Technique	Unobservable Inputs	Range of Discounts	Weighted Average Discount
September 30, 2017					
Impaired loans	\$ 384	Discounted cash flows, Underlying collateral value	Collateral discounts and estimated costs to sell	0% - 100%	32%
December 31, 2016					
Impaired loans	\$ 801	Discounted cash flows, Underlying collateral value	Collateral discounts and estimated costs to sell	1% - 100%	32%

There were no liabilities measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis at September 30, 2017 or December 31, 2016 .

The estimated fair values of the Company's financial instruments are summarized in the table below as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017				
	Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Financial assets:					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 48,508	\$ 48,508	\$ 48,508	\$ —	\$ —
Investment securities	246,868	246,873	1,011	212,264	33,598
Other equity securities	7,744	7,744	—	7,744	—
Loans, net of allowance	1,102,916	1,100,267	—	—	1,100,267
Derivative financial instruments	184	184	—	184	—
Financial liabilities:					
Deposits, noninterest-bearing	\$ 175,130	\$ 175,130	\$ —	\$ 175,130	\$ —
Deposits, interest-bearing	926,232	903,300	—	—	903,300
FHLB short-term advances and repurchase agreements	144,492	144,492	—	144,492	—
FHLB long-term advances	43,100	42,777	—	—	42,777
Junior subordinated debt	3,609	3,316	—	—	3,316
Subordinated debt	18,600	18,820	—	18,820	—

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	December 31, 2016				
	Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Financial assets:					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 29,342	\$ 29,342	\$ 29,342	\$ —	\$ —
Federal funds sold	106	106	106	—	—
Investment securities	183,142	182,663	706	151,128	30,829
Other equity securities	5,362	5,362	—	5,362	—
Loans, net of allowance	886,375	890,949	—	—	890,949
Derivative financial instruments	8	8	—	8	—
Financial liabilities:					
Deposits, noninterest-bearing	\$ 108,404	\$ 108,404	\$ —	\$ 108,404	\$ —
Deposits, interest-bearing	799,383	779,397	—	—	779,397
FHLB short-term advances and repurchase agreements	112,690	112,690	—	112,690	—
FHLB long-term advances	9,200	9,233	—	—	9,233
Junior subordinated debt	3,609	3,635	—	—	3,635
Other borrowings	1,000	1,001	—	1,001	—

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NOTE 12. INCOME TAXES

The expense for income taxes and the effective tax rate included in the consolidated statements of income are shown in the table below for the periods presented (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Income tax expense	\$ 1,032	\$ 747	\$ 2,756	\$ 2,758
Effective tax rate	32.6%	26.8%	31.8%	31.4%

The effective tax rates differ from the statutory tax rate of 35% largely due to tax exempt interest income earned on certain investment securities.

NOTE 13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Company is a party to financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk entered into in the normal course of business to meet the financing needs of its customers. These financial instruments include commitments to extend credit consisting of loan commitments and standby letters of credit, which are not included in the accompanying financial statements.

Commitments to extend credit are agreements to lend money with fixed expiration dates or termination clauses. The Company applies the same credit standards used in the lending process when extending these commitments, and periodically reassesses the customer's creditworthiness through ongoing credit reviews. Since some commitments are expected to expire without being drawn upon, the total commitment amounts do not necessarily represent future cash requirements. Collateral is obtained based on the Company's assessment of the transaction. Essentially all standby letters of credit issued have expiration dates within one year.

The table below shows the approximate amounts of the Company's commitments to extend credit as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Commitments to extend credit		
Loan commitments	\$ 176,517	\$ 142,891
Standby letters of credit	703	1,008

Additionally, at September 30, 2017, the Company had unfunded commitments of \$0.3 million for its investment in Small Business Investment Company qualified funds.

During the third quarter of 2017, the Company announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement (the "Agreement") to acquire BOJ Bancshares, Inc. ("BOJ") and its wholly-owned subsidiary, The Highlands Bank, in Jackson, Louisiana. The acquisition would add five branch locations in the Company's existing Baton Rouge market. The transaction, which has been unanimously approved by each company's board of directors, is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2017 and is subject to customary closing conditions, including obtaining approval by BOJ's shareholders. The BOJ special meeting of shareholders to vote upon the Agreement has been called for November 15, 2017. The Company has received regulatory approvals from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Louisiana Office of Financial Institutions.

Under the terms of the Agreement, consideration will be paid to the shareholders of BOJ in the form of cash and shares of the Company's common stock. Shareholders of BOJ will be entitled to receive an aggregate amount of cash consideration equal to \$3.95 million, subject to certain adjustments. BOJ will also be entitled to receive an aggregate of 799,559 shares of Investar common stock, subject to adjustment. Assuming no adjustments to the merger consideration under the terms of the Agreement, the transaction is valued at approximately \$22.78 million based upon the closing price of Investar's common stock of \$23.55 on October 17, 2017. It is expected that shareholders of BOJ will own approximately 8% of the combined company following the acquisition.

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With respect to potential adjustments to the merger consideration, the Agreement includes two collar mechanisms that could result in a modification to the number of shares of the Company's common stock to be issued. Fewer shares would be issued if the average closing price of the Company's common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the closing date is greater than \$26.11 , and more shares would be issued if such average closing price is less than \$20.43 . As a result of these collar mechanisms, the implied value of the aggregate merger consideration will not fluctuate above \$24.8 million or below \$20.3 million due to changes in the market price of the Company's common stock. The parties are not obligated to close the transaction if such average closing price is not greater than \$19.50 . In addition, the aggregate merger consideration is subject to a dollar-for-dollar downward adjustment to the extent that BOJ's adjusted tangible shareholders' equity, as defined in the Agreement, is less than \$16.5 million as of a date to be determined by BOJ that is within ten days prior to the closing of the merger. If this downward adjustment is triggered, both the aggregate cash consideration and aggregate stock consideration would be reduced pro rata.

At September 30, 2017, BOJ had, on a consolidated basis, approximately \$154 million in assets, \$108 million in net loans, \$126 million in deposits, and \$17 million in stockholders' equity. The Highlands Bank offers a full range of banking products and services to the residents of East Feliciana, West Feliciana, and East Baton Rouge Parishes through its main office and four branch locations.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

This section presents management's perspective on the consolidated financial condition and results of operations of Investar Holding Corporation (the "Company," "we," "our," or "us") and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Investar Bank (the "Bank"). The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our unaudited consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included herein, and the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016, including the notes thereto, and the related Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in the Annual Report on Form 10-K that the Company filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on March 9, 2017.

Overview

Through our wholly-owned subsidiary Investar Bank, we provide full banking services, excluding trust services, tailored primarily to meet the needs of individuals and small to medium-sized businesses in our primary areas of operation in South Louisiana: Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Lafayette, Hammond, and their surrounding metropolitan areas. Our Bank commenced operations in 2006 and we completed our initial public offering in July 2014. Our strategy includes organic growth through high quality loans, and growth through acquisitions. During the nine months ended September 30, 2017, we opened two de novo branches - one in the Baton Rouge market and one in the New Orleans market. We also completed the acquisition of Citizens Bancshares, Inc. ("Citizens"), and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Citizens Bank, located in Evangeline Parish, on July 1, 2017, further expanding our footprint in Louisiana. In August 2017, we announced that the Company has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire BOJ Bancshares, Inc. ("BOJ") and its wholly-owned subsidiary, The Highlands Bank, in Jackson, Louisiana. The acquisition of BOJ, with its five branch locations in East Feliciana, West Feliciana and East Baton Rouge Parishes, would expand the Company's branch footprint in its Baton Rouge market, further bolstering our core deposit base. We expect the acquisition to close in the fourth quarter of 2017. For additional information, see Note 13 to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

We currently operate 15 full service branches. We continue to focus on growing our deposit base in our markets. We have completed three acquisitions since 2011 and regularly evaluate acquisition opportunities.

Our principal business is lending to and accepting deposits from individuals and small to medium-sized businesses in our areas of operation. We generate our income principally from interest on loans and, to a lesser extent, our securities investments, as well as from fees charged in connection with our various loan and deposit services and gains on the sale of securities. Our principal expenses are interest expense on interest-bearing customer deposits and borrowings, salaries, employee benefits, occupancy costs, data processing and other operating expenses. We measure our performance through our net interest margin, return on average assets, and return on average equity, among other metrics, while seeking to maintain appropriate regulatory leverage and risk-based capital ratios.

During the first quarter of 2017, we completed both a common stock offering and a subordinated debt issuance. The common stock offering generated net proceeds of \$32.5 million through the issuance of 1.6 million common shares at a price of \$21.25 per share. We intend to use the net proceeds from the common stock offering for general corporate purposes and potential strategic acquisitions. We also issued and sold \$18.6 million in fixed-to-floating rate subordinated notes due in 2027. We used the net proceeds from the debt issuance to fund a portion of the acquisition of Citizens.

Pending Acquisition

During the third quarter of 2017, the Company announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement (the "Agreement") to acquire BOJ. The transaction, which has been unanimously approved by each company's board of directors, is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2017 and is subject to customary closing conditions, including obtaining approval by BOJ's shareholders. The BOJ special meeting of shareholders to vote upon the Agreement has been called for November 15, 2017. The Company has received regulatory approvals from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Louisiana Office of Financial Institutions.

Under the terms of the Agreement, consideration will be paid to the shareholders of BOJ in the form of cash and shares of the Company's common stock. Shareholders of BOJ will be entitled to receive an aggregate amount of cash consideration equal to \$3.95 million, subject to certain adjustments. BOJ will also be entitled to receive an aggregate of 799,559 shares of the Company's common stock, subject to adjustment. Assuming no adjustments to the merger consideration under the terms of the Agreement, the transaction is valued at approximately \$22.78 million based upon the closing price of the Company's common stock of \$23.55 on October 17, 2017. It is expected that shareholders of BOJ will own approximately 8% of the combined company following the acquisition.

