

## First Community Corporation

April 22, 2015

(FCCO-NASDAQ)

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### Company Comment

Rating

Outperform 2

### Banking

### Raise Target Price - Loan Growth Finally Materializing

**Recommendation:** We are reiterating our **Outperform** rating on First Community and increasing our target price to \$13 from \$12 following 1Q15 results that met consensus expectations. That said, excluding a \$0.04 benefit from accelerated accretion, operating EPS would have fallen short of expectations, as fee income surprised to the downside. The miss on the fee income line was partly driven by lower than expected mortgage revenue, which we are surprised to see given what has been a strong quarter across the industry. Despite the weakness in 1Q, we believe the pipeline is robust and expect the mortgage bank to rebound in the seasonally stronger 2Q and 3Q. Loan growth was the bright spot during the quarter as loan balances jumped 2.4% sequentially, well above our -0.5% estimate, suggesting that management's recent focus on spurring lending activity is beginning to pay dividends. We believe that a significant portion of this growth was booked late in the quarter and didn't materialize in 1Q results, which should drive a strong bounce in spread revenue in 2Q. With a management team that remains committed to driving shareholder value, and with a solid deposit franchise that should support longer-term value, we believe valuation makes an investment in the stock attractive at current levels, driving our **Outperform** rating.

- ◆ **1Q15 results meet consensus.** First Community reported GAAP and operating EPS of \$0.21, in line with consensus but below our \$0.22 estimate.
- ◆ **Loan growth in focus.** 1Q15 loan balances increased 2.4% linked quarter, well above our -0.5% growth expectation, as production levels increased and pay-down activity slowed. We believe this level of growth in what is typically a seasonally weak quarter is evidence that the company's recent lending initiatives are beginning to pay dividends. We believe the pipeline remains strong and have picked up our 2015 and 2016 loan growth expectations to 6% from 2%. We believe continued loan growth could limit margin contraction, though we currently forecast net interest margin to gradually contract to 3.35% in 4Q15 from 3.40% (ex. accelerated accretion benefit) in 1Q15 as new loans continue to be booked at lower yields than existing credits.
- ◆ **Mortgage bank should rebound.** Despite a 9% sequential increase in production, mortgage revenue dipped 13% to \$735,000 from 4Q14, as a larger percentage of refinance activity negatively affected premiums. While we were disappointed to see lower revenue given what has been a very strong quarter for the industry, we believe the pipeline is strong and expect the mortgage bank to rebound in the seasonally stronger 2Q and 3Q.
- ◆ **Estimates:** We are reducing our 2015E operating EPS to \$0.92 from \$0.95 and maintaining our 2016E operating EPS of \$1.05.

**Valuation:** Our \$13 price target is based on 1.2x our 1Q16 tangible book value (TBV) estimate of \$11.14, 14.1x our 2015E EPS, and 12.4x our 2016E EPS, a slight discount to micro-cap peer medians of 1.3x, 14.7x, and 12.9x, respectively. We believe a slight discount is warranted until the company can better demonstrate its ability to execute on capital deployment plans.

| Non-GAAP EPS     | Q1 Mar       | Q2 Jun      | Q3 Sep      | Q4 Dec      | Full Year   | GAAP EPS Full Year | Revenues (mil.) |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2014A            | \$0.18       | \$0.18      | \$0.23      | \$0.25      | \$0.85      | \$0.78             | \$32            |
| Old 2015E        | 0.22         | 0.23        | 0.25        | 0.25        | 0.95        | 0.95               | 34              |
| <b>New 2015E</b> | <b>0.21A</b> | <b>0.23</b> | <b>0.25</b> | <b>0.24</b> | <b>0.92</b> | <b>0.92</b>        | <b>34</b>       |
| Old 2016E        | UR           | UR          | UR          | UR          | 1.05        | 1.05               | 36              |
| <b>New 2016E</b> | <b>0.23</b>  | <b>0.25</b> | <b>0.28</b> | <b>0.29</b> | <b>1.05</b> | <b>1.05</b>        | <b>36</b>       |

Rows may not add due to rounding. Non-GAAP EPS is operating earnings and excludes one-time items.

Please read domestic and foreign disclosure/risk information beginning on page 9 and Analyst Certification on page 9.

### Current and Target Price

|                                     |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Current Price (Apr-22-15 1:50 p.m.) | \$11.69           |
| Target Price: Old: \$12.00          | New: \$13.00      |
| 52-Week Range                       | \$12.10 - \$10.24 |
| Suitability                         | Aggressive Growth |

### Market Data

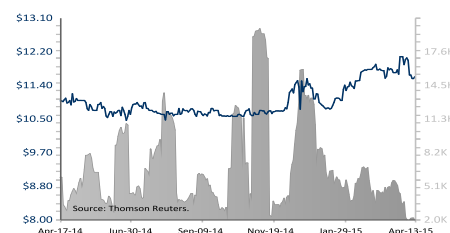
|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Shares Out. (mil.)       | 6.7         |
| Market Cap. (mil.)       | \$78        |
| Avg. Daily Vol. (10 day) | 2,501       |
| Dividend/Yield           | \$0.28/2.4% |
| Book Value (Mar-15)      | \$11.45     |
| Tang. BVPS (Mar-15)      | \$10.44     |

### Earnings & Valuation Metrics

|                       | 2014A | 2015E | 2016E |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| P/E Ratios (Non-GAAP) | 13.8x | 12.7x | 11.1x |

### Company Description

First Community Corporation, headquartered in Lexington, South Carolina, is an \$836 million asset bank holding company that operates 14 branches in the midlands region of the state.



## Guidance Tracker – First Community Corporation (FCCO)

RAYMOND JAMES®

| Source          | Category           | Target Period | Trending | Guidance                                                                         |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2015Q1 Earnings | Loan               | 2015Y         | ▲        | Management is targeting mid-single digit loan growth in 2015.                    |
| 2015Q1 Earnings | Noninterest Income | 2015Y         | ▲        | Management is targeting mortgage banking production above \$100 million in 2015. |
| 2015Q1 Earnings | Tax Rate           | Long-term     | ▬        | The company anticipates the tax rate will be approximately 28%.                  |

Source: Raymond James research; company reports

## Raymond James Revised Earnings Estimates

As displayed in the following table, we are reducing our 2015 EPS estimates to \$0.92 from \$0.95 and maintaining our 2016 EPS estimates of \$1.05.

