

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION

ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2018

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THE COMPANY

1st Franklin Financial Corporation, a Georgia corporation, has been engaged in the consumer finance business since 1941, particularly in making direct cash loans and real estate loans. As of December 31, 2018 the business was operated through 119 branch offices in Georgia, 45 in Alabama, 44 in South Carolina, 38 in Mississippi, 35 in Louisiana and 34 in Tennessee. Also on that date, the Company had 1,488 employees.

As of December 31, 2018, the resources of the Company were invested principally in loans, which comprised 68% of the Company's assets. The majority of the Company's revenues are derived from finance charges earned on loans and other outstanding receivables. Our remaining revenues are derived from earnings on investment securities, insurance income and other miscellaneous income.

To our Investors, Bankers, Co-Workers, Customers and Friends:

I am so proud and so pleased to report to you that 1st Franklin Financial Corporation had a very successful and productive year in 2018. As the following pages will attest, when the “Friendly Franklin Folks” are challenged to be “Limitless” great things can be accomplished. Our over 1,400 employees responded to corporate goals and objectives that supported areas of growth in receivables, control of delinquencies and expenses, all while providing unparalleled service to the communities in which we operate. Our 315 branch offices and 8 recovery centers were supported by our Home Office team and our Investment Center which grew in 2018, 3.74% to \$477.4 million serving 5,163 investors.

More accomplishments include:

Total assets of the Company grew \$78.1 million (10.88%) to \$796.4 million at December 31, 2018 compared to \$718.2 million at December 31, 2017.

Our net loan portfolio's growth was \$96.4 million or 21.64 %. We believe the quality of our portfolio improved during the year as we applied our underwriting standards, consistently throughout the year.

We controlled our delinquency rate at 7.15%

Our ratio of expenses to revenue was 91.07%.

As I mentioned to you last year, our newest members of our Executive Management Team who have responsibilities in the areas of Information Technologies and Marketing, have made a significant impact to our overall operation with greater things to come in 2019 and beyond.

Well what does 2019 hold? Competition in the consumer finance space is always changing and with technology advancing as it is doing, the consumer finance industry is changing faster. 1st Franklin Financial will be a leader in our industry and we have dedicated the resources, people and leadership to continue the progress we experienced in 2018 into 2019. Our mantra for 2019 is ---- “**TRANSFORM**”. Several areas of our business will be transforming, as we develop new procedures and efficiencies by thinking “outside the box.” New technology will provide us the needed speed to perform faster customer service and allow us expansion of our products and services as we continue to aid our customers with their borrowing needs today and into tomorrow. With the continued support from our investors, and other partners, we will continue to grow, prosper and serve our customers as we constantly strive to improve. Transforming how we think and serve, we are 1st Franklin Financial Corporation. Serving Our Neighbors Since 1941. Home of the “Friendly Franklin Folks”.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Ben F. “Buddy” Cheek, IV

Ben F. Cheek, IV
Chairman of the Board

SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Set forth below is selected consolidated financial information of the Company. This information should be read in conjunction with “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and the more detailed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included herein.

| | Year Ended December 31 | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Selected Income Statement Data: | (In 000's, except ratio data) | | | | |
| Revenues: | | | | | |
| Interest and Finance Charges ... | \$ 179,938 | \$ 158,083 | \$ 158,229 | \$ 152,590 | \$ 144,569 |
| Insurance | 44,387 | 42,265 | 47,621 | 52,447 | 47,964 |
| Other | 5,732 | 5,399 | 5,266 | 3,325 | 7,167 |
| Net Interest Income | 166,056 | 145,178 | 144,797 | 139,636 | 132,617 |
| Interest Expense | 13,882 | 12,905 | 13,432 | 12,955 | 11,952 |
| Provision for Loan Losses | 39,207 | 32,355 | 67,563 | 36,887 | 32,623 |
| Income Before Income Taxes | 20,553 | 17,504 | 6,330 | 31,130 | 37,531 |
| Net Income | 17,341 | 14,906 | 1,044 | 25,866 | 33,334 |
| Ratio of Earnings to | | | | | |
| Fixed Charges | 2.25 | 2.15 | 1.41 | 3.08 | 3.70 |

| | As of December 31 | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Selected Balance Sheet Data: | (In 000's, except ratio data) | | | | |
| Net Loans | \$ 542,108 | \$ 445,659 | \$ 383,184 | \$ 406,390 | \$ 388,341 |
| Total Assets | 796,368 | 718,235 | 673,985 | 674,414 | 605,588 |
| Senior Debt | 500,323 | 426,731 | 409,792 | 388,489 | 335,186 |
| Subordinated Debt | 30,270 | 33,488 | 34,848 | 36,004 | 37,727 |
| Stockholders' Equity | 240,860 | 232,096 | 211,738 | 224,490 | 208,447 |
| Ratio of Total Liabilities | | | | | |
| to Stockholders' Equity | 2.31 | 2.09 | 2.18 | 2.00 | 1.91 |

BUSINESS

References in this Annual Report to “1st Franklin”, the “Company”, “we”, “our” and “us” refer to 1st Franklin Financial Corporation and its subsidiaries.

1st Franklin is engaged in the consumer finance business, primarily in making direct cash loans to individuals in relatively small amounts for relatively short periods of time, and in making first and second mortgage loans on real estate in larger amounts and for longer periods of time. We also purchase sales finance contracts from various retail dealers. At December 31, 2018, direct cash loans comprised 89%, real estate loans comprised 4% and sales finance contracts comprised 7% of our outstanding loans, respectively.

In connection with our business, we also offer optional single premium credit insurance products to our customers when making a loan. Such products may include credit life insurance, credit accident and health insurance, credit involuntary unemployment insurance and/or credit property insurance. Customers may request credit life insurance coverage to help assure any outstanding loan balance is repaid if the customer dies before the loan is repaid or they may request accident and health insurance coverage to help continue loan payments if the customer becomes sick or disabled for an extended period of time. In certain states where offered, Customers may choose involuntary unemployment insurance for payment protection in the form of loan payment assistance due to an unexpected job loss. Customers may also choose property insurance coverage to protect the value of loan collateral against damage, theft or destruction. We write these various insurance products as an agent for a non-affiliated insurance company. Under various agreements, our wholly-owned insurance subsidiaries, Frandisco Life Insurance Company and Frandisco Property and Casualty Insurance Company, reinsure the insurance coverage on our customers written by this non-affiliated insurance company.

Earned finance charges generally account for the majority of our revenues. The following table shows the sources of our earned finance charges in each of the past five years:

| | Year Ended December 31 | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
| | (in thousands) | | | | |
| Direct Cash Loans | \$161,337 | \$142,072 | \$143,864 | \$139,945 | \$132,974 |
| Real Estate Loans | 4,970 | 4,175 | 3,710 | 3,432 | 3,202 |
| Sales Finance Contracts .. | <u>6,497</u> | <u>5,186</u> | <u>5,147</u> | <u>4,436</u> | <u>3,896</u> |
| Total Finance Charges .. | <u>\$172,804</u> | <u>\$151,433</u> | <u>\$152,721</u> | <u>\$147,813</u> | <u>\$140,072</u> |

Our business consists mainly of making loans to individuals (consumer loans) who depend primarily on their earnings to meet their repayment obligations. We make direct cash loans primarily to people who need money for some non-recurring or unforeseen expense, for debt consolidation, or to purchase household goods such as furniture and appliances. These loans are generally repayable in 6 to 60 monthly installments and generally do not exceed \$15,000 principal amount. Approximately 75% of our consumer loans are secured by personal property (other than certain household goods) and/or motor vehicles. We believe that the interest and fees we charge on these loans are in compliance with applicable state laws.

First and second mortgage loans secured by real estate are made to homeowners who typically use funds to improve their property or who wish to restructure their financial obligations. We generally make such loans in amounts from \$3,000 to \$75,000 and with maturities of 35 to 240 months. We believe that the interest and fees we charge on these loans are in compliance with applicable federal and state laws.

Our decision making on loan originations is based on both a judgmental underwriting system which includes an analysis of the following factors (i) ability to pay, (ii) creditworthiness, (iii) income

stability, (iv) willingness to pay and (v) as appropriate, collateral security, and a risk based underwriting system that evaluates (i) credit score, (ii) annual income, (iii) payment history to other creditors and (iv) debt to income ratios. As part of our loan decision making process, we review each customer's credit report to verify income and total indebtedness, debt payment history and overall credit related performance to other creditors. The Company uses this information to evaluate a potential borrower's debt-to-income ratios and, depending on the result of the overall credit evaluation process, may require internal review and senior supervisory approval prior to originating the potential borrower's loan.

Sales finance contracts are contracts purchased from retail dealers. These contracts have maturities that generally range from 3 to 60 months and generally do not individually exceed \$10,000 in principal amount. We believe that the interest and fees we charge on these contracts are in compliance with applicable federal and state laws.

1st Franklin competes with several national and regional finance companies, as well as a variety of local finance companies, in the communities we serve. Competition is based primarily on interest rates and terms offered and on customer service, as well as, to some extent, reputation. We believe that our emphasis on customer service helps us compete effectively in the markets we serve.

Because of our reliance on the continued income stream of most of our loan customers, our ability to continue the profitable operation of our business depends to a large extent on the continued employment of our customers and their ability to meet their obligations as they become due. Therefore, economic uncertainty or downturns in economic conditions, increases in unemployment or continued increases in the number of personal bankruptcies within our typical customer base may have a material adverse effect on our collection ratios and profitability.

The average annual yield on loans we make (the percentage of finance charges earned to average net outstanding balance) has been as follows:

| | Year Ended December 31 | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Direct Cash Loans | 32.66% | 34.56% | 35.29% | 35.25% | 35.50% |
| Real Estate Loans | 17.55 | 16.82 | 16.45 | 16.50 | 16.49 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | 19.12 | 19.57 | 20.12 | 19.66 | 20.17 |

The following table contains certain information about our operations:

| | As of December 31 | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Number of Branch Offices | 315 | 308 | 295 | 285 | 282 |
| Number of Employees | 1,488 | 1,439 | 1,360 | 1,269 | 1,217 |
| Average Total Loans Outstanding Per Branch (in 000's) | \$2,328 | \$1,953 | \$1,797 | \$1,919 | \$1,828 |
| Average Number of Loans Outstanding Per Branch | 873 | 866 | 922 | 930 | 882 |

DESCRIPTION OF LOANS

| | Year Ended December 31 | | | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| DIRECT CASH LOANS: | | | | | |
| Number of Loans Made to | | | | | |
| New Borrowers | 59,739 | 68,162 | 91,383 | 73,371 | 67,140 |
| Number of Loans Made to | | | | | |
| Former Borrowers | 64,727 | 69,317 | 54,813 | 55,139 | 50,948 |
| Number of Loans Made to | | | | | |
| Present Borrowers | 187,163 | 193,601 | 182,763 | 190,211 | 192,564 |
| Total Number of Loans Made | 311,629 | 331,080 | 328,959 | 318,721 | 310,652 |
| Total Volume of Loans | | | | | |
| Made (in 000's) | \$895,904 | \$791,293 | \$701,835 | \$719,251 | \$695,144 |
| Average Size of Loan Made | \$2,875 | \$2,390 | \$2,134 | \$2,257 | \$2,238 |
| Number of Loans Outstanding | 255,132 | 249,793 | 254,315 | 248,627 | 233,965 |
| Total Loans Outstanding (in 000's) | \$651,085 | \$540,380 | \$474,558 | \$494,837 | \$471,195 |
| Percent of Total Loans Outstanding | 89% | 90% | 89% | 90% | 91% |
| Average Balance on | | | | | |
| Outstanding Loans | \$2,552 | \$2,163 | \$1,866 | \$1,990 | \$2,014 |
| REAL ESTATE LOANS: | | | | | |
| Total Number of Loans Made | 538 | 517 | 477 | 515 | 402 |
| Total Volume of Loans Made (in 000's) . | \$12,307 | \$ 11,228 | \$ 10,128 | \$ 9,798 | \$ 8,455 |
| Average Size of Loan Made | \$22,876 | \$21,717 | \$21,232 | \$19,025 | \$21,031 |
| Number of Loans Outstanding | 1,666 | 1,580 | 1,503 | 1,468 | 1,439 |
| Total Loans Outstanding (in 000's) | \$31,655 | \$27,117 | \$24,609 | \$22,128 | \$20,271 |
| Percent of Total Loans Outstanding | 4% | 4% | 5% | 4% | 4% |
| Average Balance on | | | | | |
| Outstanding Loans | \$19,001 | \$17,163 | \$16,373 | \$15,074 | \$14,087 |
| SALES FINANCE CONTRACTS: | | | | | |
| Number of Contracts Purchased | 17,185 | 13,777 | 15,725 | 14,973 | 13,488 |
| Total Volume of Contracts | | | | | |
| Purchased (in 000's) | \$55,723 | \$36,933 | \$34,928 | \$35,315 | \$28,403 |
| Average Size of Contract | | | | | |
| Purchased | \$3,243 | \$2,261 | \$2,221 | \$2,359 | \$2,106 |
| Number of Contracts Outstanding | 18,127 | 15,377 | 16,253 | 15,090 | 13,446 |
| Total Contracts | | | | | |
| Outstanding (in 000's) | \$50,694 | \$34,315 | \$30,962 | \$30,071 | \$23,906 |
| Percent of Total Loans Outstanding | 7% | 6% | 6% | 6% | 5% |
| Average Balance on | | | | | |
| Outstanding Loans | \$2,797 | \$2,232 | \$1,905 | \$1,993 | \$1,778 |

LOANS ORIGINATED, ACQUIRED, LIQUIDATED AND OUTSTANDING

| | Year Ended December 31 | | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| | (in thousands) | | | | |
| LOANS ORIGINATED OR ACQUIRED | | | | | |
| Direct Cash Loans | \$ 895,126 | \$ 779,567 | \$ 672,670 | \$ 718,834 | \$ 695,144 |
| Real Estate Loans | 12,307 | 11,228 | 10,128 | 9,798 | 8,454 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | 55,172 | 35,536 | 32,705 | 34,444 | 28,055 |
| Net Bulk Purchases | <u>1,329</u> | <u>13,123</u> | <u>31,388</u> | <u>1,288</u> | <u>348</u> |
| Total Loans Acquired | <u>\$ 963,934</u> | <u>\$ 839,454</u> | <u>\$ 746,891</u> | <u>\$ 764,364</u> | <u>\$ 732,001</u> |
| LOANS LIQUIDATED * | | | | | |
| Direct Cash Loans | \$ 785,199 | \$ 725,471 | \$ 722,114 | \$ 695,608 | \$ 669,704 |
| Real Estate Loans | 7,769 | 8,720 | 7,647 | 7,941 | 8,512 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>39,344</u> | <u>33,580</u> | <u>34,037</u> | <u>29,151</u> | <u>26,767</u> |
| Total Loans Liquidated | <u>\$ 832,312</u> | <u>\$ 767,771</u> | <u>\$ 763,798</u> | <u>\$ 732,700</u> | <u>\$ 704,983</u> |
| LOANS OUTSTANDING AT YEAR END | | | | | |
| Direct Cash Loans | \$ 651,085 | \$ 540,380 | \$ 474,558 | \$ 494,837 | \$ 471,195 |
| Real Estate Loans | 31,655 | 27,117 | 24,609 | 22,128 | 20,271 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>50,694</u> | <u>34,315</u> | <u>30,962</u> | <u>30,071</u> | <u>23,906</u> |
| Total Loans Outstanding | <u>\$ 733,434</u> | <u>\$ 601,812</u> | <u>\$ 530,129</u> | <u>\$ 547,036</u> | <u>\$ 515,372</u> |
| UNEARNED FINANCE CHARGES | | | | | |
| Direct Cash Loans | \$ 88,660 | \$ 68,771 | \$ 56,143 | \$ 60,753 | \$ 59,376 |
| Real Estate Loans | 41 | 67 | 105 | 159 | 244 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>9,676</u> | <u>5,601</u> | <u>4,603</u> | <u>4,787</u> | <u>3,460</u> |
| Total Unearned Finance Charges | <u>\$ 98,377</u> | <u>\$ 74,439</u> | <u>\$ 60,851</u> | <u>\$ 65,699</u> | <u>\$ 63,080</u> |

* Liquidations include customer loan payments, refunds on precomputed finance charges, renewals and charge offs.

DELINQUENCIES

We classify delinquent accounts at the end of each month according to the number of installments past due at that time, based on the then-existing terms of the contract. Accounts are classified in delinquency categories based on the number of days past due. When three installments are past due, we classify the account as being 60-89 days past due; when four or more installments are past due, we classify the account as being 90 days or more past due. Once an account becomes greater than 149 days past due, our charge off policy governs when the account must be charged off. For more information on our charge off policy, see Note 2 "Loans" in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In connection with any bankruptcy court initiated repayment plan, the Company effectively resets the delinquency rating of each account to coincide with the court initiated repayment plan. Effectively, the account's delinquency rating is changed thereafter under normal grading parameters. The following table shows the number of loans in bankruptcy in which the delinquency rating was reset to coincide with a court initiated repayment plan.

| | As of December 31 | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Number of Bankrupt Delinquency Resets | 535 | 417 | 617 | 1,369 | 1,662 |

The Company tracks the dollar amount of loans in bankruptcy in which the delinquency rating was reset. During 2018 and 2017, the Company reset the delinquency rating to coincide with court-initiated repayment plans on bankrupt accounts with principal balances totaling \$2.6 million and \$1.9 million, respectively. This represented approximately .41% and .36% of the average principal loan portfolios outstanding during 2018 and 2017, respectively.