With respect to potential adjustments to the merger consideration, the merger agreement includes two collar mechanisms that could result in a modification to the number of shares of the Company's common stock to be issued. Fewer shares would be issued if the average closing price of the Company's common stock for the ten consecutive trading days prior to the closing date is greater than \$26.11, and more shares would be issued if such average closing price is less than \$20.43. As a result of these collar mechanisms, the implied value of the aggregate merger consideration will not fluctuate above \$24.8 million or below \$20.3 million due to changes in the market price of the Company's common stock. The parties are not obligated to close the transaction if such average closing price is not greater than \$19.50. In addition, the aggregate merger consideration is subject to a dollar-for-dollar downward adjustment to the extent that BOJ's adjusted tangible shareholders' equity, as defined in the Agreement, is less than \$16.5 million as of a date to be determined by BOJ that is within ten days prior to the closing of the merger. If this downward adjustment is triggered, both the aggregate cash consideration and aggregate stock consideration would be reduced pro rata. Any BOJ shareholders not voting in favor of the merger agreement have statutory appraisal rights which, if properly perfected, would entitle them to receive, instead of the merger consideration, the fair value of their shares in cash; provided, that the Company is not obligated to complete the merger if such rights are exercised for more than 10% of the outstanding BOJ common stock.

At September 30, 2017, BOJ had, on a consolidated basis, approximately \$154 million in assets, \$108 million in net loans, \$126 million in deposits, and \$17 million in stockholders' equity. The Highlands Bank offers a full range of banking products and services to the residents of East Feliciana, West Feliciana, and East Baton Rouge Parishes through its main office and four branch locations.

Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition

The financial results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 reflect the acquisition of Citizens beginning July 1, 2017. The acquisition of Citizens added three branch locations in Evangeline Parish with total assets of \$250 million, total loans of \$130 million, and total deposits of \$212 million. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, the Company recognized \$0.8 million and \$1.0 million, respectively, in expenses related to the acquisition of Citizens.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2017, net income was \$5.9 million, or \$0.72 per basic share and \$0.71 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$6.0 million, or \$0.85 per basic share and \$0.84 per diluted share, for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. For the nine months ended September 30, 2017, our net interest margin was 3.32%, return on average assets was 0.62%, and return on average equity was 5.65%. From December 31, 2016 to September 30, 2017, total loans increased \$217.1 million, or 24.3%, and total deposits increased \$193.6 million, or 21.3%. As of September 30, 2017, the Company and Bank each were in compliance with all regulatory capital requirements, and the Bank was considered "well-capitalized" under the FDIC's prompt corrective action regulations.

Loans

General. Loans constitute our most significant asset, comprising 75.2% and 77.1% of our total assets at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively. Total loans increased \$217.1 million, or 24.3%, to \$1.1 billion at September 30, 2017 compared to \$893.4 million at December 31, 2016 as a result of both the Citizens acquisition and organic growth in our business. Excluding acquired loans of \$124.4 million, or 11.2% of the total loan portfolio, total loans at September 30, 2017 increased \$92.7 million, or 10.4%, compared to \$893.4 million at December 31, 2016.

The table below sets forth the composition of the Company's loan portfolio as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017		December 31, 2016	
	Amount	Percentage of Total Loans	Amount	Percentage of Total Loans
Construction and development	\$ 122,501	11.0%	\$ 90,737	10.2%
1-4 Family	252,003	22.7	177,205	19.8
Multifamily	50,770	4.6	42,759	4.8
Farmland	14,130	1.3	8,207	0.9
Commercial real estate				
Owner-occupied	217,369	19.6	180,458	20.2
Nonowner-occupied	245,053	22.0	200,258	22.4
Total mortgage loans on real estate	901,826	81.2	699,624	78.3
Commercial and industrial	125,230	11.3	85,377	9.6
Consumer	83,465	7.5	108,425	12.1
Total loans	\$ 1,110,521	100.0%	\$ 893,426	100.0%

One to four family loans were \$252.0 million at September 30, 2017, an increase of \$74.8 million, or 42.2%, compared to \$177.2 million at December 31, 2016. The increase in the 1-4 family portfolio is primarily a result of the \$61.5 million 1-4 family loans acquired from Citizens.

At September 30, 2017, the Company's business lending portfolio, which consists of loans secured by owner-occupied commercial real estate properties and commercial and industrial loans, was \$342.6 million, an increase of \$76.8 million, or 28.9%, compared to \$265.8 million at December 31, 2016. Included in the business lending portfolio at September 30, 2017 is \$34.0 million, or 9.9% of the total portfolio, of loans acquired from Citizens.

Consumer loans totaled \$83.5 million at September 30, 2017, a decrease of \$24.9 million, or 23.0%, compared to \$108.4 million at December 31, 2016. Excluding the consumer loans totaling \$8.5 million acquired from Citizens, consumer loans at September 30, 2017 decreased \$33.4 million, or 30.8%, compared to December 31, 2016. The decrease in consumer loans is attributable to the scheduled paydowns of the consumer loans, most of which relate to our former indirect auto loan business.

The following table sets forth loans outstanding at September 30, 2017, which, based on remaining scheduled repayments of principal, are due in the periods indicated. Loans with balloon payments and longer amortizations are often repriced and extended beyond the initial maturity when credit conditions remain satisfactory. Demand loans, loans having no stated schedule of repayments and no stated maturity and overdrafts are reported below as due in one year or less.

<i>(dollars in thousands)</i>	One Year or Less	After One Year Through Five Years	After Five Years Through Ten Years	After Ten Years Through Fifteen Years	After Fifteen Years	Total
Construction and development	\$ 101,011	\$ 10,432	\$ 9,156	\$ 1,412	\$ 490	\$ 122,501
1-4 Family	40,801	93,559	43,950	27,091	46,602	252,003
Multifamily	5,177	26,932	16,220	893	1,548	50,770
Farmland	5,507	3,397	3,372	1,854	—	14,130
Commercial real estate						
Owner-occupied	14,532	75,565	79,044	38,597	9,631	217,369
Nonowner-occupied	33,686	91,637	102,891	16,839	—	245,053
Total mortgage loans on real estate	200,714	301,522	254,633	86,686	58,271	901,826
Commercial and industrial	66,380	42,750	14,927	—	1,173	125,230
Consumer	4,039	69,795	9,147	361	123	83,465
Total loans	\$ 271,133	\$ 414,067	\$ 278,707	\$ 87,047	\$ 59,567	\$ 1,110,521

Loans Held for Sale . There were no loans held for sale at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016. Since the Bank discontinued accepting indirect auto loan applications at the end of 2015, which was the primary source of its consumer loan portfolio and loans held for sale, the consumer loan portfolio is expected to decrease over time, and loans are no longer held for sale. There were no gains on the sale of consumer loans recognized for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 , compared to \$0.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

Loan Concentrations . Loan concentrations are considered to exist when there are amounts loaned to multiple borrowers engaged in similar activities that would cause them to be similarly impacted by economic or other conditions. At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 , we had no concentrations of loans exceeding 10% of total loans other than loans in the categories listed in the table above.

We continue to monitor our loan portfolio for exposure to potential negative impacts of low oil and gas prices. We consider our direct exposure to the energy sector not to be significant, at approximately one percent of the total loan portfolio at September 30, 2017 . Despite the prolonged suppressed prices of oil and gas, we have not experienced increased losses in our portfolio as a result. However, management continues to monitor the general economic conditions in our South Louisiana markets to consider how they may negatively affect our borrowers and their ability to service their debt. Management continually evaluates the allowance for loan losses based on several factors, including economic conditions, and currently believes that any potential negatively affected future cash flows related to these loans would be covered by the current allowance for loan losses.

Investment Securities

We purchase investment securities primarily to provide a source for meeting liquidity needs, with return on investment a secondary consideration. We also use investment securities as collateral for certain deposits and other types of borrowing. Investment securities represented 16.7% of our total assets and totaled \$246.9 million at September 30, 2017 , an increase of \$63.8 million, or 34.8% , from \$183.1 million at December 31, 2016 . The increase in investment securities at September 30, 2017 compared to December 31, 2016 primarily resulted from purchases of obligations of other U.S. government agencies and corporations and residential mortgage-backed securities.

The table below shows the carrying value of our investment securities portfolio by investment type and the percentage that such investment type comprises of our entire portfolio as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017		December 31, 2016	
	Balance	Percentage of Portfolio	Balance	Percentage of Portfolio
Obligations of other U.S. government agencies and corporations	\$ 55,496	22.5%	\$ 29,490	16.1%
Obligations of state and political subdivisions	48,186	19.5	40,831	22.3
Corporate bonds	16,558	6.7	14,968	8.2
Residential mortgage-backed securities	122,440	49.6	94,703	51.7
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	3,177	1.3	2,444	1.3
Equity securities	1,011	0.4	706	0.4
Total	\$ 246,868	100.0%	\$ 183,142	100.0%

The investment portfolio consists of available for sale and held to maturity securities. We classify debt securities as held to maturity if management has the positive intent and ability to hold the securities to maturity. Held to maturity securities are stated at amortized cost. Securities not classified as held to maturity or trading are classified as available for sale. The carrying values of the Company's available for sale securities are adjusted for unrealized gains or losses as valuation allowances, and any gains or losses are reported on an after-tax basis as a component of other comprehensive income. Any expected credit loss due to the inability to collect all amounts due according to the security's contractual terms is recognized as a charge against earnings. Any remaining unrealized loss related to other factors would be recognized in other comprehensive income, net of taxes.

The table below sets forth the stated maturities and weighted average yields of our investment debt securities based on the amortized cost of our investment portfolio as of September 30, 2017 (dollars in thousands).

	One Year or Less		After One Year Through Five Years		After Five Years Through Ten Years		After Ten Years	
	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield
Held to maturity:								
Obligations of states and political subdivisions	\$ 685	7.17%	\$ 3,095	7.17%	\$ 2,745	7.17%	\$ 6,130	4.38%
Residential mortgage-backed securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,651	2.75
Available for sale:								
Obligations of other U.S. government agencies and corporations	—	—	1,078	2.63	7,528	2.30	47,183	2.46
Obligations of states and political subdivisions	728	1.89	8,529	2.29	6,320	2.83	20,307	4.10
Corporate bonds	1,257	2.10	4,395	2.60	9,605	3.58	1,564	2.53
Residential mortgage-backed securities	—	—	734	2.02	1,977	2.24	113,535	2.19
Commercial mortgage-backed securities	—	—	1,012	1.84	2,206	2.50	—	—
	<u>\$ 2,670</u>		<u>\$ 18,843</u>		<u>\$ 30,381</u>		<u>\$ 195,370</u>	

The maturity of mortgage-backed securities reflects scheduled repayments based upon the contractual maturities of the securities. Weighted average yields on tax-exempt obligations have been computed on a fully tax equivalent basis assuming a federal tax rate of 35%.

