

HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP
Form S-4/A
June 26, 2015

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 26, 2015

Registration No. 333-204813

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

AMENDMENT NO. 1
TO

FORM S-4
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

California
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

6022
(Primary Standard Industrial
Classification Code Number)
150 Almaden Boulevard
San Jose, CA 95113
(408) 947-6900

77-0469558
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Lawrence D. McGovern
Executive Vice President
Chief Financial Officer
150 Almaden Boulevard
San Jose, California 95113
(408) 947-6900

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(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

With copies to:

Mark A. Bonenfant, Esq.
Buchalter Nemer
A Professional Corporation
1000 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, California 90017
(213) 891-0700

David Gershon, Esq.
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP
One Embarcadero Center, 30th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111
(415) 291-7400

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale of the securities to the public:
As soon as practicable after this registration statement becomes effective and upon completion of the merger.

If the securities being registered on this form are being offered in connection with the formation of a holding company and there is compliance with General Instruction G, check the following box:

If this form is filed to registered additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of earlier effective registration statement for the same offering:

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering:

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "small reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

If applicable, place an in the box to designate the appropriate rule provision relied upon in conducting this transaction:

Exchange Act Rule 13e-4(i) (Cross-Border Issuer Tender Offer)

Exchange Act Rule 14d-1(d) (Cross-Border Third-Party Tender Offer)

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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Information contained herein is subject to completion or amendment. A registration statement relating to the shares of Heritage Commerce Corp common stock to be issued in the merger has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These securities may not be sold nor may offers to buy be accepted prior to the time the registration statement becomes effective. This joint proxy statement/prospectus shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale is not permitted or would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction.

**PRELIMINARY JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS
DATED JUNE 26, 2015, SUBJECT TO COMPLETION**

To the Shareholders of Heritage Commerce Corp:

On April 23, 2015, Heritage Commerce Corp, which we refer to as Heritage, entered into an agreement and plan of merger and reorganization, which we refer to as the merger agreement, to acquire Focus Business Bank, which we refer to as Focus Bank. If the required shareholder and regulatory approvals are obtained, all closing conditions are satisfied or waived and the merger is subsequently completed, Focus Bank will be merged with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce, a wholly owned subsidiary of Heritage, with Heritage Bank of Commerce as the surviving entity, which we refer to as the merger.

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of shareholders of Heritage, to be held at 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time, on August 11, 2015 at Heritage offices located at 150 Almaden, San Jose, California. At the Heritage special meeting, the Heritage shareholders will be asked to consider and vote upon a proposal to approve the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger. Focus Bank will also hold a special meeting of shareholders to consider the proposed merger agreement and related matters. Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank cannot complete the proposed merger unless Heritage shareholders vote to approve the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger. This letter is accompanied by the attached joint proxy statement/prospectus, which the Heritage board of directors is providing to solicit your proxy to vote for the approval of the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger.

In the merger, each share of Focus Bank common stock (other than dissenting shares) will be converted into the right to receive 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock, which we refer to as the per share merger consideration. Focus Bank shareholders will receive cash in lieu of any fractional shares of Heritage common stock, without interest.

Based on the closing price per share of Heritage common stock on June 25, 2015 (the most recent day for which information was available prior to the printing and mailing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus) the implied value of the per share merger consideration payable to the holders of Focus Bank common stock was \$17.74 per share. The value of the merger consideration will fluctuate based on the market price of Heritage common stock. Consequently, the value of the stock consideration will not be known at the time you vote on the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger.

We expect the merger to be generally tax free to Focus Bank shareholders for U.S. federal income tax purposes, except for taxes on cash received by Focus Bank shareholders in lieu of fractional Heritage shares, and except for Focus Bank shareholders who exercise their appraisal rights with respect to the merger.

You should obtain current stock price quotations for Heritage common stock and Focus Bank common stock. Heritage common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "HTBK," and Focus Bank common stock is traded on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board trading system under the symbol "FCSB."

Based on our reasons for the merger described in the accompanying document, our board of directors believes that the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger is fair to the Heritage shareholders and in your best interests. **Accordingly, our board of directors unanimously recommends that you vote "FOR" the merger and issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger.** The accompanying joint proxy statement/prospectus gives you detailed information about the Heritage special meeting, the merger, the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger and related matters. In addition to being a proxy

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statement of Heritage, this joint proxy statement/prospectus is the proxy statement for the solicitation of proxies from Focus Bank shareholders to vote to approve the merger agreement and is the prospectus of Heritage for the shares of its common stock that will be issued to the Focus Bank shareholders in connection with the merger.

Your vote is very important. To ensure your representation at the Heritage special meeting, please complete, sign, date and return your proxy card in the enclosed envelope or submit your proxy by telephone or through the Internet pursuant to the instructions provided on the enclosed proxy card. Whether or not you expect to attend the Heritage special meeting, please vote promptly. Submitting a proxy now will not prevent you from being able to vote in person at the Heritage special meeting.

You are encouraged to read this joint proxy statement/prospectus carefully. **In particular, you should read the "Risk Factors" section beginning on page 35 for a discussion of the risks you should consider in evaluating the proposed merger and how it will affect you.**

Sincerely,

Jack W. Conner
Chairman of the Board

Walter T. Kaczmarek
President and Chief Executive Officer

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the merger, the issuance of the Heritage common stock in connection with the merger or the other transactions described in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of the disclosure in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The securities to be issued in connection with the merger are not savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of any bank or savings association and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.

This joint proxy statement/prospectus is dated June 26, 2015, and is first being mailed to shareholders of Heritage and Focus Bank on or about July 10, 2015.

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To the Shareholders of Focus Business Bank:

On April 23, 2015, Heritage Commerce Corp, which we refer to as Heritage, entered into an agreement and plan of merger and reorganization, which we refer to as the merger agreement, to acquire Focus Business Bank, which we refer to as Focus Bank. If the required shareholder and regulatory approvals are obtained, all closing conditions are satisfied or waived and the merger is subsequently completed, Focus Bank will be merged with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce, a wholly owned subsidiary of Heritage, with Heritage Bank of Commerce as the surviving entity, which we refer to as the merger.

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of shareholders of Focus Bank, to be held at 1:00 p.m., Pacific Time, on August 11, 2015 at the Hotel De Anza located at 233 West Santa Clara Street, San Jose, California. At the Focus Bank special meeting, the Focus Bank shareholders will be asked to consider and vote upon a proposal to approve the merger agreement. Heritage will also hold a special meeting of shareholders to consider the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger and related matters. Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank cannot complete the proposed merger unless Focus Bank shareholders vote to approve the merger agreement. This letter is accompanied by the attached joint proxy statement/prospectus, which Focus Bank board of directors is providing to solicit your proxy to vote for the approval of the merger agreement.

In the merger, each share of Focus Bank common stock (other than dissenting shares) will be converted into the right to receive 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock, which we refer to as the per share merger consideration. Focus Bank shareholders will receive cash in lieu of any fractional shares of Heritage common stock, without interest.

Based on the closing price per share of Heritage common stock on June 25, 2015 (the most recent day for which information was available prior to the printing and mailing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus) the implied value of the merger consideration payable to holders of Focus Bank common stock was \$17.74 per share. The value of the merger consideration will fluctuate based on the market price of Heritage common stock. Consequently, the value of the stock consideration will not be known at the time you vote on the proposal to approve the merger agreement.

We expect the merger to be generally tax free to Focus Bank shareholders for U.S. federal income tax purposes, except for cash received by Focus Bank shareholders in lieu of fractional Heritage shares, and except for Focus Bank shareholders who exercise their appraisal rights with respect to the merger.

You should obtain current stock price quotations for Heritage common stock and Focus Bank common stock. Focus Bank common stock is traded on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board trading system under the symbol "FCSB" and Heritage common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "HTBK."

Based on our reasons for the merger described in the accompanying document, including the fairness opinion issued by our financial advisor, Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., our board of directors believes that the merger consideration is fair to the Focus Bank shareholders and in your best interests. **Accordingly, our board of directors unanimously recommends that you vote "FOR" the approval of the merger agreement.** The accompanying joint proxy statement/prospectus gives you detailed information about the Focus Bank special meeting, the merger, the merger agreement and related matters. In addition to being a proxy statement of Focus Bank, this joint proxy statement/prospectus is the proxy statement for the solicitation of proxies from Heritage shareholders to vote to approve the issuance of the shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger and is the prospectus of Heritage

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for the shares of its common stock that will be issued to the Focus Bank shareholders in connection with the merger.

Your vote is very important. To ensure your representation at the Focus Bank special meeting, please complete, sign, date and return your proxy card in the enclosed envelope or submit your proxy by telephone or through the Internet pursuant to the instructions provided on the enclosed proxy card. Whether or not you expect to attend the Focus Bank special meeting, please vote promptly. Submitting a proxy now will not prevent you from being able to vote in person at the Focus Bank special meeting.

You are encouraged to read this joint proxy statement/prospectus carefully. In particular, you should read the "Risk Factors" section beginning on page 35 for a discussion of the risks you should consider in evaluating the proposed merger and how it will affect you.

Sincerely,

Richard Conniff

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the merger, the issuance of the Heritage common stock in connection with the merger or the other transactions described in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of the disclosure in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The securities to be issued in connection with the merger are not savings accounts, deposits or other obligations of any bank or savings association and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.

This joint proxy statement/prospectus is dated June 26, 2015, and is first being mailed to shareholders of Focus Bank and Heritage on or about July 10, 2015.

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WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Heritage files annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other business and financial information with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to as the SEC. You may read and copy any materials that Heritage files with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. Please call the SEC at (800) SEC-0330 ((800) 732-0330) for further information on the public reference room. In addition, Heritage files reports and other business and financial information with the SEC electronically, and the SEC maintains a website located at <http://www.sec.gov> containing this information. You will also be able to obtain these documents, free of charge, from Heritage at www.heritagecommercecorp.com.

Focus Bank does not have a class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, is not subject to the reporting requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act and accordingly does not file documents or reports with the SEC.

Heritage has filed a registration statement on Form S-4 of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus forms a part. As permitted by SEC rules, this joint proxy statement/prospectus does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement or in the exhibits or schedules to the registration statement. You may read and copy the registration statement, including any amendments, schedules and exhibits at the addresses set forth above. Statements contained in this joint proxy statement/prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other documents referred to in this joint proxy statement/prospectus are not necessarily complete. In each case, you should refer to the copy of the applicable contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement. This joint proxy statement/prospectus incorporates by reference documents that Heritage has previously filed with the SEC. They contain important information about Heritage and its financial condition. For further information, please see the section entitled "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference" beginning on page 155. These documents are available without charge to you upon written or oral request to Heritage's principal executive office at:

Heritage Commerce Corp
150 Almaden Boulevard
San Jose, California 95113
Attention: Corporate Secretary
(408) 947-6900

To obtain timely delivery of these documents, you must request the information no later than August 5, 2015 in order to receive them before Heritage's special meeting of shareholders and Focus Bank's special meeting of shareholders.

Heritage common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "HTBK," and Focus Bank common stock is traded on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board trading system under the symbol "FCSB."

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HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP

150 Almaden Boulevard
San Jose, CA 95113

NOTICE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the special meeting of the shareholders of Heritage Commerce Corp, which we refer to as Heritage, will be held at the Heritage offices located at 150 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California at 1:00 p.m., Pacific time, on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, for the following purposes:

1. **Approval of the Issuance of Shares of Heritage Common Stock.** To consider and vote upon a proposal to approve the merger and the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock to the shareholders of Focus Business Bank pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger and Reorganization, dated as of April 23, 2015, by and among Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Business Bank, referred to in this notice as the merger agreement, pursuant to which Focus Business Bank will merge with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce, with Heritage Bank of Commerce as the surviving corporation. This transaction is referred to in this notice as the merger. A copy of the merger agreement is attached as Appendix A to the accompanying joint proxy statement/prospectus of which this notice is a part; and

2. **Adjournment.** To consider and vote upon a proposal to adjourn the Heritage special meeting to a later date or dates, if necessary, to permit further solicitation of proxies if there are not sufficient votes at the time of the Heritage special meeting to approve the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger.

No other business may be conducted at the Heritage special meeting.

We have fixed the close of business on June 23, 2015 as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Heritage special meeting. Only holders of Heritage common stock of record at the close of business on that date will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Heritage special meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting.

The Heritage board of directors has approved the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated therein and has determined that the merger is in the best interests of Heritage and its shareholders, and unanimously recommends that shareholders vote "FOR" approval of the merger and the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger and "FOR" approval of the proposal to adjourn the Heritage special meeting to a later date or dates, if necessary, to permit further solicitation of proxies if there are not sufficient votes at the time of the Heritage special meeting to approve the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger.

Your vote is very important. Whether or not you plan to attend the Heritage special meeting, please promptly complete, sign, date and return your proxy card in the enclosed envelope or submit your proxy by telephone or through the Internet pursuant to the instructions provided on the enclosed proxy card.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Debbie Reuter
Executive Vice President and Corporate Secretary

PLEASE VOTE YOUR SHARES OF HERITAGE COMMON STOCK PROMPTLY. YOU CAN FIND INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING ON THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSALS OR ABOUT VOTING YOUR SHARES, PLEASE CALL HERITAGE'S CORPORATE SECRETARY AT (408) 947-6900.

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FOCUS BUSINESS BANK

10 Almaden Boulevard
San Jose, CA 95113

NOTICE OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the shareholders of Focus Business Bank, which we refer to as Focus Bank, will be held at 1:00 p.m., Pacific time on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, at the Hotel De Anza located at 233 West Santa Clara Street, San Jose, California, for the following purposes:

1. **Approval of the Merger Agreement.** To consider and vote upon a proposal to approve the Agreement and Plan of Merger and Reorganization, dated as of April 23, 2015, by and among Heritage Commerce Corp, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank, referred to in this notice as the merger agreement, pursuant to which Focus Bank will merge with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce, with Heritage Bank of Commerce as the surviving corporation. This transaction is referred to in this notice as the merger. A copy of the merger agreement is attached as Appendix A to the accompanying joint proxy statement/prospectus of which this notice is a part; and

2. **Adjournment.** To consider and vote upon a proposal to adjourn the Focus Bank special meeting to a later date or dates, if necessary, to permit further solicitation of proxies if there are not sufficient votes at the time of the Focus Bank special meeting to approve the merger agreement.

No other business may be conducted at the Focus Bank special meeting.

We have fixed the close of business on June 23, 2015 as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting. Only holders of Focus Bank common stock of record at the close of business on that date will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the special meeting.

The Focus Bank board of directors has approved the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated therein and determined that the merger is in the best interests of Focus Bank and its shareholders, and unanimously recommends that shareholders vote "FOR" approval of the merger agreement and "FOR" approval of the proposal to adjourn the Focus Bank special meeting to a later date or dates, if necessary, to permit further solicitation of proxies if there are not sufficient votes at the time of the Focus Bank special meeting to approve the merger agreement.

Holders of Focus Bank common stock have the right to dissent from the merger and assert dissenters' rights, provided the requirements of California law governing dissenters' rights are followed. A copy of the provisions of the California General Corporation Law, which govern dissenters' rights, is attached as Appendix D to the accompanying joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Your vote is very important. Whether or not you plan to attend the special meeting, please promptly complete, sign, date and return your proxy card in the enclosed envelope or submit your proxy by telephone or through the Internet pursuant to the instructions provided on the enclosed proxy card.

By Order of the Board of Directors

Richard Conniff
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

PLEASE VOTE YOUR SHARES OF FOCUS BANK COMMON STOCK PROMPTLY. YOU CAN FIND INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING ON THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSALS OR ABOUT VOTING YOUR SHARES, PLEASE CALL FOCUS BANK INVESTOR RELATIONS AT (408) 288-5900.

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ABOUT THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS

This joint proxy statement/prospectus, which forms part of a registration statement on Form S-4 filed with the SEC by Heritage (File No. 333-204813), constitutes a prospectus of Heritage under Section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, which we refer to as the Securities Act, with respect to the shares of Heritage common stock to be issued in the merger contemplated by the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby.

This joint proxy statement/prospectus also constitutes a notice of meeting and a proxy statement under Section 14(a) of the Exchange Act, which we refer to as the Exchange Act, with respect to Heritage's special meeting, at which Heritage shareholders will be asked to consider and vote upon certain proposals, including a proposal to approve the merger and the issuance of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger in accordance with the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby. This joint proxy statement/prospectus will also function as a proxy statement provided to Focus Bank shareholders in connection with Focus Bank's solicitation of proxies with respect to Focus Bank's special meeting, at which Focus Bank shareholders will be asked to consider and vote upon certain proposals including approving the merger and the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE SPECIAL SHAREHOLDERS' MEETINGS

The following are answers to certain questions that you may have regarding the shareholders' meetings. We urge you to read carefully the remainder of this joint proxy statement/prospectus because the information in this section may not provide all the information that might be important to you in determining how to vote. Additional important information is also contained in the appendices to, and the documents incorporated by reference in, this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Q: WHAT IS THE MERGER?

A.

Heritage and Focus Bank have entered into a merger agreement, pursuant to which Focus Bank will merge with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce, a wholly owned subsidiary of Heritage, with Heritage Bank of Commerce continuing as the surviving corporation, in a transaction which we refer to as the merger. A copy of the merger agreement is attached as Appendix A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus. In order for us to complete the transaction, we need not only the approval of Heritage and Focus Bank shareholders but the approval of the merger by the banking regulators of Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank.

Q: WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS?

A.

Each of Heritage and Focus Bank is sending these materials to its shareholders to help them decide how to vote their shares of Heritage or Focus Bank common stock, as the case may be, with respect to the merger and other matters to be considered at the special shareholders' meetings.

The merger cannot be completed unless Heritage shareholders approve the merger and the issuance of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger and Focus Bank shareholders approve the merger and approve and adopt the merger agreement. At each of the special shareholders' meetings, Heritage and Focus Bank shareholders will vote on the proposals necessary to complete the merger. Information about these special shareholders' meetings, the merger and the other business to be considered by shareholders at each of the special shareholders' meetings is contained in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

This joint proxy statement/prospectus constitutes both a joint proxy statement of Heritage and Focus Bank and a prospectus of Heritage. It is a joint proxy statement because each of the boards of directors of Heritage and Focus Bank is soliciting proxies using this joint proxy statement/prospectus from their respective shareholders. It is a prospectus because Heritage, in connection with the merger, is offering shares of its common stock in exchange for outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock in the merger.

Q: WHAT WILL FOCUS BANK SHAREHOLDERS RECEIVE IN THE MERGER?

A:

In the merger, each share of Focus Bank common stock owned by a Focus Bank shareholder will be converted into the right to receive 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock. A Focus Bank shareholder will receive cash in lieu of any fractional shares of Heritage common stock such holder is entitled to receive, without interest.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS TO FOCUS BANK STOCK OPTIONS IN THE MERGER?

A:

Immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, each outstanding option to purchase shares of Focus Bank common stock, whether or not then vested and whether or not then exercisable, will be cancelled and the holder of the option will be entitled to receive, subject to any required tax withholding, an amount in cash, without interest, from Focus Bank equal to the excess over the exercise price per share, if any, of 1.8235 multiplied by the volume weighted average of the closing price for shares of Heritage common stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the twenty consecutive trading days ending on the fifth trading day immediately prior to the merger closing date.

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Q: WHEN WILL THE MERGER BE COMPLETED?

A:

Heritage and Focus Bank are working to complete the merger as soon as practicable. If the shareholders of Focus Bank approve the merger and approve and adopt the merger agreement and the shareholders of Heritage approve the issuance of shares of Heritage stock in connection with the merger, the parties currently expect that the merger will be completed in the third quarter or early fourth quarter of 2015. Neither Heritage nor Focus Bank can predict, however, the actual date on which the merger will be completed because it is subject to factors beyond each company's control, including whether or when the required regulatory approvals will be received. For further information, please see the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Conditions to the Merger" beginning on page 105.

Q: WHY MUST THE HERITAGE SHAREHOLDERS APPROVE THE ISSUANCE OF SHARES OF HERITAGE COMMON STOCK IN CONNECTION WITH THE MERGER?

A:

The Heritage shareholders are required to approve the merger and the issuance of shares of the Heritage common stock, in connection with the merger because Heritage is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market and is subject to the NASDAQ Global Select Market listing rules. Because Heritage will likely issue in excess of 20% (non-diluted and pre-merger basis) of its outstanding shares of common stock to the Focus Bank shareholders in connection with the merger, under the NASDAQ Global Select Market listing rules, the shareholders of Heritage are required to approve the issuance of shares of the Heritage common stock in connection with the merger. The merger cannot be completed unless the Heritage shareholders approve the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in the merger.

Q: WHO IS ENTITLED TO VOTE?

A:

Heritage Special Meeting. Holders of record of Heritage common stock at the close of business on June 23, 2015, which is the date that the Heritage board of directors has fixed as the record date for the Heritage special meeting, are entitled to vote at the Heritage special meeting.

Focus Bank Special Meeting. Holders of record of Focus Bank common stock at the close of business on June 23, 2015, which is the date that the Focus Bank board of directors has fixed as the record date for the Focus Bank special meeting, are entitled to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting.

Q: IS THE EXCHANGE RATIO SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENT BASED ON CHANGES IN THE PRICE OF HERITAGE AND/OR FOCUS BANK COMMON STOCK?

A:

No. The exchange ratio of 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock for each share of Focus Bank common stock is fixed and no adjustments to the exchange ratio will be made based on changes in the price of either Heritage or Focus Bank common stock prior to the completion of the merger. As a result of any such changes in stock price, the aggregate market value of the shares of Heritage common stock that a Focus Bank shareholder is entitled to receive at the time that the merger is completed could vary significantly from the value of such shares on the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, the date of the Heritage special meeting, the date of the Focus Bank special meeting or the date on which such Focus Bank shareholder actually receives shares of Heritage common stock in the merger.

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Q: HOW WILL HERITAGE SHAREHOLDERS BE AFFECTED BY THE MERGER AND THE ISSUANCE OF SHARE OF HERITAGE COMMON STOCK IN CONNECTION WITH THE MERGER?

A:

Immediately after the completion of the merger, each Heritage shareholder will have the same number of shares of Heritage common stock that such shareholder held immediately prior to the completion of the merger. However, upon issuance of the shares of Heritage common stock to Focus Bank shareholders in connection with the merger, each share of Heritage common stock will represent a smaller percentage of the aggregate number of shares of Heritage common stock (and therefore a smaller percentage of the outstanding voting power) outstanding after completion of the merger than it did immediately prior to completion of the merger.

Q: DO HERITAGE SHAREHOLDERS HAVE DISSENTERS' RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO APPROVAL OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE HERITAGE COMMON STOCK IN THE MERGER?

A:

No. Holders of Heritage common stock do not have dissenters' rights under California law.

Q: DO FOCUS BANK SHAREHOLDERS HAVE DISSENTERS' RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO APPROVAL OF THE MERGER AGREEMENT?

A:

Yes. Holders of Focus Bank common stock have dissenters' rights in accordance with Chapter 13 of the California Corporations Code. In order to exercise dissenters' rights, a shareholder does not need to affirmatively vote against the merger agreement. Rather, in order to exercise dissenters' rights under California law, a shareholder must either: (i) vote against the merger; (ii) abstain from voting on the merger; or (iii) not return the proxy. In addition, a shareholder choosing to exercise his or her dissenters' rights must also comply with the applicable provisions of Chapter 13 of the California Corporations Code. A copy of the applicable sections of Chapter 13 of the California Corporations Code is included with this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Appendix D. Please read the section entitled "Dissenters' Rights of Focus Bank Shareholders" beginning on page 116.

Heritage has the option to terminate the merger agreement if dissenters' rights are perfected and exercised with respect to ten percent or more of the outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock. Please see "The Merger Agreement Conditions to the Merger" beginning on page 105.

Q: WILL FOCUS BANK SHAREHOLDERS BE ABLE TO TRADE THE HERITAGE COMMON STOCK THAT THEY RECEIVE IN THE MERGER?

A:

Yes. The Heritage common stock issued in the merger to Focus Bank shareholders will be listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "HTBK." Unless you are deemed an "affiliate" of Heritage, you may sell the shares of Heritage common stock you receive in the merger without restriction.

Q: WHAT CONSTITUTES A QUORUM?

A:

Heritage Special Meeting. The presence at the Heritage special meeting, in person or by proxy, of holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Heritage common stock entitled to vote at the Heritage special meeting will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Abstentions and broker non-votes, if any, will be included in determining the number of shares present at the meeting for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum.

Focus Bank Special Meeting. The presence at the Focus Bank special meeting, in person or by proxy, of holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock entitled to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

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Abstentions and broker non-votes, if any, will be included in determining the number of shares present at the meeting for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum.

Q: WHAT AM I BEING ASKED TO VOTE ON AND WHY IS THIS APPROVAL NECESSARY?

A:

Heritage shareholders are being asked to vote on the following proposals:

1. to approve the merger and the issuance of Heritage common stock, no par value per share, pursuant to the merger agreement which is attached as Appendix A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus, and which is referred to as the Heritage Merger proposal; and,
2. to approve one or more adjournments of the Heritage special meeting, if necessary or appropriate, including adjournments to permit further solicitation of proxies in favor of the Heritage Merger proposal, which is referred to as the Heritage Adjournment proposal.

Shareholder approval of the Heritage Merger proposal is required to complete the merger. Heritage will transact no other business at the Heritage special meeting.

Focus Bank shareholders are being asked to vote on the following proposals:

1. to approve the merger and to approve and adopt the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus, which is referred to as the Focus Bank Merger proposal; and
2. to approve one or more adjournments of the Focus Bank special meeting, if necessary or appropriate, including adjournments to permit further solicitation of proxies in favor of the Focus Bank Merger proposal, which is referred to as the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal.

Shareholder approval of the Focus Bank Merger proposal is required for completion of the merger. Focus Bank will transact no other business at the Focus Bank special meeting.

Q: WHAT VOTE IS REQUIRED TO APPROVE EACH PROPOSAL AT THE HERITAGE SPECIAL MEETING?

A:

Heritage Merger proposal: Assuming a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Heritage common stock cast (in person or by proxy) at the Heritage special meeting is required to approve the Heritage Merger proposal.

Heritage Adjournment proposal: Assuming a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Heritage common stock represented (in person or by proxy) at the Heritage special meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal is required to approve the Heritage Adjournment proposal.

Q: WHAT DOES THE HERITAGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMEND?

A:

After careful consideration, the Heritage board of directors unanimously recommends that Heritage shareholders vote "**FOR**" the Heritage Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Heritage Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate).

Q: WHAT VOTE IS REQUIRED TO APPROVE EACH PROPOSAL AT THE FOCUS BANK SPECIAL MEETING?

A:

Focus Bank Merger proposal: The affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock entitled to vote is required to approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal.

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Focus Bank Adjournment proposal: Assuming a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Focus Bank common stock represented (in person or by proxy) at the Focus Bank special meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal is required to approve the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal.

Q: WHAT DOES THE FOCUS BANK BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMEND?

A: After careful consideration, the Focus Bank board of directors unanimously recommends that Focus Bank shareholders vote "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate).

Q: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NOW?

A: After carefully reading and considering the information contained in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, please vote your shares as soon as possible so that your shares will be represented at your respective company's shareholders' meeting. Please follow the instructions set forth on the proxy card or on the voting instruction form provided by the record holder if your shares are held in the name of your broker, bank or other nominee.

Q: HOW DO I VOTE?

A: If you are a shareholder of record of Heritage as of June 23, 2015, which is referred to as the Heritage record date, or a shareholder of Focus Bank as of June 23, 2015, which is referred to as the Focus Bank record date, you may submit your proxy before your respective company's shareholders' meeting in one of the following ways:

use the toll-free number shown on your proxy card;

visit the website shown on your proxy card to vote via the Internet; or

complete, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

You may also cast your vote in person at your respective company's shareholders' meeting.

If your shares are held in "street name," through a broker, bank or other nominee, that institution will send you separate instructions describing the procedure for voting your shares. "Street name" shareholders who wish to vote at the meeting will need to obtain a proxy form from their broker, bank or other nominee.

Q: HOW MANY VOTES DO I HAVE?

A: *Heritage Shareholders.* You are entitled to one vote for each share of Heritage common stock that you owned as of the record date. As of the close of business on June 23, 2015, there were approximately 26,596,094 outstanding shares of Heritage common stock. As of that date, approximately 19.67% of the outstanding shares of Heritage common stock were beneficially owned and entitled to vote by the directors and executive officers of Heritage.

Focus Bank Shareholders. You are entitled to one vote for each share of Focus Bank common stock that you owned as of the record date. As of the close of business on June 23, 2015, there were approximately 3,002,357 outstanding shares of Focus Bank common

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stock. As of that date, approximately 24.6% of the outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock were beneficially owned and entitled to vote by the directors and executive officers of Focus Bank.

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Q: WHEN AND WHERE ARE THE HERITAGE AND FOCUS BANK SHAREHOLDERS' MEETINGS?

A:

The special meeting of Heritage shareholders will be held at Heritage's offices located at 150 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California at 1:00 p.m., Pacific time, on August 11, 2015. All Heritage shareholders as of the Heritage record date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the Heritage special meeting.

The special meeting of Focus Bank shareholders will be held at the Hotel De Anza located at 233 West Santa Clara Street, San Jose, California at 1:00 p.m., Pacific time, on August 11, 2015. All Focus Bank shareholders as of the Focus Bank record date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the Focus Bank special meeting.

Q: IF MY SHARES ARE HELD IN "STREET NAME" BY A BROKER, BANK OR OTHER NOMINEE, WILL MY BROKER, BANK OR OTHER NOMINEE VOTE MY SHARES FOR ME?

A:

If your shares are held in "street name" in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, you must provide the record holder of your shares with instructions on how to vote your shares. Please follow the voting instructions provided by your broker, bank or other nominee. Please note that you may not vote shares held in street name by returning a proxy card directly to Heritage or Focus Bank or by voting in person at your respective company's shareholders' meeting unless you provide a "legal proxy," which you must obtain from your broker, bank or other nominee.

Under the rules of the stock exchanges and other self regulatory agencies, brokers who hold shares in street name for a beneficial owner of those shares typically have the authority to vote in their discretion on "routine" proposals when they have not received instructions from beneficial owners. However, brokers are not allowed to exercise their voting discretion with respect to the approval of matters that the rules of the stock exchanges and other self regulatory agencies determines to be "non-routine" without specific instructions from the beneficial owner. All proposals to be voted on at the Heritage special meeting and the Focus Bank special meeting are such "non-routine" matters. Broker non-votes occur when a broker or nominee is not instructed by the beneficial owner of shares to vote on a particular proposal for which the broker does not have discretionary voting power.

Q: WHAT IF I ABSTAIN FROM VOTING OR FAIL TO INSTRUCT MY BROKER?

A:

Focus Bank Shareholders. If you are a holder of Focus Bank common stock and you abstain from voting or fail to instruct your broker to vote your shares and the broker submits an unvoted proxy, referred to as a broker non-vote, then the abstention or broker non-votes will be counted towards a quorum at the special meeting, but it will have the same effect as a vote against approval of the Focus Bank Merger proposal.

Abstentions and broker non-votes of shares of Focus Bank common stock will not have any effect on the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, if the number of affirmative votes cast for the proposal is a majority of the votes cast and such votes constitute a majority of the quorum required to transact business at the special meeting. However, if the number of affirmative votes cast for the adjournment proposal is a majority of the votes cast, but such votes do not constitute a majority of the quorum required to transact business at the special meeting, then abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote against the Focus Bank Merger proposal.

Heritage Shareholders. Abstentions and broker non-votes of shares of Heritage common stock will not have any effect on the approval of the Heritage Merger proposal.

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Abstentions and broker non-votes of shares of Heritage common stock will not have any effect on the Heritage Adjournment proposal, if the number of affirmative votes cast for the proposal is a majority of the votes cast and such votes constitute a majority of the quorum required to transact business at the special meeting. However, if the number of affirmative votes cast for the adjournment proposal is a majority of the votes cast, but such votes do not constitute a majority of the quorum required to transact business at the special meeting, then abstentions and broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote against the Heritage Merger proposal or the Heritage Adjournment proposal.

Q: WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I RETURN MY PROXY OR VOTING INSTRUCTION CARD WITHOUT INDICATING HOW TO VOTE?

A:

If you sign and return your proxy or voting instruction card without indicating how to vote on any particular proposal:

the Heritage common stock represented by your proxy will be voted as recommended by the Heritage board of directors with respect to that proposal, including "**FOR**" the Heritage Merger proposal; and

the Focus Bank common stock represented by your proxy will be voted as recommended by the Focus Bank board of directors with respect to that proposal, including "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Merger proposal, in which case you will be prohibited from asserting dissenters' rights.

The proxy holders may use their discretion to vote on other matters presented at the Heritage special meeting or Focus Bank special meeting, as applicable.

Q: WHAT IF I OWN SHARES THROUGH HERITAGE'S EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN AND TRUST ("ESOP")?

A:

Participants in the Heritage ESOP will be entitled to direct the plan trustee as to the manner in which their shares are to be voted.

Q: IF I OWN SHARES IN BOTH HERITAGE AND FOCUS BANK, SHOULD I VOTE ONLY ONCE?

A:

No. If you own shares in both companies, you will receive separate proxy cards for each special meeting. It is important that you vote at both meetings, so please complete, sign, date and return your proxy card as instructed by Heritage and Focus Bank, respectively. A vote as a Heritage shareholder will not constitute a vote as a Focus Bank shareholder on any matter, nor will a vote as a Focus Bank shareholder constitute a vote as a Heritage shareholder on any matter.

Q: MAY I CHANGE MY VOTE AFTER I HAVE DELIVERED MY PROXY OR VOTING INSTRUCTION CARD?

A:

Yes. You may change your vote at any time before your proxy is voted at the Heritage or Focus Bank shareholders' meeting. You may do this in one of the following ways:

by sending a notice of revocation to the corporate secretary of Heritage or Focus Bank, as applicable;

by logging onto the Internet website specified on your proxy card in the same manner you would to submit your proxy electronically or by calling the telephone number specified on your proxy card, in each case if you are eligible to do so and following the instructions on the proxy card; or

by sending a completed proxy card bearing a later date than your original proxy card.

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If you choose any of these methods, you must take the described action such that the notice, Internet vote or proxy card, as applicable, is received no later than the beginning of the applicable shareholders' meeting.

You may also change your vote by attending the Heritage or Focus Bank shareholders' meeting, as applicable, and voting in person.

If your shares are held in an account at a broker, bank or other nominee, you should contact your broker, bank or other nominee to change your vote.

Q: DO I NEED IDENTIFICATION TO ATTEND THE HERITAGE OR FOCUS BANK MEETING IN PERSON?

A:

Yes. Please bring proper identification, together with proof that you are a record owner of Heritage or Focus Bank common stock, as the case may be. If your shares are held in street name, please bring acceptable proof of ownership, such as a letter from your broker or an account statement showing that you beneficially owned shares of Heritage or Focus Bank common stock, as applicable, on the record date.

Q: WHAT ARE THE MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER TO FOCUS BANK SHAREHOLDERS?

The merger is intended to qualify, and the obligation of Heritage and Focus Bank to complete the merger is conditioned upon the receipt of opinions of their respective legal or tax advisors to the effect that the merger will qualify, as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which we refer to as the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, in connection with the filing of the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part, each of Buchalter Nemer, a professional corporation and Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP has delivered an opinion to Heritage and Focus Bank, respectively, to the same effect.

Provided that the merger qualifies as a "reorganization", Focus Bank shareholders generally will not recognize any gain or loss, except with respect to the cash received instead of a fractional share of Heritage common stock, and except for Focus Bank shareholders who exercise their appraisal rights with respect to the merger.

Tax matters are very complicated, and the tax consequences of the merger to a particular shareholder will depend in part on such shareholder's circumstances. Accordingly, you should consult your tax advisor for a full understanding of the tax consequences of the merger to you, including the applicability and effect of federal, state, local and foreign income and other tax consequences. For a more detailed discussion of the material United States federal income tax consequences of the transaction, please see the section entitled "Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page 113.

The consequences of the merger to any particular Focus Bank shareholder will depend on that shareholder's particular facts and circumstances. Accordingly, you are urged to consult your tax advisor to determine your tax consequences from the merger.

Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF THE MERGER IS NOT COMPLETED?

A:

If the merger is not completed, Focus Bank shareholders will not receive any consideration for their shares of Focus Bank common stock in connection with the merger. Instead, Focus Bank will remain an independent company and its common stock will continue to be quoted on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board trading system. Under specified circumstances Focus Bank may

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be required to pay Heritage a fee with respect to the termination of the merger agreement, as described under the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Termination; Termination Fee" beginning on page 106.

Q: SHOULD FOCUS BANK SHAREHOLDERS SEND IN THEIR STOCK CERTIFICATES NOW?

A:

No. Focus Bank shareholders **SHOULD NOT** send in any stock certificates now. If the merger is approved, transmittal materials, with instructions for completion, will be provided to Focus Bank shareholders under separate cover and the stock certificates should be sent at that time.

Q: IS MY VOTE CONFIDENTIAL?

A:

Proxy instructions, ballots and voting tabulations that identify individual shareholders are handled in a manner that protects your voting privacy. Your vote will not be disclosed either within Heritage or Focus Bank or to third parties except:

as necessary to meet applicable legal requirements,

to allow for the counting and certification of votes, or

to help our boards solicit proxies.

Q: WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROXY MATERIALS OR VOTING?

A:

If you are a Heritage shareholder and have any questions about the proxy materials or if you need assistance submitting your proxy or voting your shares or need additional copies of this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the enclosed proxy card, you should contact the Heritage Corporate Secretary at (408) 947-6900.

If you are a Focus Bank shareholder and have any questions about the proxy materials or if you need assistance submitting your proxy or voting your shares or need additional copies of this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the enclosed proxy card, you should contact Focus Bank Investor Relations at (408) 288-5900.

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SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. You should read this entire document and its appendices and the other documents to which we refer before you decide how to vote with respect to each of the proposals. In addition, we incorporate by reference important business and financial information about Heritage into this joint proxy statement/prospectus. For a description of this information, please see the section entitled "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference" beginning on page 155. You may obtain the information incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus without charge by following the instructions in the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" in the forepart of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Each item in this summary includes a page reference directing you to a more complete description of that item.

Unless the context otherwise requires, throughout this joint proxy statement/prospectus, "Heritage" refers to Heritage Commerce Corp, "Focus Bank" refers to Focus Business Bank and "we," "us" and "our" refers collectively to Heritage and Focus Bank. Also, we refer to the proposed merger of Focus Bank with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce as the "merger," and the Agreement and Plan of Merger and Reorganization, dated as of April 23, 2015, by and among Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank as the "merger agreement."

The Merger and the Merger Agreement (pages 52 and 91)

The terms and conditions of the merger are contained in the merger agreement, which is attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Appendix A. We encourage you to read the merger agreement carefully, as it is the legal document that governs the merger.

Under the terms of the merger agreement, Focus Bank will merge with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce with Heritage Bank of Commerce as the surviving corporation immediately upon the closing of the merger.

Merger Consideration (page 52)

In the merger, each share of Focus Bank common stock, no par value per share, owned by a Focus Bank shareholder will be converted into the right to receive 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock, no par value per share. A Focus Bank shareholder will receive cash in lieu of any fractional shares of Heritage common stock such holder is entitled to receive, without interest.

Based on the closing share price of Heritage common stock of \$9.00 on April 22, 2015, the last trading day before the announcement of the merger, the value of the merger consideration was \$16.41 per share. Based on the closing share price of Heritage common stock of \$9.73 on June 25, 2015, the most recent day for which information was available prior to the printing and mailing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, the value of the merger consideration was \$17.74 per share. **The share price of Heritage common stock will fluctuate and, accordingly, the value of the merger consideration you receive may be different than either of these amounts.**

Immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, each outstanding option to purchase shares of Focus Bank common stock, whether or not then vested and whether or not then exercisable, will be cancelled and the holder of the option will be entitled receive, subject to any required tax withholding, an amount in cash, without interest, from Focus Bank equal to the excess over the exercise price per share, if any, of 1.8235 multiplied by the volume weighted average of the closing price for shares of Heritage common stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the twenty consecutive trading days ending on the fifth trading day immediately prior to the merger closing date.

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Recommendation of the Focus Bank Board of Directors (page 57)

After careful consideration, the Focus Bank board of directors unanimously recommends that Focus Bank shareholders vote "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate).

Each of the directors of Focus Bank has entered into a shareholder agreement with Heritage and Focus Bank, pursuant to which they have agreed to vote "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate). For more information regarding the shareholder agreements, please see the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements" beginning on page 109.

For a more complete description of Focus Bank's reasons for the merger and the recommendation of the Focus Bank board of directors, please see the section entitled "The Merger Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of the Focus Bank Board of Directors" beginning on page 57.

Recommendation of the Heritage Board of Directors (page 72)

After careful consideration, the Heritage board of directors unanimously recommends that Heritage shareholders vote "**FOR**" the Heritage Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Heritage Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate).

For a more complete description of Heritage's reasons for the merger and the recommendation of the Heritage board of directors, please see the section entitled "The Merger Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of the Heritage Board of Directors" beginning on page 72.

Opinion of Financial Advisors (pages 60 and 74)

Focus Bank Financial Advisor

On April 23, 2015, Sandler O'Neill & Partners, L.P., which we refer to as Sandler O'Neill, Focus Bank's financial advisor in connection with the merger, rendered an oral opinion to the Focus Bank board of directors, which was subsequently confirmed in a written opinion dated the same date that as of such date, and subject to and based on the qualifications and assumptions set forth in its written opinion, the exchange ratio in the proposed merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to the common shareholders of Focus Bank.

The full text of Sandler O'Neill's opinion dated April 23, 2015 is attached as Appendix B to this joint proxy statement/prospectus. You should read the opinion in its entirety for a description of the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by Sandler O'Neill in rendering its opinion.

Sandler O'Neill's opinion is addressed to Focus Bank's board of directors and the opinion is not a recommendation as to how any shareholder of Focus Bank should vote with respect to the merger or any other matter or as to any action that a shareholder should take with respect to the merger.

The opinion addresses only the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the merger consideration in the proposed merger to the common shareholders of Focus Bank, and does not address the underlying business decision of Focus Bank to engage in the merger, or the relative merits of the merger as compared to any strategic alternatives that may be available to Focus Bank. Sandler O'Neill will receive a fee for its services, portions of which have been paid, and a significant portion of which will be payable upon consummation of the merger.

For further information, please see the section entitled "The Merger Opinion of Focus Bank's Financial Advisor" beginning on page 60.

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Heritage Financial Advisor

On April 22, 2015, Keefe, Bruyette & Woods, Inc., which we refer to as KBW, Heritage's financial advisor in connection with the merger, delivered to the Heritage board of directors its oral opinion, which was subsequently confirmed in writing, that, as of such date, and subject to the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by KBW as set forth in such opinion, that the exchange ratio in the merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to Heritage.

The description of the opinion set forth herein is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the opinion, which is attached as Appendix C to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated herein by reference. Heritage shareholders are urged to read the opinion in its entirety for a description of the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by KBW in preparing the opinion.

KBW's opinion was for the information of, and was directed to, the Heritage board of directors (in its capacity as such) in connection with its consideration of the financial terms of the merger and it did not and does not constitute a recommendation to any holder of Heritage common stock or any shareholder of any other entity as to how such shareholder should vote in connection with the merger or whether or not any such shareholder should enter into a voting, shareholders', or affiliates' agreement with respect to the merger or exercise any dissenters' or appraisal rights that may be available to such shareholder.

KBW will receive a cash fee for its services, a portion of which became payable to KBW upon the rendering of the opinion, and that balance of which is contingent upon the consummation of the merger.

For further information, please see the section entitled "The Merger Opinion of Heritage's Financial Advisor" beginning on page 74.

Focus Bank Special Meeting of Shareholders (page 42)

The Focus Bank special meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m., Pacific time, on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, at the Hotel De Anza located at 233 West Santa Clara Street, San Jose, California. At the Focus Bank special meeting, Focus Bank shareholders will be asked to approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal and the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal.

Focus Bank's board of directors has fixed the close of business on June 23, 2015 as the record date for determining the holders of Focus Bank common stock entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting. Only holders of record of Focus Bank common stock at the close of business on the Focus Bank record date will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof. As of the Focus Bank record date, there were 3,002,357 shares of Focus Bank common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting held by 156 holders of record. Each share of Focus Bank common stock entitles the holder to one vote on each proposal to be considered at the Focus Bank special meeting. Each of the directors of Focus Bank has entered into a shareholder agreement with Heritage and Focus Bank, pursuant to which they have agreed, solely in their capacity as shareholders of Focus Bank, to vote all of their shares of Focus Bank common stock in favor of the Focus Bank Merger proposal and the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal to be presented at the special meeting. As of the record date, directors and executive officers of Focus Bank beneficially owned and were entitled to vote 738,899 shares of Focus Bank common stock, representing approximately 24.6% of the shares of Focus Bank common stock outstanding on that date. Focus Bank currently expects that Focus Bank's executive officers will also vote their shares in favor of the proposals to be presented at the special meeting, although none of them has entered into any agreements obligating them to do so (other than

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one executive officer who is also a director). As of the record date, Heritage beneficially held no shares of Focus Bank's common stock.

Approval of the Focus Bank Merger proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock entitled to vote on the proposal. Approval of the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Focus Bank common stock represented (in person or by proxy) at the Focus Bank special meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal.

Heritage Special Meeting of Shareholders (page 47)

The Heritage special meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m., Pacific time, on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, at the offices of Heritage located at 150 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California. At the Heritage special meeting, Heritage shareholders will be asked to approve the Heritage Merger proposal and the Heritage Adjournment proposal.

Heritage's board of directors has fixed the close of business on June 23, 2015 as the record date for determining the holders of Heritage common stock entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Heritage special meeting. Only holders of record of Heritage common stock at the close of business on the Heritage record date will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Heritage special meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof. As of the Heritage record date, there were 26,596,094 shares of Heritage common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the Heritage special meeting held by 576 holders of record. Each share of Heritage common stock entitles the holder to one vote on each proposal to be considered at the Heritage special meeting. As of the record date, directors and executive officers of Heritage beneficially owned and were entitled to vote 5,230,843 shares of Heritage common stock, representing approximately 19.67% of the shares of Heritage common stock outstanding on that date. Heritage currently expects that Heritage's directors and executive officers will vote their shares in favor of the proposals to be presented at the special meeting, although none of them has entered into any agreements obligating them to do so. As of the record date, Focus Bank held no shares of Heritage common stock.

Approval of the Heritage Merger proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Heritage common stock cast at the special meeting. Approval of the Heritage Adjournment proposals requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Heritage common stock represented (in person or by proxy) at the Heritage special meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal.

Focus Bank's Directors and Executive Officers Have Certain Interests in the Merger (page 84)

Certain of Focus Bank's executive officers and directors have financial interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of Focus Bank's shareholders. The merger would constitute a "change of control" for purposes of the employment agreements between Focus Bank and each of its executive officers and severance payments would be due to Focus Bank executive officers under the employment contracts if the executive officer does not continue with employment with Heritage, or if the executive officer's duties are materially changed or the executive officer is terminated (except for cause) by Heritage within twelve months of the closing date. In addition, each of Focus Bank's executive officers and directors hold equity awards, the treatment of which is described below under "Treatment of Focus Bank Stock Options and Restricted Stock". Under the terms of the merger agreement, two Focus Bank directors that are mutually acceptable to Focus Bank and Heritage will join the board of directors of Heritage. Focus Bank and Heritage have tentatively determined that the two Focus Bank directors to be appointed will be J. Philip DiNapoli and Julianne Biagini-Komas. In addition, Heritage anticipates that Robert Gionfriddo and Teresa Powell, Focus Bank Executive Vice Presidents, will join Heritage as Executive Vice Presidents. The members of the Focus Bank board of

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directors were aware of and considered these interests, among other matters, when they approved the merger agreement and unanimously recommended that Focus Bank shareholders approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal. These interests are described in more detail under the section entitled "The Merger Interests of Focus Bank Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger" beginning on page 84.

