



First Community Corporation

FCCO - NASDAQ

Institutional Equity Research

January 25, 2021

Positive Operating Leverage in the Midlands of SC; BUY

On the heels of FCCO's 4Q20 earnings report, we're increasing our EPS estimates, raising our PT, and reiterating our **BUY** rating. We continue to view the stock as attractively valued (at only modestly above TBV/sh) – especially when considering the attractive South Carolina footprint (with considerable scarcity value), healthy capital, and generally conservative approach and track record on credit. As the markets continue to normalize, we will look for additional progress in boosting core profitability, mainly via more pronounced loan growth.

Core EPS beat on provision and top-line: FCCO reported 4Q20 EPS of \$0.46, which we consider as core. This came in well above our and the Street's estimate of \$0.34. The main driver of the beat was a lower than modeled provision for loan losses, as well as higher than expected core PTPP income. The PTPP beat stemmed from better than forecasted NII and core fee revs, partially offset by slightly higher than modeled core expenses. For more details on FCCO's core 4Q20 results, please see our [earlier First Look note](#).

Increasing our EPS estimates: After inputting FCCO's core 4Q20 results into our model and fine-tuning our assumptions, we're increasing our 2021E EPS by 57 cents (to \$1.60) and our 2022E EPS by 21 cents (to \$1.32). The primary adjustment was a lower assumed pace of credit costs (including pushing back our assumed peak losses to 1H22), and to a lesser extent, a larger balance sheet (given excess liquidity and PPP Round 2) and a higher run-rate of core fee revs.

Reiterate BUY and boosting PT: We're increasing our PT by \$1.00 (to \$21.00) mainly owing to a higher assumed peer base multiple (on TBV/sh) and a slightly wider assumed premium (albeit still much less than the stock's historical premium given our outlook for only peer-like core profitability in the intermediate term). We continue to view FCCO's stock as an intriguing valuation – at ~114% of TBV/sh – for a bank with a geographic footprint with considerable scarcity value, a very low cost of funds, and excellent defensive characteristics (e.g., CET1 of 12.83%; conservative approach and track record toward credit), and we expect this valuation to be increasingly recognized when bank investors eventually turn their sights toward smaller cap names. We also believe the stock is poised to benefit from improved loan growth in its Carolinas markets a few quarters out as the economy continues to recover/normalize, while at the same time demonstrating a more stabilized NIM, good cost control, and continued healthy mortgage activity.

ADDITIONAL TAKEAWAYS FROM 4Q20 RESULTS

The reserve-build is now mostly in the rearview, as we get a sense the bank will look to provide for loan growth and cover any NCOs (although it doesn't expect much to materialize in the near-term horizon), and will likely await a full return to normalized environment before releasing reserves. The slight expansion to the ALLL/loans (ex-PPP) stemmed mainly from COVID-19 related qualitative factors. Management isn't seeing any systematic deterioration in the loan book, and cited positive progress and updates from most COVID-sensitive loans. The LQ increase in criticized and NPAs stemmed from a single credit that was moved to Substandard and Nonaccrual in 4Q20, which management seems confident there won't be any resulting loss from.

Continued on page 2

FY (Dec)		2020A	2021E	Previous	Cons.	2022E	Previous	Cons.
EPS	Q1 (Mar)	\$0.24	\$0.45E	\$0.36	\$0.36	\$0.32E	\$0.22	\$0.26
	Q2 (Jun)	\$0.30	\$0.42E	\$0.27	\$0.33	\$0.28E	\$0.25	\$0.30
	Q3 (Sep)	\$0.31	\$0.37E	\$0.20	\$0.31	\$0.32E	\$0.29	\$0.36
	Q4 (Dec)	\$0.46	\$0.36E	\$0.20	\$0.27	\$0.40E	\$0.35	\$0.39
		<u>\$1.30</u>	<u>\$1.60E</u>	<u>\$1.03</u>	<u>\$1.37</u>	<u>\$1.32E</u>	<u>\$1.11</u>	<u>\$1.39</u>
Price/EPS		13.8x	11.2x			13.6x		
Revenue (\$M)	Q1 (Mar)	\$12.3	\$14.5E	\$14.0	\$13.9	\$14.5E	\$13.6	\$13.4
	Q2 (Jun)	\$13.1	\$14.7E	\$13.4	\$13.8	\$14.5E	\$13.8	\$13.7
	Q3 (Sep)	\$13.6	\$14.5E	\$13.5	\$13.8	\$14.7E	\$14.0	\$13.9
	Q4 (Dec)	\$14.3	\$14.6E	\$13.6	\$13.8	\$14.8E	\$14.2	\$14.0
		<u>\$53.4</u>	<u>\$58.3E</u>	<u>\$54.5</u>	<u>\$55.5</u>	<u>\$58.6E</u>	<u>\$55.6</u>	<u>\$54.9</u>

Please refer to pages 5 - 6 of this report for detailed disclosure and certification information.

Buy

Price Target	↑\$21.00
Price (1/25/21)	\$18.01
Industry	FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Valuation & Performance

Return on Assets (MRQ)	0.99%
ROTCE (MRQ)	11.5%
Net Interest Margin (MRQ)	3.31%
Efficiency Ratio (MRQ)	67.2%
TBV per Share (12/31/20)	\$16.08
TCE/TA (12/31/20)	8.7%
Dividend	\$0.48 (2.7%)

Trading Data

Shares Outstanding (M)	7.5
Market Capitalization (\$M)	\$135.1
52-week range	\$12.23 - \$21.80
Avg. Volume (3-mth.) (K)	14.8

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Company Description

Lexington, SC - First Community Corporation is the parent company of First Community Bank a +\$1.1B asset community bank base in the midlands of South Carolina. First Community Bank offers a full suite of banking and financial planning/ investment advisory services to both retail and commercial clients.