## Earnings Estimates

| (\$ in thousands)    | 2015E         |               |                 | 2016E         |               |               |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                      | Old           | Current       | Change          | Old           | Current       | Change        |
| <b>Operating EPS</b> | <b>\$0.95</b> | <b>\$0.92</b> | <b>(\$0.03)</b> | <b>\$1.05</b> | <b>\$1.05</b> | <b>\$0.00</b> |
| <b>GAAP EPS</b>      | <b>\$0.95</b> | <b>\$0.92</b> | <b>(\$0.03)</b> | <b>\$1.05</b> | <b>\$1.05</b> | <b>\$0.00</b> |
| Core PTPP* Earnings  | 10,275        | 9,993         | -3%             | 11,465        | 11,187        | -2%           |
| Avg. Earning Assets  | 751,921       | 764,733       | 2%              | 768,022       | 809,566       | 5%            |
| NIM                  | 3.41%         | 3.43%         | 2 bps           | 3.50%         | 3.38%         | -12 bps       |
| Net Interest Income  | 25,051        | 25,512        | 2%              | 26,269        | 26,661        | 1%            |
| Provision            | 850           | 1,006         | 18%             | 1,000         | 975           | -3%           |
| Operating Fee Income | 9,247         | 8,441         | -9%             | 9,947         | 9,052         | -9%           |
| Operating Expense    | 24,423        | 24,414        | 0%              | 25,051        | 24,826        | -1%           |
| Operating Efficiency | 71%           | 72%           | 69 bps          | 69%           | 70%           | 34 bps        |
| Tax Rate             | 29.0%         | 27.7%         | -126 bps        | 30.0%         | 29.0%         | -100 bps      |
| Diluted shares       | 6,744         | 6,671         | -1%             | 6,760         | 6,687         | -1%           |
| Dividends per share  | \$0.28        | \$0.28        | \$0.00          | \$0.28        | \$0.28        | \$0.00        |
| Loan Growth          | 1.5%          | 6.0%          | 447 bps         | 2.0%          | 6.1%          | 412 bps       |
| Reserves/Loans       | 0.96%         | 0.95%         | -1 bps          | 1.03%         | 0.97%         | -6 bps        |
| NPAs/Loans           | 2.02%         | 1.71%         | -31 bps         | 1.67%         | 1.44%         | -23 bps       |
| NCOs/Avg. Loans      | 0.15%         | 0.15%         | 0 bps           | 0.14%         | 0.13%         | -1 bps        |

\*PTPP = pre-tax, pre-provision

We are reducing our 2015 operating EPS estimate to \$0.92 from \$0.95 and maintaining our 2016 EPS estimates of \$1.05. For 2015, higher spread revenue is more than offset by a higher provision expense and lower fee income expectations. For 2016, higher spread revenue and lower operating expense expectations fully offset lower fee income estimates.

Source: Company reports and Raymond James research.

### Comparison of Actual Results to Raymond James and Consensus Estimates

As depicted in the following table, First Community reported 1Q15 operating EPS of \$0.21, in line with consensus but below our \$0.22 estimate. That said, we note that operating EPS was positively impacted by a roughly \$0.04 benefit from accelerated accretion. Absent this benefit, the miss was primarily driven by lower fee income. From a loan growth perspective, the company reported a 2.4% linked-quarter increase in loan balances, which exceeded both our -0.5% estimate and the 0.0% consensus.

### Actual vs. Raymond James and Consensus

|                                  | Actual | Raymond James | dif (+/-) | Consensus | dif (+/-) | Consensus High | Consensus Low | Consensus # of Estimates |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| <b>PER SHARE DATA</b>            |        |               |           |           |           |                |               |                          |
| Operating EPS                    | \$0.21 | \$0.22        | -\$0.01   | \$0.20    | \$0.01    | \$0.22         | \$0.18        | 2                        |
| Book value per share             | 11.45  | 11.32         | 0.13      | 11.31     | 0.14      | 11.32          | 11.30         | 2                        |
| Tangible book value              | 10.64  | 10.51         | 0.13      | 10.44     | 0.20      | 10.51          | 10.37         | 2                        |
| Dividends per share              | 0.07   | 0.07          | 0.00      | 0.07      | 0.00      | 0.07           | 0.07          | 2                        |
| Avg. fully diluted shares (mil.) | 6.7    | 6.7           | -0.1      | 6.7       | -0.1      | 6.7            | 6.7           | 2                        |
| <b>INCOME STATEMENT</b>          |        |               |           |           |           |                |               |                          |
| Net interest income              | 6.4    | 6.1           | 0.4       | 6.0       | 0.4       | 6.1            | 6.0           | 2                        |
| Loan loss provision              | 0.4    | 0.2           | 0.2       | 0.2       | 0.2       | 0.2            | 0.2           | 2                        |
| Fee income                       | 2.0    | 2.2           | -0.2      | 2.1       | -0.1      | 2.2            | 2.0           | 2                        |
| Revenue                          | 8.4    | 8.3           | 0.2       | 8.3       | 0.2       | 8.3            | 8.3           | 1                        |
| Non-interest expense             | 6.1    | 6.0           | 0.1       | 6.1       | 0.0       | 6.1            | 6.0           | 2                        |
| Pre-tax income                   | 1.9    | 2.1           | -0.1      | 1.9       | 0.0       | 2.1            | 1.7           | 2                        |
| Taxes                            | 0.5    | 0.6           | -0.1      | 0.5       | 0.0       | 0.6            | 0.5           | 2                        |
| Net income                       | 1.4    | 1.5           | -0.1      | 1.3       | 0.1       | 1.5            | 1.2           | 2                        |
| <b>BALANCE SHEET</b>             |        |               |           |           |           |                |               |                          |
| Loans                            | 454    | 442           | 13        | 444       | 10        | 446            | 442           | 2                        |
| Loan growth                      | 2.4%   | -0.5%         | 286 bp    | 0.0%      | 237 bp    | 0.5%           | -0.5%         | 2                        |
| Average Deposits                 | 695    | 696           | -2        | 685       | 10        | 696            | 673           | 2                        |
| <b>FINANCIAL RATIOS</b>          |        |               |           |           |           |                |               |                          |
| Net interest margin (NIM)        | 3.62%  | 3.38%         | 24 bp     | 3.35%     | 27 bp     | 3.38%          | 3.32%         | 2                        |
| Efficiency ratio                 | 72.4%  | 72.7%         | -32 bp    | 73.0%     | -60 bp    | 73.0%          | 73.0%         | 2                        |
| Net charge-offs / Avg. loans     | 0.25%  | 0.15%         | 10 bp     | 0.15%     | 10 bp     | 0.15%          | 0.15%         | 1                        |
| ROA                              | 0.68%  | 0.72%         | -4 bp     | 0.66%     | 2 bp      | 0.72%          | 0.60%         | 2                        |
| ROE                              | 7.3%   | 7.8%          | -46 bp    | 7.2%      | 12 bp     | 7.8%           | 6.6%          | 2                        |

Source: SNL Financial, Thomson Financial, company documents, and Raymond James research.