Treatment of Focus Bank Stock Options and Restricted Stock (page 52)

Immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, each outstanding option to purchase shares of Focus Bank common stock, whether or not then vested and whether or not then exercisable, will be cancelled and the holder of the option will be entitled to receive, subject to any required tax withholding, an amount in cash, without interest, from Focus Bank equal to the excess over the exercise price per share, if any, of 1.8235 multiplied by the volume weighted average of the closing price for shares of Heritage common stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the twenty consecutive trading days ending on the fifth trading day immediately prior to the merger closing date.

Each outstanding share of Focus Bank unvested restricted stock will vest on the completion of the merger and the holder thereof will receive the same per share merger consideration as all of the other Focus Bank shareholders, subject to any required tax withholding.

Regulatory Approvals Required for the Merger (page 89)

Completion of the merger is subject to various regulatory approvals, including approvals from the California Department of Business Oversight, which we refer to as the Department of Business Oversight, and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, which we refer to as Federal Reserve Board. Notifications and/or applications requesting approval for the merger may also be submitted to other federal and state regulatory authorities and self-regulatory organizations. We have filed, or are in the process of filing all notices and applications to obtain the necessary regulatory approvals. Although we currently believe we should be able to obtain all required regulatory approvals, we cannot be certain when or if we will obtain them or, if obtained, whether they will contain terms, conditions or restrictions not currently contemplated that will be detrimental to or have a material adverse effect on the combined company after the completion of the merger. The regulatory approvals to which completion of the merger are subject are described in more detail under the section entitled "The Merger Regulatory Approvals Required for the Merger" beginning on page 89.

Conditions to the Merger (page 105)

The obligations of Heritage and Focus Bank to complete the merger are each subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the following conditions:

approval of the Heritage Merger proposal by the Heritage shareholders and approval of the Focus Bank Merger proposal by the Focus Bank shareholders;

the receipt of all regulatory approvals required from the Federal Reserve Board and the Department of Business Oversight, subject to the limitations set forth in the merger agreement;

(i) no order issued by any injunction or decree issued by any court or agency of competent jurisdiction or other legal restraint or prohibition preventing the consummation of the merger shall be in effect, and (ii) no statute, rule, regulation, order, injunction or decree shall have been enacted, entered, promulgated or enforced by any governmental entity which prohibits, restricts or makes illegal consummation of the merger;

As of the last business day of the month reflected in the closing financial statements and prior to implementation of the plan of integration, and excluding certain costs related to the merger, the adjusted shareholders' equity of Focus Bank shall not be less than \$28.493 million;

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as of the last business day of the month reflected in the closing financial statements, the total deposits (excluding brokered deposits and certificates of deposit in excess of \$25 million) of Focus Bank shall not be less than eighty-five percent of the balance of such "core deposits" on December 31, 2014;

the effectiveness of the registration statement on Form S-4, of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part, and the absence of a stop order or proceeding initiated or threatened by the SEC for that purpose;

approval for the listing on the NASDAQ Global Select Market of the shares of Heritage common stock to be issued in the merger;

the accuracy of the representations and warranties of each party as of the closing date of the merger, other than, in most cases, those failures to be true and correct that would not reasonably be expected to result in a material adverse effect on such party;

the absence of a material adverse effect on either party since the date of the merger agreement;

performance in all material respects by each party of the obligations required to be performed by it at or prior to the closing date of the merger;

holders of not in excess of ten percent of the outstanding shares of Focus Bank shall not have exercised their dissenters' rights;

written certifications as to certain factual matters shall have been delivered to each party; and

receipt by each party of an opinion of its legal or tax advisors as to certain tax matters.

No Solicitation (page 99)

Under the terms of the merger agreement, Focus Bank has agreed not to solicit, initiate or encourage, induce, or facilitate any inquiries, offers or proposals with respect to, or engage or participate in any discussions or negotiations concerning, or provide any confidential or nonpublic information or data to, any person relating to, any acquisition proposal. Notwithstanding these restrictions, the merger agreement provides that, under specified circumstances, in response to an unsolicited bona fide written acquisition proposal which, in the good faith judgment of the Focus Bank board of directors, constitutes or is more likely than not to result in a proposal which is superior to the merger with Heritage, and the Focus Bank board of directors determines in good faith (and after consultation with Focus Bank's financial advisors and legal counsel) that failure to take such actions is or would reasonably be expected to be a violation of its fiduciary duties under applicable law, Focus Bank may furnish information regarding Focus Bank and participate in discussions and negotiations with such third party.

Termination; Termination Fee (page 106)

Heritage and Focus Bank may mutually agree at any time to terminate the merger agreement without completing the merger, even if the Focus Bank shareholders have approved the merger and approved and adopted the merger agreement and the Heritage shareholders have approved the issuance of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger.

The merger agreement may also be terminated and the merger abandoned at any time prior to the effective time of the merger, as follows:

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by either Heritage or Focus Bank, if a required governmental approval is denied by final, non-appealable action, or if a governmental entity has issued a final, non-appealable order enjoining or otherwise prohibiting the closing of the merger, unless such denial or order is due

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to the failure of the party seeking to terminate the merger agreement to perform or observe the covenants and agreements of such party;

by Heritage if any requisite regulatory approval includes, or will not be issued without, the imposition of a burdensome condition;

by either Heritage or Focus Bank, if the merger has not closed on or before March 31, 2016, except that a party that is then in material breach of any of its covenants or obligations under the merger agreement is not entitled to terminate the merger agreement for this reason;

by either Heritage or Focus Bank, if there is a breach by the other party that would, individually or in the aggregate with other breaches by such party, result in the failure of a closing condition, unless the breach is cured before the earlier of March 31, 2016 and within thirty days following written notice of the breach;

by either Heritage or Focus Bank, if (i) the Focus Bank shareholders have not approved the merger at the Focus Bank special meeting (or any adjournment or postponement thereof), or (ii) the Heritage shareholders have not approved the issuance of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger at the Heritage special meeting (or any adjournment or postponement thereof), except that a party that fails to comply with its obligations and covenants relating to its shareholders' meeting is not entitled to terminate the merger agreement for this reason;

by Heritage, if the Focus Bank board of directors (i) withdraws, modifies, amends or qualifies its recommendation to approve the merger, (ii) publicly takes or fails to take certain actions indicating that the Focus Bank board of directors does not support the merger, (iii) approves, endorses, or recommends any other competing acquisition proposal, (iv) fails to comply with its obligations and covenants relating to the non-solicitation of competing acquisition proposals and in responding to unsolicited acquisition proposals, or (v) fails to comply with its obligation and covenants relating to the Focus Bank shareholders' meeting to approve the merger;

by Focus Bank, if prior to the receipt of the vote of the Focus Bank shareholders approving the merger and the merger agreement, Focus Bank (i) receives an unsolicited bona fide written competing acquisition proposal from any person that is not withdrawn, and a majority of the entire Focus Bank board of directors determines in good faith that such acquisition proposal constitutes a superior proposal and that failure to accept the competing acquisition proposal would be or would be reasonably likely to result in a violation of its fiduciary duties under applicable law, (ii) has complied with its obligations and covenants under the merger, and (iii) pays Heritage a termination fee; except that before Focus Bank can terminate the merger agreement under these circumstances:

during a five business day period negotiate in good faith with Heritage to enable Heritage to make an offer that is at least as favorable to the shareholders of Focus Bank so that such competing acquisition proposal would cease to constitute a superior proposal; and

at the end of such five business day period, a majority of the entire Focus Bank board of directors, after taking into account any modifications to the terms of the merger agreement and the merger, must continue to believe that such competing acquisition proposal constitutes a superior proposal and, that failure to accept the competing acquisition proposal would or would be reasonably likely to result in a violation of its fiduciary duties under applicable law.

Focus Bank may be required to pay Heritage a termination fee of \$2.74 million in certain circumstances. For more information, please see the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Termination; Termination Fee" beginning on page 106.

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Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger (page 113)

The merger is intended to qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. Assuming the merger qualifies as such a reorganization, a shareholder of Focus Bank generally will not recognize any gain or loss upon receipt of Heritage common stock in exchange for Focus Bank common stock in the merger, except with respect to cash received in lieu of a fractional share of Heritage common stock, and except for Focus Bank shareholders who exercise their appraisal rights with respect to the merger. It is a condition to the completion of the merger that Heritage and Focus Bank receive written opinions from their legal advisors to the effect that the merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Tax matters are very complicated and the tax consequences of the merger to each Focus Bank shareholder may depend on such shareholder's particular facts and circumstances. Focus Bank shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisors to understand fully the tax consequences to them of the merger. For more information, please see the section entitled "Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page 113.

Comparison of Shareholders' Rights (page 119)

The rights of Focus Bank shareholders who continue as Heritage shareholders after the merger will be governed by the articles of incorporation and bylaws of Heritage rather than by the articles of incorporation and bylaws of Focus Bank. For more information, please see the section entitled "Comparison of Shareholders' Rights" beginning on page 119.

Information About the Companies (page 40)

Heritage is a bank holding company registered under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. As of March 31, 2015, Heritage had consolidated total assets of approximately \$1.7 billion, total loans of approximately \$1.1 billion, total deposits of approximately \$1.4 billion and shareholders' equity of approximately \$186.8 million. Heritage had 251 full-time equivalent employees as of March 31, 2015. Heritage's principal executive office is located at 150 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California 95113.

Focus Bank is a California chartered bank. As of March 31, 2015, Focus Bank had consolidated total assets of approximately \$397.1 million, total loans of approximately \$180.7 million, total deposits of approximately \$367.2 million and shareholders' equity of approximately \$29.1 million. Focus Bank had 42 full-time equivalent employees as of March 31, 2015. Focus Business Bank's executive office is located at 10 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California 95113.

Risk Factors (page 35)

Before voting at the Heritage or Focus Bank shareholders' meeting, you should carefully consider all of the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus, including the risk factors set forth in the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 35 or described in Heritage's Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the year ended on December 31, 2014 and other reports filed with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Please see "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i.

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The following table summarizes the consolidated financial results of Heritage for the periods and at the dates indicated and should be read in conjunction with Heritage's consolidated financial statements and the notes to the consolidated financial statements contained in reports that Heritage has previously filed with the SEC. Historical financial information for Heritage can be found in its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015 and its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014. Please see the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i for instructions on how to obtain the information that has been incorporated by reference. Financial amounts as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 are unaudited (and are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations for the full year or any other interim period), and the management of Heritage believes that such amounts reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of its results of operations and financial position as of the dates and for the periods indicated. You should not assume the results of operations for past periods and for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 indicate results for any future period.

	(Unaudited)		At or for the Year Ended December 31,				
	At or for the Three Months Ended March 31,		2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	2015	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)							
INCOME STATEMENT DATA:							
Interest income	\$ 17,366	\$ 13,855	\$ 59,256	\$ 52,786	\$ 52,565	\$ 52,031	\$ 55,087
Interest expense	508	521	2,153	2,600	4,187	5,875	10,512
Net interest income before provision for loan losses	16,858	13,334	57,103	50,186	48,378	46,156	44,575
Provision (credit) for loan losses	(60)	(10)	(338)	(816)	2,784	4,469	26,804
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	16,918	13,344	57,441	51,002	45,594	41,687	17,771
Noninterest income	1,926	2,017	7,746	7,214	8,865	8,422	8,733
Noninterest expense	12,276	10,546	44,222	40,470	39,061	38,537	87,332
Income (loss) before income taxes	6,568	4,815	20,965	17,746	15,398	11,572	(60,828)
Income tax expense (benefit)	2,430	1,739	7,538	6,206	5,489	201	(4,971)
Net income (loss)	4,138	3,076	13,427	11,540	9,909	11,371	(55,857)
Dividends and discount accretion on preferred stock	(448)	(224)	(1,008)	(336)	(1,206)	(2,333)	(2,398)
Net income (loss) available to common shareholders	3,690	2,852	12,419	11,204	8,703	9,038	(58,255)
Less: undistributed earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock	274	315	1,342	1,687	1,527	1,589	N/A
Distributed and undistributed earnings (loss) allocated to common shareholders	\$ 3,416	\$ 2,537	\$ 11,077	\$ 9,517	\$ 7,176	\$ 7,449	\$ (58,255)
PER COMMON SHARE DATA:							
Basic net income (loss)(1)	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.28	\$ (3.64)
Diluted net income (loss)(2)	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.28	\$ (3.64)
Book value per common share(3)	\$ 6.31	\$ 5.96	\$ 6.22	\$ 5.84	\$ 5.71	\$ 5.30	\$ 4.73
Tangible book value per common share(4)	\$ 5.70	\$ 5.91	\$ 5.60	\$ 5.78	\$ 5.63	\$ 5.20	\$ 4.61
Pro forma tangible book value per share, assuming Series C preferred stock was converted into common stock(5)	\$ 5.31	\$ 5.49	\$ 5.23	\$ 5.38	\$ 5.25	\$ 4.90	\$ 4.41
Weighted average number of shares outstanding basic	26,509,723	26,359,825	26,390,615	26,338,161	26,303,245	26,266,584	16,026,058
Weighted average number of shares outstanding diluted	26,680,253	26,483,088	26,526,282	26,386,452	26,329,336	26,270,394	16,026,058

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Shares outstanding at period end	26,522,739	26,370,510	26,503,505	26,350,938	26,322,147	26,295,001	26,233,001
Pro forma common shares outstanding at period end, assuming Series C preferred stock was converted into common stock(6)	32,123,739	31,971,510	32,104,505	31,951,938	31,923,147	31,896,001	31,834,001

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	(Unaudited) At or for the Three Months Ended March 31,		At or for the Year Ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)							
BALANCE SHEET DATA:							
Securities (available-for sale and held-to-maturity)	\$ 295,356	\$ 357,923	\$ 301,697	\$ 376,021	\$ 419,384	\$ 380,455	\$ 232,165
Net loans	\$ 1,083,437	\$ 922,942	\$ 1,070,264	\$ 895,749	\$ 793,286	\$ 743,891	\$ 820,845
Allowance for loan losses	\$ 18,544	\$ 18,817	\$ 18,379	\$ 19,164	\$ 19,027	\$ 20,700	\$ 25,204
Goodwill and other intangible assets	\$ 16,141	\$ 1,412	\$ 16,320	\$ 1,527	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,491	\$ 3,014
Total assets	\$ 1,652,887	\$ 1,470,110	\$ 1,617,103	\$ 1,491,632	\$ 1,693,312	\$ 1,306,194	\$ 1,246,369
Total deposits	\$ 1,423,649	\$ 1,261,995	\$ 1,388,386	\$ 1,286,221	\$ 1,479,368	\$ 1,049,428	\$ 993,918
Securities sold under agreement to repurchase	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 5,000
Subordinated debt	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 9,279	\$ 23,702	\$ 23,702
Short-term borrowings	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 2,445
Total shareholders' equity	\$ 186,777	\$ 176,817	\$ 184,358	\$ 173,396	\$ 169,741	\$ 197,831	\$ 182,152
SELECTED PERFORMANCE RATIOS:(7)							
Return (loss) on average assets	1.03%	0.86%	0.88%	0.81%	0.73%	0.89%	4.17%
Return (loss) on average tangible assets	1.04%	0.86%	0.88%	0.81%	0.73%	0.89%	4.25%
Return (loss) on average equity	9.04%	7.10%	7.44%	6.77%	5.75%	6.02%	30.82%
Return (loss) on average tangible equity	9.89%	7.16%	7.60%	6.84%	5.83%	6.11%	35.66%
Net interest margin (fully tax equivalent)	4.58%	4.05%	4.10%	3.84%	3.88%	3.94%	3.69%
Efficiency ratio, excluding impairment of goodwill	65.35%	68.70%	68.19%	70.51%	68.24%	70.61%	82.82%
Average net loans (excludes loans held-for-sale) as a percentage of average deposits	74.54%	72.62%	74.54%	67.26%	67.98%	75.91%	87.53%
Average total shareholders' equity as a percentage of average total assets	11.35%	12.05%	11.85%	11.90%	12.72%	14.82%	13.55%
SELECTED ASSET QUALITY DATA:(8)							
Annualized net charge-offs (recoveries) to average loans	0.09%	0.15%	0.05%	0.11%	0.57%	1.12%	3.18%
Allowance for loan losses to total loans	1.68%	2.00%	1.69%	2.09%	2.34%	2.71%	2.98%
Nonperforming loans to total loans plus nonaccrual loans loans held-for-sale	0.61%	1.15%	0.54%	1.29%	2.24%	2.20%	3.90%
Nonperforming assets	\$ 8,449	\$ 11,375	\$ 6,551	\$ 12,393	\$ 19,464	\$ 19,142	\$ 34,399
HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP CAPITAL RATIOS:(9)							
Total risk-based	13.0%	15.4%	13.9%	15.3%	16.2%	21.9%	20.9%
Tier 1 risk-based	11.7%	14.2%	12.6%	14.0%	15.0%	20.6%	19.7%
Common equity Tier 1 risk-based	10.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leverage	10.5%	11.9%	10.6%	11.2%	11.5%	15.3%	14.1%

Notes:

- (1) Represents distributed and undistributed earnings (loss) allocated to common shareholders, divided by the average number of shares of common stock outstanding for the respective period.
- (2) Represents distributed and undistributed earnings (loss) allocated to common shareholders, divided by the average number of shares of common stock and common stock equivalents outstanding for the respective period.
- (3) Represents shareholders' equity minus preferred stock divided by the number of shares of common stock outstanding at the end of the period indicated.
- (4) Represents shareholders' equity minus preferred stock, minus goodwill and other intangible assets divided by the number of shares of common stock outstanding at the end of period indicated.
- (5)

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Represents shareholders' equity minus preferred stock, minus goodwill and other intangible assets divided by the number of shares of common stock outstanding at the end of period indicated, assuming 21,004 shares of Series C preferred stock were converted into 5,601,000 shares of common stock.

- (6) Assumes 21,004 shares of Series C preferred stock were converted into 5,601,000 shares of common stock at the end of the period indicated.
- (7) Average balances used in this table are based on daily averages.
- (8) Average loans and total loans exclude loans held-for-sale.
- (9) The capital ratios at March 31, 2015 are based on the Basel III regulatory requirements; the capital ratios for all of the prior periods are based on the Basel I regulatory requirements.

Table of Contents**SELECTED HISTORICAL CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA FOR FOCUS BANK**

The following table summarizes the consolidated financial results of Focus Bank for the periods and at the dates indicated and should be read in conjunction with Focus Bank's consolidated financial statements included in Appendix E and Appendix F of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Financial amounts as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 are unaudited (and are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations for the full year or any other interim period), and the management of Focus Bank believes that such amounts reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of its results of operations and financial position as of the dates and for the periods indicated. You should not assume the results of operations for past periods and for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014 indicate results for any future period.

	(Unaudited) At or for the Three Months Ended March 31,		At or for the Year Ended December 31,				
	2015	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)						
INCOME STATEMENT DATA:							
Interest income	\$ 2,625	\$ 2,206	\$ 9,432	\$ 7,445	\$ 6,531	\$ 5,275	\$ 4,419
Interest expense	152	183	686	642	442	428	564
Net interest income before provision for loan losses	2,473	2,023	8,746	6,803	6,089	4,847	3,855
Provision (credit) for loan losses	50	100	300				(200)
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	2,423	1,923	8,446	6,803	6,089	4,847	4,055
Noninterest income	1,193	525	1,923	1,578	1,159	1,027	466
Noninterest expense	2,934	2,048	8,546	7,014	5,964	5,211	4,724
Income (loss) before income taxes	682	400	1,823	1,367	1,284	663	(203)
Income tax expense (benefit)	279	147	666	498	(2,174)	62	
Net income (loss)	\$ 403	\$ 253	\$ 1,157	\$ 869	\$ 3,458	\$ 601	\$ (203)
PER COMMON SHARE DATA:							
Basic net income (loss)(1)	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.30	\$ 1.19	\$ 0.21	\$ (0.07)
Diluted net income (loss)(2)	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.30	\$ 1.18	\$ 0.21	\$ (0.07)
Book value per common share(3)	\$ 9.69	\$ 9.23	\$ 9.49	\$ 9.10	\$ 8.97	\$ 7.76	\$ 7.40
Tangible book value per common share(4)	\$ 9.69	\$ 9.23	\$ 9.49	\$ 9.10	\$ 8.97	\$ 7.76	\$ 7.40
Weighted average number of shares outstanding basic	2,929,282	2,915,913	2,922,893	2,912,175	2,902,885	2,888,112	2,887,500
Weighted average number of shares outstanding diluted	3,011,228	2,951,960	2,958,614	2,944,437	2,926,213	2,908,250	2,887,500
Shares outstanding at period end	3,001,722	2,935,930	3,001,722	2,934,930	2,919,406	2,914,517	2,905,350
BALANCE SHEET DATA:							
Securities (available-for sale and held-to-maturity)	\$ 67,973	\$ 72,253	\$ 71,086	\$ 63,293	\$ 29,368	\$ 26,205	\$ 29,994
Net loans	\$ 177,977	\$ 147,376	\$ 179,730	\$ 137,794	\$ 116,871	\$ 94,897	\$ 63,984
Allowance for loan losses	\$ 2,730	\$ 2,524	\$ 2,679	\$ 2,548	\$ 2,545	\$ 2,541	\$ 2,541
Total assets	\$ 397,105	\$ 335,986	\$ 391,283	\$ 312,659	\$ 213,435	\$ 168,524	\$ 131,898
Total deposits	\$ 367,160	\$ 307,881	\$ 361,310	\$ 285,015	\$ 186,360	\$ 145,182	\$ 109,806
Total shareholders' equity	\$ 29,092	\$ 27,113	\$ 28,493	\$ 26,695	\$ 26,195	\$ 22,626	\$ 21,491
SELECTED PERFORMANCE RATIOS:(5)							
Return (loss) on average assets	0.42%	0.32%	0.32%	0.33%	1.95%	0.42%	0.17%
Return (loss) on average tangible assets	0.42%	0.32%	0.32%	0.33%	1.95%	0.42%	0.17%
Return (loss) on average equity	5.66%	3.79%	4.16%	3.28%	14.47%	2.72%	0.85%

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Return (loss) on average tangible equity	5.66%	3.79%	4.16%	3.28%	14.47%	2.72%	0.85%
Net interest margin (fully tax equivalent)	2.86%	2.76%	2.61%	2.80%	3.62%	3.46%	3.30%
Average net loans as a percentage of average deposits	52.65%	48.67%	45.83%	52.02%	69.51%	65.64%	43.79%
Average total shareholders' equity as a percentage of average total assets	7.49%	8.39%	7.63%	10.14%	13.46%	15.42%	17.88%
SELECTED ASSET QUALITY DATA:							
Annualized net charge-offs (recoveries) to average loans	0.00%	0.34%	0.11%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.47%
Allowance for loan losses to total loans	1.51%	1.68%	1.47%	1.82%	2.13%	2.61%	3.82%
Nonperforming loans to total loans	0.00%	0.14%	0.00%	0.80%	0.00%	0.09%	0.13%
Nonperforming assets	\$	\$ 215	\$ 574	\$ 1,122	\$	\$ 83	\$ 86
FOCUS BUSINESS BANK CAPITAL RATIOS:(6)							
Total risk-based	15.4%	13.6%	14.7%	14.8%	18.1%	20.8%	28.5%
Tier 1 risk-based	14.1%	12.4%	13.5%	13.6%	16.8%	19.5%	27.2%
Common equity Tier 1 risk-based	14.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leverage	7.5%	7.9%	7.1%	8.5%	11.8%	13.8%	16.5%

Notes:

- (1) Represents net income (loss) divided by the average number of shares of common stock outstanding for the respective period.

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- (2) Represents net income (loss) divided by the average number of shares of common stock and common stock equivalents outstanding for the respective period.
- (3) Represents shareholders' equity divided by the number of shares of common stock outstanding at the end of the period indicated.
- (4) Represents shareholders' equity minus intangible assets divided by the number of shares of common stock outstanding at the end of period indicated.
- (5) Average balances used in this table are based on daily averages.
- (6) The capital ratios at March 31, 2015 are based on the Basel III regulatory requirements; the capital ratios for all of the prior periods are based on the Basel I regulatory requirements.

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UNAUDITED COMPARATIVE PER COMMON SHARE DATA

The following table shows per common share data regarding basic and diluted earnings, cash dividends, and book value for (a) Heritage and Focus Bank on a historical basis, (b) Heritage on a pro forma combined basis, and (c) Focus Bank on a pro forma equivalent basis. The pro forma basic and diluted earnings per share information was computed as if the merger had been completed on January 1, 2014. The pro forma book value per share information was computed as if the merger had been completed on the dates presented.

The information in the following table is based on, and should be read together with, the condensed pro forma combined consolidated financial information that appears elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, the historical consolidated financial information that Heritage has presented in its prior filings with the SEC and the historical consolidated financial information of Focus Bank that are included elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. You should not rely on the pro forma combined or pro forma equivalent amounts as they are not necessarily indicative of the operating results or financial position that would have occurred if the merger had been completed as of the dates indicated, nor are they necessarily indicative of the future operating results or financial position of the combined company. The pro forma information, although helpful in illustrating the financial characteristics of the combined company under one set of assumptions, does not reflect the benefits of expected cost savings, opportunities to earn additional revenue, the impact of restructuring and merger-related costs (except merger costs that are reflected in the Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Condensed Balance Sheet), or other factors that may result as a consequence of the merger and, accordingly, does not attempt to predict or suggest future results. The information below should

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be read in conjunction with the section entitled "Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Condensed Financial Information" beginning on page 25.

	Historical		Heritage Commerce Corp Pro Forma Combined	Focus Business Bank Pro Forma Equivalent Per Share(1)
	Heritage Commerce Corp	Focus Business Bank		
Per Common Share Data:				
Basic Earnings(2)				
For the Three months ended March 31, 2015	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.22
For the Year ended December 31, 2014	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.69
Diluted Earnings(3)				
For the Three months ended March 31, 2015	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.22
For the Year ended December 31, 2014	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.67
Cash Dividends Paid(4)				
For the Three months ended March 31, 2015	\$ 0.08		\$ 0.08	\$ 0.15
For the Year ended December 31, 2014	\$ 0.18		\$ 0.18	\$ 0.33
Book Value				
As of March 31, 2015	\$ 6.31	\$ 9.69	\$ 6.77	\$ 12.34
As of December 31, 2014	\$ 6.22	\$ 9.49	\$ 6.70	\$ 12.21

(1) Computed by multiplying the "Heritage Pro Forma Combined" amounts by the exchange ratio of 1.8235.

(2) Based on pro forma basic weighted average common shares outstanding of 31,983,363 and 31,864,255 as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively. Such pro forma share amounts are based on (a) 26,509,723 and 26,390,615 basic weighted average common shares outstanding of Heritage common stock for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and the year ended December 31, 2014, respectively, plus (b) the product of (x) the exchange ratio of 1.8235 and (y) 3,001,722 common shares outstanding of Focus Bank common stock at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

(3) Based on pro forma diluted weighted average common shares outstanding of 32,153,893 and 31,999,922 as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively. Such pro forma share amounts are based on (a) 26,680,253 and 26,526,282 diluted weighted average common shares outstanding of Heritage common stock for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and the year ended December 31, 2014, respectively, plus (b) the product of (x) the exchange ratio of 1.8235 and (y) 3,001,722 common shares outstanding of Focus Bank common stock at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

(4) "Heritage Pro Forma Combined" cash dividends paid are based only upon Heritage's historical amounts.

Table of Contents**COMPARATIVE PER SHARE MARKET PRICE AND DIVIDEND INFORMATION**

The table below sets forth, for the calendar quarters indicated, the high and low sales prices per share, and the dividend paid per share, of Heritage common stock, which trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "HTBK," and Focus Bank common stock, which trades on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board trading system under the symbol "FCSB."

	Heritage Commerce Corp			Focus Business Bank		
	Stock Price		Dividend Per Share	Stock Price		Dividend Per Share
	High	Low		High	Low	
2015						
Second quarter (through June 25, 2015)	\$ 9.75	\$ 8.75	\$ 0.08	\$ 18.00	\$ 9.75	
First quarter	\$ 9.14	\$ 8.21	\$ 0.08	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.21	
2014						
Fourth quarter	\$ 8.98	\$ 8.24	\$ 0.05	\$ 9.60	\$ 9.26	
Third quarter	\$ 8.46	\$ 7.94	\$ 0.05	\$ 9.70	\$ 8.88	
Second quarter	\$ 8.31	\$ 7.77	\$ 0.04	\$ 9.25	\$ 8.81	
First quarter	\$ 8.38	\$ 7.81	\$ 0.04	\$ 9.20	\$ 8.56	
2013						
Fourth quarter	\$ 8.33	\$ 7.20	\$ 0.03	\$ 9.45	\$ 8.65	
Third quarter	\$ 7.65	\$ 6.85	\$ 0.03	\$ 9.45	\$ 8.33	
Second quarter	\$ 7.08	\$ 6.36		\$ 8.57	\$ 8.00	
First quarter	\$ 7.03	\$ 6.42		\$ 8.57	\$ 7.24	

The following table sets forth the closing sale prices per share of Heritage common stock and Focus Bank common stock on April 22, 2015, the last trading day before the public announcement of the signing of the merger agreement, and on June 25, 2015, the latest practicable date before the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. The following table also includes the equivalent market value per share of Focus Bank common stock on April 22, 2015 and June 25, 2015, determined by multiplying the closing share price of Heritage common stock on such dates by the exchange ratio for the merger of 1.8235.

	Heritage Commerce Corp	Focus Business Bank	Equivalent Market Value Per Share of Focus Business Bank
June 25, 2015	\$ 9.73	\$ 18.00	\$ 17.74
April 22, 2015	\$ 9.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 16.41

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**UNAUDITED PRO FORMA
COMBINED CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The following unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information are based on the separate historical financial statements of Heritage and Focus Bank, the merger and the assumptions and adjustments described in the accompanying notes to the unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed balance sheet as of March 31, 2015 is presented as if the merger had occurred on March 31, 2015. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed statements of earnings for the year ended December 31, 2014 and the three months ended March 31, 2015 are presented as if the merger had occurred on January 1, 2014. The historical consolidated financial information has been adjusted to reflect factually supportable items that are directly attributable to the merger and, with respect to the income statements only, expected to have a continuing impact on consolidated results of operations.

The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information has been prepared using the acquisition method of accounting for business combinations under U.S. generally accepted accounting standards. Heritage is the acquirer for accounting purposes. Certain reclassifications have been made to the historical financial statements of Focus Bank to conform to the presentation in Heritage's financial statements.

A final determination of the acquisition consideration and fair values of Focus Bank's assets and liabilities, which cannot be made prior to the completion of the merger, will be based on the actual net tangible and intangible assets of Focus Bank that exist as of the date of completion of the transaction. Consequently, fair value adjustments and amounts preliminarily allocated to goodwill and identifiable intangibles could change significantly from those allocations used in the unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information presented below and could result in a material change in amortization of acquired intangible assets.

In connection with the plan to integrate the operations of Heritage and Focus Bank following the completion of the merger, Heritage anticipates that nonrecurring charges, such as costs associated with systems implementation, severance, and other costs related to exit or disposal activities, will be incurred. Heritage is not able to determine the timing, nature and amount of these charges as of the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. However, these charges will affect the results of operations of Heritage and Focus Bank, as well as those of the combined company following the completion of the merger, in the period in which they are recorded. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed statements of earnings do not include the effects of the costs associated with any restructuring or integration activities resulting from the transaction, as they are nonrecurring in nature and not factually supportable at the time that the unaudited pro forma combined condensed statements of earnings were prepared. Additionally, the unaudited pro forma adjustments do not give effect to any nonrecurring or unusual restructuring charges that may be incurred as a result of the integration of the two companies or any anticipated disposition of assets that may result from such integration.

The actual amounts recorded as of the completion of the merger may differ materially from the information presented in the unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information as a result of:

changes in the trading price for Heritage's common stock;

net cash used or generated in the operations of Focus Bank and Heritage between the signing of the merger agreement and completion of the merger;

changes in the fair values of the assets and liabilities of Focus Bank and Heritage;

other changes in net assets of Focus Bank and Heritage that occur prior to the completion of the merger, which could cause material changes in the information presented below; and

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changes in the financial results of both Heritage and Focus from the period April 1, 2015 to consummation of the merger.

The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information is provided for informational purposes only. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information is not necessarily, and should not be assumed to be, an indication of the results that would have been achieved had the transaction been completed as of the dates indicated or that may be achieved in the future. The preparation of the unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information and related adjustments required management to make certain assumptions and estimates. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information should be read together with:

the accompanying notes to the unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information;

Heritage's separate audited historical consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, included in Heritage's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus;

Focus Bank's separate audited historical consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus;

Heritage's separate unaudited historical condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2015 included in Heritage's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015, incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus; and

Focus Bank's separate unaudited historical condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes as of and for the three months ended March 31, 2015, included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

You should not rely on the pro forma combined or pro forma equivalent amounts as they are not necessarily indicative of the operating results or financial position that would have occurred if the merger had been completed as of the dates indicated, nor are they necessarily indicative of the future operating results or financial position of the combined company. The pro forma information, although helpful in illustrating the financial characteristics of the combined company under one set of assumptions, does not reflect the benefits of expected cost savings, opportunities to earn additional revenue, the impact of restructuring and merger-related costs, or other factors that may result as a consequence of the merger and, accordingly, does not attempt to predict or suggest future results.

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HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP AND FOCUS BUSINESS BANK
PRO FORMA COMBINED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET (Unaudited)

	March 31, 2015				Pro Forma Combined
	Heritage Commerce Corp	Focus Business Bank	Adjustments		
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Assets					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 27,388	\$ 23,855	\$ (5,567)	(a)	\$ 45,676
Federal funds sold and interest-bearing deposits in other financial institutions	124,388	94,602			218,990
Total cash and cash equivalents	151,776	118,457	(5,567)		264,666
Time certificates of deposits in other financial institutions		21,687			21,687
Securities available-for-sale, at fair value	200,768	44,862			245,630
Securities held-to-maturity, at amortized cost	94,588	23,111	367	(b)	118,066
Loans held-for-sale SBA, at lower of cost or fair value, including deferred costs	1,390				1,390
Loans, net of deferred fees	1,101,991	180,707	(4,833)	(c)	1,277,865
Allowance for loan losses	(18,554)	(2,730)	2,730	(d)	(18,554)
Loans, net	1,083,437	177,977	(2,103)		1,259,311
Federal Home Loan Bank and Federal Reserve Bank stock, at cost	10,618				10,618
Company owned life insurance	51,657	6,117			57,774
Premises and equipment, net	7,340	223			7,563
Goodwill	13,054		23,447	(e)	36,501
Other intangible assets	3,087		5,449	(f)	8,536
Accrued interest receivable and other assets	35,172	4,671	(1,422)	(g)	38,421
Total assets	\$ 1,652,887	\$ 397,105	\$ 20,171		\$ 2,070,163
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity					
Liabilities:					
Deposits:					
Demand, noninterest-bearing	\$ 544,339	\$ 107,562			\$ 651,901
Demand, interest-bearing	241,477	185,257			426,734
Savings and money market	380,486	50,891			431,377
Time deposits under \$250	55,747	11,554			67,301
Time deposits \$250 and over	163,066	11,896			174,962
Time deposits brokered	28,126				28,126
CDARS money market and time deposits	10,408				10,408
Total deposits	1,423,649	367,160			1,790,809
Accrued interest payable and other liabilities	42,461	853			43,314
Total liabilities	1,466,110	368,013			1,834,123
Shareholders' equity:					
Preferred stock	19,519				19,519
Common stock	133,992	30,532	18,731	(h)	183,255
Retained earnings	34,583	(1,462)	1,462	(i)	34,583
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,317)	22	(22)	(j)	(1,317)

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Total shareholders' equity	186,777	29,092	20,171	236,040
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 1,652,887	\$ 397,105	\$ 20,171	\$ 2,070,163

See Notes to Pro Forma Combined Condensed Consolidated Financial Information

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HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP AND FOCUS BUSINESS BANK
PRO FORMA COMBINED CONDENSED STATEMENT OF INCOME (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2015				Pro Forma Combined
	Heritage Commerce Corp	Focus Business Bank	Adjustments		
(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)					
Interest income:					
Loans, including fees	\$ 15,004	\$ 2,314	\$ 47	(a)	\$ 17,365
Securities, taxable	1,779	176	(9)	(b)	1,946
Securities, non-taxable	506	45			551
Federal funds sold and interest-bearing deposits in other financial institutions	77	90			167
Total interest income	17,366	2,625	38		20,029
Interest expense:					
Deposits	508	152			660
Total interest expense	508	152			660
Net interest income before provision for loan losses	16,858	2,473	38		19,369
Provision (credit) for loan losses	(60)	50			(10)
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	16,918	2,423	38		19,379
Noninterest income:					
Service charges and fees on deposit accounts	623	102			725
Increase in cash surrender value of life insurance	400	11			411
Servicing income	306	(12)			294
Gain on sales of SBA loans	207	910	(2)	(c)	1,115
Gain on sales of securities		2			2
Other	390	180			570
Total noninterest income	1,926	1,193	(2)		3,117
Noninterest expense:					
Salaries and employee benefits	8,042	1,654			9,696
Occupancy and equipment	1,045	176			1,221
Software subscriptions	327	70			397
Data processing	303	137			440
Insurance expense	291	19			310
FDIC deposit insurance premiums	239	64			303
Correspondent bank charges	236	7			243
Advertising and promotion	211	86			297
Professional fees	95	331			426
Foreclosed assets, net	(170)				(170)
Other	1,657	390	248	(d)	2,295
Total noninterest expense	12,276	2,934	248		15,458
Income before income taxes	6,568	682	(212)		7,038
Income tax expense	2,430	279	(85)	(e)	2,624

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Net income	4,138	403	(127)	4,414
Dividends on preferred stock	(448)			(448)
Net income available to common shareholders	3,690	403	(127)	3,966
Less: undistributed earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock	(274)		64 (f)	(210)
Distributed and undistributed earnings allocated to common shareholders	\$ 3,416	\$ 403	\$ (63)	\$ 3,756
Earnings per common share:				
Basic	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.14	N/A	\$ 0.12
Diluted	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.13	N/A	\$ 0.12
Weighted average common shares outstanding basic	26,509,723	2,929,282	2,544,358 (g)	31,983,363
Weighted average common shares outstanding diluted	26,680,253	3,011,228	2,462,412 (g)	32,153,893

See Notes to Pro Forma Combined Condensed Consolidated Financial Information

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HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP AND FOCUS BUSINESS BANK
PRO FORMA COMBINED CONDENSED STATEMENT OF INCOME (Unaudited)

	Year Ended December 31, 2014				Pro Forma Combined
	Heritage Commerce Corp	Focus Business Bank	Adjustments		
(Dollars in thousands, except for per share data)					
Interest income:					
Loans, including fees	\$ 49,207	\$ 7,859	\$ 190	(a)	\$ 57,256
Securities, taxable	7,810	1,022	(36)	(b)	8,796
Securities, non-taxable	2,025	227			2,252
Federal funds sold and interest-bearing deposits in other financial institutions	214	324			538
Total interest income	59,256	9,432	154		68,842
Interest expense:					
Deposits	2,032	686			2,718
Short-term borrowings	121				121
Total interest expense	2,153	686			2,839
Net interest income before provision for loan losses	57,103	8,746	154		66,003
Provision (credit) for loan losses	(338)	300			(38)
Net interest income after provision for loan losses	57,441	8,446	154		66,041
Noninterest income:					
Service charges and fees on deposit accounts	2,519	350			2,869
Increase in cash surrender value of life insurance	1,600	103			1,703
Servicing income	1,296	203	(9)	(c)	1,490
Gain on sales of SBA loans	971	1,082			2,053
Gain on sales of securities	97	125			222
Other	1,263	60			1,323
Total noninterest income	7,746	1,923	(9)		9,660
Noninterest expense:					
Salaries and employee benefits	26,250	4,507			30,757
Occupancy and equipment	4,059	705			4,764
Professional fees	1,891	1,040			2,931
Insurance expense	1,126	48			1,174
Software subscriptions	999	179			1,178
Data processing	969	444			1,413
Bay View Funding acquisition and integration related costs	895				895
FDIC deposit insurance premiums	892	224			1,116
Correspondent bank charges	760	31			791
Foreclosed assets, net	53	57			110
Other	6,328	1,311	991	(d)	8,630
Total noninterest expense	44,222	8,546	991		53,759
Income before income taxes	20,965	1,823	(846)		21,942
Income tax expense	7,538	666	(338)	(e)	7,866

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Net income	13,427	1,157	(508)	14,076
Dividends on preferred stock	(1,008)			(1,008)
Net income available to common shareholders	12,419	1,157	(508)	13,068
Less: undistributed earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock	(1,342)		246 (f)	(1,096)
Distributed and undistributed earnings allocated to common shareholders	\$ 11,077	\$ 1,157	\$ (262)	\$ 11,972
Earnings per common share:				
Basic	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.40	N/A	\$ 0.38
Diluted	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.39	N/A	\$ 0.37
Weighted average common shares outstanding basic	26,390,615	2,922,893	2,550,747 (g)	31,864,255
Weighted average common shares outstanding diluted	26,526,282	2,958,614	2,515,026 (g)	31,999,922

See Notes to Pro Forma Combined Condensed Consolidated Financial Information

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**HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP AND FOCUS BUSINESS BANK
NOTES TO PRO FORMA COMBINED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION
(Unaudited)**

(1) Basis of Presentation

The unaudited pro forma combined condensed consolidated financial information and explanatory notes show the impact on the historical balance sheet and statements of income of Heritage Commerce Corp resulting from the pending Focus Business Bank merger under the acquisition method of accounting as required by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") accounting guidance on business combinations. Acquisition accounting requires that the assets purchased, the liabilities assumed and non-controlling interest all be reported in the acquirer's financial statements at their fair value, with any excess of purchase consideration over the net assets being reported as goodwill at the close of business on the transaction date. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed consolidated balance sheet combines the historical financial information of Heritage Commerce Corp and Focus Business Bank as of March 31, 2015, and assumes that the merger was completed on that date. The unaudited pro forma combined condensed consolidated statements of income for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and for the year ended December 31, 2014 give effect to the pending Heritage Commerce Corp and Focus Business Bank merger as if the transaction had been completed on January 1, 2014.

Since the transaction is being recorded using the acquisition method of accounting, all loans are recorded at fair value, including adjustments for credit quality, and no allowance for loan losses is carried over to Heritage Commerce Corp's balance sheet. In addition, certain nonrecurring costs associated with the pending mergers such as potential severance, professional fees, legal fees and conversion-related expenditures are expensed as incurred and not reflected in the unaudited pro forma combined condensed consolidated statements of income.

While the recording of the acquired loans at their fair value will impact the prospective determination of the provision for loan losses and the allowance for loan losses, for purposes of the unaudited pro forma consolidated statements of income for the three months ended March 31, 2015, and for the year ended December 31, 2014, Heritage Commerce Corp assumed no adjustments to the historical amount of Focus Business Bank's provision for loan losses.

(2) Accounting Policies and Financial Statement Classifications

The accounting policies of Focus Business Bank are in the process of being reviewed in detail by Heritage Commerce Corp. Upon completion of such review, conforming adjustments or financial statement reclassifications may be determined.

(3) Merger and Acquisition Integration Costs

In connection with the Focus Business Bank merger, the plan to integrate the operations of Focus Business Bank is still being developed. The specific details of the plan to integrate the operations of Heritage Commerce Corp and Focus Business Bank will continue to be refined over the next several months, and will include assessing personnel, benefit plans, premises, equipment and service contracts to determine where Heritage Commerce Corp may take advantage of redundancies. Certain decisions arising from these assessments may involve involuntary termination of employees, vacating leased premises, changing information systems, canceling contracts with certain service providers, selling or otherwise disposing of certain premises, furniture and equipment, and re-assessing a possible deferred tax asset valuation allowance from a potential change in control for tax purposes. Heritage Commerce Corp also expects to incur merger-related costs including professional fees, legal fees, system conversion costs and costs related to

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communications with customers and others. To the extent there are costs associated with these actions, the cost will be recorded based on the nature of the cost and the timing of these integration actions.

No such costs were considered in the accompanying unaudited pro forma combined condensed consolidated statements of income.

(4) Estimated Annual Cost Savings or Revenue Opportunities

While Heritage Commerce Corp expects to realize cost savings from the pending Focus Business Bank merger, the pro forma information, although helpful in illustrating the financial characteristics of the combined company under one set of assumptions, does not reflect the benefits of expected cost savings, opportunities to earn additional revenue, the impact of restructuring and merger-related costs, or other factors that may result as a consequence of the merger and, accordingly, does not attempt to predict or suggest future results. Further, there can be no assurance the cost savings will be achieved in the amount, manner or timing currently contemplated.

(5) Pro Forma Adjustments to Combined Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at March 31, 2015

The following pro forma adjustments have been reflected in the unaudited pro forma combined condensed consolidated balance sheet at March 31, 2015. All adjustments are based on current assumptions and valuations, which are subject to change.

	March 31, 2015	
	(Dollars in thousands)	
(a) Cash paid for Focus Business Bank in-the-money stock options	\$	(5,567)
(b) Adjust the Focus Business Bank securities portfolio to fair value	\$	367
(c) Adjust the Focus Business Bank loan portfolio to fair value	\$	(4,833)
(d) Eliminate the Focus Business Bank allowance for loan losses	\$	2,730
(e) Goodwill created from the transaction:		
Assets acquired	\$	397,105
Less: liabilities assumed		(368,013)
Purchase accounting adjustments:		
Adjust the securities portfolio to fair value	\$ 367	
Adjust the loan portfolio to fair value	(4,833)	
Eliminate the Focus Business Bank allowance for loan losses	2,730	
Customer deposit intangible	5,449	
Adjust the servicing asset to fair value	105	
Total pre-tax adjustments	3,818	
Less: deferred income taxes	(1,527)	
Total after-tax adjustments		2,291
Net assets acquired	\$	31,383
Purchase price	\$	54,830
Less: net assets acquired		(31,383)

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	Goodwill created from transaction	\$	23,447
(f)	Customer deposit intangible created from the transaction	\$	5,449
(g)	Other assets:		
	Adjust the Focus Business Bank servicing asset to fair value	\$	105
	Deferred income taxes on purchase accounting adjustments		(1,527)
	Other assets adjustment	\$	(1,422)
(h)	Common stock		
	Eliminate Focus Business Bank common stock	\$	(30,532)
	Heritage Commerce Corp common stock issued to Focus Business Bank shareholders (with stock price equal to \$9.00 on April 22, 2015 the day preceding the deal announcement and issued at an exchange ratio of 1.8235 Shares of Heritage Commerce Corp common stock)		49,263
	Common stock adjustment	\$	18,731
(i)	Eliminate Focus Business Bank retained earnings	\$	1,462
(j)	Eliminate Focus Business Bank other comprehensive loss	\$	(22)

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The following pro forma adjustments have been reflected in the unaudited pro forma combined condensed consolidated statement of income for the three months ended March 31, 2015. All adjustments are based on current assumptions and valuations, which are subject to change.