Price Performance

NASDAQ: FCCO



PPP loans of \$42.2M and a related credit facility of \$5.2M (associated with a prior partnership with an SBA specialist) totaled \$47.4M at YE20, down from ~\$80M at 3Q20-end (i.e., ~\$51M via FCCO direct and the remaining \$30M via the SBA specialist). Management expects the bulk of the forgiveness on PPP Round 1 to occur in 2Q21, and estimates that PPP Round 2 could amount to ~\$40M.

The outlook for the core NIM (ex-PPP) is mostly stabilized to grinding slightly lower, as continued repricing downward of loans and securities, and diminishing ability to reduce cost of deposits much lower, is partially offset by putting some excess liquidity to work in securities. That said, the bank seems confident that it will be able to expand dollars of NII. The 3bp of LQ NIM expansion (from 3.28% to 3.31%) reflected a positive swing in the contribution from PPP loans and related fees (+3bp vs. -1bp), as well as a 3bp contraction in cost of funds. Excluding PPP loans and fees, the core NIM contracted 1bp to 3.28%.

The outlook for loan growth in 2021 seems in more of a mid-single digit annualized pace, down slightly from the 8.1% pace in 2020, as the generally opened-for-business markets (including an expanding CRE activity) are partially offset by elevated CRE payoffs.

FCCO had its strongest mortgage production of the year in 4Q20, and saw an expansion in its mortgage gain-on-sale margin (to 3.0% from 2.47%), as rebuilt capacity began to mitigate the previous market disruption that had hurt the GOS margin earlier in 2020. Looking ahead, we get the sense that revenues could be stable as contracting production is offset by further improvement in GOS margins.

Capital build and deployment: Management continues to be open to selective M&A opportunities in the Upstate/Greenville region, although the timing is more dependent on when certain potential sellers are ready to partner with a larger bank. The bank is also open to non-bank acquisitions in the financial planning/investment advisory space. FCCO didn't repurchase shares during 4Q20, and we don't get the sense that the bank will be active until after it builds capital ratios even higher, and sees the impact of PPP Round 2 to ratios. We also note that the bank kept its 4Q20 dividend unchanged at \$0.12/sh – unlike its past track record of increasing the dividend in the final quarter of the year – likely signaling a near-term priority on continuing to build capital.

