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**For Immediate Release**

**Marjorie Tester joins New Peoples Bank as First Vice President and  
Market Manager for Bristol VA/TN Market**

New Peoples Bank is pleased to announce that Marjorie Tester has joined the bank as First Vice President and Market Manager serving the Bristol, Virginia/Tennessee market. Tester has over 34 years of banking experience, most recently with First Horizon Bank in Bristol, Tennessee. She has held numerous roles throughout her financial career including Customer Service Representative, Branch Manager, Lender, Private Banker, and Investment Advisor. Tester currently holds a series 6 Investment License for both Virginia and Tennessee and is past president of Tennessee Bankers Association's Johnson City Chapter.

Tester is a graduate of East Tennessee State University and received a bachelor's degree in Finance. She is a graduate of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce LEAD program and served on the LEAD Bristol committee for over 5 years. She has been an active member of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce for the past 20 years and is a recipient of the chamber's Leadership award. She is also a graduate of the Johnson City Chamber of Commerce Leadership program. Tester is the co-founder and president of a local non-profit agency, Bristol Recovery Road for Women, Inc., a faith-based organization that serves women in the Tri-City area. She is currently chair for the Community Development Advisory Committee for the City of Bristol, TN. Tester is past president and treasurer of Believe in Bristol and currently serves on their Economic Vitality Committee. She has served on many other boards and committees in the community including the PTA. Tester attends Pleasant View United Methodist Church in Abingdon, VA and plays keyboard in the Horizons praise band.

"Marjorie's experience and tenure in Bristol is a great asset and will play a very important role to our committed investment and growth strategy in the Bristol market," commented Freddy Sullivan, Senior Vice President and Southern Market President for New Peoples Bank. Her ambition, existing relationships and knack for superior customer service will make her an invaluable asset to our bank. We also appreciate her ongoing desire and generous contribution of time and energy to our communities through her vast civic service involvement," said Sullivan.

New Peoples Bankshares, Inc. is the financial holding company for New Peoples Bank, Inc., a community bank with 21 offices serving southwestern Virginia, southern West Virginia, northeastern Tennessee and western North Carolina. The Bank offers a full range of banking and financial services focused primarily on individuals, small to medium size businesses, and the professional community. The Bank strives to serve the financial needs of its customers while developing personal, hometown relationships.