		For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 (Dollars in thousands)
(a) Loan interest rate mark adjustment		\$ 949
Accreted over 5 years (60 months)	/	60
Monthly income accretion		16
Three months accretion	X	3
Loan interest income adjustment		\$ 47
(b) Securities fair value adjustment		\$ (108)
Amortized over 3 years (36 months)	/	36
Monthly expense amortization		(3)
Three months amortization	X	3
Securities interest rate adjustment		\$ (9)
(c) Servicing asset mark adjustment		\$ (105)
Amortized over 12 years (144 months)	/	144
Monthly expense amortization		(1)
Three months amortization	X	3
Servicing asset income adjustment		\$ (2)
(d) Core deposit intangible created from the transaction		\$ 5,449
Amortized over 10 years on the sum of the years digits basis	X	10
Sum of the years digits basis	/	55
First full year amortization		991
Quarterly amortization factor	/	4
Core deposit intangible expense adjustment		\$ 248
(e) Income tax expense on pre-tax adjustments		\$ (85)
(f) Heritage Commerce Corp weighted average common shares outstanding basic		26,509,723
Heritage Commerce Corp Series C preferred stock shares outstanding (as converted to common stock)		5,601,000
Heritage Commerce Corp common stock issued to Focus Business Bank shareholders		5,473,640
		37,584,363

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Pro forma combined weighted average common shares outstanding basic, assuming Series C preferred stock was converted into common stock

Heritage Commerce Corp Series C preferred stock shares outstanding (as converted to common stock)		5,601,000
Pro forma combined weighted average common shares outstanding basic, assuming Series C preferred stock was converted into common stock	/	37,584,363
Earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock factor		0.15
Pro forma combined net income	X \$	4,414
Pro forma combined earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock		658
Less dividends on Series C preferred stock		(448)
Pro forma combined distributed and undistributed earnings allocated to common shareholders		210
Less Heritage Commerce Corp undistributed earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock		(274)
Undistributed earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock adjustment	\$	64
(g) Heritage Commerce Corp common stock issued to Focus Business Bank shareholders		5,473,640
Eliminate Focus Business Bank weighted average common shares outstanding for basic earnings per common share		(2,929,282)
Adjustment to shares used in computing basic earnings per common share		2,544,358
Heritage Commerce Corp common stock issued to Focus Business Bank shareholders		5,473,640
Eliminate Focus Business Bank weighted average common shares outstanding for diluted earnings per common share		(3,011,228)
Adjustment to shares used in computing diluted earnings per common share		2,462,412

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(7) Pro Forma Adjustments to Combined Condensed Consolidated Statement of Income for the Year Ended December 31, 2014

The following pro forma adjustments have been reflected in the unaudited pro forma combined condensed consolidated statement of income for the year ended December 31, 2014. All adjustments are based on current assumptions and valuations, which are subject to change.

		For the Year Ended December 31, 2014	
		(Dollars in thousands)	
(a)	Loan interest rate mark adjustment	\$	949
	Accreted over 5 years (60 months)	/	60
	Monthly income accretion		16
	Twelve months accretion	X	12
	Loan interest income adjustment	\$	190
(b)	Securities fair value adjustment	\$	(108)
	Amortized over 3 years (36 months)	/	36
	Monthly expense amortization		(3)
	Twelve months amortization	X	12
	Securities interest rate adjustment	\$	(36)
(c)	Servicing asset mark adjustment	\$	(105)
	Amortized over 12 years (144 months)	/	144
	Monthly expense amortization		(1)
	Twelve months amortization	X	12
	Servicing asset income adjustment	\$	(9)
(d)	Core deposit intangible created from the transaction	\$	5,449
	Amortized over 10 years on the sum of the years digits basis	X	10
	Sum of the years digits basis	/	55
	Core deposit intangible expense adjustment	\$	991
(e)	Income tax expense on pre-tax adjustments	\$	(338)
(f)	Heritage Commerce Corp weighted average common shares outstanding basic		26,390,615
	Heritage Commerce Corp Series C preferred stock shares outstanding (as converted to common stock)		5,601,000
	Heritage Commerce Corp common stock issued to Focus Business Bank shareholders		5,473,640
	Pro forma combined weighted average common shares outstanding basic, assuming Series C preferred stock was converted into common stock		37,465,255
	Heritage Commerce Corp Series C preferred stock shares outstanding (as converted to common stock)		5,601,000

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Pro forma combined weighted average common shares outstanding basic, assuming Series C preferred stock was converted into common stock	/	37,465,255
Earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock factor		0.15
Pro forma combined net income	X \$	14,076
Pro forma combined earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock		2,104
Less dividends on Series C preferred stock		(1,008)
Pro forma combined distributed and undistributed earnings allocated to common shareholders		1,096
Less Heritage Commerce Corp undistributed earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock		(1,342)
Undistributed earnings allocated to Series C preferred stock adjustment	\$	246
(g) Heritage Commerce Corp common stock issued to Focus Business Bank shareholders		5,473,640
Eliminate Focus Business Bank weighted average common shares outstanding for basic earnings per common share		(2,922,893)
Adjustment to shares used in computing basic earnings per common share		2,550,747
Heritage Commerce Corp common stock issued to Focus Business Bank shareholders		5,473,640
Eliminate Focus Business Bank weighted average common shares outstanding for diluted earnings per common share		(2,958,614)
Adjustment to shares used in computing diluted earnings per common share		2,515,026

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This joint proxy statement/prospectus, including information included or incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus contains forward looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 giving Heritage's and Focus Bank's expectations or predictions of future financial or business performance or conditions. Forward-looking statements are typically identified by words such as "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "target," "estimate," "continue," "positions," "prospects," "projections" or "potential," by future conditional verbs such as "will," "would," "should," "could" or "may," or by variations of such words or by similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are subject to numerous assumptions, risks and uncertainties which change over time. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made and Heritage and Focus Bank assume no duty to update forward-looking statements.

In addition to factors previously disclosed in Heritage's reports filed with the SEC and those identified elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus (including the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 35), the following factors among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from forward-looking statements or historical performance:

the ability to complete the proposed transaction, including obtaining regulatory approvals and approval by the shareholders of Heritage and Focus Bank;

the ability to successfully integrate Heritage and Focus Bank, or achieve expected beneficial synergies and/or operating efficiencies, in each case within expected time-frames or at all;

business disruption following the merger;

diversion of management's attention from ongoing business operations and opportunities;

customer acceptance of Heritage's and Focus Bank's products and services;

the possibility that the cost of additional capital may be more than expected;

the possibility that a change in the interest rate environment may reduce net interest margins;

general economic conditions, either nationally or in the market areas in which the entities operate or anticipate doing business, are less favorable than expected;

customer borrowing, repayment, investment and deposit practices;

the introduction, withdrawal, success and timing of business initiatives;

credit quality deterioration or a reduction in real estate values which could cause an increase in the allowance for loan losses and a reduction in net earnings;

increased competitive pressure among depository institutions;

the outcome of any legal proceedings that are or may be instituted against Heritage or Focus Bank;

liquidity risk affecting Heritage's, HBC's and Focus Bank's ability to meet their obligations when they come due;

changes in market factors that may affect the value of traded instruments in "mark-to-market" portfolios;

greater than expected noninterest expenses;

excessive loan losses; and

other factors, which could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

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RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information contained in or incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus, including the matters addressed under the caption entitled "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements," Focus Bank shareholders should carefully consider the following risk factors in deciding whether to vote for approval of the merger and approval and adoption of the merger agreement, and Heritage shareholders should carefully consider the following risks in deciding whether to vote for approval of the issuance of the shares of Heritage common stock in the merger. Please see the sections entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i and "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference" beginning on page 155.

Because the exchange ratio of 1.8235 is fixed and will not adjust in the event of changes in the price of either Heritage's or Focus Bank's common stock, the value of the merger consideration is subject to change.

The merger agreement provides that each share of Focus Bank common stock will be converted into the right to receive 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock upon completion of the merger. The exchange ratio is fixed. No adjustments to this exchange ratio will be made based on changes in the price of either Heritage common stock or Focus Bank common stock prior to the completion of the merger. Changes in stock prices may result from a variety of factors, including, among others, general market and economic conditions, changes in Heritage and/or Focus Bank's respective businesses, operations and prospects, market assessment of the likelihood that the merger will be completed as anticipated or at all, and regulatory considerations. Many of these factors are uncertain and beyond the control of Heritage or Focus Bank.

As a result of any such changes in stock prices, the market value of the shares of Heritage common stock that a Focus Bank shareholder will receive at the time that the merger is completed could vary significantly from the value of such shares on the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, the date of the Heritage special meeting, the date of the Focus Bank special meeting, or the date on which such Focus Bank shareholder actually receives its shares of Heritage common stock. For example, based on the range of closing prices of Heritage common stock during the period from April 22, 2015 the last trading day before Heritage and Focus Bank announced that they had entered into the merger agreement, through June 25, 2015, the latest practicable date before the printing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, the exchange ratio represented a market value ranging from a low of \$15.96 to a high of \$17.78 for each share of Focus Bank common stock. Accordingly, at the time of the Heritage special meeting or the Focus Bank special meeting, as the case may be, neither the Heritage shareholders nor the Focus Bank shareholders, as the case may be, will know or be able to calculate the exact market value of the consideration the Focus Bank shareholders will receive upon completion of the merger. Focus Bank shareholders should obtain current market quotations for shares of Heritage common stock before voting their shares at the Focus Bank special meeting.

Heritage shareholders and Focus Bank shareholders will experience dilution as a result of the merger; Focus Bank shareholders will exercise less influence over the management of Heritage.

In connection with the merger, Focus Bank shareholders will receive 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock in exchange for each share of Focus Bank common stock (except with respect to fractional shares) pursuant to the terms of the merger agreement. As a consequence, the shareholders of Heritage and Focus Bank will both experience dilution in their ownership percentage and voting power in Heritage following the merger. If the merger is consummated and based upon the exchange ratio of 1.8235, current Focus Bank common stock shareholders will own approximately 14.6% of Heritage's common stock (including the conversion of the Heritage Series C preferred stock). Accordingly, while Heritage shareholders will still own a majority of the outstanding voting stock of the combined company after the merger, their interests will be diluted.

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Focus Bank shareholders currently have the right to vote in the election of directors of Focus Bank and other matters affecting Focus Bank. Because each Focus Bank shareholder who receives shares of Heritage common stock will become a shareholder of Heritage with a percentage ownership of Heritage that is smaller than such shareholder's percentage ownership of Focus Bank, Focus Bank shareholders will have less influence on the management and policies of Heritage than they now have on the management and policies of Focus Bank.

The market price for Heritage common stock may be affected by factors different from those that historically have affected Focus Bank.

Upon completion of the merger, holders of Focus Bank common stock will become holders of Heritage common stock. Heritage's business differs from that of Focus Bank, and accordingly the results of operations of Heritage will be affected by some factors that are different from those currently affecting the results of operations of Focus Bank. For a discussion of the business of Heritage and some important factors to consider in connection with its business, see the section entitled "Information About the Companies" beginning on page 40 and the documents incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and referred to under the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i.

Heritage may fail to realize the anticipated benefits of the merger.

The success of the merger will depend on, among other things, Heritage's ability to combine the businesses of Heritage and Focus Bank. If Heritage is not able to successfully achieve this objective, the anticipated benefits of the merger may not be realized fully, or at all, or may take longer to realize than expected.

Heritage and Focus Bank have operated and, until the consummation of the merger, will continue to operate independently. It is possible that the integration process or other factors could result in the loss or departure of key employees, the disruption of the ongoing business of Heritage or inconsistencies in standards, controls, procedures and policies. It is also possible that clients, customers, depositors and counterparties of Heritage could choose to discontinue their relationships with the combined company post-merger, which would adversely affect the future performance of the combined company. These transition matters could have an adverse effect on each of Heritage and Focus Bank during the pre-merger period and for an undetermined time after the consummation of the merger.

Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank will be subject to business uncertainties and contractual restrictions while the merger is pending that could adversely affect their respective businesses.

The parties' efforts to complete the merger could cause substantial disruptions in Heritage's, Heritage Bank of Commerce's and/or Focus Bank's respective businesses, which could have an adverse effect on their respective financial results. Among other things, uncertainty as to whether the merger will be completed may affect the ability of each of the parties to recruit prospective employees or to retain and motivate existing employees. Employee retention may be particularly challenging while the merger is pending because employees may experience uncertainty about their future roles with the combined company.

Uncertainty as to the future could adversely affect Heritage's, Heritage Bank of Commerce's and/or Focus Bank's respective businesses, reputation and relationships with potential depositors, borrowers and vendors. For example, vendors, customers and others who deal with Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce or Focus Bank could defer decisions concerning working with such company, or seek to change existing business relationships with such company. Further, a substantial amount of the attention of management and employees of each company is being directed toward the completion of the merger and thus is being diverted from such company's day-to-day operations because matters

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related to the merger (including integration planning) require substantial commitments of time and resources.

In addition, the merger agreement restricts Focus Bank from taking certain actions without Heritage's consent while the merger is pending. These restrictions may, among other matters, prevent Focus Bank from pursuing otherwise attractive business opportunities, selling assets, changing the capital structure, entering into other transactions or making other changes to its business prior to consummation of the merger or termination of the merger agreement. These restrictions could have a material adverse effect on Focus Bank's business, financial condition and results of operations.

Regulatory approvals may not be received, may take longer than expected or may impose conditions that are not presently anticipated or cannot be met.

Before the transactions contemplated in the merger agreement may be completed, various approvals must be obtained from the bank regulatory and other governmental authorities. These governmental entities may impose conditions on the granting of such approvals. Such conditions or changes and the process of obtaining regulatory approvals could have the effect of delaying completion of the merger or of imposing additional costs or limitations on Heritage following the merger. The regulatory approvals may not be received at any time, may not be received in a timely fashion, and may contain conditions on the completion of the merger that are not anticipated or cannot be met. It is a condition to closing the merger that no regulatory approval shall contain or shall have resulted in, or reasonably be expected to result in the imposition of, any burdensome condition on the combined company following the merger.

The merger agreement may be terminated in accordance with its terms and the merger may not be completed.

The merger agreement is subject to a number of conditions which must be fulfilled in order to complete the merger. Those conditions include: approval of the merger agreement by Focus Bank shareholders, approval of the issuance of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger by Heritage shareholders, receipt of requisite regulatory approvals subject to certain limitations set forth in the merger agreement, absence of orders prohibiting completion of the merger, effectiveness of the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part, approval of the shares of Heritage common stock to be issued to Focus Bank shareholders for listing on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, the continued accuracy of the representations and warranties by both parties, the absence of a material adverse effect on either Heritage or Focus Bank, the satisfaction of certain financial tests by Focus Bank and the performance by both parties of their covenants and agreements, and the receipt by both parties of opinions from their respective legal or tax advisors. These conditions to the closing of the merger may not be fulfilled and, accordingly, the merger may not be completed. In addition, if the merger is not completed by March 31, 2016, either Heritage or Focus Bank may choose not to proceed with the merger, and the parties can mutually decide to terminate the merger agreement at any time, before or after shareholder approval. In addition, Heritage and Focus Bank may elect to terminate the merger agreement in certain other circumstances. If the merger agreement is terminated under certain circumstances, Focus Bank may be required to pay a termination fee of \$2.74 million to Heritage. Please refer to the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Termination; Termination Fee" beginning on page 106 for a fuller description of these circumstances.

Failure to complete the merger could negatively impact Heritage's, Heritage Bank of Commerce's and/or Focus Bank's respective businesses, financial condition, results of operations and / or stock prices.

If the merger agreement is terminated and the merger is not completed, the ongoing businesses of Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank may be adversely affected. The market price of Heritage's and Focus Bank's common stock may decline to the extent that the current market price reflects a market assumption that the merger will be completed. In addition, Heritage and Focus Bank

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may experience negative reactions to the termination of the merger from customers, depositors, investors, vendors and others with whom they deal, and neither Heritage nor Focus Bank would realize any of the anticipated benefits of having completed the merger. The expenses of each of Heritage and Focus Bank incurred in connection with the merger, such as legal and accounting fees, must be paid even if the merger is not completed and may not be recovered from the other party.

Further, if the merger agreement is terminated and Focus Bank's board of directors seeks another merger or business combination, Focus Bank shareholders cannot be certain that Focus Bank will be able to find a party willing to pay the equivalent or greater consideration than that which Heritage has agreed to pay in the merger.

Focus Bank directors and executive officers may have interests in the merger different from the interests of other Focus Bank shareholders.

The interests of some of the directors and executive officers of Focus Bank may be different from those of other Focus Bank shareholders, and directors and executive officers of Focus Bank may be participants in arrangements that are different from, or are in addition to, those of other Focus Bank shareholders. The merger would constitute a "change of control" for purposes of the Focus Bank executive employment contracts and severance payments would be due to Focus Bank executive officers if the executive officer's duties are materially changed or the executive officer is terminated (except for cause) by Heritage within twelve months of the closing date. In addition, each of Focus Bank's executive officers and directors hold equity awards. Upon completion of the merger, two Focus Bank directors mutually acceptable to Heritage and Focus Bank will be appointed to the board of directors of Heritage. Heritage and Focus Bank has tentatively determined that the two Focus Bank directors to be appointed will be J. Philip DiNapoli and Julianne Biagini-Komas. The appointment of these individuals has been tentatively approved by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the board of directors of Heritage. In addition, Heritage anticipates that Robert Gionfriddo and Teresa Powell, Focus Bank Executive Vice Presidents, will join Heritage as Executive Vice Presidents. These interests are described in more detail under the section entitled "The Merger Interests of Focus Bank Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger" beginning on page 84.

Shares of Heritage common stock to be received by Focus Bank shareholders as a result of the merger will have rights different from the shares of Focus Bank common stock.

Upon completion of the merger, the rights of former Focus Bank shareholders will be governed by the articles of incorporation and bylaws of Heritage. The rights associated with Focus Bank common stock are different from the rights associated with Heritage common stock, although both companies are organized under California law. Please see the section entitled "Comparison of Shareholders' Rights" beginning on page 119 for a discussion of the different rights associated with Heritage common stock.

The merger agreement contains provisions that may discourage other companies from trying to acquire Focus Bank for greater merger consideration.

The merger agreement contains provisions that may discourage a third party from submitting a business combination proposal to Focus Bank that might result in greater value to Focus Bank's shareholders than the merger. These provisions include a general prohibition on Focus Bank from soliciting, or, subject to certain exceptions, entering into discussions with any third party regarding any acquisition proposal or offers for competing transactions. The members of the board of directors of Focus Bank have agreed to vote their shares of Focus Bank common stock in favor of the Focus Bank Merger proposal and the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, and against any alternative transaction. Focus Bank also has an unqualified obligation to submit the Focus Bank Merger proposal to a vote by its shareholders, even if Focus Bank receives a proposal that its board of directors believes is superior

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to the merger unless the merger agreement is validly terminated. The shareholders that are party to the shareholder agreements described in this paragraph beneficially own and are entitled to vote in the aggregate approximately 24.6% of the outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock as of the Focus Bank record date. In addition, Focus Bank may be required to pay Heritage a termination fee of \$2.74 million in certain circumstances involving acquisition proposals for competing transactions. For further information, please see the sections entitled "The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements" beginning on page 109 and "The Merger Agreement Termination; Termination Fee" beginning on page 106.

The combined company expects to incur substantial expenses related to the merger.

The combined company expects to incur substantial expenses in connection with consummation of the merger and combining the business, operations, networks, systems, technologies, policies and procedures of the two companies. Although Heritage and Focus Bank have assumed that a certain level of transaction and combination expenses would be incurred, there are a number of factors beyond their control that could affect the total amount or the timing of their combination expenses. Many of the expenses that will be incurred, by their nature, are difficult to estimate accurately at the present time. Due to these factors, the transaction and combination expenses associated with the merger could, particularly in the near term, exceed the savings that the combined company expects to achieve from the elimination of duplicative expenses and the realization of economies of scale and cost savings related to the combination of the businesses following the consummation of the merger. As a result of these expenses, both Heritage and Focus Bank expect to take charges against their earnings before and after the completion of the merger. The charges taken in connection with the merger are expected to be significant, although the aggregate amount and timing of such charges are uncertain at present.

The merger will result in changes to the board of directors of the combined company.

Upon completion of the merger, the composition of the board of directors of the combined company will be different than the current boards of Heritage and Focus Bank. The Heritage board of directors currently consists of eleven directors and, upon the completion of the merger, two individuals who are currently directors of Focus Bank will be appointed by Heritage to join the Heritage board of directors. This new composition of the board of directors of the combined company may affect the future decisions of the combined company.

The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus is illustrative and the actual financial condition and results of operations after the merger may differ materially.

The unaudited pro forma combined condensed financial information in this joint proxy statement/prospectus is presented for illustrative purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of what Heritage's actual financial condition or results of operations would have been had the merger been completed on the dates indicated. The pro forma combined condensed financial information reflects adjustments, which are based upon preliminary estimates, to record the Focus Bank identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed at fair value and the resulting goodwill recognized. The purchase price allocation reflected in this joint proxy statement/prospectus is preliminary and final allocation of the purchase price will be based upon the actual purchase price and the fair value of the assets and liabilities of Focus Bank as of the date of the completion of the merger. Accordingly, the final acquisition accounting adjustments may differ materially from the pro forma adjustments reflected in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. For more information, please see the section entitled "Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Condensed Financial Information" beginning on page 25.

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The opinions of Focus Bank's and Heritage's financial advisors will not reflect changes in circumstances between the signing of the merger agreement and the completion of the merger.

Focus Bank and Heritage each received a written opinion from their respective financial advisors on April 23, 2015 and April 22, 2015, respectively. Subsequent changes in the operations and prospects of Focus Bank or Heritage, general market and economic conditions and other factors that may be beyond the control of Focus Bank or Heritage, and on which Focus Bank's and Heritage's financial advisors' opinions were based, may significantly alter the value of Focus Bank or the prices of the shares of Heritage common stock or Focus Bank common stock by the time the merger is completed. The opinions do not speak as of the time the merger will be completed or as of any date other than the date of such opinions. Focus Bank and Heritage do not anticipate asking their respective financial advisors to update their opinions. Consequently, Focus Bank's board of directors' recommendation that Focus Bank shareholders vote "FOR" the Focus Bank Merger proposal and Heritage's board of directors' recommendation that Heritage shareholders vote "FOR" the Heritage Merger proposal are each made as of the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. For a description of the opinions that Heritage and Focus Bank received from their respective financial advisors, please refer to the sections entitled "The Merger Opinion of Financial Advisor to Focus Bank" beginning on page 60 and "The Merger Opinion of Financial Advisor to Heritage" beginning on page 74.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPANIES

Heritage Commerce Corp and Heritage Bank of Commerce

Heritage is a bank holding company registered under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. As of March 31, 2015, Heritage had consolidated total assets of approximately \$1.7 billion, total loans of approximately \$1.1 billion, total deposits of approximately \$1.4 billion and shareholders' equity of approximately \$186.8 million. Heritage had 251 full-time equivalent employees as of March 31, 2015.

Heritage provides a wide range of banking services through Heritage Bank of Commerce, its wholly-owned subsidiary. Heritage Bank of Commerce is a California state-chartered bank headquartered in San Jose, California and has been conducting business since 1994.

Heritage Bank of Commerce is a multi-community independent bank that offers a full range of commercial banking services to small and medium-sized businesses and their owners, managers and employees. It operates through 11 full service branch offices located entirely in the southern and eastern regions of the general San Francisco Bay Area of California in the counties of Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa and San Benito. Its market includes the headquarters of a number of technology based companies in the region commonly known as "Silicon Valley."

On November 1, 2014, Heritage Bank of Commerce acquired BVF/CSNK Acquisition Corp., a Delaware corporation, which we refer to as BVF. Based in Santa Clara, California, BVF is the parent company of CSNK Working Capital Finance Corp, a California corporation, dba Bay View Funding, which provides business essential working capital factoring financing to various industries throughout the United States. We refer to BVF and Bay View Funding together as Bay View Funding.

Heritage Bank of Commerce lending activities are diversified and include commercial, real estate, construction and land development, consumer and Small Business Administration guaranteed loans. It generally lends in markets where it has a physical presence through its branch offices. Heritage Bank of Commerce attracts deposits throughout its market area with a customer-oriented product mix, competitive pricing and convenient locations. It offers a wide range of deposit products for business banking and retail markets. Heritage Bank of Commerce offers a multitude of other products and services to complement its lending and deposit services.

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As a bank holding company, Heritage is subject to the supervision of the Federal Reserve. It is required to file with the Federal Reserve reports and other information regarding its business operations and the business operations of its subsidiaries. As a California chartered bank, Heritage Bank of Commerce is subject to primary supervision, periodic examination, and regulation by the Department of Business Oversight and by the Federal Reserve, as its primary federal regulator.

Heritage's principal executive office is located at 150 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California 95113, telephone number: (408) 947-6900. Heritage's website is www.heritagecommercecorp.com. Heritage's website is not a part of or otherwise incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Heritage's common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "HTBK".

Additional information about Heritage and its subsidiaries may be found in the documents incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Please also see the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i.

Focus Business Bank

Focus Bank is a commercial bank regulated by the Department of Business Oversight and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which we refer to as the FDIC. As of March 31, 2015, the bank had total assets of \$397.1 million, total loans of \$180.7 million, total deposits of \$367.2 million, shareholders' equity of \$29.1 million and 42 full-time equivalent employees.

Focus Bank commenced operations on January 16, 2007. The bank was organized by a group of local business persons with a vision to create a bank catering to closely held businesses in Santa Clara County. The bank continues to provide business solutions for local businesses including deposit and cash management services and business and real estate loans. Focus Bank is also an SBA Preferred Lender, a designation it has held since 2007. Deposits at Focus Bank are FDIC-insured, up to applicable limits.

In addition to its traditional business banking lines, Focus Bank is a leading provider of services to the condominium homeowner association ("HOA") industry. The bank specializes in cash management and payment services tailored to the needs of HOAs and the management companies that service them. Focus Bank's HOA industry expertise and the experience of its dedicated staff are key to the bank's success in this area.

Focus Bank is also known for its commitment to public benefit companies. Besides offering a portfolio of traditional cash management and lending services, Focus Bank provides non-profit companies with resources to facilitate their success including networking and educational programs. In 2014, Focus Bank was named the Outstanding Corporate Grant Maker by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, underscoring its commitment to collaborating with non-profits on a variety of levels in support of the local community.

Focus Bank operates from a single office at 10 Almaden Blvd., San Jose, CA 95113 whose telephone number is (408) 288-5900. Focus Bank's website is www.focusbusinessbank.com. Focus Bank's website is not a part of or otherwise incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Focus Bank's common stock is traded on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board trading system under the symbol "FCSB".

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FOCUS BANK SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Date, Time and Place

The special meeting of Focus Bank shareholders will be held at the Hotel De Anza located at 233 West Santa Clara Street, San Jose, California at 1:00 p.m., Pacific time, on August 11, 2015. On or about July 10, 2015, Focus Bank commenced mailing this joint proxy statement/prospectus and the enclosed form of proxy to its shareholders entitled to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting.

Purpose of Focus Bank Special Meeting

At the Focus Bank special meeting, Focus Bank shareholders will be asked to:

approve the merger and approve and adopt the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus, which is referred to as the Focus Bank Merger proposal; and

approve one or more adjournments of the Focus Bank special meeting, if necessary or appropriate, including adjournments to permit further solicitation of proxies in favor of the Focus Bank Merger proposal, which is referred to as the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal.

Recommendation of the Focus Bank Board of Directors

The Focus Bank board of directors unanimously recommends that you vote "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate). Please see the section entitled "The Merger Reasons For the Merger and Recommendation of the Focus Bank Board of Directors" beginning on page 57.

As of the Focus Bank record date, directors and executive officers of Focus Bank owned and were entitled to vote 738,899 shares of Focus Bank common stock, representing approximately 24.6% of the shares of Focus Bank common stock outstanding on that date. The members of the board of directors of Focus Bank have each entered into a shareholder agreement with respect to the merger and have agreed to vote their shares of Focus Bank common stock in favor of the Focus Bank Merger proposal and the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal. Focus Bank currently expects that Focus Bank's executive officers will also vote their shares in favor of the Focus Bank Merger proposal and the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, although they have not entered into an agreement to do so (except one executive officer who is also a director). For further information, please see the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements" beginning on page 109. As of the Focus Bank record date, Heritage beneficially held no shares of Focus Bank common stock.

Focus Bank Record Date and Quorum

The Focus Bank board of directors has fixed the close of business on June 23, 2015 as the record date for determining the holders of Focus Bank common stock entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting.

As of the Focus Bank record date, there were 3,002,357 shares of Focus Bank common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the Focus Bank special meeting held by 156 holders of record. Each share of Focus Bank common stock entitles the holder to one vote at the Focus Bank special meeting on each proposal to be considered at the Focus Bank special meeting.

A majority of the shares entitled to vote, represented either in person or by a properly executed proxy, will constitute a quorum at the special meeting. Votes cast will be counted by the inspectors of election at the special meeting. The inspectors will treat abstentions and "broker non-votes" as shares that are present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum, but they are not treated as shares voted on any proposal. Broker non-votes are shares held by brokers or

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nominees as to which instructions have not been received from the beneficial owners or persons entitled to vote and the broker or nominee does not have discretionary voting power under applicable rules of the stock exchange or other self-regulatory organization of which the broker or nominee is a member.

Required Vote

Required Vote to Approve the Focus Bank Merger Proposal

The affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock entitled to vote is required to approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal.

Required Vote to approve the Focus Bank Adjournment Proposal

Assuming a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Focus Bank common stock represented (in person or by proxy) at the Focus Bank special meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal is required to approve the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal.

Treatment of Abstentions; Failure to Vote

For purposes of the Focus Bank special meeting, an abstention occurs when a Focus Bank shareholder attends the Focus Bank special meeting, either in person or by proxy, but abstains from voting.

For the Focus Bank Merger proposal, an abstention or a failure to vote will have the same effect as a vote cast "**AGAINST**" this proposal.

For the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, abstentions will have no effect on such proposals, unless there are insufficient votes in favor of these proposals, such that the affirmative votes constitute less than a majority of the required quorum. In such cases, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote "**AGAINST**" this proposal.

Voting on Proxies; Incomplete Proxies

Giving a proxy means that a Focus Bank shareholder authorizes the persons named in the enclosed proxy card to vote its shares at the Focus Bank special meeting in the manner it directs. A Focus Bank shareholder may vote by proxy or in person at the Focus Bank special meeting. If you hold your shares of Focus Bank common stock in your name as a shareholder of record, to submit a proxy, you, as a Focus Bank shareholder, may use one of the following methods:

By telephone: Use any touch-tone telephone to vote your proxy 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Have your proxy card available when you call. You will be prompted to enter your control number, which is located on your proxy card, and then follow the directions given.

Through the Internet: Use the Internet to vote your proxy 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Have your proxy card available when you access the website. You will be prompted to enter your control number, which is located on your proxy card, to create and submit an electronic ballot.

By mail: Complete and return the proxy card in the enclosed envelope. The envelope requires no additional postage if mailed in the United States.

Focus Bank requests that Focus Bank shareholders vote by telephone, over the Internet or by completing, signing and dating the accompanying proxy and returning it to Focus Bank as soon as possible in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. When the accompanying proxy is returned properly executed, the shares of Focus Bank common stock represented by it will be voted at the Focus Bank special meeting in accordance with the instructions contained on the proxy card.

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If any proxy is returned without indication as to how to vote, the shares of Focus Bank common stock represented by the proxy will be voted as recommended by the Focus Bank board of directors, including "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, in which case you will be prohibited from asserting dissenters' rights. The proxy holders may use their discretion to vote on any other matters voted upon at the Focus Bank special meeting.

If a Focus Bank shareholder's shares are held in "street name" by a broker, bank or other nominee, the shareholder should check the voting form used by that firm to determine whether it may vote by telephone or the Internet.

Every Focus Bank shareholder's vote is important. Accordingly, each Focus Bank shareholder should complete, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card, or vote via the Internet or by telephone, whether or not the Focus Bank shareholder plans to attend the Focus Bank special meeting in person.

Shares Held in Street Name

If you are a Focus Bank shareholder and your shares are held in "street name" through a bank, broker or nominee, you must provide the record holder of your shares with instructions on how to vote your shares. Please follow the voting instructions provided by the bank or broker. You may not vote shares held in street name by returning a proxy card directly to Focus Bank or by voting in person at the Focus Bank special meeting unless you provide a "legal proxy," which you must obtain from your broker, bank or other nominee. Further, brokers, banks or other nominees who hold shares of Focus Bank common stock on behalf of their customers may not give a proxy to Focus Bank to vote those shares with respect to any of the proposals without specific instructions from their customers, as brokers, banks and other nominees do not have discretionary voting power on these matters. Therefore, if you are a Focus Bank shareholder and you do not instruct your broker, bank or other nominee on how to vote your shares:

your broker, bank or other nominee may not vote your shares on the Focus Bank Merger proposal, which broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote "**AGAINST**" this proposal; and

your broker, bank or other nominee may not vote your shares on the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, which broker non-votes will have no effect on the vote count for such proposal, unless there are insufficient votes in favor of this proposal, such that the affirmative votes constitute less than a majority of the required quorum. In such cases, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote "**AGAINST**" this proposal.

Revocability of Proxies and Changes to a Focus Bank Shareholder's Vote

A Focus Bank shareholder has the power to change its vote at any time before its shares of Focus Bank common stock are voted at the Focus Bank special meeting by:

sending a notice of revocation to Focus Bank, Attention: Corporate Secretary, 10 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California 95113, stating that you would like to revoke your proxy;

logging onto the Internet website specified on your proxy card in the same manner you would to submit your proxy electronically or by calling the telephone number specified on your proxy card, in each case if you are eligible to do so and following the instructions on the proxy card;

sending a completed proxy card bearing a later date than your original proxy card; or

attending the Focus Bank special meeting and voting in person.

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If you choose any of the first three methods, you must take the described action no later than the beginning of the Focus Bank special meeting. If you choose to send a completed proxy card bearing a later date than your original proxy card or a notice of revocation, the new proxy card or notice of revocation must be received before the beginning of the Focus Bank special meeting. If you have instructed a bank, broker or other nominee to vote your shares of Focus Bank common stock, you must follow the directions you receive from your bank, broker or other nominee in order to change or revoke your vote.

Solicitation of Proxies

The cost of solicitation of proxies from Focus Bank shareholders will be borne by Focus Bank. Focus Bank will reimburse brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for reasonable expenses incurred by them in sending proxy materials to the beneficial owners of common stock. In addition to solicitations by mail, Focus Bank's directors, officers and regular employees may solicit proxies personally or by telephone without additional compensation.

Attending the Focus Bank Special Meeting

All Focus Bank shareholders as of the record date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the Focus Bank special meeting.

If you hold your shares of Focus Bank common stock in your name as a shareholder of record and you wish to attend the Focus Bank special meeting, please bring your proxy and evidence of your stock ownership, such as your most recent account statement, to the Focus Bank special meeting. You must also bring valid photo identification.

If your shares of Focus Bank common stock are held in "street name" in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee and you wish to attend the Focus Bank special meeting, you need to bring a copy of a bank or brokerage statement to the Focus Bank special meeting reflecting your stock ownership as of the record date. You must also bring valid photo identification.

FOCUS BANK PROPOSAL: MERGER

As discussed throughout this joint proxy statement/prospectus, Focus Bank is asking its shareholders to approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal. Holders of Focus Bank common stock should read carefully this joint proxy statement/prospectus in its entirety, including the appendices, for more detailed information concerning the merger agreement and the merger. In particular, holders of Focus Bank common stock are directed to the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

The Focus Bank board of directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" the Focus Bank Merger proposal.

Each of the directors of Focus Bank has entered into a shareholder agreement with Heritage and Focus Bank, pursuant to which they have agreed to vote "FOR" the Focus Bank Merger proposal. For more information regarding the shareholder agreements, please see the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements" beginning on page 109.

FOCUS BANK PROPOSAL: ADJOURNMENT

The Focus Bank special meeting may be adjourned to another time or place, if necessary or appropriate, to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the Focus Bank special meeting to approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal.

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If, at the Focus Bank special meeting, the number of shares of Focus Bank common stock present or represented and voting in favor of the Focus Bank Merger proposal is insufficient to approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal, Focus Bank intends to move to adjourn the Focus Bank special meeting in order to enable the Focus Bank board of directors to solicit additional proxies for approval of the proposal. In that event, Focus Bank will ask its shareholders to vote only upon the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, and not the Focus Bank Merger proposal.

In the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, Focus Bank is asking its shareholders to authorize the holder of any proxy solicited by the Focus Bank board of directors to vote in favor of granting discretionary authority to the proxy holders, to adjourn the Focus Bank special meeting to another time and place, if necessary, for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies. If the Focus Bank shareholders approve the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal, Focus Bank could adjourn the Focus Bank special meeting and use the additional time to solicit additional proxies, including the solicitation of proxies from Focus Bank shareholders who have previously voted.

The Focus Bank board of directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal.

Each of the directors of Focus Bank has entered into a shareholder agreement with Heritage and Focus Bank, pursuant to which they have agreed to vote "FOR" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal. For more information regarding the shareholder agreements, please see the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements" beginning on page 109.

Other Matters to Come Before the Focus Bank Special Meeting

No other matters are intended to be brought before the Focus Bank special meeting by Focus Bank, and Focus Bank does not know of any matters to be brought before the Focus Bank special meeting by others. If, however, any other matters properly come before the Focus Bank special meeting, the persons named in the proxy will vote the shares represented thereby in accordance with their best judgment on any such matter.

Focus Bank 2015 Annual Meeting

As a result of the pending merger with Heritage, the Focus Bank board of directors has postponed the 2015 annual meeting of Focus Bank shareholders, including the election of directors. Focus Bank annual meetings are normally held in the month of May each year and the 2014 annual meeting was held on May 27, 2014. If the Heritage merger is consummated during 2015, as anticipated, Focus Bank shareholders will become Heritage shareholders and Focus Bank will cease to exist as a corporation, so no annual meeting of Focus Bank shareholders would be necessary. If, for any reason, completion of the merger is delayed, or the merger agreement is terminated, the Focus Bank board of directors would then determine whether to call for an annual meeting of Focus Bank shareholders for 2015, in order to remain in compliance with the bylaws of the corporation and applicable law.

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HERITAGE SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Date, Time and Place

The special meeting of Heritage shareholders will be held at its offices located at 150 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California at 1:00 p.m., Pacific time, on August 11, 2015. On or about July 10, 2015, Heritage commenced mailing this joint proxy statement/prospectus and the enclosed form of proxy to its shareholders entitled to vote at the Heritage special meeting.

Purpose of Heritage Special Meeting

At the Heritage special meeting, Heritage shareholders will be asked to:

approve the merger and the issuance of Heritage common stock, no par value per share, pursuant to the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus, which is referred to as the Heritage Merger proposal; and

approve one or more adjournments of the Heritage special meeting, if necessary or appropriate, including adjournments to permit further solicitation of proxies in favor of the Heritage Merger proposal, which is referred to as the Heritage Adjournment proposal.

Recommendation of the Heritage Board of Directors

The Heritage board of directors unanimously recommends that you vote "**FOR**" the Heritage Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Heritage Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate). Please see the section entitled "The Merger Reason for the Merger and Recommendation of the Heritage Board of Directors" beginning on page 72.

As of the Heritage record date, directors and executive officers of Heritage and their affiliates owned and were entitled to vote 5,230,843 shares of Heritage common stock, representing approximately 19.67% of the shares of Heritage common stock outstanding on that date. Heritage currently expects that Heritage's directors and executive officers will vote their shares in favor of the Heritage Merger proposal and the Heritage Adjournment proposal, although they have not entered into any agreement to do so. As of the Heritage record date, Focus Bank beneficially held no shares of Heritage common stock.

Heritage Record Date and Quorum

The Heritage board of directors has fixed the close of business on June 23, 2015 as the record date for determining the holders of Heritage common stock entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Heritage special meeting.

As of the Heritage record date, there were 26,596,094 shares of Heritage common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the Heritage special meeting held by 576 holders of record. Each share of Heritage common stock entitles the holder to one vote at the Heritage special meeting on each proposal to be considered at the Heritage special meeting.

A majority of the shares entitled to vote, represented either in person or by a properly executed proxy, will constitute a quorum at the special meeting. Votes cast will be counted by the inspectors of election at the special meeting. The inspectors will treat abstentions and "broker non-votes" as shares that are present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum, but they are not treated as shares voted on any proposal. Broker non-votes are shares held by brokers or nominees as to which instructions have not been received from the beneficial owners or persons entitled to vote and the broker or nominee does not have discretionary voting power under applicable rules of the stock exchange or other self-regulatory organization of which the broker or nominee is a member.

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Required Vote

Required Vote to Approve the Heritage Merger Proposal

Assuming a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Heritage common stock cast is required to approve the Heritage Merger proposal.

Required Vote to Approve the Heritage Adjournment Proposal

Assuming a quorum is present, the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Heritage common stock represented (in person or by proxy) at the Heritage special meeting and entitled to vote on the proposal is required to approve the Heritage Adjournment proposal.

Treatment of Abstentions; Failure to Vote

For purposes of the Heritage special meeting, an abstention occurs when a Heritage shareholder attends the Heritage special meeting, either in person or by proxy, but abstains from voting.

For the Heritage Merger proposal, assuming a quorum is present an abstention or failure to vote will have no effect on the vote count for this proposal.

For Heritage Adjournment proposal, abstentions will have no effect on such proposal, unless there are insufficient votes in favor of this proposal, such that the affirmative votes constitute less than a majority of the required quorum. In such cases, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote "**AGAINST**" this proposal.

Voting on Proxies; Incomplete Proxies

Giving a proxy means that a Heritage shareholder authorizes the persons named in the enclosed proxy card to vote its shares at the Heritage special meeting in the manner it directs. A Heritage shareholder may vote by proxy or in person at the Heritage special meeting. If you hold your shares of Heritage common stock in your name as a shareholder of record, to submit a proxy, you, as a Heritage shareholder, may use one of the following methods:

By telephone: Use any touch-tone telephone to vote your proxy 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Have your proxy card available when you call. You will be prompted to enter your control number(s), which is located on your proxy card, and then follow the directions given.

Through the Internet: Use the Internet to vote your proxy 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Have your proxy card available when you access the website. You will be prompted to enter your control number, which is located on your proxy card, to create and submit an electronic ballot.

By mail: Complete and return the proxy card in the enclosed envelope. The envelope requires no additional postage if mailed in the United States.

Heritage requests that Heritage shareholders vote by telephone, over the Internet or by completing and signing the accompanying proxy and returning it to Heritage as soon as possible in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. When the accompanying proxy is returned properly executed, the shares of Heritage common stock represented by it will be voted at the Heritage special meeting in accordance with the instructions contained on the proxy card.

If any proxy is returned without indication as to how to vote, the shares of Heritage common stock represented by the proxy will be voted as recommended by the Heritage board of directors, including "**FOR**" the Heritage Merger proposal and "**FOR**" the Heritage Adjournment proposal. The proxy holders may use their discretion to vote on any other matters voted upon at the Heritage special meeting.

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If a Heritage shareholder's shares are held in "street name" by a broker, bank or other nominee, the shareholder should check the voting form used by that firm to determine whether it may vote by telephone or the Internet.

Every Heritage shareholder's vote is important. Accordingly, each Heritage shareholder should sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card, or vote via the Internet or by telephone, whether or not the Heritage shareholder plans to attend the Heritage special meeting in person.

Shares Held in Street Name

If you are a Heritage shareholder and your shares are held in "street name" through a bank, broker or other nominee, you must provide the record holder of your shares with instructions on how to vote the shares. Please follow the voting instructions provided by the bank or broker. You may not vote shares held in street name by returning a proxy card directly to Heritage or by voting in person at the Heritage special meeting unless you provide a "legal proxy," which you must obtain from your broker, bank or other nominee. Further, brokers, banks or other nominees who hold shares of Heritage common stock on behalf of their customers may not give a proxy to Heritage to vote those shares with respect to any of the proposals without specific instructions from their customers, as brokers, banks and other nominees do not have discretionary voting power on these matters. Therefore, if you are a Heritage shareholder and you do not instruct your broker, bank or other nominee on how to vote your shares:

your broker, bank or other nominee may not vote your shares on the Heritage Merger proposal, which broker non-votes will have no effect on the vote count for this proposal; and

your broker, bank or other nominee may not vote your shares on the Heritage Adjournment proposal, which broker non-votes will have no effect on the vote count for this proposal, unless there are insufficient votes in favor of this proposal, such that the affirmative votes constitute less than a majority of the required quorum. In such cases, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote "**AGAINST**" this proposal.

Voting of Shares Held in the Heritage Commerce Corp ESOP

If you hold your shares indirectly in the Heritage Commerce Corp ESOP, you have the right to direct the Heritage trustee how to vote shares allocated to your plan account as described in the voting materials sent to you by the Heritage trustee.

Revocability of Proxies and Changes to a Heritage Shareholder's Vote

A Heritage shareholder has the power to change its vote at any time before its shares of Heritage common stock are voted at the Heritage special meeting by:

sending a notice of revocation to Heritage Commerce Corp, Attention: Corporate Secretary, 150 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California 95113 stating that you would like to revoke your proxy;

logging onto the Internet website specified on your proxy card in the same manner you would to submit your proxy electronically or by calling the telephone number specified on your proxy card, in each case if you are eligible to do so and following the instructions on the proxy card;

sending a completed proxy card bearing a later date than your original proxy card; or

attending the Heritage special meeting and voting in person.

If you choose any of the first three methods, you must take the described action no later than the beginning of the Heritage special meeting. If you choose to send a completed proxy card bearing a

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later date than your original proxy card or a notice of revocation, the new proxy card or notice of revocation must be received before the beginning of the Heritage special meeting. If you have instructed a bank, broker or other nominee to vote your shares of Heritage common stock, you must follow the directions you receive from your bank, broker or other nominee in order to change or revoke your vote.

Solicitation of Proxies

The cost of solicitation of proxies from Heritage shareholders will be borne by Heritage. Heritage will reimburse brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for reasonable expenses incurred by them in sending proxy materials to the beneficial owners of common stock. In addition to solicitations by mail, Heritage's directors, officers and regular employees may solicit proxies personally or by telephone without additional compensation.

Attending the Heritage Special Meeting

All Heritage shareholders as of the record date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the Heritage special meeting.

If you hold your shares of Heritage common stock in your name as a shareholder of record and you wish to attend the Heritage special meeting, please bring your proxy and evidence of your stock ownership, such as your most recent account statement, to the Heritage special meeting. You must also bring valid picture identification.

If your shares of Heritage common stock are held in "street name" in a stock brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee and you wish to attend the Heritage special meeting, you need to bring a copy of a bank or brokerage statement to the Heritage special meeting reflecting your stock ownership as of the record date. You must also bring valid picture identification.

HERITAGE PROPOSAL: MERGER

As discussed throughout this joint proxy statement/prospectus, Heritage is asking its shareholders to approve the Heritage Merger proposal. Holders of Heritage common stock should read carefully this joint proxy statement/prospectus in its entirety, including the appendices, for more detailed information concerning the merger agreement and the merger. In particular, holders of Heritage common stock are directed to the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

The Heritage board of directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" the Heritage Merger proposal.