The following table shows the amount of certain classifications of delinquencies and the ratio of such delinquencies to related outstanding loans:

| | As of December 31 | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| | (in thousands, except % data) | | | | |
| DIRECT CASH LOANS: | | | | | |
| 60-89 Days Past Due | \$ 9,541 | \$ 7,905 | \$ 9,233 | \$ 8,073 | \$ 7,218 |
| Percentage of Principal Outstanding ... | 1.47% | 1.47% | 1.94% | 1.64% | 1.54% |
| 90 Days or More Past Due | \$ 20,261 | \$ 17,475 | \$ 17,290 | \$ 15,895 | \$ 14,283 |
| Percentage of Principal Outstanding ... | 3.12% | 3.25% | 3.63% | 3.23% | 3.05% |
| REAL ESTATE LOANS: | | | | | |
| 60-89 Days Past Due | \$ 330 | \$ 321 | \$ 305 | \$ 162 | \$ 180 |
| Percentage of Principal Outstanding ... | 1.06% | 1.21% | 1.26% | .74% | .91% |
| 90 Days or More Past Due | \$ 1,142 | \$ 1,171 | \$ 1,226 | \$ 481 | \$ 504 |
| Percentage of Principal Outstanding ... | 3.68% | 4.40% | 5.09% | 2.21% | 2.53% |
| SALES FINANCE CONTRACTS: | | | | | |
| 60-89 Days Past Due | \$ 573 | \$ 447 | \$ 443 | \$ 347 | \$ 210 |
| Percentage of Principal Outstanding ... | 1.14% | 1.31% | 1.43% | 1.16% | .88% |
| 90 Days or More Past Due | \$ 1,193 | \$ 843 | \$ 815 | \$ 585 | \$ 464 |
| Percentage of Principal Outstanding | 2.38% | 2.47% | 2.62% | 1.96% | 1.96% |

LOSS EXPERIENCE

Net losses (charge-offs less recoveries) and the percent such net losses represent of average net loans (loans less unearned finance charges) and liquidations (loan payments, refunds on unearned finance charges, renewals and charge-offs of customers' loans) are shown in the following table:

| | Year Ended December 31 | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| (in thousands, except % data) | | | | | |
| DIRECT CASH LOANS | | | | | |
| Average Net Loans | \$500,754 | \$416,969 | \$412,682 | \$404,057 | \$381,367 |
| Liquidations | \$785,199 | \$725,471 | \$722,114 | \$695,608 | \$669,704 |
| Net Losses | \$ 37,131 | \$ 36,968 | \$ 50,936 | \$ 31,119 | \$ 27,824 |
| Net Losses as % of Average | | | | | |
| Net Loans | 7.42% | 8.87% | 12.34% | 7.70% | 7.30% |
| Net Losses as % of Liquidations | 4.73% | 5.10% | 7.05% | 4.47% | 4.15% |
| REAL ESTATE LOANS | | | | | |
| Average Net Loans | \$ 28,924 | \$ 25,365 | \$ 23,046 | \$ 21,194 | \$ 19,765 |
| Liquidations | \$ 7,769 | \$ 8,720 | \$ 7,647 | \$ 7,941 | \$ 8,513 |
| Net Losses | \$ 27 | \$ 62 | \$ (3) | \$ 11 | \$ 72 |
| Net Losses as a % | | | | | |
| of Average Net Loans | .09% | .24% | (.01%) | .05% | .36% |
| Net Losses as a % | | | | | |
| of Liquidations | .35% | .71% | (.04%) | .14% | .85% |
| SALES FINANCE CONTRACTS | | | | | |
| Average Net Loans | \$ 34,499 | \$ 26,724 | \$ 25,905 | \$ 22,908 | \$ 19,646 |
| Liquidations | \$ 39,344 | \$ 33,580 | \$ 34,037 | \$ 29,151 | \$ 26,767 |
| Net Losses | \$ 1,549 | \$ 1,325 | \$ 1,630 | \$ 877 | \$ 787 |
| Net Losses as % of Average | | | | | |
| Net Loans | 4.49% | 4.96% | 6.29% | 3.83% | 4.01% |
| Net Losses as % of Liquidations | 3.94% | 3.95% | 4.79% | 3.01% | 2.94% |

ALLOWANCE FOR LOAN LOSSES

We determine the allowance for loan losses by reviewing our previous loss experience, reviewing specifically identified loans where collection is believed to be doubtful and evaluating the inherent risks and changes in the composition of our loan portfolio. Such allowance is, in our opinion, sufficient to provide adequate protection against probable loan losses in the current loan portfolio. For additional information about Management's approach to estimating and evaluating the allowance for loan losses, see Note 2 "Loans" in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

SEGMENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Company operates in one reportable business segment. For additional financial information about our segment and the divisions of our operations, see Note 13 "Segment Financial Information" in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

CREDIT INSURANCE

On consumer loans (excluding real estate and sales finance contracts), we offer optional single premium credit insurance products to our customers when making a loan. Such products may include credit life insurance, credit accident and health insurance, credit unemployment insurance and/or credit property insurance. Customers may request credit life insurance coverage to help assure any outstanding loan balance is repaid if the customer dies before the loan is repaid or they may request credit accident and health insurance coverage to help continue loan payments if the customer becomes sick or disabled for an extended period of time. In certain states where offered, Customers may request credit involuntary unemployment insurance for payment protection in the form of loan payment assistance due to an unexpected job loss. Customers may also choose property insurance coverage to protect the value of loan collateral against damage, theft or destruction. We write these various insurance products as an agent for a non-affiliated insurance company. Under various agreements, our wholly-owned insurance subsidiaries, Frandisco Life Insurance Company and Frandisco Property and Casualty Insurance Company, reinsure the insurance coverage on our customers written on behalf of this non-affiliated insurance company.

REGULATION AND SUPERVISION

The Company is subject to regulation under numerous state and federal laws and regulations as enforced and interpreted by various state and federal governmental agencies. State laws require each of our loan branch offices to be licensed by the state and to conduct business according to the applicable statutes and regulations. The granting of a license depends on the financial responsibility, character and fitness of the applicant, and, where applicable, the applicant must show evidence of a need through convenience and advantage documentation. As a condition to obtaining such license, the applicant must consent to state regulation and examination and to the making of periodic reports to the appropriate governing agencies. Licenses are revocable for cause, and their continuance depends upon an applicant's continued compliance with applicable laws. We are also subject to state regulations governing insurance agents in the states in which we sell credit insurance. State insurance regulations require, among other things, that insurance agents be licensed and, in some cases, limit the premiums that insurance agents can charge. We believe we conduct our business in accordance with all applicable state statutes and regulations. The Company has never had any of its licenses revoked and has never been subject to an enforcement order or regulatory settlement.

We conduct our lending operations under the provisions of various federal laws and implementing regulations. These laws and regulations are interpreted, implemented, and enforced by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (the "CFPB"). Chief among these federal laws with which the Company must comply are the Federal Truth-in-Lending Act ("TILA"), the Equal Credit Opportunity Act ("ECOA"), the Fair Credit Reporting Act ("FCRA") and the Federal Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act ("RESPA"). The Truth-in-Lending Act requires us, among other things, to disclose to our customers the finance charge, the annual percentage rate, the total number and amount of payments and other material information on all loans. A Federal Trade Commission regulation prevents consumer lenders such as the Company from using certain household goods as collateral on direct cash loans. As a result, we generally seek to collateralize such loans with non-prohibited household goods such as automobiles, boats and other exempt items of personal property. We continually monitor our compliance with these regulatory requirements.

Changes in the current regulatory environment, or in the interpretation or application of current regulations, could impact our business. While we believe that we are currently in compliance with all regulatory requirements, no assurance can be made regarding our future compliance or the cost thereof. Significant additional regulation or costs of compliance could materially adversely affect our business and financial condition.

SOURCES OF FUNDS AND COMMON STOCK MATTERS

The Company is dependent upon the availability of funds from various sources in order to meet its ongoing financial obligations and to make new loans as a part of its business. Our various sources of funds as a percent of total liabilities and stockholders' equity and the number of persons investing in the Company's debt securities were as follows:

| | As of December 31 | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Bank Borrowings | 7% | --% | --% | --% | --% |
| Senior Debt | 56 | 59 | 61 | 58 | 55 |
| Subordinated Debt | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| Other Liabilities | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Stockholders' Equity | <u>30</u> | <u>32</u> | <u>31</u> | <u>33</u> | <u>35</u> |
| Total | <u>100%</u> | <u>100%</u> | <u>100%</u> | <u>100%</u> | <u>100%</u> |
| Number of Investors | 5,163 | 5,347 | 5,421 | 5,415 | 5,405 |

The average interest rates we pay on borrowings, computed by dividing the interest paid by the average indebtedness outstanding, have been as follows:

| | Year Ended December 31 | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Senior Borrowings | 2.92% | 2.85% | 3.11% | 3.32% | 3.31% |
| Subordinated Borrowings | 2.66 | 2.65 | 2.79 | 2.82 | 2.92 |
| All Borrowings | 2.90 | 2.84 | 3.09 | 3.27 | 3.26 |

Certain financial ratios relating to our debt have been as follows:

| | As of December 31 | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
| Total Liabilities to Stockholders' Equity | 2.31 | 2.09 | 2.18 | 2.00 | 1.91 |
| Unsubordinated Debt to Subordinated Debt plus Stockholders' Equity | 1.94 | 1.70 | 1.73 | 1.59 | 1.46 |

As of March 29, 2018, all of our voting common stock was closely held by three related individuals and all of our non-voting common stock was held by thirteen shareholders. None of our common stock was listed on any securities exchange or traded on any established public trading market. The Company does not maintain any equity compensation plans, and did not repurchase any of its equity securities during any period represented. Cash distributions of \$16.45 and \$.86 per share were paid to shareholders in 2018 and 2017, respectively, primarily in amounts to enable the Company's shareholders to pay their related income tax obligations which arise as a result of the Company's status as an S Corporation. No other cash dividends were paid during the applicable periods. For the foreseeable future, the Company expects to pay annual cash distributions equal to an amount sufficient to enable the Company's shareholders to pay their respective income tax obligations as a result of the Company's status as an S Corporation.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Management's Discussion and Analysis provides a narrative of the Company's financial condition and performance. The narrative reviews the Company's results of operations, liquidity and capital resources, critical accounting policies and estimates, and certain other matters. It includes Management's interpretation of our financial results, the factors affecting these results and the significant factors that we currently believe may materially affect our future financial condition, operating results and liquidity. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the Company's consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained elsewhere in this Annual Report.

Our significant accounting policies are disclosed in Note 1 "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. Certain information in this discussion and other statements contained in this Annual Report which are not historical facts are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those contemplated, expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained herein. Possible factors which could cause our actual future results to differ from any expectations expressed or implied by any forward-looking statements, or otherwise, include, but are not limited to, changes in our ability to manage liquidity and cash flow, the accuracy of Management's estimates and judgments, adverse developments in economic conditions including the interest rate environment, unforeseen changes in our net interest margin, federal and state regulatory changes, unfavorable outcomes of litigation and other factors referenced in the "Risk Factors" section of the Company's Annual Report and elsewhere herein, or otherwise contained in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time.

General:

The Company is a privately-held corporation that has been engaged in the consumer finance industry since 1941. Our operations focus primarily on making installment loans to individuals in relatively small amounts for short periods of time. Other lending-related activities include the purchase of sales finance contracts from various dealers and the making of first and second mortgage real estate loans. All of our loans are at fixed rates, and contain fixed terms and fixed payments. We operate branch offices in six southeastern states and had a total of 315 branch locations at December 31, 2018. The Company and its operations are guided by a strategic plan which includes planned growth through strategic expansion of our branch office network. The Company expanded its operations with the opening of seven new branch offices during the year just ended. The majority of our revenues are derived from finance charges earned on loans outstanding. Additional revenues are derived from earnings on investment securities, insurance income and other miscellaneous income.

Financial Condition:

The Company's total assets increased \$78.2 million to \$796.4 million as of December 31, 2018 compared to \$718.2 million at December 31, 2017. The increase in assets was primarily due to growth in our net loan portfolio and our investment securities portfolio.

Loan originations were \$963.9 million during 2018 compared to \$839.5 million during the prior year which resulted in an increase in our net loan portfolio. Our net loan portfolio increased \$96.4 million (22%) at December 31, 2018 compared to December 31, 2017. A \$.5 million increase in the Company's allowance for loan losses (which is included in the net loan portfolio) offset a portion of the increase in the portfolio. Our allowance for loan losses reflects Management's estimate of the level of allowance adequate to cover probable losses inherent in the loan portfolio as of the date of the statement of financial position. To evaluate the overall adequacy of our allowance for loan losses, we consider the level of loan receivables, historical loss trends, loan delinquency trends, bankruptcy trends and overall economic conditions. Management believes the current allowance for loan losses is adequate to cover probable losses in our existing portfolio; however, changes in trends or deterioration

in economic conditions could result in a change in the allowance or an increase in actual losses. Any increase could have a material adverse impact on our results of operation or financial condition in the future.

Our cash and short-term investments decreased \$20.3 million (66%) at December 31, 2018 compared to December 31, 2017. Funding for the increase in loan originations and operational expenses were the main reasons for the decline.

The Company maintains an amount of funds in restricted accounts at its insurance subsidiaries in order to comply with certain requirements imposed on insurance companies by the State of Georgia and to meet the reserve requirements of its reinsurance agreements. Restricted cash also includes escrow deposits held by the Company on behalf of certain mortgage real estate customers. At December 31, 2018, restricted cash was \$3.7 million compared to \$4.7 million at December 31, 2017. See Note 3, "Investment Securities" in the accompanying "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements" for further discussion of amounts held in trust.

Our investment securities portfolio increased \$3.4 million (2%) to \$213.0 million at December 31, 2018 compared to \$209.6 million at December 31, 2017. The portfolio consists primarily of invested surplus funds generated by the Company's insurance subsidiaries. It also consists of surplus funds generated from sales of our debt securities. Management maintains what it believes to be a conservative approach when formulating its investment strategy. The Company does not participate in hedging programs, interest rate swaps or other similar activities. This investment portfolio consists mainly of U.S. Treasury bonds, government agency bonds, various municipal bonds and mutual funds. Approximately 99% of these investment securities have been designated as "available for sale" at December 31, 2018 with any unrealized gain or loss accounted for in the equity section of the Company's consolidated statement of financial position, net of deferred income taxes for those investments held by the insurance subsidiaries as well as the statement of comprehensive income. The remainder of this investment portfolio represents securities that are designated "held to maturity", as Management has both the ability and intent to hold these securities to maturity and are carried at amortized cost.

Other miscellaneous assets decreased \$0.5 million (2%) at December 31, 2018 compared to December 31, 2017 mainly due to a payment on two life insurance policies on a former executive officer where the Company was the beneficiary. Other factors contributing to the decrease in other assets was a reduction in net depreciable fixed assets, a reduction in refundable income taxes and a reduction in collateral held on foreclosed properties.

A substantial portion of the Company's funding is generated from sales of the Company's various debt securities. Aggregate senior and subordinated debt of the Company increased \$70.4 million (15%) to \$530.6 million at December 31, 2018 compared to \$460.2 million at December 31, 2017. The increase in our aggregate debt was mainly due to borrowings against the Company's credit line to fund the aforementioned growth in our loan portfolio originations. Higher sales of the Company's commercial paper was also a contributing factor causing the increase our aggregate debt.

A reduction in the Company's accounts payable liability was the primary factor causing the \$1.0 million (4%) decrease in accrued expenses and other liabilities at December 31, 2018 compared to the prior year. Offsetting a portion of the decrease were increases in accruals for salaries, incentive bonuses, deferred compensation and health insurance claims.

Results of Operations:

Total revenues were \$230.1 million, \$205.7 million and \$211.1 million during 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The aforementioned growth in our loan and investment securities portfolios during 2018 resulted in higher interest and finance charge income for the year compared to 2017. Higher revenue on increased sales of credit insurance products also contributed to higher revenue during 2018. The decrease during 2017 compared to 2016 was mainly due to lower insurance revenues. Also contributing to the 2017 decline was a decrease in interest and finance charges earned due to lower interest rates offered on certain loan products.

Net income for each of the three years ended December 31, 2018 was \$17.3 million, \$14.9 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. The increase in net income during 2018 compared to 2017 was mainly due to the aforementioned higher interest income and finance charge revenues and higher insurance revenues earned. Lower credit losses were the primary reason for the increase in net income during 2017 compared to 2016. An increase in operating expenses offset a portion of the impact of the lower credit losses during 2017.

Net Interest Income:

Net interest income is a principal component of the Company's operating performance and resulting net income. It represents the difference between income on earning assets and the cost of funds on interest bearing liabilities. Debt securities represent a majority of our interest bearing liabilities. Factors affecting our net interest income include the level of average net receivables and the interest income associated therewith, capitalized loan origination costs and our average outstanding debt, as well as the general interest rate environment. Volatility in interest rates generally has more impact on the income earned on investments and the Company's borrowing costs than on interest income earned on loans. Management does not normally change the rates charged on loans originated solely as a result of changes in the interest rate environment.

Net interest income was \$166.1 million during 2018, compared to \$145.2 million in 2017 and \$144.8 million during 2016. Higher levels of average net receivables outstanding and the associated finance charge income thereon was main reason for increase in net interest income during 2018 compared to 2017. Average net receivables were \$556.3 million during 2018 compared to \$462.4 million during 2017 and \$455.8 million during 2016. Although average net receivables increased during 2017 compared to 2016, interest income decreased \$.1 million due to lower yields. The higher margin during 2017 compared to 2016 was mainly due to lower interest expense on debt.