Deposits

The following table sets forth the composition of our deposits and the percentage of each deposit type to total deposits at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017		December 31, 2016	
	Amount	Percentage of Total Deposits	Amount	Percentage of Total Deposits
Noninterest-bearing demand deposits	\$ 175,130	15.9%	\$ 108,404	11.9%
NOW accounts	192,503	17.5	171,556	18.9
Money market deposit accounts	147,096	13.3	123,079	13.6
Savings accounts	103,017	9.4	52,860	5.8
Time deposits	483,616	43.9	451,888	49.8
Total deposits	<u>\$ 1,101,362</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 907,787</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Total deposits were \$1.1 billion at September 30, 2017, an increase of \$193.6 million, or 21.3%, compared to December 31, 2016. Excluding deposits acquired from Citizens, or approximately \$212.2 million, deposits at September 30, 2017 decreased \$18.6 million, or 2.0%, compared to December 31, 2016. The decrease in total deposits exclusive of acquired deposits was driven by a decrease in time deposits of \$62.3 million, or 13.8%, which was partially offset by increases of \$23.3 million, or 21.5%, and \$21.0 million, or 17.1%, in noninterest-bearing demand deposits and money market deposit accounts, respectively. In an effort to begin reducing its cost of funds and its dependency on non-retail certificates of deposit, during the third quarter of 2016, the Company began lowering its rates on time deposits, particularly Qwikrate[®] deposits, which are primarily deposits of other financial institutions. As a result of this strategy, as the Qwikrate[®] deposits have matured, many have not renewed with the Bank, which is the primary driver for the decrease in time deposits.

The following table shows the contractual maturities of certificates of deposit and other time deposits greater than \$100,000 at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017		December 31, 2016	
	Certificates of Deposit	Other Time Deposits	Certificates of Deposit	Other Time Deposits
Time remaining until maturity:				
Three months or less	\$ 36,929	\$ 719	\$ 59,639	\$ 100
Over three months through six months	55,825	1,967	25,695	358
Over six months through twelve months	59,472	1,688	20,327	660
Over one year through three years	46,718	1,962	65,865	1,388
Over three years	8,008	2,173	8,684	297
	<u>\$ 206,952</u>	<u>\$ 8,509</u>	<u>\$ 180,210</u>	<u>\$ 2,803</u>

Borrowings

Total borrowings include securities sold under agreements to repurchase, advances from the Federal Home Loan Bank (“FHLB”), unsecured lines of credit with First National Bankers Bank (“FNBB”) and The Independent Bankers Bank (“TIB”), junior subordinated debentures, and a secured revolving line of credit with TIB. In addition, in connection with its definitive agreement to acquire Citizens, on March 24, 2017, the Company issued and sold \$18.6 million in aggregate principal amount of its 6.00% Fixed-to-Floating Rate Subordinated Notes (“Notes”) due March 30, 2027. Beginning on March 30, 2022, the Company may redeem the Notes, in whole or in part, at their principal amount plus any accrued and unpaid interest. The Notes bear an interest rate of 6.00% per annum until March 30, 2022, on which date the interest rate will reset quarterly to an annual interest rate equal to the then-current LIBOR plus 394.5 basis points. The Company used the net proceeds of the Notes sale to fund a portion of its acquisition of Citizens, which closed on July 1, 2017.

Securities sold under agreements to repurchase decreased \$14.2 million to \$24.9 million at September 30, 2017 from \$39.1 million at December 31, 2016. Our advances from the FHLB were \$162.7 million at September 30, 2017, an increase of \$79.9 million, or 96.5%, from FHLB advances of \$82.8 million at December 31, 2016. The increase in FHLB advances was used primarily to fund organic loan growth.

We had no outstanding balances drawn on unsecured lines of credit at September 30, 2017 or December 31, 2016. There was no outstanding balance on the secured revolving line of credit with TIB at September 30, 2017 compared to \$1.0 million at December 31, 2016. The \$3.6 million in junior subordinated debt at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 represents the junior subordinated debentures that we assumed through acquisition. The carrying value of the Notes was \$18.2 million at September 30, 2017.

The average balances and cost of funds of short-term borrowings for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 are summarized in the table below (dollars in thousands).

	Average Balances		Cost of Funds	
	September 30, 2017	September 30, 2016	September 30, 2017	September 30, 2016
Federal funds purchased and other short-term borrowings	\$ 91,914	\$ 82,912	1.34%	1.07%
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	35,167	28,506	0.30	0.20
Total short-term borrowings	<u>\$ 127,081</u>	<u>\$ 111,418</u>	<u>1.05%</u>	<u>0.85%</u>

Results of Operations

The results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 reflect the acquisition of Citizens beginning July 1, 2017.

Performance Summary

Three months ended September 30, 2017 vs. three months ended September 30, 2016 . For the three months ended September 30, 2017 , net income was \$2.1 million , or \$0.24 per basic and diluted share, compared to net income of \$2.0 million , or \$0.29 per basic and diluted share for the three months ended September 30, 2016 . The decrease in basic and diluted earnings per share is mainly attributable to the increase in the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, which is primarily a result of the 1.6 million shares issued in a public offering at the end of the first quarter of 2017. Return on average assets decreased to 0.59% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 0.71% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 , primarily due to a \$303.3 million increase in average assets for the quarter ended September 30, 2017, as well as \$0.8 million in acquisition related expenses recognized during the three months ended September 30, 2017 . Return on average equity was 5.55% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 7.15% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 , primarily due to a \$39.1 million increase in average equity, which mainly resulted from a public offering of common stock in the first quarter of 2017, generating net proceeds of \$32.5 million.

Nine months ended September 30, 2017 vs. Nine months ended September 30, 2016 . For the nine months ended September 30, 2017 , net income was \$5.9 million , or \$0.72 per basic share and \$0.71 per diluted share, compared to net income of \$6.0 million , or \$0.85 per basic share and \$0.84 diluted share for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 . The decrease in basic and diluted earnings per share is mainly attributable to the increase in the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, discussed above. Return on average assets decreased to 0.62% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 0.74% for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 , primarily due to a \$176.9 million increase in average assets for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 , as well as \$1.0 million in acquisition related expenses recognized during the same period. Return on average equity was 5.65% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 7.17% for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 , primarily due to a \$27.9 million increase in average equity, which mainly resulted from the public offering of common stock discussed above.

Net Interest Income

Net interest income, which is the largest component of our earnings, is the difference between interest earned on assets, such as loans and investments, and the cost of interest-bearing liabilities, such as deposits and borrowings. The primary factors affecting net interest income are the volume, yield and mix of our rate-sensitive assets and liabilities, as well as the amount of our nonperforming loans and the interest rate environment.

Three months ended September 30, 2017 vs. three months ended September 30, 2016 . Net interest income increased 31.8% to \$11.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$8.8 million for the same period in 2016 . This increase is due primarily to the \$199.5 million and \$71.3 million increases in average loans and average investment securities, respectively, when compared to the same period in 2016 , resulting in a \$3.4 million increase in interest income, discussed in more detail below. Average interest-bearing deposits increased approximately \$142.4 million and average short- and long-term borrowings increased \$53.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 when compared to the same period in 2016 , resulting in a \$0.7 million increase in interest expense, also discussed in more detail below. The increases in both average interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities are results of both organic growth of the Company and the acquisition of Citizens.

Interest income was \$14.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$11.0 million for the same period in 2016 . Loan interest income made up substantially all of our interest income for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 . An increase in interest income of \$2.6 million can be attributed to an increase in the volume of interest-earning assets and an increase of \$0.8 million can be attributed to an increase in the yield earned on those assets. The overall yield on interest-earning assets was 4.26% and 4.06% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The loan portfolio yielded 4.76% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 4.54% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 , while the yield on the investment portfolio was 2.33% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 2.19% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 .

Interest expense was \$2.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 , an increase of \$0.7 million compared to interest expense of \$2.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 , as a result of an increase of \$0.4 million attributed to volume and \$0.3 million attributed to the increase in the rate of interest-bearing liabilities. Average interest-bearing liabilities increased approximately \$195.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to the same period in 2016 mainly as a result of a \$53.2 million increase in short- and long-term borrowings. The increase in short-term borrowings is attributable to our liquidity needs, while the increase in long-term borrowings is a result of the Company's sale of its Notes, discussed in *Borrowings* above. The cost of deposits decreased seven basis points to 0.91% for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 compared to 0.98% for the quarter ended September 30, 2016 as a result of the decrease in the cost of savings deposits and time deposits. The cost of interest-bearing liabilities increased seven basis points to 1.05 % for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 0.98 % for the same period in 2016 , primarily as a result of an increase in the cost of short- and long-term borrowings.

Net interest margin was 3.40% for the three months ended September 30, 2017 , an increase of 17 basis points from 3.23% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 . The increase in net interest margin is mainly attributable to the 20 basis point increase in yield on interest-earning assets.

Average Balances and Yields . The following table sets forth average balance sheet data, including all major categories of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities, together with the interest earned or paid and the average yield or rate paid on each such category for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 . Averages presented in the table below are daily averages (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30,					
	2017			2016		
	Average Balance	Interest Income/Expense ⁽¹⁾	Yield/ Rate ⁽¹⁾	Average Balance	Interest Income/Expense ⁽¹⁾	Yield/ Rate ⁽¹⁾
Assets						
Interest-earning assets:						
Loans	\$ 1,073,800	\$ 12,893	4.76%	\$ 874,272	\$ 10,011	4.54%
Securities:						
Taxable	203,407	1,193	2.33	136,047	728	2.12
Tax-exempt	34,659	206	2.36	30,733	192	2.48
Interest-earning balances with banks	34,589	150	1.72	34,093	62	0.72
Total interest-earning assets	1,346,455	14,442	4.26	1,075,145	10,993	4.06
Cash and due from banks	22,626			7,138		
Intangible assets	13,283			3,248		
Other assets	63,007			56,273		
Allowance for loan losses	(7,442)			(7,213)		
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,437,929</u>			<u>\$ 1,134,591</u>		
Liabilities and stockholders' equity						
Interest-bearing liabilities:						
Deposits:						
Interest-bearing demand	\$ 337,846	\$ 604	0.71%	\$ 262,841	\$ 433	0.65%
Savings deposits	102,331	139	0.54	51,924	88	0.67
Time deposits	486,837	1,394	1.14	469,826	1,413	1.19
Total interest-bearing deposits	927,014	2,137	0.91	784,591	1,934	0.98
Short-term borrowings	122,456	367	1.19	98,286	237	0.96
Long-term debt	51,642	400	3.07	22,644	69	1.21
Total interest-bearing liabilities	1,101,112	2,904	1.05	905,521	2,240	0.98
Noninterest-bearing deposits	173,212			102,736		
Other liabilities	11,419			13,278		
Stockholders' equity	152,186			113,056		
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 1,437,929</u>			<u>\$ 1,134,591</u>		
Net interest income/net interest margin		<u>\$ 11,538</u>	<u>3.40%</u>		<u>\$ 8,753</u>	<u>3.23%</u>

⁽¹⁾ Interest income and net interest margin are expressed as a percentage of average interest-earning assets outstanding for the indicated periods. Interest expense is expressed as a percentage of average interest-bearing liabilities for the indicated periods.