HERITAGE PROPOSAL: ADJOURNMENT

The Heritage special meeting may be adjourned to another time or place, if necessary or appropriate, to solicit additional proxies if there are insufficient votes at the time of the Heritage special meeting to approve the Heritage Merger proposal.

If, at the Heritage special meeting, the number of shares of Heritage common stock present or represented and voting in favor of the Heritage Merger proposal is insufficient to approve the Heritage Merger proposal, Heritage intends to move to adjourn the Heritage special meeting in order to enable the Heritage board of directors to solicit additional proxies for approval of the proposal. In that event, Heritage will ask its shareholders to vote only upon the Heritage Adjournment proposal, and not the Heritage Merger proposal.

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In the Heritage Adjournment proposal, Heritage is asking its shareholders to authorize the holder of any proxy solicited by the Heritage board of directors to vote in favor of granting discretionary authority to the proxy holders, to adjourn the Heritage special meeting to another time and place, if necessary, for the purpose of soliciting additional proxies. If the Heritage shareholders approve the Heritage Adjournment proposal, Heritage could adjourn the Heritage special meeting and use the additional time to solicit additional proxies, including the solicitation of proxies from Heritage shareholders who have previously voted.

The Heritage board of directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" the Heritage Adjournment proposal.

Other Matters to Come Before the Heritage Special Meeting

No other matters are intended to be brought before the Heritage special meeting by Heritage, and Heritage does not know of any matters to be brought before the Heritage special meeting by others. If, however, any other matters properly come before the Heritage special meeting, the persons named in the proxy will vote the shares represented thereby in accordance with their best judgment on any such matter.

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THE MERGER

The following is a discussion of the merger and the material terms of the merger agreement between Heritage and Focus Bank. You are urged to read carefully the merger agreement in its entirety, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and incorporated by reference herein. This summary does not purport to be complete and may not contain all of the information about the merger agreement that is important to you. This section is not intended to provide you with any factual information about Heritage or Focus Bank. Such information can be found elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and in the public filings Heritage makes with the SEC, as described in the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i.

Terms of the Merger

Transaction Structure

Heritage's and Focus Bank's boards of directors have approved the merger agreement and unanimously recommend that their respective shareholders approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal and the Heritage Merger proposal. The merger agreement provides for the acquisition of Focus Bank by Heritage through the merger of Focus Bank with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce, a bank chartered under the laws of California and the wholly-owned bank subsidiary of Heritage, with Heritage Bank of Commerce continuing as the surviving corporation.

Merger Consideration

In the merger, each share of Focus Bank common stock, no par value per share, owned by a Focus Bank shareholder will be converted into the right to receive 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock, no par value per share. A Focus Bank shareholder will receive cash in lieu of any fractional shares of Heritage common stock such holder is entitled to receive, without interest.

Based on the closing share price of Heritage common stock of \$9.00 on April 22, 2015, the last trading day before the announcement of the merger, the value of the merger consideration was \$16.41 per share. Based on the closing share price of Heritage common stock of \$9.73 on June 25, 2015, the most recent day for which information was available prior to the printing and mailing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, the value of the merger consideration was \$17.74 per share. The share price of Heritage common stock will fluctuate and accordingly, the value of the per share merger consideration you receive may be different than either of these amounts.

Treatment of Focus Bank Stock Options and Restricted Stock

Immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, each outstanding option to purchase shares of Focus Bank common stock, whether or not then vested and whether or not then exercisable, will be cancelled and the holder of the option will be entitled to receive, subject to any required tax withholding, an amount in cash, without interest, from Focus Bank equal to the product of the total number of shares of Focus Bank common stock subject to the option times the excess, if any, of the product of 1.8235 multiplied by the volume weighted average of the closing prices for shares of Heritage common stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the twenty consecutive trading days ending on the fifth trading day immediately before the closing date over the exercise price per share under such option.

Shares of Focus Bank restricted common stock not then vested will become vested on completion of the merger, subject to any required tax withholding, and will be exchanged on the same basis with the other shares of Focus Bank common stock.

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Background of the Merger

Each of Heritage's and Focus Bank's board of directors and management regularly review their respective business strategies, opportunities and challenges as part of their consideration and evaluation of their respective long-term prospects, with the goal of enhancing value for their respective shareholders. The strategic considerations directed to Focus Bank included, among other things, the business and regulatory environment facing financial institutions generally and each of Heritage and Focus Bank, in particular, as well as conditions and ongoing consolidation in the financial services industry. For each company, these reviews have also included periodic discussions with respect to potential transactions that would further its strategic objectives, and the potential benefits and risks of those transactions.

Heritage has considered acquisitions as a means of achieving growth and expanding its market. Consistent with this strategy, on November 1, 2014, Heritage acquired Bay View Funding which provides business essential working capital factoring financing to various industries throughout the United States.

In the normal course of its business, Focus Bank has from time to time received unsolicited verbal inquiries from various sources regarding possible interest in a business combination transaction. The general policy of the board of directors has been to not respond to these unsolicited verbal inquiries unless confirmed in writing from a credible source. At the same time, in the context of its annual budgeting and planning process, the board of directors has periodically discussed and evaluated strategic planning alternatives and whether they would be in the best interests of shareholders. Discussions have included the possibility of making acquisitions and whether to remain independent or to consider a combination with some other financial institution. Discussion of these topics has typically involved a review of current and projected market conditions, the results of operations of Focus Bank, certain peer group performance comparisons, reported merger and acquisition activity, and selected industry information and analysis provided to the board of directors by its financial advisors.

On July 29, 2014, Focus Bank's board of directors established a Strategic Committee comprised of directors Ray Akamine, Richard Conniff, J. Philip DiNapoli and Cynthia Lazares to serve as the first point of contact for reviewing merger and acquisition inquiries and opportunities.

In November of 2014, as part of Focus Bank's budgeting and capital planning process, Focus Bank's management determined that the bank could find it necessary to raise additional capital during 2015 to support the bank's current rate of growth. During November and December of 2014, the Focus Bank board of directors had preliminary discussions about potentially raising additional capital in 2015. As part of those discussions, the Focus Bank board of directors also considered whether a merger or sale of Focus Bank, as an alternative to a capital raise, would be in the best interests of Focus Bank and its shareholders.

On December 16, 2014, a bank, which we refer to as Bank A, that had previously approached Focus Bank on an unsolicited basis about a merger of equals approached the chairman of Focus Bank with an unsolicited proposal for a merger of equals.

At a regular meeting of the Focus Bank board of directors on December 16, 2014 at which a representative of Sandler O'Neill was present and participated, the Focus Bank board of directors discussed the bank's strategic alternatives, including a potential capital raise, a sale or a merger of equals, including the transaction proposed by Bank A. The Focus Bank board of directors also approved an engagement letter with Sandler O'Neill and directed Sandler O'Neill to conduct a market test by contacting potential merger candidates. The Focus Bank board of directors directed the Strategic Committee to further consider Focus Bank's strategic alternatives with Sandler O'Neill.

On January 5, 2015, the Strategic Committee met with representatives from Sandler O'Neill and Focus Bank's legal counsel, Manatt, Phelps and Phillips, LLP, which we refer to as Manatt, to discuss

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and consider the bank's strategic alternatives. A representative of Sandler O'Neill presented and discussed models for various scenarios including a capital raise, a merger of equals and a merger with a larger institution. Focus Bank entered into an engagement letter with Sandler O'Neill on January 8, 2015. The Strategic Committee met again on January 14, 2015, with representatives from Sandler O'Neill and Manatt and further discussed strategic alternatives and reviewed management's operating plan.

At a regularly scheduled board meeting on January 20, 2015, the Focus Bank board of directors reviewed management's operating plan and the bank's strategic alternatives with a representative of Sandler O'Neill. The Focus Bank board of directors discussed various alternatives, such as a capital raise, a merger of equals or a merger with larger institution. At the meeting, the Focus Bank board of directors authorized Sandler O'Neill to approach parties about their interest in a potential transaction with Focus Bank.

During January and February of 2015, management of Focus Bank prepared an on-line due diligence room and Sandler O'Neill contacted 15 parties about a potential transaction with Focus Bank, including Heritage and Bank A. Of the 15, five signed non-disclosure agreements and were granted access to Focus Bank's on-line diligence room.

On February 2, 2015, Focus Bank entered into a non-disclosure agreement with Heritage, and Mr. Conniff had discussions with Heritage's Chief Executive Officer, Walter T. Kaczmarek, about a potential transaction throughout the month. During the balance of February Heritage and another bank, which we refer to as Bank B, reviewed the information in the on-line due diligence room.

On February 15, 2015, Bank A presented a revised indication of interest proposing an all-stock merger of equals transaction.

Mr. Conniff and Bank B's Chief Executive Officer met and discussed a potential merger transaction on February 20, 2015.

On February 20, 2015, the Heritage board of directors met with senior management, representatives of KBW and Heritage's legal counsel, Buchalter Nemer, a professional corporation, which we refer to as Buchalter, to review the terms of a draft indication of interest proposing a business combination with Focus Bank. The Heritage board of directors reviewed the material terms of the draft indication of interest. The Heritage board of directors also discussed related matters such as required regulatory approvals, shareholder approvals and the registration process for the shares of Heritage common stock to be issued in a business combination. The Heritage board of directors authorized management to provide the draft indication of interest to Focus Bank.

On February 20, 2015, Heritage presented to Focus Bank a draft indication of interest proposing an all-stock transaction valued at \$14.50 per share of Focus Bank common stock. The indication of interest provided that Heritage would add two of Focus Bank's directors to its board of directors.

On February 23, 2015, Bank B presented to Focus Bank a draft indication of interest proposing a mixed stock and cash transaction with a value below that of Heritage's offer. The indication of interest provided that Bank B would add one of Focus Bank's directors to its board of directors.

At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Focus Bank board of directors on February 24, 2015, Sandler O'Neill reported on the status of its contacts with potential parties and discussed the proposals received from Bank A, Bank B and Heritage. Sandler O'Neill reported that another bank that had signed a non-disclosure agreement, which we refer to as Bank C, was considering submitting an indication of interest but had not yet done so. The Focus Bank board of directors discussed each of the proposals received in detail and concluded that Bank A's proposal for a merger of equals presented a greater risk of execution and was less favorable to shareholders financially than the proposals from Heritage and Bank B. The Focus Bank board of directors directed senior management and Sandler

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O'Neill to continue discussions with Heritage, Bank B and Bank C, to permit Heritage and Bank B to perform further due diligence and to permit Bank C to perform further due diligence if it presented a competitive proposal. The Focus Bank board of directors instructed Sandler O'Neill to request that each of these parties submit a final non-binding indication of interest by March 24, 2015.

During March, 2015, Heritage and Bank B continued to review additional information added to the on-line due diligence room. In addition, each of Heritage and Bank B conducted on-site due diligence at the Focus Bank offices and interviewed the senior management of Focus Bank.

On March 19, 2015, the Heritage board of directors held a special meeting to review the status of the due diligence process and to consider a draft of a revised indication of interest. The Heritage management team led a discussion of the status of the due diligence process. Mr. Kaczmarek discussed the merits and risks of a possible business combination with Focus Bank. Mr. Kaczmarek then presented the terms of a revised indication of interest for a business combination with Focus Bank for review by the Heritage board of directors. Representatives of KBW presented a preliminary financial analysis of the proposed transaction as well as an evaluation of Focus Bank and the pro-forma combined companies. A representative of Buchalter reviewed various legal issues for pursuing and completing a transaction with Focus Bank. The Heritage board of directors discussed the terms of the revised indication of interest which increased the merger consideration for an all stock transaction and expanded upon certain other matters from the initial draft indication of interest submitted in February. Representatives of KBW and Buchalter answered questions of the directors respecting the indication of interest. The Heritage board of directors authorized the Heritage management to provide the revised draft letter of interest to Focus Bank.

On March 23, 2015, the chairman of Focus Bank received an unsolicited non-binding indication of interest from another bank we refer to as Bank D regarding a merger of equals. The Strategic Committee considered the proposal from Bank D and discussed it with representatives from Sandler O'Neill and Manatt. The Strategic Committee determined that the proposal presented by Bank D had greater risk of execution and was less favorable financially than the proposals from Heritage and Bank B.

On March 23, 2015, Focus Bank received final non-binding indications of interest from Bank B and Heritage. Bank B increased the value of its offer, which continued to be a mix of Bank B common stock and cash. Bank B's indication of interest provided that Bank B would appoint up to two Focus Bank directors to its board and included an exclusivity period of 60 days of exclusivity to draft and negotiate a definitive agreement and complete due diligence. Heritage proposed an all-stock merger transaction with an exchange ratio of 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock per share of Focus Bank common stock, which was valued at \$16.52 per share of Focus Bank common stock based on the closing price of Heritage common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on that date, and an exclusivity period of 45 days. Focus Bank did not receive an indication of interest from Bank C.

On March 24, 2015, the board of directors of Focus Bank met to consider the indications of interest from Heritage and Bank B. A representative of Sandler O'Neill presented a financial analysis of each proposal and a representative of Manatt advised the Focus Bank Board concerning its fiduciary duties. After careful consideration of the proposals from Heritage and Bank B and the operating business plan developed by Focus Bank's management, the financial analysis prepared by representatives of Sandler O'Neill, and the advice from a representative of Manatt, the Focus Bank board of directors instructed management to sign Heritage's indication of interest and to enter into further negotiations with Heritage regarding a definitive agreement.

Following this meeting, representatives of management and outside advisors to Heritage and Focus Bank began more detailed discussions on the potential business transaction, and Heritage continued its credit, operational and legal due diligence of Focus Bank through the online data room established in January and in person at Focus Bank's and Heritage's offices. Members of Focus Bank's executive

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management and representatives from Sandler O'Neill, interviewed members of Heritage's executive management as part of Focus Bank's reverse due diligence investigation of Heritage. Focus Bank, Sandler O'Neill and Focus Bank's legal advisors also reviewed financial and other information regarding Heritage on-site and using an online data room established by Heritage.

On April 1, 2015, Buchalter delivered an initial draft of a definitive agreement and plan of merger and reorganization to Manatt. Various drafts of the agreement and plan of merger and reorganization were exchanged following the initial draft on April 1, 2015 and Focus Bank's first responsive mark-up on April 9, 2015 and the representatives of Heritage and Focus Bank, and their respective legal counsel and financial advisors continued negotiation of the terms of the merger and due diligence activities up through April 22, 2015. Negotiations included, among other terms, board representation, representations and warranties, covenants, closing conditions, and termination provisions and fees, employee benefits, shareholder agreements, and agreements concerning the exercise of stock options, as well as cultural issues and organizational structure.

The Focus Bank board of directors met at a special board meeting on April 18, 2015. A draft of the definitive agreement and related materials were distributed to Focus Bank's board of directors for its review prior to the meeting. At the meeting, Mr. Conniff, a representative of Manatt, and a representative of Sandler O'Neill discussed the status of the reverse due diligence process, the current draft of the merger agreement and the negotiation of the transaction terms, including, among other terms, board representation, representations and warranties, covenants, closing conditions, and termination provisions and fees, employee benefits, shareholder agreements, and agreements concerning the exercise of stock options. The Focus board of directors determined that further changes to the draft merger agreement would be appropriate and directed senior management, Sandler O'Neill and Manatt to continue negotiations with Heritage.

After this meeting, representatives of Focus Bank and Heritage and their respective financial and legal advisors continued negotiations and exchanged comments on the draft agreement and plan of merger and reorganization.

The Heritage board of directors held a meeting on April 22, 2015. Prior to the meeting, the proposed definitive agreement and related materials had been distributed to Heritage's board of directors for its review. Mr. Kaczmarek led Heritage's board of directors in a discussion of the merits, risks and the strategic reasons for and against the transaction. KBW reviewed the financial aspects of the proposed merger and delivered to the Heritage board of directors an oral opinion, subsequently followed by delivery of its written opinion, dated April 22, 2015, that, as of such date, and subject to the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by KBW as set forth in such opinion, the exchange ratio in the merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to Heritage. A representative of Buchalter discussed with the directors the material terms of the definitive agreement, and advised the directors as to their fiduciary duties in connection with considering and voting on the proposed merger. After a thorough discussion, Heritage's board of directors concluded that the proposed merger was fair to and in the best interests of Heritage and its shareholders and approved the merger agreement substantially in the form presented, with Heritage's executive officers being authorized to negotiate, execute and deliver the final agreement on behalf of Heritage.

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On April 23, 2015, the Focus Bank board of directors met to consider approval of the proposed merger agreement with Heritage. The proposed definitive agreement and related materials had been distributed to Focus Bank's board of directors for its review prior to the meeting. Representatives of Sandler O'Neill and Manatt participated in the meeting. At the meeting, a representative of Manatt reviewed the board's fiduciary duties and responsibilities and also reviewed the terms and conditions of the merger agreement and related agreements. Sandler O'Neill's representative provided the Focus Bank board of directors with Sandler O'Neill's analysis of the fairness of the exchange ratio to the Focus Bank shareholders and delivered to the Focus Bank board of directors an oral opinion, which it subsequently confirmed by delivery of its written opinion, that as of April 23, 2015, the exchange ratio to be used in the proposed merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to Focus Bank's shareholders. Following discussion of these matters and other factors, the Focus board of directors concluded that the proposed merger was fair to and in the best interests of Focus Bank and its shareholders and approved the merger agreement in substantially the form presented, with Focus Bank's executive officers being authorized to negotiate, execute and deliver the final agreement on behalf of Focus Bank.

At the conclusion of the board of directors meetings on April 22, 2015 and April 23, 2015, and pursuant to the resolutions adopted by each of Heritage's and Focus Bank's board of directors, Heritage and Focus Bank entered into the definitive agreement, dated as of April 23, 2015.

On April 23, 2015, after the close of trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, a joint press release announcing the execution of the merger agreement was issued by Focus Bank and Heritage.

Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of the Focus Bank Board of Directors

The Focus Bank board of directors believes the proposed merger with Heritage is fair and in the best interests of the shareholders, as well as its employees and the communities served by Focus Bank. In reaching this conclusion, the Focus Bank board of directors discussed the proposed merger with its senior management and with its financial and legal advisors and considered the relative advantages and disadvantages of remaining independent rather than entering into the merger. The directors unanimously recommend that Focus Bank shareholders vote in favor of the merger agreement and consummation of the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

In approving the merger with Heritage, the Focus Bank board of directors considered a variety of factors, both positive and negative. The primary factors that favor the merger include, but are not limited to, the following:

the belief that the combination with Heritage would enable Focus Bank shareholders to participate in a combined company that would have enhanced future prospects as compared to those that Focus Bank is likely to achieve on a stand-alone basis;

the potential of combining with a larger company that will provide additional products and services to better grow and retain Focus Bank's customers, that the combined, more diversified, customer base will improve and diversify future revenue sources, and that future earnings prospects will be stronger on a combined basis;

the current and prospective economic and competitive environment facing the financial services industry generally, including the continued consolidation in the industry and the increased importance of operational scale and financial resources in maintaining efficiency and remaining competitive over the long term;

the complementary nature of the respective markets, customers and asset/liability mix of Focus Bank and Heritage Bank of Commerce;

the reports of Focus Bank's management to the Focus Bank board of directors concerning the operations, financial condition and prospects of Heritage and the expected financial impact of

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the merger on the combined company, including pro forma assets, earnings, deposits and other financial metrics;

the belief of the Focus Bank board of directors that the two companies share a common vision of the importance of customer service and that management and employees of Focus Bank and Heritage possess complementary skills and expertise;

the form of consideration being 100% common stock for all the outstanding shares of Focus Bank (except for fractional shares) and Focus Bank shareholders becoming Heritage shareholders which allows such shareholders to continue to participate in the future success of the combined company;

the fact that the current value of the merger consideration for holders of Focus Bank common stock at \$16.41 based on the stock price of Heritage common stock on the day before the date the merger agreement was announced per share, represents a premium of approximately 64.1% over the \$10.00 last reported trading price of Focus Bank common stock on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board trading system on April 22, 2015 (the last trading day prior to the day of the board meeting on which Focus Bank shares of common stock were traded), as compared to other similar transactions of a comparable nature in the view of the board of director's financial advisor;

the greater market capitalization and trading liquidity of Heritage common stock, which is listed on NASDAQ, in the event that Focus Bank shareholders desire to sell the shares of Heritage common stock to be received by them following completion of the merger;

the fact that Heritage has paid cash dividends on its common stock in every quarter since the third quarter of 2013, and recently increased its quarterly dividend in the first quarter of 2015, and that Focus Bank shareholders would benefit from the anticipated future cash dividends paid by Heritage;

the board of directors ability, under certain circumstances, to withdraw its recommendation to Focus Bank shareholders or terminate the merger agreement and to consider an acquisition proposal superior to the terms of the merger agreement in certain circumstances, subject to the potential payment by Focus Bank a termination fee of \$2.74 million to Heritage, which the board of directors concluded was reasonable in the context of termination fees in comparable transactions and in light of the overall terms of the merger agreement;

the review by the Focus Bank board of directors with its legal and financial advisors of the structure of the merger and the financial and other terms of the merger agreement, including the exchange ratio and Heritage's agreement to appoint two (2) members of the Focus Bank board of directors to the Heritage board of directors;

the opinion, dated April 23, 2015, delivered to the Focus Bank board of directors by Sandler O'Neill that, as of the date of the opinion and based upon and subject to the considerations in its opinion, the per share merger consideration (defined as the exchange ratio of 1.8235 Heritage shares) was fair, from a financial point of view, to holders of Focus Bank common stock;

the likelihood of receiving regulatory approvals in a timely fashion without unacceptable conditions and the likelihood that the merger would be completed;

the agreement of Heritage to provide indemnification for Focus Bank's directors and executive officers and to honor certain existing employee benefits; and

the expectation that the merger will constitute a tax-free "reorganization" under Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code to Focus Bank shareholders with respect to the Heritage common stock received by them.

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In the course of its deliberations regarding the merger, the Focus Bank board of directors also considered the following factors and risks, which the board of directors determined did not outweigh the expected benefits to Focus Bank and its shareholders:

the challenges of combining the businesses, assets and employees of Focus Bank and Heritage which could affect the post-merger success and the ability to achieve anticipated cost savings and other potential synergies;

the branch location operated by Focus Bank overlaps with Heritage Bank of Commerce in San Jose, California and, due to the cost efficiencies made possible by the consolidation of offices, Heritage Bank of Commerce is not likely to continue the branch location currently being operated by Focus Bank, nor is it likely that Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce will be able to retain all officers and employees of Focus Bank after the merger;

the fixed exchange ratio component of the merger consideration will not adjust to compensate for potential changes in the price of Heritage common stock or Focus Bank common stock prior to completion of the merger;

the interests of Focus Bank executive officers and directors with respect to the merger apart from their interests as holders of Focus Bank common stock, and the risk that these interests might influence their decision with respect to the merger, as described below in "The Merger Interests of Focus Bank Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger" beginning on page 84;

the risk that the terms of the merger agreement, including provisions relating to the payment of a termination fee under specified circumstances, although required by Heritage as a condition to its willingness to enter into a merger agreement, could have the effect of discouraging other parties that might be interested in a transaction with Focus Bank from proposing such a transaction;

the restrictions contained in the merger agreement on the operation of Focus Bank's business during the period between the signing of the merger agreement and completion of the merger which may delay or prevent Focus Bank from pursuing business opportunities that could arise before completion of the merger;

the possibility that the merger might not be completed and the impact of a public announcement of the termination of the merger agreement on, among other things, the market price of Focus Bank common stock and Focus Bank operating results, particularly in light of the costs incurred in connection with the transaction; and

the Focus Bank board of directors also considered other factors described under the section of this joint proxy statement/prospectus entitled "Risk Factors."

The foregoing discussion of the information and factors considered by the Focus Bank board of directors is not intended to be exhaustive, but includes the material factors, both positive and negative, considered by the Focus Bank board of directors. In reaching its decision to approve the merger agreement, the Focus Bank board of directors did not quantify or assign any relative weights to the factors considered, and individual directors may have given different weights to different factors. The Focus Bank board of directors considered all these factors as a whole, including discussions with, and questioning of, Focus Bank's management team, its legal counsel and financial advisor. The Focus Bank board of directors determined that overall, the totality of information and factors (positive and negative) considered by the Focus Bank board of directors, was favorable to, and supported, its determination.

This explanation of Focus Bank's reasons for the merger and other information presented in this section is forward-looking in nature and should be read in light of the section entitled "Cautionary

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Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" beginning on page 34 of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

For the reasons set forth above, the Focus Bank board of directors has approved the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby and unanimously recommends that Focus Bank shareholders vote "FOR" the Focus Bank Merger proposal and "FOR" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate).

Each of the directors of Focus Bank has entered into a shareholder agreement with Heritage and Focus Bank, pursuant to which they have agreed to vote "FOR" the Focus Bank Merger proposal and "FOR" the Focus Bank Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate). For more information regarding the shareholder agreements, please see the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Shareholder Agreements" beginning on page 109.

Opinion of Financial Advisor to Focus Bank

By letter, dated January 8, 2015, Focus Bank retained Sandler O'Neill to act as financial advisor to Focus Bank's board of directors in connection with the board of directors consideration of a potential business combination involving a second party. Sandler O'Neill is a nationally recognized investment banking firm whose principal business specialty is financial institutions. In the ordinary course of its investment banking business, Sandler O'Neill is regularly engaged in the valuation of financial institutions and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions and other corporate transactions.

Sandler O'Neill acted as financial advisor to the Focus Bank board of directors in connection with the proposed transaction with Heritage and participated in certain of the negotiations leading to the execution of the merger agreement. At the April 23, 2015 meeting at which the Focus Bank board of directors considered and approved the merger agreement, Sandler O'Neill delivered to the Focus Bank board of directors its oral opinion, which was subsequently confirmed in writing, that, as of such date, the exchange ratio was fair to the holders of Focus Bank common stock from a financial point of view. **The full text of Sandler O'Neill's opinion is attached as Appendix C to this proxy statement/prospectus. The opinion outlines the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by Sandler O'Neill in rendering its opinion. The description of the opinion set forth below is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the opinion. Holders of Focus Bank common stock are urged to read the entire opinion carefully in connection with their consideration of the proposed merger.**

Sandler O'Neill's opinion speaks only as of the date of the opinion. The opinion was directed to Focus Bank's board of directors and is directed only to the fairness of the exchange ratio to the holders of Focus Bank common stock from a financial point of view. It does not address the underlying business decision of Focus Bank to engage in the merger or any other aspect of the merger and is not a recommendation to any holder of Focus Bank common stock as to how such holder of Focus Bank common stock should vote at the special meeting with respect to the merger or any other matter. Sandler O'Neill did not express any opinion as to the fairness of the amount or nature of the compensation to be received in the merger by Focus Bank's officers, directors, or employees, or class of such persons, relative to the merger consideration to be received by Focus Bank's common shareholders.

In connection with rendering its opinion, dated April 23, 2015, Sandler O'Neill reviewed and considered, among other things:

a draft of the merger agreement, dated April 23, 2015;

certain publicly available financial statements and other historical financial information of Focus Bank that Sandler O'Neill deemed relevant;

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certain publicly available financial statements and other historical financial information of Heritage that Sandler O'Neill deemed relevant;

internal financial projections for Focus Bank for the years ending December 31, 2015 through December 31, 2019, as provided by senior management of Focus Bank;

publicly available mean analyst earnings per share estimates for Heritage for the years ending December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2016 and an estimated long-term earnings per share growth rate for the years thereafter, as provided by senior management of Heritage;

the pro forma financial impact of the merger on Heritage based on projections of Focus Bank net income for the years ending December 31, 2015 through December 31, 2019, as well as assumptions relating to transaction expenses, purchase accounting and mark-to-market adjustments, expected cost savings and other synergies, as provided by the senior management of Heritage;

the relative contribution of assets, liabilities, equity and earnings of Focus Bank and Heritage to the combined entity;

a comparison of certain stock trading, financial and other information for Focus Bank and Heritage with similar publicly available information for certain other commercial banks, the securities of which are publicly traded;

the terms and structures of other recent mergers and acquisition transactions in the banking sector;

the current market environment generally and the banking environment in particular; and

such other information, financial studies, analyses and investigations and financial, economic and market criteria as Sandler O'Neill considered relevant.

Sandler O'Neill also discussed with certain members of senior management of Focus Bank the business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects of Focus Bank and held similar discussions with the senior management of Heritage regarding the business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects of Heritage.

In performing its review, Sandler O'Neill relied upon the accuracy and completeness of all of the financial and other information that was available to Sandler O'Neill from public sources, that was provided to Sandler O'Neill by the respective managements of Focus Bank and Heritage or that was otherwise reviewed by Sandler O'Neill and assumed such accuracy and completeness for purposes of preparing its opinion letter. Sandler O'Neill further relied on the assurances of the respective managements of Focus Bank and Heritage that they were not aware of any facts or circumstances that would make any of such information inaccurate or misleading in any material respect. Sandler O'Neill did not make an independent evaluation or appraisal of the specific assets, the collateral securing the assets or the liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of Focus Bank and Heritage or any of their respective subsidiaries. Sandler O'Neill did not make an independent evaluation of the adequacy of the allowance for loan losses of Focus Bank, Heritage or the combined entity after the merger and Sandler O'Neill did not review any individual credit files relating to Focus Bank and Heritage. Sandler O'Neill assumed, with Focus Bank's consent, that the respective allowances for loan losses for both Focus Bank and Heritage were adequate to cover such losses and would be adequate on a pro forma basis for the combined entity.

With respect to Sandler O'Neill's analysis, Sandler O'Neill used internal financial projections as provided by the senior management of Focus Bank and publicly available mean analyst earnings per share estimates for Heritage for the years ending December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2016, and an estimated long-term earnings per share growth rate for the years thereafter as provided by senior management of Heritage. Sandler O'Neill also received and used in its pro forma analysis projections

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of Focus Bank net income for the years ending December 31, 2015 through December 31, 2019, as well as assumptions relating to transaction costs, purchase accounting and mark-to-market adjustments, expected cost savings and other synergies, as provided by the senior management of Heritage. The respective senior managements of Focus Bank and Heritage confirmed to Sandler O'Neill that those estimates and projections reflected the best currently available estimates and projections and judgments of such respective managements of the respective future financial performances of Focus Bank and Heritage, and Sandler O'Neill assumed that such performance would be achieved. Sandler O'Neill expressed no opinion as to such estimates or the assumptions on which they are based. Sandler O'Neill assumed that there was no material change in the respective assets, financial condition, results of operations, business or prospects of Focus Bank and Heritage since the date of the most recent financial data made available to Sandler O'Neill. Sandler O'Neill also assumed in all respects material to its analysis that Focus Bank and Heritage would remain as a going concern for all periods relevant to its analyses. Sandler O'Neill expressed no opinion as to any of the legal, accounting and tax matters relating to the merger and any other transactions contemplated in connection therewith.

Sandler O'Neill also assumed, with Focus Bank's consent, that each of the parties to the merger agreement would comply in all material respects with all material terms of the merger agreement and all related agreements, that all of the representations and warranties contained in such agreements were true and correct in all material respects, that each of the parties to such agreements would perform in all material respects all of the covenants required to be performed by such party under the agreements and that the conditions precedent in such agreements would not be waived, and that in the course of obtaining the necessary regulatory or third party approvals, consents and releases with respect to the merger, no delay, limitation, restriction or condition would be imposed that would have an adverse effect on Focus Bank, Heritage or the merger and that the merger and any related transaction would be consummated in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement without any waiver, modification or amendment of any material term, condition or agreement thereof and in compliance with all applicable laws and other requirements.

Sandler O'Neill's opinion was necessarily based on financial, economic, regulatory, market and other conditions as in effect on, and the information made available to Sandler O'Neill as of, the date of its opinion. Events occurring after the date thereof could materially affect its opinion. Sandler O'Neill has not undertaken to update, revise, reaffirm or withdraw its opinion or otherwise comment upon events occurring after the date of its opinion. Sandler O'Neill expressed no opinion as to the trading values of either the common stock of Focus Bank or Heritage at any time.

In rendering its opinion, dated April 23, 2015, Sandler O'Neill performed a variety of financial analyses. The following is a summary of the material analyses performed by Sandler O'Neill, but is not a complete description of all the analyses underlying Sandler O'Neill's opinion. The summary includes information presented in tabular format. **In order to fully understand the financial analyses, these tables must be read together with the accompanying text. The tables alone do not constitute a complete description of the financial analyses.** The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex process involving subjective judgments as to the most appropriate and relevant methods of financial analysis and the application of those methods to the particular circumstances. The process, therefore, is not necessarily susceptible to a partial analysis or summary description. Sandler O'Neill believes that its analyses must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of the factors and analyses to be considered without considering all factors and analyses, or attempting to ascribe relative weights to some or all such factors and analyses, could create an incomplete view of the evaluation process underlying its opinion. Also, no company included in Sandler O'Neill's comparative analyses described below is identical to Focus Bank or Heritage and no transaction is identical to the merger. Accordingly, an analysis of comparable companies or transactions involves complex considerations and judgments concerning differences in financial and operating characteristics of the companies and other factors that could affect the public trading values or merger transaction values, as the case may be, of Focus Bank and Heritage and the companies to which they are being compared.

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In performing its analyses, Sandler O'Neill also made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, business and economic conditions and various other matters, many of which cannot be predicted and are beyond the control of Focus Bank, Heritage and Sandler O'Neill. The analysis performed by Sandler O'Neill is not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results, both of which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by such analyses. Sandler O'Neill prepared its analyses solely for purposes of rendering its opinion and provided such analyses to the Focus Bank board of directors at the board of directors' April 23, 2015 meeting. Estimates on the values of companies do not purport to be appraisals or necessarily reflect the prices at which companies or their securities may actually be sold. Such estimates are inherently subject to uncertainty and actual values may be materially different. Accordingly, Sandler O'Neill's analyses do not necessarily reflect the value of Focus Bank's common stock or the prices at which Focus Bank's common stock may be sold at any time. The analyses of Sandler O'Neill and its opinion were among a number of factors taken into consideration by Focus Bank's board of directors in making its determination to approve of Focus Bank's entry into the merger agreement and the analyses described below should not be viewed as determinative of the decision of Focus Bank's board of directors or management with respect to the fairness of the merger.

In arriving at its opinion, Sandler O'Neill did not attribute any particular weight to any analysis or factor that it considered. Rather, it made qualitative judgments as to the significance and relevance of each analysis and factor. Sandler O'Neill did not form an opinion as to whether any individual analysis or factor (positive or negative) considered in isolation supported or failed to support its opinion; rather, Sandler O'Neill made its determination as to the fairness of the exchange ratio on the basis of its experience and professional judgment after considering the results of all its analyses taken as a whole.

Summary of Proposal

Sandler O'Neill reviewed the financial terms of the proposed transaction. At the effective time, each share of Focus Bank common stock will be converted into the right to receive 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock. In addition, cash will be paid in lieu of the issuance of any fractional shares of Heritage common stock.

Contribution Analysis

Sandler O'Neill reviewed the relative contributions to be made by Focus Bank and Heritage to the combined entity based on financial information of both companies as of December 31, 2014. This analysis indicated that the implied contributions to the combined entity were as follows:

(dollars in thousands)	Heritage		Focus Bank	
Assets	\$ 1,617,103	81%	\$ 391,283	19%
Net Loans	1,071,436	86%	179,731	14%
Total Deposits	1,388,386	79%	361,310	21%
Core Deposits	1,152,168	77%	341,668	23%
Noninterest Bearing Deposits	517,662	85%	94,901	15%
Tangible Common Equity	148,519	84%	28,493	16%
Tangible Equity	168,038	86%	28,493	14%
Total Equity	184,358	87%	28,493	13%
2014 FY Net Income	13,427	92%	1,157	8%

On a pro forma basis, Sandler O'Neill's analysis indicated that Heritage would own approximately 85% of the combined entity with Focus Bank owning the remaining 15%.(1)

(1) Based on 2,929,282 common shares, 72,440 unvested RSAs, and 753,623 options with a weighted average strike price of \$9.06 for Focus Bank and 31,123,739 shares outstanding for Heritage.

Table of Contents***Focus Bank Comparable Company Analysis***

Sandler O'Neill used publicly available information to compare selected financial information for Focus Bank and a group of financial institutions, as selected by Sandler O'Neill. The Focus Bank peer group consisted of publicly traded California banks with assets between \$300 million and \$500 million, excluding merger targets and mutual holding companies.

Avidbank Holdings, Inc.	TFC Holding Company
1st Capital Bank	San Diego Private Bank(1)
Valley Republic Bank(1)	CommerceWest Bank(1)
Santa Cruz County Bank	Mission Bancorp
Summit State Bank	Valley Commerce Bancorp
California Bank of Commerce	AltaPacific Bancorp

(1)

Financial information as of March 31, 2015

The analysis compared publicly available financial information for Focus Bank and the mean and median financial and market trading data for the Focus Bank peer group as of or for the period ended December 31, 2014, unless otherwise noted above, with pricing data as of April 22, 2015. The table below sets forth the data for Focus Bank and the data for the Focus Bank peer group.

Comparable Company Analysis	Focus Bank	Comparable Group Mean	Comparable Group Median
Total Assets (\$ millions)	391	438	446
Market Capitalization (\$ millions)	30	54	54
Price / Tangible Book Value Per Share	105%	113%	109%
Price / LTM Earnings Per Share(1)	27.5x	16.1x	14.5x
Dividend Yield	0.00%	0.54%	0.00%
LTM Price Change	12.4%	11.3%	7.9%
Leverage Ratio	7.1%	11.5%	11.0%
Total Risk Based Capital Ratio	14.7%	16.1%	15.4%
Tangible Common Equity / Tangible Assets	7.3%	11.1%	10.9%
NPAs / Assets	0.15%	0.77%	0.67%
Loans / Deposits	50.5%	78.5%	79.7%
Return on Average Assets	0.29%	0.85%	0.86%
Return on Average Equity	3.88%	7.34%	6.99%
Net Interest Margin	2.61%	3.91%	3.88%
Efficiency Ratio	81%	66%	68%

(1)

LTM EPS adjusted to exclude the impact from nonrecurring revenue, negative loan loss provision, nonrecurring expense and DTA allowance

Heritage Comparable Company Analysis

Sandler O'Neill used publicly available information to compare selected financial information for Heritage and a group of financial institutions, as selected by Sandler O'Neill. The Heritage peer group

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consisted of exchange-traded Western US Banks, excluding Alaska and Hawaii, with total assets between \$1.0 billion and \$4.0 billion, excluding merger targets.

TriCo Bancshares	Sierra Bancorp(1)
Heritage Financial Corporation	Heritage Oaks Bancorp
Pacific Premier Bancorp, Inc.(1)	Pacific Continental Corporation
Cascade Bancorp	First Foundation Inc.
CU Bancorp	Central Valley Community Bancorp(1)
Bank of Marin Bancorp(1)	Pacific Mercantile Bancorp

(1) Financial information as of March 31, 2015

The analysis compared publicly available financial information for Heritage and the mean and median financial and market trading data for the Heritage peer group as of or for the period ended December 31, 2014, unless otherwise noted above, with pricing data as of April 22, 2015. The table below sets forth the data for Heritage and the data for the Heritage peer group.

Comparable Company Analysis	Heritage(2)	Comparable Group Mean	Comparable Group Median
Total Assets (\$ millions)	1,617	2,097	1,780
Market Capitalization (\$ millions)	239	300	291
Price / Tangible Book Value Per Share	172%	151%	156%
Price / LTM Earnings Per Share(1)	20.5x	21.8x	16.0x
Price / 2015E Earnings Per Share	16.7x	17.5x	13.8x
Price / 2016E Earnings Per Share	14.7x	14.4x	12.6x
Dividend Yield	3.56%	1.30%	1.77%
LTM Price Change	9.1%	2.5%	3.0%
Leverage Ratio	10.6%	10.4%	10.4%
Total Risk Based Capital Ratio	13.9%	14.4%	14.4%
Tangible Common Equity / Tangible Assets	9.3%	9.5%	9.8%
Loans / Deposits	78.4%	84.1%	84.2%
Return on Average Assets	0.77%	0.77%	0.91%
Return on Average Equity	7.72%	6.87%	8.32%
Net Interest Margin	4.10%	3.97%	4.05%
Efficiency Ratio	64%	69%	68%

(1) LTM EPS adjusted to exclude the impact from nonrecurring revenue, negative loan loss provision, nonrecurring expense and DTA allowance

(2) LTM EPS and Tangible Book Value per share assumes 5,601,000 shares of Series C preferred stock converted into common stock on a 1:1 basis

Focus Bank Stock Price Performance

Sandler O'Neill reviewed the history of the publicly reported trading prices of Focus Bank's common stock for the one-year and three-year period ended April 22, 2015. Sandler O'Neill then compared the relationship between the movements in the price of Focus Bank's common stock against

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the movements in the prices of Focus Bank's peer group (as described on page 64), S&P 500 Index and Nasdaq Bank Index.

	Beginning Index Value April 22, 2014	Ending Index Value April 22, 2015
Focus Bank's One Year Stock Performance		
Focus Bank	100.0%	112.4%
Focus Bank Peer Group	100.0%	107.6%
S&P 500 Index	100.0%	112.2%
Nasdaq Bank Index	100.0%	105.0%

	Beginning Index Value April 22, 2012	Ending Index Value April 22, 2015
Focus Bank's Three Year Stock Performance		
Focus Bank	100.0%	131.2%
Focus Bank Peer Group	100.0%	137.2%
S&P 500 Index	100.0%	153.6%
Nasdaq Bank Index	100.0%	150.5%

Heritage Stock Price Performance

Sandler O'Neill reviewed the history of the publicly reported trading prices of Heritage's common stock for the one-year and three-year period ended April 22, 2015. Sandler O'Neill then compared the relationship between the movements in the price of Heritage's common stock against the movements in the prices of Heritage's peer group (as described on page 64), S&P 500 Index and Nasdaq Bank Index.

	Beginning Index Value April 22, 2014	Ending Index Value April 22, 2015
Heritage's One Year Stock Performance		
Heritage	100.0%	109.1%
Heritage Peer Group	100.0%	105.0%
S&P 500 Index	100.0%	112.2%
Nasdaq Bank Index	100.0%	104.7%

	Beginning Index Value April 22, 2012	Ending Index Value April 22, 2015
Heritage's Three Year Stock Performance		
Heritage	100.0%	138.7%
Heritage Peer Group	100.0%	151.8%
S&P 500 Index	100.0%	153.6%
Nasdaq Bank Index	100.0%	150.5%

Focus Bank Net Present Value Analysis

Sandler O'Neill performed an analysis that estimated the net present value per share of Focus Bank common stock under various circumstances. The analysis assumed that Focus Bank performed in accordance to internal financial projections provided by Focus Bank's senior management for the years ending December 31, 2015 through December 31, 2019. To approximate the terminal value of Focus Bank common stock at December 31, 2019, Sandler O'Neill applied price to earnings multiples ranging from 12.5x to 20.0x and multiples of tangible book value ranging from 90% to 140%. The terminal values were then discounted to present values using different discount rates ranging from 10.0% to 16.0% chosen to reflect different assumptions regarding required rates of return of holders or prospective buyers of Focus Bank common stock.

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During the Focus Bank board of directors meeting on April 23, 2015, Sandler O'Neill noted that the terminal value analysis is a widely used valuation methodology, but the results of such methodology are highly dependent upon the numerous assumptions that must be made, and the results thereof are not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results.

As illustrated in the following tables, the analysis indicates an imputed range of values per share of Focus Bank common stock of \$7.74 to \$15.93 when applying multiples of earnings to the applicable amounts indicated in the Focus Bank projections and \$6.16 to \$12.34 when applying multiples of tangible book value to the applicable amounts indicated in the Focus Bank projections.

Earnings Per Share Multiples

Discount Rate	12.5x	14.0x	15.5x	17.0x	18.5x	20.0x
10%	9.96	11.15	12.35	13.54	14.74	15.93
11%	9.54	10.68	11.83	12.97	14.12	15.26
12%	9.14	10.24	11.33	12.43	13.53	14.62
13%	8.76	9.81	10.87	11.92	12.97	14.02
14%	8.40	9.41	10.42	11.43	12.44	13.44
15%	8.06	9.03	10.00	10.96	11.93	12.90
16%	7.74	8.67	9.59	10.52	11.45	12.38

Tangible Book Value Multiples

Discount Rate	90%	100%	110%	120%	130%	140%
10%	7.93	8.81	9.69	10.58	11.46	12.34
11%	7.60	8.44	9.29	10.13	10.98	11.82
12%	7.28	8.09	8.90	9.71	10.52	11.33
13%	6.98	7.76	8.53	9.31	10.08	10.86
14%	6.69	7.44	8.18	8.93	9.67	10.41
15%	6.42	7.14	7.85	8.56	9.28	9.99
16%	6.16	6.85	7.53	8.22	8.90	9.59

Sandler O'Neill also considered and discussed with the Focus Bank board of directors how this analysis would be affected by changes in the underlying assumptions, including variations with respect to net income. To illustrate this impact, Sandler O'Neill performed a similar analysis assuming Focus Bank's net income varied from 25% above projections to 25% below projections. This analysis indicates the following range of per share values for Focus Bank common stock, using the same price to earnings multiples of 12.5x to 20.0x and a discount rate of 12.87%.

Table of Contents***Earnings Per Share Multiples***

Annual Net Income Variance	12.5x	14.0x	15.5x	17.0x	18.5x	20.0x
25%	6.61	7.40	8.19	8.99	9.78	10.57
20%	7.05	7.89	8.74	9.59	10.43	11.28
15%	7.49	8.39	9.29	10.18	11.08	11.98
10%	7.93	8.88	9.83	10.78	11.74	12.69
5%	8.37	9.37	10.38	11.38	12.39	13.39
0%	8.81	9.87	10.92	11.98	13.04	14.10
5%	9.25	10.36	11.47	12.58	13.69	14.80
10%	9.69	10.85	12.02	13.18	14.34	15.51
15%	10.13	11.35	12.56	13.78	15.00	16.21
20%	10.57	11.84	13.11	14.38	15.65	16.92
25%	11.01	12.33	13.66	14.98	16.30	17.62

The following table describes the discount rate calculation for Focus Bank common stock prepared by Sandler O'Neill. The discount rate equals the sum of the risk free rate, the equity risk premium and the size premium.

Risk Free Rate	4.00%	Based on Normalized 20yr US Treasury
Equity Risk Premium	5.00%	Per Duff & Phelps 2014 Valuation Handbook
Size Premium	3.87%	Per Duff & Phelps 2014 Valuation Handbook

Discount Rate 12.87%

Heritage Net Present Value Analysis

Sandler O'Neill also performed an analysis that estimated the net present value per share of Heritage common stock under various circumstances. The analysis assumed that Heritage performed in accordance with publicly available mean analyst earnings per share estimates for the years ending December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2016 and an estimated long-term earnings per share growth rate for the years ending December 31, 2017 through December 31, 2019 as provided by the senior management of Heritage.

To approximate the terminal value of Heritage common stock at December 31, 2019, Sandler O'Neill applied price to earnings multiples ranging from 14.0x to 19.0x and multiples of tangible book value ranging from 120% to 195%. The terminal values were then discounted to present values using different discount rates ranging from 10.0% to 16.0% chosen to reflect different assumptions regarding required rates of return of holders or prospective buyers of Heritage common stock.

At the April 23, 2015 Focus Bank board of directors meeting, Sandler O'Neill noted that the net present value analysis is a widely used valuation methodology, but the results of such methodology are highly dependent upon the numerous assumptions that must be made, and the results thereof are not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results.