### Core Margin Expands on Slight Improvement in Earning Asset Mix

Reported net interest margin (NIM) expanded 26 bp linked quarter to 3.62%, well above our 3.38% estimate, owing primarily to the recognition of a credit mark on two purchase impaired loans from the Savannah River acquisition that were paid off during the quarter. On a core basis, which excludes the benefit from accelerated accretion, NIM expanded 4 bp to 3.40%. We attribute the sequential expansion in core margin to a slight improvement in the average earning asset mix. As depicted in the following table, despite a sequential decrease in average loan balances, the concentration of loans ticked up to 60.6% of average earning assets from 60.0% in 4Q14, as the company shifted excess liquidity from its recent deposit purchase out of lower yielding assets. On an end of period basis, loan balances increased 2.4% sequentially, well above our -0.5% estimate. We believe this degree of loan growth serves as evidence that the company's recent lending initiatives are beginning to pay dividends. Moving forward, we maintain that deploying liquidity into loan growth out of the securities portfolio will be the key to staving off pressures from lower loan yields. If the concentration of average loans to earning assets can meaningfully improve from 61% in 1Q15, we would expect margin expansion to be a real possibility. That said, the overall environment remains competitive for grade-A credits and will, therefore, likely limit any outsized growth opportunities at present.

**Average Earning Asset Mix**

| (\$ in thousands)                   | % of Total  | 4Q12           | 4Q13           | 1Q14           | 2Q14           | 3Q14           | 4Q14           | 1Q15           | 4Q14A-1Q15A  | 1Q14A-1Q15A  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Loans                               | 61%         | 335,010        | 349,830        | 415,785        | 444,060        | 445,060        | 451,334        | 450,988        | -0.1%        | 8.5%         |
| Securities                          | 37%         | 206,768        | 228,988        | 234,966        | 261,673        | 251,893        | 276,625        | 277,308        | 0.2%         | 18.0%        |
| Other funds                         | 2%          | 15,026         | 12,544         | 20,832         | 13,371         | 16,937         | 23,976         | 15,733         | -34.4%       | -24.5%       |
| <b>Total Average Earning Assets</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>556,804</b> | <b>591,362</b> | <b>671,583</b> | <b>719,104</b> | <b>713,890</b> | <b>751,935</b> | <b>744,029</b> | <b>-1.1%</b> | <b>10.8%</b> |
| <b>Concentration of Loans</b>       |             | <b>60.2%</b>   | <b>59.2%</b>   | <b>61.9%</b>   | <b>61.8%</b>   | <b>62.3%</b>   | <b>60.0%</b>   | <b>60.6%</b>   |              |              |

Source: Company reports and Raymond James research.

Turning to the right side of the balance sheet, the core deposit mix increased 28 bp to 71.1% from 70.8% in the previous quarter, as illustrated in the following table. Despite this improvement, after 16 consecutive quarters of decreasing funding costs, average funding costs held steady at 0.47% linked quarter, serving as potential evidence that funding costs are bottoming. As such, we believe more focus will be placed on loan pricing, loan growth, and the earning asset mix as levers to limit meaningful margin contraction until short-term interest rates rise and sustainable, strong loan demand returns. Taking all of these factors into account, we expect NIM to gradually contract to 3.35% in 4Q15, followed by stabilization, and then expansion as 2016 progresses.

**Average Core Deposit Mix**

| (\$ in thousands)             | % of Total  | 4Q12           | 4Q13           | 1Q14           | 2Q14           | 3Q14           | 4Q14           | 1Q15           | 4Q14A-1Q15A  | 1Q14A-1Q15A  |
|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Demand deposits               | 20.1%       | 97,163         | 111,984        | 121,060        | 131,762        | 133,891        | 138,263        | 134,596        | -2.7%        | 11.2%        |
| Interest-bearing accounts     | 19.9%       | 92,466         | 102,087        | 124,029        | 135,875        | 133,554        | 135,492        | 132,997        | -1.8%        | 7.2%         |
| Money market accounts         | 22.8%       | 54,493         | 80,094         | 116,326        | 145,973        | 147,916        | 151,382        | 152,797        | 0.9%         | 31.4%        |
| Savings deposits              | 8.2%        | 40,898         | 51,638         | 50,191         | 50,593         | 52,346         | 53,893         | 55,137         | 2.3%         | 9.9%         |
| Time deposits                 | 28.9%       | 188,837        | 162,489        | 174,384        | 174,712        | 170,889        | 197,385        | 193,308        | -2.1%        | 10.9%        |
| <b>Total Average Deposits</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>473,857</b> | <b>508,292</b> | <b>585,990</b> | <b>638,915</b> | <b>638,596</b> | <b>676,415</b> | <b>668,835</b> | <b>-1.1%</b> | <b>14.1%</b> |
| <b>Core Deposit Mix</b>       |             | <b>60.1%</b>   | <b>68.0%</b>   | <b>70.2%</b>   | <b>72.7%</b>   | <b>73.2%</b>   | <b>70.8%</b>   | <b>71.1%</b>   |              |              |

Source: Company reports and Raymond James research.