First Community Corp. (FCCO) (\$M, except Per Share Data)																	Kevin P. Fitzsimmons 856-994-6062			
Income Statement	2019A	2020A	2021E	2022E	1Q19A	2Q19A	3Q19A	4Q19A	1Q20A	2Q20A	3Q20A	4Q20A	1Q21E	2Q21E	3Q21E	4Q21E	1Q22E	2Q22E	3Q22E	4Q22E
NET INTEREST INCOME (FTE)	\$ 36.848	\$ 40.023	\$ 43.846	\$ 44.775	\$ 9.020	\$ 9.116	\$ 9.353	\$ 9.359	\$ 9.417	\$ 9.743	\$ 10.176	\$ 10.687	\$ 10.863	\$ 11.010	\$ 10.862	\$ 11.110	\$ 11.161	\$ 11.065	\$ 11.162	\$ 11.387
PROVISION FOR LOAN LOSSES	\$ 0.139	\$ 3.663	\$ 4.104	\$ 6.151	\$ 0.105	\$ 0.009	\$ 0.025	\$ -	\$ 1.075	\$ 1.250	\$ 1.062	\$ 0.276	\$ 0.495	\$ 0.901	\$ 1.143	\$ 1.565	\$ 1.619	\$ 1.921	\$ 1.515	\$ 1.096
Non-Interest Income																				
Deposit service charges	\$ 1.649	\$ 1.121	\$ 1.172	\$ 1.243	\$ 0.411	\$ 0.380	\$ 0.421	\$ 0.437	\$ 0.399	\$ 0.210	\$ 0.242	\$ 0.270	\$ 0.278	\$ 0.292	\$ 0.298	\$ 0.304	\$ 0.302	\$ 0.310	\$ 0.313	\$ 0.318
Mortgage banking income	\$ 4.555	\$ 5.557	\$ 6.022	\$ 4.678	\$ 0.844	\$ 1.238	\$ 1.251	\$ 1.222	\$ 0.982	\$ 1.572	\$ 1.403	\$ 1.600	\$ 1.552	\$ 1.583	\$ 1.536	\$ 1.351	\$ 1.162	\$ 1.220	\$ 1.208	\$ 1.087
Invest. Advisory fees & commissions	\$ 2.021	\$ 2.720	\$ 3.127	\$ 3.368	\$ 0.438	\$ 0.489	\$ 0.509	\$ 0.585	\$ 0.634	\$ 0.671	\$ 0.672	\$ 0.743	\$ 0.758	\$ 0.777	\$ 0.788	\$ 0.804	\$ 0.816	\$ 0.837	\$ 0.849	\$ 0.866
Gain (loss) on sale of other assets	\$ (0.003)	\$ 0.147	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (0.003)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.006	\$ -	\$ 0.141	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other	\$ 3.661	\$ 3.814	\$ 4.166	\$ 4.488	\$ 0.845	\$ 0.918	\$ 0.932	\$ 0.966	\$ 0.907	\$ 0.934	\$ 0.982	\$ 0.991	\$ 1.011	\$ 1.031	\$ 1.052	\$ 1.073	\$ 1.089	\$ 1.111	\$ 1.133	\$ 1.155
TOTAL NON-INTEREST INCOME (core)	\$ 11.883	\$ 13.359	\$ 14.487	\$ 13.776	\$ 2.538	\$ 3.022	\$ 3.113	\$ 3.210	\$ 2.928	\$ 3.387	\$ 3.440	\$ 3.604	\$ 3.599	\$ 3.683	\$ 3.674	\$ 3.532	\$ 3.369	\$ 3.477	\$ 3.503	\$ 3.426
OPERATING REVENUE	\$ 48.731	\$ 53.382	\$ 58.333	\$ 58.551	\$ 11.558	\$ 12.138	\$ 12.466	\$ 12.569	\$ 12.345	\$ 13.130	\$ 13.616	\$ 14.291	\$ 14.462	\$ 14.693	\$ 14.536	\$ 14.642	\$ 14.531	\$ 14.543	\$ 14.664	\$ 14.814
Noninterest Expense																				
Salaries & employee benefits	\$ 21.261	\$ 24.026	\$ 25.039	\$ 25.540	\$ 5.170	\$ 5.210	\$ 5.465	\$ 5.416	\$ 5.653	\$ 5.840	\$ 6.087	\$ 6.446	\$ 6.237	\$ 6.268	\$ 6.299	\$ 6.236	\$ 6.330	\$ 6.361	\$ 6.441	\$ 6.409
Occupancy	\$ 2.696	\$ 2.709	\$ 2.670	\$ 2.782	\$ 0.655	\$ 0.647	\$ 0.703	\$ 0.691	\$ 0.643	\$ 0.679	\$ 0.736	\$ 0.651	\$ 0.658	\$ 0.664	\$ 0.671	\$ 0.677	\$ 0.683	\$ 0.693	\$ 0.700	\$ 0.707
Equipment	\$ 1.493	\$ 1.237	\$ 1.243	\$ 1.299	\$ 0.386	\$ 0.389	\$ 0.365	\$ 0.353	\$ 0.318	\$ 0.298	\$ 0.318	\$ 0.303	\$ 0.306	\$ 0.309	\$ 0.312	\$ 0.315	\$ 0.319	\$ 0.324	\$ 0.326	\$ 0.330
Marketing & public relations	\$ 1.115	\$ 1.043	\$ 1.049	\$ 1.052	\$ 0.175	\$ 0.430	\$ 0.159	\$ 0.351	\$ 0.354	\$ 0.247	\$ 0.342	\$ 0.100	\$ 0.300	\$ 0.285	\$ 0.299	\$ 0.165	\$ 0.303	\$ 0.282	\$ 0.301	\$ 0.166
FDIC assessment	\$ 0.067	\$ 0.404	\$ 0.548	\$ 0.548	\$ 0.074	\$ 0.071	\$ -	\$ (0.078)	\$ 0.042	\$ 0.088	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137	\$ 0.137