As illustrated in the following tables, the analysis performed by Sandler O'Neill indicated an imputed range of values per share of Heritage common stock of \$6.85 to \$11.23 when applying multiples of earnings to the applicable amounts indicated in the projections provided by the senior management of Heritage and \$5.22 to \$9.74 when applying multiples of tangible book value to the applicable amounts indicated in the projections provided by the senior management of Heritage.

Table of Contents*Earnings Per Share Multiples*

Discount Rate	14.0x	15.0x	16.0x	17.0x	18.0x	19.0x
10%	8.66	9.17	9.69	10.20	10.71	11.23
11%	8.32	8.81	9.30	9.79	10.29	10.78
12%	7.99	8.47	8.94	9.41	9.88	10.35
13%	7.69	8.14	8.59	9.04	9.50	9.95
14%	7.39	7.83	8.26	8.70	9.13	9.56
15%	7.12	7.53	7.95	8.36	8.78	9.20
16%	6.85	7.25	7.65	8.05	8.45	8.85

Tangible Book Value Multiples

Discount Rate	120%	135%	150%	165%	180%	195%
10%	6.56	7.19	7.83	8.47	9.10	9.74
11%	6.30	6.91	7.52	8.13	8.74	9.35
12%	6.07	6.65	7.23	7.82	8.40	8.99
13%	5.84	6.40	6.96	7.52	8.08	8.64
14%	5.62	6.16	6.70	7.23	7.77	8.31
15%	5.41	5.93	6.45	6.96	7.48	7.99
16%	5.22	5.71	6.21	6.70	7.20	7.69

Sandler O'Neill also considered and discussed with the Focus Bank board of directors how this analysis would be affected by changes in the underlying assumptions, including variations with respect to earnings per share. To illustrate this impact, Sandler O'Neill performed a similar analysis assuming Heritage net income varied from 25% above projections to 25% below projections. This analysis indicates the following range of per share values for Heritage common stock, using the same price to earnings multiples of 14.0x to 19.0x and a discount rate of 12.87%:

Earnings Per Share Multiples

Annual Net Income Variance	14.0x	15.0x	16.0x	17.0x	18.0x	19.0x
25%	6.14	6.48	6.82	7.16	7.50	7.84
20%	6.45	6.82	7.18	7.54	7.91	8.27
15%	6.77	7.16	7.54	7.93	8.32	8.70
10%	7.09	7.50	7.91	8.32	8.73	9.14
5%	7.41	7.84	8.27	8.70	9.14	9.57
0%	7.73	8.18	8.64	9.09	9.54	10.00
5%	8.04	8.52	9.00	9.48	9.95	10.43
10%	8.36	8.86	9.36	9.86	10.36	10.86
15%	8.68	9.20	9.73	10.25	10.77	11.30
20%	9.00	9.54	10.09	10.64	11.18	11.73
25%	9.32	9.89	10.45	11.02	11.59	12.16

The following table describes the discount rate calculation for Heritage common stock prepared by Sandler O'Neill. The discount rate equals the sum of the risk free rate, the equity risk premium and the size premium.

Risk Free Rate	4.00%	Based on Normalized 20yr US Treasury
Equity Risk Premium	5.00%	Per Duff & Phelps 2014 Valuation Handbook
Size Premium	3.87%	Per Duff & Phelps 2014 Valuation Handbook

Discount Rate 12.87%

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Analysis of Selected Merger Transactions

Sandler O'Neill reviewed two groups of comparable merger and acquisition transactions. The first group, referred to as the Nationwide transaction group, included 22 transactions announced between January 1, 2014 and April 22, 2015 with a deal value between \$35 million and \$75 million with target NPAs less than 2.5%. The second group, referred to as the Western US transaction group, included 6 transactions announced between January 1, 2014 and April 22, 2015 with a deal value between \$35 million and \$75 million with target NPAs less than 5.0%.

The Nationwide transaction group was composed of the following transactions:

Acquirer / Target

Wintrust Financial Corp. / Community Financial Shares Inc.
 Horizon Bancorp / Peoples Bancorp Inc.
 Ameris Bancorp / Merchant & Southern Banks of FL Inc.
 United Community Banks Inc. / MoneyTree Corp.
 Farmers National Banc Corp. / National Bancshares Corp.
 First NBC Bank Holding Co. / State Investors Bancorp Inc.
 Stupp Bros. Inc. / Southern Bancshares Corp.
 ESB Bancorp MHC / Citizens National Bancorp Inc.
 Pacific Continental Corp. / Capital Pacific Bancorp
 Durant Bancorp Inc. / Consolidated Equity Corp.
 Heartland Financial USA Inc. / Community Banc-Corp Sheboygan Inc.
 Pacific Premier Bancorp / Independence Bank
 ServisFirst Bancshares Inc. / Metro Bancshares Inc.
 SKBHC Holdings LLC / Greater Sacramento Bancorp
 Wintrust Financial Corp. / Delavan Bancshares Inc.
 BNC Bancorp / Harbor Bank Group Inc.
 Independent Bk Group Inc. / Houston City Bancshares Inc.
 Home BancShares Inc. / Florida Traditions Bank
 Peoples Bancorp Inc. / Ohio Heritage Bancorp Inc.
 Simmons First National Corp. / Delta Trust & Banking Corp.
 CBFH Inc. / MC Baneshares Inc.
 CVB Financial Corp. / American Security Bank
 IBERIABANK Corp. / First Private Holdings Inc.

	Mean	Median	Heritage/ Focus Bank Valuation Multiples
Transaction Value Per Share / Tangible Book Value Per Share	155%	149%	173%
Transaction Value Per Share / Last Twelve Months Earnings Per Share	25.0x	21.4x	42.1x
Transaction Value Per Share / Tangible Book Premium to Core Deposits	7.4%	7.8%	7.7%

Selected multiples and ratios adjusted for one-time items and tax reversals, where applicable.

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The Western US transaction group was composed of the following transactions:

Acquirer / Target

Pacific Continental Corp. / Capital Pacific Bancorp
 Pacific Premier Bancorp / Independence Bank
 SKBHC Holdings LLC / Greater Sacramento Bancorp
 Banner Corp. / Siuslaw Financial Group
 CVB Financial Corp. / American Security Bank
 First Interstate BancSystem / Mountain West Financial Corp.

	Mean	Median	Heritage/Focus Bank Valuation Multiples
Transaction Value Per Share / Tangible Book Value Per Share	145%	145%	173%
Transaction Value Per Share / Last Twelve Months Earnings Per Share	20.6x	19.7x	42.1x
Transaction Value Per Share / Tangible Book Premium to Core Deposits	6.8%	7.2%	7.7%
One-Day Market Premium	38.7%	27.4%	64.1%

Selected multiples and ratios adjusted for one-time items and tax reversals, where applicable.

Pro Forma Results and Capital Ratios

Sandler O'Neill analyzed certain potential pro forma effects of the merger on Heritage, assuming the following, as provided by the senior management of Heritage: (i) Focus Bank projected net income for the years ending December 31, 2015 through December 31, 2019; (ii) the merger closes in the third quarter of 2015; (iii) an aggregate transaction value of \$54.8 million, based on Heritage's closing stock price on April 22, 2015 of \$9.00 per share; (iv) Heritage would be able to achieve cost savings on Focus Bank's projected noninterest expense; (v) Heritage would be able to achieve certain synergies; (vi) a core deposit intangible asset; (vii) various purchase accounting and mark-to-market adjustments; and (viii) all vested and exercisable options of Focus Bank are cashed out at the deal price per share. The analyses indicated that for the year ending December 31, 2016, the merger (excluding transaction expenses) would be accretive to Heritage's projected earnings per share and, at closing, the merger would be dilutive to Heritage's tangible book value per share. The analyses also indicated that at closing the merger would maintain Heritage's regulatory capital ratios above the regulatory guidelines for "well capitalized" status. The actual results achieved by the combined entity, however, may vary from projected results and the variations may be material.

Analysis of Trading Liquidity of Heritage Common Stock

Sandler O'Neill used publicly available information to review Heritage's average daily common stock trading activity for the 5 day, 30 day and 90 day periods ending April 22, 2015. During those periods, Heritage's daily average common stock trading activity ranged from approximately 26 thousand shares to approximately 56 thousand shares per day and Focus Bank's daily average common stock trading activity ranged from approximately 2 thousand shares to approximately 10 thousand shares per day. Based on an estimated 5.5 million shares of Heritage common stock to be issued in aggregate to Focus Bank's common shareholders, the analysis indicated that it would take between approximately 81 and 199 trading days to trade all of the shares issued to Focus Bank's common shareholders on a combined basis, assuming 5,601,000 shares of Heritage Series C preferred stock are included on an as converted basis.

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Sandler O'Neill's Relationship

Sandler O'Neill acted as the financial advisor to Focus Bank's board of directors in connection with the merger and will receive an aggregate transaction fee in an amount equal to 1.5% of the aggregate purchase price (as defined in the engagement letter between Sandler O'Neill and Focus Bank), the majority of which is subject to the closing of the merger. Sandler O'Neill received a fee of \$150,000 in connection with the rendering of its fairness opinion which fee will be credited towards any transaction fee becoming due and payable to Sandler O'Neill upon the closing of the merger. Focus Bank has also agreed to reimburse Sandler O'Neill for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses (up to \$25,000) incurred in connection with its engagement and to indemnify Sandler O'Neill and its affiliates and their respective partners, directors, officers, employees and agents against certain expenses and liabilities, including liabilities under applicable federal or state law. Except as described here, Focus Bank has paid Sandler O'Neill no other fees or commissions for other services during the last two years.

In the ordinary course of its business as a broker-dealer, Sandler O'Neill may purchase securities from and sell securities to Focus Bank and Heritage and their respective affiliates. Sandler O'Neill may also actively trade the debt securities of Focus Bank and Heritage or their respective affiliates for its own account and for the accounts of its customers and, accordingly may at any time hold a long or short position in such securities. In addition, Sandler O'Neill advised Focus Bank's board of directors that Sandler O'Neill has in the past provided certain investment banking services to Heritage unrelated to the merger and has received compensation for such services and that Sandler O'Neill may provide, and receive compensation for, such services in the future.

Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of the Heritage Board of Directors

Heritage considers Focus Bank to be a strategic acquisition as it believes that the acquisition will provide significant value to the shareholders of both organizations. In reaching its decision to adopt and approve the merger agreement, the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, and to recommend that its shareholders approve the Heritage Merger proposal, the Heritage board of directors consulted with Heritage management, as well as its financial and legal advisors, and considered a number of factors, including the following material factors:

each of Heritage's and Focus Bank's business, operations, financial condition, asset quality, earnings and prospects, and its belief in the anticipated pro forma impact of the merger on the profitability, earnings per share and other financial metrics;

the location of the Focus Bank branch has the potential to reduce Heritage's total operating costs once all potential synergies have been realized;

the opportunity of the combined company to continue as the sole independent bank in San Jose, California;

the board of directors familiarity with the management team at Focus Bank;

the board of director's belief with respect to the compatibility of the business cultures of Focus Bank and Heritage, including the strategic focus of each company on local businesses and professionals;

its understanding of the current and prospective environment in which Heritage and Focus Bank operate, including national and local economic conditions, the competitive environment for financial institutions generally, and the likely effect of these factors on Heritage both with and without the proposed transaction;

its review and discussions with Heritage's management concerning the due diligence examination of Focus Bank;

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the complementary nature of the customers and markets of the two companies;

management's expectation that Heritage will retain or enhance its strong capital position upon completion of the transaction;

the potential risks associated with achieving anticipated cost synergies and savings and successfully integrating Focus Bank's business, operations and workforce with those of Heritage, including the costs and risks of successfully integrating the differing business models of the two companies;

the financial and other terms of the merger agreement, including merger consideration, tax treatment and mutual deal protection and termination fee provisions, which it reviewed with its outside financial and legal advisors;

the nature and amount of payments and other benefits to be received by Focus Bank management in connection with the merger pursuant to existing Focus Bank plans and compensation arrangements and the merger agreement;

the potential risk of diverting management attention and resources from the operation of Heritage's business and towards the completion of the merger and the integration of the two companies;

the opinion of KBW, Heritage's financial advisor, dated April 22, 2015, delivered to the Heritage board of directors that, as of such date, and subject to the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by KBW as set forth in such opinion, the exchange ratio in the merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to Heritage; and

the regulatory and other approvals required in connection with the merger and the potential to receive such regulatory approvals in a reasonably timely manner and without the imposition of unacceptable conditions.

The foregoing discussion of the information and factors considered by the Heritage board of directors is not intended to be exhaustive, but includes the material factors considered by the Heritage board of directors. In reaching its decision to approve the merger agreement, the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, the Heritage board of directors did not quantify or assign any relative weights to the factors considered, and individual directors may have given different weights to different factors. The Heritage board of directors considered all these factors as a whole, including discussions with, and questioning of, Heritage's management and Heritage's financial and legal advisors, and overall considered the factors to be favorable to, and to support its determination to approve entry into the merger agreement.

This explanation of Heritage's reasons for the merger and other information presented in this section is forward-looking in nature and should be read in light of the section entitled "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" beginning on page 34 of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

For the reasons set forth above, the Heritage board of directors determined that the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the issuance of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger, are advisable and in the best interests of Heritage and its shareholders, and approved the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by it. The Heritage board of directors unanimously recommends that the Heritage shareholders vote "FOR" the Heritage Merger proposal and "FOR" the Heritage Adjournment proposal (if necessary or appropriate).

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Opinion of Financial Advisor to Heritage

Heritage engaged KBW to render financial advisory and investment banking services to Heritage, including an opinion to the Heritage board of directors as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, to Heritage of the exchange ratio (defined as 1.8235 shares of Heritage common stock for each share of Focus Bank common stock) in the merger. Heritage selected KBW because KBW is a nationally recognized investment banking firm with substantial experience in transactions similar to the merger. As part of its investment banking business, KBW is continually engaged in the valuation of financial businesses and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions.

At the meeting of the Heritage board of directors held on April 22, 2015 at which the Heritage board of directors evaluated the merger, KBW reviewed the financial aspects of the merger and rendered an oral opinion, which was subsequently confirmed in writing, that, as of such date and subject to the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by KBW as set forth in such opinion, the exchange ratio in the merger was fair, from a financial point of view, to Heritage. The Heritage board of directors approved the merger agreement at this meeting.

The description of the opinion set forth herein is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the opinion, which is attached as Appendix C to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated herein by reference. Heritage shareholders are urged to read the opinion in its entirety for a description of the procedures followed, assumptions made, matters considered, and qualifications and limitations on the review undertaken by KBW in preparing the opinion.

KBW's opinion speaks only as of the date of the opinion. The opinion was for the information of, and was directed to, the Heritage board of directors (in its capacity as such) in connection with its consideration of the financial terms of the merger. The opinion addressed only the fairness, from a financial point of view, as of the date of the opinion, of the exchange ratio in the merger to Heritage. It did not address the underlying business decision of Heritage to proceed with the merger or enter into the merger agreement or constitute a recommendation to the Heritage board of directors as to how it should vote on the merger, and it did not and does not constitute a recommendation to any holder of Heritage common stock or any shareholder of any other entity as to how such shareholder should vote in connection with the merger or whether or not any such shareholder should enter into a voting, shareholders', or affiliates' agreement with respect to the merger or exercise any dissenters' or appraisal rights that may be available to such shareholder.

KBW's opinion was reviewed and approved by KBW's Fairness Opinion Committee in conformity with its policies and procedures established under the requirements of Rule 5150 of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

In connection with the opinion, KBW reviewed, analyzed and relied upon material bearing upon the financial and operating condition of Heritage, Heritage Bank, Focus Bank and the merger, including, among other things:

a draft of the merger agreement, dated April 21, 2015 (the most recent draft then made available to KBW);

the audited financial statements and Annual Reports on Form 10-K for the three fiscal years ended December 31, 2014 of Heritage;

the audited financial statements for the three fiscal years ended December 31, 2014 of Focus Bank;

the Quarterly Filings with the Federal Reserve and/or the FDIC for the five quarters ended December 31, 2014 of Heritage and Focus Bank;

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certain other interim reports and other communications of Heritage and Focus Bank to their respective stockholders; and

other financial information concerning the businesses and operations of Heritage and Focus Bank furnished to KBW by Heritage and Focus Bank or which KBW was otherwise directed to use for purposes of its analysis.

KBW's consideration of financial information and other factors that it deemed appropriate under the circumstances or relevant to its analyses included, among others:

the historical and current financial position and results of operations of Heritage and Focus Bank;

the assets and liabilities of Heritage and Focus Bank;

the nature and terms of certain other merger transactions and business combinations in the banking industry;

a comparison of certain financial and stock market information of Heritage and certain financial information of Focus Bank with similar information for certain other companies the securities of which are publicly traded;

financial and operating forecasts and projections of Focus Bank that were reviewed by Heritage management, provided to and discussed with KBW by such management, and used and relied upon by KBW at the direction of such management with the consent of the Heritage board of directors;

the publicly available consensus "street estimates" of Heritage for 2015 and 2016, as well as assumed long term growth rates reflected therein, all of which information was discussed with KBW by Heritage management and used and relied upon at the direction of such management with the consent of the Heritage board of directors; and

estimates regarding certain pro forma financial effects of the merger on Heritage (including the cost savings and related expenses expected to result from the merger) that were prepared by Heritage management, provided to and discussed with KBW by such management, and used and relied upon at the direction of such management with the consent of the Heritage board of directors.

KBW also performed such other studies and analyses as it considered appropriate and took into account its assessment of general economic, market and financial conditions and its experience in other transactions, as well as its experience in securities valuation and knowledge of the banking industry generally. KBW also held discussions with senior management of Heritage and Focus Bank regarding the past and current business operations, regulatory relations, financial condition and future prospects of their respective companies and such other matters that KBW deemed relevant to its inquiry.

In conducting its review and arriving at its opinion, KBW relied upon and assumed the accuracy and completeness of all of the financial and other information provided to it or publicly available and did not independently verify the accuracy or completeness of any such information or assume any responsibility or liability for such verification, accuracy or completeness. KBW relied upon the management of Heritage as to the reasonableness and achievability of the financial and operating forecasts and projections of Heritage and Focus Bank and the estimates regarding certain pro forma financial effects of the merger on Heritage (and the assumptions and bases for such forecasts, projections and estimates, including but not limited to, in the case of Heritage, the cost savings and related expenses expected to result from the merger and other pro forma effects assumed or estimated with respect to the merger) which were prepared or reviewed by Heritage management and provided to KBW or that, in the case of the publicly available consensus "street estimates" of Heritage referred to

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above, KBW was directed by Heritage to use. KBW assumed, at the direction of Heritage, that all such forecasts and projections of HBTK and Focus Bank reflect, or in the case of the Heritage publically available "street estimates" referred to above are consistent with, the best currently available estimates and judgments of the management of Heritage. KBW also assumed, at the direction of Heritage, in all respects material to KBW's analyses and for purposes of KBW's opinion, the conversion of all issued and outstanding shares of Heritage Series C convertible perpetual preferred stock, no par value per share, into 5,601,000 shares of Heritage common stock, which is referred to in this summary of KBW's opinion as the Heritage preferred stock conversion. Additionally, the forecasts, projections and estimates of Focus Bank that were provided to KBW and that KBW was directed by Heritage management to use reflect differences from, and adjustments to, the information prepared by Focus Bank and provided to Heritage. Accordingly, with the consent of the Heritage board of directors, in rendering KBW's opinion KBW's reliance upon Heritage management as to the reasonableness and achievability of the Focus Bank forecasts, projections and estimates used by KBW includes reliance upon the judgments and assessments of Heritage with respect to such differences and such adjustments.

It is understood that the forecasts, projections and estimates of Heritage and Focus Bank prepared or reviewed by Heritage management and provided to and discussed with KBW were not prepared with the expectation of public disclosure, that all such information, together with the publically available consensus "street estimates" of Heritage referred to above, were based on numerous variables and assumptions that are inherently uncertain, including, without limitation, factors related to general economic and competitive conditions. Accordingly, actual results could vary significantly from those set forth in such forecasts, projections and estimates. KBW assumed, based on discussions with management of Heritage and at the direction of such management and with the consent of the Heritage board of directors, that all such information (together with any assumptions that KBW was directed by Heritage to make for purposes of its opinion and its analysis) provided a reasonable basis upon which KBW could form its opinion and KBW expressed no view as to any such information or the assumptions or bases therefor. KBW relied on all such information without independent verification or analysis and did not in any respect assume any responsibility or liability for the accuracy or completeness thereof.

KBW assumed that there were no material changes in the assets, liabilities, financial condition, results of operations, business or prospects of either Heritage or Focus Bank since the date of the last financial statements of each such entity were made available to KBW. KBW is not an expert in the independent verification of the adequacy of allowances for loan and lease losses and it assumed, without independent verification and with Heritage's consent that the aggregate allowances for loan and lease losses for Heritage and Focus Bank were adequate to cover such losses. In rendering its opinion, KBW did not make or obtain any evaluations or appraisals or physical inspection of the property, assets or liabilities (contingent or otherwise) of Heritage or Focus Bank, the collateral securing any of such assets or liabilities, or the collectability of any such assets, nor did KBW examine any individual loan or credit files, nor did KBW evaluate the solvency, financial capability or fair value of Heritage or Focus Bank under any state or federal laws, including those relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or other matters. Estimates of values of companies and assets do not purport to be appraisals or necessarily reflect the prices at which companies or assets may actually be sold. Because such estimates are inherently subject to uncertainty, KBW assumed no responsibility or liability for their accuracy.

KBW assumed that, in all respects material to its analysis:

the merger would be completed substantially in accordance with the terms set forth in the merger agreement (the final terms of which KBW assumed would not differ in any respect material to KBW's analyses from the version reviewed by KBW) with no additional payments or adjustments to the exchange ratio;

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the representations and warranties of each party in the merger agreement and in all related documents and instruments referred to in the merger agreement were true and correct;

each party to the merger agreement and all related documents would perform all of the covenants and agreements required to be performed by such party under such documents;

there are no factors that would delay or subject to any adverse conditions, any necessary regulatory or governmental approval for the merger and related transactions and that all conditions to the completion of the merger and related transactions would be satisfied without any waivers or modifications to the merger agreement; and

in the course of obtaining the necessary regulatory, contractual, or other consents or approvals for the merger and related transactions, no restrictions, including any divestiture requirements, termination or other payments or amendments or modifications, would be imposed that would have a material adverse effect on the future results of operations or financial condition of Heritage, Focus Bank or the pro forma entity or the contemplated benefits of the merger, including the cost savings and related expenses expected to result from the merger.

KBW assumed that the merger would be consummated in a manner that complied with the applicable provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and all other applicable federal and state statutes, rules and regulations. KBW was further advised by representatives of Heritage that Heritage relied upon advice from its advisors (other than KBW) or other appropriate sources as to all legal, financial reporting, tax, accounting and regulatory matters with respect to Heritage, Focus Bank, Heritage Bank of Commerce, the merger and the merger agreement. KBW did not provide advice with respect to any such matters.

KBW's opinion addressed only the fairness, from a financial point of view, as of the date of such opinion, of the exchange ratio in the merger to Heritage. KBW expressed no view or opinion as to any other terms or aspects of the merger, including without limitation, the form or structure of the merger, any transactions that may be related to the merger, any consequences of the merger to Heritage, its stockholders, creditors or otherwise, or any terms, aspects or implications of any employment, voting, support, stockholder or other agreements, arrangements or understandings contemplated or entered into in connection with the merger, any related transaction, or otherwise. KBW's opinion was necessarily based upon conditions as they existed and could be evaluated on the date of such opinion and the information made available to KBW through such date. Developments subsequent to the date of KBW's opinion may have affected, and may affect, the conclusion reached in KBW's opinion and that KBW did not and does not have an obligation to update, revise or reaffirm its opinion. KBW's opinion did not address, and KBW expressed no view or opinion with respect to:

the underlying business decision of Heritage to engage in the merger or enter into the merger agreement;

the relative merits of the merger as compared to any strategic alternatives that are, have been or may be available to or contemplated by Heritage or the Heritage board of directors;

the fairness of the amount or nature of any compensation to any of Heritage's officers, directors or employees, or any class of such persons, relative to any compensation to the holders of Heritage common stock or Focus Bank common stock or relative to the exchange ratio;

the effect of the merger or any related transaction on, or the fairness of the consideration to be received by, holders of any class of securities of Heritage or Focus Bank, or any other party to any other transaction contemplated by the merger agreement;

the actual value of Heritage common stock to be issued in the merger;

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the prices, trading range or volume at which Heritage common stock would trade following the public announcement of the merger or following the consummation of the merger;

the Heritage preferred stock conversion;

any advice or opinions provided by any other advisor to any of the parties to the merger or any other transaction contemplated by the merger agreement; or

any legal, regulatory, accounting, tax or similar matters relating to Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce, Focus Bank, any of their respective shareholders, or relating to or arising out of or as a consequence of the merger or any other related transaction, including whether or not the merger would qualify as a tax-free reorganization for United States federal income tax purposes.

In performing its analyses, KBW made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, general business, economic, market and financial conditions and other matters, which are beyond the control of KBW, Heritage, and Focus Bank. Any estimates contained in the analyses performed by KBW are not necessarily indicative of actual values or future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than those suggested by these analyses. Additionally, estimates of the value of businesses or securities do not purport to be appraisals or to reflect the prices at which such businesses or securities might actually be sold. Accordingly, these analyses and estimates are inherently subject to substantial uncertainty. In addition, the KBW opinion was among several factors taken into consideration by the Heritage board of directors in making its determination to approve the merger agreement and the merger. Consequently, the analyses described below should not be viewed as determinative of the decision of the Heritage board of directors with respect to the fairness of the exchange ratio. The exchange ratio (including both form and amount) payable in the merger was determined through negotiation between Heritage and Focus Bank and the decision to enter into the merger agreement was solely that of the Heritage board of directors.

The following is a summary of the material financial analyses presented by KBW to the Heritage board of directors. The summary is not a complete description of the financial analysis underlying the opinion, but summarizes the material analyses performed and presented in connection with such opinion. The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex analytic process involving various determinations as to appropriate and relevant methods of financial analysis and the application of those methods to the particular circumstances. Therefore, a fairness opinion is not readily susceptible to partial analysis or summary description. In arriving at its opinion, KBW did not attribute any particular weight to any analysis or factor that it considered, but rather made qualitative judgments as to the significance and relevance of each analysis and factor. The financial analyses summarized below include information presented in tabular format. Accordingly, KBW believes that its analyses and the summary of its analyses must be considered as a whole and that selecting portions of its analyses and factors or focusing on the information presented below in tabular format, without considering all analyses and factors or the full narrative description of the financial analyses, including the methodologies and assumptions underlying the analyses, could create a misleading or incomplete view of the process underlying its analyses and opinion. The tables alone do not constitute a complete description of the financial analyses.

For purposes of the financial analyses described below, based on the closing price of Heritage common stock on April 21, 2015 of \$8.99, the exchange ratio represented an implied value of \$16.39 per share of Focus Bank common stock. Additionally, at the direction of Heritage management, KBW assumed the Heritage preferred stock conversion for purposes of the financial analyses described below. Except as otherwise noted, the information utilized by KBW in its analyses, to the extent that it was based on market data, is based on market data as it existed on or before April 22, 2015 and is not necessarily indicative of current market conditions. Certain financial data, referenced in the tables presented below, may not correspond to the data presented in Heritage's and Focus Bank's historical

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financial statements, as a result of the different periods, assumptions and methods used by KBW to compute the financial data presented.

Selected Companies Analysis for Heritage

Using publicly available information, KBW compared the market performance of Heritage to 17 banks that are publicly traded on major exchanges and are headquartered in the Western United States (defined as Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming) with assets between \$1 billion and \$5 billion, excluding thrifts, ethnically-focused banks and merger targets. While KBW believes that the group of banks listed below are similar to Heritage, none of these banks have the same management, composition, size, operations, or financial profile as Heritage:

Central Pacific Financial Corp.	Bank of Marin Bancorp
National Bank Holdings Corporation	Heritage Oaks Bancorp
TriCo Bancshares	Sierra Bancorp
Heritage Financial Corporation	Pacific Continental Corporation
CoBiz Financial Inc.	Northrim BanCorp, Inc.
Cascade Bancorp	First Foundation Inc.
CU Bancorp	Central Valley Community Bancorp
Guaranty Bancorp	Pacific Mercantile Bancorp
Pacific Premier Bancorp, Inc.	

To perform this analysis, KBW used financial information for the quarter ended December 31, 2014, if available, and otherwise call reports and FR Y-9C reports from SNL Financial for the most recent available quarter. KBW used publicly available consensus "street estimates" for 2015 and 2016 estimated earnings per share.

KBW's analysis showed, to the extent publicly available, the following concerning the market performance of Heritage and the selected companies:

	Heritage	Group 25 th Percentile	Group 75 th Percentile	Group Average	Group Median
Stock Price / Book Value per Share	1.57x	1.15x	1.44x	1.33x	1.32x
Stock Price / Tangible Book Value per Share	1.72x	1.32x	1.61x	1.51x	1.56x
LTM Price / Earnings	21.4x	15.6x	21.7x	18.8x	17.7x
2015 Estimated Price / Earnings	16.7x	13.5x	16.3x	15.1x	14.0x
2016 Estimated Price / Earnings	14.7x	11.9x	15.3x	14.7x	13.2x

Table of Contents***Selected Companies Analysis for Focus Bank***

Using publicly available information, KBW compared the market performance of Focus Bank to 25 banks that are publicly traded on major exchanges and are headquartered in the California with assets between \$250 million and \$1 billion, excluding thrifts, ethnically-focused banks and merger targets. While KBW believes that the group of banks listed below are similar to Focus Bank, none of these banks have the same management, composition, size, operations, or financial profile as Focus Bank:

Bank of Commerce Holdings	1st Capital Bank
First Northern Community Bancorp	Summit State Bank
FNB Bancorp	Santa Cruz County Bank
Oak Valley Bancorp	California Bank of Commerce
United Security Bancshares	San Diego Private Bank
Premier Valley Bank	CommerceWest Bank
First Choice Bank	Valley Republic Bank
American River Bankshares	Bank of Southern California, N.A.
Community West Bancshares	Bank of Santa Clara
Plaza Bank	Pacific Valley Bank
Presidio Bank	County Commerce Bank
Plumas Bancorp	Capital Bank
Bay Commercial Bank	

To perform this analysis, KBW used financial information for the quarter ended December 31, 2014, if available, and otherwise call reports and FR Y-9C reports from SNL Financial for the most recent available quarter. KBW used publicly available consensus "street estimates" for 2015 and 2016 estimated earnings per share.

KBW's analysis showed, to the extent publicly available, the following concerning the market performance of Focus Bank and the selected companies:

	Focus Bank	Group 25th Percentile	Group 75th Percentile	Group Average	Group Median
Stock Price / Book Value per Share	1.05x	0.97x	1.24x	1.10x	1.06x
Stock Price / Tangible Book Value per Share	1.05x	0.99x	1.27x	1.13x	1.06x
LTM Price / Earnings	25.6x	11.4x	18.5x	15.3x	13.6x
2015 Estimated Price / Earnings		10.6x	15.3x	13.4x	11.7x
2016 Estimated Price / Earnings		8.5x	13.0x	11.1x	9.5x

Selected Transactions Analysis

KBW reviewed publicly available information related to 17 selected bank transactions where the target was headquartered in the top 20 Large Metropolitan Statistical Areas (defined as all Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the United States with 2014 population greater than 1.5 million) that were announced after December 31, 2013, with target assets between \$100 million and \$1 billion and a target nonperforming assets to assets ratio of less than 2%, excluding thrifts, terminated transactions

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and transactions with no reported deal value (as defined by SNL Financial). The selected transactions included:

Acquiror	Acquired Company
First Financial Bankshares, Inc.	FBC Bancshares, Inc.
Wintrust Financial Corporation	Community Financial Shares, Inc.
Cathay General Bancorp	Asia Bancshares, Inc.
Bridge Bancorp, Inc.	Community National Bank
Pacific Continental Corporation	Capital Pacific Bancorp
Pacific Premier Bancorp, Inc.	Independence Bank
SKBHC Holdings LLC	Greater Sacramento Bancorp
Independent Bank Corp.	Peoples Federal Bancshares, Inc.
Univest Corporation of Pennsylvania	Valley Green Bank
Eagle Bancorp, Inc.	Virginia Heritage Bank
National Penn Bancshares, Inc.	TF Financial Corporation
CU Bancorp	1st Enterprise Bank
Independent Bank Group, Inc.	Houston City Bancshares, Inc.
Bryn Mawr Bank Corporation	Continental Bank Holdings, Inc.
Green Bancorp, Inc.	SP Bancorp, Inc.
F.N.B. Corporation	OBA Financial Services, Inc.
IBERIABANK Corporation	First Private Holdings, Inc.

To perform this analysis, KBW used information from SNL Financial and company reports as of April 21, 2015.

To the extent publicly available, KBW derived, among other things, the following implied ratios for the selected transactions:

price per share paid for the acquired company to last twelve months EPS based on the latest publicly available financial statements of the acquired company prior to the announcement of the acquisition;

price per share paid for the acquired company to book value per share of the acquired company based on the latest publicly available financial statements of the company available prior to the announcement of the acquisition;

price per share paid for the acquired company to tangible book value per share of the acquired company based on the latest publicly available financial statements of the company available prior to the announcement of the acquisition;

transaction value for the acquired company minus tangible common equity premium as a percentage of core deposits (total deposits less time deposits greater than \$100,000) based on the latest publicly available financial statements of the company available prior to the announcement of the acquisition; and

price per share paid for the acquired company to the closing price of the acquired company one day and one month prior to the announcement of the acquisition (expressed as a percentage and referred to as the 1-day market premium and 1-month market premium).

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These ratios were compared with corresponding transaction ratios for the merger based on the implied value of \$16.39 per share of Focus Bank common stock. The results of the analysis are set forth in the following table:

Transaction Multiples:	Heritage/ Focus Bank Merger	Group 25th Percentile	Group 75th Percentile	Group Average	Group Median
LTM EPS	42.0x	17.7x	32.6x	25.7x	20.2x
Book Value	1.73x	1.45x	1.89x	1.80x	1.73x
Tangible Book Value	1.73x	1.48x	1.97x	1.81x	1.73x
Core Deposit Premium	5.1%	7.8%	14.9%	11.9%	10.3%
1-Day Market Premium	63.9%	14.1%	35.2%	29.0%	27.7%
1-Month Market Premium	68.1%	19.8%	36.4%	31.1%	29.0%

No company or transaction used as a comparison in the selected companies or selected transactions analyses is identical to Heritage, Focus Bank or the merger. Accordingly, an analysis of these results is not mathematical. Rather, it involves complex considerations and judgments concerning differences in financial and operating characteristics of the companies.

Relative Contribution Analysis

KBW prepared an analysis comparing the relative standalone percentage contributions of Heritage and Focus Bank to the pro forma market capitalization, balance sheet and income statement items of the combined entity, including pro forma ownership, assets, gross loans held for deposit, deposits, tangible common equity, last twelve months net income available to common shareholders as of December 31, 2014, and projected 2015 and 2016 net income available to common shareholders. This analysis excluded any purchase accounting adjustments and synergies.

To perform this analysis, KBW used (i) balance sheet data for Heritage and Focus Bank as of December 31, 2014, (ii) net income for the twelve months ended December 31, 2014 for Heritage and Focus Bank, and (iii) publicly available consensus "street estimates" of net income of Heritage for 2015 and 2016 and net income estimates for Focus Bank for 2015 and 2016 assumed per Heritage management.

The results of KBW's analysis are set forth in the following table:

	Heritage as a % of Total	Focus Bank as a % of Total
Ownership		
Ownership at 100% Stock	85.4%	14.6%
Balance Sheet		
Assets	80.5%	19.5%
Gross Loans Held for Investment	85.7%	14.3%
Deposits	79.4%	20.6%
Tangible Common Equity	85.5%	14.5%
Income Statement		
LTM Net Income to Common Shareholders as of 12/31/2014	91.5%(1)	8.5%
2015 Estimated Net Income	90.6%	9.4%
2016 Estimated Net Income	88.1%	11.9%

(1) Net Income available to common shareholders prior to undistributed earnings allocated to Series C preferred shares.

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Financial Impact Analysis

KBW performed a pro forma financial impact analysis that combined projected income statement and balance sheet information of Heritage and Focus Bank. Using closing balance sheet estimates as of September 30, 2015 for Heritage and Focus Bank, publicly available consensus "street estimates" for Heritage's 2015 and 2016 earnings, estimates for Focus Bank's 2015 and 2016 earnings provided to KBW by Heritage management, assumed growth rates provided to KBW by Heritage management, and pro forma assumptions (including purchase accounting assumptions and cost savings) provided to KBW by Heritage management, KBW analyzed the potential financial impact of the merger on certain projected financial results of Heritage. This analysis indicated the merger could be accretive to Heritage's 2016 and 2017 estimated EPS and dilutive to Heritage's estimated tangible book value per share as of September 30, 2015. Furthermore, the analysis indicated that, pro forma for the merger, each of Heritage's tangible common equity to tangible assets ratio, leverage ratio, Tier 1 Capital Ratio and Total Risk-Based Capital Ratio as of September 30, 2015 could be lower. For all of the above, the actual results achieved by Heritage following the merger may vary from the projected results, and the variations may be material.

Discounted Cash Flow Analysis

KBW performed a discounted cash flow analysis to estimate a range for the implied equity value of Focus Bank. In this analysis, at the direction of Heritage management, KBW used assumptions provided by Heritage management for Focus Bank asset growth, earnings, cost savings and purchase accounting adjustments, and that Focus Bank would maintain a tangible common equity / tangible asset ratio within a range of 7.00% to 9.00%. KBW assumed discount rates ranging from 11.0% to 16.0% and the range of values was determined by adding (1) the present value of projected cash flows to Focus Bank shareholders from the stub period for fiscal year 2015 to fiscal year 2019 and (2) the present value of the terminal value of Focus Bank cash flows. In calculating the terminal value of Focus Bank, KBW applied multiples ranging from 12.0 times to 16.0 times 2020 estimated earnings. This analysis resulted in a range of implied values per share of Focus Bank common stock of \$12.92 per share to \$22.88 per share.

KBW's Relationship

KBW acted as financial advisor to Heritage in connection with the merger, and did not act as an advisor to or agent of any other person. As part of its investment banking business, KBW is continually engaged in the valuation of bank and bank holding company securities in connection with acquisitions, negotiated underwritings, secondary distributions of listed and unlisted securities, private placements and valuations for various other purposes. As specialists in the securities of banking companies, KBW has experience in, and knowledge of, the valuation of banking enterprises. In the ordinary course of its business as a broker-dealer, KBW may, from time to time, purchase securities from, or sell securities to, Heritage and Focus Bank. As a market maker in securities, KBW may from time to time have a long or short position in, and buy or sell, debt or equity securities of Heritage and Focus Bank for its own account and for the accounts of its customers.

Pursuant to KBW's engagement agreement, Heritage agreed to pay KBW a cash fee equal to \$400,000, of which \$100,000 became payable to KBW upon the rendering of the opinion, and the balance of which is contingent upon the consummation of the merger. In addition, Heritage agreed to reimburse KBW for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses and disbursements incurred in connection with its retention, provided, however, that such expenses shall not exceed in the aggregate \$25,000, without Heritage's consent, and to indemnify KBW against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the federal securities laws. In addition to the present engagement, in the two years preceding the date of this opinion, KBW has provided investment banking and financial advisory services to Heritage and received compensation for such services. In September 2014, KBW acted as financial advisor to

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Heritage in connection with its purchase of all of the outstanding common shares of Bay View Funding. In the two years preceding the date of the opinion, KBW has not provided investment banking and financial advisory services to Focus Bank. KBW may in the future provide investment banking and financial advisory services to Heritage, Heritage Bank and Focus Bank and receive compensation for such services.

Management and Board of Directors of Heritage After the Merger

Upon completion of the merger, the composition of the board of directors of the combined company will be different than the current boards of Heritage and Focus Bank. The Heritage board of directors currently consists of eleven directors and, upon the completion of the merger, two directors of Focus Bank mutually acceptable to Focus Bank and Heritage will be appointed by Heritage to join the Heritage board of directors. The two individuals have tentatively been designated as J. Philip DiNapoli and Julianne Biagini-Komas. The appointment of each of these individuals has been tentatively approved by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the board of directors of Heritage. In addition, Heritage anticipates that Robert Gionfriddo and Teresa Powell, Focus Bank Executive Vice Presidents, will join Heritage as Executive Vice Presidents.

The current directors and senior officers of Heritage will continue in their current positions. Information about the current Heritage directors and executive officers can be found in the documents listed under the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i.

Interests of Heritage Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger

Heritage has not entered into any agreement or understanding, whether written or unwritten, with any director or executive officer, pursuant to which any such person would be entitled to receive compensation, whether present, deferred or contingent, that is based on or otherwise relates to the merger.

Interests of Focus Bank Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger

In considering the recommendation of the Focus Bank board of directors with respect to the merger, Focus Bank shareholders should be aware that the executive officers and directors of Focus Bank have certain interests in the merger that may be different from, or in addition to, the interests of Focus Bank shareholders generally. The Focus Bank board of directors was aware of these interests and considered them, among other matters, in approving the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated thereby and making its recommendation that Focus Bank shareholders vote to approve the Focus Bank Merger proposal. These interests are described in further detail below.

Two Focus Bank Directors Appointed to Heritage Board

Under the terms of the merger agreement, two individuals who are currently directors of Focus Bank will be mutually selected by Heritage and Focus Bank to be appointed to the board of directors of Heritage. The two Focus Bank directors to be appointed to the Heritage Board have tentatively been designated as J. Philip DiNapoli and Julianne Biagini-Komas. The appointment of each of these individuals has been approved by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the board of directors of Heritage.

Stock Ownership

The directors and executive officers of Focus Bank beneficially owned (excluding options) as of the record date, a total of 738,899 shares of Focus Bank common stock, representing approximately 24.6% of the total outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock. Each of the directors of Focus Bank has entered into a Shareholder Agreement pursuant to which, among other things, the directors and

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executive officers have agreed to vote any shares they beneficially own in favor of the Focus Bank Merger proposal and the Focus Bank Adjournment Proposal. The directors and executive officers of Focus Bank will receive the same per share merger consideration as the other shareholders of Focus Bank.

Stock Options

Immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, each outstanding option to purchase shares of Focus Bank common stock, including options held by executive officers and directors, whether or not then vested and whether or not then exercisable, will be cancelled and the holder of the option will be entitled to receive, subject to any required tax withholding, an amount in cash, without interest, from Focus Bank equal to the product of the total number of shares of Focus Bank common stock subject to the option, times the excess, if any, of the product of 1.8235 multiplied by the volume weighted average of the closing prices for shares of Heritage common stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market for the twenty consecutive trading days ending on the fifth trading day immediately before the closing date over the exercise price per share under such option, which we to as the stock option consideration.

The directors and executive officers of Focus Bank hold options to purchase an aggregate of 513,000 shares of common stock of Focus Bank which are exercisable or will become exercisable at the effective time of the merger. Each of these option holders has executed an option holder agreement with Focus Bank pursuant to which the option holders have agreed not to exercise their options prior to the effective time of the merger and providing that their options will terminate at the effective time of the merger in consideration for payment at the effective time of the merger of an amount in cash equal to the option consideration.

The following table sets forth the option consideration to be received for the in-the-money options held by the executive officers of Focus Bank assuming the closing share price of Heritage common stock of \$9.00 on April 22, 2015, the last trading day before the announcement of the merger.

Executive Officer	Options Vested At April 23, 2015	Options that Will Vest as a Result of Merger	Total Options	Total Cash Payment Upon Merger
Richard Conniff	137,550	0	137,550	\$ 937,403
Robert Gionfriddo	30,773	16,477	47,250	\$ 375,745
Michael Ong	5,004	24,996	30,000	\$ 211,845
Michael Namba	34,650	0	34,650	\$ 234,659
Teresa Powell	15,750	0	15,750	\$ 198,482

The following table sets forth the option consideration to be received for the in-the-money options held by the non-employee directors of Focus Bank assuming the closing share price of Heritage common stock of \$9.00 on April 22, 2015, the last trading day before the announcement of the merger.

Director	Options Vested At April 23, 2015	Options that Will Vest as a Result of Merger	Total Options	Total Cash Payment Upon Merger
Ray S. Akamine	35,700	0	35,700	\$ 269,142
Stanford H. Atwood, Jr.	35,700	0	35,700	\$ 269,142
Julianne Biagini-Komas	1,050	0	1,050	\$ 7,232
J. Philip DiNapoli	34,650	0	34,650	\$ 261,909
Anneke Dury	35,700	0	35,700	\$ 269,142
Richard Garrett	35,700	0	35,700	\$ 269,142
Cynthia Lazares	34,650	0	34,650	\$ 261,909
Philip Mahoney	34,650	0	34,650	\$ 261,909

Table of Contents***Restricted Stock***

Certain executive officers of Focus Bank hold Focus Bank shares of restricted common stock that as of the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus have not vested. Under the terms of their restricted stock agreements and the Focus Bank equity plan, these shares of restricted common stock will become fully vested as a result of the merger, subject to any tax withholding, and the holders of the restricted stock will receive the same consideration as the other shareholders of Focus Bank. The following table sets forth the number of unvested shares of restricted stock held by executive officers that will become vested as a result of the merger.

Executive Officer	No. of Shares of Unvested Restricted Common stock
Richard Conniff	10,000
Robert Gionfriddo	3,150
Michael Ong	17,500
Michael Namba	5,000
Teresa Powell	5,000

Change in Control Payments under Employment Agreements

Focus Bank is party to an employment agreement with each of its executive officers. Each employment agreement provides for severance benefits in the event of certain qualifying terminations of employment, including a termination due to a change in control.

Pursuant to the employment agreement dated as of August 11, 2004, between Focus Bank and Richard Conniff, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Focus Bank, upon a material change in duties or his termination without cause 30 days prior to or within 12 months of a change in control, Mr. Conniff is entitled to receive (i) a lump sum payment equal to 24 months of his current base salary plus two times the most recent annual bonus, and (ii) COBRA payments for 24 months (less amounts paid by him for such benefits).

Pursuant to the employment agreement dated as of February 22, 2013, between Focus Bank and Robert Gionfriddo, Executive Vice President and Business Banking Officer of Focus Bank, upon a material change in duties or his termination without cause 30 days prior to or within 12 months of a change in control, Mr. Gionfriddo is entitled to receive a lump sum payment equal to 18 months of his current base salary plus the prior year's bonus.

Pursuant to the employment agreement dated as of August 5, 2014, between Focus Bank and Michael Ong, the Chief Credit Officer of Focus Bank, upon a material change in duties or his termination without cause 30 days prior to or within 12 months of a change of control, Mr. Ong is entitled to receive (i) a lump sum payment equal to 21 months of his current base salary plus 1.75 times the most recent annual bonus, and (ii) COBRA payments for 24 months (less amounts paid by him for such benefits).

Pursuant to the employment agreement dated as of August 1, 2011, between Focus Bank and Michael Namba, the Chief Financial Officer of Focus Bank, upon a material change in duties or his termination without cause 30 days prior to or within 12 months of a change of control, Mr. Namba is entitled to receive (i) a lump sum payment equal to 24 months of his current base salary plus two times the most recent annual bonus, and (ii) COBRA payments for 24 months (less amounts paid by him for such benefits).