Volume/Rate Analysis . The following table sets forth a summary of the changes in interest earned and interest paid resulting from changes in volume and rates for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to the same period in 2016 (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30, 2017 vs. three months ended September 30, 2016		
	Volume	Rate	Net ⁽¹⁾
Interest income:			
Loans	\$ 2,285	\$ 597	\$ 2,882
Securities:			
Taxable	360	105	465
Tax-exempt	25	(11)	14
Interest-earning balances with banks	1	87	88
Total interest-earning assets	<u>2,671</u>	<u>778</u>	<u>3,449</u>
Interest expense:			
Interest-bearing demand deposits	124	47	171
Savings deposits	86	(35)	51
Time deposits	51	(70)	(19)
Short-term borrowings	58	72	130
Long-term debt	88	243	331
Total interest-bearing liabilities	<u>407</u>	<u>257</u>	<u>664</u>
Change in net interest income	<u>\$ 2,264</u>	<u>\$ 521</u>	<u>\$ 2,785</u>

⁽¹⁾ Changes in interest due to both volume and rate have been allocated on a pro-rata basis using the absolute ratio value of amounts calculated.

Nine months ended September 30, 2017 vs. nine months ended September 30, 2016 . Net interest income increased 14.4% to \$29.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$26.0 million for the same period in 2016 . This increase is primarily due to the \$107.8 million and \$52.9 million increases in average loans and average investment securities, respectively, when compared to the same period in 2016 , resulting in a \$5.3 million increase in interest income, discussed in more detail below. Average interest-bearing deposits and average short- and long-term borrowings increased approximately \$83.6 million and \$28.9 million , respectively, for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 when compared to the same period in 2016 , resulting in a \$1.5 million increase in interest expense, also discussed in more detail below. The increases in both average interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities are a result of both organic growth of the Company and the acquisition of Citizens.

Interest income was \$37.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 , an increase of \$5.3 million, or 16.5%, compared to \$32.1 million for the same period in 2016 . Loan interest income made up substantially all of our interest income for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 . The increase in interest income was a result of continued growth of the Company's loan and investment portfolios organically and through acquisition, with an increase in interest income of \$4.6 million due to an increase in the volume of interest-earning assets and an increase of \$0.7 million attributed to the increase in the yield earned on those assets. The overall yield on interest-earning assets increased three basis points to 4.18% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 4.15% for the same period in 2016 . The loan portfolio yielded 4.66% and 4.57% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The yield on the investment portfolio was 2.37% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 2.34% for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 .

Interest expense was \$7.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 , an increase of \$1.6 million compared to interest expense of \$6.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 , as a result of increases in both the volume and cost of interest-bearing liabilities. Average interest-bearing liabilities increased approximately \$112.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to the same period in 2016 , resulting from acquired deposits, an increase in short-term borrowings to fund liquidity needs, and an increase in long-term borrowings from the issuance and sale of the Company's Notes, discussed in *Borrowings* above. The cost of interest-bearing liabilities increased 11 basis points to 1.05% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to 0.94% for the same period in 2016 , primarily as a result of the cost of short- and long-term borrowings.

Net interest margin was 3.32% for the nine months ended September 30, 2017, down four basis points from 3.36% for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. The decrease in net interest margin is attributable to the increase in the cost of interest-bearing liabilities discussed above.

Average Balances and Yields. The following table sets forth average balance sheet data, including all major categories of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities, together with the interest earned or paid and the average yield or rate paid on each such category for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016. Averages presented in the table below are daily averages (dollars in thousands).

	Nine months ended September 30,					
	2017			2016		
	Average Balance	Interest Income/Expense ⁽¹⁾	Yield/ Rate ⁽¹⁾	Average Balance	Interest Income/Expense ⁽¹⁾	Yield/ Rate ⁽¹⁾
Assets						
Interest-earning assets:						
Loans	\$ 960,868	\$ 33,456	4.66%	\$ 853,116	\$ 29,277	4.57%
Securities:						
Taxable	173,273	3,044	2.35	125,982	2,172	2.30
Tax-exempt	31,540	583	2.47	25,920	495	2.54
Interest-earning balances with banks	29,238	296	1.35	25,608	146	0.76
Total interest-earning assets	1,194,919	37,379	4.18	1,030,626	32,090	4.15
Cash and due from banks	13,180			7,335		
Intangible assets	6,612			3,228		
Other assets	58,401			54,478		
Allowance for loan losses	(7,265)			(6,770)		
Total assets	\$ 1,265,847			\$ 1,088,897		
Liabilities and stockholders' equity						
Interest-bearing liabilities:						
Deposits:						
Interest-bearing demand	\$ 307,369	\$ 1,616	0.70%	\$ 249,960	\$ 1,205	0.64%
Savings deposits	69,194	308	0.60	52,596	265	0.67
Time deposits	440,956	3,893	1.18	431,328	3,742	1.16
Total interest-bearing deposits	817,519	5,817	0.95	733,884	5,212	0.95
Short-term borrowings	127,081	1,000	1.05	111,418	710	0.85
Long-term debt	37,479	862	3.08	24,243	210	1.15
Total interest-bearing liabilities	982,079	7,679	1.05	869,545	6,132	0.94
Noninterest-bearing deposits	133,675			95,225		
Other liabilities	10,166			12,135		
Stockholders' equity	139,927			111,992		
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 1,265,847			\$ 1,088,897		
Net interest income/net interest margin		\$ 29,700	3.32%		\$ 25,958	3.36%

⁽¹⁾ Interest income and net interest margin are expressed as a percentage of average interest-earning assets outstanding for the indicated periods. Interest expense is expressed as a percentage of average interest-bearing liabilities for the indicated periods.

Volume/Rate Analysis . The following table sets forth a summary of the changes in interest earned and interest paid resulting from changes in volume and rates for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to the same period in 2016 (dollars in thousands).

	Nine months ended September 30, 2017 vs. Nine months ended September 30, 2016		
	Volume	Rate	Net ⁽¹⁾
Interest income:			
Loans	\$ 3,698	\$ 481	\$ 4,179
Securities:			
Taxable	815	57	872
Tax-exempt	107	(19)	88
Interest-earning balances with banks	21	129	150
Total interest-earning assets	<u>4,641</u>	<u>648</u>	<u>5,289</u>
Interest expense:			
Interest-bearing demand deposits	277	134	411
Savings deposits	83	(40)	43
Time deposits	84	67	151
Short-term borrowings	100	190	290
Long-term debt	115	537	652
Total interest-bearing liabilities	<u>659</u>	<u>888</u>	<u>1,547</u>
Change in net interest income	<u>\$ 3,982</u>	<u>\$ (240)</u>	<u>\$ 3,742</u>

⁽¹⁾ Changes in interest due to both volume and rate have been allocated on a pro-rata basis using the absolute ratio value of amounts calculated.

Noninterest Income

Noninterest income includes, among other things, fees generated from our deposit services, gain on sale of investment securities, fixed assets, other real estate owned and loans, and servicing fees and fee income on serviced loans. We expect to continue to develop new products that generate noninterest income, and enhance our existing products, in order to diversify our revenue sources.

Three months ended September 30, 2017 vs. three months ended September 30, 2016 . Total noninterest income increased \$0.2 million, or 13.4% , to \$1.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$1.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 . The increase in noninterest income is mainly attributable to the \$0.2 million increase in both service charges on deposit accounts and gain on sale of fixed assets, offset by decreases in the gain on sale of investment securities and servicing fees and fee income on serviced loans. The increase in the service charges on deposit accounts is attributable to the increase in deposits as a result of the Citizens acquisition. During the three months ended September 30, 2017, the Company recognized a \$0.2 million gain on sale of fixed assets for the sale of the land and building of one of the Bank's former branch locations.

Servicing fees and fee income on serviced loans, which are fees collected for servicing loans which have been sold and are held in our servicing portfolio, decreased \$0.1 million, or 31.0% , to \$0.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$0.5 million for the same period in 2016 . The Bank's servicing portfolio primarily consists of indirect auto loans. As this portfolio of loans ages, and consequently decreases in principal value, the servicing fees and fee income on serviced loans earned will continue to decrease.

Nine months ended September 30, 2017 vs. nine months ended September 30, 2016 . Total noninterest income decreased \$1.7 million, or 37.6% , to \$2.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$4.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 . The decrease in noninterest income is mainly attributable to the \$1.0 million decrease in gain on sale of fixed assets when compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2016 . There was also a \$0.5 million decrease in servicing fees and fee income on serviced loans and a \$0.3 million decrease in gain on sale of loans when compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2017 . The gain on sale of fixed assets recognized during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 resulted from the sale of the land and building of one of the Bank's branch locations to a healthcare company.

Other operating income primarily consists of interchange fees, credit card fees, ATM surcharge income, and the net change in the value of bank owned life insurance, among other items. Other operating income was \$0.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 compared to \$0.7 million for the same period in 2016 .

Noninterest Expense

Three months ended September 30, 2017 vs. three months ended September 30, 2016 . Total noninterest expense was \$9.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 , an increase of \$2.6 million , or 39.3% , compared to the same period in 2016 . The increase is mainly attributable to a \$1.2 million increase in salaries and employee benefits and a \$0.8 million increase in acquisition expenses. The increase in salaries and employee benefits is mainly attributable to the additional employees acquired through the Citizens acquisition, as well as additional lenders and treasury management employees hired during the quarter ended September 30, 2017. In addition, the Company opened two de novo branch locations in June 2017 which required the hiring of additional employees. The increase in acquisition expenses when compared to the quarter ended September 30, 2016 is directly related to the Citizens acquisition that was completed on July 1, 2017.

Nine months ended September 30, 2017 vs. nine months ended September 30, 2016 . Total noninterest expense was \$22.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 , an increase of \$2.7 million , or 13.5% , compared to the same period in 2016 . The increase is mainly attributable to a \$1.5 million increase in salaries and employee benefits and a \$1.0 million increase in acquisition expenses for the reasons discussed above. There were also increases in depreciation and amortization and other operating expenses, mainly as a result of the Citizens acquisition, offset by decreases in customer reimbursements and professional fees.