Interest expense was \$13.9 million, \$12.9 million and \$13.4 million during 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Average borrowings were \$479.1 million during 2018 compared to \$455.2 during 2017 and \$437.5 during 2016. Although average borrowings increased, the continued low interest rate environment has enabled the Company to minimize or reduce increases in interest expense. Our weighted average borrowing rate was 2.90%, 2.84% and 3.07% during 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The average borrowing rate increased during 2018 due to the increases on the rate offered to investors on the Company's debt securities. Borrowings under the Company's bank credit line during 2018 also was a factor contributing an increase in the average borrowing rate.

Net Insurance Income:

The Company offers certain optional credit insurance products to loan customers when closing a loan. Sales have been trending down the last three years as fewer customers have opted for insurance coverage. Net insurance income (insurance revenues less claims and expenses) were \$32.5 million during 2018, \$31.5 million during 2017 and \$36.1 million during 2016. Prior to 2018, loan customers choosing credit insurance products at loan closing had been trending down. During the year just ended, the Company experienced an increase in customers opting for credit insurance products when obtaining a loan, which contributed to the increase in net insurance income. Higher insurance claims and expenses offset a portion of the increase during 2018.

Other Revenue:

Other revenue was \$5.7 million, \$5.4 million and \$5.3 million during 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. A significant component of other revenue is earnings from the sale of auto club memberships. The Company, as an agent for a third party, offers auto club memberships to loan customers during the closing of a loan. Increases in sales of auto club memberships during 2018 and 2017 was the primary factor causing the increase in other revenue in each of the year. During 2017 and 2016, other revenue included earnings received from an equity fund the Company had previously invested in. The Company redeemed the equity fund prior to the end of 2017, which offset some of the growth in 2017.

Provision for Loan Losses:

The Company's provision for loan losses represents net charge offs and adjustments to the allowance for loan losses to cover credit losses inherent in the outstanding loan portfolio at the balance sheet date. Determining the proper allowance for loan losses is a critical accounting estimate which involves Management's judgment with respect to certain relevant factors, such as historical and expected loss trends, unemployment rates in various locales, current and expected net charge offs, delinquency levels, bankruptcy trends and overall general economic conditions. See Note 2, "Loans", in the accompanying "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements" for additional discussion regarding the allowance for loan losses.

Our provision for loan losses were \$39.2 million, \$32.4 million and \$67.6 million for the years ended 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Net charge offs included in the provision for loan losses were \$38.7 million for 2018, \$38.4 million for 2017 and \$52.6 million for 2016. The primary factor for the increase in the provision for loan losses during 2018 compared to 2017 was a reduction in the allowance for loan losses in 2017, which lowered the related 2017 provision for loan losses. As a result of the lower credit losses and lower delinquency rates on loans during 2017, Management lowered the allowance for loan losses \$6.0 million. Net charge offs during 2018 and 2017 were lower than prior years due to the implementation of stricter lending policies and the opening of additional collection centers.

Factors causing the higher level of charge offs during 2016 were (i) higher than expected losses associated with a bulk purchase of receivables from another lending company, (ii) natural disasters such as the flooding from storms in Louisiana and damage from storms in Georgia and South Carolina, (iii) higher unemployment in certain areas of Louisiana due to the oil industry downturn and (v) changes in our collection practices that had a negative impact on the level of net charge offs during the year. As a result of the foregoing, the Company increased the allowance for loan losses \$15.0 million during 2016 which resulted in a higher provision for loan losses for 2016.

We believe that the allowance for loan losses is adequate to cover probable losses inherent in our portfolio; however, because the allowance for loan losses is based on estimates, there can be no assurance that the ultimate charge off amount will not exceed such estimates or that our loss assumptions will not increase.

Operating Expenses:

Operating expenses of the Company were \$144.5 million during 2018 compared to \$132.2 million during 2017 and \$112.3 million during 2016. Personnel expense, occupancy expense and miscellaneous other expenses are the components included in operating expenses.

Personnel expense increased \$7.2 million (9%) and \$14.6 million (21%) during 2018 and 2017, respectively, mainly due to increases in the employee base, merit salary increases, accruals for incentive bonus, increases in deferred compensation, higher contributions to the Company's 401(k) plan, higher claims expense associated with the Company's self-insured employee medical program and higher payroll taxes. The increase in 2017 was significantly higher than 2016 mainly due to a lower accrual for the Company's incentive bonus in 2016.

Occupancy expense increased \$1.0 million (6%) during 2018 compared to 2017 and \$1.7 million (12%) during 2017 compared to 2016. Higher office maintenance expense, utilities expense, telephone expense, depreciation expense and increased rent expense were the primary factors responsible for the increases in occupancy expense each year over year. Higher maintenance of equipment and office materials expense also contributed to the increase in 2017 compared to 2016.

During 2018, other operating expenses increased \$4.1 million (13%) compared to 2017. Increases in advertising expenses, computer expenses, credit bureau expenses, dues and subscriptions, insurance premiums paid, legal and audit expenses, postage expenses, travel expenses and taxes and license expenses were primary factors contributing to the increase. Lower bank service charges and lower computation error expenses during 2018 offset a portion of the increase. During

2017, other operating expenses increased \$3.6 million (13%) compared to 2016. Increases in advertising expenses, bank service charges, computation errors, credit bureau expenses, legal and audit expenses, consultant fees, computer expenses, management meetings expenses, training expenses, travel expenses and taxes and licenses were primary factors contributing to the increase. Lower charitable contributions during 2017 offset a portion of the increase.

Income Taxes:

The Company has elected to be treated as an S Corporation for income tax reporting purposes. Taxable income or loss of an S Corporation is treated as income of, and is reportable in the individual tax returns of, the shareholders of the Company. However, income taxes continue to be reported for the Company's insurance subsidiaries, as they are not allowed to be treated as S Corporations, and for the Company's state income tax purposes in Louisiana, which does not recognize S Corporation status. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized and provisions for current and deferred income taxes continue to be recorded by the Company's subsidiaries. The deferred income tax assets and liabilities are due to certain temporary differences between reported income and expenses for financial statement and income tax purposes.

Effective income tax rates for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 were 15.6%, 14.8% and 83.5%, respectively. On December 22, 2017, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (the "TCJA") was enacted and resulted in significant changes to the U.S. tax code, including a reduction in the maximum federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21%. The impact of the TCJA was the primary cause of the reduction in the Company's income tax rates during 2018 and 2017. The tax rates of the Company's insurance subsidiaries were also below statutory rates due to investments in tax exempt bonds. During 2016, the S Corporation incurred a significant loss, which lowered the overall pre-tax income of the Company resulting in a higher effective tax rate for 2016. Any tax benefit from the loss was passed on to the shareholders which resulted in lower distributions to shareholders in 2017.

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk:

Volatility in market interest rates can impact the Company's investment portfolio and the interest rates paid on its bank borrowings and debt securities. Changes in interest rates have more impact on the income earned on investments and the Company's borrowing costs than on interest income earned on loans, as Management does not normally change the rates charged on loans originated solely as a result of changes in the interest rate environment. These exposures are monitored and managed by the Company as an integral part of its overall cash management program. It is Management's goal to minimize any adverse effect that movements in interest rates may have on the financial condition and operations of the Company. The information in the table below summarizes the Company's risk associated with marketable debt securities and debt obligations as of December 31, 2018. Rates associated with the investment securities represent weighted averages based on the tax effected yield to maturity of each individual security. No adjustment has been made to yield, even though many of the investments are tax-exempt and, as a result, actual yield will be higher than that disclosed. For debt obligations, the table presents principal cash flows and related weighted average interest rates by contractual maturity dates. The Company's subordinated debt securities are sold with various interest adjustment periods, which is the time from sale until the interest rate adjusts, and which allows the holder to redeem that security prior to the contractual maturity without penalty. It is expected that actual maturities on a portion of the Company's subordinated debentures will occur prior to the contractual maturity as a result of interest rate adjustments. Management estimates the carrying value of senior and subordinated debt approximates their fair values when compared to instruments of similar type, terms and maturity.

Loans originated by the Company are excluded from the table below since interest rates charged on loans are based on rates allowable in compliance with any applicable regulatory guidelines. Management does not believe that changes in market interest rates will significantly impact rates charged on loans. The Company has no exposure to foreign currency risk.

| | Expected Year of Maturity | | | | | | | Fair Value |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|---------------|-------|------------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 & Beyond | Total | |
| Assets: | (Dollars in millions) | | | | | | | |
| Investment Securities | \$ 3 | \$ 1 | \$ 1 | \$ 1 | \$ 4 | \$ 203 | \$213 | \$213 |
| Average Interest Rate | 2.2% | 2.7% | 2.8% | 2.1% | 2.8% | 3.5% | 3.3% | |
| Liabilities: | | | | | | | | |
| Senior Debt: | | | | | | | | |
| Note Payable to Bank | \$ 53 | — | — | — | — | — | \$ 53 | \$ 53 |
| Average Interest Rate | 5.7% | — | — | — | — | — | 5.7% | |
| Senior Demand Notes | \$ 73 | — | — | — | — | — | \$ 73 | \$ 73 |
| Average Interest Rate | 1.6% | — | — | — | — | — | 1.6% | |
| Commercial Paper | \$ 374 | — | — | — | — | — | \$374 | \$374 |
| Average Interest Rate | 3.1% | — | — | — | — | — | 3.1% | |
| Subordinated Debentures | \$ 7 | \$6 | \$8 | \$ 9 | — | — | \$ 30 | \$ 30 |
| Average Interest Rate | 2.7% | 2.7% | 2.6% | 2.6% | — | — | 2.7% | |

Liquidity and Capital Resources:

Liquidity is the ability of the Company to meet its ongoing financial obligations, either through the collection of receivables or by generating additional funds through liability management. The Company's liquidity is therefore dependent on the collection of its receivables, the sale of debt securities and the continued availability of funds under the Company's revolving credit agreement.

We continue to monitor and review current economic conditions and the related potential implications on us, including with respect to, among other things, changes in loan losses, liquidity, compliance with our debt covenants, and relationships with our customers.

As of December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the Company had \$10.3 million and \$30.6 million, respectively, invested in cash and short-term investments readily convertible into cash with original maturities of three months or less. The Company uses cash reserves to fund its operations, including providing funds for any increase in redemptions of debt securities by investors which may occur.

The Company's investment securities can be converted into cash, if necessary. As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, 98% and 84%, respectively, of the Company's cash and cash equivalents and investment securities were maintained in Frandisco Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Frandisco Life Insurance Company, the Company's insurance subsidiaries. Georgia state insurance regulations limit the use an insurance company can make of its assets. Ordinary dividend payments to the Company by its wholly owned insurance subsidiaries are subject to annual limitations and are restricted to the lesser of 10% of statutory surplus or statutory earnings before recognizing realized investment gains of the individual insurance subsidiaries. Any dividends above these state limitations are termed "extraordinary dividends" and must be approved in advance by the Georgia Insurance Commissioner. The maximum aggregate amount of dividends these subsidiaries could have paid to the Company during 2018, without prior approval of the Georgia Insurance Commissioner, was approximately \$13.5 million. In August 2018, the Company filed a request with the Georgia Insurance Department for each of the insurance subsidiaries to be eligible to pay up to \$50.0 million in extraordinary dividends during 2018. Management requested the approval to ensure the availability of additional liquidity for the Company if needed. In September 2018, the request was approved. The Company elected not to pay any dividends from the insurance subsidiaries during 2018. On January 30, 2019, Management submitted a request for approval of two separate transactions involving dividends and/or lines of credit with maximum amounts of \$50.0 million from the Company's life insurance subsidiary and \$60.0 million from the Company's property and casualty insurance company. The request was approved by the Georgia Insurance Department on February 21, 2019.

At December 31, 2018, Frandisco Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Frandisco Life Insurance Company had a statutory surplus of \$100.2 million and \$81.0 million, respectively. The maximum aggregate amount of dividends these subsidiaries can pay to the Company in 2019 without prior approval of the Georgia Insurance Commissioner is approximately \$14.8 million. The Company does not currently believe that any statutory limitations on the payment of cash dividends by the Company's subsidiaries will materially affect the Company's liquidity.

Most of the Company's loan portfolio is financed through sales of its various debt securities, which, because of certain redemption features contained therein, have shorter average maturities than the loan portfolio as a whole. The difference in maturities may adversely affect liquidity if the Company is not able to continue to sell debt securities at interest rates and on terms that are responsive to the demands of the marketplace or maintain sufficient borrowing availability under our credit facility.

The Company's continued liquidity is therefore also dependent on the collection of its receivables and the sale of debt securities that meet the investment requirements of the public. In addition to its receivables and securities sales, the Company has an external source of funds available under a revolving credit facility with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. This credit agreement provides for borrowings or reborrowings of up to \$100.0 million, subject to certain limitations, and all borrowings are secured by the finance receivables of the Company. As of December 31, 2018, \$53.2 million was outstanding under the credit line. There were no borrowings outstanding against the credit line at December 31, 2017. The credit agreement has a commitment termination date of December 31, 2019. Management believes the current credit facility, when considered with funds expected to be available from operations, should provide sufficient liquidity for the Company.

Available but unborrowed amounts under the credit agreement are subject to a periodic unused line fee of .50%. The interest rate under the credit agreement is equivalent to the greater of (a) .75% per annum plus 300 basis points or (b) the three month London Interbank Offered Rate (the "LIBOR Rate") plus 300 basis points. The LIBOR Rate is adjusted on the first day of each calendar month based upon the LIBOR Rate as of the last day of the preceding calendar month. The interest rate on the credit agreement at December 31, 2018 and 2017 was 5.74% and 4.49%, respectively.

The credit agreement requires the Company to comply with certain covenants customary for financing transactions of this nature, including, among others, maintaining a minimum interest coverage ratio, a minimum loss reserve ratio, a minimum ratio of earnings to interest, taxes and depreciation and amortization to interest expense, a minimum asset quality ratio, a minimum consolidated tangible net worth ratio, and a maximum debt to tangible net worth ratio, each as defined. The Company must also comply with certain restrictions on its activities consistent with credit facilities of this type, including limitations on: (a) restricted payments; (b) additional debt obligations (other than specified debt obligations); (c) investments (other than specified investments); (d) mergers, acquisitions, or a liquidation or winding up; (e) modifying its organizational documents or changing lines of business; (f) modifying certain contracts; (g) certain affiliate transactions; (h) sale-leaseback, synthetic lease, or similar transactions; (i) guaranteeing additional indebtedness (other than specified indebtedness); (j) capital expenditures; or (k) speculative transactions. The credit agreement also restricts the Company or any of its subsidiaries from creating or allowing certain liens on their assets, entering into agreements that restrict their ability to grant liens (other than specified agreements), or creating or allowing restrictions on any of their ability to make dividends, distributions, inter-company loans or guaranties, or other inter-company payments, or inter-company asset transfers. At December 31, 2018, the Company was in compliance with all covenants. The Company has no reason to believe that it will not remain in compliance with these covenants and obligations for the foreseeable future.

We are not aware of any additional restrictions placed on us, or being considered to be placed on us, related to our ability to access capital, such as borrowings under our credit agreement prior to its maturity.

Any decrease in the Company's allowance for loan losses would not directly affect the Company's liquidity, as any adjustment to the allowance has no impact on cash; however, an increase in the actual loss rate may have a material adverse effect on the Company's liquidity. The inability to collect loans could materially impact the Company's liquidity in the future.

The Company was subject to the following contractual obligations and commitments at December 31, 2018:

| <u>Contractual Obligations</u> | <u>Payment due by period</u> | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Less Than 1 Year</u> | <u>1 to 2 Years</u> | <u>3 to 5 Years</u> | <u>More than 5 Years</u> |
| | (in millions) | | | | |
| Bank Commitment Fee ** | \$ 56.8 | \$ 56.8 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Senior Demand Notes * | 74.5 | 74.5 | - | - | - |
| Commercial Paper * | 377.4 | 377.4 | - | - | - |
| Subordinated Debt * | 33.5 | 8.0 | 15.5 | 10.0 | - |
| Human resource insurance and support contracts ** | 1.2 | 1.2 | - | - | - |
| Operating leases (offices) | 21.6 | 7.0 | 10.3 | 4.2 | .1 |
| Communication lines contract ** | 1.0 | .6 | .3 | .1 | - |
| Software service contract ** | 9.7 | 4.7 | 4.9 | .1 | - |
| Total | \$575.7 | \$530.2 | \$31.0 | \$14.4 | \$.1 |

* Includes estimated interest at current rates.

** Based on current usage.

Critical Accounting Policies:

The accounting and reporting policies of 1st Franklin and its subsidiaries are in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and conform to general practices within the financial services industry. The more critical accounting and reporting policies include the allowance for loan losses, revenue recognition and insurance claims reserves.

Allowance for Loan Losses:

Provisions for loan losses are charged to operations in amounts sufficient to maintain the allowance for loan losses at a level considered adequate to cover probable losses inherent in our loan portfolio.

The allowance for loan losses is established based on the estimate of the amount of probable losses inherent in the loan portfolio as of the reporting date. We review charge off experience factors, delinquency reports, historical collection rates, estimates of the value of the underlying collateral, economic trends such as unemployment rates and bankruptcy filings and other information in order to make the necessary judgments as to probable losses. Assumptions regarding probable losses are reviewed periodically and may be impacted by our actual loss experience and changes in any of the factors discussed above.

