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For Immediate Release.

FIRST AMERICAN BANK RECEIVES THE PRESIDENT'S "E" AWARD FOR EXPORT SERVICE.

Elk Grove Village, IL-May 21, 2018. First American Bank was honored today at a ceremony in Washington D.C. by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross as one of only 43 U.S. companies to receive the prestigious 2018 President's "E" award for Export Service. This is the highest recognition any U.S. entity can receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports.



Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross presents the 2018 President's "E" Award for Export Services to First American Bank, one of only two banks in the country receiving this recognition. From left to right: U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, First American Bank Senior Vice President Daniel Pische, First American Bank Florida Market President Brian Hagan, and United States Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi.

“First American Bank has demonstrated a sustained commitment to export expansion. The “E” Award Committee was very impressed with First American Bank’s work of broad impact to educate exporters and other lenders about export finance options, including programs from the United States government. First American Bank’s achievements have undoubtedly contributed to national export expansion efforts that support the U.S. economy and create American jobs” said Secretary Ross in his congratulatory letter to First American Bank announcing its selection as an award recipient.

First American Bank’s Trade Finance Division offers a suite of loan, foreign exchange and documentary services to their customers throughout the Midwest and Florida. The Bank has been a longtime user of both the Small Business Administration and Export-Import Bank’s working capital loan programs and is focused on expanding the availability of Trade Finance loans to small and mid-sized organizations.

Thomas E. Wells, First American Bank Chairman and CEO said, “Exporting is crucial to the success of the businesses we work with. Every day we see the growth of our clients’ businesses, due in large part to exporting. This growth has enabled our clients to add jobs and support their local communities as they expand their bottom line.”

A few key points about First American Bank and their support of exporters:

- One of only 20 Preferred Lenders under the Small Business Administration’s Export Working Capital, International Trade and Export Express loan programs
- Recognized as the 2017 SBA’s Export Lender of the Year for institutions with less than \$10 billion in assets
- A past recipient of the Illinois Export Lender of the Year Award and a speaker at the 2017 and 2018 SBA National Export Lenders’ Roundtable in Washington D.C.
- Presenter at the 2015, 2016 and 2018 Technical Conferences for the National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders (NAGGL) on the SBA’s Export Working Capital Program
- A Delegated Authority Lender with the Export-Import Bank under its Working Capital Guarantee Program

About the “E” Awards

In 1961, President Kennedy signed an executive order reviving the World War II “E” symbol of excellence to honor and provide recognition to America's exporters. Criteria for the award is based on four years of successive export growth and case studies which demonstrate valuable support to exporters resulting in increased exports for the company’s clients.

For more information about the "E" Awards and the benefits of exporting, visit www.export.gov.