Amortization of intangibles	\$ 0.523	\$ 0.363	\$ 0.279	\$ 0.276	\$ 0.132	\$ 0.132	\$ 0.133	\$ 0.126	\$ 0.105	\$ 0.095	\$ 0.095	\$ 0.068	\$ 0.069	\$ 0.070	\$ 0.071	\$ 0.070	\$ 0.069	\$ 0.069	\$ 0.069	\$ 0.068
Other operating expenses	\$ 7.380	\$ 7.551	\$ 7.865	\$ 8.210	\$ 1.702	\$ 1.743	\$ 1.934	\$ 2.001	\$ 1.888	\$ 1.844	\$ 1.920	\$ 1.899	\$ 1.927	\$ 1.956	\$ 1.976	\$ 1.996	\$ 2.016	\$ 2.041	\$ 2.061	\$ 2.092
Noninterest Expense, Ex-Credit	\$ 34.535	\$ 37.333	\$ 38.692	\$ 39.707	\$ 8.294	\$ 8.622	\$ 8.759	\$ 8.860	\$ 9.003	\$ 9.091	\$ 9.635	\$ 9.604	\$ 9.643	\$ 9.689	\$ 9.764	\$ 9.597	\$ 9.857	\$ 9.907	\$ 10.035	\$ 9.908
OREO expense	\$ 0.081	\$ 0.201	\$ 0.197	\$ 0.182	\$ 0.029	\$ 0.018	\$ 0.031	\$ 0.003	\$ 0.035	\$ 0.040	\$ 0.079	\$ 0.047	\$ 0.049	\$ 0.049	\$ 0.049	\$ 0.049	\$ 0.047	\$ 0.046	\$ 0.045	\$ 0.044
Write-down of OREO	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net loss (gain) on sale of OREO	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NONINTEREST EXPENSE (core)	\$ 34.616	\$ 37.534	\$ 38.890	\$ 39.888	\$ 8.323	\$ 8.640	\$ 8.790	\$ 8.863	\$ 9.038	\$ 9.131	\$ 9.714	\$ 9.651	\$ 9.692	\$ 9.738	\$ 9.814	\$ 9.646	\$ 9.904	\$ 9.953	\$ 10.080	\$ 9.951
<i>Pre-Tax Operating Income</i>	\$ 13.976	\$ 12.185	\$ 15.339	\$ 12.512	\$ 3.130	\$ 3.498	\$ 3.651	\$ 3.706	\$ 2.232	\$ 2.749	\$ 2.840	\$ 4.364	\$ 4.275	\$ 4.054	\$ 3.579	\$ 3.431	\$ 3.008	\$ 2.669	\$ 3.069	\$ 3.766
<i>Pre-Tax, Pre-Provision Operating Income</i>	\$ 14.115	\$ 15.848	\$ 19.444	\$ 18.663	\$ 3.235	\$ 3.498	\$ 3.676	\$ 3.706	\$ 3.307	\$ 3.999	\$ 3.902	\$ 4.640	\$ 4.770	\$ 4.955	\$ 4.722	\$ 4.996	\$ 4.627	\$ 4.590	\$ 4.584	\$ 4.862
<i>Pre-Tax, Pre-Credit Costs Operating Income</i>	\$ 14.196	\$ 16.049	\$ 19.641	\$ 18.845	\$ 3.264	\$ 3.516	\$ 3.707	\$ 3.709	\$ 3.342	\$ 4.039	\$ 3.981	\$ 4.687	\$ 4.820	\$ 5.004	\$ 4.772	\$ 5.045	\$ 4.674	\$ 4.636	\$ 4.629	\$ 4.906
Gain (Loss) on sale of securities	\$ 0.136	\$ 0.099	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (0.029)	\$ 0.164	\$ -	\$ 0.001	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.099	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Non-Operating Revenues	\$ -	\$ 0.311	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.311	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Non-Operating Expenses	\$ (0.282)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (0.282)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Merger Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pre-Tax Income	\$ 13.830	\$ 12.595	\$ 15.339	\$ 12.512	\$ 3.101	\$ 3.653	\$ 3.651	\$ 3.425	\$ 2.232	\$ 2.749	\$ 3.250	\$ 4.364	\$ 4.275	\$ 4.054	\$ 3.579	\$ 3.431	\$ 3.008	\$ 2.669	\$ 3.069	\$ 3.766
Income Taxes	\$ 2.858	\$ 2.496	\$ 3.298	\$ 2.690	\$ 0.606	\$ 0.772	\$ 0.753	\$ 0.727	\$ 0.438	\$ 0.532	\$ 0.598	\$ 0.928	\$ 0.919	\$ 0.872	\$ 0.770	\$ 0.738	\$ 0.647	\$ 0.574	\$ 0.660	\$ 0.810
Tax Rate	20.67%	19.82%	21.50%	21.50%	19.54%	21.1%	20.6%	21.2%	19.6%	19.4%	18.4%	21.3%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%
Core Tax Rate	20.63%	19.66%	21.50%	21.50%	19.54%	21.1%	20.6%	21.2%	19.6%	19.4%	18.4%	21.3%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%	21.5%
Net Income from Continuing Operations	\$ 10.972	\$ 10.099	\$ 12.042	\$ 9.822	\$ 2.495	\$ 2.881	\$ 2.898	\$ 2.698	\$ 1.794	\$ 2.217	\$ 2.652	\$ 3.436	\$ 3.356	\$ 3.183	\$ 2.810	\$ 2.693	\$ 2.361	\$ 2.095	\$ 2.409	\$ 2.956