Revenue Recognition:

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that an interest yield method be used to calculate the income recognized on accounts which have precomputed charges. An interest yield method is used by the Company on each individual account with precomputed charges to calculate income for those on-going accounts; however, state regulations often allow interest refunds to be made according to the "Rule of 78's" method for payoffs and renewals. Since the majority of the Company's accounts which have precomputed charges are paid off or renewed prior to maturity, the result is that most of the accounts effectively yield on a Rule of 78's basis.

Precomputed finance charges are included in the gross amount of certain direct cash loans, sales finance contracts and certain real estate loans. These precomputed charges are deferred and

recognized as income on an accrual basis using the effective interest method. Some other cash loans and real estate loans, which do not have precomputed charges, have income recognized on a simple interest accrual basis. Income is not accrued on a loan that is more than 60 days past due.

Loan fees and origination costs are deferred and recognized as an adjustment to the loan yield over the contractual life of the related loan.

The property and casualty credit insurance policies written by the Company, as agent for a non-affiliated insurance company, are reinsured by the Company's property and casualty insurance subsidiary. The premiums are deferred and earned over the period of insurance coverage using the pro-rata method or the effective yield method, depending on whether the amount of insurance coverage generally remains level or declines.

The credit life and accident and health policies written by the Company, as agent for a non-affiliated insurance company, are also reinsured by the Company's life insurance subsidiary. The premiums are deferred and earned using the pro-rata method for level-term life policies and the effective yield method for decreasing-term life policies. Premiums on accident and health policies are earned based on an average of the pro-rata method and the effective yield method.

Insurance Claims Reserves:

Included in unearned insurance premiums and commissions on the consolidated statements of financial position are reserves for incurred but unpaid credit insurance claims for policies written by the Company and reinsured by the Company's wholly-owned insurance subsidiaries. These reserves are established based on accepted actuarial methods. In the event that the Company's actual reported losses for any given period are materially in excess of the previously estimated amounts, such losses could have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations.

Different assumptions in the application of these policies could result in material changes in the Company's consolidated financial position or consolidated results of operations.

New Accounting Pronouncements:

See Note 1, "Summary of Significant Accounting Policies - Recent Accounting Pronouncements," in the accompanying "Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements" for a discussion of new accounting standards and the expected impact of accounting standards recently issued but not yet required to be adopted. For pronouncements already adopted, any material impacts on the Company's consolidated financial statements are discussed in the applicable section(s) of this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Notes to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this Annual Report.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

**To the Shareholders and Board of Directors
1st Franklin Financial Corporation
Toccoa, Georgia**

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of financial position of 1st Franklin Financial Corporation and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows, for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2018, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis of Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Atlanta, Georgia
March 29, 2019

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2002.

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

ASSETS

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (Note 6): | | |
| Cash and Due From Banks | \$ 4,123,428 | \$ 3,333,772 |
| Short-term Investments | <u>6,156,069</u> | <u>27,232,064</u> |
| | <u>10,279,497</u> | <u>30,565,836</u> |
| RESTRICTED CASH (Note 1) | <u>3,746,371</u> | <u>4,677,945</u> |
| LOANS (Note 2): | | |
| Direct Cash Loans | 651,085,493 | 540,380,078 |
| Real Estate Loans | 31,655,000 | 27,117,189 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>50,693,568</u> | <u>34,314,270</u> |
| | 733,434,061 | 601,811,537 |
| Less: Unearned Finance Charges | 98,377,069 | 74,439,222 |
| Unearned Insurance Premiums | 49,949,190 | 39,212,982 |
| Allowance for Loan Losses | <u>43,000,000</u> | <u>42,500,000</u> |
| | <u>542,107,802</u> | <u>445,659,333</u> |
| INVESTMENT SECURITIES (Note 3): | | |
| Available for Sale, at fair value | 212,199,716 | 204,568,031 |
| Held to Maturity, at amortized cost | <u>787,987</u> | <u>5,010,190</u> |
| | <u>212,987,703</u> | <u>209,578,221</u> |
| OTHER ASSETS: | | |
| Land, Buildings, Equipment and Leasehold Improvements, less accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$35,044,831 and \$31,476,425 in 2018 and 2017, respectively | 15,348,519 | 15,522,745 |
| Deferred Acquisition Costs | 2,998,906 | 2,279,512 |
| Due from Non-affiliated Insurance Company | 2,823,806 | 2,179,972 |
| Other Miscellaneous | <u>6,075,133</u> | <u>7,771,829</u> |
| | <u>27,246,364</u> | <u>27,754,058</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>\$796,367,737</u> | <u>\$718,235,393</u> |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| SENIOR DEBT (Note 7): | | |
| Bank Borrowings | \$ 53,180,000 | \$ - |
| Senior Demand Notes, including accrued interest | 73,339,081 | 71,818,656 |
| Commercial Paper | <u>373,803,569</u> | <u>354,912,561</u> |
| | <u>500,322,650</u> | <u>426,731,217</u> |
| | | |
| ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES | <u>24,914,479</u> | <u>25,920,271</u> |
| | | |
| SUBORDINATED DEBT (Note 8) | <u>30,270,450</u> | <u>33,487,903</u> |
| | | |
| Total Liabilities | <u>555,507,579</u> | <u>486,139,391</u> |
| | | |
| COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note 9) | | |
| | | |
| STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY: | | |
| Preferred Stock; \$100 par value | | |
| 6,000 shares authorized; no shares outstanding | -- | -- |
| Common Stock: | | |
| Voting Shares; \$100 par value; | | |
| 2,000 shares authorized; 1,700 shares | | |
| outstanding as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 | 170,000 | 170,000 |
| Non-Voting Shares; no par value; | | |
| 198,000 shares authorized; 168,300 shares | | |
| outstanding as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 | -- | -- |
| Accumulated Other Comprehensive (Loss) Income | (391,979) | 4,596,132 |
| Retained Earnings | <u>241,082,137</u> | <u>227,329,870</u> |
| Total Stockholders' Equity | <u>240,860,158</u> | <u>232,096,002</u> |
| | | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY | <u>\$796,367,737</u> | <u>\$718,235,393</u> |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018, 2017 AND 2016

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| INTEREST INCOME: | | | |
| Finance Charges | \$172,804,055 | \$151,432,541 | \$152,721,480 |
| Net Investment Income | <u>7,134,054</u> | <u>6,650,034</u> | <u>5,507,531</u> |
| | <u>179,938,109</u> | <u>158,082,575</u> | <u>158,229,011</u> |
| INTEREST EXPENSE: | | | |
| Senior Debt | 12,993,358 | 11,964,075 | 12,407,735 |
| Subordinated Debt | <u>888,482</u> | <u>940,879</u> | <u>1,024,328</u> |
| | <u>13,881,840</u> | <u>12,904,954</u> | <u>13,432,063</u> |
| NET INTEREST INCOME | 166,056,269 | 145,177,621 | 144,796,948 |
| PROVISION FOR LOAN LOSSES (Note 2) | <u>39,207,197</u> | <u>32,355,146</u> | <u>67,562,543</u> |
| NET INTEREST INCOME AFTER PROVISION FOR LOAN LOSSES | <u>126,849,072</u> | <u>112,822,475</u> | <u>77,234,405</u> |
| NET INSURANCE INCOME: | | | |
| Premiums | 44,387,227 | 42,264,666 | 47,621,294 |
| Insurance Claims and Expense | <u>(11,934,887)</u> | <u>(10,776,115)</u> | <u>(11,488,547)</u> |
| | <u>32,452,340</u> | <u>31,488,551</u> | <u>36,132,747</u> |
| OTHER REVENUE | <u>5,732,236</u> | <u>5,399,197</u> | <u>5,265,500</u> |
| OPERATING EXPENSES: | | | |
| Personnel Expense | 91,585,822 | 84,380,970 | 69,814,320 |
| Occupancy Expense | 17,250,698 | 16,269,124 | 14,520,134 |
| Other Expense | <u>35,644,204</u> | <u>31,556,023</u> | <u>27,968,671</u> |
| | <u>144,480,724</u> | <u>132,206,117</u> | <u>112,303,125</u> |
| INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES | 20,552,924 | 17,504,106 | 6,329,527 |
| PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES (Note 12) | <u>3,211,993</u> | <u>2,598,352</u> | <u>5,285,926</u> |
| NET INCOME | <u>\$ 17,340,931</u> | <u>\$ 14,905,754</u> | <u>\$ 1,043,601</u> |
| BASIC EARNINGS PER SHARE: | | | |
| 170,000 Shares Outstanding for All Periods (1,700 voting, 168,300 non-voting) | <u>\$102.01</u> | <u>\$87.68</u> | <u>\$6.14</u> |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018, 2017 AND 2016

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Net Income | \$ 17,340,931 | \$ 14,905,754 | \$ 1,043,601 |
| Other Comprehensive (Loss) / Income: | | | |
| Net changes related to available-for-sale | | | |
| Securities: | | | |
| Unrealized (losses) gains | (6,903,069) | 8,343,715 | (7,247,688) |
| Income tax benefit (provision) | <u>1,415,964</u> | <u>(2,730,003)</u> | <u>2,111,649</u> |
| Net unrealized (losses) gains | <u>(5,487,105)</u> | <u>5,613,712</u> | <u>(5,136,039)</u> |
| Less reclassification of gains to | | | |
| net income | <u>293,029</u> | <u>15,397</u> | <u>9,130</u> |
| Total Other Comprehensive | | | |
| (Loss) Income | <u>(5,780,134)</u> | <u>5,598,315</u> | <u>(5,145,169)</u> |
| Total Comprehensive Income (Loss) | <u>\$ 11,560,797</u> | <u>\$ 20,504,069</u> | <u>\$ (4,101,568)</u> |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018, 2017, AND 2016

| | <u>Common Stock</u> | | <u>Retained</u> | <u>Accumulated</u> <u>Other</u> | |
|--|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|--|----------------------|
| | <u>Shares</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Earnings</u> | <u>Comprehensive</u> <u>Income (Loss)</u> | <u>Total</u> |
| Balance at December 31, 2015 | 170,000 | \$170,000 | \$220,177,382 | \$ 4,142,986 | \$224,490,368 |
| Comprehensive (Loss): | | | | | |
| Net Income for 2016 | — | — | 1,043,601 | — | |
| Other Comprehensive Loss | — | — | — | (5,145,169) | |
| Total Comprehensive Loss | — | — | — | — | (4,101,568) |
| Cash Distributions Paid | — | — | (8,650,460) | — | (8,650,460) |
| Balance at December 31, 2016 | 170,000 | 170,000 | 212,570,553 | (1,002,183) | 211,738,370 |
| Comprehensive Income: | | | | | |
| Net Income for 2017 | — | — | 14,905,754 | — | |
| Other Comprehensive Income | — | — | — | 5,598,315 | |
| Total Comprehensive Income | — | — | — | — | 20,504,069 |
| Cash Distributions Paid | — | — | (146,437) | — | (146,437) |
| Balance at December 31, 2017 | 170,000 | 170,000 | 227,329,870 | 4,596,132 | 232,096,002 |
| Comprehensive Income: | | | | | |
| Net Income for 2018 | — | — | 17,340,931 | — | |
| Other Comprehensive Loss | — | — | — | (5,780,134) | |
| Total Comprehensive Income | — | — | — | — | 11,560,797 |
| Adjustment Resulting from the Adoption of Accounting Standard (Note 1) | — | — | (792,023) | 792,023 | — |
| Cash Distributions Paid | — | — | (2,796,641) | — | (2,796,641) |
| Balance at December 31, 2018 | <u>170,000</u> | <u>\$170,000</u> | <u>\$241,082,137</u> | <u>\$ (391,979)</u> | <u>\$240,860,158</u> |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018, 2017 AND 2016

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Net Income | \$ 17,340,931 | \$ 14,905,754 | \$ 1,043,601 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | | |
| Provision for loan losses | 39,207,197 | 32,355,146 | 67,562,543 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 4,631,106 | 4,268,716 | 3,709,687 |
| Provision for deferred (prepaid) taxes | 522,773 | (2,445,235) | (650,641) |
| Earnings in equity method investment | - | (739,017) | (1,212,444) |
| Net (losses) gains due to called redemptions of marketable securities, gain on sales of equipment and amortization on securities | (321,369) | 364,400 | 591,868 |
| Decrease (increase) in miscellaneous assets and other..... | 333,470 | (1,887,637) | 1,066,458 |
| (Decrease) increase in other liabilities | <u>(96,798)</u> | <u>8,036,584</u> | <u>(5,056,292)</u> |
| Net Cash Provided | <u>61,617,310</u> | <u>54,858,711</u> | <u>67,054,780</u> |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Loans originated or purchased | (510,440,178) | (443,896,871) | (384,978,358) |
| Loan payments | 374,784,512 | 349,066,518 | 340,621,771 |
| Purchases of securities, available for sale | (32,488,192) | (36,224,740) | (40,361,497) |
| Redemption of equity fund investment | - | 26,940,966 | - |
| Sales of securities, available for sale | 12,621,827 | - | 344,000 |
| Redemptions of securities, available for sale | 5,350,000 | 7,085,000 | 9,140,000 |
| Redemptions of securities, held to maturity | 4,155,000 | 6,680,000 | 4,715,000 |
| Capital expenditures | (4,489,551) | (5,972,422) | (7,824,494) |
| Proceeds from sale of equipment | 94,020 | 160,805 | 120,780 |
| Net Cash Used | <u>(150,412,562)</u> | <u>(96,160,744)</u> | <u>(78,222,798)</u> |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | | |
| Net increase (decrease) in Senior Demand Notes | 1,520,425 | (1,348,501) | 2,166,070 |
| Advances on credit line | 79,445,656 | 543,573 | 532,501 |
| Payments on credit line | (26,265,656) | (543,573) | (532,501) |
| Commercial paper issued | 63,064,642 | 48,097,953 | 54,659,072 |
| Commercial paper redeemed | (44,173,634) | (29,809,883) | (35,522,789) |
| Subordinated debt issued | 5,703,527 | 6,753,944 | 6,495,971 |
| Subordinated debt redeemed | (8,920,980) | (8,113,886) | (7,652,135) |
| Dividends / distributions paid | <u>(2,796,641)</u> | <u>(146,437)</u> | <u>(8,650,430)</u> |
| Net Cash Provided | <u>67,577,339</u> | <u>15,433,190</u> | <u>11,495,759</u> |
| NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND RESTRICTED CASH | (21,217,913) | (25,868,843) | 327,741 |
| CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND RESTRICTED CASH, beginning | <u>35,243,781</u> | <u>61,112,624</u> | <u>60,784,883</u> |
| CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND RESTRICTED CASH, ending | <u>\$ 14,025,868</u> | <u>\$ 35,243,781</u> | <u>\$ 61,112,624</u> |
| SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION: | | | |
| Interest Paid..... | \$ 13,626,034 | \$ 12,846,279 | \$ 13,513,578 |
| Income Taxes | 2,235,000 | 5,696,835 | 6,134,000 |
| Non-cash Exchange of Investment Securities..... | 341,692 | - | 723,310 |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018, 2017 AND 2016

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Business:

1st Franklin Financial Corporation (the "Company") is a consumer finance company which originates and services direct cash loans, real estate loans and sales finance contracts through 315 branch offices located throughout the southeastern United States. In addition to this business, the Company writes credit insurance when requested by its loan customers as an agent for a non-affiliated insurance company specializing in such insurance. Two of the Company's wholly owned subsidiaries, Frandisco Life Insurance Company and Frandisco Property and Casualty Insurance Company, reinsure the credit life, the credit accident and health, the credit unemployment and the credit property insurance so written.

Basis of Consolidation:

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. Inter-company accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

Fair Values of Financial Instruments:

The following methods and assumptions are used by the Company in estimating fair values for financial instruments.

Cash and Cash Equivalents. Cash includes cash on hand and with banks. Cash equivalents are short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value due to the relatively short period of time between the origination of the instruments and their expected realization. Cash and cash equivalents are classified as a Level 1 financial asset.

Loans. The fair value of the Company's direct cash loans and sales finance contracts approximate the carrying value since the estimated life, assuming prepayments, is short-term in nature. The fair value of the Company's real estate loans approximate the carrying value since the interest rate charged by the Company approximates market rates. Loans are classified as a Level 3 financial asset.

Investment Securities. The fair value of investment securities is based on quoted market prices. If a quoted market price is not available, fair value is estimated using market prices for similar securities. Held-to-maturity investment securities are classified as Level 2 financial assets. See additional information below regarding fair value under Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") No. 820, *Fair Value Measurements*. See Note 4 for fair value measurement of available-for-sale investment securities and for information related to how these securities are valued.

Senior Debt. The carrying value of the Company's senior debt securities approximates fair value due to the relatively short period of time between the origination of the instruments and their expected payment. Senior debt securities are classified as a Level 2 financial liability.

Subordinated Debt. The carrying value of the Company's subordinated debt securities approximates fair value due to the re-pricing frequency of the securities. Subordinated debt securities are classified as a Level 2 financial liability.

Use of Estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) requires Management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could vary materially from these estimates.

Income Recognition:

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that an interest yield method be used to calculate the income recognized on accounts which have precomputed charges. An interest yield method is used by the Company on each individual account with precomputed charges to calculate income for those on-going accounts, however, state regulations often allow interest refunds to be made according to the "Rule of 78's" method for payoffs and renewals. Since the majority of the Company's accounts with precomputed charges are repaid or renewed prior to maturity, the result is that most of the accounts with precomputed charges effectively yield on a Rule of 78's basis.