## First Community Regional Peer Group Comparison

| Company                            | Ticker | Balance Sheet Ratios |               |                 |                 | Income Statement Ratios |             |                         |                  |               |                 |                      | Credit           |             |                 |                | Capital   |                |                   |
|------------------------------------|--------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|
|                                    |        | Assets (\$M)         | Core Deposits | Nonint Deposits | Loans/ Deposits | NIM                     | Loan Yields | Yield on Earning Assets | Cost of Deposits | Cost of Funds | Income/ Revenue | Fee Efficiency Ratio | NCOs/ Avg. Loans | NPAs/ Loans | Reserves/ Loans | Reserves/ NPAs | TCE ratio | Leverage Ratio | Tier 1 risk-based |
| South State Corporation            | SSB    | \$7,826              | 81%           | 25%             | 89%             | 4.71%                   | 5.58%       | 4.92%                   | 0.14%            | 0.22%         | 24%             | 64%                  | 0.12%            | 1.08%       | 0.72%           | 67%            | 8.3%      | 9.5%           | 13.6%             |
| Carolina Financial Corporation     | CARO   | \$1,199              | 63%           | 15%             | 81%             | 3.82%                   | 5.20%       | 4.37%                   | 0.40%            | NA            | 31%             | 75%                  | -0.07%           | 0.85%       | 1.10%           | 129%           | 7.6%      | 9.5%           | 12.0%             |
| Palmetto Bancshares, Inc.          | PLMT   | \$1,119              | 82%           | 21%             | 87%             | 3.70%                   | 4.54%       | 3.82%                   | 0.05%            | 0.05%         | 25%             | 73%                  | 0.33%            | 4.04%       | 1.60%           | 40%            | 11.9%     | 12.2%          | 15.0%             |
| Southern First Bancshares, Inc.    | SFST   | \$1,030              | 66%           | 18%             | 110%            | 3.75%                   | 4.67%       | 4.49%                   | 0.38%            | NA            | 16%             | 58%                  | 0.21%            | 2.12%       | 1.33%           | 63%            | 8.1%      | 9.5%           | 11.3%             |
| CNB Corporation                    | CNBW   | \$982                | 62%           | 21%             | 55%             | 3.03%                   | 5.60%       | 3.18%                   | 0.23%            | NA            | 16%             | 69%                  | 0.18%            | 3.88%       | 2.05%           | 53%            | 9.9%      | 9.6%           | 18.4%             |
| Security Federal Corporation       | SFDL   | \$825                | 62%           | NA              | 52%             | 3.13%                   | 5.46%       | 3.65%                   | 0.39%            | NA            | 16%             | 76%                  | 0.62%            | 7.37%       | 2.40%           | 33%            | 7.8%      | 9.5%           | 20.6%             |
| Southcoast Financial Corporation   | SOCB   | \$492                | 66%           | 17%             | 104%            | 3.89%                   | 5.03%       | 4.54%                   | NA               | NA            | 24%             | 59%                  | -0.19%           | 2.86%       | 1.33%           | 46%            | 10.1%     | 10.6%          | 14.2%             |
| Tidelands Bancshares, Inc.         | TDBK   | \$476                | 39%           | 6%              | 74%             | 3.02%                   | 5.06%       | 4.24%                   | 0.91%            | NA            | 9%              | 97%                  | 0.49%            | 9.86%       | 1.49%           | 15%            | -1.9%     | 1.8%           | 2.5%              |
| Coastal Banking Company, Inc.      | CBCO   | \$422                | 55%           | 12%             | 95%             | 4.00%                   | 5.90%       | 4.74%                   | 0.58%            | NA            | 73%             | 86%                  | 0.10%            | 6.38%       | 1.62%           | 25%            | 6.6%      | 10.5%          | 21.6%             |
| Bank of South Carolina Corporation | BKSC   | \$377                | NA            | NA              | NA              | NA                      | 5.57%       | 4.22%                   | NA               | NA            | NA              | NA                   | 0.12%            | NA          | NA              | NA             | 10.0%     | 9.4%           | 13.7%             |
| First Reliance Bancshares, Inc.    | FSRL   | \$368                | 74%           | 23%             | 90%             | 4.68%                   | 5.78%       | 5.01%                   | 0.24%            | NA            | 23%             | 79%                  | 0.79%            | 3.81%       | 1.17%           | 31%            | 5.6%      | 12.2%          | 15.1%             |
| Greer Bancshares Incorporated      | GRBS   | \$354                | 70%           | 18%             | 79%             | 3.04%                   | 4.81%       | 3.82%                   | 0.27%            | NA            | 23%             | 72%                  | -0.18%           | 1.82%       | 1.50%           | 82%            | 6.1%      | 10.1%          | 15.5%             |
| First Community Corporation        | FCCO   | \$812                | 71%           | 20%             | 66%             | 3.38%                   | 4.98%       | 3.77%                   | 0.26%            | 0.48%         | 25%             | 68%                  | 0.18%            | 2.51%       | 0.92%           | 37%            | 8.4%      | 10.0%          | 16.1%             |
| Peer Group Medians:                |        | \$492                | 66%           | 18%             | 83%             | 3.54%                   | 5.06%       | 4.22%                   | 0.27%            | 0.26%         | 23%             | 72%                  | 0.18%            | 3.84%       | 1.50%           | 38%            | 8.1%      | 10.0%          | 15.1%             |

Peer group consists of banks based in SC with assets between roughly \$500 million and \$10 billion and excludes Mutual Holding Companies. Data as of most recent quarter. Core deposits exclude all time deposits.

Note: Peer comparisons can be skewed during earnings reporting season due to the timing of reports. Credit metrics include covered NPA and Loan balances for banks that have acquired institutions with FDIC loss share arrangements which can skew credit metrics negatively. SNL calculates certain metrics differently than individual companies in some cases which can cause variance from our models.

Source: SNL Financial and Raymond James research

## Select Valuation and Profitability Metrics

|                           | Count      | Mkt Cap (M)  | Assets (M)     | Valuation Metrics |              |              |                 |                | Profitability Metrics |             |             |               |               |                  |                  |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
|                           |            |              |                | P/TBV             | FY15E P/E    | FY16E P/E    | Deposit Premium | Dividend Yield | ROA (MRQ)             | ROE (MRQ)   | ROTCE (MRQ) | ROTCE (FY15E) | ROTCE (FY16E) | FY15E EPS Growth | FY16E EPS Growth |
| <b>Industry Medians</b>   | <b>530</b> | <b>\$176</b> | <b>\$1,449</b> | <b>1.50x</b>      | <b>14.8x</b> | <b>13.2x</b> | <b>5%</b>       | <b>2.3%</b>    | <b>0.87%</b>          | <b>8.1%</b> | <b>9.5%</b> | <b>10.3%</b>  | <b>10.9%</b>  | <b>10%</b>       | <b>11%</b>       |
| Large Cap (>\$10B)        | 14         | \$36,333     | \$249,368      | 1.42x             | 12.7x        | 11.4x        | 5%              | 2.2%           | 0.95%                 | 8.1%        | 11.1%       | 11.4%         | 11.6%         | 5%               | 10%              |
| Mid-Cap (\$2B - \$10B)    | 47         | \$3,191      | \$21,508       | 1.77x             | 16.3x        | 14.4x        | 8%              | 2.1%           | 0.93%                 | 8.0%        | 10.8%       | 11.1%         | 11.7%         | 5%               | 12%              |
| Small-Cap (\$500M - \$2B) | 96         | \$840        | \$5,400        | 1.74x             | 14.6x        | 13.3x        | 8%              | 2.3%           | 1.04%                 | 8.9%        | 11.7%       | 11.6%         | 12.1%         | 10%              | 10%              |
| Micro-Cap (<\$500M)       | 373        | \$112        | \$997          | 1.30x             | 14.7x        | 12.9x        | 3%              | 2.4%           | 0.81%                 | 7.8%        | 8.7%        | 8.7%          | 9.3%          | 12%              | 13%              |
| <b>Regional Medians</b>   |            |              |                |                   |              |              |                 |                |                       |             |             |               |               |                  |                  |
| Mid-Atlantic              | 122        | \$141        | \$1,206        | 1.29x             | 14.9x        | 13.3x        | 5%              | 2.8%           | 0.83%                 | 8.0%        | 8.9%        | 9.9%          | 10.1%         | 7%               | 11%              |
| Midwest                   | 136        | \$148        | \$1,298        | 1.24x             | 13.8x        | 12.9x        | 4%              | 2.1%           | 0.90%                 | 8.4%        | 9.8%        | 10.7%         | 11.1%         | 9%               | 10%              |
| New England               | 34         | \$182        | \$1,574        | 1.35x             | 16.2x        | 14.5x        | 5%              | 2.9%           | 0.67%                 | 6.5%        | 9.0%        | 9.3%          | 10.1%         | 9%               | 15%              |
| Southwest                 | 25         | \$680        | \$4,807        | 1.66x             | 15.4x        | 13.8x        | 8%              | 2.1%           | 0.94%                 | 9.3%        | 10.7%       | 10.8%         | 10.5%         | 4%               | 13%              |
| West                      | 86         | \$234        | \$1,701        | 1.32x             | 15.9x        | 14.2x        | 6%              | 2.3%           | 0.98%                 | 8.3%        | 9.6%        | 10.6%         | 11.2%         | 14%              | 13%              |
| Southeast                 | 127        | \$184        | \$1,333        | 1.31x             | 15.0x        | 12.8x        | 5%              | 2.0%           | 0.85%                 | 8.0%        | 9.1%        | 10.3%         | 10.8%         | 17%              | 15%              |

Priced as of April 21, 2015.