Pursuant to the employment agreement dated as of August 1, 2011, between Focus Bank and Teresa Powell, the Executive Vice President and Community Banking Officer of Focus Bank, upon a

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material change in duties or her termination without cause 30 days prior to or within 12 months of a change of control, Ms. Powell is entitled to receive (i) a lump sum payment equal to 18 months of her current base salary plus 1.50 times the most recent annual bonus, and (ii) COBRA payments for 18 months (less amounts paid by her for benefits and if she does not participate in a Heritage health insurance plan).

Focus Bank 2015 Bonus Program

Historically, a portion of the compensation of all Focus Bank employees, including executive management, has been performance based. These performance based payments are generally paid after the end of each year and are dependent on the financial performance of Focus Bank and other quantitative and qualitative measures including the performance of the individual employee as measured against pre-determined goals and objectives. Focus Bank has established the Focus Business Bank 2015 Bonus Program to take into account the Focus Bank's operations during the pending announced merger with Heritage and that the merger may close before the end of the fiscal year.

The payment of a bonus under the Focus Business Bank 2015 Bonus Program is dependent upon Focus Bank achieving all conditions required to complete the merger. In addition, the bonus payment will be conditioned on the Focus Bank achieving pre-tax net income after accrual for bonuses and before merger expense over and above that required to complete the merger plus qualitative and individual goals. Accrual of a bonus pool for the payment of bonuses at completion of the merger will be dependent on achieving the following levels of pre-tax net income after accrual for bonuses and before merger expense adjusted for the closing date:

Pre-tax YTD Income After Accrual for Bonuses and Before Merger Expense

Closing Date	8/31/15	9/30/15	10/31/15	11/30/15	12/31/15	Bonus Pool
Threshold	\$ 400,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 850,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 250,000
Target	\$ 800,000	\$ 975,000	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 1,325,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 430,000
Maximum	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 1,900,000	\$ 2,200,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 600,000

Under the Focus Business Bank 2015 Bonus Program, the maximum bonus that could be paid to executive officers as a percentage of 2015 base salary paid to the closing date is as follows:

Executive Officer	As a percentage of base salary paid in 2015		
	Threshold	Target	Maximum
Richard L. Conniff	9.33%	26.67%	40.00%
Robert Gionfriddo	9.33%	23.33%	30.00%
Michael Namba	9.33%	23.33%	30.00%
Michael Ong	9.33%	23.33%	30.00%
Teresa Powell	9.33%	23.33%	30.00%

Prior to the closing date, management will recommend the bonuses to be paid under the Focus Business Bank 2015 Bonus Program to the Focus Bank board of directors, who must approve the payments.

Summary of Payments to Certain Executive Officers.

The following table summarizes certain payments to be received by the executive officer of Focus Bank as a result of the consummation of the transactions under the merger agreement. The amounts are calculated as of April 22, 2015, the day before the merger was publicly announced. These estimated amounts are based on multiple assumptions that may or may not actually occur, including assumptions

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described in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Some of these assumptions are based on information not currently available and, as a result, the actual amounts, if any, to be received by an executive officer may differ from the amounts set forth below.

Name	Cash(1)	Equity(2)	Perquisites/ Benefits(3)	Tax Reimbursement	Total
Richard Conniff	\$ 525,578	\$ 1,101,518	\$ 2,540	0	\$ 1,629,636
Robert Gionfriddo	\$ 305,053	\$ 427,441	\$ 0	0	\$ 732,494
Michael Ong	\$ 431,025	\$ 499,046	\$ 40,095	0	\$ 970,166
Michael Namba	\$ 441,100	\$ 316,716	\$ 25,119	0	\$ 782,935
Teresa Powell	\$ 360,825	\$ 280,539	\$ 13,225	0	\$ 654,589

- (1) Represents amount payable under employment agreements with respect to change in control provisions.
- (2) Represents amount payable to the officer with respect to options and restricted stock that will be accelerated as a result of the merger.
- (3) Represents estimated amount payable on behalf of employee with respect to COBRA payments under employment agreement in connection with a change of control.

Summary of Payments of Merger-Related Compensation

The cash amounts to be paid to the executive officers described in the table and footnotes above will be paid in accordance with their applicable employment contracts prior to or after the effective time of the merger.

The equity amounts for stock options to the executive officers described in the table and footnotes above will be paid in lump sum by Focus Bank immediately prior to the effective time of the merger conditioned upon the cancellation of option agreements held by the executive officers.

Insurance

Pursuant to the merger agreement, Heritage is required to maintain in effect the current policies of directors' and officers' liability insurance maintained by Focus Bank (or comparable coverage) for a period of six years from the effective date of the merger with respect to possible claims against directors and/or executive officers of Focus Bank arising from facts or events which occurred prior the effective time of the merger.

Indemnification

Heritage agreed to indemnify the directors and officers of Focus Bank, against all losses, claims, damages, costs, expenses (including attorneys' fees), liabilities or judgments or amounts that are paid in settlement of or in connection with any claim, action, suit, proceeding, investigation or other legal proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, arising out of matters existing or occurring at or before the effective time of the merger, whether asserted or claimed before, at or after the effective time of the merger, arising in whole or in part out of or pertaining to the fact that he or she was acting in his or her capacity as a director or officer of Focus Bank or a subsidiary thereof to the fullest extent that the indemnified party would be entitled under the articles of incorporation and bylaws of Focus Bank as in effect on the date of the merger agreement and to the extent permitted by applicable law.

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Non-Solicitation and Confidentiality Agreements

As a condition to consummation of the merger, each of the directors of Focus Bank has signed and delivered to Heritage a non-solicitation and confidentiality agreement which may not be revoked prior to the effective time of the merger. The agreement will remain in effect for twenty-four months following the effective time of the merger. The agreement includes provisions permitting Heritage to seek remedies for breach, including injunctive relief and specific performance.

Regulatory Approvals Required for the Merger

Completion of the merger is subject to the receipt of all approvals required to complete the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement from the Federal Reserve and the Department of Business Oversight and the expiration of any applicable statutory waiting periods in each case subject to the condition that none of the approvals shall contain any "burdensome condition". The merger agreement defines a "burdensome condition" to mean any condition that would, or would be reasonably likely to, individually or in the aggregate, materially reduce the benefits of the merger to such a degree that a party would not have entered into the merger agreement had such conditions, restrictions or requirements been known at the date of execution of the merger agreement. Each of Heritage and Focus Bank have agreed to take all actions that are necessary, proper and advisable in connection with obtaining all regulatory approvals, and have agreed to fully cooperate with the other in the preparation and filing of the applications and other documents necessary to complete the transactions contemplated by the merger. Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank have filed, or are in the process of filing, applications and notifications to obtain these regulatory approvals.

Although the parties currently believe they should be able to obtain all required regulatory approvals in a timely manner, they cannot be certain when or if they will obtain them or, if obtained, whether they will contain terms, conditions or restrictions not currently contemplated that will be detrimental to the combined company after the completion of the merger or will contain a burdensome condition.

Federal Reserve Application Under the Bank Merger Act

Because Heritage Bank of Commerce is a state member bank, prior approval to the merger of Focus Bank with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce is required from the Federal Reserve, pursuant to Section 18(c) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, which we refer to as the Bank Merger Act. In evaluating an application filed under the Bank Merger Act, the Federal Reserve is required to take into consideration (i) the competitive impact of the proposed transactions, (ii) financial and managerial resources and future prospects of the banks party to the merger, (iii) the convenience and needs of the communities served by the banks and their compliance with the Community Reinvestment Act, (iv) the banks' effectiveness in combating money-laundering activities, and (v) the extent to which the proposed transactions would result in greater or more concentrated risks to the stability of the U.S. banking or financial system. In connection with its review under the Bank Merger Act, the Federal Reserve provides an opportunity for public comment on the application for the merger and is authorized to hold a public meeting or other proceeding if it determines that would be appropriate.

Transactions approved by the Federal Reserve under the Bank Merger Act generally may not be completed until thirty days after the approval of the Federal Reserve is received, during which time the Department of Justice may challenge the transaction on antitrust grounds. With the approval of the Federal Reserve and the concurrence of the Department of Justice, the waiting period may be reduced to no less than fifteen days. The commencement of an antitrust action would stay the effectiveness of such an approval unless a court specifically ordered otherwise. In reviewing the merger, the Department of Justice could analyze the merger's effect on competition differently than the Federal Reserve, and thus it is possible that the Department of Justice could reach a different conclusion than

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the Federal Reserve does regarding the merger's effects on competition. A determination by the Department of Justice not to object to the merger may not prevent the filing of antitrust actions by private persons or state attorneys general.

California Department of Business Oversight Application

The prior approval of the Department of Business Oversight will be required under Section 4880 et seq. of the California Financial Code to merge Focus Bank with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce.

In reviewing the merger of Focus Bank with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce, the Department of Business Oversight will consider (i) the competitive impact of the merger, (ii) the adequacy of the surviving depository corporation's shareholders' equity and financial condition, (iii) whether the directors and executive officers of the surviving depository institution will be satisfactory, (iv) whether the surviving depository corporation will afford reasonable promise of successful operation and whether it is reasonable to believe that the surviving depository corporation will be operated in a safe and sound manner and in compliance with all applicable laws, and (v) whether the merger is fair, just and equitable to the disappearing depository corporations and the surviving depository corporations.

Additional Regulatory Approvals, Notices and Filings

Additional notifications, filings and/or applications will be submitted to various other federal and state regulatory authorities and self-regulatory organizations in connection with the merger.

Although Heritage and Focus Bank expect to obtain the required regulatory approvals, there can be no assurances as to if, or when, these regulatory approvals will be obtained, the terms and conditions on which the approvals may be granted, or whether there will be litigation challenging such approvals. There can likewise be no assurances that U.S. or state regulatory authorities will not attempt to challenge the merger on antitrust grounds or for other reasons, or, if such a challenge is made, as to the result of any such challenge.

There can likewise be no assurances that federal or state regulatory authorities will not attempt to challenge the merger on antitrust grounds or for other reasons, or, if such a challenge is made, as to the result of such challenge.

Accounting Treatment

In accordance with current accounting guidance, the merger will be accounted for using the acquisition method. The result of this is that (i) the recorded assets and liabilities of Heritage will be carried forward at their recorded amounts, (ii) Heritage's historical operating results will be unchanged for the prior periods being reported, and (iii) the assets and liabilities of Focus Bank will be adjusted to fair value at the date of the merger. In addition, all identified intangibles will be recorded at fair value and included as part of the net assets acquired. The amount by which the purchase price, consisting of the value of shares of Heritage common stock to be issued to former Focus Bank shareholders and cash to be paid in lieu of fractional shares and to former option holders, exceeds the fair value of the net assets including identifiable intangibles of Focus Bank at the merger date will be reported as goodwill. In accordance with current accounting guidance, goodwill is not amortized and will be evaluated for impairment annually. Identified intangibles will be amortized over their estimated lives. Further, the acquisition method of accounting results in the operating results of Focus Bank being included in the operating results of Heritage beginning from the date of completion of the merger.

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Public Trading Markets

Heritage common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "HTBK." Focus Bank common stock is quoted on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board under the symbol "FCSB." Upon completion of the merger, Focus Bank common stock will cease trading. The Heritage common stock issuable in the merger will be listed on the NASDAQ Global Select Market.

Exchange of Shares in the Merger

Heritage will appoint Wells Fargo Shareholder Services as exchange agent to handle the exchange of shares of Focus Bank common stock for shares of Heritage common stock. As promptly as practicable after the effective time (and not less than five business days), the exchange agent will send to each holder of record of Focus Bank common stock at the effective time who holds shares of Focus Bank common stock in certificated form a letter of transmittal and instructions for effecting the exchange of Focus Bank common stock certificates for the per share merger consideration the holder is entitled to receive under the merger agreement. Upon surrender of stock certificates for cancellation along with the executed letter of transmittal and other documents described in the instructions, a Focus Bank shareholder will receive any whole shares of Heritage common stock such holder is entitled to receive based on the exchange ratio and cash in lieu of any fractional shares of Heritage common stock such holder is entitled to receive, without interest. After the effective time, Focus Bank will not register any transfers of shares of Focus Bank common stock.

Upon consummation of the merger, uncertificated shares of Focus Bank common stock held in book-entry form will be automatically converted into whole shares of Heritage common stock in book-entry form, based on the exchange ratio, and the exchange agent will deliver to holders of book-entry shares cash in lieu of any fractional shares of Heritage common stock such holder is entitled to receive, without intent.

Heritage shareholders need not take any action with respect to their stock certificates or book-entry shares of Heritage common stock.

THE MERGER AGREEMENT

The following is a summary of the material terms and conditions of the merger agreement. This summary does not purport to be complete and may not contain all of the information about the merger agreement that is important to you. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A to, and incorporated by reference into, this joint proxy statement/prospectus. The rights and obligations of the parties are governed by the express terms and conditions of the merger agreement and not by this summary or any other information contained in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. You are urged to read the merger agreement carefully in its entirety before making any decisions regarding the merger.

Effects of the Merger

The merger agreement provides for the merger of Focus Bank with and into Heritage Bank of Commerce, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Heritage, with Heritage Bank of Commerce surviving the merger. The merger agreement provides that the articles of incorporation and the bylaws of Heritage Bank of Commerce as in effect immediately prior to the merger will be the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the surviving corporation.

As a result of the merger, there will no longer be any publicly held shares of Focus Bank common stock. Focus Bank shareholders will only participate in the surviving corporation's future earnings and potential growth through their ownership of Heritage common stock. All of the other incidents of direct ownership of Focus Bank common stock, such as the right to vote on certain corporate decisions,

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to elect directors and to receive dividends and distributions from Focus Bank, will be extinguished upon completion of the merger. All of the property, rights, privileges and powers of Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank will vest in the surviving corporation, and all claims, obligations, liabilities, debts and duties of Heritage Bank of Commerce and Focus Bank will become the claims, obligations, liabilities, debts and duties of the surviving corporation.

Effective Time of the Merger

The merger agreement provides that the merger will be consummated no later than five business days after the satisfaction or waiver of all the closing conditions, including the receipt of all regulatory and shareholder approvals and after the expiration of all regulatory waiting periods, unless extended by mutual agreement of Heritage and Focus Bank. The merger will be consummated legally at the time the agreement of merger has been duly filed with the Department of Business Oversight and the Secretary of State of the State of California or at such later time as may be specified in the agreement of merger. As of the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, the parties expect that the merger will be effective in the third or early fourth quarter of 2015. However, there can be no assurance as to when or if the merger will occur.

If the merger is not completed by the close of business on March 31, 2016, the merger agreement may be terminated by either Focus Bank or Heritage, unless the failure of the closing to occur by such date is due to the failure of the party seeking to terminate the merger agreement to perform or observe the covenants and agreements of such party set forth in the merger agreement.

For a description of the transaction structure, merger consideration and treatment of Focus Bank stock options, please see the section entitled "The Merger Terms of the Merger" beginning on page 52.

Covenants and Agreements

Conduct of Businesses Prior to the Completion of the Merger

Focus Bank has agreed that, prior to the effective time of the merger, it will generally conduct its business, and cause its subsidiaries to conduct their respective businesses, in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practices. In addition, Focus Bank has agreed, and to cause its subsidiaries to, perform its material obligations under all of its material contracts, use reasonable best efforts to preserve its business organization intact, keep available the services of its current officers and employees, and maintain its relations and goodwill with all suppliers, customers, depositors, borrowers, landlords, creditors, licensors, licensees, employees and other persons having business relationships with Focus Bank and each of its subsidiaries, respectively, maintain and keep its properties in as good repair and condition as presently maintained (except due to ordinary wear and tear), maintain in full force and effect insurance comparable in amount and scope of coverage to that now maintained by it, maintain its allowance for loan loss in accordance with past practices and methodologies and generally accepted accounting principles, charge off all loans and other assets, or portions thereof, deemed uncollectible or classified as "loss" in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and applicable law or as directed by a governmental entity, and maintain loan classification policies and procedures in accordance with industry best practices consistent with past practice. Further, Focus Bank agreed it will take no action that would adversely affect or delay the ability of Heritage or Focus Bank to obtain any approvals from any regulatory agencies or other approvals required for consummation of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement or to perform its obligations and agreements under the merger agreement.

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In addition to the general covenants above, Focus Bank has agreed that prior to the effective time of the merger, subject to specified exceptions, it will not, and will not permit its subsidiaries to, without the written consent of Heritage (at its sole and absolute discretion):

declare, set aside, or pay any dividends on or make any other distributions (whether in cash, stock, or property) in respect of any capital stock or other equity or voting interests;

split, combine, or reclassify any of its capital stock or other equity or voting interests, or issue or authorize the issuance of any other securities in respect of or in substitution for shares of its capital stock or other equity or voting interests;

purchase, redeem, or otherwise acquire (except upon the forfeiture of outstanding restricted stock or the exercise or fulfillment of Focus Bank stock options) any shares of capital stock or any other securities of Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries or any options, warrants, calls, or rights to acquire any such shares or other securities;

take any action that would result in any change of any term of any debt security of Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries;

issue, deliver, sell, pledge, or otherwise encumber any shares of its capital stock, any other equity or voting interests or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for or any options, warrants, calls, or rights to acquire or receive, any such shares, interests, or securities or any stock appreciation rights, phantom stock awards, or other rights that are linked in any way to the price of the Focus Bank common stock or the value of Focus Bank or any part thereof other than the issuance of shares of Focus Bank common stock upon the exercise of an outstanding Focus Bank stock option;

enter into any contract with respect to the voting of its capital stock;

amend or propose to amend its articles of incorporation or bylaws;

permit the commencement of any construction of new structures or facilities upon, or purchase or lease or sublease any real property in respect of any branch or other facility, or file any application, or otherwise take any action, to establish, relocate or terminate the operation of any banking office of Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries;

terminate any lease or sublease of real property or fail to exercise any right to renew any lease or sublease of real property;

acquire direct or indirect control over any other business entity or make any other investment either by purchase of securities, contributions to capital, property transfers or purchase of any property or assets, except in connection with a foreclosure of collateral or conveyance of such collateral in lieu of foreclosure taken in connection with collection of a loan in the ordinary course of business and with respect to loans made to third parties who are not affiliates of Focus Bank;

make or commit to make any capital expenditures, or incur any obligations or liabilities in connection therewith, not in excess of \$50,000 individually or \$150,000 in the aggregate;

sell, lease, sublease, transfer, mortgage, encumber or otherwise dispose of any of its properties, leasehold interests or other assets, except sales of loans, loan participations and sales of investment securities in the ordinary course of business to third parties who are not affiliates of Focus Bank, the disposition of assets which are inoperable or that are replaced in the ordinary course of business, or sales of other real estate owned at a price that is not less than its carrying value;

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make material changes to the credit policies and collateral eligibility requirements and standards, except as required by law or any governmental entity;

create or incur any indebtedness for borrowed money other than acceptance of deposits, sales, certificates of deposit, issuance of commercial paper and entering into repurchase agreements each in the ordinary course of business;

assume, guarantee, or endorse the obligations of any other individual or business entity, in connection with presentation of items for collection in the ordinary course of business;

enter into any derivatives contract or any structured finance transaction;

pay, discharge, settle, or satisfy any material claim or legal action of any amount exceeding \$100,000 individually or \$300,000 in the aggregate or that would impose any material restriction on the business of Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries, waive, release, grant, or transfer any right of material value, commence any legal action, except in the ordinary course of business or, agree or consent to the issuance of any order restricting or otherwise affecting its business in any material respect;

implement or adopt any material change in its interest rate and other risk management policies, procedures or practices, fail to comply in any material respect with its existing policies or practices with respect to managing its exposure to interest rate and other risks, or fail to use reasonable efforts to avoid any material increase in its aggregate exposure to interest rate risk;

enter into a new material line of business;

change its investment, underwriting, or asset liability management, hedging or other banking or operating policies or practices, except in each case as required by any applicable law or a governmental entity;

change its investment securities portfolio in any material respect other than in the ordinary course of business;

purchase, modify or originate any loans except in accordance with existing Focus Bank's lending policies, and lending limits and authorities, or loans that are criticized or classified, except that Focus Bank must provide notice of any aggregate loan commitments over \$3.0 million to any one borrowing relationship to Heritage, and Heritage shall have two business days to give notice of objection to such loan, acting reasonably and providing in reasonable detail the basis for such objection (the failure to so object within two business days shall be deemed a waiver of any such objection);

make any investment or commitment to invest in real estate or in any real estate development project (other than by way of foreclosure or acquisitions in a bona fide fiduciary capacity or in satisfaction of a debt previously contracted in good faith, in each case in the ordinary course of business);

make or commit to make any loan to, or enter into any transaction with, a director, officer, employee or any affiliate of Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries;

make, acquire a participation in, reacquire an interest in a participation sold or sell any loan that is not in compliance with Focus Bank's credit underwriting standards, policies and procedures;

reduce any material accrual or reserve (including the allowance for loan loss), other than as required by general accepted accounting principles or change the methodology by which such accounts generally have been maintained in accordance with past practices;

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materially amend, modify, change, or terminate any Focus Bank material contract, or waive, release, or assign any rights or claims thereunder, or enter into or materially amend or materially modify any contract, which following execution, amendment or modification would have been a material contract if in existence as of the date of the merger agreement;

adopt or enter into any collective bargaining agreement or other labor union contract applicable to the employees of Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries;

hire any new employee at the level of having title of vice president or more senior, hire any new employee at an annual rate of compensation in excess of \$80,000, promote any employee except in order to fill a position vacated after the date of the merger agreement, or engage any independent contractor whose engagement may not be terminated by Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries without penalty on thirty days' notice or less, except that Focus Bank and its subsidiaries may hire at-will employees to fill vacancies that may from time to time arise in the ordinary course of business;

except as disclosed to Heritage at the time of the merger agreement or as required under applicable law or any contract or Focus Bank employee plan, (i) pay to any employee, officer, director, or independent contractor of Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries any compensation bonus or benefit not provided for under any outstanding contract or Focus Bank employee plan, (ii) grant any awards under any Focus Bank employee plan, (iii) take any action to fund any future payment of or in any other way secure the payment of compensation or benefits under any contract or Focus Bank employee plan, (iv) take any action to accelerate the vesting or payment of any compensation or benefit under any contract, stock option, share of restricted stock, or Focus Bank employee plan (except as permitted under the terms of the merger agreement), or (v) adopt, enter into, or amend any employment contract or Focus Bank employee plan other than offer letters entered into with new employees in the ordinary course of business that provide for "at will employment" with no severance benefits;

fail to accrue a material reserve in its books and records and financial statements in accordance with past practice for taxes, settle or compromise any legal action relating to any tax, make, change, or revoke any tax election, file or amend any tax return, or prepare any tax return in a manner materially inconsistent with the past practices, or take any action which would materially adversely affect the tax position of Focus Bank and its subsidiaries, Heritage or Heritage Bank of Commerce after the merger;

change its fiscal year, revalue any of its assets, or make any changes in financial or tax accounting methods, principles, or practices or systems of internal controls, except as required by generally accepted accounting principles;

take any action, or knowingly fail to take any action, which action or failure to act that would or is reasonably likely to prevent or impede the merger from qualifying as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;

take any action that is intended or is reasonably likely to result in any of the conditions to the merger not being satisfied or a material violation of any provision of the merger agreement; or

authorize, commit, resolve, or agree to take any of the foregoing actions.

Heritage has agreed that prior to the effective time of the merger, subject to specified exceptions, it will not, and will not permit its subsidiaries to, without the written consent of Focus Bank:

amend, repeal or otherwise modify any provision of its articles of incorporation or bylaws other than those that would not be adverse in any material respect to Focus Bank or its shareholders or those that would not impede the ability of Heritage or Heritage Bank of Commerce to consummate the merger;

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declare, set aside or pay any distributions on or in respect of any of its capital stock other than ordinary quarterly cash dividends in conformity with past practice;

split, combine or reclassify any shares of its capital stock or issue, authorize or propose the issuance of any other securities in respect of, in lieu of or in substitution for shares of its capital stock, except the grant of awards pursuant to Heritage equity plans, and upon the exercise or fulfillment of Heritage stock options;

repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire shares of its capital stock (except upon the forfeiture of any outstanding shares of restricted stock), other than (i) shares of the capital stock of Heritage or any of its subsidiaries, or any securities convertible into or exercisable for any shares of the capital stock of Heritage or any of its subsidiaries and shares of Heritage common stock on behalf of the Heritage employee stock ownership plan; and (ii) shares delivered by holders of Heritage stock options in connection with the exercise of such options;

issue, allocate, deliver or sell, or authorize or propose the issuance, delivery or sale of, any shares of its capital stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable for, or any rights, warrants or options to acquire, any such shares, or enter into any agreement with respect to any of the foregoing, other than the issuance of Heritage stock options and other awards pursuant to the Heritage equity plans and Heritage common stock pursuant to Heritage stock options, other awards granted pursuant to the Heritage equity plans, issuance of Heritage common stock upon conversion of the Heritage Series C preferred stock or exchange of Heritage common stock for the shares of Heritage Series C preferred stock;

take any action that is intended to, or would or would be reasonably likely to result in any of the conditions set forth in the merger agreement not being satisfied, except, in every case, as may be required by applicable law;

take any action, or knowingly fail to take any action, which action or failure to act that would or is reasonably likely to prevent or impede the merger from qualifying as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code; or

authorize, commit, resolve, or agree to take any of the foregoing actions.

Regulatory Matters

Heritage and Focus Bank have agreed to promptly prepare this joint proxy statement/prospectus and Heritage agreed to promptly file with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4, of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part. Heritage and Focus Bank have each agreed to use their commercially reasonable efforts to have the Form S-4 declared effective under the Securities Act as promptly as practicable after such filing. Heritage and Focus Bank have each agreed to furnish all information concerning themselves, their affiliates and the holders of their capital stock to the other and provide such other assistance and cooperation as may be reasonably requested in connection with the preparation, filing and distribution of the Form S-4 and this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Heritage and Focus Bank have each agreed to cooperate with each other and use their reasonable best efforts to promptly prepare and file all necessary documentation, to effect all applications, notices, petitions and filings, and to obtain as promptly as practicable all permits, consents, waivers, approvals and authorizations of all third parties and any governmental entity that are necessary or advisable to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement.

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Shareholder Approval

The Focus Bank board of directors has unanimously resolved to recommend to the Focus Bank shareholders that they adopt and approve the merger agreement (subject to certain exceptions if, following the receipt of a Superior Proposal (as defined below), such recommendation would result in a violation of the board of directors fiduciary duties under applicable law), and to submit to the Focus Bank shareholders the merger agreement, to include the recommendation that Focus Bank shareholders adopt and approve the merger agreement attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus, and use reasonable best efforts to obtain from its shareholders a vote adopting the merger agreement. Focus Bank has an unqualified obligation to submit the approval of the merger agreement to its shareholders at its shareholder meeting unless the merger agreement is validly terminated.

The Heritage board of directors has unanimously resolved to recommend to the Heritage shareholders that they approve the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock, and to submit to the Heritage shareholders the merger agreement, to include the recommendation that Heritage shareholders approve the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, and use reasonable best efforts to obtain from its shareholders a vote adopting and approving the merger and the issuance of shares of Heritage common stock.

Heritage and Focus Bank have each agreed to cooperate to schedule and convene their respective shareholders' meetings on the same date and as soon as practicable after the date of the merger agreement.

NASDAQ Listing

Heritage has agreed to use its reasonable commercial efforts to cause the shares of Heritage common stock to be issued in the merger to be approved for listing on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, subject to official notice of issuance, prior to or at the effective time of the merger.

Employee Matters

Employees of Focus Bank who become employees of Heritage or Heritage Bank of Commerce, referred to as continuing employees, will be offered salary or wage levels at least equal to the salary or wage levels to which such employees were entitled to immediately prior to the merger closing date. After the effective time of the merger, Heritage Bank of Commerce will provide a severance benefit to each person who was an employee of Focus Bank immediately before the effective time (except for any employee who is a party to any written agreement relating to severance) and whose employment is terminated involuntarily, other than for "Cause" (as defined below), by Heritage Bank of Commerce as of the effective time or with regard to a continuing employee within twelve months after the effective time. The severance benefit will consist of a lump sum payment equal to such employee's regularly scheduled base salary or base wages at the time of termination of employment for a period equal to (i) thirty days multiplied by (ii) the number of full years of continuous service completed by such employee with Focus Bank (but not less than sixty days or more than 365 days), subject to applicable tax withholding. "Cause" means the employee's personal dishonesty or misconduct, breach of fiduciary duty involving personal profit, failure to comply with any legal directive of Heritage or Heritage Bank of Commerce, as applicable, failure to perform required duties, the violation of any law (other than traffic violations or similar minor offenses that do not harm the reputation of Heritage or Heritage Bank of Commerce) or any legal order issued by a governmental entity.

Focus Bank and Heritage agreed to offer a "retention" program to identified Focus Bank employees who remain with Focus Bank and then continue with Heritage Bank of Commerce through the conversion process following completion of the merger. Under the retention program eligible employees will receive an amount equal to two months base salary in addition to the severance benefits otherwise available to the employee.

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As soon as administratively practicable after the effective time of the merger, Heritage will take all reasonable action so that continuing employees will be entitled to participate in each employee benefit plan, program or arrangement of Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce of general applicability, referred to as the Heritage benefit plans, to the same extent as similarly-situated employees of Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce, except that coverage will be continued under corresponding benefit plans of Focus Bank (to the extent such Focus Bank plans have not been terminated) until such employees are permitted to participate in the Heritage benefit plans. Continuing employees will not have the opportunity to participate in the Heritage Bank of Commerce 2005 amended and restated supplemental executive retirement plan, referred to as the SERP. Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce will use reasonable efforts to ensure that from the merger closing date through the next open enrollment date for a Heritage or Heritage Bank of Commerce group health, dental, and vision, continuing employees will continue to be covered by Focus Bank's group health, dental, and vision. The prior service of a continuing employee with Focus Banks will be recognized for purposes of eligibility, participation, vesting and benefit accrual under Heritage employee benefit plans to the same extent that such service was recognized immediately prior to the effective time of the merger under a corresponding Focus Bank benefit plan in which such continuing employee was eligible to participate, except that that such recognition of service shall not (i) operate to duplicate any benefits of a continuing employee with respect to the same period of service, (ii) apply for purposes of any retiree medical plans, (iii) apply for purposes of the Heritage employee stock ownership plan, (iv) apply for any benefit accrual under the SERP, or (v) apply for purposes of any plan, program or arrangement under which similarly situated employees of Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce do not receive credit for prior service or that is grandfathered or frozen, either with respect to the level of benefits or participation.

If any continuing employee becomes eligible to participate in any health or dental benefit plan, Heritage or Heritage Bank of Commerce, as applicable, will request from the appropriate sponsor or provider that (i) any pre-existing condition limitations or eligibility waiting periods under such plan be waived with respect to such continuing employee and his or her covered dependents to the extent such limitation would have been waived or satisfied under a Focus Bank employee benefit plan in which such continuing employee participated immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, and (ii) recognize any health expenses incurred by such continuing employee and his or her covered dependents in the year that includes the merger closing date (or, if later, the year in which such continuing employee is first eligible to participate) for purposes of any applicable deductible and annual out-of-pocket expense requirements under any such plan.

On or after the effective time of the merger, Heritage, in its sole discretion, may elect to terminate the Focus Bank 401(k) Plan or to discontinue contributions to the Focus Bank 401(k), to cause Focus Bank to terminate the 401(k) Plan, or to merge the Focus Bank 401(k) Plan with and into the Heritage Bank of Commerce 401(k) Plan.

The merger agreement specifies that none of its provisions should be interpreted or construed to confer upon any employee of Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries who continues to be employed by the surviving corporation or any of its subsidiaries after the effective time with any right with respect to continuance of employment by or other service with the surviving corporation or any of its subsidiaries. Nor does the merger agreement interfere in any way with the right of the surviving corporation and its subsidiaries to terminate the employment or other association of any person at any time. The terms of the merger agreement do not constitute an amendment of, or interfere in any way with the right of the surviving corporation and its subsidiaries to amend, terminate or otherwise discontinue, any or all Heritage employee plans and any other plans, practices or policies of the surviving corporation or any of its subsidiaries in effect from time to time.

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No provision in the merger agreement creates any right to employment or continued employment or to a particular term or condition of employment with the surviving corporation or any of its subsidiaries nor does the merger agreement create any third party beneficiary right in any person.

Indemnification and Directors' and Officers' Insurance

From and after the effective time of the merger, Heritage has agreed to indemnify and hold harmless each person who, prior to the effective time, is or was a director or officer of Focus Bank against any losses, claims, damages, costs, expenses, liabilities or judgments or amounts that are paid in settlement (with the prior written consent of Heritage) in connection with any claim, action, suit, proceeding, investigation or other legal proceeding (civil, criminal, administrative or investigative), in which such officer or director is or was threatened to be made a party or witness, arising out of the fact that he or she is an officer or director of Focus Bank, if such claim pertains to any matter arising, existing or occurring on or before the effective time of the merger, whether such claim is asserted or claimed before or after the effective time to the fullest extent under the Focus Bank articles of incorporation or bylaws or applicable law.

Heritage and Focus Bank agreed to use their commercially reasonable efforts to cause the persons serving as officers and directors of Focus Bank and the Focus Bank subsidiaries immediately prior to the effective time of the merger to be covered by a directors' and officers' liability insurance tail policy obtained from Focus Bank's current insurance carrier of substantially the same coverage and amounts containing terms and conditions which are generally not less advantageous than Focus Bank's current policy with respect to acts or omissions occurring prior to the effective time that were committed by such officers and directors in their capacity as such for a period of six years. The cost of such policy is limited to 200% of the amount currently paid for such insurance annually. If Focus Bank cannot obtain the insurance, Heritage agreed to use its commercially reasonable efforts to obtain as much comparable insurance as is available.

No Solicitation and Change in Recommendation

Focus Bank and its subsidiaries have agreed (and to cause its representatives to), cease and terminate any existing activities, discussions or negotiations with any person (other than Heritage) with respect to an Acquisition Proposal (as defined below). Focus Bank has also agreed not, and to cause each of its subsidiaries and its and their representatives not to, directly or indirectly:

solicit, initiate, encourage, induce, or facilitate any inquiries, offers or the making or announcement of any proposal or other action designed to facilitate any inquires or proposals that constitutes or may reasonably be expected to lead to an Acquisition Proposal;

furnish any information regarding Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries or provide any access to the properties, books and records of Focus Bank or its subsidiaries to any person in connection with or in response to an Acquisition Proposal or an inquiry or indication of interest that may reasonably be expected to lead to an Acquisition Proposal;

initiate, engage or participate in discussions or negotiations with any person with respect to any Acquisition Proposal or that may reasonably be expected to lead to an Acquisition Proposal; or

approve, endorse, or recommend, or enter into any agreement, arrangement or understanding with respect to any Acquisition Proposal constituting or related to or intended to, or that may reasonably be expected to lead to, an Acquisition Proposal, or that is intended or that may reasonably be expected to result in the abandonment, termination or failure to consummate the merger (except a confidentiality agreement).

However, if at any time prior to the obtaining the approval of the shareholders of Focus Bank to adopt the merger agreement, Focus Bank receives a bona fide, unsolicited written Acquisition Proposal,

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Focus Bank may furnish nonpublic information regarding Focus Bank and its subsidiaries or enter into negotiations or discussions if and only if:

the Focus Bank board of directors concludes in good faith (after consultation with its financial advisor and its outside legal counsel) that the Acquisition Proposal constitutes or is more likely than not to result in a Superior Proposal (as defined below);

neither Focus Bank nor any of its representatives has violated any its obligations under the merger agreement; and

the Focus Bank board of directors concludes in good faith (after consultation with its financial advisor and outside legal counsel) that such action is required or is reasonably likely to be required in order for the Focus Bank board of directors to comply with its fiduciary obligations under applicable law.

Prior to furnishing any material nonpublic information to a person who has made an Acquisition Proposal, Focus Bank must receive from such person an executed confidentiality agreement with terms at least as restrictive in all material respects on such person as the confidentiality agreement between Heritage and Focus Bank is on Heritage. Focus Bank has agreed to notify Heritage within 24 hours after receipt of (i) any inquiry or indication of interest that may lead to an Acquisition Proposal, (ii) an Acquisition Proposal (including any modification of or any amendment to an Acquisition Proposal), or (iii) any request for nonpublic information relating to Focus Bank or any of its subsidiaries by any person that has made, or to the knowledge of Focus Bank, may be considering making, an Acquisition Proposal, and provide details about the person submitting any of the foregoing, and the terms of any such Acquisition Proposal, inquiry, indication or request. Focus Bank also agreed to keep Heritage fully informed on a current basis of any additional information requested or provided by Focus Bank and any changes in the status and any changes or modifications in the terms of any such Acquisition Proposal, inquiry, indication or request.

Under the merger agreement the Focus Bank board of directors may not:

withdraw, modify, amend or qualify in a manner adverse to Heritage the recommendation that the Focus Bank shareholders approve and adopt the merger agreement;

adopt or propose a resolution to withdraw, amend or qualify its recommendation in a manner adverse to Heritage;

take any other action that is or becomes disclosed publicly and which can reasonably be interpreted to indicate that the Focus Bank board of directors (or any committee thereof) does not support the merger and the merger agreement or does not believe that the merger and the merger agreement are in the best interests of the Focus Bank shareholders;

publicly announce its intention to withdraw, modify, amend or qualify its recommendation in a manner adverse to Heritage;

fail to reaffirm without qualification its recommendation, or fail to state publicly without qualification that the merger and the merger agreement are in the best interests of the Focus Bank shareholders, within five business days after Heritage requests in writing that such action be taken;

fail to announce publicly, within ten business days after a tender offer or exchange offer relating to securities of Focus Bank shall have been commenced, that the Focus Bank board of directors recommends rejection of such tender offer or exchange offer;

fail to issue, within ten business days after an Acquisition Proposal is publicly announced, a press release announcing its opposition to such Acquisition Proposal; or

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approve, endorse or recommend any Acquisition Proposal.

Prior to its shareholders adopting the merger agreement, Focus Bank may change its recommendation that its shareholders vote in favor of adopting the merger agreement if (i) Focus Bank has complied with the obligations with respect to the Focus Bank shareholders' meeting and the non-solicitation of competing Acquisition Proposals described in the merger agreement, (ii) the Focus Bank board of directors receives an unsolicited bona fide, written Acquisition Proposal from any person that is not withdrawn, and (iii) a majority of the entire Focus Bank board of directors determine in good faith (after consultation with its independent financial advisors and legal counsel), that such Acquisition Proposal constitutes a Superior Proposal.

However, Focus Bank may only change its recommendation to shareholders if:

the Focus Bank board of directors determines in good faith (after consultation with its outside legal counsel) that the failure of the Focus Bank board of directors to take such action would be or would reasonably likely to be a violation of its fiduciary duties to the shareholders of Focus Bank under applicable law;

Focus Bank provides Heritage prior written notice at least five business days prior to taking such action, which notice states that the Focus Bank board of directors has received a Superior Proposal and, absent any revision to the terms and conditions of the merger agreement, the Focus Bank board of directors has resolved to change its recommendation to shareholders to vote to adopt the merger agreement, which notice must specify the basis for the change of recommendation, including the material terms of the Superior Proposal (including the proposed documents and agreements);

during such five business day period, Focus Bank negotiates in good faith with Heritage (if it desires to negotiate) to enable Heritage to make an offer that is at least as favorable to the shareholders of Focus Bank so that such Acquisition Proposal would cease to constitute a Superior Proposal; and

at the end of such five business day period, a majority of the entire Focus Bank board of directors, after taking into account any modifications to the terms of the merger agreement and the merger agreed to by Heritage, continues to believe (after consultation with its financial and legal advisors) that such Acquisition Proposal constitutes a Superior Proposal and the failure to accept the Acquisition Proposal would or would reasonably likely to result in a violation of its fiduciary duties to the shareholders of Focus Bank under applicable law.

The merger agreement provides that any amendment or modification to the financial or other material terms of such Acquisition Proposal will constitute a new Acquisition Proposal giving rise to a new three business day response period for Heritage, consequently extending the periods referenced above.

Nothing in the merger agreement will prohibit Focus Bank from issuing a "stop, look and listen" communication pursuant to Rule 14d-9(f) under the Exchange Act or taking and disclosing to its shareholders any position contemplated by Rule 14e-2(a) and Rule 14d-9 under the Exchange Act (as if Focus Bank was subject to the Exchange Act), provided that any such disclosure will be deemed to be a change of recommendation unless the Focus Bank board of directors expressly and concurrently reaffirms its recommendation that Focus Bank shareholders vote to adopt and approve the merger agreement.

"Acquisition Proposal" means any proposal, offer, indication of interest or inquiry from any person or group for, whether in one transaction or a series of related transactions, or relating to any (i) merger, consolidation, share exchange or business combination involving more than 10% of the total voting power of any class of the capital stock of Focus Bank, (ii) sale, lease, exchange, mortgage,

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transfer or other disposition, directly or indirectly, by merger, consolidation, combination, reorganization, share exchange or any similar transaction, of any assets of Focus Bank and its subsidiaries representing 10% or more of the consolidated assets of Focus Bank and its subsidiaries (including equity securities of the subsidiaries), measured either by book value or fair market value, (iii) issuance, sale or other disposition by Focus Bank of (including by way of merger, consolidation, share exchange or any similar transaction) securities (or options, rights or warrants to purchase, or securities convertible into, such securities) representing 10% or more of the votes associated with the outstanding voting of any class of equity securities of Focus Bank, (iv) tender offer or exchange offer in which any person or "group" (as such term is defined under the Exchange Act) shall acquire beneficial ownership (as such term is defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act), or the right to acquire beneficial ownership, of 10% or more of the outstanding Focus Bank common stock or any class of equity securities of Focus Bank, (v) recapitalization, liquidation, dissolution or other similar type of transaction with respect to Focus Bank which would result in any person or group acquiring 10% or more of the fair market value of the assets (including capital stock of its subsidiaries) of Focus Bank and its subsidiaries taken as a whole, or (vi) transaction which is similar in form, substance or purpose to any of the foregoing transactions.

"Superior Proposal" means bona fide, unsolicited written Acquisition Proposal that (i) is obtained not in breach of this Agreement, on terms that the Focus Bank Board determines in its good faith judgment (after consultation with outside legal counsel and a financial advisor of nationally recognized reputation and after taking into account all the terms and conditions of the Acquisition Proposal and the merger agreement (including any proposal by Heritage to adjust the terms and conditions of this Agreement)), including any break-up fees, expense reimbursement provisions, conditions to and expected timing and risks of consummation, the form of consideration offered and the ability of the person making such proposal to obtain financing for such Acquisition Proposal, and after taking into account all other legal, financial, strategic, regulatory and other aspects of such proposal, including the identity of the person making such proposal, and this Agreement are more favorable from a financial point of view to its shareholders than the merger, (ii) is reasonably likely to receive all necessary regulatory approvals and be consummated, and (iii) does not contain any condition to closing or similar contingency related to the ability of the person making such proposal to obtain financing and any financing required to consummate the transaction contemplated by such offer is committed and is reasonably capable of being obtained by such person. For purposes of this definition, the term "Acquisition Proposal" shall have the meaning set forth in the above definition of Acquisition Proposal, except that all references to 10% shall be deemed references to 100%.

Representations and Warranties

The merger agreement contains representations and warranties made by Focus Bank to Heritage relating to a number of matters, including the following:

corporate organization, qualification to do business, corporate power, and subsidiaries;

capitalization;

requisite corporate authority to enter into the merger agreement and to complete the contemplated transactions;

absence of conflicts with governing documents, applicable laws or certain agreements as a result of entering into the merger agreement or completing the merger;

required regulatory consents necessary in connection with the merger;

conformity with generally accepted accounting principles of Focus Bank's financial statements;

internal controls;

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absence of undisclosed liabilities;

allowance for loan losses;

off-balance sheet arrangements;

absence of certain changes or events since December 31, 2013;

taxes and tax returns;

government authorizations;

compliance with applicable law;

regulatory matters;

existing or contemplated cease-and-desist order or other orders, written agreements, memoranda of understanding or similar communications, commitment letters, directives, extraordinary supervisory letters, or board resolutions with or required by regulators or other government entities;

legal proceedings;

employee compensation and benefits matters;

labor and employment matters;

environmental matters;

loan portfolio;

risk management instruments;

title to securities held by Focus Bank and its subsidiaries;

properties and assets;

intellectual property;

information technology, security and privacy matters;

material contracts;

insurance;

fairness opinion from financial advisor;

broker's fees payable in connection with the merger;

affiliate transactions;

accuracy of Focus Bank information provided in this joint proxy statement/prospectus; and

inapplicability of takeover laws.

The merger agreement also contains representations and warranties made by Heritage to Focus Bank relating to a number of matters, including the following:

corporate organization, qualification to do business, corporate power, and subsidiaries;

capitalization;

requisite corporate authority to enter into the merger agreement and to complete the contemplated transactions;

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absence of conflicts with governing documents, applicable laws or certain agreements as a result of entering into the merger agreement or completing the merger;

required regulatory consents necessary in connection with the merger;

proper filing of documents with regulatory agencies and the SEC and the accuracy of information contained in the documents filed with the SEC, and Sarbanes-Oxley certifications;

conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and SEC requirements of Heritage's financial statements filed with the SEC;

internal controls;

absence of undisclosed liabilities;

allowance for loan losses;

off-balance sheet arrangements;

taxes and tax returns;

compliance with applicable law;

regulatory matters;

legal proceedings;

labor matters;

broker's fees payable in connection with the merger; and

accuracy of Heritage information provided in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Certain of these representations and warranties by Focus Bank and Heritage are qualified as to "materiality" or "material adverse effect."

"Material Adverse Effect" means for Focus Bank or Heritage any effect, event, fact, development, condition, change, occurrence or circumstance that, individually or in the aggregate, is, or is reasonably expected to be, materially adverse to the business, condition, capitalization, assets, liabilities, operations, or financial performance, of such party and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, or prevents or materially delays, or its reasonably likely to prevent or materially delay the ability of such party and its subsidiaries to perform their respective obligations under the merger agreement or to consummate the merger or the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement on a timely basis; except that a material adverse effect on Focus Bank or Heritage and their respective subsidiaries shall not be deemed to include any

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effect, event, fact, development, condition, change, occurrence or circumstance arising out of relating to or resulting from, (i) changes generally affecting the economy, financial or securities markets, (ii) the announcement of the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, (iii) any outbreak or escalation of war or hostilities or any act of terrorism, or (iv) general conditions in the financial industry, including changes in laws, regulations rules, generally accepted accounting principles or regulatory accounting requirements; provided further, however, that any effect, event, fact, development, condition, change, occurrence or circumstance referred to in clauses (i), (iii) or (iv) above shall be taken into account in determining whether a material adverse effect has occurred or is reasonably be expected to occur to the extent that any effect, event, fact, development, condition, change, occurrence or circumstance has a disproportionate effect on such party and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, compared to other participants in the financial industries in which such party and its subsidiaries conduct their businesses.

The representations and warranties in the merger agreement do not survive the effective time of the merger and, as described below under the section entitled "The Merger Agreement Termination;

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Termination Fee" beginning on page 106, if the merger agreement is validly terminated, there will be no liability or damages arising under the representations and warranties of Heritage or Focus Bank, or otherwise under the merger agreement, unless Heritage or Focus Bank willfully breached the merger agreement or committed fraud.