Income Tax Expense

Income tax expense for the three months ended September 30, 2017 was \$1.0 million , an increase of \$0.3 million, compared to the three months ended September 30, 2016 . The effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 was 32.6% and 26.8% , respectively. The Company recorded a \$0.1 million tax benefit during the quarter ended September 30, 2016 related to the filing of its 2015 tax return, which contributed to the lower effective tax rate.

Income tax expense for both the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 was \$2.8 million. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016 was 31.8% and 31.4% , respectively.

Risk Management

The primary risks associated with our operations are credit, interest rate and liquidity risk. Credit and interest rate risk are discussed below, while liquidity risk is discussed in this section under the heading *Liquidity and Capital Resources* below.

Credit Risk and the Allowance for Loan Losses

General. The risk of loss should a borrower default on a loan is inherent in any lending activity. Our portfolio and related credit risk are monitored and managed on an ongoing basis by our risk management department, the board of directors' loan committee and the full board of directors. We utilize a ten point risk-rating system, which assigns a risk grade to each borrower based on a number of quantitative and qualitative factors associated with a loan transaction. The risk grade categorizes the loan into one of five risk categories, based on information about the ability of borrowers to service the debt. The information includes, among other factors, current financial information about the borrower, historical payment experience, credit documentation, public information and current economic trends. These categories assist management in monitoring our credit quality. The following describes each of the risk categories, which are consistent with the definitions used in guidance promulgated by federal banking regulators.

- *Pass (grades 1-6)* – Loans not falling into one of the categories below are considered pass. These loans have high credit characteristics and financial strength. The borrowers at least generate profits and cash flow that are in line with peer and industry standards and have debt service coverage ratios above loan covenants and our policy guidelines. For some of these loans, a guaranty from a financially capable party mitigates characteristics of the borrower that might otherwise result in a lower grade.
- *Special Mention (grade 7)* – Loans classified as special mention possess some credit deficiencies that need to be corrected to avoid a greater risk of default in the future. For example, financial ratios relating to the borrower may have deteriorated. Often, a special mention categorization is temporary while certain factors are analyzed or matters addressed before the loan is re-categorized as either pass or substandard.

- *Substandard (grade 8)* – Loans rated as substandard are inadequately protected by the current net worth and paying capacity of the borrower or the liquidation value of any collateral. If deficiencies are not addressed, it is likely that this category of loan will result in the Bank incurring a loss. Where a borrower has been unable to adjust to industry or general economic conditions, the borrower’s loan is often categorized as substandard.
- *Doubtful (grade 9)* – Doubtful loans are substandard loans with one or more additional negative factors that makes full collection of amounts outstanding, either through repayment or liquidation of collateral, highly questionable and improbable.
- *Loss (grade 10)* – Loans classified as loss have deteriorated to such a point that it is not practicable to defer writing off the loan. For these loans, all efforts to remediate the loan’s negative characteristics have failed and the value of the collateral, if any, has severely deteriorated relative to the amount outstanding. Although some value may be recovered on such a loan, it is not significant in relation to the amount borrowed.

At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 , there were no loans classified as doubtful or loss, while there were \$6.6 million and \$3.7 million , respectively, of loans classified as substandard. At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 , \$0.5 million and \$0.6 million , respectively, of loans were classified as special mention. The increase in substandard loans primarily relates to loans acquired in the Citizens acquisition. These loans were recorded at their acquisition date fair values, based on expected cash flows and credit related losses. As a result, the increase in substandard loans during the period had minimal impact on our provision for loan losses and related allowance.

An external loan review consultant is engaged annually to review approximately 60% of commercial loans, utilizing a risk-based approach designed to maximize the effectiveness of the review. In addition, credit analysts periodically review smaller dollar commercial loans to identify negative financial trends related to any one borrower, any related groups of borrowers or an industry. All loans not categorized as pass are put on an internal watch list, with quarterly reports to the board of directors. In addition, a written status report is maintained by our special assets division for all commercial loans categorized as substandard or worse. We use this information in connection with our collection efforts.

If our collection efforts are unsuccessful, collateral securing loans may be repossessed and sold or, for loans secured by real estate, foreclosure proceedings initiated. The collateral is sold at public auction for fair market value, with fees associated with the foreclosure being deducted from the sales price. The purchase price is applied to the outstanding loan balance. If the loan balance is greater than the sales proceeds, the deficient balance is charged-off.

Allowance for Loan Losses . The allowance for loan losses is an amount that management believes will be adequate to absorb probable losses inherent in the entire loan portfolio. The appropriate level of the allowance is based on an ongoing analysis of the loan portfolio and represents an amount that management deems adequate to provide for inherent losses, including collective impairment as recognized under ASC 450, *Contingencies* . Collective impairment is calculated based on loans grouped by type. Another component of the allowance is losses on loans assessed as impaired under ASC 310, *Receivables* . The balance of these loans and their related allowance is included in management’s estimation and analysis of the allowance for loan losses. Other considerations in establishing the allowance for loan losses include the nature and volume of the loan portfolio, overall portfolio quality, historical loan loss, review of specific problem loans and current economic conditions that may affect our borrowers’ ability to pay, as well as trends within each of these factors. The allowance for loan losses is established after input from management as well as our risk management department and our special assets committee. We evaluate the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses on a quarterly basis. This evaluation is inherently subjective as it requires estimates that are susceptible to significant revision as more information becomes available. The allowance for loan losses was \$7.6 million at September 30, 2017 , up from \$7.1 million at December 31, 2016 , as we increased our loan loss provisioning to reflect our nonperforming loans and organic loan growth.

A loan is considered impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable that we will be unable to collect the scheduled payments of principal and interest when due according to the contractual terms of the loan agreement. Determination of impairment is treated the same across all classes of loans. Impairment is measured on a loan-by-loan basis for, among others, all loans of \$500,000 or greater and nonaccrual loans. When we identify a loan as impaired, we measure the extent of the impairment based on the present value of expected future cash flows, discounted at the loan's effective interest rate, except when the sole (remaining) source of repayment for the loans is the operation or liquidation of the collateral. In these cases when foreclosure is probable, we use the current fair value of the collateral, less selling costs, instead of discounted cash flows. For real estate collateral, the fair value of the collateral is based upon a recent appraisal by a qualified and licensed appraiser. If we determine that the value of the impaired loan is less than the recorded investment in the loan (net of previous charge-offs, deferred loan fees or costs and unamortized premium or discount), we recognize impairment through an allowance estimate or a charge-off recorded against the allowance. When the ultimate collectability of the total principal of an impaired loan is in doubt and the loan is on nonaccrual, all payments are applied to principal, under the cost recovery method. When the ultimate collectability of the total principal of an impaired loan is not in doubt and the loan is on nonaccrual, contractual interest is credited to interest income when received, under the cash basis method.

Impaired loans at September 30, 2017 were \$3.5 million compared to \$4.4 million at December 31, 2016. At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, \$0.3 million and \$0.4 million, respectively, of the allowance for loan losses was specifically allocated to impaired loans.

The provision for loan losses is a charge to expense in an amount that management believes is necessary to maintain an adequate allowance for loan losses. The provision is based on management's regular evaluation of current economic conditions in our specific markets as well as regionally and nationally, changes in the character and size of the loan portfolio, underlying collateral values securing loans, and other factors which deserve recognition in estimating loan losses. For the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, the provision for loan losses was \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million, respectively.

Acquired loans that are accounted for under ASC 310-30, *Loans and Debt Securities Acquired with Deteriorated Credit Quality* ("ASC 310-30"), were marked to market on the date we acquired the loans to values which, in management's opinion, reflected the estimated future cash flows, based on the facts and circumstances surrounding each respective loan at the date of acquisition. We continually monitor these loans as part of our normal credit review and monitoring procedures for changes in the estimated future cash flows. Because ASC 310-30 does not permit carry over or recognition of an allowance for loan losses, we may be required to reserve for these loans in the allowance for loan losses through future provision for loan losses if future cash flows deteriorate below initial projections.

The following table presents the allocation of the allowance for loan losses by loan category as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Construction and development	\$ 848	\$ 579
1-4 Family	1,259	1,377
Multifamily	340	355
Farmland	60	60
Commercial real estate	3,263	2,499
Total mortgage loans on real estate	5,770	4,870
Commercial and industrial	741	759
Consumer	1,094	1,422
Total	\$ 7,605	\$ 7,051

As discussed above, the balance in the allowance for loan losses is principally influenced by the provision for loan losses and by net loan loss experience. Additions to the allowance are charged to the provision for loan losses. Losses are charged to the allowance as incurred and recoveries on losses previously charged to the allowance are credited to the allowance at the time recovery is collected. The table below reflects the activity in the allowance for loan losses for the periods indicated (dollars in thousands).

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
Allowance at beginning of period	\$ 7,320	\$ 7,091	\$ 7,051	\$ 6,128
Provision for loan losses	420	450	1,145	1,704
Charge-offs:				
Mortgage loans on real estate:				
Construction and development	—	—	—	(14)
1-4 Family	—	—	—	(7)
Commercial and industrial	(77)	—	(270)	—
Consumer	(78)	(173)	(365)	(488)
Total charge-offs	(155)	(173)	(635)	(509)
Recoveries				
Mortgage loans on real estate:				
Construction and development	14	4	28	10
1-4 Family	2	3	4	11
Commercial real estate	—	—	—	1
Commercial and industrial	—	—	—	20
Consumer	4	8	12	18
Total recoveries	20	15	44	60
Net charge-offs	(135)	(158)	(591)	(449)
Balance at end of period	\$ 7,605	\$ 7,383	\$ 7,605	\$ 7,383
Net charge-offs to:				
Loans - average	0.01%	0.02%	0.06%	0.06%
Allowance for loan losses	1.78%	2.14%	7.77%	6.08%
Allowance for loan losses to:				
Total loans	0.68%	0.87%	0.68%	0.87%
Total loans, excluding acquired loans ⁽¹⁾	0.77%	0.87%	0.77%	0.87%
Nonperforming loans	349.64%	82.44%	349.64%	82.44%
Nonperforming loans, excluding acquired loans ⁽²⁾	541.62%	82.44%	541.62%	82.44%

The allowance for loan losses to total loans ratio decreased to 0.68% at September 30, 2017 compared to 0.87% at September 30, 2016 . The allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans ratio increased to 349.64% at September 30, 2017 compared to 82.44% at September 30, 2016 . The increase in the allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans ratio at September 30, 2017 is due to a \$6.8 million decrease in nonperforming loans compared to September 30, 2016 . The decrease in nonperforming loans compared to September 30, 2016 is mainly attributable to one \$4.7 million owner-occupied commercial real estate loan relationship and one \$2.7 million commercial and industrial loan relationship that were not performing at September 30, 2016 .