Note: Excludes banks with less than \$500 million in assets, Mutual Holding Companies, and trust banks. Forward P/E and ROTE metrics are based on First Call consensus estimates.

Source: SNL Financial, Thomson One, and Raymond James research

## First Community Corporation

## Income Statement

(\$ in thousands)

|                                          | 2013<br>31-Dec | 1Q14<br>31-Mar | 2Q14<br>30-Jun | 3Q14<br>30-Sep | 4Q14<br>31-Dec | 2014<br>31-Dec | 1Q15<br>31-Mar | 2Q15E<br>30-Jun | 3Q15E<br>30-Sep | 4Q15E<br>31-Dec | 2015E<br>31-Dec | 1Q16E<br>31-Mar | 2Q16E<br>30-Jun | 3Q16E<br>30-Sep | 4Q16E<br>31-Dec | 2016E<br>31-Dec |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Net Interest Income                      | 18,049         | 5,496          | 5,947          | 6,096          | 6,191          | 23,730         | 6,448          | 6,240           | 6,359           | 6,465           | 25,512          | 6,408           | 6,564           | 6,745           | 6,945           | 26,661          |
| Provision for loan losses                | 528            | 150            | 400            | 152            | 178            | 880            | 406            | 175             | 200             | 225             | 1,006           | 200             | 250             | 250             | 275             | 975             |
| Net Interest Income after Provision      | 17,521         | 5,346          | 5,547          | 5,944          | 6,013          | 22,850         | 6,042          | 6,065           | 6,159           | 6,240           | 24,506          | 6,208           | 6,314           | 6,495           | 6,670           | 25,686          |
| Deposit service charges                  | 1,507          | 366            | 379            | 400            | 372            | 1,517          | 347            | 346             | 360             | 343             | 1,397           | 359             | 351             | 365             | 348             | 1,423           |
| Mortgage origination fees                | 3,767          | 619            | 702            | 1,016          | 849            | 3,186          | 735            | 845             | 930             | 855             | 3,365           | 813             | 935             | 1,028           | 925             | 3,700           |
| Investment advisory fees and commissions | 972            | 257            | 198            | 267            | 546            | 1,268          | 296            | 311             | 326             | 336             | 1,269           | 346             | 364             | 382             | 393             | 1,485           |
| Gain on sale of securities               | 73             | 8              | 78             | 16             | 80             | 182            | 104            | 0               | 0               | 0               | 104             | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               |
| Gain (loss) on sale of other assets      | (1)            | 12             | (24)           | 10             | (9)            | (11)           | 4              | 0               | 0               | 0               | 4               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               |
| Fair value gain (loss) adjustment        | (2)            | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               |
| Loss on early extinguishment of debt     | (141)          | 0              | (67)           | 0              | (284)          | (351)          | (103)          | 0               | 0               | 0               | (103)           | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               |
| Other                                    | 2,016          | 613            | 633            | 591            | 585            | 2,422          | 598            | 601             | 604             | 607             | 2,410           | 607             | 610             | 613             | 613             | 2,443           |
| Noninterest Income                       | 8,191          | 1,875          | 1,899          | 2,300          | 2,139          | 8,213          | 1,981          | 2,103           | 2,220           | 2,141           | 8,446           | 2,125           | 2,259           | 2,388           | 2,279           | 9,052           |
| Non-Operating items                      | (71)           | 20             | (13)           | 26             | (213)          | (180)          | 5              | 0               | 0               | 0               | 5               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               |
| Operating Noninterest Income             | 8,262          | 1,855          | 1,912          | 2,274          | 2,352          | 8,393          | 1,976          | 2,103           | 2,220           | 2,141           | 8,441           | 2,125           | 2,259           | 2,388           | 2,279           | 9,052           |
| Total Revenue                            | 26,240         | 7,371          | 7,846          | 8,396          | 8,330          | 31,943         | 8,429          | 8,343           | 8,579           | 8,607           | 33,958          | 8,533           | 8,823           | 9,133           | 9,224           | 35,713          |
| Total Operating Revenue                  | 26,311         | 7,351          | 7,859          | 8,370          | 8,543          | 32,123         | 8,424          | 8,343           | 8,579           | 8,607           | 33,953          | 8,533           | 8,823           | 9,133           | 9,224           | 35,713          |
| Salaries and employee benefits           | 12,013         | 3,424          | 3,272          | 3,502          | 3,545          | 13,743         | 3,565          | 3,618           | 3,655           | 3,636           | 14,475          | 3,618           | 3,709           | 3,764           | 3,745           | 14,837          |
| Occupancy                                | 1,384          | 413            | 465            | 489            | 515            | 1,882          | 485            | 509             | 512             | 514             | 2,020           | 517             | 520             | 522             | 525             | 2,083           |
| Equipment                                | 1,206          | 339            | 375            | 414            | 377            | 1,505          | 402            | 402             | 404             | 406             | 1,614           | 408             | 410             | 412             | 414             | 1,645           |
| Marketing and public relations           | 541            | 161            | 212            | 218            | 147            | 738            | 226            | 170             | 144             | 187             | 727             | 225             | 180             | 153             | 183             | 741             |
| FDIC assessment                          | 417            | 124            | 131            | 138            | 128            | 521            | 138            | 145             | 152             | 137             | 573             | 145             | 148             | 155             | 139             | 586             |
| Other real estate expense                | 529            | 138            | 117            | 105            | 193            | 553            | 154            | 100             | 100             | 100             | 454             | 75              | 75              | 75              | 75              | 300             |
| Amortization of intangibles              | 160            | 42             | 63             | 64             | 111            | 280            | 103            | 103             | 103             | 103             | 412             | 103             | 103             | 103             | 103             | 412             |
| Other                                    | 4,172          | 1,385          | 1,150          | 1,130          | 1,073          | 4,738          | 1,027          | 1,032           | 1,037           | 1,042           | 4,139           | 1,048           | 1,053           | 1,058           | 1,063           | 4,222           |
| Noninterest Expense                      | 20,422         | 6,026          | 5,785          | 6,060          | 6,089          | 23,960         | 6,100          | 6,080           | 6,107           | 6,127           | 24,414          | 6,139           | 6,197           | 6,242           | 6,248           | 24,826          |
| Non-Operating items                      | 567            | 420            | 15             | 39             | 29             | 503            | 0              | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               |
| Operating Noninterest Expense            | 19,855         | 5,606          | 5,770          | 6,021          | 6,060          | 23,457         | 6,100          | 6,080           | 6,107           | 6,127           | 24,414          | 6,139           | 6,197           | 6,242           | 6,248           | 24,826          |
| Income Before Tax                        | 5,290          | 1,195          | 1,661          | 2,184          | 2,063          | 7,103          | 1,923          | 2,088           | 2,272           | 2,255           | 8,538           | 2,194           | 2,377           | 2,641           | 2,701           | 9,912           |
| Income tax expense                       | 1,153          | 333            | 460            | 632            | 557            | 1,982          | 516            | 585             | 636             | 631             | 2,368           | 636             | 689             | 766             | 783             | 2,875           |
| GAAP Net Income                          | 4,137          | 862            | 1,201          | 1,552          | 1,506          | 5,121          | 1,407          | 1,504           | 1,636           | 1,624           | 6,170           | 1,558           | 1,688           | 1,875           | 1,917           | 7,038           |
| Operating Net Income                     | 4,286          | 1,151          | 1,221          | 1,561          | 1,660          | 5,593          | 1,381          | 1,504           | 1,636           | 1,624           | 6,144           | 1,558           | 1,688           | 1,875           | 1,917           | 7,038           |
| Diluted shares                           | 5,317          | 6,229          | 6,719          | 6,727          | 6,734          | 6,607          | 6,665          | 6,669           | 6,673           | 6,677           | 6,671           | 6,681           | 6,685           | 6,689           | 6,693           | 6,687           |
| GAAP EPS - diluted                       | \$0.78         | \$0.14         | \$0.18         | \$0.23         | \$0.22         | \$0.78         | \$0.21         | \$0.23          | \$0.25          | \$0.24          | \$0.92          | \$0.23          | \$0.25          | \$0.28          | \$0.29          | \$1.05          |
| Operating EPS - diluted                  | \$0.81         | \$0.18         | \$0.18         | \$0.23         | \$0.25         | \$0.85         | \$0.21         | \$0.23          | \$0.25          | \$0.24          | \$0.92          | \$0.23          | \$0.25          | \$0.28          | \$0.29          | \$1.05          |

