



NEWS RELEASE

Ameris Bancorp Announces Commencement Of Common Stock Offering

2017-02-28

MOULTRIE, Ga., Feb. 28, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Ameris Bancorp (Nasdaq: ABCB) (the "Company"), the parent holding company of Ameris Bank (the "Bank"), announced today that it has commenced an underwritten public offering of approximately \$75 million of the Company's common stock. The Company also expects to grant the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 15% of the shares of its common stock sold in the offering.

Stephens Inc. and Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, A Stifel Company, will serve as the joint book-running managers for the offering. The shares will be issued pursuant to a prospectus supplement and prospectus filed as part of an effective shelf registration statement filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on Form S-3 (File No. 333-216254). The Company expects to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes, including providing capital to support our growth organically or through strategic acquisitions, financing investments and capital expenditures, repaying existing indebtedness and for investments in the Bank as regulatory capital.

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Additional Information Regarding the Offering

This press release is for informational purposes only and is not an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities of the Company, which is made only by means of a prospectus supplement and related base prospectus, nor will there be any sale of these securities in any state or jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or jurisdiction. The Company has filed a registration statement (including a prospectus supplement) with the SEC for the offering to which this communication relates. Prospective investors, including current shareholders interested in participating in the offering, should read the prospectus in that registration statement, the preliminary prospectus supplement and other documents that the Company has filed with the SEC for more complete information about the Company and the offering. These documents are available at no charge by visiting the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The offering will be made only by means of a prospectus, copies of which may be obtained from Stephens Inc., 111 Center Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, Attn: Syndicate by calling toll-free at (800) 643-9691 or Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc., Equity Capital Markets, 787 Seventh Avenue, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10019 by calling toll-free (800) 966-1559.

About Ameris Bancorp

Ameris Bancorp is a bank holding company headquartered in Moultrie, Georgia. The Company's banking subsidiary, Ameris Bank, had 97 locations in Georgia, Alabama, northern Florida and South Carolina at the end of the most recent quarter.

The Company's common stock trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "ABCB".

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains statements that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The words "believe", "estimate", "expect", "intend", "anticipate" and similar expressions and variations thereof identify certain of such forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the dates which they were made. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Readers are cautioned that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties and that actual results may differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors. Readers are

cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements and are referred to the Company's periodic filings with the SEC for a summary of certain factors that may impact the Company's results of operations and financial condition.

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