At September 30, 2017 , the allowance for loan losses did not include a balance related to acquired loans, which were recorded at fair value on the date of acquisition. The allowance for loan losses to total loans, excluding acquired loans ratio decreased to 0.77% at September 30, 2017 compared to 0.87% at September 30, 2016 . The allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans, excluding acquired loans ratio increased to 541.62% at September 30, 2017 compared to 82.44% at September 30, 2016 . Nonperforming loans, excluding acquired loans of \$0.8 million, were \$1.4 million at September 30, 2017 , compared to \$2.0 million at December 31, 2016 , and \$9.0 million at September 30, 2016 . The decrease in nonperforming loans at September 30, 2017 compared to September 30, 2016 is discussed above.

Charge-offs reflect the realization of losses in the portfolio that were recognized previously through the provision for loan losses. Net charge-offs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017 were \$0.1 million and \$0.6 million, respectively, equal to 0.01% and 0.06%, respectively, of our average loan balance for the respective period. Net charge-offs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 were \$0.2 million and \$0.4 million, respectively, equal to 0.02% and 0.06%, respectively, of our average loan balance as of that date.

Management believes the allowance for loan losses at September 30, 2017 is sufficient to provide adequate protection against losses in our portfolio. Although the allowance for loan losses is considered adequate by management, there can be no assurance that this allowance will prove to be adequate over time to cover ultimate losses in connection with our loans. This allowance may prove to be inadequate due to unanticipated adverse changes in the economy or discrete events adversely affecting specific customers or industries. Our results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected to the extent that the allowance is insufficient to cover such changes or events.

(1) Non-GAAP measure; see reconciliation below.

		September 30, 2017	
		2017	2016
Total loans	(a)	\$ 1,110,521	\$ 846,828
Acquired loans	(b)	124,394	—
Allowance for loan losses	(c)	7,605	7,383
Allowance for loan losses to total loans, excluding acquired loans	(c)/(a-b)	0.77%	0.87%

(2) Non-GAAP measure; see reconciliation below.

		September 30, 2017	
		2017	2016
Total nonperforming loans	(a)	\$ 2,175	\$ 8,956
Nonperforming loans acquired	(b)	771	—
Allowance for loan losses	(c)	7,605	7,383
Allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans, excluding acquired loans	(c)/(a-b)	541.62%	82.44%

Nonperforming Assets and Restructured Loans. Nonperforming assets consist of nonperforming loans and other real estate owned. Nonperforming loans are those on which the accrual of interest has stopped or loans which are contractually 90 days past due on which interest continues to accrue. Loans are ordinarily placed on nonaccrual when a loan is specifically determined to be impaired or when principal and interest is delinquent for 90 days or more. However, management may elect to continue the accrual when the estimated net available value of collateral is sufficient to cover the principal balance and accrued interest. It is our policy to discontinue the accrual of interest income on any loan for which we have reasonable doubt as to the payment of interest or principal. Nonaccrual loans are returned to accrual status when the financial position of the borrower indicates there is no longer any reasonable doubt as to the payment of principal or interest.

Another category of assets which contributes to our credit risk is troubled debt restructurings (“TDR”), or restructured loans. A restructured loan is a loan for which a concession that is not insignificant has been granted to the borrower due to a deterioration of the borrower’s financial condition and which is performing in accordance with the new terms. Such concessions may include reduction in interest rates, deferral of interest or principal payments, principal forgiveness and other actions intended to minimize the economic loss and to avoid foreclosure or repossession of the collateral. We strive to identify borrowers in financial difficulty early and work with them to modify their loans to more affordable terms before such loan reaches nonaccrual status. In evaluating whether to restructure a loan, management analyzes the long-term financial condition of the borrower, including guarantor and collateral support, to determine whether the proposed concessions will increase the likelihood of repayment of principal and interest. Restructured loans that are not performing in accordance with their restructured terms that are either contractually 90 days past due or placed on nonaccrual status are reported as nonperforming loans.

There were eighteen loans classified as TDRs at September 30, 2017 that totaled approximately \$1.6 million, compared to eighteen loans totaling \$2.4 million at December 31, 2016. Eight restructured loans were considered TDRs due to a modification of terms through adjustments to maturity, nine restructured loans were considered TDRs due to a reduction in the interest rate to a rate lower than the current market rate, and one restructured loan was considered a TDR due to modification of terms through principal payment forbearance for a specified period of time. As of September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, all restructured loans were performing under their modified terms. The Company individually evaluates each TDR for allowance purposes, primarily based on collateral value, and excludes these loans from the loan population that is collectively evaluated for impairment.

The following table shows the principal amounts of nonperforming and restructured loans as of the dates indicated. All loans where information exists about possible credit problems that would cause us to have serious doubts about the borrower's ability to comply with the current repayment terms of the loan have been reflected in the table below (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Nonaccrual loans	\$ 1,833	\$ 1,978
Accruing loans past due 90 days or more	342	1
Total nonperforming loans	2,175	1,979
Restructured loans	1,644	2,399
Total nonperforming and restructured loans	\$ 3,819	\$ 4,378
Interest income recognized on nonperforming and restructured loans	\$ 114	\$ 169
Interest income foregone on nonperforming and restructured loans	\$ 73	\$ 159

Nonperforming loans are comprised of accruing loans past due 90 days or more and nonaccrual loans. Nonperforming loans outstanding represented 0.20% and 0.22% of total loans at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively.

Other Real Estate Owned. Other real estate owned consists of properties acquired through foreclosure or acceptance of a deed in lieu of foreclosure. These properties are carried at the lower of cost or fair market value based on appraised value less estimated selling costs. Losses arising at the time of foreclosure of properties are charged to the allowance for loan losses. Other real estate owned with a cost basis of \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million was sold during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2017, respectively, resulting in a net gain of \$37,000 and \$32,000 for the respective periods. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, other real estate owned with a cost basis of \$0.5 million was sold resulting in a net gain of \$11,000. There were no sales of other real estate owned during the three months ended September 30, 2016.

The table below provides details of our other real estate owned as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands).

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Construction and development	\$ 218	\$ 270
Commercial real estate	3,612	3,795
Total other real estate owned	\$ 3,830	\$ 4,065

Changes in our other real estate owned are summarized in the table below for the periods indicated (dollars in thousands).

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 4,065	\$ 725
Transfers from loans	—	30
Acquired other real estate owned	429	—
Sales of other real estate owned	(481)	(469)
Write-downs	(183)	(7)
Balance, end of period	\$ 3,830	\$ 279

Interest Rate Risk

Market risk is the risk of loss from adverse changes in market prices and rates. Since the majority of our assets and liabilities are monetary in nature, our market risk arises primarily from interest rate risk inherent in our lending and deposit activities. A sudden and substantial change in interest rates may adversely impact our earnings and profitability because the interest rates borne by assets and liabilities do not change at the same speed, to the same extent or on the same basis. Accordingly, our ability to proactively structure the volume and mix of our assets and liabilities to address anticipated changes in interest rates, as well as to react quickly to such fluctuations, can significantly impact our financial results. To that end, management actively monitors and manages our interest rate risk exposure.

The Asset Liability Committee (“ALCO”) has been authorized by the board of directors to implement our asset/liability management policy, which establishes guidelines with respect to our exposure to interest rate fluctuations, liquidity, loan limits as a percentage of funding sources, exposure to correspondent banks and brokers and reliance on non-core deposits. The goal of the policy is to enable us to maximize our interest income and maintain our net interest margin without exposing the Bank to excessive interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Within that framework, the ALCO monitors our interest rate sensitivity and makes decisions relating to our asset/liability composition.

We monitor the impact of changes in interest rates on our net interest income using gap analysis. The gap represents the net position of our assets and liabilities subject to repricing in specified time periods. During any given time period, if the amount of rate-sensitive liabilities exceeds the amount of rate-sensitive assets, a financial institution would generally be considered to have a negative gap position and would benefit from falling rates over that period of time. Conversely, a financial institution with a positive gap position would generally benefit from rising rates.

Within the gap position that management directs, we attempt to structure our assets and liabilities to minimize the risk of either a rising or falling interest rate environment. We manage our gap position for time horizons of one month, two months, three months, 4-6 months, 7-12 months, 13-24 months, 25-36 months, 37-60 months and more than 60 months. The goal of our asset/liability management is for the Bank to maintain a net interest income at risk in an up or down 100 basis point environment at less than (5)%. At September 30, 2017, the Bank was within the policy guidelines for asset/liability management.

The table below depicts the estimated impact on net interest income of immediate changes in interest rates at the specified levels.

As of September 30, 2017	
Changes in Interest Rates (in basis points)	Estimated Increase/Decrease in Net Interest Income ⁽¹⁾
+300	(3.3)%
+200	(2.0)%
+100	(0.9)%
-100	3.8%
-200	1.3%
-300	1.1%

⁽¹⁾ The percentage change in this column represents the projected net interest income for 12 months on a flat balance sheet in a stable interest rate environment versus the projected net interest income in the various rate scenarios.

The computation of the prospective effects of hypothetical interest rate changes requires numerous assumptions regarding characteristics of new business and the behavior of existing positions. These business assumptions are based upon our experience, business plans and published industry experience. Key assumptions include asset prepayment speeds, competitive factors, the relative price sensitivity of certain assets and liabilities and the expected life of non-maturity deposits. However, there are a number of factors that influence the effect of interest rate fluctuations on us which are difficult to measure and predict. For example, a rapid drop in interest rates might cause our loans to repay at a more rapid pace and certain mortgage-related investments to prepay more quickly than projected. Conversely, a rapid rise in rates could give us an opportunity to increase our margins and stifle the rate of repayment on our mortgage-related loans which would increase our returns. As a result, because these assumptions are inherently uncertain, actual results will differ from simulated results.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Liquidity. Liquidity is a measure of the ability to fund loan commitments and meet deposit maturities and withdrawals in a timely and cost-effective way. Cash flow requirements can be met by generating net income, attracting new deposits, converting assets to cash or borrowing funds. While maturities and scheduled amortization of loans and securities are predictable sources of funds, deposit outflows, loan prepayments, loan sales and borrowings are greatly influenced by general interest rates, economic conditions and the competitive environment in which we operate. To minimize funding risks, we closely monitor our liquidity position through periodic reviews of maturity profiles, yield and rate behaviors, and loan and deposit forecasts. Excess short-term liquidity is usually invested in overnight federal funds sold.