Precomputed finance charges are included in the gross amount of certain direct cash loans, sales finance contracts and certain real estate loans. These precomputed charges are deferred and recognized as income on an accrual basis using the effective interest method. Some other cash loans and real estate loans, which do not have precomputed charges, have income recognized on a simple interest accrual basis. Any loan which becomes 60 days or more past due, based on original contractual term, is placed in a non-accrual status. When a loan is placed in non-accrual status, income accruals are discontinued. Accrued income prior to the date an account becomes 60 days or more past due is not reversed. Income on loans in non-accrual status is earned only if payments are received. A loan in nonaccrual status is restored to accrual status when it becomes less than 60 days past due.

Loan fees and origination costs are deferred and recognized as an adjustment to the loan yield over the contractual life of the related loan.

The property and casualty credit insurance policies written by the Company, as agent for an unrelated insurance company, are reinsured by the Company's property and casualty insurance subsidiary. The premiums are deferred and earned over the period of insurance coverage using the pro-rata method or the effective yield method, depending on whether the amount of insurance coverage generally remains level or declines.

The credit life and accident and health policies written by the Company, as agent for an unrelated insurance company, are reinsured by the Company's life insurance subsidiary. The premiums are deferred and earned using the pro-rata method for level-term life policies and the effective yield method for decreasing-term life policies. Premiums on accident and health policies are earned based on an average of the pro-rata method and the effective yield method.

Claims of the insurance subsidiaries are expensed as incurred and reserves are established for incurred but not reported claims. Reserves for claims totaled \$4,650,596 and \$3,959,299 at December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively, and are included in unearned insurance premiums on the consolidated statements of financial position.

Policy acquisition costs of the insurance subsidiaries are deferred and amortized to expense over the life of the policies on the same methods used to recognize premium income.

The primary revenue category included in other revenue relates to commissions earned by the Company on sales of auto club memberships. Commissions received from the sale of auto club memberships are earned at the time the membership is sold. The Company sells the memberships as an agent for a third party. The Company has no further obligations after the date of sale as all claims for benefits are paid and administered by the third party.

Depreciation and Amortization:

Office machines, equipment and Company automobiles are recorded at cost and depreciated on a straight-line basis over a period of three to ten years. Leasehold improvements are amortized on a straight-line basis over five years or less depending on the term of the applicable lease. Depreciation and amortization expense for each of the three years ended December 31, 2018 was \$4,631,106, \$4,268,716 and \$3,709,687, respectively.

Restricted Cash:

Restricted cash consists of funds maintained in restricted accounts in order to comply with certain requirements imposed on insurance companies by the State of Georgia and to meet the reserve requirements of its reinsurance agreements. Restricted cash also includes escrow deposits held by the Company on behalf of certain real estate mortgage customers.

| | Year Ended December 31, | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | (In thousands) | | |
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 10,280 | \$ 30,566 | \$ 58,441 |
| Restricted cash | <u>3,746</u> | <u>4,678</u> | <u>2,672</u> |
| Total cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash | <u>\$ 14,026</u> | <u>\$ 35,244</u> | <u>\$ 61,113</u> |

Equity Method Investment:

During 2017, the Company redeemed its previously held equity fund investment. During periods the Company held the investment, it evaluated the unconsolidated equity investment to determine whether it should be recorded on a consolidated basis. The percentage ownership interest in the equity investment, an evaluation of control and whether a variable interest entity ("VIE") existed were all considered in the Company's consolidation assessment.

The Company accounted for its equity investment where it owned a non-controlling interest or where it is not the primary beneficiary of a VIE using the equity method of accounting. Under the equity method, the Company's cost of an investment was adjusted for its share of equity in the earnings or losses of the unconsolidated investment and reduced by distributions received. There was no difference between the cost of the Company's equity investment and the value of the underlying equity as reflected in the unconsolidated equity investment's financial statements.

The Company assessed the carrying value of its equity method investment for impairment in accordance with ASC 323-10, *Investments - Equity Method and Joint Ventures*. The Company assessed whether there were any indicators that the fair value of the Company's equity method investment might have been impaired. An investment is deemed impaired if the Company's estimate of the fair value of the investment is less than the carrying value of the investment and such decline in value is deemed to be other than temporary. During the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, no impairment of the Company's equity method investment was recognized.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets:

The Company annually evaluates whether events and circumstances have occurred or triggering events have occurred that indicate the carrying amount of property and equipment may warrant revision or may not be recoverable. When factors indicate that these long-lived assets should be evaluated for possible impairment, the Company assesses the recoverability by determining whether the carrying value of such long-lived assets will be recovered through the future undiscounted cash flows expected from use of the asset and its eventual disposition. Based on Management's evaluation, there was no impairment of the carrying value of the long-lived assets, including property and equipment at December 31, 2018 or 2017.

Income Taxes:

The Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued ASC 740-10. FASB ASC 740-10 provides that a tax benefit from an uncertain tax position may be recognized when it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination, including resolutions of any related appeals or litigation processes, based on the technical merits. Income tax positions must meet a more-likely-than-not recognition threshold at the effective date to be recognized. FASB ASC 740-10 also provides guidance on measurement, de-recognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. At December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, the Company had no uncertain tax positions.

The Company's insurance subsidiaries are treated as taxable entities and income taxes are provided for where applicable (Note 12). No provision for income taxes has been made by the Company since it has elected to be treated as an S Corporation for income tax reporting purposes. However, the state of Louisiana does not recognize S Corporation status, and the Company has accrued amounts necessary to pay the required income taxes in such state.

Collateral Held for Resale:

When the Company takes possession of collateral which secures a loan, the collateral is recorded at the lower of its estimated resale value or the loan balance. Any losses incurred at that time are charged against the Allowance for Loan Losses.

Marketable Debt Securities:

Management has designated a significant portion of the Company's investment securities held in the Company's investment portfolio at December 31, 2018 and 2017 as being available-for-sale. This portion of the investment portfolio is reported at fair value with unrealized gains and losses excluded from earnings and reported in other comprehensive income (loss) included in the consolidated statements of comprehensive income (loss). Gains and losses on sales of securities designated as available-for-sale are determined based on the specific identification method. The remainder of the investment portfolio is carried at amortized cost and designated as held-to-maturity as Management has both the ability and intent to hold these securities to maturity.

Earnings per Share Information:

The Company has no contingently issuable common shares, thus basic and diluted earnings per share amounts are the same.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements:

In May 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2014-09, "Revenue from Contracts with Customers." The update supersedes revenue recognition requirements in Topic 605, "Revenue Recognition," including most industry-specific revenue guidance in the FASB Accounting Standards Codification. The new guidance stipulates that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers is an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The guidance provides specific steps that entities should apply in order to achieve this principle. The amendments were effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017. The Company adopted this guidance using the "modified retrospective" method effective January 1, 2018; as such, the Company applied the guidance only to the most recent period presented in the financial statements. The Company categorizes its primary sources of revenue into three categories: (1) interest related revenues, (2) insurance related revenue and (3) revenue from contracts with customers.

- (1) Interest related revenues are specifically excluded from the scope of ASC 606 and accounted for under ASC Topic 310, "Receivables".
- (2) Insurance related revenues are subject to industry-specific guidance within the scope of ASC Topic 944, "Financial Services – Insurance" which remains unchanged.
- (3) Other revenues primarily relate to commissions earned by the Company on sales of auto club memberships. Auto club commissions are revenue from contracts with customers and are accounted for in accordance with the guidance set forth in ASC 606.

Other revenues, as a whole, are immaterial to total revenues. There was no change to previously reported amounts from the cumulative effect of the adoption of ASC 606. During the three years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, the Company recognized interest related income of \$172.8 million, \$151.4 million and \$152.7 million, respectively, insurance related revenue of \$44.4 million, \$42.3 million and \$47.6 million, respectively, and other revenues of \$5.7 million, \$5.4 million and \$5.3 million, respectively.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, "Leases (Topic 842)". This ASU supersedes existing guidance on accounting for leases in "Leases (Topic 840)". The update requires lessees to recognize leases as a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability on balance sheet and disclose key information about leasing arrangements. Topic 842 was subsequently amended by ASU No. 2018-01, Land Easement Practical Expedient for Transition to Topic 842; ASU No. 2018-10, Codification Improvements to Topic 842, Leases; and ASU No. 2018-11, Targeted Improvements. The Company adopted the standard on January 1, 2019 using the optional transition method, which allowed for a modified retrospective method of adoption. The Company elected the relief package of practical expedients for which there is no requirement to reassess existence of leases, their classification, and initial direct costs as well as the exemption for short-term leases with a term of less than a year. We completed a comprehensive scoping exercise by reviewing our existing lease contracts and service contracts that may include embedded leases. The Company's leases are limited to leases of substantially all of its branch locations and certain properties at its corporate offices. Upon adoption, we expect to recognize additional operating liabilities of approximately \$29.9 million with corresponding right-of-use assets of the same amount on our consolidated balance sheet. The Company is completing its

evaluation of the standard's expanded disclosure requirements which will be effective for the March 31, 2019 Form 10-Q.

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, "Financial Instruments – Credit Losses". This ASU amends existing guidance to replace current generally accepted accounting principles used to measure a reporting company's credit losses. The objective of the update is to provide financial statement users with more information regarding the expected credit losses on commitments to extend credit held by a reporting company at each reporting date. Amendments in the update replace the incurred loss impairment methodology in current GAAP with a methodology that reflects expected credit losses and requires consideration of a broader range of information that supports credit loss estimates. The ASU is effective for annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2019. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this accounting standard is expected to have on our consolidated financial statements.

In February 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-02, "Income Statement – Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income". This update allows for a reclassification from accumulated other comprehensive income to retained earnings for stranded tax effects resulting from tax effects resulting from the reduction of the federal corporate income tax rate pursuant to enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. This guidance is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2018, with early adoption permitted and is to be applied either in the period of adoption or retrospectively to each period in which the effect of the change in the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is recognized. The Company adopted ASU 2018-02 in the first quarter of 2018, resulting in a \$.8 million reclassification from accumulated other comprehensive income to retained earnings on the consolidated statement of financial condition and the consolidated statement of comprehensive income.

2. LOANS

The Company's consumer loans are made to individuals in relatively small amounts for relatively short periods of time. First and second mortgage loans on real estate are made in larger amounts and for longer periods of time. The Company also purchases sales finance contracts from various dealers. All loans and sales contracts are held for investment.

Contractual Maturities of Loans:

An estimate of contractual maturities stated as a percentage of the loan balances based upon an analysis of the Company's portfolio as of December 31, 2018 is as follows:

| Due In Calendar Year | Direct Cash <u>Loans</u> | Real Estate <u>Loans</u> | Sales Finance <u>Contracts</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2019 | 58.10% | 15.76% | 46.52% |
| 2020 | 27.95 | 10.53 | 27.99 |
| 2021 | 9.77 | 10.66 | 14.61 |
| 2022 | 3.27 | 10.39 | 7.67 |
| 2023 | .82 | 9.59 | 3.16 |
| 2024 & beyond | <u>.09</u> | <u>43.07</u> | <u>.05</u> |
| | <u>100.00%</u> | <u>100.00%</u> | <u>100.00%</u> |

Historically, a majority of the Company's loans have been renewed many months prior to their final contractual maturity dates, and the Company expects this trend to continue in the future. Accordingly, the above contractual maturities should not be regarded as a forecast of future cash collections.

Allowance for Loan Losses:

The Allowance for Loan Losses is based on Management's evaluation of the inherent risks and changes in the composition of the Company's loan portfolio. Management's approach to estimating and evaluating the allowance for loan losses is on a total portfolio level based on historical loss trends, bankruptcy trends, the level of receivables at the statement of financial position date, payment patterns and economic conditions primarily including, but not limited to, unemployment levels and gasoline prices. Historical loss trends are tracked on an on going basis. The trend analysis includes statistical analysis of the correlation between loan date and charge off date, charge off statistics by the total loan portfolio, and charge off statistics by branch, division and state. If trends indicate credit losses are increasing or

decreasing, Management will evaluate to ensure the allowance for loan losses remains at proper levels. Delinquency and bankruptcy filing trends are also tracked. If these trends indicate an adjustment to the allowance for loan losses is warranted, Management will make what it considers to be appropriate adjustments. The level of receivables at the statement of financial position date is reviewed and adjustments to the allowance for loan losses are made, if Management determines increases or decreases in the level of receivables warrants an adjustment. The Company uses monthly unemployment statistics, and various other monthly or periodic economic statistics, published by departments of the U.S. government and other economic statistics providers to determine the economic component of the allowance for loan losses. Such allowance is, in the opinion of Management, sufficiently adequate for probable losses in the current loan portfolio. As the estimates used in determining the allowance for loan losses are influenced by outside factors, such as consumer payment patterns and general economic conditions, there is uncertainty inherent in these estimates. Actual results could vary based on future changes in significant assumptions.

Management does not disaggregate the Company's loan portfolio by loan class when evaluating loan performance. The total portfolio is evaluated for credit losses based on contractual delinquency, and other economic conditions. The Company classifies delinquent accounts at the end of each month according to the number of installments past due at that time, based on the then-existing terms of the contract. Accounts are classified in delinquency categories based on the number of days past due. When three installments are past due, we classify the account as being 60-89 days past due; when four or more installments are past due, we classify the account as being 90 days or more past due. When a loan becomes five installments past due, it is charged off unless Management directs that it be retained as an active loan. In making this charge off evaluation, Management considers factors such as pending insurance, bankruptcy status and/or other indicators of collectability. In addition, no installment is counted as being past due if at least 80% of the contractual payment has been paid. The amount charged off is the unpaid balance less the unearned finance charges and the unearned insurance premiums, if applicable.

When a loan becomes 60 days or more past due based on its original terms, it is placed in non-accrual status. At this time, the accrual of any additional finance charges is discontinued. Finance charges are then only recognized to the extent there is a loan payment received or until the account qualifies for return to accrual status. Non-accrual loans return to accrual status when the loan becomes less than 60 days past due. There were no loans past due 60 days or more and still accruing interest at December 31, 2018 or December 31, 2017. The Company's principal balances on non-accrual loans by loan class at December 31, 2018 and 2017 are as follows:

| <u>Loan Class</u> | December 31, <u>2018</u> | December 31, 2017 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Consumer Loans | \$ 28,218,125 | \$ 23,800,601 |
| Real Estate Loans | 1,189,848 | 1,156,255 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>1,607,609</u> | <u>1,097,986</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 31,015,582</u> | <u>\$ 26,054,842</u> |

An age analysis of principal balances past due, segregated by loan class, as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 is as follows:

| <u>December 31, 2018</u> | 30-59 Days <u>Past Due</u> | 60-89 Days <u>Past Due</u> | 90 Days or More <u>Past Due</u> | Total Past Due <u>Loans</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Consumer Loans | \$ 17,186,773 | \$ 9,540,549 | \$ 20,260,825 | \$ 46,988,147 |
| Real Estate Loans..... | 762,705 | 329,915 | 1,142,368 | 2,234,988 |
| Sales Finance Contracts . | <u>1,197,338</u> | <u>572,552</u> | <u>1,193,146</u> | <u>2,963,036</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 19,146,816</u> | <u>\$ 10,443,016</u> | <u>\$ 22,596,339</u> | <u>\$ 52,186,171</u> |

| <u>December 31, 2017</u> | 30-59 Days <u>Past Due</u> | 60-89 Days <u>Past Due</u> | 90 Days or More <u>Past Due</u> | Total Past Due <u>Loans</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Consumer Loans | \$ 14,483,119 | \$ 7,905,817 | \$ 17,475,439 | \$ 39,864,375 |
| Real Estate Loans..... | 676,407 | 321,125 | 1,170,572 | 2,168,104 |
| Sales Finance Contracts . | <u>749,910</u> | <u>447,157</u> | <u>843,077</u> | <u>2,040,144</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 15,909,436</u> | <u>\$ 8,674,099</u> | <u>\$ 19,489,088</u> | <u>\$ 44,072,623</u> |

In addition to the delinquency rating analysis, the ratio of bankrupt accounts to our total loan portfolio is also used as a credit quality indicator. The ratio of bankrupt accounts to total principal loan balances outstanding at December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017 was 2.09% and 2.23%, respectively.