Net Income from Discontinued Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Net Income	\$ 10.972	\$ 10.099	\$ 12.042	\$ 9.822	\$ 2.495	\$ 2.881	\$ 2.898	\$ 2.698	\$ 1.794	\$ 2.217	\$ 2.652	\$ 3.436	\$ 3.356	\$ 3.183	\$ 2.810	\$ 2.693	\$ 2.361	\$ 2.095	\$ 2.409	\$ 2.956
Preferred Dividends	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Gain (Loss) Attributable to Noncontrolling Interests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO COMMON	\$ 10.972	\$ 10.099	\$ 12.042	\$ 9.822	\$ 2.495	\$ 2.881	\$ 2.898	\$ 2.698	\$ 1.794	\$ 2.217	\$ 2.652	\$ 3.436	\$ 3.356	\$ 3.183	\$ 2.810	\$ 2.693	\$ 2.361	\$ 2.095	\$ 2.409	\$ 2.956
Shares / Per Share Metrics	2019A	2020A	2021E	2022E	1Q19A	2Q19A	3Q19A	4Q19A	1Q20A	2Q20A	3Q20A	4Q20A	1Q21E	2Q21E	3Q21E	4Q21E	1Q22E	2Q22E	3Q22E	4Q22E
Earnings Per Share (EPS) - Reported	\$ 1.44	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.60	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.40
Core EPS	\$ 1.46	\$ 1.30	\$ 1.60	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.40
Core EPS Growth (Annualized)	-1.8%	-10.8%	23.0%	-17.7%	-58.1%	38.2%	34.9%	2.6%	-154.2%	94.5%	17.2%	191.4%	-9.3%	-20.6%	-46.9%	-16.6%	-48.1%	-43.9%	61.5%	92.4%
PTPP/Avg. Shares	\$ 1.86	\$ 2.12	\$ 2.59	\$ 2.51	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.49	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.64	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.67	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.66
Avg. Diluted Shares o/s EOP Shares	7.590	7.480	7.503	7.441	7.725	7.704	7.463	7.469	7.468	7.465	7.482	7.503	7.503	7.503	7.503	7.503	7.478	7.453	7.428	7.403
	7.440	7.500	7.500	7.400	7.665	7.511	7.409	7.440	7.462	7.486	7.493	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.475	7.450	7.425	7.400
Dividend per Share	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.12
Dividend Payout Ratio	31.3%	35.6%	29.9%	36.3%	34.4%	29.7%	28.2%	33.3%	50.0%	40.0%	34.3%	26.1%	26.8%	28.3%	32.0%	33.4%	38.0%	42.7%	37.0%	30.1%
TBV / Share	\$ 13.99	\$ 16.08	\$ 17.20	\$ 18.02	\$ 13.04	\$ 13.46	\$ 13.84	\$ 13.99	\$ 14.55	\$ 15.35	\$ 15.67	\$ 16.08	\$ 16.40	\$ 16.71	\$ 16.96	\$ 17.20	\$ 17.39	\$ 17.55	\$ 17.75	\$ 18.02
Profitability Metrics	2019A	2020A	2021E	2022E	1Q19A	2Q19A	3Q19A	4Q19A	1Q20A	2Q20A	3Q20A	4Q20A	1Q21E	2Q21E	3Q21E	4Q21E	1Q22E	2Q22E	3Q22E	4Q22E
NIM	3.62%	3.34%	3.29%	3.29%	3.73%	3.67%	3.65%	3.56%	3.55%	3.38%	3.28%	3.31%	3.29%	3.32%	3.26%	3.30%	3.31%	3.27%	3.28%	3.30%
Core NIM	3.64%	3.38%	3.25%	3.28%	3.73%	3.67%	3.60%	3.56%	3.55%	3.38%	3.29%	3.28%	3.26%	3.24%	3.26%	3.24%	3.25%	3.27%	3.28%	3.30%
Core ROAA	0.99%	0.76%	0.84%	0.67%	0.92%	1.00%	1.03%	1.01%	0.61%	0.70%	0.69%	0.99%	0.95%	0.89%	0.79%	0.75%	0.65%	0.58%	0.66%	0.80%
Core PTPP ROAA	1.26%	1.22%	1.36%	1.28%	1.19%	1.27%	1.31%	1.29%	1.12%	1.26%	1.16%	1.33%	1.35%	1.39%	1.32%	1.38%	1.28%	1.26%	1.26%	1.31%
Core ROAE	9.48%	7.60%	8.55%	6.70%	8.85%	9.39%	9.89%	9.76%	5.81%	6.99%	7.04%	10.31%	9.76%	9.10%	7.91%	7.49%	6.50%	5.73%	6.55%	7.97%
Core ROTCE	10.99%	8.64%	9.63%	7.50%	10.28%	10.94%	11.38%	11.30%	6.75%	7.94%	7.98%	11.55%	11.02%	10.25%	8.90%	8.41%	7.29%	6.43%	7.34%	8.92%
Core ROTCE (ex-Reserve Release)	10.69%	5.83%	9																	