Our core deposits, which are deposits excluding time deposits greater than \$250,000 and deposits of municipalities and other political entities, are our most stable source of liquidity to meet our cash flow needs due to the nature of the long-term relationships generally established with our customers. Maintaining the ability to acquire these funds as needed in a variety of markets, and within ALCO compliance targets, is essential to ensuring our liquidity. At September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, 73.2% and 75.9% of our total assets, respectively, were funded by core deposits.

Our investment portfolio is another alternative for meeting our cash flow requirements. Investment securities generate cash flow through principal payments and maturities, and they generally have readily available markets that allow for their conversion to cash. Some securities are pledged to secure certain deposit types or short-term borrowings, such as FHLB advances, which impacts their liquidity. At September 30, 2017, securities with a carrying value of \$84.0 million were pledged to secure certain deposits, borrowings, and other liabilities, compared to \$77.5 million in pledged securities at December 31, 2016.

Other sources available for meeting liquidity needs include advances from the FHLB, repurchase agreements and other borrowings. FHLB advances are primarily used to match-fund fixed rate loans in order to minimize interest rate risk and also may be used to meet day to day liquidity needs, particularly if the prevailing interest rate on an FHLB advance compares favorably to the rates that we would be required to pay to attract deposits. At September 30, 2017, the balance of our outstanding advances with the FHLB was \$162.7 million, an increase from \$82.8 million at December 31, 2016. The total amount of the remaining credit available to us from the FHLB at September 30, 2017 was \$327.0 million. Repurchase agreements are contracts for the sale of securities which we own with a corresponding agreement to repurchase those securities at an agreed upon price and date. Our policies limit the use of repurchase agreements to those collateralized by U.S. Treasury and agency securities. We had \$24.9 million of repurchase agreements outstanding as of September 30, 2017, compared to \$39.1 million of repurchase agreements outstanding as of December 31, 2016. We maintain unsecured lines of credit with other commercial banks totaling \$55.0 million. The lines of credit mature at various times within the next year. We had no outstanding balances on our unsecured lines of credit at September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016. We also have a secured \$20.0 million revolving line of credit with TIB maturing in June 2018. There was no outstanding balance on the revolving line of credit at September 30, 2017 compared to a \$1.0 million outstanding balance at December 31, 2016.

Our liquidity strategy is focused on using the least costly funds available to us in the context of our balance sheet composition and interest rate risk position. Accordingly, we target growth of noninterest-bearing deposits. Although we cannot directly control the types of deposit instruments our customers choose, we can influence those choices with the interest rates and deposit specials we offer. We do not hold any brokered deposits, as defined for federal regulatory purposes, although we do hold QwikRate® deposits, included in our time deposit balances, which we obtain through a qualified network to address liquidity needs when rates on such deposits compare favorably with deposit rates in our markets. At September 30, 2017, we held \$75.1 million of QwikRate® deposits, down from \$123.2 million at December 31, 2016.

The following table presents, by type, our funding sources, which consist of total average deposits and borrowed funds, as a percentage of total funds and the total cost of each funding source for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and 2016.

	Percentage of Total		Cost of Funds		Percentage of Total		Cost of Funds	
	Three months ended September 30,		Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
Noninterest-bearing demand deposits	14%	10%	—%	—%	12%	10%	—%	—%
Interest-bearing demand deposits	26	26	0.71	0.65	28	26	0.70	0.64
Savings accounts	8	5	0.54	0.67	6	5	0.60	0.67
Time deposits	38	47	1.14	1.19	40	45	1.18	1.16
Short-term borrowings	10	10	1.19	0.96	11	12	1.05	0.85
Long-term borrowed funds	4	2	3.07	1.21	3	2	3.08	1.15
Total deposits and borrowed funds	100%	100%	0.90%	0.88%	100%	100%	0.92%	0.85%

Capital Management. Our primary sources of capital include retained earnings, capital obtained through acquisitions, and proceeds from the sale of our capital stock and subordinated debt. We are subject to various regulatory capital requirements administered by the Federal Reserve and the FDIC which specify capital tiers, including the following classifications.

Capital Tiers	Tier 1 Leverage Ratio	Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Ratio	Tier 1 Capital Ratio	Total Capital Ratio
Well capitalized	5% or above	6.5% or above	8% or above	10% or above
Adequately capitalized	4% or above	4.5% or above	6% or above	8% or above
Undercapitalized	Less than 4%	Less than 4.5%	Less than 6%	Less than 8%
Significantly undercapitalized	Less than 3%	Less than 3%	Less than 4%	Less than 6%
Critically undercapitalized			2% or less	

The Company and the Bank each were in compliance with all regulatory capital requirements as of September 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016. The Bank also was considered “well-capitalized” under the FDIC’s prompt corrective action regulations as of these dates. The following table presents the actual capital amounts and regulatory capital ratios for the Company and the Bank as of the dates presented (dollars in thousands).

	Actual		Minimum Capital Requirement to be Well Capitalized	
	Amount	Ratio	Amount	Ratio
September 30, 2017				
Investar Holding Corporation:				
Tier 1 leverage capital	\$ 144,276	10.13%	\$ —	—%
Common equity tier 1 capital	140,776	11.86	—	—
Tier 1 capital	144,276	12.15	—	—
Total capital	170,038	14.32	—	—
Investar Bank:				
Tier 1 leverage capital	159,514	11.21	71,171	5.00
Common equity tier 1 capital	159,514	13.46	77,042	6.50
Tier 1 capital	159,514	13.46	94,821	8.00
Total capital	167,119	14.10	118,527	10.00
December 31, 2016				
Investar Holding Corporation:				
Tier 1 leverage capital	\$ 115,312	10.10%	\$ —	—%
Common equity tier 1 capital	111,812	11.40	—	—
Tier 1 capital	115,312	11.75	—	—
Total capital	122,363	12.47	—	—
Investar Bank:				
Tier 1 leverage capital	114,417	10.03	57,063	5.00
Common equity tier 1 capital	114,417	11.67	63,706	6.50
Tier 1 capital	114,417	11.67	78,408	8.00
Total capital	121,468	12.39	98,010	10.00

We augmented our capital in the quarter ended March 31, 2017 through both a common stock offering and a subordinated debt issuance. See Note 7. Subordinated Debt Securities and Note 8. Stockholders’ Equity for further information.

Off-Balance Sheet Transactions

The Bank entered into interest rate swap contracts to manage exposure against the variability in the expected future cash flows (future interest payments) attributable to changes in the 1-month LIBOR associated with the forecasted issuances of 1-month fixed rate debt arising from a rollover strategy. An interest rate swap is an agreement whereby one party agrees to pay a fixed rate of interest on a notional principal amount in exchange for receiving a floating rate of interest on the same notional amount for a predetermined period of time, from a second party. The maximum length of time over which the Bank is currently hedging its exposure to the variability in future cash flows for forecasted transactions is approximately 2.9 years. The total notional amount of the derivative contracts is \$50.0 million.

The Bank enters into loan commitments and standby letters of credit in the normal course of its business. Loan commitments are made to meet the financing needs of our customers, while standby letters of credit commit the Bank to make payments on behalf of customers when certain specified future events occur. The credit risks associated with loan commitments and standby letters of credit are essentially the same as those involved in making loans to our customers. Accordingly, our normal credit policies apply to these arrangements. Collateral (e.g., securities, receivables, inventory, equipment, etc.) is obtained based on management's credit assessment of the customer.

Loan commitments and standby letters of credit do not necessarily represent future cash requirements, in that while the customer typically has the ability to draw upon these commitments at any time, these commitments often expire without being drawn upon in full or at all. Virtually all of our standby letters of credit expire within one year. Our unfunded loan commitments and standby letters of credit outstanding are summarized below as of the dates indicated (dollars in thousands):

	September 30, 2017	December 31, 2016
Commitments to extend credit:		
Loan commitments	\$ 176,517	\$ 142,891
Standby letters of credit	703	1,008

The Company closely monitors the amount of remaining future commitments to borrowers in light of prevailing economic conditions and adjusts these commitments as necessary. The Company intends to continue this process as new commitments are entered into or existing commitments are renewed.

Additionally, at September 30, 2017, the Company had unfunded commitments of \$0.3 million for its investment in Small Business Investment Company qualified funds.

For the three months ended September 30, 2017 and for the year ended December 31, 2016, except as disclosed herein and in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, we engaged in no off-balance sheet transactions that we believe are reasonably likely to have a material effect on our financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

Contractual Obligations

The following table presents, as of September 30, 2017, contractual obligations to third parties by payment date (dollars in thousands).

	Payments Due In:				Total
	Less than One Year	One to Three Years	Three to Five Years	Over Five Years	
Deposits without a stated maturity ⁽¹⁾	\$ 617,746	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 617,746
Time Deposits	330,516	137,228	15,872	—	483,616
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	24,892	—	—	—	24,892
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	119,600	13,100	—	30,000	162,700
Junior subordinated debt	—	—	—	3,609	3,609
Subordinated debt	—	—	—	18,600	18,600
Total contractual obligations ⁽²⁾	<u>\$ 1,092,754</u>	<u>\$ 150,328</u>	<u>\$ 15,872</u>	<u>\$ 52,209</u>	<u>\$ 1,311,163</u>

⁽¹⁾ Excludes interest

⁽²⁾ On August 7, 2017, the Company announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire BOJ and its wholly-owned subsidiary, The Highlands Bank, as summarized in Note 2 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements .

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Quantitative and qualitative disclosures about market risk as of December 31, 2016 are set forth in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 9, 2017 in the section captioned "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Risk Management." There have been no material changes in the Company's market risk since December 31, 2016 . Please refer to the information in Item 2, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, under the heading "Risk Management" in this report for additional information about the Company's market risk for the nine months ended September 30, 2017 .

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Based on their evaluation as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report on Form 10-Q, the Company's Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) are effective for ensuring that information the Company is required to disclose in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms.

There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the fiscal quarter covered by this quarterly report that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1A. Risk Factors

For information regarding risk factors that could affect Investar Holding Corporation's (the "Company") results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, see the risk factors disclosed in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 filed by the Company with the SEC on March 9, 2017.

