

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lauren Blackburn
First Hope Bank- AVP, Marketing Officer
lblackburn@firsthope.com/ 908-459-6006

First Hope Bank Annual Shareholders Meeting

Hope, NJ - At the Annual Shareholders Meeting of First Hope Bancorp on May 23, 2017, Chairman Lewis R. Beatty addressed the shareholders on a variety of topics including the Bank's continued financial strength and its dedication to providing vibrant product offerings and enhancements with customer service in mind. Highlighting the Bank's continued success over the last twelve months, Chairman Beatty reported: as of March 31, 2017, the Bank's core loan portfolio aggregated \$331,753,682 a 3.7% increase with retail branch deposits also growing to \$396,801,742 which is a 7.3% increase from 2016.

Following initial remarks, Shareholders re-elected Directors William Burke and Robert Rokosz and also welcomed a new Board member, M. Murphy Durkin, all elected to three-year terms. Durkin has served as Bank Counsel for many years and is a great addition to the team. After 21 years of devoted service, Director Larry Mascera retired from the Board in accordance with the bylaws. First Hope Bank thanks Larry Mascera for his professional and loyal service and wishes him many years for continued success and happiness!

In recognition of their achievements and contributions, the Board of Directors also approved the advancement of:

Stephen Lefurge, VP, Controller (Associate since August 2004)

Loretta Sanguinetti, AVP, Residential Lending Sales Assistant (Associate since October 2005)

First Hope Bank's foundation is built on the associates within. The values of community and teamwork are engrained in all 124 First Hope Bank Associates and the Bank looks forward to continuing to make a difference by providing financial solutions that helps its customers achieve their hopes and dreams while enhancing the growth and prosperity of the Bank and its community.

About First Hope - First Hope Bank, established in 1911, is a full-service financial institution with locations in Andover, Blirstown, Great Meadows, Hackettstown, Hope and Sparta. Known for its

customer service, financial strength and stability, First Hope Bank also offers the sophisticated range of products and services found in large financial institutions including a comprehensive Wealth Management division. First Hope Bank's associates strive every day to fulfill the Bank's motto, "Turning Hope into Reality." Visit First Hope Bank's Web Site at firsthope.com, or email the Bank at info@firsthope.com.