Conditions to the Merger

Conditions to Each Party's Obligations

The respective obligations of each of Heritage and Focus Bank to complete the merger are subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the following conditions:

receipt of the requisite approvals of the merger agreement by the Focus Bank shareholders and the Heritage shareholders and the issuance of Heritage common stock to Focus Bank shareholders in connection with the merger;

the absence of any statute, rule, regulation, judgment, decree, injunction or other order that would prohibit or make illegal the completion of the merger;

the receipt of all regulatory approvals required from the Federal Reserve Board, and the Department of Business Oversight, in each case required to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the merger, and all statutory waiting periods in respect thereof having expired; and, without any such item containing or having resulted in, or reasonably being expected to result in, the imposition of a burdensome condition;

the effectiveness of the registration statement on Form S-4, of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part, and the absence of a stop order suspending effectiveness or proceeding initiated or threatened by the SEC for that purpose; and

approval for the listing on the NASDAQ Global Select Market of the Heritage common stock to be issued in the merger, subject to official notice of issuance.

Conditions to Obligations of Heritage

The obligation of Heritage to complete the merger is also subject to the satisfaction or waiver by Heritage of the following conditions:

the accuracy of the representations and warranties of Focus Bank as of the closing date of the merger, other than, in most cases, those failures to be true and correct that would not reasonably be expected to result in a material adverse effect on Focus Bank;

Focus Bank shall have delivered the closing financial statements of Focus Bank;

Focus Bank's adjusted shareholders' equity as of the last business day of the month preceding closing being at least \$28,493,392;

Focus Bank's "core deposits" as of the last business day of the month preceding closing being at eighty-five percent of the balance of core deposits at December 31, 2014;

performance in all material respects by Focus Bank of the obligations required to be performed by it at or prior to the closing date of the merger;

since the date of the merger agreement no event shall have occurred or circumstance arisen that, individually or taken together with all other facts, circumstance or events, has had or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on Focus Bank;

satisfaction in form and substance of all corporate and other proceedings in connection with the transactions and all documents incident thereto contemplated at the closing;

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receipt of Shareholder Agreements from each of the Focus Bank directors;

receipt of Non-solicitation and Confidentiality Agreements from each of the Focus Bank directors;

receipt of resignations from each director of Focus Bank and each of its subsidiaries;

receipt of a properly executed statement from Focus Bank that meets the requirements of the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act;

receipt of an opinion from KBW that the exchange ratio is fair to Heritage;

holders of not in excess of ten percent of the outstanding shares of Focus Bank common stock exercise their dissenters' rights; and

receipt by Heritage of an opinion of Buchalter Nemer, a professional corporation as to certain tax matters.

Conditions to Obligations of Focus Bank

The obligation of Focus Bank to complete the merger is also subject to the satisfaction or waiver by Focus Bank of the following conditions:

the accuracy of the representations and warranties of Heritage as of the closing date of the merger, other than, in most cases, those failures to be true and correct that would not reasonably be expected to result in a material adverse effect on Heritage;

performance in all material respects by Heritage of the obligations required to be performed by it at or prior to the closing date of the merger;

satisfaction in form and substance of all corporate and other proceedings in connection with the transactions and all documents incident thereto contemplated at the closing;

since the date of the merger agreement no event shall have occurred or circumstance arisen that, individually or taken together with all other facts circumstance or events, has had or would reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on Heritage;

receipt of an opinion from Sandler O'Neill that the exchange ratio is fair to the holders of Focus Bank common stock; and

receipt by Focus Bank of an opinion of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP as to certain tax matters.

Termination; Termination Fee

Heritage and Focus Bank may mutually agree at any time to terminate the merger agreement without completing the merger, even if the Focus Bank shareholders have approved the merger and approved and adopted the merger agreement and the Heritage shareholders have approved the issuance of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger.

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The merger agreement may also be terminated and the merger abandoned at any time prior to the effective time of the merger, as follows:

by either Heritage or Focus Bank, if a required governmental approval is denied by final, non-appealable action, or if a governmental entity has issued a final, non-appealable order enjoining or otherwise prohibiting the closing of the merger, unless such denial or order is due to the failure of the party seeking to terminate the merger agreement to perform or observe the covenants and agreements of such party;

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by Heritage, if any requisite regulatory approval includes, or will not be issued without, the imposition of a burdensome condition;

by either Heritage or Focus Bank, if the merger has not closed on or before March 31, 2016, except that a party that is then in material breach of any of its covenants or obligations under the merger agreement is not entitled to terminate the merger agreement for this reason;

by either Heritage or Focus Bank, if there is a breach by the other party that would, individually or in the aggregate with other breaches by such party, result in the failure of a closing condition, unless the breach is cured before the earlier of March 31, 2016 and within thirty days following written notice of the breach;

by either Heritage or Focus Bank, if (i) the Focus Bank shareholders have not approved the merger at the Focus Bank special meeting (or any adjournment or postponement thereof), or (ii) the Heritage shareholders have not approved the issuance of Heritage common stock in connection with the merger at the Heritage special meeting (or any adjournment or postponement thereof), except that a party that fails to comply with its obligation to call a shareholders' meeting, to prepare and mail to its shareholders this joint proxy statement/prospectus, to include in this joint proxy statement/prospectus its recommendation that its shareholders vote in favor of the approval of the merger is not entitled to terminate the merger agreement for this reason;

by Heritage, if the Focus Bank board of directors (i) withdraws, modifies, amends or qualifies its recommendation to approve the merger, (ii) publicly discloses action that can reasonably be interpreted as indicating that the Focus Bank board of directors does not support the merger, (iii) fails to publicly reaffirm its support for the merger within five business days after a request by Heritage, (iv) fails to recommend rejection of a tender offer or exchange offer or any other competing Acquisition Proposal within ten business days after it has been publicly disclosed or has otherwise commenced, (v) approves, endorses, or recommends any other competing Acquisition Proposal, (vi) fails to comply with its obligations and covenants relating to the non-solicitation of competing Acquisition Proposals and in responding to unsolicited Acquisition Proposals, or (vii) fails to comply with its obligation to call a shareholders' meeting, to prepare and mail to its shareholders this joint proxy statement/prospectus, to include in this joint proxy statement/prospectus its recommendation that its shareholders vote in favor of the approval of the merger, or to refrain from soliciting alternative Acquisition Proposals;

by Focus Bank, if prior to the receipt of the vote of the Focus Bank shareholders approving the merger and the merger agreement, Focus Bank (i) receives an unsolicited bona fide written competing Acquisition Proposal from any person that is not withdrawn, and a majority of the entire Focus Bank board of directors determines in good faith that such competing Acquisition Proposal constitutes a Superior Proposal and that failure to accept the competing Acquisition Proposal (and after consultation with its financial advisors and legal counsel) would be or would be reasonably likely to result in a violation of its fiduciary duties under applicable law, (ii) has complied with its obligations and covenants relating to the non-solicitation of competing Acquisition Proposals and in responding to unsolicited Acquisition Proposals, (iii) has complied with its obligation to call a shareholders' meeting, to prepare and mail to its shareholders this joint proxy statement/prospectus, to include in this joint proxy statement/prospectus its recommendation that its shareholders vote in favor of the approval of the merger, or to refrain from soliciting alternative Acquisition Proposals, (iv) pays Heritage a termination fee and (v) simultaneously or substantially simultaneously with such termination Focus Bank enters into

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an agreement to effect the Superior Proposal; except that before Focus Bank can terminate the merger agreement under these circumstances it must:

give Heritage at least five business days prior notice providing details about the competing Superior Proposal and the person who has submitted the Superior Proposal;

during such five business day period negotiate in good faith with Heritage (if Heritage desires to negotiate) to enable Heritage to make an offer that is at least as favorable to the shareholders of Focus Bank so that such competing Acquisition Proposal would cease to constitute a Superior Proposal; and

at the end of such five business day period, a majority of the entire Focus Bank Board, after taking into account any modifications to the terms of the merger agreement and the merger, continues to believe (after consultation with its financial advisors and legal counsel) that such competing Acquisition Proposal constitutes a Superior Proposal and, that failure to accept the competing Acquisition Proposal would or would be reasonably likely to result in a violation of its fiduciary duties under applicable law.

Focus Bank must pay Heritage \$2.74 million, which we refer to as the termination fee, if:

Heritage terminates the merger agreement because the Focus Bank board of directors (i) has withdrawn, modified, amended or qualified its recommendation to approve the merger, (ii) taken a publicly disclosed action reasonably indicating that the Focus Bank board of directors does not support the merger, (iii) within five days request by Heritage failed to publicly reaffirm its support for the merger, (iv) failed to recommend that Focus Bank shareholders reject a tender offer or exchange offer or any other Acquisition Proposal within ten business days after it has been publicly disclosed or otherwise commenced, (v) approved, endorsed, or recommended any Acquisition Proposal, (vi) failed to comply with its obligations and covenants relating to the call and holding of a shareholders' meeting, to prepare and mail its shareholders this joint proxy statement/prospectus, to include in this joint proxy statement/prospectus its recommendation that its shareholders vote in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement, or (vii) failed to comply with its obligations and covenants relating to the non-solicitation of competing Acquisition Proposals and in responding to unsolicited Acquisition Proposals;

Focus Bank terminates the merger agreement to enter into a Superior Proposal under the circumstances discussed above; or

Focus Bank or Heritage terminates the merger agreement because the merger was not consummated by March 31, 2016, or the Focus Bank shareholders do not approve the merger agreement or the Heritage shareholders do not approve the merger and the issuance of the Heritage common stock, or Heritage terminates the merger agreement because Focus Bank has breached the merger agreement in such a way as would prevent certain closing conditions from being obtained and would give Heritage the right to terminate the merger agreement; if (i) prior to termination any person has announced, disclosed or otherwise made known an Acquisition Proposal to the Focus Bank shareholders, senior management or board of directors, and (ii) within twelve months of such termination Focus Bank consummates or enters into a definitive agreement, letter of intent, agreement in principle or similar contract with respect to an Acquisition Proposal.

The termination fee is to compensate Heritage for entering into the merger agreement, taking actions to consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement and incurring the costs and expenses related to the merger and other losses and expenses, including foregoing the pursuit of other opportunities by Heritage. The payment of the termination fee is Heritage's sole and exclusive remedy with respect to termination of the merger agreement, subject to a willful material breach by Focus Bank or an action for fraud.

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Effect of Termination

If the merger agreement is validly terminated, the agreement will become void and have no effect without any liability on the part of Heritage or Focus Bank unless there is a willful material breach of the merger agreement by either party or either party commits fraud. However, the provisions of the merger agreement relating to confidentiality obligations of the parties, the termination fee and certain other technical provisions will continue in effect notwithstanding termination of the merger agreement.

Amendments, Extensions and Waivers

The merger agreement may be amended by the parties, by action taken or authorized by their respective boards of directors, at any time before or after approval of matters presented in connection with the merger by the shareholders of Heritage and Focus Bank, except that after any approval of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement by Focus Bank's or Heritage's shareholders, there may not be, without further approval of such shareholders, any amendment of the merger agreement that reduces the amount or changes the form of the consideration to be delivered to Focus Bank shareholders other than as contemplated by the merger agreement.

At any time prior to the effective time of the merger, the parties, by action taken or authorized by their respective boards of directors, may, to the extent legally allowed, (i) extend the time for the performance of any of the obligations or other acts of the other party, (ii) waive any inaccuracies in the representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement, or (iii) waive compliance with any of the agreements or conditions contained in the merger agreement. Any agreement on the part of a party to any extension or waiver must be in writing.

Stock Market Listing

Heritage has agreed to apply to have the shares of Heritage common stock to be issued in the merger approved for listing on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, which is the principal trading market for existing shares of Heritage common stock. It is a condition to both parties' obligation to complete the merger that such approval is obtained, subject to official notice of issuance. Following completion of the merger, Focus Bank common stock will cease trading and no longer be quoted on the Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board trading system.

Fees and Expenses

The termination fee, as described elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, all fees and expenses incurred in connection with the merger, the merger agreement, and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement will be paid by the party incurring such fees or expenses, whether or not the merger is consummated.

Shareholder Agreements

In connection with entering into the merger agreement and as an inducement to the willingness of Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce to enter into the merger agreement, each of the Focus Bank directors executed and delivered to Heritage a shareholder agreement, which we refer to collectively as the shareholder agreements. Each director entered into the shareholder agreement in his or her capacity as the record or beneficial owner of shares of Focus Bank and not in his or her capacity as a director of Focus Bank or as a trustee of any benefit plan. The following summary of the shareholder agreements is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the full text of the shareholder agreements attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Appendix G.

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Pursuant to the shareholder agreements, each director agreed to vote his or her shares of Focus Bank common stock, as applicable:

in favor of the merger, the merger agreement and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement;

against any action or agreement that would result in a breach in any material respect of any covenant, representation or warranty or any other obligation or agreement under the merger agreement; and

except with the prior written consent of Heritage or as otherwise contemplated in the merger agreement, against the following actions (other than the merger and the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement): (i) any extraordinary corporate transactions, such as a merger, consolidation or other business combination; (ii) any sale, lease or transfer of a material amount of the assets; (iii) any change in the majority of the board; (iv) any material change in the present capitalization; (v) any amendment of the articles of incorporation or bylaws; (vi) any other material change in the corporate structure or business; or (vii) any other action which is intended, or could reasonably be expected to, impede, interfere with, delay, postpone, discourage or materially adversely affect the merger.

Each director, in his or her capacity as a shareholder, also agreed not to enter into any agreement or understanding with any person or entity to vote or give instructions in any manner inconsistent with the above clauses.

Until the earlier of the termination of the merger agreement or the effective time of the merger, each director agreed not to, directly or indirectly:

sell, transfer, exchange, pledge, assign, hypothecate, encumber, tender or otherwise dispose of, or enforce or permit execution of the provisions of any redemption, share purchase or sale, recapitalization or other agreement with its respective company or any other person;

enter into any contract, option or other agreement, arrangement or understanding with respect to the transfer of, directly or indirectly, any of the shares or any securities convertible into or exercisable for shares, any other capital stock of Focus Bank or any interest in any of the foregoing with any person;

enter into swap or any other agreement or any transaction that transfers, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, the economic consequence of ownership of the shares; or

take any action that would make any of the shareholder's representations or warranties contained in the shareholder agreement untrue or incorrect in any material respect or have the effect of preventing or disabling the shareholder from performing the shareholder's obligations under the shareholder agreement.

Each director, in his or her capacity as a shareholder, has further agreed to not directly or indirectly initiate, solicit, induce or knowingly encourage, or knowingly take any action to facilitate the making of, any inquiry, offer or proposal which constitutes, or reasonably would be expected to lead to an Acquisition Proposal, or participate in any discussion or negotiations regarding any Acquisition Proposal, or furnish, or otherwise afford access, to any person (other than Heritage) to any information or data with respect to Focus Bank or otherwise relating to an Acquisition Proposal.

Each director also agreed to grant Heritage an irrevocable proxy to vote the director's shares in favor of the merger, however Heritage has waived this requirement.

The obligations of the shareholders will terminate upon the earlier of the consummation of the merger, or if the merger is not consummated, upon the termination of the merger agreement.

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Non-Solicitation and Confidentiality Agreements

In order for Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce to have the full benefit of ownership of Focus Bank and the business it conducts, including its goodwill, following the effective time of the merger, each Focus Bank director (including director Richard Conniff, chairman and chief executive officer) has entered into a Non-Solicitation and Confidentiality Agreement with Heritage which provided that, for a period of twenty-four months after the closing date, he or she would not:

take any affirmative action, directly or indirectly, to hire, attempt to hire, contact or solicit with respect to hiring, any person who was an employee of Focus Bank or any subsidiary of Focus Bank prior to the effective time of the merger and who becomes an employee of Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce or any of their respective subsidiaries in connection with the merger, or induce or otherwise counsel, advise or knowingly encourage any such person to leave the employ of Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce or any of their respective subsidiaries, and

not directly or indirectly (i) induce, persuade, encourage or influence or attempt to induce, persuade, encourage or influence any person having a business relationship with Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce, any of their respective subsidiaries, to discontinue, reduce or restrict such relationship, or (ii) solicit or target the deposits, loans or other products and services from or to persons who were depositors, borrowers or customers of Focus Bank, except for general solicitations that are directed to the general public and not directed specifically to persons who were depositors, borrowers or customers of Focus Bank.

The foregoing does not apply to any person whose employment with Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce or any of their respective affiliates or subsidiaries was involuntarily terminated or whose employment terminated more than six months before the time the key employee/director first solicited such person for employment following the closing date. General advertising or general solicitation through newspapers or other media of general circulation that is not specifically directed at employees of Focus Bank, Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce or their respective affiliates or subsidiaries is not prohibited by the agreement.

The Non-Solicitation and Confidentiality Agreements also provide that, other than for the benefit of Focus Bank, Heritage, Heritage Bank of Commerce or their respective affiliates or subsidiaries, the Focus Bank directors shall (i) make no use of trade secrets, or any part of them, (ii) not disclose trade secrets, or any part of them, to any other person, and (iii) upon the request of Heritage or Heritage Bank of Commerce, deliver all documents, reports, drawings, designs, plans, proposals and other tangible evidence of trade secrets possessed at the time of the execution of the Non-Solicitation and Confidentiality Agreement or thereafter acquired by the director, to Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce.

The Focus Bank board of directors also agreed to hold any and all information regarding the merger and the merger agreement in strict confidence, and not to divulge any information to any third person, until such time as the merger had been publicly announced by Focus Bank, Heritage and Heritage Bank of Commerce, at which time he or she could divulge only such information as has been publicly disclosed.

The term of the Non-Solicitation and Confidentiality Agreements ends on the second anniversary of the effective time of the merger.

Explanatory Note Regarding the Merger Agreement and the Summary of the Merger Agreement: REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES AND COVENANTS IN THE MERGER AGREEMENT ARE NOT INTENDED TO FUNCTION AS PUBLIC DISCLOSURES

The merger agreement and the summary of its terms in this joint proxy statement/prospectus have been included only to provide you with information about the terms and conditions of the merger agreement. The

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terms and information in the merger agreement are not intended to provide any other public disclosure of factual information about Heritage, Focus Bank or any of their respective subsidiaries, affiliates or businesses. The representations, warranties and covenants contained in the merger agreement are made by Heritage and Focus Bank only for purposes of the merger agreement and as of specific dates and were qualified and subject to certain limitations and exceptions agreed to by Heritage and Focus Bank in connection with negotiating the terms of the merger agreement. In particular, in your review of the representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement and described in this summary, it is important to bear in mind that the representations and warranties were made solely for the benefit of the parties to the merger agreement and were negotiated for the purpose of allocating contractual risk among the parties to the merger agreement rather than to establish matters as facts. Shareholders of Focus Bank and Heritage are not third-party beneficiaries under the merger agreement. The representations and warranties may also be subject to a contractual standard of materiality or material adverse effect different from those generally applicable to shareholders and reports and documents filed with the SEC, and, in some cases, they may be qualified by disclosures made by one party to the other, which are not necessarily reflected in the merger agreement or other public disclosures made by Heritage or Focus Bank. The representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement do not survive the effective time. Moreover, information concerning the subject matter of the representations, warranties and covenants, which do not purport to be accurate as of the date of this joint proxy/prospectus, may have changed since the date of the merger agreement, and subsequent developments or new information may not be fully reflected in public disclosures of Heritage or Focus Bank.

For the foregoing reasons, the representations, warranties and covenants or any descriptions of those provisions should not be read alone or relied upon as characterizations of the actual state of facts or condition of Heritage or Focus Bank or any of their respective subsidiaries or affiliates. Instead, such provisions or descriptions should be read only in conjunction with the other information provided elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus or incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Please see the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i.

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MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER

Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger

The following general discussion sets forth the anticipated material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the merger to U.S. holders (as defined below) of Focus Bank common stock who exchange their shares of Focus Bank common stock for shares of Heritage common stock in the merger. This discussion does not address any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign jurisdiction, or under any U.S. federal laws other than those pertaining to income tax. This discussion is based upon the Internal Revenue Code, the regulations promulgated under the Internal Revenue Code and court and administrative rulings and decisions, all as in effect on the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. These laws may change, possibly retroactively, and any change could affect the accuracy of the statements and conclusions set forth in this discussion. This discussion addresses only those holders of Focus Bank common stock who hold their shares of Focus Bank common stock as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code (generally, property held for investment). Further, this discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be relevant to you in light of your particular circumstances or that may be applicable to you if you are subject to special treatment under the U.S. federal income tax laws, including if you are:

a financial institution;

regulated investment companies;

a tax-exempt organization;

an S corporation or other pass-through entity (or an investor in an S corporation or other pass-through entity);

an insurance company;

a mutual fund;

a dealer or broker in stocks and securities;

a trader in securities that elects mark-to-market treatment;

a holder of Focus Bank common stock who received Focus Bank common stock through the exercise of an employee stock option, through a tax qualified retirement plan or otherwise as compensation;

a person that is not a U.S. holder (as defined below);

a person that has a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar;

a person exercising dissenters' rights;

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a holder of Focus Bank common stock that holds Focus Bank common stock as part of a hedge, straddle, constructive sale, conversion or other integrated transaction; or

a United States expatriate.

In addition, the discussion does not address any alternative minimum tax or any state, local or foreign tax consequences of the merger, nor does it address any tax consequences arising under the unearned income Medicare contribution tax pursuant to the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. Determining the actual tax consequences of the merger to you may be complex. They will depend on your specific situation and on factors that are not within the control of Heritage or Focus Bank. You should consult with your own tax advisor as to the tax consequences of the merger in your particular circumstances.

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Heritage and Focus Bank have structured the merger to qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The obligation of Heritage to complete the merger is conditioned upon the receipt of an opinion from Buchalter Nemer, a professional corporation, counsel to Heritage, to the effect that the merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The obligation of Focus Bank to complete the merger is conditioned upon the receipt of an opinion from Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP, counsel to Focus Bank, to the effect that the merger will qualify as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, in connection with the filing of the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part, each of Buchalter Nemer, a professional corporation, and Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP has delivered an opinion to Heritage and Focus Bank, respectively, to the same effect as the opinions described above. These opinions will be based on assumptions, representations, warranties and covenants, including those contained in the merger agreement and in tax representation letters provided by Heritage and Focus Bank. The accuracy of such assumptions, representations and warranties, and compliance with such covenants, could affect the conclusions set forth in such opinions. None of these opinions is binding on the Internal Revenue Service or the courts. Heritage and Focus Bank have not requested and do not intend to request an advance ruling from the Internal Revenue Service as to the United States federal income tax consequences of the merger, and as a result, there can be no assurances that the Internal Revenue Service will not assert, or that a court would not sustain, a position contrary to any of the conclusions set forth below.

U.S. Holders

For purposes of this discussion, the term "U.S. holder" means a beneficial owner of Focus Bank stock that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes (i) an individual citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation, or entity treated as a corporation, organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (iii) a trust if (a) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (b) such trust has made a valid election to be treated as a U.S. person for U.S. federal income tax purposes, or (iv) an estate, the income of which is includible in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes regardless of its source. The U.S. federal income tax consequences to a partner in an entity or arrangement that is treated as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes and that holds Focus Bank common stock generally will depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partners in a partnership holding Focus Bank common stock should consult their own tax advisors.

Tax Consequences of the Merger Generally

As a "reorganization," within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, upon exchanging your Focus Bank stock for Heritage stock (other than cash received in lieu of a fractional share discussed below), you generally will not recognize any gain or loss in the exchange. The aggregate tax basis in the shares of Heritage stock that you receive in the merger, including any fractional share interests deemed received and sold as described below, will equal your aggregate adjusted tax basis in the Focus Bank stock you surrender. Your holding period for the shares of Heritage stock that you receive in the merger (including a fractional share interest deemed received and sold as described below) will include your holding period for the shares of Focus Bank stock that you surrender in the exchange.

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Cash Instead of a Fractional Share

If you receive cash instead of a fractional share of Heritage common stock, you will be treated as having received the fractional share of Heritage common stock pursuant to the merger and then as having sold that fractional share of Heritage common stock for cash. As a result, you generally will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount of cash received and the basis allocable to your fractional share of Heritage common stock. This gain or loss generally will be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if, as of the effective date of the merger, the holding period for the shares (including the holding period of Focus Bank common stock surrendered therefor) is greater than one year. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Reporting and Recordkeeping

If you receive Heritage common stock in the merger and are considered a "significant holder" of Focus Bank, you are required to retain records of the merger transaction, and to attach to the U.S. holder's federal income tax return for the year of the merger a statement setting forth all relevant facts with respect to the non-recognition of gain or loss upon the exchange, including your basis in, and the fair market value of, the Focus Bank common stock surrendered by you. A "significant holder" is any Focus Bank shareholder that, immediately before the merger, owned at least 1% (by vote or value) of the outstanding common stock of Focus Bank or owned Focus Bank common stock with a tax basis of \$1.0 million or more.

Cash Due to Exercise of Dissenters' Rights

Upon the proper exercise of dissenters' rights, the exchange of Focus Bank common stock solely for cash generally will result in recognition of gain or loss by you in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of cash received and your tax basis in the Focus Bank common stock surrendered. The gain or loss recognized will be long-term capital gain or loss if, as of the effective date of the merger, your holding period for the Focus Bank common stock surrendered exceeds one year. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations. In some cases, if you actually or constructively own Heritage common stock after the merger, the cash received could be treated as having the effect of the distribution of a dividend under the tests set forth in Section 302 of the Internal Revenue Code, in which case you may have dividend income up to the amount of the cash received. In such cases, Focus Bank shareholders that are corporations should consult their tax advisors regarding the potential applicability of the "extraordinary dividend" provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

Backup Withholding

If you are a non-corporate holder of Focus Bank stock you may be subject to information reporting and backup withholding (currently at a rate of 28%) on any cash payments you receive. You generally will not be subject to backup withholding, however, if you:

furnish a correct taxpayer identification number, certify that you are not subject to backup withholding on the substitute Form W-9 or successor form included in the letter of transmittal you will receive and otherwise comply with all the applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules; or

provide proof that you are otherwise exempt from backup withholding.

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will generally be allowed as a refund or credit against your U.S. federal income tax liability, provided you timely furnish the required information to the Internal Revenue Service.

You are urged to consult your tax advisor with respect to the application of U.S. federal income tax laws to your particular situation as well as any tax consequences arising under the U.S. federal estate or gift tax rules, or under the laws of any state, local, foreign or other taxing jurisdiction.

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DISSENTERS' RIGHTS OF FOCUS BANK SHAREHOLDERS

Any Focus Bank shareholder wishing to exercise dissenters' rights is urged to consult legal counsel before attempting to exercise dissenters' rights. Failure to comply strictly with all of the procedures set forth in Chapter 13 of the California General Corporation Code, which we refer to as the Code, which consists of Sections 1300-1313, may result in the loss of a shareholder's statutory dissenters' rights. In such case, such shareholder will be entitled to receive the merger consideration under the merger agreement.

The following discussion is a summary of Chapter 13 of the Code, which sets forth the procedures for Focus Bank shareholders to dissent from the proposed merger and to demand statutory dissenters' rights of appraisal of their shares under the Code. The following discussion is not a complete statement of the provisions of the Code relating to the rights of Focus Bank shareholders to receive payment of the fair market value of their shares and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of Chapter 13 of the Code, which is provided in its entirety as Appendix D to this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

All references in Chapter 13 of the Code and in this section to a "shareholder" are to the holder of record of the shares of Focus Bank common stock as to which dissenters' rights are asserted. A person having a beneficial interest in the shares of Focus Bank common stock held of record in the name of another person, such as a broker or nominee, cannot enforce dissenters' rights directly and must act promptly to cause the holder of record to follow the steps summarized below properly and in a timely manner to perfect such person's dissenters' rights.

If dissenters' rights are perfected and exercised with respect to more than ten percent of Focus Bank outstanding shares of common stock, then Heritage have the option to terminate the merger agreement.

Even though a shareholder who wishes to exercise dissenters' rights may be required to take certain actions following receipt of this joint proxy statement/prospectus to perfect their dissenters' rights, if the merger agreement is later terminated and the merger is abandoned, no Focus Bank shareholder will have the right to any payment from Focus Bank, other than necessary expenses incurred in proceedings initiated in good faith and reasonable attorneys' fees, by reason of having taken that action.

Not Vote "For" the Merger

Any Focus Bank shareholder who desires to exercise dissenters' rights must *not* vote "**FOR**" the approval of the merger and the merger agreement. If a Focus Bank shareholder returns a signed proxy card without indicating a decision on the proposal, or returns a signed proxy card approving the proposal, his, her or its shares will be counted as votes in favor of the merger and such shareholder will lose any dissenters' rights. Thus, if you wish to dissent and you execute and return your proxy card in the accompanying form, you must specify that you either disapprove of the proposal or abstain from voting on the proposal.

Notice of Approval by Focus Bank

If the merger is approved by the Focus Bank shareholders, Focus Bank is required within ten days after the approval to send to those Focus Bank shareholders who did not vote "**FOR**" the approval of the merger a written notice of the Focus Bank shareholder approval, accompanied by a copy of Sections 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303 and 1304 of the Code, a statement of the price determined by Focus Bank to represent the fair market value of the dissenting shares immediately prior to the public announcement of the terms of the merger agreement on April 23, 2015, and a brief description of the procedure to be followed if the shareholder desires to exercise dissenters' right under the Code. The

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statement of price determined by Focus Bank to represent the fair market value of dissenting shares, as set forth in the notice of approval, will constitute an offer by Focus Bank to purchase the dissenting shares at the stated price if the merger is completed and the dissenting shares do not otherwise lose their status as such. Within thirty days after the date of the mailing of the notice of shareholder approval, a dissenting shareholder must submit to Focus Bank or its transfer agent for endorsement as dissenting shares, the stock certificates representing the Focus Bank shares as to which such shareholder is exercising dissenter's rights. If the dissenting shares are uncertificated, then such shareholder must provide written notice of the number of shares which the shareholder demands that Focus Bank purchase within thirty days after the date of the mailing of the notice of shareholder approval.

Written Demand for Payment

In addition, to preserve dissenters' rights, a Focus Bank shareholder must make a written demand for the purchase of the shareholder's dissenting shares and payment to the shareholder of their fair market value within thirty days after the date on which the notice of approval is mailed. Simply failing to return a proxy card, or indicating on your proxy card your disapproval of the merger does not constitute a proper written demand under the Code. To comply with the requirements under the Code, the written demand must:

specify the shareholder's name and mailing address and the number and class of shares of Focus Bank stock held of record which the shareholder demands that Focus Bank purchase;

state that the shareholder is demanding purchase of the shares and payment of their fair market value; and

state the price which the shareholder claims to be the fair market value of the shares immediately prior to the public announcement of the terms of the merger agreement on April 23, 2015. The statement of fair market value constitutes an offer by the shareholder to sell the shares to Focus Bank at that price.

Any written demands for payment should be sent to Focus Bank, Attention: Richard Conniff, Chief Executive Officer, 10 Almaden Boulevard, San Jose, California 95113. Shares of Focus Bank stock held by shareholders who have perfected their dissenters' rights in accordance with Chapter 13 of the Code and have not withdrawn their demands or otherwise lost their dissenters' rights are referred to in this summary as dissenting shares.

Payment of Agreed Upon Price

If Focus Bank and a dissenting shareholder agree that the shares are dissenting shares and agree on the price of the shares, the dissenting shareholder is entitled to receive the agreed upon price with interest at the legal rate on judgments from the date of that agreement. Payment for the dissenting shares must be made within thirty days after the later of the date of that agreement or the date on which all statutory and contractual conditions to the merger are satisfied. Payments are also conditioned on the surrender of the certificates representing the dissenting shares.

Determination of Dissenting Shares or Fair Market Value

If Focus Bank denies that shares are dissenting shares or the shareholder fails to agree with Focus Bank as to the fair market value of the shares, then, within six months after notice of approval of the merger is sent by Focus Bank to its shareholders, any shareholder demanding purchase of such shares as dissenting shares or any interested corporation may file a complaint in the Superior Court in the proper California county asking the court to determine whether the shares are dissenting shares or to determine the fair market value of the shareholder's shares, or both, or may intervene in any action

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pending on such complaint. If a complaint is not filed or intervention in a pending action is not made within the specified six month period, the dissenter's rights are lost. If the fair market value of the dissenting shares is at issue, the court will determine, or will appoint one or more impartial appraisers to determine, such fair market value.

Maintenance of Dissenting Share Status

Except as expressly limited by Chapter 13 of the Code, holders of dissenting shares continue to have all the rights and privileges incident to their shares until the fair market value of their shares is agreed upon or determined. A holder of dissenting shares may not withdraw a demand for payment unless Focus Bank consents to the withdrawal.

Dissenting shares lose their status as dissenting shares, and dissenting shareholders cease to be entitled to require Focus Bank to purchase their shares, upon any of the following:

the merger is abandoned;

the shares are transferred before their submission to Focus Bank for the required endorsement;

the dissenting shareholder and Focus Bank do not agree on the status of the shares as dissenting shares or do not agree on the purchase price, but neither Focus Bank nor the shareholder files a complaint or intervenes in a pending action within six months after Focus Bank mails a notice that its shareholders have approved the merger; or

with Focus Bank's consent, the dissenting shareholder withdraws the shareholder's demand for purchase of the dissenting shares.

To the extent that the provisions of Chapter 5 of the Code (which place conditions on the power of a California corporation to make distributions to its shareholders) prevent the payment to any holders of dissenting shares of the fair market value of the dissenting shares, the dissenting shareholders will become creditors of Focus Bank for the amount that they otherwise would have received in the repurchase of their dissenting shares, plus interest at the legal rate on judgments until the date of payment, but subordinate to all other creditors of Focus Bank in any liquidation proceeding, with the debt to be payable when permissible under the provisions of Chapter 5 of the Code.

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COMPARISON OF SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS

General

Focus Bank is incorporated under the laws of the State of California, and the rights of Focus Bank shareholders are governed by the laws of the State of California, Focus Bank's articles of incorporation and Focus Bank's bylaws. As a result of the merger, Focus Bank shareholders will receive shares of Heritage common stock and will become Heritage shareholders. Heritage is incorporated under the laws of the State of California, and the rights of Heritage shareholders are governed by the laws of the State of California, Heritage's articles of incorporation and Heritage's bylaws. Thus, following the merger, the rights of Focus Bank shareholders who become Heritage shareholders in the merger will continue to be governed by the laws of the State of California, but will no longer be governed by Focus Bank's articles of incorporation and Focus Bank's bylaws, and instead will be governed by the Heritage articles of incorporation and the Heritage bylaws.

Comparison of Shareholders' Rights

Set forth below is a summary comparison of material differences between the rights of Heritage shareholders under the Heritage articles of incorporation and the Heritage bylaws (right column), and the rights of Focus Bank shareholders under the Focus Bank articles of incorporation and Focus Bank bylaws (left column). The summary set forth below discusses all material differences between the rights of Heritage shareholders and Focus Bank shareholders under such documents. Copies of the full text of the Heritage articles of incorporation and Heritage bylaws currently in effect, are available without charge by following the instructions in the section titled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i.

Focus Bank	Heritage
Authorized Capital Stock	
<p>Focus Bank's articles of incorporation states that the authorized capital stock of Focus Bank consists of 40,000,000 shares of common stock, without par value, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, without par value. As of April 23, 2015 there were 3,001,722 shares of Focus Bank common stock outstanding. No shares of Focus Bank preferred stock are currently issued and outstanding. Subject to compliance with the California Corporations Code, Focus Bank's articles of incorporation and bylaws, the Focus Bank board of directors may authorize the issuance of additional shares of authorized common stock and preferred stock.</p>	<p>Heritage's restated articles of incorporation states that the authorized capital stock of Heritage consists of 60,000,000 shares of common stock, without par value, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, without par value. As of April 23, 2015 there were 26,522,739 shares of Heritage common stock outstanding, and 21,004 shares of Series C convertible perpetual preferred stock, no par value, which we refer to a Series C preferred stock, outstanding, and 5,601,000 shares of Heritage common stock reserved for issuance upon conversion of the Series C preferred stock. The Series C preferred stock is convertible into Heritage common stock at a conversion price of \$3.75 per share on a subsequent transfer to third parties not affiliated with the holder in a widely dispersed offering. The Series C preferred stock is non-voting except in case of certain transactions that would affect the rights of the Series C preferred stock or applicable law. Subject to compliance with the California Corporations Code, Heritage's articles of incorporation and bylaws, the Heritage board of directors may authorize the issuance of additional shares of authorized common stock and preferred stock.</p>

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Voting Rights

Each Focus Bank shareholder entitled to vote is entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders. In the election of directors, each shareholder may cumulate votes and give one candidate a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected multiplied by the number of votes to which the shareholder's shares are normally entitled, or distribute the shareholder's votes on the same principle among as many candidates as the shareholder thinks fit.

Each Heritage shareholder entitled to vote is entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders. In the election of directors, each shareholder may cumulate votes and give one candidate a number of votes equal to the number of directors to be elected multiplied by the number of votes to which the shareholder's shares are normally entitled, or distribute the shareholder's votes on the same principle among as many candidates as the shareholder thinks fit.

No shareholder is entitled to cumulate votes in favor of any candidate or candidates unless such candidate's or candidates' names have been placed in nomination prior to the voting and the shareholder has given notice at the meeting prior to the voting of the shareholder's intention to cumulate the shareholder's votes. If any one shareholder has given such notice, this fact shall be announced to all shareholders and proxies present, who may then cumulate their votes for candidates in nomination.

No shareholder is entitled to cumulate votes in favor of any candidate or candidates unless such candidate's or candidates' names have been placed in nomination prior to the voting and the shareholder has given notice at the meeting prior to the voting of the shareholder's intention to cumulate the shareholder's votes. If any one shareholder has given such notice, this fact shall be announced to all shareholders and proxies present, who may then cumulate their votes for candidates in nomination.

In any election of directors, the candidates receiving the highest number of votes of the shares entitled to be voted for them, up to the number of directors to be elected by such shares, are elected.

In any election of directors, the candidates receiving the highest number of votes of the shares entitled to be voted for them, up to the number of directors to be elected by such shares, are elected.

Number of Directors

Focus Bank's bylaws state that the number of directors constituting the board of directors will be from 7 to 13, with the exact number to be determined from time to time by (i) a resolution of the board of directors or (ii) the shareholders. The number of directors is fixed by the board of directors at 9 and there are currently 9 members on the Focus Bank board of directors.

Heritage's amended and restated bylaws state that the number of directors constituting the board of directors will be from 9 to 15, with the exact number within said range to be determined from time to time by a resolution of the board of directors. The number of directors is fixed by the board of directors at 11 and there are currently 11 members on the Heritage board of directors.

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Focus Bank

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Election of Directors

Focus Bank's bylaws provide that directors shall be elected annually by the shareholders at the annual meeting of the shareholders. If, for any reason, the annual meeting or an adjournment thereof is not held or the directors are not elected thereat, then the directors may be elected at any special meeting of the shareholders called and held for that purpose. The term of office of the directors shall begin immediately after their election and continue until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

Heritage's bylaws provide that directors shall be elected annually by the shareholders at the annual meeting of the shareholders. If, for any reason, the annual meeting or an adjournment thereof is not held or the directors are not elected thereat, then the directors may be elected at any special meeting of the shareholders called and held for that purpose. The term of office of the directors shall begin immediately after their election and continue until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

Classification of Board of Directors

Focus Bank's bylaws do not provide for a classified board of directors.

Heritage's amended and restated bylaws do not provide for a classified board of directors.

Vacancies

Focus Bank's bylaws provide that a vacancy on the board of directors, not including a vacancy created by the removal of a director, may be filled by a majority of the remaining directors, even though less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director. Any director so elected may hold office for the remainder of the full term of the director in which the vacancy occurred until such director's successor is elected at an annual or special shareholders' meeting. The shareholders may elect a director at any time to fill any vacancy not filled by the board of directors. Any such election by written consent other than to fill a vacancy created by removal requires the consent of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote.

Heritage's amended and restated bylaws provide that a vacancy on the board of directors may be filled by a majority of the remaining directors, even though less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director. Any director so elected may hold office for the remainder of the full term of the director in which the vacancy occurred until such director's successor is elected at an annual or special shareholders' meeting. The shareholders may elect a director at any time at meeting of shareholders to fill any vacancy not filled by the board of directors.

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Removal of Directors

Focus Bank's bylaws provide that a director may be removed from office without cause by a vote of shareholders holding a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote at an election of directors; however, unless the entire board is removed, an individual director shall not be removed if the votes cast against removal, or not consenting in writing to such removal, would be sufficient to elect such director if voted cumulatively at an election at which the total number of votes were cast, or, if such action is taken by written consent, all shares entitled to vote were voted, and the entire number of directors authorized at the time of the director's most recent election were then being elected. In addition, a director may also be removed from office by the Superior Court of the county in which the principal office is located, at the suit of shareholders holding at least 10% of the number of outstanding shares of any class, in case of fraudulent or dishonest acts or gross abuse of authority or discretion with reference to the corporation, in the manner provided by the law.

No reduction of the authorized number of directors shall have the effect of removing any director before his or her term of office expires.

Heritage's amended and restated bylaws provide that a director may be removed from office without cause by a vote of shareholders holding a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote at an election of directors; however, unless the entire board of directors is removed, an individual director shall not be removed if the votes cast against removal, or not consenting in writing to such removal, would be sufficient to elect such director if voted cumulatively at an election at which the total number of votes were cast. In addition, a director may also be removed from office by the Superior Court of the county in which the principal office is located, at the suit of shareholders holding at least 10% of the number of outstanding shares of any class, in case of fraudulent or dishonest acts or gross abuse of authority or discretion with reference to the corporation, in the manner provided by the law.

No reduction of the authorized number of directors shall have the effect of removing any director before his or her term of office expires.

Nomination of Director Candidates by Shareholders

Focus Bank's bylaws permit shareholders who are entitled to vote in the meeting of shareholders to nominate a director for election if written notice is delivered to the president of the corporation not less than 21 or more than 60 days prior to any meeting of shareholders called for election of directors. If less than 21 day notice of the meeting is given to shareholders, such notice of intention to nominate must be mailed or delivered to the president of the corporation not later than the close of business on the 10th day following the day on which the notice of meeting was mailed.

Heritage's amended and restated bylaws permit shareholders of record who are entitled to vote in the meeting of shareholders to nominate a director for election if written notice is delivered to the corporate secretary not later than 90 nor earlier than 120 days prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting (provided, however, that in the event that the date of the annual meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 60 after such anniversary date of the annual meeting, notice by the shareholder must be delivered not earlier than the close of business 120 days prior to such annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of 90 days prior to such annual meeting or 10 days following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting).

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Advance Notice of Shareholder Proposals

Focus Bank does not have an advance notice provision for the submission of shareholder proposals at its annual meeting of shareholders.

Heritage's amended and restated bylaws permit shareholders who are entitled to vote in the annual meeting of shareholders to submit a proposal for consideration at the meeting if written notice is delivered to the corporate secretary not later than 90 nor earlier than 120 days prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting (provided, however, that in the event that the date of the annual meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 60 after such anniversary date of the annual meeting, notice by the shareholder must be delivered not earlier than the close of business 120 days prior to such annual meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of 90 days prior to such annual meeting or 10 days following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting).

Shareholder Action Without a Meeting

Any action which may be taken at any annual or special meeting of shareholders may be taken without a meeting and without prior notice if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, is signed by the number of shareholders whose affirmative vote would be required to take such action at a meeting at which all shares entitled to vote thereon were present and voted. Unanimous written consent shall be required for the election of directors to non-vacant positions.

Heritage's amended articles of incorporation require that any action that requires shareholder approval must be taken at an annual or special meeting of shareholders and may not be taken by written consent.

Special Meetings of Shareholders

Focus Bank may call a special shareholders' meeting at any time upon the request of the board of directors, chairman of the board, the president, or of the Focus Bank shareholders entitled to cast not less than 10% of the votes at such a meeting.

Heritage may call a special shareholders meeting at any time upon the request of the board of directors, chairman of the board, the president, or of the Heritage shareholders entitled to cast not less than 10% of the votes at such a meeting.

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Focus Bank

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Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Focus Bank's articles of incorporation authorizes Focus Bank to indemnify its directors, officers, and agents, through bylaw provisions, agreements with such agents or other persons, vote of shareholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, in excess of the indemnification otherwise permitted by Section 317 of the California Corporations Code to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law.

Heritage's amended articles of incorporation authorizes Heritage to indemnify its agents, as defined in Section 317, through bylaw provisions, agreements with such agents, vote of shareholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, or any combination of the foregoing, in excess of the indemnification otherwise permitted by Section 317 of the California Corporations Code, subject only to the limits set forth in Section 204 with respect to actions for breach of duty to the corporation and its shareholders.

Focus Bank's bylaws provide that Focus Bank will indemnify any person who was or is made a party to or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or officer of Focus Bank or is or was serving at the request of Focus Bank as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, to the fullest extent permitted by law. Focus Bank has entered into separate indemnification agreements with its directors and officers for such purpose.

Heritage's amended and restated bylaws provide that Heritage will indemnify its directors, officers and employees, and of its subsidiaries, who was or is made a party or is threatened to be made a party to or is otherwise involved in a proceeding against expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any such proceeding arising by reason of the fact that any such person is or was an agent of the corporation. Heritage has entered into separate indemnification agreements with its directors and executive officers for such purpose.

Amendments to Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

Focus Bank's articles of incorporation may be amended by the affirmative vote or written consent of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares entitled to vote. Focus Bank's bylaws may be amended or repealed by the affirmative vote or written consent of a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote. An amendment reducing the number of directors on a fixed-number board or the minimum number of directors on a variable-number board to a number less than 5 cannot be adopted if the votes cast against its adoption at a meeting or the shares not consenting, in the case of action by written consent, are equal to more than 16-2/3% of the outstanding shares entitled to vote.

Heritage's articles of incorporation may be amended by the affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares entitled to vote. Heritage's bylaws may be amended or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares entitled to vote. An amendment reducing the number of directors on a fixed-number board or the minimum number of directors on a variable-number board to a number less than 5 cannot be adopted if the votes cast against its adoption at a meeting, are equal to more than 16-2/3% of the outstanding shares entitled to vote.

Table of Contents**FOCUS BUSINESS BANK BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF COMMON STOCK**

The following table sets forth information as of the Focus Bank record date, pertaining to beneficial ownership of the Focus Bank's common stock by persons known to Focus Bank to own five percent or more of Focus Bank's common stock, members of the board of directors and the Focus Bank executive officers and all directors and executive officers of Focus Bank as a group. This information has been obtained from the Focus Bank's, or from information furnished directly by the individual or entity to Focus Bank.

For purposes of the following table, shares issuable pursuant to stock options which may be exercised within 60 days of the record date are deemed to be issued and outstanding and have been treated as outstanding in determining the amount and nature of beneficial ownership and in calculating the percentage of ownership of those individuals possessing such interest, but not for any other individuals.