First Community Corp. (FCCO)													Kevin P. Fitzsimmons 856-994-6062												
(SM, except Per Share Data)																									
Average Balance Sheet																									
Avg. Loans	\$ 735.3	\$ 834.8	\$ 908.4	\$ 923.3	\$ 724.1	\$ 728.7	\$ 740.2	\$ 748.1	\$ 753.7	\$ 824.8	\$ 868.1	\$ 892.8	\$ 905.0	\$ 901.9	\$ 915.4	\$ 911.4	\$ 900.5	\$ 914.0	\$ 930.0	\$ 948.6					
Avg. Securities	\$ 257.5	\$ 300.8	\$ 347.9	\$ 339.3	\$ 251.9	\$ 250.3	\$ 254.8	\$ 273.1	\$ 286.3	\$ 294.9	\$ 299.9	\$ 322.2	\$ 349.6	\$ 349.6	\$ 346.1	\$ 346.1	\$ 342.7	\$ 339.3	\$ 335.9	\$ 339.2					
Avg. Other Earning Assets	\$ 25.5	\$ 62.8	\$ 75.4	\$ 98.4	\$ 17.5	\$ 26.4	\$ 27.3	\$ 31.0	\$ 37.3	\$ 51.4	\$ 80.7	\$ 81.9	\$ 66.1	\$ 75.0	\$ 71.3	\$ 89.1	\$ 105.6	\$ 100.3	\$ 95.3	\$ 92.4					
Avg. Earning Assets	\$ 1,018.3	\$ 1,198.5	\$ 1,331.7	\$ 1,360.9	\$ 993.5	\$ 1,005.4	\$ 1,022.2	\$ 1,052.3	\$ 1,077.2	\$ 1,171.2	\$ 1,248.6	\$ 1,296.9	\$ 1,320.8	\$ 1,326.5	\$ 1,332.8	\$ 1,346.7	\$ 1,348.8	\$ 1,353.6	\$ 1,361.2	\$ 1,380.3					
Avg. Total Assets	\$ 1,116.0	\$ 1,295.7	\$ 1,429.4	\$ 1,460.8	\$ 1,089.3	\$ 1,103.3	\$ 1,120.0	\$ 1,151.5	\$ 1,176.4	\$ 1,269.2	\$ 1,345.1	\$ 1,392.0	\$ 1,417.7	\$ 1,423.8	\$ 1,430.6	\$ 1,445.5	\$ 1,447.7	\$ 1,452.9	\$ 1,461.0	\$ 1,481.5					
Avg. Deposits	\$ 934.8	\$ 1,087.1	\$ 1,211.6	\$ 1,260.8	\$ 908.7	\$ 924.2	\$ 938.6	\$ 967.5	\$ 969.4	\$ 1,060.1	\$ 1,137.0	\$ 1,181.8	\$ 1,193.6	\$ 1,205.5	\$ 1,217.6	\$ 1,229.8	\$ 1,242.1	\$ 1,254.5	\$ 1,267.0	\$ 1,279.7					
Avg. Total Borrowings	\$ 52.7	\$ 66.8	\$ 65.2	\$ 67.9	\$ 57.6	\$ 50.0	\$ 52.0	\$ 51.1	\$ 70.3	\$ 69.9	\$ 63.3	\$ 63.6	\$ 64.3	\$ 64.9	\$ 65.5	\$ 66.2	\$ 66.9	\$ 67.5	\$ 68.2	\$ 68.9					
Avg. IB-Liabilities	\$ 723.5	\$ 810.0	\$ 890.5	\$ 926.6	\$ 719.4	\$ 713.5	\$ 724.1	\$ 737.2	\$ 758.0	\$ 780.8	\$ 832.7	\$ 868.6	\$ 877.2	\$ 886.0	\$ 894.9	\$ 903.8	\$ 912.9	\$ 922.0	\$ 931.2	\$ 940.5					
Avg. Total Liabilities	\$ 999.1	\$ 1,166.8	\$ 1,290.6	\$ 1,343.0	\$ 975.5	\$ 986.1	\$ 1,002.8	\$ 1,031.9	\$ 1,052.9	\$ 1,142.3	\$ 1,213.4	\$ 1,258.8	\$ 1,271.4	\$ 1,284.1	\$ 1,296.9	\$ 1,309.9	\$ 1,323.0	\$ 1,336.2	\$ 1,349.6	\$ 1,363.1					
Avg. Shareholders Equity	\$ 117.0	\$ 128.8	\$ 140.9	\$ 146.7	\$ 113.8	\$ 117.3	\$ 117.2	\$ 119.6	\$ 123.5	\$ 126.9	\$ 131.7	\$ 133.3	\$ 137.6	\$ 139.9	\$ 142.0	\$ 143.9	\$ 145.3	\$ 146.1	\$ 147.0	\$ 148.3					
Avg. Tangible Common Equity	\$ 101.0	\$ 113.3	\$ 125.1	\$ 130.9	\$ 98.0	\$ 100.7	\$ 101.8	\$ 103.3	\$ 106.3	\$ 111.7	\$ 116.2	\$ 119.0	\$ 121.8	\$ 124.2	\$ 126.3	\$ 128.1	\$ 129.5	\$ 130.4	\$ 131.3	\$ 132.6					
EOP Balance Sheet																									
PPP	\$ -	\$ 42.2	\$ 20.0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47.9	\$ 49.8	\$ 42.2	\$ 52.2	\$ 40.0	\$ 40.0	\$ 20.0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
Loans (ex-PPP)	\$ 737.0	\$ 801.9	\$ 838.6	\$ 892.2	\$ 718.4	\$ 726.7	\$ 735.1	\$ 737.0	\$ 749.5	\$ 769.6	\$ 794.7	\$ 801.9	\$ 803.9	\$ 812.0	\$ 824.1	\$ 838.6	\$ 846.9	\$ 859.7	\$ 874.7	\$ 892.2					
Loans	\$ 737.0	\$ 844.2	\$ 858.6	\$ 892.2	\$ 718.4	\$ 726.7	\$ 735.1	\$ 737.0	\$ 749.5	\$ 817.4	\$ 844.5	\$ 844.2	\$ 856.2	\$ 852.0	\$ 864.2	\$ 858.6	\$ 846.9	\$ 859.7	\$ 874.7	\$ 892.2					
Total Assets	\$ 1,170.3	\$ 1,395.4	\$ 1,459.1	\$ 1,552.5	\$ 1,097.4	\$ 1,116.0	\$ 1,130.0	\$ 1,170.3	\$ 1,185.3	\$ 1,324.8	\$ 1,381.8	\$ 1,395.4	\$ 1,398.9	\$ 1,412.9	\$ 1,434.1	\$ 1,459.1	\$ 1,473.7	\$ 1,495.8	\$ 1,522.0	\$ 1,552.5					
Non-IB Deposits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
Total Deposits	\$ 988.2	\$ 1,189.4	\$ 1,243.8	\$ 1,323.3	\$ 919.8	\$ 937.4	\$ 948.8	\$ 988.2	\$ 986.6	\$ 1,118.9	\$ 1,173.6	\$ 1,189.4	\$ 1,192.4	\$ 1,204.3	\$ 1,222.4	\$ 1,243.8	\$ 1,256.2	\$ 1,275.0	\$ 1,297.4	\$ 1,323.3					
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,036.7	\$ 1,245.3	\$ 1,295.9	\$ 1,335.1	\$ 969.0	\$ 986.5	\$ 998.3	\$ 1,036.7	\$ 1,047.6	\$ 1,179.5	\$ 1,235.7	\$ 1,245.3	\$ 1,257.7	\$ 1,270.3	\$ 1,283.0	\$ 1,295.9	\$ 1,308.8	\$ 1,321.9	\$ 1,335.1	\$ 1,351.1					
Liquidity Ratios																									
Loans / Deposits	74.6%	71.0%	69.0%	67.4%	78.1%	77.5%	77.5%	74.6%	76.0%	73.1%	72.0%	71.0%	71.8%	70.7%	70.7%	69.0%	67.4%	67.4%	67.4%	67.4%					
Avg. Earning Assets / Avg. Assets	91.2%	92.5%	93.2%	93.2%	91.2%	91.1%	91.3%	91.4%	91.6%	92.3%	92.8%	93.2%	93.2%	93.2%	93.2%	93.2%	93.2%	93.2%	93.2%	93.2%					
Avg. Borrowings / Avg. Liabilities	5.3%	5.7%	5.1%	5.1%	5.9%	5.1%	5.2%	5.0%	6.7%	6.1%	5.2%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%					
