BUSINESS BANCSHARES, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUSINESS BANCSHARES, INC. AND THE BUSINESS BANK OF ST. LOUIS ANNOUNCE THIRD QUARTER PROFIT INCREASE OF 196 PERCENT AND 91 PERCENT, RESPECTIVELY;
Net Income Available to Common Shareholders Increased 126 Percent YTD

St. Louis, MO., November 16, 2012 – Business Bancshares, Inc., parent holding company for The Business Bank of St. Louis, and The Business Bank of St. Louis today announced third quarter 2012 financial results.

Business Bancshares, Inc. reported net income of $911 thousand during the third quarter compared to net income of $308 thousand during the third quarter of 2011, a 196% increase. Year-to-date net income increased 65% to $2.4 million.

The Company reported total assets as of September 30, 2012 of $486 million, a decrease of $20 million when compared to September 30, 2011. Net loans declined $29 million during the same period. Total shareholders' equity is $48.9 million, a decrease of $2.7 million from a year earlier as the Company repaid $6 million of the U.S. Treasury's investment in the organization on May 23, 2012. Common Shareholders' Equity increased $3.3 million to $39.1 million from a year earlier. Capital ratios are significantly above the "well-capitalized" thresholds. Nonperforming assets as a percentage of total assets is 2.72%, compared to 3.96%, twelve months earlier.

Net income available to common shareholders totaled $782 thousand during the third quarter compared to net income of $104 thousand during the third quarter of 2011, a 652% increase. Year-to-date net income available to common shareholders increased 127% to $1.8 million.

"**Our strong third quarter results mark a turning point for the bank, as we begin to shift our focus from addressing past problems to building for the future," said Larry Kirby, Chief Executive Officer and President of Business Bancshares Inc. and The Business Bank of St. Louis. "Our efforts to improve asset quality over the last several years are now paying off with improved results."**

The Business Bank of St. Louis, the primary subsidiary of Business Bancshares, Inc., reported net income for the third quarter of 2012 of $1.1 million, compared to $569 thousand for the same period in 2011, a 91% increase. Year-to-date net income improved 27% to $2.9 million compared to the same period of 2011. Nonperforming assets as a percentage of total assets declined to 2.21% at September 30, 2012 from 3.36% at September 30, 2011.

"With our continued strong earnings and improvement in asset quality, the bank can now focus its efforts on growing our business," said Charles Thal, Chairman of The Business Bank of St. Louis.

Business Bancshares, Inc. is a single bank holding company and parent of The Business Bank of St. Louis. The Business Bank was founded in 2002 and operates a full service banking facility from its single location at 8000 Maryland Avenue in Clayton, Missouri.

(More)

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BUSINESS BANCSHARES, INC.

Financial Highlights - Business Bancshares, Inc.
(In Thousands of Dollars, Except Per Share Data)

	As Of		Change	
	9/30/2012	9/30/2011	$	%
Balance Sheet Data				
Total Assets	$485,643	$505,901	($20,258)	-4.00%
Net Loans	359,167	387,835	(28,668)	-7.39%
Total Deposits	396,627	414,218	(17,591)	-4.25%
Total Shareholders' Equity	48,863	51,563	(2,700)	-5.24%
Common Shareholders' Equity	39,113	35,813	3,300	9.21%
Book Value Per Common Share	$18.07	$16.86	$1.21	7.18%
Common Shares Outstanding	2,164,664	2,124,664		
Capital Ratios				
Tier 1 Risk-based Capital	14.44%	14.09%		
Total Risk-based Capital	15.70%	15.35%		
Leverage Ratio	12.23%	12.49%		
Asset Quality				
Nonperforming Loans to Total Loans	1.63%	3.56%		
Nonperforming Assets to Total Assets	2.72%	3.96%		

	Quarter-To-Date		Change		Year-To-Date		Change	
	9/30/2012	9/30/2011	$	%	9/30/2012	9/30/2011	$	%
Net Income	$911	$308	$603	195.78%	$2,354	$1,426	$928	65.08%
Net Income Available to Common Shareholders	782	104	678	651.92%	1,847	813	1,034	127.18%
Diluted Earnings Per Common Share (EPS)	$0.36	$0.05	$0.31	620.00%	$0.86	$0.38	$0.48	126.32%
Performance Ratios								
Return on Average Assets	0.75%	0.25%			0.64%	0.37%		
Return on Average Common Equity	8.03%	1.14%			6.47%	3.04%		
Net Interest Margin	3.35%	3.72%			3.53%	3.60%		
Efficiency Ratio	67.76%	59.08%			64.61%	61.22%		

Financial Highlights - The Business Bank of St. Louis
(In Thousands of Dollars)

	As Of		Change	
	9/30/2012	9/30/2011	$	%
Balance Sheet Data				
Total Assets	$481,608	$498,895	($17,287)	-3.47%
Net Loans	357,974	385,833	(27,859)	-7.22%
Total Deposits	397,418	415,338	(17,920)	-4.31%
Total Shareholders' Equity	55,374	57,152	(1,778)	-3.11%
Capital Ratios				
Tier 1 Risk-based Capital	13.43%	13.00%		
Total Risk-based Capital	14.69%	14.26%		
Leverage Ratio	11.38%	11.49%		
Asset Quality				
Nonperforming Loans to Total Loans	1.28%	3.19%		
Nonperforming Assets to Total Assets	2.21%	3.36%		

	Quarter-To-Date		Change		Year-To-Date		Change	
	9/30/2012	9/30/2011	$	%	9/30/2012	9/30/2011	$	%
Net Income	$1,085	$569	$516	90.69%	$2,871	$2,258	$613	27.15%
Performance Ratios								
Return on Average Assets	0.90%	0.46%			0.79%	0.58%		
Return on Average Equity	7.88%	3.97%			6.91%	5.34%		
Net Interest Margin	3.53%	4.00%			3.71%	3.84%		
Efficiency Ratio	63.64%	53.84%			60.63%	56.40%		

NM - Not Meaningful

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