Nearly our entire loan portfolio consists of small homogeneous consumer loans (of the product types set forth in the table below).

| | Principal Balance | % Portfolio | Net Charge Offs | % Net Charge Offs |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>December 31, 2018</u> | | | | |
| Consumer Loans | \$ 648,507,635 | 88.9% | \$ 37,131,112 | 95.9% |
| Real Estate Loans | 31,066,906 | 4.2 | 27,290 | .1 |
| Sales Finance Contracts .. | <u>50,209,114</u> | <u>6.9</u> | <u>1,548,795</u> | <u>4.0</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 729,783,655</u> | <u>100.0%</u> | <u>\$ 38,707,197</u> | <u>100.0%</u> |
| <u>December 31, 2017</u> | | | | |
| Consumer Loans | \$ 538,305,272 | 89.9% | \$ 36,967,737 | 96.4% |
| Real Estate Loans | 26,599,089 | 4.4 | 61,817 | .1 |
| Sales Finance Contracts .. | <u>34,190,233</u> | <u>5.7</u> | <u>1,325,592</u> | <u>3.5</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 599,094,594</u> | <u>100.0%</u> | <u>\$ 38,355,146</u> | <u>100.0%</u> |

Sales finance contracts are similar to consumer loans in nature of loan product, terms, customer base to whom these products are marketed, factors contributing to risk of loss and historical payment performance, and together with consumer loans, represented approximately 96% of the Company's loan portfolio at December 31, 2018 and 2017. As a result of these similarities, which have resulted in similar historical performance, consumer loans and sales finance contracts represent substantially all loan losses. Real estate loans and related losses have historically been insignificant, and, as a result, we do not stratify the loan portfolio for purposes of determining and evaluating our loan loss allowance. Due to the composition of the loan portfolio, the Company determines and monitors the allowance for loan losses on a collectively evaluated, single portfolio segment basis. Therefore, a roll forward of the allowance for loan loss activity at the portfolio segment level is the same as at the total portfolio level. We have not acquired any loans that at time of acquisition we believed were impaired with deteriorating quality during any period reported. The following table provides additional information on our allowance for loan losses based on a collective evaluation:

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Allowance For Credit Losses: | | | |
| Beginning Balance | \$ 42,500,000 | \$ 48,500,000 | \$ 33,500,000 |
| Provision for Loan Losses | 39,207,197 | 32,355,146 | 67,562,543 |
| Charge-Offs | (53,570,647) | (52,228,535) | (63,673,242) |
| Recoveries | <u>14,863,450</u> | <u>13,873,389</u> | <u>11,110,699</u> |
| Ending Balance | <u>\$ 43,000,000</u> | <u>\$ 42,500,000</u> | <u>\$ 48,500,000</u> |
| | | | |
| Finance Receivables: | | | |
| Ending Balance | <u>\$729,783,655</u> | <u>\$599,094,594</u> | <u>\$530,915,607</u> |
| Ending Balance; collectively evaluated for impairment | <u>\$729,783,655</u> | <u>\$599,094,594</u> | <u>\$530,915,607</u> |

Troubled debt restructurings ("TDRs") represent loans on which the original terms have been modified as a result of the following conditions: (i) the restructuring constitutes a concession and (ii) the borrower is experiencing financial difficulties. Loan modifications by the Company involve payment alterations, interest rate concessions and/ or reductions in the amount owed by the customer. The following table presents a summary of loans that were restructured during the year ended December 31, 2018.

| | Number of <u>Loans</u> | Pre-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> | Post-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| Consumer Loans | 16,473 | \$ 42,571,410 | \$ 41,169,632 |
| Real Estate Loans | 51 | 468,208 | 458,496 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>685</u> | <u>1,742,532</u> | <u>1,671,991</u> |
| Total | <u>17,209</u> | <u>\$ 44,782,150</u> | <u>\$ 43,300,119</u> |

TDRs that subsequently defaulted during the year ended December 31, 2018 are listed below.

| | Number of <u>Loans</u> | Pre-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Consumer Loans | 4,625 | \$ 7,364,675 |
| Real Estate Loans | 1 | 4,233 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>144</u> | <u>304,882</u> |
| Total | <u>4,770</u> | <u>\$ 7,673,790</u> |

The following table presents a summary of loans that were restructured during the year ended December 31, 2017.

| | Number of <u>Loans</u> | Pre-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> | Post-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| Consumer Loans | 15,335 | \$ 34,896,112 | \$ 33,473,568 |
| Real Estate Loans | 34 | 365,326 | 346,385 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>480</u> | <u>1,276,646</u> | <u>1,225,663</u> |
| Total | <u>15,849</u> | <u>\$ 36,538,084</u> | <u>\$ 35,045,616</u> |

TDRs that subsequently defaulted during the year ended December 31, 2017 are listed below.

| | Number of <u>Loans</u> | Pre-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Consumer Loans | 4,479 | \$ 6,486,759 |
| Real Estate Loans | 2 | 12,292 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>138</u> | <u>280,244</u> |
| Total | <u>4,619</u> | <u>\$ 6,779,295</u> |

The following table presents a summary of loans that were restructured during the year ended December 31, 2016.

| | Number of <u>Loans</u> | Pre-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> | Post-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| Consumer Loans | 12,405 | \$ 27,273,566 | \$ 25,836,012 |
| Real Estate Loans | 32 | 361,376 | 358,567 |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>532</u> | <u>1,044,547</u> | <u>985,799</u> |
| Total | <u>12,969</u> | <u>\$ 28,679,489</u> | <u>\$ 27,180,378</u> |

TDRs that subsequently defaulted during the year ended December 31, 2016 are listed below.

| | Number of <u>Loans</u> | Pre-Modification Recorded <u>Investment</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Consumer Loans | 4,442 | \$ 6,379,753 |
| Real Estate Loans | - | - |
| Sales Finance Contracts | <u>131</u> | <u>217,236</u> |
| Total | <u>4,573</u> | <u>\$ 6,596,989</u> |

The level of TDRs, including those which have experienced a subsequent default, is considered in the determination of an appropriate level of allowance for loan losses.

3. INVESTMENT SECURITIES

Investment securities available for sale are carried at estimated fair market value. The amortized cost and estimated fair values of these investment securities are as follows:

| | Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized Gains | Gross Unrealized Losses | Estimated Fair Value |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>December 31, 2018:</u> | | | | |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | \$ 212,613,724 | \$ 3,685,239 | \$(4,410,689) | \$ 211,888,274 |
| Corporate securities | 130,316 | 181,126 | -- | 311,442 |
| | <u>\$ 212,744,040</u> | <u>\$ 3,866,365</u> | <u>\$(4,410,689)</u> | <u>\$ 212,199,716</u> |
| <u>December 31, 2017:</u> | | | | |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | \$ 187,508,758 | \$ 7,027,704 | \$ (935,219) | \$ 193,601,243 |
| Mutual funds | 10,261,379 | 263,971 | (16,397) | 10,508,953 |
| Corporate securities | 130,316 | 327,519 | -- | 457,835 |
| | <u>\$ 197,900,453</u> | <u>\$ 7,619,194</u> | <u>\$ (951,616)</u> | <u>\$ 204,568,031</u> |

Investment securities designated as "Held to Maturity" are carried at amortized cost based on Management's intent and ability to hold such securities to maturity. The amortized cost and estimated fair values of these investment securities are as follows:

| | Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized Gains | Gross Unrealized Losses | Estimated Fair Value |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>December 31, 2018</u> | | | | |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | <u>\$ 787,987</u> | <u>\$ 10,405</u> | <u>\$ (5,109)</u> | <u>\$ 793,283</u> |
| <u>December 31, 2017</u> | | | | |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | <u>\$ 5,010,190</u> | <u>\$ 26,507</u> | <u>\$ (21,384)</u> | <u>\$ 5,015,313</u> |

The amortized cost and estimated fair values of investment securities at December 31, 2018, by contractual maturity, are shown below:

| | <u>Available for Sale</u> | | <u>Held to Maturity</u> | |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Amortized Cost | Estimated Fair Value | Amortized Cost | Estimated Fair Value |
| Due in one year or less | \$ 2,498,296 | \$ 2,680,775 | \$ -- | \$ -- |
| Due after one year through five years . | 5,854,122 | 5,895,644 | 787,987 | 793,283 |
| Due after five years through ten years . | 21,121,075 | 21,533,152 | -- | -- |
| Due after ten years | 183,270,544 | 182,090,145 | -- | -- |
| | <u>\$ 212,744,037</u> | <u>\$212,199,716</u> | <u>\$ 787,987</u> | <u>\$ 793,283</u> |

The following table presents an analysis of investment securities in an unrealized loss position for which other-than-temporary impairments have not been recognized as of December 31, 2018:

| | <u>Less than 12 Months</u> | | <u>12 Months or Longer</u> | | <u>Total</u> | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| | <u>Fair Value</u> | <u>Unrealized Losses</u> | <u>Fair Value</u> | <u>Unrealized Losses</u> | <u>Fair Value</u> | <u>Unrealized Losses</u> |
| Available for Sale: | | | | | | |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | <u>\$ 23,436,091</u> | <u>\$ (328,667)</u> | <u>\$ 63,308,903</u> | <u>\$ (4,082,022)</u> | <u>\$ 86,744,994</u> | <u>\$ (4,410,689)</u> |
| Held to Maturity: | | | | | | |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | <u>400,812</u> | <u>(5,110)</u> | <u>--</u> | <u>--</u> | <u>400,812</u> | <u>(5,110)</u> |
| Overall Total | <u>\$ 23,836,903</u> | <u>\$ (333,777)</u> | <u>\$ 63,308,903</u> | <u>\$ (4,082,022)</u> | <u>\$ 87,145,806</u> | <u>\$ (4,415,799)</u> |

The following table presents an analysis of investment securities in an unrealized loss position for which other-than-temporary impairments have not been recognized as of December 31, 2017:

| | <u>Less than 12 Months</u> | | <u>12 Months or Longer</u> | | <u>Total</u> | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| | <u>Fair Value</u> | <u>Unrealized Losses</u> | <u>Fair Value</u> | <u>Unrealized Losses</u> | <u>Fair Value</u> | <u>Unrealized Losses</u> |
| Available for Sale: | | | | | | |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | <u>\$ 3,974,826</u> | <u>\$ (14,298)</u> | <u>\$ 26,715,587</u> | <u>\$ (920,921)</u> | <u>\$ 30,690,413</u> | <u>\$ (935,219)</u> |
| Mutual funds | <u>1,565,216</u> | <u>(16,397)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,565,216</u> | <u>(16,397)</u> |
| | <u>5,540,042</u> | <u>(30,695)</u> | <u>26,715,587</u> | <u>(920,921)</u> | <u>32,255,629</u> | <u>(951,616)</u> |
| Held to Maturity: | | | | | | |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | <u>1,233,730</u> | <u>(17,189)</u> | <u>250,767</u> | <u>(4,195)</u> | <u>1,484,497</u> | <u>(21,384)</u> |
| Overall Total | <u>\$ 6,773,772</u> | <u>\$ (47,884)</u> | <u>\$ 26,966,354</u> | <u>\$ (925,116)</u> | <u>\$ 33,740,126</u> | <u>\$ (973,000)</u> |

The previous two tables represent 103 investments and 43 investments held by the Company at December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively, the majority of which were rated "A+" or higher. The unrealized losses on the Company's investments were the result of interest rate and market fluctuations. Based on the credit ratings of these investments, along with the consideration of whether the Company has the intent to sell or will be more likely than not required to sell the applicable investment before recovery of amortized cost basis, the Company did not consider the impairment of these investments to be other-than-temporary at December 31, 2018 or 2017.

Proceeds from sales of securities during 2018 were \$12,621,828. Gross gains of \$354,241 and gross losses of \$59,341 were realized on these sales. Proceeds from redemption of investments due to the exercise of call provisions by the issuers thereof and regularly scheduled maturities during 2018 were \$9,505,000. Gross and net gains of \$13,932 were realized on these redemptions.

There were no sales of securities during 2017. Proceeds from redemptions of investment securities due to the exercise of call provisions by the issuers thereof and regularly scheduled maturities during 2017 were \$13,765,000. Gross gains of \$23,329 and gross losses of \$-0- were realized from these redemptions.

4. FAIR VALUE

FASB ASC 820 defines fair value as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The following fair value hierarchy is used in selecting inputs used to determine the fair value of an asset or liability, with the highest priority given to Level 1, as these are the most transparent or reliable. A financial asset or liability's classification within the hierarchy is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

Level 1 - Quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets.

Level 2 - Quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations in which all significant inputs are observable in active markets.

Level 3 - Valuations derived from valuation techniques in which one or more significant inputs are unobservable.

The Company is responsible for the valuation process and as part of this process may use data from outside sources in establishing fair value. The Company performs due diligence to understand the inputs or how the data was calculated or derived. The Company employs a market approach in the valuation of its obligations of states, political subdivisions and municipal revenue bonds that are available-for-sale. These investments are valued on the basis of current market quotations provided by independent pricing services selected by Management based on the advice of an investment manager. To determine the value of a particular investment, these independent pricing services may use certain information with respect to market transactions in such investment or comparable investments, various relationships observed in the market between investments, quotations from dealers, and pricing metrics and calculated yield measures based on valuation methodologies commonly employed in the market for such investments. Quoted prices are subject to our internal price verification procedures. The fair values of common stocks and mutual funds are based on unadjusted quoted market prices in active markets. We validate prices received using a variety of methods, including, but not limited to comparison to other pricing services or corroboration of pricing by reference to independent market data such as a secondary broker. There was no change in this methodology during any period reported.

Assets measured at fair value as of December 31, 2018 and 2017 are available-for-sale investment securities which are summarized below:

| Description | December 31, 2018 | Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using Quoted Prices | | |
|--|----------------------|---|---|---|
| | | In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
| Corporate securities | \$ 311,442 | \$ 311,442 | \$ -- | \$ -- |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | <u>211,888,274</u> | <u>--</u> | <u>211,888,274</u> | <u>--</u> |
| Available-for-sale investment securities | <u>\$212,199,716</u> | <u>\$ 311,442</u> | <u>\$211,888,274</u> | <u>\$ --</u> |

| Description | December 31, 2017 | Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using Quoted Prices | | |
|--|----------------------|---|---|---|
| | | In Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) |
| Corporate securities | \$ 457,835 | \$ 457,835 | \$ -- | \$ -- |
| Mutual funds | 10,508,952 | 10,508,952 | -- | -- |
| Obligations of states and political subdivisions | <u>193,601,244</u> | <u>--</u> | <u>193,601,244</u> | <u>--</u> |
| Available-for-sale investment securities | <u>\$204,568,031</u> | <u>\$ 10,966,787</u> | <u>\$193,601,244</u> | <u>\$ --</u> |

5. EQUITY METHOD INVESTMENT:

Prior to 2017, the Company had an investment in Meritage Capital, Centennial Absolute Return Fund, L.P. (the "Fund") accounted for using the equity method of accounting. During 2017, the Company redeemed the investment for \$26.9 million. The Company recorded earnings of \$.7 million and \$1.2 million during 2017 and 2016, respectively. Earnings during 2017 and 2016 were recorded in other revenue on the Company's consolidated statement of income.

6. INSURANCE SUBSIDIARY RESTRICTIONS

As of December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively, 98% and 84% the Company's cash and cash equivalents and investment securities were maintained in the Company's insurance subsidiaries. State insurance regulations limit the types of investments an insurance company may hold in its portfolio. These limitations specify types of eligible investments, quality of investments and the percentage a particular investment may constitute of an insurance company's portfolio.

Dividend payments to the Company by its wholly owned insurance subsidiaries are subject to annual limitations and are restricted to the lesser of 10% of statutory surplus or statutory earnings before recognizing realized investment gains of the individual insurance subsidiaries, unless prior approval is obtained from the Georgia Insurance Commissioner. At December 31, 2018, Frandisco Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Frandisco Life Insurance Company had a statutory surplus of \$100.2 million and \$81.0 million, respectively. The maximum aggregate amount of dividends these subsidiaries could pay to the Company during 2018, without prior approval of the Georgia Insurance Commissioner, was approximately \$13.5 million. In August 2018, the Company filed a request with the Georgia Insurance Department for each of the insurance subsidiaries to be eligible to pay up to \$50.0 million in additional extraordinary dividends during 2018. Management requested the approval to ensure the availability of additional liquidity for the Company if needed. In September 2018, the request was approved. The Company elected not to pay any dividends from the insurance subsidiaries during the year ended December 31, 2018. On January 30, 2019, Management submitted a request for approval of two separate transactions involving dividends and/or lines of credit with maximum amounts of \$50.0 million from the Company's life insurance subsidiary and \$60.0 million from the Company's property and casualty insurance company. The request was approved by the Georgia Insurance Department on February 21, 2019.

7. SENIOR DEBT

Effective September 11, 2009, the Company entered into a credit facility with Wells Fargo Preferred Capital, Inc. As amended to date, the credit agreement provides for borrowings and reborrowings of up to \$100.0 million, subject to certain limitations, and all borrowings are secured by the finance receivables of the Company. The credit agreement contains covenants customary for financing transactions of this type. Available borrowings under the credit agreement were \$46.8 million and \$100.0 million at December 31, 2018 and 2017, at an interest rate of 5.74% and 4.49%, respectively. At December 31, 2018, the Company had borrowings of \$53.2 million under the credit agreement. The Company had no borrowings under the credit agreement at December 31, 2017.

Available but unborrowed amounts under the credit agreement are subject to a periodic unused line fee of .50%. The interest rate under the credit agreement is equivalent to the greater of (a) .75% per annum plus 300 basis points or (b) the three month London Interbank Offered Rate (the "LIBOR Rate") plus 300 basis points. The LIBOR Rate is adjusted on the first day of each calendar month based upon the LIBOR Rate as of the last day of the preceding calendar month.

The credit agreement has a commitment termination date of December 31, 2019. Any then-outstanding balance under the Credit Agreement would be due and payable on such date. The lender also may terminate the agreement upon the violation of any of the financial ratio requirements or covenants contained in the credit agreement or if the financial condition of the Company becomes unsatisfactory to the lender, according to standards set forth in the credit agreement. Such financial ratio requirements include a minimum equity requirement, an interest expense coverage ratio and a minimum debt to equity ratio, among others. At December 31, 2018, the Company was in compliance with all financial covenants.

The Company's Senior Demand Notes are unsecured obligations which are payable on demand. The interest rate payable on any Senior Demand Note is a variable rate, compounded daily, established from time to time by the Company.

Commercial paper is issued by the Company only to qualified investors, in amounts in excess of \$50,000, with maturities of less than 260 days and at interest rates that the Company believes are competitive in its market.