Capital Analysis																									
Beginning Total Equity													\$ 136.3	\$ 138.8	\$ 141.1	\$ 143.0	\$ 144.8	\$ 145.8	\$ 146.5	\$ 147.6					
+ Net Income													\$ 3.4	\$ 3.2	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.7	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.1	\$ 2.4	\$ 3.0					
- Dividends													\$ 0.9	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.9					
- Cost of Share Repurchases													\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.48					
+ Shares Issued (M&A less cash paid; raises)													\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
+ Net Other													\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
Ending Shareholders Equity	\$ 120.2	\$ 136.3	\$ 144.8	\$ 149.1	\$ 116.4	\$ 117.5	\$ 118.8	\$ 120.2	\$ 124.6	\$ 130.8	\$ 133.2	\$ 136.3	\$ 138.8	\$ 141.1	\$ 143.0	\$ 144.8	\$ 145.8	\$ 146.5	\$ 147.6	\$ 149.1					
Less: Intangible Assets	\$ 16.1	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 16.2	\$ 16.4	\$ 16.2	\$ 16.1	\$ 16.0	\$ 15.9	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8	\$ 15.8					
Less: Preferred Equity	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -					
Tangible Common Equity	\$ 104.1	\$ 120.6	\$ 129.0	\$ 133.4	\$ 100.2	\$ 101.1	\$ 102.5	\$ 104.1	\$ 108.6	\$ 114.9	\$ 117.4	\$ 120.6	\$ 123.0	\$ 125.3	\$ 127.2	\$ 129.0	\$ 130.0	\$ 130.8	\$ 131.8	\$ 133.4					
Tangible Assets	\$ 1,154.2	\$ 1,379.6	\$ 1,443.4	\$ 1,536.7	\$ 1,081.2	\$ 1,099.6	\$ 1,113.7	\$ 1,154.2	\$ 1,169.3	\$ 1,308.9	\$ 1,366.0	\$ 1,379.6	\$ 1,383.1	\$ 1,397.1	\$ 1,418.3	\$ 1,443.4	\$ 1,458.0	\$ 1,480.1	\$ 1,506.3	\$ 1,536.7					
Tier 1 Capital					\$ 109.5	\$ 110.8	\$ 111.3	\$ 112.8	\$ 114.3	\$ 115.8	\$ 117.7	\$ 120.4	\$ 122.8	\$ 125.1	\$ 127.0	\$ 128.83	\$ 129.8	\$ 130.6	\$ 131.6	\$ 133.19					
Total Capital					\$ 115.8	\$ 14.3	\$ 117.9	\$ 119.4	\$ 122.0	\$ 124.7	\$ 127.8	\$ 130.8	\$ 133.2	\$ 135.5	\$ 137.4	\$ 139.22	\$ 140.2	\$ 140.9	\$ 142.0	\$ 143.58					
CET-1					\$ 109.5	\$ 110.8	\$ 111.3	\$ 112.8	\$ 114.3	\$ 115.8	\$ 117.7	\$ 120.4	\$ 122.8	\$ 125.1	\$ 127.0	\$ 128.83	\$ 129.8	\$ 130.6	\$ 131.6	\$ 133.19					
Risk Weighted Assets					\$ 819.2	\$ 833.1	\$ 843.6	\$ 873.6	\$ 884.9	\$ 989.0	\$ 1,031.5	\$ 1,041.7	\$ 1,044.3	\$ 1,054.7	\$ 1,070.6	\$ 1,089.29	\$ 1,100.2	\$ 1,116.7	\$ 1,136.2	\$ 1,158.95					
TBV / Share (calc)	\$ 13.99	\$ 16.08	\$ 17.20	\$ 18.02	\$ 13.07	\$ 13.46	\$ 13.84	\$ 13.99	\$ 14.55	\$ 15.35	\$ 15.67	\$ 16.08	\$ 16.40	\$ 16.71	\$ 16.96	\$ 17.20	\$ 17.39	\$ 17.55	\$ 17.75	\$ 18.02					
Shares Repurchased	-	-	-	0.100	0.000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03					
Shares Issued	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Avg. Share Effect of Shares Issued																									
Capital Ratios																									
Total Capital / Risk Weighted Assets	14.26%	13.94%	12.78%	12.39%	14.16%	14.25%	14.18%	14.26%	14.25%	14.03%	14.08%	13.94%	12.76%	12.85%	12.84%	12.78%	12.74%	12.62%	12.50%	12.39%					
Tier-1 / Risk Weighted Assets	13.47%	12.83%	11.83%	11.49%	13.38%	13.47%	13.39%	13.47%	13.35%	13.02%	12.97%	12.83%	11.76%	11.86%	11.87%	11.83%	11.80%	11.69%	11.58%	11.49%					
Leverage Ratio	9.97%	8.84%	9.01%	9.09%	10.19%	10.20%	10.12%	9.97%	9.91%	9.31%	8.95%	8.84%	8.76%	8.89%	8.96%	9.01%	9.07%	9.08%	9.11%	9.09%					
CET-1 / Risk Weighted Assets	13.47%	12.83%	11.83%	11.49%	13.38%	13.47%	13.39%	13.47%	13.35%	13.02%	12.97%	12.83%	11.76%	11.86%	11.87%	11.83%	11.80%	11.69%	11.58%	11.49%					
TCE/TA	9.02%	8.74%	8.94%	8.68%	9.27%	9.20%	9.21%	9.02%	9.29%	8.78%	8.60%	8.74%	8.90%	8.97%	8.97%	8.94%	8.92%	8.83%	8.75%	8.68%					
Asset Quality																									
Provision / Avg. Loans (ann'l)	0.02%	0.44%	0.45%	0.67%	0.06%	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.57%	0.61%	0.49%	0.12%	0.22%	0.40%	0.50%	0.69%	0.72%	0.84%	0.65%	0.46%					
NCOs / Avg. Loans (ann'l %)	-0.03%	-0.01%	0.39%	0.67%	0.01%	0.00%	-0.09%	-0.04%	0.00%	0.00%	-0.05%	-0.01%	0.15%	0.30%	0.45%	0.65%	0.75%	0.85%	0.65%	0.45%					
Assumed ALLL for New Loans													1.30%	1.15%	1.15%	1.15%	1.13%	1.12%	1.11%	1.10%					
Assumed Add/Release from ALLL													1.25%	1.25%	-0.25%	-0.75%	-1.50%	-1.50%	-1.50%	-1.50%					
Projected NCOs (\$)													\$ 0.339	\$ 0.676	\$ 1.030	\$ 1.481	\$ 1.688	\$ 1.942	\$ 1.511	\$ 1.067			</		