## Financial Highlights

|                     |        |        |        |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| TBV/share           | \$9.83 | \$9.40 | \$9.84 | \$9.95 | \$10.15 | \$10.15 | \$10.44 | \$10.60 | \$10.79 | \$10.97 | \$10.97 | \$11.14 | \$11.33 | \$11.55 | \$11.77 | \$11.77 |
| TCE/Assets          | 8.2%   | 7.9%   | 8.4%   | 8.0%   | 8.4%    | 8.4%    | 8.4%    | 8.4%    | 8.4%    | 8.4%    | 8.4%    | 8.5%    | 8.5%    | 8.5%    | 8.5%    | 8.5%    |
| Loans/Deposits      | 70%    | 68%    | 69%    | 65%    | 66%     | 66%     | 65%     | 66%     | 66%     | 69%     | 69%     | 67%     | 69%     | 69%     | 73%     | 73%     |
| Loan Growth         | 4.7%   | 27.7%  | 0.2%   | 0.9%   | -1.1%   | 27.7%   | 2.4%    | 0.5%    | 1.0%    | 2.0%    | 6.0%    | 0.5%    | 2.0%    | 1.5%    | 2.0%    | 6.1%    |
| NPA's/Loans         | 2.50%  | 2.46%  | 2.56%  | 2.17%  | 2.13%   | 2.13%   | 1.92%   | 1.85%   | 1.78%   | 1.71%   | 1.71%   | 1.67%   | 1.59%   | 1.50%   | 1.44%   | 1.44%   |
| NCO's/Avg. Loans    | 0.27%  | 0.20%  | 0.45%  | 0.05%  | 0.18%   | 0.22%   | 0.25%   | 0.10%   | 0.10%   | 0.14%   | 0.15%   | 0.12%   | 0.12%   | 0.12%   | 0.14%   | 0.13%   |
| Reserves/Loans      | 1.21%  | 0.94%  | 0.91%  | 0.93%  | 0.93%   | 0.93%   | 0.94%   | 0.94%   | 0.95%   | 0.95%   | 0.95%   | 0.96%   | 0.96%   | 0.97%   | 0.97%   | 0.97%   |
| NIM                 | 3.18%  | 3.40%  | 3.38%  | 3.48%  | 3.36%   | 3.41%   | 3.62%   | 3.38%   | 3.36%   | 3.35%   | 3.43%   | 3.35%   | 3.36%   | 3.38%   | 3.41%   | 3.38%   |
| G&A/Avg. Assets     | 3.23%  | 3.06%  | 3.21%  | 3.08%  | 2.95%   | 3.07%   | 3.00%   | 2.88%   | 2.84%   | 2.80%   | 2.88%   | 2.78%   | 2.77%   | 2.75%   | 2.71%   | 2.75%   |
| Efficiency Ratio    | 75%    | 76%    | 73%    | 72%    | 71%     | 73%     | 72%     | 73%     | 71%     | 71%     | 72%     | 72%     | 70%     | 68%     | 68%     | 70%     |
| Effective tax rate  | 21.8%  | 27.9%  | 27.7%  | 28.9%  | 27.0%   | 27.9%   | 26.8%   | 28.0%   | 28.0%   | 28.0%   | 27.7%   | 29.0%   | 29.0%   | 29.0%   | 29.0%   | 29.0%   |
| ROA (operating)     | 0.70%  | 0.63%  | 0.68%  | 0.80%  | 0.81%   | 0.73%   | 0.68%   | 0.71%   | 0.76%   | 0.74%   | 0.72%   | 0.70%   | 0.75%   | 0.82%   | 0.83%   | 0.78%   |
| ROE (operating)     | 8.0%   | 7.2%   | 7.0%   | 8.7%   | 9.0%    | 8.0%    | 7.3%    | 7.8%    | 8.4%    | 8.2%    | 7.9%    | 7.7%    | 8.3%    | 9.0%    | 9.1%    | 8.5%    |
| ROTCE (operating)   | 8.1%   | 7.6%   | 7.6%   | 9.5%   | 9.9%    | 8.7%    | 8.0%    | 8.6%    | 9.1%    | 8.9%    | 8.7%    | 8.4%    | 9.0%    | 9.8%    | 9.8%    | 9.3%    |
| Dividends per share | \$0.22 | \$0.06 | \$0.06 | \$0.06 | \$0.06  | \$0.24  | \$0.07  | \$0.07  | \$0.07  | \$0.07  | \$0.28  | \$0.07  | \$0.07  | \$0.07  | \$0.07  | \$0.28  |