The risk factors below relate to the recently completed acquisition of Citizens Bancshares, Inc. ("Citizens") and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Citizens Bank, and the recently announced acquisition of BOJ Bancshares, Inc. ("BOJ") and its wholly-owned subsidiary, The Highlands Bank.

The integration of Citizens and, if the acquisition is completed, BOJ, with the Company may be more difficult, costly or time-consuming than expected, and the anticipated benefits and cost savings of these and future acquisitions by the Company may not be realized.

The acquisition component of the Company's growth strategy depends on the successful integration of these acquisitions. The Company and each of Citizens and BOJ have previously operated and, with respect to BOJ, will continue to operate until the completion of the acquisition, independently from each other. The success of each acquisition or proposed acquisition, including anticipated benefits and cost savings, will depend, in part, on the Company's ability to successfully combine and integrate the businesses within the Company's projected timeframe in a manner that permits growth opportunities and does not materially disrupt existing customer relationships or result in decreased revenues due to loss of customers.

A number of factors could affect the Company's ability to successfully combine its business with Citizens and, if the acquisition is completed, with BOJ, including the following:

- the potential for unexpected costs, delays and challenges that may arise in integrating acquisitions into the Company's existing business;
- unexpected obstacles to the Company's ability to realize the expected cost savings and synergies from the acquisitions;
- the Company's ability to retain key employees and maintain relationships with significant customers and depositors of the acquired businesses;
- diversion of management's attention and resources during integration efforts;
- challenges related to operating at new locations and in new geographic areas, including difficulties in identifying and gaining access to customers in new markets; and
- discovery following an acquisition of previously unknown liabilities associated with the acquired business.

If the Company encounters significant difficulties in the integration process, the anticipated benefits of the acquisition or proposed acquisition may not be realized fully, or at all, or may take longer to realize than expected. Failure to achieve the anticipated benefits of the acquisition or proposed acquisition in the timeframes projected by the Company could result in increased costs and decreased revenues. This could have a dilutive effect on the combined company's earnings per share. If the Company is unable to successfully integrate the businesses it acquires, the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations may be materially adversely affected.

The acquisition of BOJ may not be consummated unless important conditions are satisfied.

The Company and BOJ expect the BOJ acquisition to close during the fourth quarter of 2017, but the acquisition is subject to a number of closing conditions. Satisfaction of many of these conditions is beyond the Company's control. If these conditions are not satisfied or waived, the acquisition will not be completed or may be delayed and each of the Company and BOJ may lose some or all of the intended benefits of the merger. Certain of the conditions that remain to be satisfied include, but are not limited to:

- the continued accuracy of the representations and warranties made by the parties in the merger agreement;
- the performance by each party of its respective obligations under the merger agreement;
- the absence of any injunction, order or decree restraining, enjoining or otherwise prohibiting the merger;
- the absence of any material adverse change in the financial condition, business or results of operations of BOJ, Highlands Bank, the Company or Investar Bank;

- receipt by the Company and BOJ from Fenimore, Kay, Harrison & Ford, LLP of a federal tax opinion that the merger qualifies as a “reorganization” within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code;
- the adjusted tangible shareholders’ equity of BOJ, determined in accordance with the requirements of the merger agreement, being at least \$16.0 million;
- the average closing price for the Company’s common stock, calculated in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement, being an amount greater than \$19.50; and
- the approval by BOJ’s shareholders of the merger agreement and the merger.

As a result, the BOJ acquisition may not close as scheduled, or at all. In addition, either the Company or BOJ may terminate the merger agreement under certain circumstances.

If the acquisition of BOJ by the Company is not completed, including through the termination of the merger agreement by one or both of the parties, the Company will have incurred significant transaction expenses without realizing the expected benefits of the acquisition and could face negative impacts to its prospects and stock price.

The Company expects to incur significant costs associated with completing the proposed acquisition of BOJ, which are charged to earnings as incurred. If the proposed acquisition is not completed, these expenses will still be charged to earnings even though the Company would not have realized the expected benefits of the acquisition.

If the merger agreement with BOJ is terminated, there may be various adverse consequences to the Company. For example, the Company may have failed to pursue other beneficial opportunities due to the focus of management on the acquisition of BOJ, and there can be no assurance that the Company would be successful in competing with other financial institutions for other potential acquisition candidates. Additionally, the market price of the Company’s common stock could decline to the extent that the current market prices reflect a market assumption that the acquisition will be completed.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

None.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The table below provides the information with respect to purchases made by the Company of shares of its common stock during each of the months during the three month period ended September 30, 2017 .

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased ⁽¹⁾	(b) Average Price Paid per Share (or Unit)	(c) Total Number of Shares (or Units) Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs ⁽²⁾	(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares (or Units) That May Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs ⁽²⁾
July 1, 2017 to July 31, 2017	2,227	\$ 22.90	—	241,243
August 1, 2017 to August 31, 2017	12,114	21.90	12,056	229,187
September 1, 2017 to September 30, 2017	143	22.30	—	229,187
	<u>14,484</u>	<u>\$ 22.06</u>	<u>12,056</u>	<u>229,187</u>

⁽¹⁾ Includes 2,428 shares surrendered to cover the payroll taxes due upon the vesting of restricted stock.

⁽²⁾ On February 19, 2015, the Company announced that its board of directors had authorized the repurchase of up to 250,000 shares of the Company’s common stock in open market transactions from time to time or through privately negotiated transactions in accordance with federal securities laws. In addition, on October 19, 2016, the Company announced that its board of directors authorized the repurchase of an additional 250,000 shares of the Company’s common stock under its stock repurchase plan.

The Company’s ability to pay dividends to its shareholders may be limited by the junior subordinated debentures that the Company assumed in connection with its acquisition of First Community Bank, which are senior to shares of the Company’s common stock. The Company must make payments on the junior subordinated debentures before any dividends can be paid on its common stock.

In addition, the Company's status as a bank holding company affects its ability to pay dividends, in two ways:

- As a holding company with no material business activities, the Company's ability to pay dividends is substantially dependent upon the ability of Investar Bank to transfer funds to the Company in the form of dividends, loans and advances. Investar Bank's ability to pay dividends and make other distributions and payments is itself subject to various legal, regulatory and other restrictions.
- As a holding company of a bank, the Company's payment of dividends must comply with the policies and enforcement powers of the Federal Reserve. Under Federal Reserve policies, in general a bank holding company should pay dividends only when (1) its net income available to shareholders over the last four quarters (net of dividends paid) has been sufficient to fully fund the dividends, (2) the prospective rate of earnings retention appears to be consistent with the capital needs and overall current and prospective financial condition of the bank holding company and its subsidiaries, and (3) the bank holding company will continue to meet minimum regulatory capital adequacy ratios.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibit
2.1	Agreement and Plan of Reorganization, dated August 4, 2017, by and among Investar Holding Corporation, BOJ Bancshares, Inc. and Investar Interim Corporation ⁽¹⁾
2.2	Agreement and Plan of Reorganization, dated March 8, 2017, by and among Investar Holding Corporation, Citizens Bancshares, Inc. and Investar Acquisition Company ⁽²⁾
3.1	Restated Articles of Incorporation of Investar Holding Corporation ⁽³⁾
3.2	Amended and Restated By-laws of Investar Holding Corporation ⁽⁴⁾
4.1	Specimen Common Stock Certificate ⁽⁵⁾
4.2	Indenture, dated March 24, 2017, by and between Investar Holding Corporation and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Trustee ⁽⁶⁾
4.3	Supplemental Indenture, dated March 24, 2017, by and between Investar Holding Corporation and Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Trustee ⁽⁷⁾
10.1	Investar Holding Corporation 2017 Long-Term Incentive Compensation Plan ⁽⁸⁾
10.2	Form of Voting Agreement, dated August 4, 2017, among Investar Holding Corporation, BOJ Bancshares, Inc. and the shareholders party thereto ⁽⁹⁾
10.3	Form of Non-Competition and Confidentiality Agreements, dated August 4, 2017, between Investar Holding Corporation and all of the directors of BOJ Bancshares, Inc. ⁽¹⁰⁾
31.1	Certification of the Principal Executive Officer, as required pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	Certification of the Principal Financial Officer, as required pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1	Certification of the Principal Executive Officer, as required pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.2	Certification of the Principal Financial Officer, as required pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

(1) Filed as Annex A to the Registration Statement on Form S-4 of the Company filed with the SEC on October 10, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference.

(2) Filed as exhibit 2.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 8, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference.

(3) Filed as exhibit 3.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of the Company filed with the SEC on May 16, 2014 and incorporated herein by reference.

(4) Filed as exhibit 3.2 to the Registration Statement on Form S-4 of the Company filed with the SEC on October 10, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference.

(5) Filed as exhibit 4.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of the Company filed with the SEC on May 16, 2014 and incorporated herein by reference.

(6) Filed as exhibit 4.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 24, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference.

(7) Filed as exhibit 4.2 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 24, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference.

(8) Filed as exhibit 10.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on May 25, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference.

(9) Filed as Exhibit B to Annex A to the Registration Statement on Form S-4 of the Company filed with the SEC on October 10, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference.

(10) Filed as Exhibit C to Annex A to the Registration Statement on Form S-4 of the Company filed with the SEC on October 10, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference.

The Company does not have any long-term debt instruments under which securities are authorized exceeding 10% of the total assets of the Company and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis. The Company will furnish to the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon its request, a copy of all long-term debt instruments.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

INVESTAR HOLDING CORPORATION

Date: November 9, 2017

/s/ John J. D'Angelo

John J. D'Angelo

President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: November 9, 2017

/s/ Christopher L. Hufft

Christopher L. Hufft

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)

CERTIFICATIONS

I, John J. D'Angelo, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2017 of Investar Holding Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
 - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 9, 2017

/s/ John J. D'Angelo

John J. D'Angelo

President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

CERTIFICATIONS

I, Christopher L. Hufft, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2017 of Investar Holding Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
 - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 9, 2017

/s/ Christopher L. Hufft

Christopher L. Hufft
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Investar Holding Corporation (the "Company") for the period ended September 30, 2017 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, John J. D'Angelo, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company as of and for the periods covered in the Report.

Date: November 9, 2017

/s/ John J. D'Angelo

John J. D'Angelo

President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Investar Holding Corporation (the "Company") for the period ended September 30, 2017 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Christopher L. Hufft, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company as of and for the periods covered in the Report.

Date: November 9, 2017

/s/ Christopher L. Hufft

Christopher L. Hufft

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)