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Potential Risks

- Significant economic deterioration in the bank's core markets
- Unanticipated deterioration in credit quality
- Increasing competitive pressure on loan pricing - implying headwinds for balance sheet growth and NIM
- NIM compression stemming from a flat or inverted yield curve and/or the Fed adopting a less favorable stance on short-term rates
- M&A related risks, including execution or elevated pricing, resulting in a drag on profitability metrics

Required Disclosures

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D.A. Davidson & Co.'s Institutional Research Rating Scale Definitions (maintained since October 10, 2017); information regarding our previous definitions is available upon request:

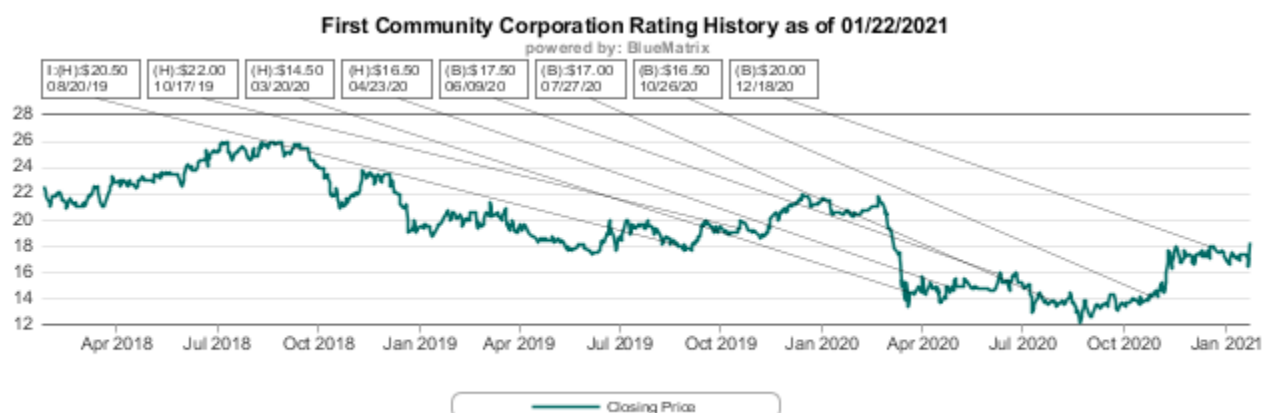
BUY: Expected to produce a total return of over 15% on a risk adjusted basis over the next 12-18 months

NEUTRAL: Expected to produce a total return of -15% to +15% on a risk adjusted basis over the next 12-18 months

UNDERPERFORM: Expected to lose value of over 15% on a risk adjusted basis over the next 12-18 months

Rating Distribution (as of 12/31/20)	Coverage Universe Distribution			Investment Banking Distribution		
	IR	WMR	Combined	IR	WMR	Combined
BUY (Buy)	58%	92%	62%	11%	0%	10%
NEUTRAL (Hold)	41%	8%	38%	4%	0%	3%
UNDERPERFORM (Sell)	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%

IR denotes Institutional Research; WMR denotes Wealth Management Research whose rating scale is Buy/Add, Neutral, Sell/Reduce. Investment Banking Distribution denotes companies from whom D.A. Davidson & Co. has received compensation in the last 12 months.



Target prices are our Institutional Research Department's evaluation of price potential over the next 12 months, based upon our assessment of future earnings and cash flow, comparable company valuations, growth prospects and other financial criteria. Certain risks may impede achievement of these price targets including, but not limited to, broader market and macroeconomic fluctuations and unforeseen changes in the subject company's fundamentals or business trends.

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Other Companies Mentioned in this Report

Company Name	Ticker	Rating	Price
First Community Corporation	FCCO	BUY	\$18.01