## Core PTPP earnings

|          |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| PTPP ROA | 1.14% | 1.03% | 1.23% | 1.26% | 1.30% | 1.21% | 1.22% | 1.12% | 1.20% | 1.18% | 1.18% | 1.12% | 1.21% | 1.30% | 1.32% | 1.24% |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|

Source: Company reports and Raymond James research

**First Community Corporation**

| <b>Balance Sheet</b><br>(\$ in thousands) | <b>4Q13</b><br><b>31-Dec</b> | <b>1Q14</b><br><b>31-Mar</b> | <b>2Q14</b><br><b>30-Jun</b> | <b>3Q14</b><br><b>30-Sep</b> | <b>4Q14</b><br><b>31-Dec</b> | <b>1Q15</b><br><b>31-Mar</b> | <b>2Q15E</b><br><b>30-Jun</b> | <b>3Q15E</b><br><b>30-Sep</b> | <b>4Q15E</b><br><b>31-Dec</b> | <b>1Q16E</b><br><b>31-Mar</b> | <b>2Q16E</b><br><b>30-Jun</b> | <b>3Q16E</b><br><b>30-Sep</b> | <b>4Q16E</b><br><b>31-Dec</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Stated Equity</b>                      | <b>52,671</b>                | <b>68,765</b>                | <b>70,992</b>                | <b>72,563</b>                | <b>74,528</b>                | <b>76,548</b>                | <b>77,583</b>                 | <b>78,751</b>                 | <b>79,906</b>                 | <b>80,995</b>                 | <b>82,213</b>                 | <b>83,618</b>                 | <b>85,066</b>                 |
| Intangibles                               | 571                          | 6,218                        | 5,467                        | 6,308                        | 6,884                        | 6,781                        | 6,678                         | 6,575                         | 6,472                         | 6,369                         | 6,266                         | 6,163                         | 6,060                         |
| <b>Tangible Common Equity</b>             | <b>52,100</b>                | <b>62,547</b>                | <b>65,525</b>                | <b>66,255</b>                | <b>67,644</b>                | <b>69,767</b>                | <b>70,905</b>                 | <b>72,176</b>                 | <b>73,434</b>                 | <b>74,626</b>                 | <b>75,947</b>                 | <b>77,455</b>                 | <b>79,006</b>                 |
| Book Value                                | \$9.93                       | \$10.34                      | \$10.67                      | \$10.89                      | \$11.18                      | \$11.45                      | \$11.60                       | \$11.77                       | \$11.93                       | \$12.09                       | \$12.26                       | \$12.47                       | \$12.67                       |
| Tangible BV                               | <b>\$9.83</b>                | <b>\$9.40</b>                | <b>\$9.84</b>                | <b>\$9.95</b>                | <b>\$10.15</b>               | <b>\$10.44</b>               | <b>\$10.60</b>                | <b>\$10.79</b>                | <b>\$10.97</b>                | <b>\$11.14</b>                | <b>\$11.33</b>                | <b>\$11.55</b>                | <b>\$11.77</b>                |
| Shares Outstanding                        | 5,303                        | 6,652                        | 6,656                        | 6,660                        | 6,664                        | 6,684                        | 6,688                         | 6,692                         | 6,696                         | 6,700                         | 6,704                         | 6,708                         | 6,712                         |
| Equity/Assets                             | 8.3%                         | 8.6%                         | 9.0%                         | 8.7%                         | 9.2%                         | 9.2%                         | 9.1%                          | 9.1%                          | 9.1%                          | 9.1%                          | 9.1%                          | 9.2%                          | 9.1%                          |
| <b>TCE ratio</b>                          | <b>8.2%</b>                  | <b>7.9%</b>                  | <b>8.4%</b>                  | <b>8.0%</b>                  | <b>8.4%</b>                  | <b>8.4%</b>                  | <b>8.4%</b>                   | <b>8.4%</b>                   | <b>8.4%</b>                   | <b>8.5%</b>                   | <b>8.5%</b>                   | <b>8.5%</b>                   | <b>8.5%</b>                   |
| Leverage Ratio                            | 10.77%                       | 10.67%                       | 10.10%                       | 10.33%                       | 10.02%                       | 10.26%                       |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| Tier 1 Capital Ratio                      | 17.60%                       | 15.67%                       | 15.79%                       | 15.78%                       | 16.09%                       | 15.95%                       |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| Total Capital Ratio                       | 18.68%                       | 16.51%                       | 16.61%                       | 16.61%                       | 16.91%                       | 16.77%                       |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                       | <b>633,309</b>               | <b>797,873</b>               | <b>786,687</b>               | <b>830,917</b>               | <b>812,363</b>               | <b>835,819</b>               | <b>852,535</b>                | <b>865,323</b>                | <b>882,630</b>                | <b>887,043</b>                | <b>904,784</b>                | <b>913,832</b>                | <b>932,108</b>                |
| Other short-term investments              | 5,927                        | 24,055                       | 14,741                       | 43,654                       | 10,052                       | 32,674                       |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| Investment securities                     | 227,030                      | 255,484                      | 250,775                      | 263,924                      | 282,814                      | 274,094                      |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| Loans held for sale                       | 3,790                        | 3,837                        | 2,990                        | 3,404                        | 4,124                        | 5,446                        |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| Loans                                     | <b>347,597</b>               | <b>443,868</b>               | <b>444,670</b>               | <b>448,556</b>               | <b>443,844</b>               | <b>454,301</b>               | <b>456,573</b>                | <b>461,138</b>                | <b>470,361</b>                | <b>472,713</b>                | <b>482,167</b>                | <b>489,400</b>                | <b>499,188</b>                |
| Allowance for loan losses                 | (4,219)                      | (4,161)                      | (4,066)                      | (4,156)                      | (4,132)                      | (4,252)                      | (4,313)                       | (4,398)                       | (4,460)                       | (4,519)                       | (4,626)                       | (4,730)                       | (4,832)                       |
| Other assets                              | 53,184                       | 74,790                       | 77,577                       | 75,535                       | 75,661                       | 73,556                       |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                  | <b>580,638</b>               | <b>729,108</b>               | <b>715,695</b>               | <b>758,354</b>               | <b>737,835</b>               | <b>759,271</b>               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| Total deposits                            | 497,071                      | 654,438                      | 640,057                      | 686,971                      | 669,583                      | 694,573                      | 691,100                       | 694,556                       | 677,192                       | 704,279                       | 700,758                       | 704,262                       | 686,655                       |
| Securities sold under repo                | 18,634                       | 19,492                       | 16,374                       | 17,650                       | 17,383                       | 16,684                       |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| FHLB advances                             | 43,325                       | 34,321                       | 37,916                       | 32,312                       | 28,807                       | 27,552                       |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| Junior sub debt                           | 15,464                       | 15,464                       | 15,464                       | 15,464                       | 15,464                       | 15,464                       |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |
| Other liabilities                         | 6,144                        | 5,393                        | 5,884                        | 5,957                        | 6,598                        | 4,998                        |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |                               |

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**Strong Buy (SB1)** Expected to appreciate, produce a total return of at least 15%, and outperform the S&P 500 over the next six to 12 months. For higher yielding and more conservative equities, such as REITs and certain MLPs, a total return of at least 15% is expected to be realized over the next 12 months.