Additional data related to the Company's senior debt is as follows:

| <u>Year Ended December 31</u> | <u>Weighted Average Interest Rate at End of Year</u> | <u>Maximum Amount Outstanding During Year</u> | <u>Average Amount Outstanding During Year</u> | <u>Weighted Average Interest Rate During Year</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| (In thousands, except % data) | | | | |
| <u>2018:</u> | | | | |
| Bank Borrowings | 5.74% | \$ 53,180 | \$ 6,999 | 5.21% |
| Senior Demand Notes | 1.64 | 77,731 | 74,267 | 1.52 |
| Commercial Paper | 3.13 | 373,167 | 364,362 | 3.01 |
| All Categories | 3.19 | 499,666 | 445,628 | 2.92 |
| <u>2017:</u> | | | | |
| Bank Borrowings | 4.49% | \$ 55 | \$ 1 | 4.21% |
| Senior Demand Notes | 1.48 | 75,480 | 72,761 | 1.47 |
| Commercial Paper | 2.98 | 355,354 | 346,942 | 2.99 |
| All Categories | 2.73 | 429,687 | 419,704 | 2.85 |
| <u>2016:</u> | | | | |
| Bank Borrowings | 3.93% | \$ 45 | \$ 1 | 3.75% |
| Senior Demand Notes | 1.48 | 73,167 | 68,918 | 1.53 |
| Commercial Paper | 2.96 | 339,330 | 331,589 | 3.26 |
| All Categories | 2.69 | 409,792 | 400,508 | 3.10 |

8. SUBORDINATED DEBT

The payment of the principal and interest on the Company's subordinated debt is subordinate and junior in right of payment to all unsubordinated indebtedness of the Company.

Subordinated debt consists of Variable Rate Subordinated Debentures issued from time to time by the Company, and which mature four years after their date of issue. The maturity date is automatically extended for an additional four year term unless the holder or the Company redeems the debenture on its original maturity date or within any applicable grace period thereafter. The debentures are offered and sold in various minimum purchase amounts with varying interest rates as established from time to time by the Company and interest adjustment periods for each respective minimum purchase amount. Interest rates on the debentures automatically adjust at the end of each adjustment period. The debentures may also be redeemed by the holder at the applicable interest adjustment date or within any applicable grace period thereafter without penalty. Redemptions at any other time are at the discretion of the Company and are subject to a penalty. The Company may redeem the debentures for a price equal to 100% of the principal plus accrued but unpaid interest upon 30 days' notice to the holder.

Interest rate information on the Company's subordinated debt at December 31 is as follows:

| <u>Weighted Average Interest Rate at End of Year</u> | | | <u>Weighted Average Interest Rate During Year</u> | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
| 2.70% | 2.67% | 2.75% | 2.66% | 2.65% | 2.77% |

Maturity and redemption information relating to the Company's subordinated debt at December 31, 2018 is as follows:

| | <u>Amount Maturing or Redeemable at Option of Holder</u> | |
|------------|--|--|
| | <u>Based on Maturity Date</u> | <u>Based on Interest Adjustment Period</u> |
| 2019 | \$ 7,226,869 | \$ 18,031,028 |
| 2020 | 5,715,965 | 7,404,605 |
| 2021 | 8,285,313 | 2,761,694 |
| 2022 | 9,042,303 | 2,073,123 |
| | <u>\$ 30,270,450</u> | <u>\$ 30,270,450</u> |

9. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Company's operations are carried on in locations which are occupied under operating lease agreements. These lease agreements usually provide for a lease term of five years with the Company holding a renewal option for an additional five years. Total operating lease expense was \$7,522,957, \$7,069,292 and \$6,394,406 for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, respectively. The Company's minimum aggregate future lease commitments at December 31, 2018 are shown in the table below.

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Operating Leases</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2019 | \$ 7,015,801 |
| 2020 | 5,930,343 |
| 2021 | 4,361,351 |
| 2022 | 2,836,961 |
| 2023 | 1,357,035 |
| 2024 and beyond | <u>103,754</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 21,605,245</u> |

We conduct our lending operations under the provisions of various federal and state laws and implementing regulations. Changes in the current regulatory environment, or the interpretation or application of current regulations, could impact our business. While we believe that we are currently in compliance with all regulatory requirements, no assurance can be made regarding our future compliance or the cost thereof.

10. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

The Company maintains a 401(k) plan, which is qualified under Section 401(a) and Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"), as amended, to cover employees of the Company.

Any employee who is 18 years of age or older is eligible to participate in the 401(k) plan on the first day of the month following the completion of one complete calendar month of continuous employment and the Company begins matching up to 4.50% of an employee's deferred contribution, up to 6.00% of their total compensation. During 2018, 2017 and 2016, the Company contributed \$2,273,130, \$2,046,905 and \$1,963,772, respectively, in matching funds for employee 401(k) deferred accounts.

The Company also maintains a non-qualified deferred compensation plan for employees who receive compensation in excess of the amount provided in Section 401(a)(17) of the Code, as such amount may be adjusted from time to time in accordance with the Code.

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company leased a portion of its properties (see Note 9) for an aggregate of \$162,000 per year from certain officers or stockholders.

The Company has an outstanding loan to a real estate development partnership of which David Cheek (son of Ben F. Cheek, III) who beneficially owns 24.24% of the Company's voting stock, is a partner. The balance on this commercial loan (including principal and accrued interest) was \$1,555,770 at December 31, 2018. During 2018, the maximum amount outstanding (including accrued interest) on this loan was \$1,555,770. The loan is a variable-rate loan with the interest based on the prime rate plus 1%. The interest rate adjusts whenever the prime rate changes.

Certain directors, officers and stockholders have funds personal invested in the Company's debt securities. The rates on these debt securities are the same rates provided to other customers.

Effective September 23, 1995, the Company entered into a Split-Dollar Life Insurance Agreement with the Trustee of an executive officer's irrevocable life insurance trust. The life insurance policy insures one of the Company's executive officers. As a result of certain changes in tax regulations relating to split-dollar life insurance policies, the agreement was amended effectively making the premium payments a loan to the Trust. The interest on the loan is a variable rate adjusting monthly based on the federal mid-term Applicable Federal Rate. A payment of \$10,504 for interest accrued during 2018 was applied to the loan on December 31, 2018. No principal payments on this loan were made in 2018. The balance on this loan at December 31, 2018 was \$400,678. This was the maximum loan amount outstanding during the year.

12. INCOME TAXES

The Company has elected to be treated as an S corporation for income tax reporting purposes. The taxable income or loss of an S corporation is treated as income of and is reportable in the individual tax returns of the shareholders of the Company in an appropriate allocation. Accordingly, deferred income tax assets and liabilities have been eliminated and no provisions for current and deferred income taxes were made by the Company except for amounts attributable to state income taxes for the state of Louisiana, which does not recognize S corporation status for income tax reporting purposes. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities will continue to be recognized and provisions for current and deferred income taxes will be made by the Company's subsidiaries as they are not permitted to be treated as S Corporations.

The provision for income taxes for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 is made up of the following components:

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current – Federal | \$ 2,689,220 | \$ 5,043,587 | \$ 5,955,098 |
| Current – State | -- | -- | (18,531) |
| Total Current | <u>2,689,220</u> | <u>5,043,587</u> | <u>5,936,567</u> |
| Deferred – Federal | <u>522,773</u> | <u>(2,445,235)</u> | <u>(650,641)</u> |
| Total Provision | <u>\$ 3,211,993</u> | <u>\$ 2,598,352</u> | <u>\$ 5,285,926</u> |

Temporary differences create deferred federal tax assets and liabilities, which are detailed below as of December 31, 2018 and 2017. These amounts are included in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of financial position.

| | <u>Deferred Tax Assets (Liabilities)</u> | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> |
| Insurance Commissions | \$ (3,769,816) | \$ (3,101,272) |
| Unearned Premium Reserves | 1,617,672 | 1,273,650 |
| Deferred Acquisition Cost Amortization . | (981,719) | (816,718) |
| SPAE Capitalization | 30,227 | 174,761 |
| STAT & Tax Reserve | 410,714 | 225,941 |
| GAAP/STAT Premium Tax | (180,914) | (144,605) |
| Unrealized Loss (Gain) on | | |
| Marketable Debt Securities | 152,345 | (1,279,422) |
| Other | (64,881) | (27,701) |
| | <u>\$ (2,786,372)</u> | <u>\$ (3,695,366)</u> |

The Company's effective tax rate for the years ended December 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016 is analyzed as follows. On December 22, 2017, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (the "TCJA") resulted in significant changes to the U.S. tax code, including a reduction in the maximum federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21%, effective January 1, 2018. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income at the time of enactment of such change in tax rates. Accordingly, the Company was required to revalue its deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities to account for the future impact of lower corporate tax rates on these deferred amounts. The Company performed an analysis as of December 31, 2017 and recorded a \$2.3 million impact for this one-time non-cash charge to the statement of income. The SEC staff also issued the Staff Accounting Bulletin ("SAB") 118, which provides guidance on accounting for the TCJA's impact. In accordance with the SAB 118, a company must reflect the income tax effects of those aspects of the TCJA for which the accounting under ASC 740 is complete. To the extent that a company's accounting for certain income tax effects of the TCJA is incomplete but is able to determine a reasonable estimate, it must record a provisional estimate in the financial statements. There are no amounts that were considered incomplete or provisional. Our accounting for all elements for the TCJA is now complete, consistent with the closing of the SAB 118 measurement period on December 22, 2018. As a result of guidance released by IRS, the company recorded immaterial adjustments which resulted in no impact on our effective tax rate during the current year.

During 2016, the S Corporation incurred a loss, which lowered the overall pre-tax income of the Company resulting in a higher effective tax rate for 2016. Any tax benefit from the loss was passed on to the shareholders.

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Statutory Federal income tax rate | 21.0% | 34.0% | 34.0% |
| Tax Reform Act Impact | - | (13.0) | - |
| Tax effect of S corporation status | (.4) | 2.9 | 74.6 |
| Tax exempt income | (5.1) | (9.8) | (24.2) |
| Miscellaneous | <u>.1</u> | <u>.7</u> | <u>(.9)</u> |
| Effective Tax Rate | <u>15.6%</u> | <u>14.8%</u> | <u>83.5%</u> |

13. SEGMENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The Company discloses segment information in accordance with FASB ASC 280. FASB ASC 280 requires companies to determine segments based on how management makes decisions about allocating resources to segments and measuring their performance. The Company operates in one reportable business segment.

Prior to 2017, the Company had seven divisions which comprised its operations: Division I through Division V, Division VII and Division VIII. Each division consisted of a number of branch offices that were aggregated based on vice president responsibility and geographical location. Division I consisted of offices located in South Carolina. Offices in North Georgia comprised Division II and Division III consisted of offices in South Georgia. Division IV represented our Alabama offices, Division V represented our Mississippi offices, Division VII represented our Tennessee offices and Division VIII represented our Louisiana offices. During the first quarter of 2018, the Company separated Division II and Division III, which together encompassed operations in Georgia, into three separate divisions, creating Division IX under a newly appointed vice president. The following division financial data has been retrospectively presented to give effect to the current structure. The change in reporting structure had no impact on the previously reported consolidated results.

Accounting policies of the divisions are the same as those of the Company described in the summary of significant accounting policies. Performance of each division is measured based on objectives set at the beginning of each year and include various factors such as division profit, growth in earning assets and delinquency and loan loss management. All division revenues result from transactions with third parties. The Company does not allocate income taxes or corporate headquarter expenses to the any division.

Below is a performance recap of each of the Company's divisions for the year ended December 31, 2018 followed by a reconciliation to consolidated Company data.

| Year 2018 | Division I | Division II | Division III | Division IV | Division V | Division VII | Division VIII | Division IX | Total |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| (In Millions) | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenues: | | | | | | | | | |
| Finance Charges Earned..... | \$ 26.2 | \$ 26.3 | \$ 24.5 | \$ 29.7 | \$ 17.0 | \$ 13.1 | \$ 13.0 | \$ 22.9 | \$ 172.7 |
| Insurance Income | 4.4 | 6.0 | 7.6 | 4.2 | 3.2 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 6.2 | 37.1 |
| Other..... | .1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.0 | .6 | .4 | .5 | 1.0 | 5.7 |
| | <u>30.7</u> | <u>33.3</u> | <u>33.2</u> | <u>34.9</u> | <u>20.8</u> | <u>16.0</u> | <u>16.5</u> | <u>30.1</u> | <u>215.5</u> |
| Expenses: | | | | | | | | | |
| Interest Cost | 1.9 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 14.0 |
| Provision for Loan Losses | 5.4 | 4.9 | 5.4 | 7.1 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.1 | 5.1 | 38.6 |
| Depreciation | .5 | .5 | .3 | .5 | .3 | .3 | .3 | .5 | 3.2 |
| Other | <u>12.6</u> | <u>12.2</u> | <u>12.0</u> | <u>13.2</u> | <u>9.5</u> | <u>8.2</u> | <u>8.8</u> | <u>12.0</u> | <u>88.5</u> |
| | <u>20.4</u> | <u>19.8</u> | <u>19.8</u> | <u>23.3</u> | <u>14.9</u> | <u>13.4</u> | <u>13.2</u> | <u>19.5</u> | <u>144.3</u> |
| Division Profit | <u>\$ 10.3</u> | <u>\$ 13.5</u> | <u>\$ 13.4</u> | <u>\$ 11.6</u> | <u>\$ 5.9</u> | <u>\$ 2.6</u> | <u>\$ 3.3</u> | <u>\$ 10.6</u> | <u>\$ 71.2</u> |
| Division Assets: | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Receivables | \$ 85.0 | \$ 95.3 | \$ 88.2 | \$ 105.4 | \$ 55.0 | \$ 53.8 | \$ 44.4 | \$ 82.9 | \$ 610.0 |
| Cash | .3 | .4 | .4 | .4 | .3 | .2 | .3 | .3 | 2.6 |
| Net Fixed Assets | 1.0 | 1.1 | .7 | 1.4 | .9 | 1.0 | .7 | 1.1 | 7.9 |
| Other Assets | - | - | .1 | .2 | .1 | - | .1 | .1 | .6 |
| Total Division Assets | <u>\$ 86.3</u> | <u>\$ 96.8</u> | <u>\$ 89.4</u> | <u>\$ 107.4</u> | <u>\$ 56.3</u> | <u>\$ 55.0</u> | <u>\$ 45.5</u> | <u>\$ 84.4</u> | <u>\$ 621.1</u> |

RECONCILIATION:

| | 2018 |
|---|-----------------|
| | (In Millions) |
| Revenues: | |
| Total revenues from reportable divisions | \$ 215.5 |
| Corporate finance charges earned not allocated to divisions | .1 |
| Corporate investment income earned not allocated to divisions | 7.2 |
| Timing difference of insurance income allocation to divisions | 7.2 |
| Other revenues not allocated to divisions | .1 |
| Consolidated Revenues | <u>\$ 230.1</u> |
| Net Income: | |
| Total profit or loss for reportable divisions | \$ 71.2 |
| Corporate earnings not allocated | 14.5 |
| Corporate expenses not allocated | (65.2) |
| Income taxes not allocated | (3.2) |
| Consolidated Net Income | <u>\$ 17.3</u> |
| Assets: | |
| Total assets for reportable divisions | \$ 621.1 |
| Loans held at corporate level | 2.4 |
| Unearned insurance at corporate level | (27.3) |
| Allowance for loan losses at corporate level | (43.0) |
| Cash and cash equivalents held at corporate level | 11.4 |
| Investment securities at corporate level | 213.0 |
| Equity method investment at corporate level | - |
| Fixed assets at corporate level | 7.5 |
| Other assets at corporate level | 11.3 |
| Consolidated Assets | <u>\$ 796.4</u> |

Below is a performance recap of each of the Company's divisions for the year ended December 31, 2017 followed by a reconciliation to consolidated Company data.

| Year 2017 | Division I | Division II | Division III | Division IV | Division V | Division VII | Division VIII | Division IX | Total |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| (In Millions) | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenues: | | | | | | | | | |
| Finance Charges Earned..... | \$ 21.3 | \$ 24.4 | \$ 23.0 | \$ 27.3 | \$ 14.7 | \$ 9.5 | \$ 10.8 | \$ 20.3 | \$ 151.3 |
| Insurance Income | 3.5 | 7.1 | 7.9 | 4.0 | 2.9 | 2.0 | 2.6 | 6.5 | 36.5 |
| Other..... | .1 | .7 | .7 | .8 | .5 | .3 | .5 | .8 | 4.4 |
| | <u>24.9</u> | <u>32.2</u> | <u>31.6</u> | <u>32.1</u> | <u>18.1</u> | <u>11.8</u> | <u>13.9</u> | <u>27.6</u> | <u>192.2</u> |
| Expenses: | | | | | | | | | |
| Interest Cost | 1.6 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.2 | .8 | .9 | 1.7 | 12.8 |
| Provision for Loan Losses..... | 4.9 | 5.7 | 5.4 | 7.0 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 2.9 | 6.0 | 38.4 |
| Depreciation | .4 | .5 | .3 | .4 | .3 | .3 | .3 | .5 | 3.0 |
| Other | <u>11.8</u> | <u>12.0</u> | <u>11.4</u> | <u>12.7</u> | <u>8.9</u> | <u>6.9</u> | <u>8.1</u> | <u>11.9</u> | <u>83.7</u> |
| | <u>18.7</u> | <u>20.4</u> | <u>19.2</u> | <u>22.4</u> | <u>13.6</u> | <u>11.3</u> | <u>12.2</u> | <u>20.1</u> | <u>137.9</u> |
| Division Profit | <u>\$ 6.2</u> | <u>\$ 11.8</u> | <u>\$ 12.4</u> | <u>\$ 9.7</u> | <u>\$ 4.5</u> | <u>\$.5</u> | <u>\$ 1.7</u> | <u>\$ 7.5</u> | <u>\$ 54.3</u> |
| Division Assets: | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Receivables | \$ 64.9 | \$ 82.4 | \$ 77.7 | \$ 92.8 | \$ 47.7 | \$ 36.8 | \$ 35.9 | \$ 68.5 | \$ 506.7 |
| Cash | .4 | .5 | .6 | .5 | .4 | .2 | .3 | .4 | 3.3 |
| Net Fixed Assets | 1.1 | 1.5 | .9 | 1.3 | .8 | 1.0 | .8 | 1.4 | 8.8 |
| Other Assets | - | - | - | .4 | .2 | - | - | - | .6 |
| Total Division Assets..... | <u>\$ 66.4</u> | <u>\$ 84.4</u> | <u>\$ 79.2</u> | <u>\$ 95.0</u> | <u>\$ 49.1</u> | <u>\$ 38.0</u> | <u>\$ 37.0</u> | <u>\$ 70.3</u> | <u>\$ 519.4</u> |

