



OTCQB Certification

I, Jan H. Hollar, Chief Executive Officer of [HCSB Financial Corporation] ("the Company"), certify that:

a. The Company is registered or required to file periodic reporting with the SEC or is exempt from SEC registration as indicated below (mark the box below that applies with an "X"):

- ☒ Company is registered under Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act
☐ Company is relying on Exchange Act Rule 12g3-2(b)
☐ Company is a bank that reports to a Bank Regulator under Section 12(i) of the Exchange Act
☐ Company is a bank that is non-SEC reporting but is current in its reporting to a Banking Regulator
☐ Company is reporting under Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act.
☐ Other (describe) _____

b. The Company is current in its reporting obligations as of the most recent fiscal year end and any subsequent quarters, and such information has been posted either on the SEC's EDGAR system or the OTC Disclosure & News Service, as applicable.

c. The Company Profile displayed on www.otcm Markets.com is current and complete as of 12/15/16 and includes the total shares outstanding, authorized, and in the public float as of that date.

d. The following is a complete list of attorney(s) and law firm(s) who advised or assisted in the preparation of the Company's most recent annual report, including in-house counsel: (If no attorney assisted in putting together the disclosure, indicate the person or persons who prepared the disclosure and their relationship to the company.)

Nelson Mullin Riley and Scarborough, Neil Grayson, Ben Barnhill, Billy McGee

e. The following is a complete list of third party providers, including names and addresses, engaged by the Company, its officers, directors or controlling shareholders, during the period from the Company's prior fiscal year end to the date of this OTCQB Certification, to provide investor relations services, public relations services, or other related services to the Company including promotion of the Company or its securities:

Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., William Ottesen, Relationship Manager,
51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717

f. Listed below are the names, legal addresses and % of shares owned by all Officers, Directors and Control Persons (control persons are beneficial owners of more than five percent (5%) of any class of the issuer's equity securities). If any of the beneficial shareholders are corporate shareholders, the name and address of the person(s) owning or controlling such corporate shareholders and the resident agents of the corporate shareholders must also be included.

Name	Address (City and State only)	% Shares Owned
Castle Creek Capital Partners VI, LP	Rancho Santa Fe, CA	7.26%
EJF Sidecar Fund, LLC- Series E	Arlington, VA	7.26%
Mendon Capital Master Fund, Ltd	Chicago, IL	7.26%
Strategic Value Investors LP	Beachwood, OH	6.07%
Stieven Financial Investors, LP	St. Louis, MO	3.73%
TFO Financial Institutions Restructuring Fund III, LLC	New York, NY	4.49%
Manulife Asset Management	Boston, MA	4.49%
Commerce Street Keefe Ventures Fund III, LP	Dallas, TX	4.49%

Michael S. Addy- Director	Conway, SC	Less than 1%
D. Singleton Bailey- Director	Loris, SC	Less than 1%
Clay D. Brittain, III- Director	Myrtle Beach, SC	Less than 1%
Jan H. Hollar- CEO	Greenville, SC	3.43%
James C. Nesbitt- Director	Vienna, VA	Less than 1%
Gerald R. Francis- Director	Indianapolis, IN	1.01%
J. Rick Patterson- COO	Gaffney, SC	2.03%
W. Jack McElveen- CCO	Simpsonville, SC	1.26%
Jennifer W. Harris- CFO	Matthews, NC	Less than 1%

Date: 12/15/2016_____

Name of Certifying CEO or CFO: Jan H. Hollar

Title: Chief Executive Officer

Signature: /s/JAN H. HOLLAR
 (Digital Signatures should appear as "/s/ [OFFICER NAME]")