**Outperform (MO2)** Expected to appreciate and outperform the S&P 500 over the next 12-18 months. For higher yielding and more conservative equities, such as REITs and certain MLPs, an Outperform rating is used for securities where we are comfortable with the relative safety of the dividend and expect a total return modestly exceeding the dividend yield over the next 12-18 months.

**Market Perform (MP3)** Expected to perform generally in line with the S&P 500 over the next 12 months.

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**Market Perform (MP3)** The stock is expected to perform generally in line with the S&P/TSX Composite Index over the next twelve months and is potentially a source of funds for more highly rated securities.

**Underperform (MU4)** The stock is expected to underperform the S&P/TSX Composite Index or its sector over the next six to twelve months and should be sold.

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**Market Perform (MP3)** Expected to perform in line with the underlying country index.

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|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----|----------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----|----------|-----------|
|                                        | RJA                                    | RJL | RJ LatAm | RJ Europe | RJA                             | RJL | RJ LatAm | RJ Europe |
| <b>Strong Buy and Outperform (Buy)</b> | 54%                                    | 65% | 50%      | 46%       | 24%                             | 45% | 0%       | 0%        |
| <b>Market Perform (Hold)</b>           | 40%                                    | 33% | 50%      | 29%       | 10%                             | 17% | 0%       | 0%        |
| <b>Underperform (Sell)</b>             | 6%                                     | 2%  | 0%       | 25%       | 2%                              | 0%  | 0%       | 0%        |

\* Columns may not add to 100% due to rounding.

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**Total Return (TR)** Lower risk equities possessing dividend yields above that of the S&P 500 and greater stability of principal.

**Growth (G)** Low to average risk equities with sound financials, more consistent earnings growth, at least a small dividend, and the potential for long-term price appreciation.

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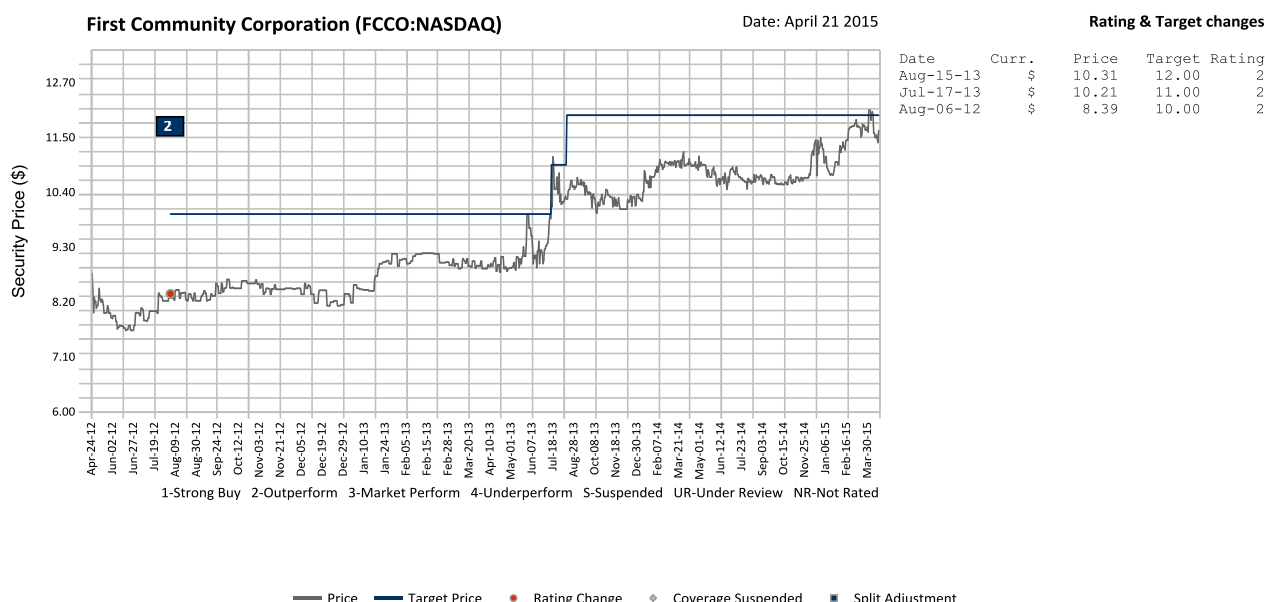
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|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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**Target Prices:** The information below indicates our target price and rating changes for FCCO stock over the past three years.



**Valuation Methodology:** For First Community Corporation, our valuation methodology utilizes a 12-month estimate of intrinsic value and also takes into consideration the company's price/tangible book value and P/E ratio in comparison to its return on tangible equity and its peer group.

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### Specific Investment Risks Related to the Industry or Issuer

#### Banking Industry Risk Factors

Risks include various geopolitical and macroeconomic variables, including credit quality deterioration, sudden changes in interest rates, M&A risk related to deal announcements, integration risk, and regulatory and mortgage-related concerns. Furthermore, competition for loans and deposits could exert downward pressure on revenue growth.

## Company-Specific Risks for First Community Corporation

### Interest Rate Risk

As a commercial bank, First Community's revenue stream is sensitive to changes in interest rates, and earnings estimates could vary based on changes in the slope of the yield curve.

### Credit Risk

First Community originates residential, commercial, and consumer loans, which may enter default, especially during times of economic stress. Depending on the health of the economy and the creditworthiness of its borrowers, loans could default more rapidly than anticipated, which could translate into higher losses at the bank.

### Macroeconomic Risk

If unemployment levels rise or if the housing market weakens further, credit losses could accelerate more rapidly than anticipated, causing downside to our earnings expectations. Conversely, if unemployment levels decline and the housing market strengthens meaningfully, or if losses in weak markets are less than expected, there could be upside to our estimates.

### Competition

Substantial competition exists in all of First Community's primary markets, from domestic banks and thrifts, foreign banks, and specialty finance companies. The level and aggressiveness of competition could lead to adverse pressures on both asset yields and funding costs, which could negatively impact First Community's margins and pressure its profitability.

### Regulatory Reform

With the myriad regulatory and legislative changes facing the industry, these amendments will pressure fee income across the industry. First Community's asset size excludes it from the new debit interchange provision in the Durbin amendment under the Dobb-Frank Act; however, competitive industry pressures will likely force the company to charge similar fees in order to compete, which will ultimately impact profitability.

### Acquisition Risk

In August 2013, the company announced the acquisition of Savannah River Financial Corporation. While credit risk is limited from this acquisition, in our view, given credit quality metrics of the acquired loan portfolio, integration risk exists. The Savannah River acquisition poses execution risk, and the ability of management to achieve revenue and expense goals is not a given.

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