RECONCILIATION:

2017

(In Millions)

Revenues:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Total revenues from reportable divisions | \$ 192.2 |
| Corporate finance charges earned not allocated to divisions | .1 |
| Corporate investment income earned not allocated to divisions | 6.6 |
| Timing difference of insurance income allocation to divisions | 5.8 |
| Other revenues not allocated to divisions | 1.0 |
| Consolidated Revenues | <u>\$ 205.7</u> |

Net Income:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Total profit or loss for reportable divisions | \$ 54.3 |
| Corporate earnings not allocated | 13.5 |
| Corporate expenses not allocated | (50.3) |
| Income taxes not allocated | (2.6) |
| Consolidated Net Income | <u>\$ 14.9</u> |

Assets:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Total assets for reportable divisions | \$ 519.4 |
| Loans held at corporate level | 2.0 |
| Unearned insurance at corporate level | (20.5) |
| Allowance for loan losses at corporate level | (42.5) |
| Cash and cash equivalents held at corporate level | 31.9 |
| Investment securities at corporate level | 209.6 |
| Equity method investment at corporate level | - |
| Fixed assets at corporate level | 6.7 |
| Other assets at corporate level | 11.6 |
| Consolidated Assets | <u>\$ 718.2</u> |

Below is a performance recap of each of the Company's divisions for the year ended December 31, 2016 followed by a reconciliation to consolidated Company data.

| Year 2016 | Division I | Division II | Division III | Division IV | Division V | Division VII | Division VIII | Division IX | Total |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| (In Millions) | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenues: | | | | | | | | | |
| Finance Charges Earned..... | \$ 22.8 | \$ 25.5 | \$ 22.7 | \$ 27.1 | \$ 15.3 | \$ 7.1 | \$ 11.7 | \$ 20.4 | \$ 152.6 |
| Insurance Income | 3.9 | 8.3 | 8.7 | 4.6 | 3.1 | 1.6 | 3.0 | 7.0 | 40.2 |
| Other..... | .1 | .8 | .6 | .7 | .4 | .2 | .5 | .6 | 3.9 |
| | <u>26.8</u> | <u>34.6</u> | <u>32.0</u> | <u>32.4</u> | <u>18.8</u> | <u>8.9</u> | <u>15.2</u> | <u>28.1</u> | <u>196.7</u> |
| Expenses: | | | | | | | | | |
| Interest Cost | 1.7 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.4 | 1.2 | .7 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 13.2 |
| Provision for Loan Losses | 7.8 | 8.7 | 8.6 | 7.5 | 4.3 | 2.4 | 4.6 | 8.6 | 52.6 |
| Depreciation | .5 | .4 | .3 | .4 | .3 | .2 | .3 | .4 | 2.7 |
| Other | <u>11.6</u> | <u>11.5</u> | <u>10.5</u> | <u>11.0</u> | <u>8.1</u> | <u>4.9</u> | <u>7.8</u> | <u>10.1</u> | <u>75.5</u> |
| | <u>21.6</u> | <u>22.9</u> | <u>21.5</u> | <u>21.3</u> | <u>13.9</u> | <u>8.2</u> | <u>13.7</u> | <u>21.0</u> | <u>144.0</u> |
| Division Profit | <u>\$ 5.2</u> | <u>\$ 11.7</u> | <u>\$ 10.5</u> | <u>\$ 11.1</u> | <u>\$ 4.9</u> | <u>\$.7</u> | <u>\$ 1.5</u> | <u>\$ 7.1</u> | <u>\$ 52.7</u> |
| Division Assets: | | | | | | | | | |
| Net Receivables | \$ 55.0 | \$ 77.2 | \$ 74.3 | \$ 83.2 | \$ 41.0 | \$ 25.1 | \$ 31.3 | \$ 61.4 | \$ 448.5 |
| Cash | .4 | .5 | .7 | .5 | .4 | .2 | .3 | .6 | 3.6 |
| Net Fixed Assets | .8 | 1.0 | .7 | 1.0 | .7 | .5 | .7 | 1.2 | 6.6 |
| Other Assets | - | - | - | .5 | .1 | - | - | - | .6 |
| Total Division Assets | <u>\$ 56.2</u> | <u>\$ 78.7</u> | <u>\$ 75.7</u> | <u>\$ 85.2</u> | <u>\$ 42.2</u> | <u>\$ 25.8</u> | <u>\$ 32.3</u> | <u>\$ 63.2</u> | <u>\$ 459.3</u> |

RECONCILIATION:

| | 2016 |
|---|-----------------|
| | (In Millions) |
| Revenues: | |
| Total revenues from reportable divisions | \$ 196.7 |
| Corporate finance charges earned not allocated to divisions | .1 |
| Corporate investment income earned not allocated to divisions | 5.5 |
| Timing difference of insurance income allocation to divisions | 7.4 |
| Other revenues not allocated to divisions | 1.4 |
| Consolidated Revenues | <u>\$ 211.1</u> |
| Net Income: | |
| Total profit or loss for reportable divisions | \$ 52.7 |
| Corporate earnings not allocated | 14.4 |
| Corporate expenses not allocated | (60.8) |
| Income taxes not allocated | (5.3) |
| Consolidated Net Income | <u>\$ 1.0</u> |
| Assets: | |
| Total assets for reportable divisions | \$ 459.3 |
| Loans held at corporate level | 2.3 |
| Unearned insurance at corporate level | (19.2) |
| Allowance for loan losses at corporate level | (48.5) |
| Cash and cash equivalents held at corporate level | 57.5 |
| Investment securities at corporate level | 179.2 |
| Equity method investment at corporate level | 26.2 |
| Fixed assets at corporate level | 7.4 |
| Other assets at corporate level | 9.7 |
| Consolidated Assets | <u>\$ 673.9</u> |

DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Directors

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Principal Occupation, Title and Company</u> | <u>Has Served as a Director Since</u> |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Ben F. Cheek, IV | Chairman of Board, 1 st Franklin Financial Corporation | 2001 |
| Ben F. Cheek, III | Vice Chairman of Board, 1 st Franklin Financial Corporation | 1967 |
| A. Roger Guimond | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, 1 st Franklin Financial Corporation | 2004 |
| James H. Harris, III | Retired Owner, Unichem Technologies, Inc. Retired Owner, Moonrise Distillery | 2014 |
| John G. Sample, Jr. | CPA | 2004 |
| C. Dean Scarborough | Retired Retail Business Owner | 2004 |
| Keith D. Watson | Chairman Bowen & Watson, Inc. | 2004 |

Executive Officers

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position with Company</u> | <u>Served in this Position Since</u> |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Ben F. Cheek, III | Vice Chairman of Board | 2015 |
| Ben F. Cheek, IV | Chairman of Board | 2015 |
| Virginia C. Herring | President and Chief Executive Officer | 2015 |
| A. Roger Guimond | Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer | 1991 |
| C. Michael Haynie | Executive Vice President - Human Resources | 2006 |
| Karen S. O'Shields | Executive Vice President – Chief Learning Officer (Served as Executive Vice President – Strategic Development from 2016 until 2017.) | 2017 |
| Charles E. Vercelli, Jr. | Executive Vice President – General Counsel | 2008 |
| Daniel E. Clevenger, II | Executive Vice President - Compliance | 2015 |
| Ronald F. Morrow | Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer | 2017 |
| Nancy M. Sherr | Executive Vice President & Chief Marketing Officer | 2017 |
| Joseph A. Shaw | Executive Vice President & Chief Information Officer | 2018 |
| Lynn E. Cox | Vice President / Secretary & Treasurer | 1989 |

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Corporate Offices
P.O. Box 880
135 East Tugalo Street
Toccoa, Georgia 30577
(706) 886-7571

Legal Counsel
Jones Day
Atlanta, Georgia

**Independent Registered Public
Accounting Firm**
Deloitte & Touche LLP
Atlanta, Georgia

Requests for Additional Information

Informational inquiries, including requests for a copy of the Company's most recent annual report on Form 10-K, and any subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, should be addressed to the Company's Secretary at the corporate offices listed above.

BRANCH OPERATIONS

DIVISION I – SOUTH CAROLINA

M. Summer Clevenger Vice President
Regional Operations Directors
 Nicholas D. Blevins Richard D. Poole, III
 Richard F. Corirossi Gerald D. Rhoden
 Becki B. Lawhon Gregory A. Shealy
 Tammy T. Lee

DIVISION II – NORTH GEORGIA

Shelia H. Garrett Vice President
Regional Operations Directors
 J. Derrick Blalock F. Cliff Snyder
 A. Keith Chavis Harriet H. Welch
 Janee G. Huff Robert D. Whitlock
 Sharon S. Langford

DIVISION III – SOUTH GEORGIA

Marcus C. Thomas Vice President
Regional Operations Directors
 William J. Daniel Jeffrey C. Lee
 Deirdre A. Dunnam Sylvia J. McClung
 Judy A. Landon Deloris O'Neal

DIVISION IX – WEST GEORGIA

Jennifer C. Purser Vice President
Regional Operations Directors
 Ronald E. Byerly James A. Mahaffey
 Kimberly L. Golka Faye A. Page
 Diana L. Lewis F. Cliff Snyder

DIVISION IV – ALABAMA

Michael J. Whitaker Vice President
Regional Operations Directors
 M. Peyton Givens Joseph M. Pickens
 Jerry H. Hughes Hilda L. Phillips
 Jeffrey A. Lindberg Michael E. Shankles
 Johnny M. Olive

DIVISION V – MISSISSIPPI

James P. Smith, III Vice President
Regional Operations Directors
 Maurice J. Bize, Jr. Chad H. Frederick
 Carla A. Eldridge Marty B. Miskelly
 Jimmy R. Fairbanks, Jr.

DIVISION VII – TENNESSEE

Joseph R. Cherry Vice President
Regional Operations Directors
 Brian M. Hill William N. Murillo
 Tammy R. Hood Joshua C. Nickerson
 J. Steven Knotts Melissa D. Stewart

DIVISION VIII – LOUISIANA

John B. Gray Vice President
Regional Operations Directors
 Sonya L. Acosta Tabatha A. Green
 Bryan W. Cook Anthony B. Seney
 L. Christopher Deakle

HOME OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Richard J. Brandt Vice President – Internal Audit
 Angela C. Brock Vice President – Compliance
 Lynn E. Cox Secretary & Treasurer
 Vice President – Investment
 Center
 Johnny E. Coxx Vice President –
 Information Technology /
 Infrastructure

Brian D. Lingle Vice President – Controller
 Cindy H. Mullin Vice President –
 Information Technology
 Mark J. Scarpitti Deputy General Counsel

2018 BEN F. CHEEK, JR. "OFFICE OF THE YEAR"

** PICTURE OF EMPLOYEES **

This award is presented annually in recognition of the office that represents the highest overall performance within the Company. Congratulations to the entire Madisonville, Tennessee staff for this significant achievement. The Friendly Franklin Folks salute you!

(Graphic showing state maps of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee which is regional operating territory of Company and listing of branch offices)

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION BRANCH OFFICES

ALABAMA

| | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|------------|
| Adamsville | Brewton | Fayette | Jasper | Oxford | Scottsboro |
| Albertville | Center Point | Florence | Mobile | Ozark | Selma |
| Alexander City | Clanton | Fort Payne | Moody | Pelham | Sylacauga |
| Andalusia | Cullman | Gadsden | Moulton | Prattville | Tallassee |
| Arab | Decatur | Hamilton | Muscle Shoals | Robertsdale | Troy |
| Athens | Dothan (2) | Huntsville (2) | Opelika | Russellville (2) | Tuscaloosa |
| Bay Minette | Enterprise | Jackson ** | Opp | Saraland | Wetumpka |
| Bessemer | | | | | |

GEORGIA

| | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Acworth | Canton | Dalton | Greensboro | Manchester | Swainsboro |
| Adel | Carrollton | Dawson | Griffin | McDonough | Sylvania |
| Albany (2) | Cartersville | Douglas (2) | Hartwell | Milledgeville | Sylvester |
| Alma | Cedartown | Douglasville | Hawkinsville | Monroe | Thomaston |
| Americus | Chatsworth | Dublin | Hazlehurst | Montezuma | Thomasville |
| Athens (2) | Clarkesville | East Ellijay | Helena | Monticello | Thomson |
| Augusta | Claxton | Eastman | Hinesville (2) | Moultrie | Tifton |
| Bainbridge | Clayton | Eatonton | Hiram | Nashville | Toccoa |
| Barnesville | Cleveland | Elberton | Hogansville | Newnan | Tucker |
| Baxley | Cochran | Fayetteville | Jackson | Perry | Valdosta |
| Blairsville | Colquitt | Fitzgerald | Jasper | Pooler | Vidalia |
| Blakely | Columbus (2) | Flowery Branch | Jefferson | Richmond Hill | Villa Rica |
| Blue Ridge | Commerce | Forest Park | Jesup | Rome | Warner Robins (2) |
| Bremen | Conyers | Forsyth | Kennesaw | Royston | Washington |
| Brunswick | Cordele | Fort Valley | LaGrange | Sandersville | Waycross |
| Buford | Cornelia | Fort Oglethorpe | Lavonia | Sandy Springs | Waynesboro |
| Butler | Covington | Gainesville | Lawrenceville | Savannah | Winder |
| Cairo | Cumming | Garden City | Macon (2) | Statesboro | |
| Calhoun | Dahlonega | Georgetown | Madison | Stockbridge | |

LOUISIANA

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Abbeville | Covington | Hammond | LaPlace | Morgan City | Ruston |
| Alexandria | Crowley | Houma | Leesville | Natchitoches | Slidell |
| Baker | Denham Springs | Jena | Marksville | New Iberia | Sulphur |
| Bastrop | DeRidder | Kenner | Marrero *** | Opelousas | Thibodaux |
| Baton Rouge | Eunice | Lafayette | Minden | Pineville | West Monroe |
| Bossier City | Franklin | Lake Charles | Monroe | Prairieville | Winnsboro |

MISSISSIPPI

| | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Amory | Columbus | Hattiesburg | Kosciusko | Olive Branch | Ridgeland |
| Batesville | Corinth | Hazlehurst | Magee | Oxford | Ripley |
| Bay St. Louis | D'Iberville | Hernando | McComb | Pearl | Senatobia |
| Booneville | Forest | Houston | Meridian | Philadelphia | Starkville |
| Brookhaven | Greenwood | Iuka | New Albany | Picayune | Tupelo |
| Carthage | Grenada | Jackson | Newton | Pontotoc | Winona |
| Columbia | Gulfport | | | | |

SOUTH CAROLINA

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Aiken | Cheraw | Georgetown | Laurens | North Charleston | Spartanburg |
| Anderson | Chester | Greenwood | Lexington | North Greenville | Summerville |
| Batesburg-Leesville | Columbia | Greer | Manning | North Myrtle Beach | Sumter |
| Beaufort | Conway | Hartsville | Marion | Orangeburg | Union |
| Boiling Springs | Dillon | Irmo | Moncks Corner | Rock Hill | Walterboro |
| Camden | Easley | Lake City | Myrtle Beach | Seneca | Winnsboro |

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION BRANCH OFFICES (Continued)

SOUTH CAROLINA (Continued)

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|------|
| Cayce Charleston | Florence Gaffney | Lancaster | Newberry | Simpsonville | York |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|------|

TENNESSEE

| | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Athens | Crossville | Gallatin | Lafayette | Morristown | Sevierville |
| Bristol | Dayton | Greeneville | LaFollette | Murfreesboro | Smyrna * |
| Clarksville | Dickson | Hixson | Lebanon | Newport | Tazewell |
| Cleveland | Dyersburg | Jackson | Lenoir City | Powell | Tullahoma |
| Columbia | Elizabethton | Johnson City | Madisonville | Pulaski | Winchester |
| Cookeville | Fayetteville | Kingsport | Maryville | Savannah | |

 Note: * Opened January 2019
 ** Opened February 2019
 *** Opened March 2019

1st FRANKLIN FINANCIAL CORPORATION

MISSION STATEMENT:

"1st Franklin Financial is a major provider of financial and consumer services to individuals and families.

Our business will be managed according to best practices that will allow us to maintain a healthy financial position."

CORE VALUES:

- ***Integrity Without Compromise***
- ***Open Honest Communication***
- ***Respect all Customers and Employees***
- ***Teamwork and Collaboration***
- ***Personal Accountability***
- ***Run It Like You Own It***