1. Castle Creek, CCC VI, John M. Eggmeyer III, J. Mikesell Thomas, Mark G. Merlo, and Mr. Pietrzak as the "Reporting Persons." Each of the Reporting Persons may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the 35,968,163 shares of common stock held directly by Castle Creek. CCC VI is the sole general partner of Castle Creek. Mr. Eggmeyer, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Merlo, and Mr. Pietrzak share voting and dispositive power over the 35,968,163 shares beneficially owned by Castle Creek, due to the fact that each is a managing principal of CCC VI. CCC VI, Mr. Eggmeyer, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Merlo, and Mr. Pietrzak each disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock, except to the extent of their respective pecuniary interest in Castle Creek.
2. EJP Capital LLC, Emanuel J. Friedman, and EJP Sidecar Fund, Series LLC – Series E as the "Reporting Persons." Each of the Reporting Persons may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the 35,968,163 shares of common stock held directly by EJP Sidecar Fund, Series LLC – Series E. EJP Capital LLC is the managing member of EJP Sidecar Fund, Series LLC – Series E, and Mr. Friedman is the controlling member of EJP Capital LLC. EJP Capital LLC, Mr. Friedman, and EJP Sidecar Fund, Series LLC – Series E share voting and dispositive power over the 35,968,163 shares beneficially owned by EJP Sidecar Fund, Series LLC – Series E. EJP Capital LLC and Mr. Friedman each disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock, except to the extent of their respective pecuniary interest in EJP Sidecar Fund, Series LLC – Series E.
3. RMB Capital Management LLC ("RMB Capital"), Mendon Capital Master Fund Ltd. ("MCMF"), RMB Mendon Managers LLC ("RMB Mendon"), RMB Capital Holdings LLC ("RMB Holdings"), and Mendon Capital Advisors Corp. ("MCA") as the "Reporting Persons." Each of the Reporting Persons may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the 35,968,163 shares of common stock held directly by MCMF. Each of RMB Capital, RMB Mendon, RMB Holdings and MCA is an investment advisor or management company affiliated with a group of investment funds that includes MCMF. The controlling member and manager of RMB Capital is RMB Holdings. The investment manager of MCMF is RMB Mendon. The controlling members of RMB Mendon are RMB Capital and MCA. By virtue of their affiliation with or control of MCMF, RMB Holdings, RMB Capital, MCA and RMB Mendon may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of (and voting and dispositive power with respect to) the 35,968,163 shares of common stock beneficially owned by MCMF. RMB Holdings, RMB Capital, MCA and RMB Mendon each disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock, except to the extent of their respective pecuniary interest in MCMF.
4. Strategic Value Investors, LP, Ben Mackovak, Marty Adams, Umberto Fedeli and Strategic Value Bank Partners LLC as the "Reporting Persons." Each of the Reporting Persons may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the 30,100,000 shares of common stock held directly by Strategic Value Investors, LP. Strategic Value Bank Partners LLC is the general partner of Strategic Value Investors, LP, and Messrs. Mackovak, Adams, and Fedeli are managing members of Strategic Value Bank Partners LLC. Strategic Value Bank Partners LLC, Strategic Value Investors, LP, and Messrs. Mackovak, Adams, and Fedeli share voting and dispositive power over the 30,100,000 shares beneficially owned by Strategic Value Investors, LP. The address for this shareholder is 2000 Auburn Drive, Suite 300, Beachwood, Ohio 44122.
5. Stieven Capital GP, LLC is the general partner of Stieven Financial Investors, L.P., and in such capacity has voting and investment control over the shares held by this stockholder. Stieven Capital Advisors, L.P. is the investment manager of Stieven Financial Investors, L.P. and Stieven Financial Offshore Investors, Ltd., and in such capacity has voting and investment control over the shares held by both of these stockholders. Joseph A. Stieven, Stephen L. Covington, Daniel M. Ellefson and Mark J. Ross are members of the general partner and managing directors of the investment manager, and as a result, they may each be deemed to have voting and investment control over shares held by both of these stockholders. The mailing address for these entities is 12412 Powerscourt Drive, Suite 250, St. Louis, Missouri 63131.
6. TFO Financial Institutions Restructuring Fund III, LLC is directly or indirectly controlled by TFO Financial Institutions Restructuring Fund III SPC, a Cayman Island segregated portfolio company. Abdulmohsin Al Omran, Adel Al Mangour, Arup Asadullah and Jon Hedley as Directors; Dragomir Kolev, as the portfolio manager of TFO Financial Institutions Restructuring Fund III SPC, which is the managing member of TFO Financial Institutions Restructuring Fund III LLC, have the voting and investment power over all shares beneficially owned by TFO Financial Institutions Restructuring Fund III. The address for this shareholder is 555 5th Avenue, 6th Floor, New York, New York 10017.
7. Manulife Asset Management (US) LLC is directly or indirectly controlled by Manulife Financial Corporation. Manulife Asset Management (US) LLC has sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of the shares held by this stockholder. Through its parent-subsidiary relationship to Manulife Asset Management (US) LLC, Manulife Financial Corporation may be deemed to have beneficial ownership of these same shares. The mailing address for Manulife Asset Management (US) LLC is 197 Clarendon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116.
8. John J. Lyons, William M. Kearns, Jr. and Dory A. Wiley share voting and dispositive power over the 22,238,470 shares beneficially owned by Commerce Street Keefe Ventures Fund III, LP due to the fact that each is a managing principal of CS Keefe III GP, LP, the general partner of Commerce Street Keefe Ventures Fund III, LP. CS Keefe III GP, LP, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Kearns, and Mr. Wiley each disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares of common stock except to the extent of their respective pecuniary interest in Commerce Street Keefe Ventures Fund III, LP. The address for this shareholder is 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 2700, Dallas, Texas 75202