



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**First Mid Ag Services Farm Managers Earn Accredited Farm Manager Designation**

**Bloomington, IL (December 10, 2025)** First Mid Ag Services, a division of First Mid Wealth Management, is pleased to announce that three Farm Managers have been awarded the Accredited Farm Manager (AFM) designation from the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers® (ASFMRA®).

Ashten Hoffman, Brock Norris, and Michael Rhoda have each earned the AFM designation by meeting stringent requirements in experience and education in addition to passing rigorous written examination and abiding by the American Society's Code of Ethics. Hoffman, Norris, and Rhoda join a select 43 percent of the ASFMRA® membership who have received the Accredited status and currently maintain it through the ASFMRA® continuing education program.

Accredited Farm Managers are specifically educated and experienced in agricultural management and understand efficient production and profitable marketing by focusing on procedure, analysis, critical thinking, and innovation. Farm Managers have specialized expertise in production, business, environmental issues, and government activities. Accredited Farm Managers possess additional specialized expertise and are connected to a national network of professional resources and information.

Ashten Hoffman serves as a Farm Manager with First Mid Ag Services out of the Kankakee Office and is a licensed Illinois Real Estate Broker. Hoffman is a graduate of Illinois State University with a degree in Agribusiness and Agronomy Management. Her prior experience includes work as a Grain Originator for FS Grain where she assisted customers with making grain plans and sales throughout the year.

Brock Norris serves as a Farm Manager with First Mid Ag Services out of the Mattoon Office and is a licensed Illinois Real Estate Broker. Norris is a graduate of Illinois State University with a degree in Agriculture Business and Agronomy Management. His prior experience includes work as crop consultant for an area ag retailer and as a Research Agronomist working with one of the industry's largest seed suppliers.

Michael Rhoda serves as a Farm Manager with First Mid Ag Services out of the Bloomington Office. Rhoda holds an Illinois Real Estate Broker's License, Iowa Real Estate Broker's License, and FAA 107 UAS Remote Pilot License. He serves as Chairman of the Region 4 Data Collection Group for the Illinois Society of Professional Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers' Land Values and Lease Trends Conference and is the 2025 co-chair of the Society's Management Education Committee. Rhoda joined the McLean County Farm Bureau Board as an Advisory Board Member in 2024. He is a graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in both Agricultural Business and Agronomy. His prior experience includes work for Grainland Cooperative.

First Mid Ag Services manages, brokers, and values Midwest farmland and provides agricultural consultation services, primarily in Illinois and surrounding states. With six regional offices in Bloomington (Principal Real Estate Office), Decatur, Kankakee, Mattoon, Peoria, and Springfield, the team includes 25 farm managers/Illinois licensed real estate brokers who combine their unique skill sets to represent the absentee farmland owners they serve. Visit [www.firstmidag.com](http://www.firstmidag.com) to learn more.

**About First Mid Bancshares, Inc.:** First Mid Bancshares, Inc. is the parent company of First Mid Bank & Trust, N.A., First Mid Insurance Group, and First Mid Wealth Management Company. First Mid is a \$7.8 billion community-focused organization that provides financial services including banking, insurance, wealth management, brokerage, and ag services through a network of locations in Illinois, Missouri, Texas, and Wisconsin, and a loan production office in Indiana. Together, our First Mid team takes great pride in providing solutions and services to our customers and communities and has done so since 1865. This year, we proudly celebrate our 160th anniversary, marking a long history of dedication and service. More information about the Company is available on our website at [www.firstmid.com](http://www.firstmid.com). Our stock is traded in The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC under the ticker symbol “FMBH”. Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender.

Investments and Insurance Products: Not a Deposit | Not Guaranteed by the Bank or its Affiliates | Not FDIC Insured | Not Insured by Any Federal Government Agency | May Go Down in Value.

**About American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers®:** (ASFMRA®) is the largest professional society for rural property land experts, boasting over 2,100 members in 31 chapters throughout the United States. ASFMRA® truly represents *The Most Trusted Rural Property Professionals* and is *the* organization for individuals who provide management, consultation, and valuation services, as well as real estate services on rural and agricultural assets. The land experts who hold membership in ASFMRA® work under a professional code of ethics, which includes continuing education requirements. You can rest assured that if you’re working with someone who is an accredited member of the Society, you are working with a competent land expert and agricultural professional who can assist you with all of your property, land and asset needs.