Name of Beneficial Owner(1)	Position	Shares Beneficially Owned(2)	Exercisable Options(3)	Percent of Class(2)
Ray S. Akamine	Director	71,505(4)	35,700	2.35%
Stanford H. Atwood, Jr.	Director	162,749(5)	35,700	5.36%
Julianne Biagini-Komas	Director	22,050(6)	1,050	0.73%
Richard L. Conniff	Chairman, President and CEO	206,297(7)	137,550	6.57%
J. Philip DiNapoli	Director	299,485(8)	34,650	9.86%
Anneke Dury	Director	92,400(9)	35,700	3.04%
Richard Garrett	Director	68,775(10)	35,700	2.26%
Cynthia Lazares	Director	80,850	34,650	2.66%
Philip Mahoney	Director	71,400(11)	34,650	2.35%
Executive Officers				
Robert P. Gionfriddo	EVP, Chief Business Banking Officer	43,945	36,606	1.45%
Michael Ong	EVP, Chief Credit Officer	27,503	7,503	0.91%
Michael Namba	EVP, Chief Financial Officer	49,421(12)	34,650	1.63%
Teresa Powell	EVP, Community Banking	22,378	15,750	0.74%
All directors and executive officers as a group (13 in total)		1,218,758	479,859	35.00%

- (1) The address for all persons is c/o Focus Business Bank, 10 Almaden Blvd., Suite 150, San Jose, CA 95113.
- (2) Includes shares beneficially owned (including options exercisable within 60 days of the Focus Bank record date, as shown in the "Exercisable Options" column) both directly and indirectly together with associates. Subject to applicable community property laws.
- (3) Indicates number of shares subject to options currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of the Focus Bank record date.
- (4) Includes 31,500 shares held in the name of a family partnership.
- (5) Includes 124,425 shares held in trust.
- (6) Includes 2,625 shares held in trust.
- (7) Includes 11,497 shares held in trust and 5,250 shares held by spouse in an IRA account.

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- (8) Includes 9,450 shares held in trust and 198,445 shares held in various family partnerships.
- (9) Includes 52,500 shares held in trust.
- (10) Includes 28,875 shares held in trust.
- (11) Includes 32,550 shares held in trust and 4,200 shares owned by minor children of Mr. Mahoney.
- (12) Includes 987 shares held by spouse in an IRA account.

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FOCUS BANK MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Critical Accounting Policies

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, or GAAP, requires management to make a number of judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets, liabilities, income and expenses in Focus Business Bank's (Focus Bank or Focus) financial statements and accompanying notes. Focus Bank's management believes that the judgments, estimates and assumptions used in preparation of Focus Bank's financial statements are appropriate given the factual circumstances as of March 31, 2015. The results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the full year.

Various elements of Focus Bank's accounting policies, by their nature, are inherently subject to estimation techniques, valuation assumptions and other subjective assessments. Critical accounting policies are those that involve the most complex and subjective decisions and assessments and have the greatest potential impact on Focus Bank's results of operation. Material estimates that are particularly susceptible to significant change in the near term relate to the determination of the allowance for loan losses and the valuation of investment securities. Focus Bank's management has identified the accounting policies related to these three areas as critical to an understanding of Focus Bank's financial statements due to judgments, estimates and assumptions inherent in these policies, and the sensitivity of Focus Bank's financial statements to those judgments, estimates and assumptions.

Allowance for Loan Losses

The provision for loan losses charged to operations is an amount sufficient to bring the allowance for loan losses to an estimated balance considered adequate to absorb probable losses inherent in the portfolio at the date of the financial statements. The allowance for loan losses is established as losses are estimated to have occurred through a provision for loan losses charged to results of operations. Loan losses are charged against the allowance when management believes the collection of a loan balance will not occur. Subsequent recoveries, if any, are credited to the allowance. The allowance for loan losses is evaluated on a regular basis, but not less than quarterly, by management and the estimate is based upon management's periodic review of the collectability of the loans that considers historical loss experience, the nature and volume of the loan portfolio, adverse situations that may affect the borrower's ability to repay, estimated value of any underlying collateral, and prevailing economic conditions. The evaluation is inherently subjective as it requires estimates that are susceptible to significant revision as more information becomes available.

The allowance consists of specific and general components. The specific component relates to loans that are considered impaired for which an allowance is established when the discounted cash flows (or collateral value or observable market price) of the impaired loan is lower than the carrying value of that loan. For such loans that are also classified as impaired, an allowance is established when the discounted cash flows (or collateral value or observable market price) of the impaired loan is lower than the carrying value of that loan. Although Focus Bank's management believes the level of the allowance at March 31, 2015 is adequate to absorb losses inherent in the loan portfolio, a further decline in the regional economy may result in increasing losses that cannot reasonably be predicted at this time. For further information regarding the allowance for loan losses and related methodology see Note 5 to the Focus Bank audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Investment Securities

Focus Bank currently classifies its investment securities under both available-for-sale and held-to-maturity classifications. Securities that Focus Bank has the positive intent and ability to hold to

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maturity are classified as "held-to-maturity securities" and reported at amortized cost. Securities not classified as held-to-maturity securities are classified as "available-for-sale investment securities" and reported at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses excluded from results of operations and reported as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income included in shareholders' equity. Under the available-for-sale classification, securities can be sold due to changing conditions. Focus Bank does not have any investment securities classified as trading securities. Investment transactions are recorded on the settlement date. Gains and losses on investment securities are recognized at the time of sale based upon the specific identification method. Focus Bank's management performs regular impairment analyses on the securities portfolio. If it is probable that Focus Bank will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the debt security, an other-than-temporary impairment ("OTTI") is considered to have occurred. When an OTTI occurs, the cost basis of the security is written down to its fair value (as the new cost basis) and the write-down is accounted for as a realized loss if it is credit related. In assessing whether impairment represents an OTTI, Focus Bank must consider whether it intends to sell a security or if it is likely that they would be required to sell the security before recovery of the amortized cost basis of the investment, which may be maturity. If Focus Bank intends to sell the security or it is likely that a sale of the security may be required before recovering the cost basis, the entire impairment loss would be recognized in earnings as an OTTI. If Focus Bank does not intend to sell the security and it is not likely the sale of the security is required by Focus Bank, and Focus Bank does not expect to recover the entire amortized cost basis of the security, only the portion of the impairment loss representing credit losses would be recognized in earnings. The credit loss on a security is measured as the difference between the amortized cost basis and the present value of the cash flows to be expected to be collected. Projected cash flows are discounted by the original or current effective interest rate depending on the nature of the security being measured for potential OTTI. The remaining impairment related to other factors, the difference between the present value of cash flows expected to be collected and fair value, is recognized as a charge to other comprehensive income ("OCI"). Impairment losses related to all other factors are presented as separate categories within OCI. Purchase premiums and discounts are recognized in interest income using the interest method over the expected life of the security. For certain securities such as mortgage-backed securities, the average life can fluctuate based on the amount of prepayments received on the collateral underlying the securities.

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2014 Compared to the Year Ended December 31, 2013*Summary of Performance*

Focus Bank recognized net income of \$1.2 million in 2014, compared to \$869,000 in 2013. The \$287,000 or 33% increase in net income in 2014 compared to 2013 was mostly the result of a 29% or \$1.9 million increase in net interest income, while noninterest expense grew by 22% or approximately \$1.5 million. Noninterest income increased year over year by approximately \$345,000 due to \$116,000 in higher gains on sale of securities. The following are some of the significant factors impacting Focus Bank's results of operations:

Net interest income increased by \$1.9 million or 29% in 2014. The increase in net interest income over the last year has been the result of significant growth in average earning assets of \$95 million in 2014.

Focus Bank's loan loss provision was \$300,000 in 2014, compared to no loan loss provision in 2013. The increase in 2014 over the prior year was the result of an increase in net loan charge-offs in comparison to 2013 and \$42 million growth in loans from 2013. The decrease in the allowance as a percentage of loans is due to positive migration trends within Focus Bank's loan risk rating categories.

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Noninterest income increased by \$346,000 or 22% in 2014 compared to 2013. The increase in noninterest income in 2014 was impacted by an increase in gain-on-sale of investment securities and servicing income in comparison to 2013 of \$116,000 and \$153,000, respectively.

Noninterest expense grew by \$1.5 million or 22% in 2014 compared to 2013. The growth in operating expenses was mostly due to continued investment in resources to grow Focus Bank through customer acquisition and to service the growing number of customer relationships. Focus Bank improved its efficiency to 80.1% in 2014, compared to 83.7% in 2013. Salary and employee benefit costs were the main drivers of higher noninterest expense in both years.

Income tax expense increased by \$168,000 or 34% in 2014 compared to 2013. Focus Bank's effective tax rate increased modestly to 37% in 2014 from 36% in 2013.

As of December 31, 2014, Focus Bank had total assets of \$391.3 million, compared to \$312.7 million at December 31, 2013. Focus Bank had significant growth in outstanding loans from the end of 2013 to December 31, 2014. The annual loan growth for 2014 and 2013 was \$42.1 million or 30%. The following are some of the significant factors impacting Focus Bank's changes in financial condition:

Total assets increased by \$78.6 million or 25% in 2014 compared to 2013. Net loans grew by \$42.1 million or 30% in 2014 compared to 2013. Investment securities, including certificates of deposits at other banks, increased by \$20.2 million or 27% in 2014, compared to 2013.

Total deposits grew by \$76.3 million or 27% in 2014 compared to 2013. Interest bearing demand deposits grew by \$66.6 million or 59% in 2014 compared to 2013.

Total shareholders' equity increased by \$1.8 million or 7% in 2014 compared to 2013. As of December 31, 2014 Focus Bank's total risk-based capital ratio was 14.7% and Tier 1 leverage ratio was 7.1%.

Results of Operations

Net Interest Income and Net Interest Margin

Net interest income was \$8.7 million in 2014, compared to \$6.8 million in 2013. Focus Bank's level of net interest income depends on several factors in combination, including growth in earning assets, the mix of earning assets by loan type and by security type, the cost of interest-bearing liabilities and the mix of noninterest earning deposits to total deposits. The 29% or \$1.9 million increase in 2014 was primarily due to increases in interest income earned on Focus Bank's loan portfolio of \$1.3 million. The increase in interest earned on Focus Bank's loan portfolio in 2014, was the net result of an approximate \$32.0 million increase in average loans outstanding in 2014. In both years the increase in interest income from loan growth was offset by a decline in Focus Bank's loan yield. In both 2014 and 2013 the loan yield declined by 25 basis points. The low rate environment and competitive marketplace affected loan yields in both 2014 and 2013. In 2014 and 2013 interest earned on Focus Bank's security portfolio increased. The increase in interest income from the security portfolio, on a tax equivalent basis, was \$672,000 in 2014. The yields on investment securities were negatively impacted by the shortening of the portfolio's duration. There was essentially no change in Focus Bank's interest expense from 2013 to 2014. The net interest margin decreased from 2.80% in 2013 to 2.61% in 2014 primarily due to a decrease in average outstanding loans as a percentage of earnings assets. For 2014, loans were 46% of average earning assets, which compares to 51% in 2013.

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The following table shows, for each of the past three years, the annual average balance for each principal balance sheet category, and the amount of interest income or expense associated with that category. This table also shows the yields earned on each major component of Focus Bank's investment and loan portfolio, the average rates paid on each key segment of Focus Bank's interest bearing liabilities, and the net interest margin.

Distribution, Yield and Rate Analysis of Net Income

	Year Ended December 31,					
	Average Balance	2014 Interest Income / Expense	Average Yield / Rate	Average Balance	2013 Interest Income / Expense	Average Yield / Rate
(Dollars in thousands)						
Assets:						
Loans, gross(1)	\$ 156,229	\$ 7,859	5.03%	\$ 124,230	\$ 6,555	5.28%
Securities taxable	64,710	1,022	1.58%	29,468	579	1.96%
Securities tax exempt(2)	19,052	349	1.83%	13,145	120	0.91%
Federal funds sold and interest-bearing deposits in other financial institutions	99,198	324	0.33%	77,411	233	0.30%
Total interest earning assets(2)	339,189	9,554	2.82%	244,254	7,487	3.07%
Cash and due from banks	19,309			12,203		
Premises and equipment, net	243			247		
Goodwill and other intangible assets	973			623		
Other assets	4,550			4,073		
Total assets	\$ 364,264			\$ 261,400		
Liabilities and shareholders' equity:						
Deposits:						
Demand, noninterest-bearing	\$ 91,526			\$ 70,753		
Demand, interest-bearing	158,766	356	0.22%	97,075	318	0.33%
Savings and money market	60,245	203	0.34%	42,942	181	0.42%
Time deposits under \$100	3,590	14	0.39%	2,672	14	0.52%
Time deposits \$100 and Over	21,159	113	0.53%	20,473	129	0.63%
Total interest-bearing deposits	243,760	686	0.28%	163,162	642	0.39%
Total deposits	335,286	686	0.20%	233,915	642	0.27%
Borrowings			N/A			N/A
Total interest-bearing liabilities	243,760	686	0.28%	163,162	642	0.39%
Total interest-bearing liabilities and demand, noninterest-bearing / cost of funds	335,286	686	0.20%	233,915	642	0.27%
Other liabilities	1,184			989		
Total liabilities	336,470			234,904		
Shareholders' equity	27,794			26,496		
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 364,264			\$ 261,400		
Net interest income(2) / margin		8,868	2.61%		6,845	2.80%

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Less tax equivalent adjustment(2)	(122)	(42)
Net interest income	\$ 8,746	\$ 6,803

-
- (1) Loan fees have been included in the calculation of interest income. Loan fees were approximately \$91,000 and \$36,000 for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Loans are net of deferred fees and related direct costs.
- (2) Yields on tax-exempt income have been computed on a tax equivalent basis assuming a tax rate of 35%.

The Volume and Rate Variances table below sets forth the dollar difference in interest earned and paid for each major category of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities for the noted periods, and the amount of such change attributable to changes in average balances (volume) or changes in average interest rates. Volume variances are equal to the increase or decrease in average

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balance multiplied by prior period rates, and rate variances are equal to the increase or decrease in rate times prior period average balances. Variances attributable to both rate and volume changes are calculated by multiplying the change in rate by the change in average balance, and are allocated to the volume variance.

Rate/Volume Analysis of Net Interest Income

	2014 vs. 2013		
	Increase (Decrease) Due to		
	Change in:		
	Average	Average	Net
	Volume	Rate	Change
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Income from the interest earning assets:			
Loans, gross	\$ 1,610	\$ (306)	\$ 1,304
Securities taxable	556	(113)	443
Securities tax exempt(1)	108	121	229
Federal funds sold and interest-bearing deposits in other financial institutions	69	22	91
Total interest income on interest earning assets(1)	2,343	(276)	2,067
Expense from the interest-bearing liabilities:			
Demand, interest-bearing	142	(104)	38
Savings and money market	57	(35)	22
Time deposits-under \$100	4	(4)	
Time deposits \$100 and over	4	(20)	(16)
Total interest expense on interest-bearing liabilities	207	(163)	44
Net interest income(1)	\$ 2,136	\$ (113)	2,023
Less tax equivalent adjustment(1)			(80)
Net interest income			\$ 1,943

(1)

Reflects tax equivalent adjustment for tax exempt income based on a 35% tax rate.

Interest income increased by \$1.6 million in 2014 compared to 2013 due to volume growth associated with loans. In addition to the increase from greater loan volume in 2014, interest income on a tax equivalent basis increased by \$664,000 as a result of higher volume levels in investment securities. Declining yields on loans resulted in lower interest revenue of approximately \$306,000 in 2014. The decline in loan yields resulted from substantial growth in the loan portfolio in 2014, at a time when interest rates on new loans were greatly impacted by the low rate environment. Yields on taxable investment securities declined as well, in 2014, with a total impact to interest income of approximately \$113,000. The declining investment yields reflect a combination of factors related to the low interest rate environment experienced throughout 2014 and 2013 and shortening of the portfolio's overall duration. Interest expense only increased by \$44,000 in 2014 as the additional interest cost on an \$80.6 million increase in interest bearing liabilities was mostly offset by a seven basis point decline in the average rate on these liabilities.

Provision for Loan Losses

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The provision for loan losses was \$300,000 in 2014 and no provision for loan losses was recorded in 2013. Focus Bank's provision was replenished to reflect net charge-offs of \$169,000 in 2014. The charge-off was related to a single commercial lending relationship. The allowance for loan loss as a

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percent of outstanding loans declined from 1.82% at December 31, 2013 to 1.47% at the end of 2014. These successive declines were the result of improved levels of criticized and classified loans. Focus Bank's loan loss provisions have been sufficient to maintain an allowance for loan losses at a level that, in management's judgment, is sufficient to absorb probable losses related to specifically identified impairment loans, as well as the probable incurred losses on the remaining loan portfolio. The process to establish an appropriate allowance for loan loss is discussed further below under "Allowance for Loan Losses."

Noninterest Income

The following table sets forth the various components of Focus Bank's noninterest income for the periods indicated:

	Year Ended		Increase	
	December 31,		(Decrease) 2014	
	2014	2013	Amount	Percent
(Dollars in thousands)				
Service charges and fees on deposit accounts	\$ 350	\$ 224	\$ 126	56%
Increase in cash surrender value of life insurance	103	109	(6)	6%
Servicing income	203	50	153	306%
Gain on sales of SBA loans	1,082	1,158	(76)	7%
Gain on sales of securities	125	9	116	1,289%
Other	60	28	32	114%
Total	\$ 1,923	\$ 1,578	\$ 345	22%

In 2014, noninterest income increased by \$345,000 or 22%, as gain-on-sale of investments, service charges and servicing income increased by \$116,000, \$126,000 and \$153,000, respectively. However, these increases were partially offset by a \$76,000 decline in gain on sales of SBA loans.

Noninterest Expense

The following table sets forth Focus Bank's noninterest expenses for the periods indicated:

	Year Ended		Increase	
	December 31,		(Decrease) 2014	
	2014	2013	Amount	Percent
(Dollars in thousands)				
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 4,507	\$ 3,748	\$ 759	20%
Occupancy and equipment	884	704	180	26%
Professional fees	946	679	267	39%
Share-based compensation	94	82	12	15%
Office expenses	178	171	7	4%
Data processing	444	361	83	23%
Advertising and marketing	204	242	(38)	16%
Regulatory assessments and insurance	268	254	14	6%
Business development	567	533	34	6%
Other	454	240	214	89%

Total	\$	8,546	\$	7,014	\$	1,532	22%
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Noninterest expense grew by \$1.5 million in 2014, compared to 2013. The largest component of noninterest expense is salaries and benefit expense, which increased by approximately \$759,000 or 20% in 2014. The number of full-time equivalent staff grew from 32 as of December 31, 2013 to 44 at the end of 2014. Although Focus Bank continued to invest in staff to support new customer acquisition and service the larger customer base, noninterest expense as a percentage of average earnings assets declined from 2.87% in 2013 to 2.52% in 2014. Occupancy and equipment cost increased by \$180,000 in 2014, as Focus Bank added space to its headquarters office. Professional fees increased by \$267,000 in 2014 due to loan workout expenses and full year impact of hosted technology infrastructure costs.

Provision for Income Taxes

Income tax expense was \$666,000 for the year ending December 31, 2014, an increase of \$168,000 over the tax provision for 2013. For 2014 and 2013, Focus Bank's effective tax rates were 36.6% and 36.4%, respectively. Focus Bank's effective tax rate in 2014 and 2013 was lower than the statutory rates, due partially to tax exempt earnings generated from municipal bonds and bank owned life insurance. In addition, Focus Bank received tax credits and deductions related to California Enterprise Zones in 2014 and 2013.

Financial Condition

Summary

Assets grew by \$78.6 million to \$391.3 million as of December 31, 2014, compared to \$312.7 million as of December 31, 2013. The increase in assets was primarily due to loan growth, which was \$41.9 million or 30% in 2014 compared to 2013. In addition, investment securities and interest-earning deposits at banks increased by \$20.4 million in 2014. Substantially all of Focus Bank's funding comes from deposits maintained by core business customer relationships. In 2014, deposits grew by \$76.3 million or 27%, of which \$66.6 million was interest-bearing demand accounts. Focus Bank had no borrowings in 2014 and 2013. Focus Bank's capital grew by \$1.8 million in 2014, as retained earnings grew by \$1.2 million. As a result of a change in the unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale investments, accumulated other comprehensive income increased by approximately \$328,000.

Loan Portfolio

Focus Bank's loan portfolio consists primarily of loans to customers who have a full banking relationship with Focus Bank. At December 31, 2014, the loan portfolio was evenly split between commercial and industrial loans and commercial real estate loans. A substantial percentage of the commercial real estate loans are considered owner-occupied loans. Focus Bank's loans are generated by its relationship managers and executives. Focus Bank's senior management is actively involved in its lending, underwriting, and collateral valuation processes. Higher dollar loans or loan commitments are also approved through a bank loan committee comprised of executives and outside board members.

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The following tables set forth the composition of Focus Bank's loan portfolio as of the dates indicated:

Loan Portfolio Composition

	2014	2013	2012
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Loans:			
Commercial	\$ 90,899	\$ 67,558	\$ 54,322
Real estate construction	1,534	642	667
Real estate mortgage	89,266	71,589	63,966
Consumer and other	592	554	424
Loans	182,291	140,343	119,379
Deferred loan (fees) costs, net	118	(1)	37
Loans, net of deferred fees and costs	182,409	140,342	119,416
Allowance for loan losses	(2,679)	(2,548)	(2,545)
Loans, net	\$ 179,730	\$ 137,794	\$ 116,871

Loan Maturities

The following table shows the maturity distribution for total loans outstanding as of December 31, 2014. The maturity distribution is grouped by remaining scheduled principal payments that are due within one year, after one but within five years, or after five years. The principal balance of loans are indicated by both fixed and floating rate categories.

Loan Maturities and Re-pricing Schedule

	Due in One Year Or Less	Over One Year But Less than Five Years	Over Five Years	Total	Loans with Fixed Rates(1)	Loans with Variable Rates
	(Dollars in thousands)					
Commercial	\$ 27,341	\$ 20,664	\$ 42,894	\$ 90,899	\$ 27,403	\$ 63,496
Real estate construction	1,284	250		1,534	1,039	495
Real estate mortgage	3,862	35,301	50,103	89,266	83,512	5,754
Consumer and other	54	538		592	449	143
Loans	\$ 32,541	\$ 56,753	\$ 92,997	\$ 182,291	\$ 112,403	\$ 69,888

(1) Excludes variable rate loans on floors.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

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In the normal course of business, Focus Bank makes commitments to extend credit to its customers as long as there are no violations of any conditions established in contractual arrangements. These commitments are obligations that represent a potential credit risk to Focus Bank, and a \$65,000 reserve for unfunded commitments is reflected as a liability in Focus Bank's balance sheet at December 31, 2014. Total unused commitments to extend credit were \$51 million at December 31, 2014, as compared to \$47 million at December 31, 2013. Unused commitments represented 28% and 34% of gross loans outstanding at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. Focus Bank also had \$276,000 in standby letters of credit and commercial letters of credit at December 31, 2014 and \$871,000 in standby letters of credit at December 31, 2013.

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The effect on Focus Bank's revenues, expenses, cash flows and liquidity from the unused portion of the commitments to provide credit cannot be reasonably predicted, because there is no certainty that lines of credit will ever be fully utilized. For more information regarding Focus Bank's off-balance sheet arrangements, see Note 10 to the financial statements.

Contractual Obligations

At the end of 2014, Focus Bank had contractual obligations for the following payments, by type and period due:

	2015	2016	Total
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Operating leases	\$ 514	\$ 565	\$ 1,079

Nonperforming Assets

Nonperforming assets are comprised of loans on non-accrual status, loans 90 days or more past due and still accruing interest, and other real estate owned. Focus Bank had no loans 90 days or more past due and still accruing interest as of December 31, 2014. A loan is placed in non-accrual status if there is concern that principal and interest may not be fully collected or if the loan has been past due for a period of 90 days or more, unless the obligation is both well secured and in process of legal collection. When loans are placed on non-accrual status, all interest previously accrued but not collected is reversed against current period interest income. Income on non-accrual loans is subsequently recognized only to the extent that cash is received and the loan's principal balance is deemed collectible. Loans are returned to accrual status when they are brought current with respect to principal and interest payments and future payments are reasonably assured. Other real estate owned is acquired in satisfaction of loans through foreclosure or other means and is carried on an individual asset basis at the lower of the recorded investment in the related loan or the estimated fair value of the property, less selling expenses. At December 31, 2014 the other real estate owned balance was \$574,000. Loans in which the borrower is encountering financial difficulties and Focus Bank has modified the terms of the original loan are evaluated for impairment and classified as troubled debt restructured loans ("TDR").

The following table presents information concerning Focus Bank's nonperforming and restructured loans as of the dates indicated:

	Nonperforming and Restructured Loans				
	December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(Dollars in thousands)				
Nonaccrual loans	\$	\$ 1,122	\$	\$	\$
Loans 90 days past due and still accruing				83	86
Total nonperforming loans		1,122		83	86
Foreclosed assets	574				
Total nonperforming assets	\$ 574	\$ 1,122	\$	\$ 83	\$ 86
Performing TDRs	\$	\$	\$ 1,125	\$ 261	\$

Allowance for Loan Losses

Focus Bank establishes an allowance for loan loss, through a provision for loan losses, for both specific losses on impaired loans and the inherent risk of probable loss for non-impaired loans based

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on loan grades, loan characteristics, and economic trends. The allowance consists of specific and general components. The allowance for loan losses is evaluated on a regular basis by management and the estimate is based upon management's periodic review of the collectability of the loans that considers historical loss experience, the nature and volume of the loan portfolio, adverse situations that may affect the borrower's ability to repay, estimated value of any underlying collateral, and prevailing economic conditions. The specific component relates to loans that are considered impaired for which an allowance is established when the discounted cash flows (or collateral value or observable market price) of the impaired loan is lower than the carrying value of that loan. The evaluation is inherently subjective as it requires estimates that are susceptible to significant revision as more information becomes available. Focus Bank's allowance for loan loss was \$2.7 million at December 31, 2014, compared to \$2.5 million balance at December 31, 2013, was the result of a provision for loan losses of \$300,000 less \$169,000 in net charge-offs. The allowance for loan loss as a percent of outstanding loans declined from 1.82% at December 31, 2013 to 1.47% at the end of 2014. The \$300,000 provision for loan losses in 2014 was to offset the net loan charge-offs and general loan portfolio growth. A loan is considered impaired when, based on current information and events, that it is probable that Focus Bank will be unable to collect all amounts due (principal and interest) according to the original contractual terms of the loan agreement. Factors considered by management in determining impairment include payment status, collateral value, and probability of collecting scheduled principal and interest payments. Measurement of impairment is based on the present value of expected future cash flows of the impaired loan, which are discounted at the loan's effective interest rate. For collateral-dependent loans, Focus Bank uses the fair value of the collateral for the impaired loan to measure impairment. An impairment allowance is established to record the difference between the carrying amount of the loan and the present value, or in the case of a collateral-dependent loan, the fair value of the collateral. There were no impaired loans, including performing TDRs, as of December 31, 2014, compared to \$1.1 million at the end of 2013. The \$1.1 million decrease in impaired loans was due to two commercial loans, one of which was fully charged-off and the second of which was partially charged-off and transferred to other real estate owned. The lower ratio of allowance for loan losses to total loans is the result of the growth in total outstanding loans, partially offset by a decrease in the specific reserves related to favorable migration trends by loans within Focus Bank's loan risk rating categories. Focus Bank also experienced favorable migration trends within loan risk rating categories in 2013. The allowance for loan loss is maintained at a level that management believes is adequate to provide for loan losses based on currently available information. A comprehensive discussion concerning Focus Bank's allowance for loan loss is included in Note 5 of the accompanying Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2014.

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The following table summarizes the activity in the allowance for loan losses for the periods indicated:

Allowance for Loan Losses					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
(Dollars in thousands)					
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 2,548	\$ 2,545	\$ 2,541	\$ 2,541	\$ 2,417
Charge-offs:					
Commercial	(172)				(68)
Real estate construction					
Real estate mortgage					
Consumer and other					
Total charge-offs	(172)				(68)
Recoveries:					
Commercial	3	3	4		7
Real estate construction					385
Real estate mortgage					
Consumer and other					
Total recoveries	3	3	4		392
Net recoveries (charge-offs)	(169)	3	4		324
Provision (credit) for loan losses	300				(200)
Balance, end of year	\$ 2,679	\$ 2,548	\$ 2,545	\$ 2,541	\$ 2,541
Ratios:					
Net (recoveries) charge-offs to average loans	0.11%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.47%
Allowance for loan losses to total loans	1.47%	1.82%	2.13%	2.61%	3.82%
Allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans	N/A	227.09%	N/A	3061.45%	2954.65%

Allocation of Allowance for Loan Losses

Provided below is a summary of the allocation of the allowance for loan losses for specific loan categories at the dates indicated. The allocation presented should not be viewed as an indication that charges to the allowance will be incurred in these amounts or proportions, or that the portion of the allowance allocated to each loan category represents the total amounts available for charge-offs that may occur within these categories.

	December 31,									
	2014		2013		2012		2011		2010	
	Percent of Loans in each category to total	Allowance loans	Percent of Loans in each category to total	Allowance loans	Percent of Loans in each category to total	Allowance loans	Percent of Loans in each category to total	Allowance loans	Percent of Loans in each category to total	Allowance loans
(Dollars in thousands)										
Commercial	\$ 1,573	50%	\$ 1,496	48%	\$ 1,158	45%	\$ 1,172	46%	\$ 1,553	45%
Real estate construction	13	1%	10	1%	21	1%	69	1%	140	2%

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Real estate mortgage	1,036	49%	872	51%	1,202	54%	1,094	53%	687	53%
Consumer	9	0%	16	0%	1	0%	2	0%	4	0%
Unallocated	48	N/A	154	N/A	163	N/A	204	N/A	157	N/A
Total	\$ 2,679	100%	\$ 2,548	100%	\$ 2,545	100%	\$ 2,541	100%	\$ 2,541	100%

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Investment Portfolio

Focus Bank's investment portfolio is comprised of debt securities. Focus Bank uses two classifications for its investment portfolio: available-for-sale (AFS) and held-to-maturity (HTM). Securities that Focus Bank has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are classified as "held-to-maturity securities" and reported at amortized cost. Securities not classified as held-to-maturity securities are classified as "investment securities available-for-sale" and reported at fair value. At December 31, 2014 and 2013, Focus Bank's held-to-maturity investments totaled \$23.2 million and \$5.9 million, respectively. Available-for sale securities had a total fair value of \$47.9 million and \$57.4 million at the end of 2014 and 2013, respectively. Focus Bank also maintains surplus liquidity in interest earning accounts at banks and at the Federal Reserve Bank (FRB). As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, these assets totaled approximately \$102.6 million and \$90.0 million, respectively. Focus Bank's investments provide a substantial source of liquidity as they can be pledged to support borrowed funds or can be liquidated to generate cash proceeds. The investment portfolio is also a significant resource to Focus Bank in managing interest rate risk, as the maturity and interest rate characteristics of this asset class can be readily changed to match changes in the loan and deposit portfolios. The majority of Focus Bank's available-for-sale investment portfolio is comprised of mortgage-backed securities (MBSs) and collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) that are either issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies or government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs). In addition, the portfolio has an allocation of highly rated municipal securities. During 2014, Focus Bank decreased its investment portfolio to reduce the portfolio duration. The MBS portfolio was reduced to fund loan growth, as well as increase the predictability of cash flows from the security portfolio. During 2014, Focus Bank purchased \$37 million in AFS securities and sold \$40 million, realizing gains of \$125,000 on those sales. For 2013 AFS security purchases totaled \$40 million, while sales totaled \$4 million. Sales of AFS securities in 2013 resulted in realized gains of \$9,000. The unrealized loss, before tax basis, on the available-for-sale portfolio was \$666,000 at December 31, 2013. As result of lower long term rates during 2014, an unrealized loss of approximately \$120,000 existed as of December 31, 2014. The HTM portfolio is comprised mostly of highly rated municipal securities and other securities either issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies or GSEs. The municipal portfolio is comprised of general obligation bonds and includes more than 40 issuers.

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The following table reflects the amortized cost and fair market values for the total portfolio for each category of investments for the past two years:

	December 31,			
	2014		2013	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
(Dollars in thousands)				
Securities available-for-sale:				
U.S. Treasury securities	\$ 2,038	\$ 2,036	\$	\$
U.S. government-sponsored agencies	3,004	2,979	4,750	4,718
Mortgage-backed securities residential	26,061	26,004	26,067	26,201
Mortgage-backed securities commercial	2,096	2,069	7,816	7,490
Municipal securities	14,797	14,788	19,399	18,957
Total	\$ 47,996	\$ 47,876	\$ 58,032	\$ 57,366

Securities held-to-maturity:				
U.S. Treasury securities	\$ 2,030	\$ 2,031	\$	\$
U.S. government-sponsored agencies	7,863	7,974	1,082	1,056
Mortgage-backed securities residential	2,894	2,871		
Mortgage-backed securities commercial	5,997	6,058	3,008	3,000
Municipal securities	4,426	4,454	1,837	1,824
	\$ 23,210	\$ 23,388	\$ 5,927	\$ 5,880

The investment maturities table below summarizes contractual maturities for Focus Bank's investment securities and their weighted average yields at December 31, 2014. The actual timing of principal payments may differ from remaining contractual maturities, because obligors may have the right to repay certain obligations with or without penalties.

Investment Maturities and Repricing Schedule

	Within One Year or Less		After One and Within Five Years		After Five and Within Ten Years		Securities Not Due at a Single Maturity Date		Total	
	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield
(Dollars in thousands)										
Securities available-for-sale (at fair value):										
U.S. Treasury securities	\$	0.00%	\$ 2,036	0.39%	\$	0.00%	\$	0.00%	\$ 2,036	0.39%
U.S. government-sponsored agencies		0.00%	2,979	0.95%		0.00%		0.00%	2,979	0.95%
Mortgage-backed securities residential		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	26,004	1.29%	26,004	1.29%
Mortgage-backed securities commercial		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	2,069	2.13%	2,069	2.13%
Municipal securities	3,039	0.46%	10,915	0.96%	834	1.97%		0.00%	14,788	0.82%
Total	\$ 3,039	0.46%	\$ 15,930	0.89%	\$ 834	1.97%	\$ 28,073	1.35%	\$ 47,876	1.12%

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Securities held-to-maturity:										
U.S. Treasury securities	\$	0.00%	\$ 2,030	0.54%	\$	0.00%	\$	0.00%	\$ 2,030	0.54%
U.S. government-sponsored agencies		0.00%	3,960	1.11%	3,903	2.72%		0.00%	7,863	1.91%
Mortgage-backed securities residential		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	2,894	1.71%	2,894	1.71%
Mortgage-backed securities commercial		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	5,997	2.10%	5,997	2.10%
Municipal securities		0.00%	1,961	1.35%	2,465	1.91%		0.00%	4,426	1.66%
Total	\$	0.00%	\$ 7,951	1.02%	\$ 6,368	2.41%	\$ 8,891	1.97%	\$ 23,210	1.77%

Deposits

Focus Bank's deposits are generated through core customer relationships, related predominantly to business relationships. Many of Focus Bank's business customers maintain high levels of liquid balances in their demand deposit accounts and use Focus Bank's treasury management services extensively.

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Approximately 26% of Focus Bank's deposits are in noninterest-bearing demand deposits. More than 67% of the interest-bearing deposits are held in interest-bearing demand deposit accounts which provide Focus Bank's business owners with interest and liquidity. Interest bearing demand deposits grew by \$66.6 million or 59% in 2014 and by \$43.7 million or 63% in 2013. Savings and money market account deposits grew by \$10.3 million or 19% and \$19.6 million or 58% in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Information concerning average balances and rates paid on deposits by deposit type for the past three fiscal years is contained in the Distribution, Yield and Rate Analysis of Net Income table located in the previous section on Results of Operations Net Interest Income and Net Interest Margin. The following table provides a comparative distribution of Focus Bank's deposits by outstanding balance as well as by percentage of total deposits at the dates indicated:

Deposit Distribution

	Year Ended December 31,			
	2014		2013	
	Balance	% to Total	Balance	% to Total
(Dollars in thousands)				
Demand, noninterest-bearing	\$ 94,901	26%	\$ 94,661	33%
Demand, interest-bearing	179,192	50%	112,563	40%
Savings and money market	63,878	18%	53,573	19%
Time deposits under \$100	19,642	5%	21,015	7%
Time deposits \$100 and over	3,697	1%	3,203	1%
Time deposits brokered		0%		0%
CDARS money market and time deposits		0%		0%
Total deposits	\$ 361,310	100%	\$ 285,015	100%

The scheduled maturity distribution of Focus Bank's time deposits at the end of 2014 was as follows:

Maturities of Time Deposits

	Balance	% of Total
(Dollars in thousands)		
2015	\$ 22,414	96%
2016	925	4%
Total	\$ 23,339	100%

Liquidity and Market Risk Management**Liquidity**

Focus Bank's primary source of funding is deposits from its core banking relationships. The majority of Focus Bank's deposits are transaction accounts or money market accounts that are payable on demand. A small number of customers represent a large portion of Focus Bank's deposits, as evidenced by the fact that 14% of Focus Bank's deposits were represented by the largest depositor as of December 31, 2014. Focus Bank manages its liquidity in a manner that enables it to meet expected and unexpected liquidity needs under both normal and adverse conditions. Focus Bank maintains significant on-balance sheet and off-balance liquidity sources, including a relatively large marketable securities portfolio and borrowing capacity through various secured and unsecured sources. Focus Bank maintains Federal funds borrowing lines of \$14 million. As of December 31, 2014, Focus Bank had no borrowings. The Focus Bank board reviews Focus Bank's liquidity position and

key liquidity

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measurements on a quarterly basis. As of December 31, 2014, Focus Bank's primary liquidity ratio was 23% and its overall liquidity ratio was 34%.

Interest Rate Risk Management

Market risk can arise from changes in interest rates, exchange rates, commodity prices, or equity prices. Focus Bank does not engage in any trading of financial instruments and does not have any exposure to currency exchange rates, or price changes for commodities or equities. Interest rate risk arises from the maturity and re-pricing characteristics of its loans and deposits. Focus Bank is able to balance its interest rate sensitivity through the composition of its security portfolio. Focus Bank does not use derivative instruments to manage interest rate risk. Focus Bank measures its interest rate sensitivity through the use of a simulation model. The model incorporates the contractual cash flows and re-pricing characteristics from each financial instrument, as well as certain management assumptions. The model also captures the estimated impacts of optionality and duration and their expected change due to changes in interest rates and the shape of the yield curve. Focus Bank manages its interest rate risk through established policies and procedures. Focus Bank measures both the potential short term change in earnings and the long term change in market value of equity on a quarterly basis. Both measurements use immediate rate shocks that assume parallel shifts in interest rates up and down the yield curve in 100 basis point increments. There are eight scenarios comprised of rate changes up or down to 400 basis points. Focus Bank has established policy thresholds for each of these eight scenarios. In the current interest rate environment, however, Focus Bank does not consider a decrease in interest rates that is greater than 100 basis points to be realistic and therefore only evaluates rate decline of 25 basis points. The impact on earnings for one year and the change in market value of equity are limited to a change of no more than 7.5% for rate changes of 100 basis points, no more than 15% for changes of 200 basis points, no more than 22.5% for rate changes of 300 basis points, and no more than 30% for rate change of 400 basis points. The objective of these various simulation scenarios is to optimize the risk/reward equation for Focus Bank's future earnings and capital. Based upon the results of these various simulations and evaluations, Focus Bank is positioned to be moderately asset sensitive, with earnings increasing in a rising rate environment. If interest rates were to increase by 100 basis points on an immediate, parallel and sustained basis, Focus Bank's net interest income would increase by \$72,000 or 0.7% over the next 12 months. The following reflects Focus Bank's estimated net interest income sensitivity as of December 31, 2014:

	Increase/(Decrease) In Estimated Net Interest Income	
	Amount	Percent
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Change in Interest Rates (basis points)		
+400	\$ 305	3.1%
+300	\$ 227	2.1%
+200	\$ 150	1.5%
+100	\$ 72	0.7%
0	\$	0.0%
25	\$ (13)	0.1%

In an effort to measure the long-term impact of interest rate risk, Focus Bank uses a technique called the market value of equity (MVE), which calculates the net present value of Focus Bank's assets and liabilities, based on a discount rate derived from current replacement rates. The market value of equity is obtained by subtracting the market value of liabilities from the market value of assets. The change in market value of equity will differ based on the characteristics of each financial instrument and type of deposit. The longer the duration of a financial instrument, the greater the impact a rate change will have on its market value. As Focus Bank has minimal deposits with contractual maturities,

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the decay rate assumptions used for non-maturity deposits can have a significant impact on the market value of equity. The following reflects Focus Bank's estimated changes in MVE as of December 31, 2014:

	Increase/(Decrease) in Estimated Market Value of Equity	
	Amount	Percent
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Change in Interest Rates (basis points)		
+400	\$ 10,030	35.2%
+300	\$ 7,807	27.4%
+200	\$ 5,414	19.0%
+100	\$ 3,020	10.6%
0	\$	0.0%
100	\$ (2,080)	7.3%

Capital Resources

As of December 31, 2014 Focus Bank had total shareholders' equity of \$28.5 million, compared to \$26.7 million at the end of 2013. Focus Bank uses a variety of measures to evaluate capital adequacy. Management reviews various capital measurements on a quarterly basis and takes appropriate action to ensure that such measurements are within established internal and external guidelines. The external guidelines, which are issued by the FDIC, establish a risk-adjusted ratio relating capital to different categories of assets and off balance sheet exposures. There are two categories of capital under the FDIC guidelines: Tier 1 and Tier 2 Capital. Tier 1 Capital includes common shareholders' equity less goodwill and certain other deductions, notably the unrealized net gains or losses (after tax adjustments) on securities available for sale, which are carried at fair market value. Tier 2 Capital includes the allowance for loan losses, subject to certain limitations.

Focus Bank's current capital position exceeds all current guidelines established by the FDIC. By the current regulatory definitions, we were "well capitalized," the highest rating of the five capital categories defined under FDIC regulations, at December 31, 2014 and 2013. At December 31, 2014, we had a Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 13.5%, a total capital to risk-weighted assets ratio of 14.7%, and a leverage ratio of 7.1%. At December 31, 2013, we had a Tier 1 risk based capital ratio of 13.6%, a total capital to risk-weighted assets ratio of 14.8%, and a leverage ratio of 8.5%.

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For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 Compared to the Three Months Ended March 31, 2014; and as of March 31, 2015 Compared to December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2014

Summary of Performance Results of Operations

First Quarter 2015 compared to First Quarter 2014

Net income was \$403,000 for the quarter ended March 31, 2015, compared to \$253,000 for the quarter ended March 31, 2014. The \$150,000 or 59% increase in net income was primarily driven by a \$450,000 or 22% increase in net interest income and \$668,000 or 127% increase in noninterest income. Noninterest expense increased \$886,000 or 43% over the same period. The increase in net interest income was due to higher average earning assets and greater volume of loans as a percent of earning assets. Noninterest income growth was primarily due to increase in gain on sales of SBA loans. The increase in noninterest expense was significantly impacted by higher level employees which resulted in a \$604,000 or 58% increase in salary and employee benefit costs.

Net interest income increased by \$450,000 or 22% during the first quarter of 2015. The increase in net interest income was the result of growth in average earning assets of \$53.2 million or 18% and expansion of Focus Bank's net interest margin to 2.86%.

Focus Bank's loan loss provision decreased by \$50,000 during the first quarter of 2015 compared to the first quarter of 2014. The decline was due to favorable migration in loan risk rating categories.

Noninterest income grew by \$668,000 or 127% during the first quarter of 2015. Gain on sales of SBA loans increased \$598,000 from \$312,000 for the first quarter of 2014 to \$910,000 for the first quarter of 2015.

Noninterest expense grew by \$886,000 or 43% during the first quarter of 2015. The growth in noninterest expense was due to salary and employee benefit costs that grew by \$604,000 or 58%. Full time equivalent employees were 42 and 34 at March 31, 2015 and March 31, 2014, respectively.

Summary of Performance Financial Condition

March 31, 2015 relative to December 31, 2014

Total assets were \$397.1 million at March 31, 2015, an increase of \$5.8 million or 2% compared to \$391.3 million at December 31, 2014. Net loans declined by \$1.8 million or 1% to \$178.0 million. Interest-earning deposits at banks increased \$13.7 million or 13%.

Total deposits grew by \$5.9 million or 2% to \$367.2 million. Noninterest bearing deposits grew by \$12.7 million or 13%. Interest-bearing demand deposits increased by \$3.1 million or 2%.

Total shareholders' equity increased by \$599,000 or 2%. As of March 31, 2015, Focus Bank's total risk-based capital ratio was 15.4% and Tier 1 leverage ratio was 7.5%.

Results of Operations

Net Interest Income and Net Interest Margin

Net interest income increased from \$2.0 million for the first quarter of 2014 to \$2.5 million for the first quarter of 2015. The 22% increase in the first quarter of 2015 was the result of higher average earning assets, a \$53.2 million increase or 18% compared to the same period in 2014, as well as an increase in Focus Bank's net interest margin of 0.10% to 2.86%. The increase in net interest margin for the period was driven by an increase in the percentage of earning assets represented by loans, which has grown from 48% in the first quarter of 2014 to 52% in the first

quarter of 2015.

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The following table shows, for the quarters ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, the annual average balance for each principal balance sheet category, and the amount of interest income or expense associated with that category. The table also shows the yields earned on each major component of our investment and loan portfolio, the average rates paid on each key segment of our interest bearing liabilities, and the net interest margin.

Net Interest Income and Net Interest Margin

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2015			For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2014		
	Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate(1)	Average Balance	Interest Income/ Expense	Average Yield/ Rate(1)
(Dollars in thousands)						
Assets:						
Loans, gross(2)	\$ 184,925	\$ 2,314	5.07%	\$ 145,920	\$ 1,833	5.09%
Securities taxable	51,930	176	1.37%	51,794	252	1.97%
Securities tax exempt(3)	16,476	69	1.70%	16,916	80	1.92%
Federal funds sold and interest-bearing deposits in other financial institutions	101,322	90	0.36%	86,867	69	0.32%
Total interest earning assets(3)	354,653	2,649	3.03%	301,497	2,234	3.01%
Cash and due from banks	22,653			16,020		
Premises and equipment, net	234			252		
Intangible assets	1,134			863		
Other assets	7,199			3,915		
Total assets	\$ 385,873			\$ 322,547		
Liabilities and shareholders' equity:						
Deposits:						
Demand, noninterest-bearing	\$ 93,554			\$ 85,107		
Demand, interest-bearing	184,151	83	0.18%	128,504	94	0.30%
Savings and money market	54,544	42	0.31%	56,565	55	0.39%
Time deposits under \$100	3,750	3	0.32%	3,367	4	0.48%
Time deposits \$100 and over	19,657	24	0.50%	21,047	30	0.58%
Total interest-bearing deposits	262,102	152	0.24%	209,483	183	0.35%
Total deposits	355,656	152	0.17%	294,590	183	0.25%
Borrowings			N/A			N/A
Total interest-bearing liabilities	262,102	152	0.24%	209,483	183	0.35%
Total interest-bearing liabilities and demand, noninterest-bearing / cost of funds	355,656	152	0.17%	294,590	183	0.25%
Other liabilities	1,329			905		
Total liabilities	356,985			295,495		
Shareholders' equity	28,888			27,052		
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 385,873			\$ 322,547		

Net interest income(3) / margin	2,497	2.86%	2,051	2.76%
Less tax equivalent adjustment(3)	(24)		(28)	
Net interest income	\$ 2,473		\$ 2,023	

(1) Annualized

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- (2) Loan fees have been included in the calculation of interest income. Loan fees were approximately \$106 and (\$4) for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. Loans are net of deferred fees and related costs.
- (3) Yields on tax-exempt income have been computed on a tax equivalent basis assuming a tax rate of 35%.

The following table sets forth the dollar difference in interest earned and paid for each major category of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities for the noted periods, and the amount of such change attributable to changes in average balances (volume) or changes in average interest rates. Volume variances are equal to the increase or decrease in average balance multiplied by prior period rates, and rate variances are equal to the increase or decrease in rate times prior period average balances. Variances attributable to both rate and volume changes are calculated by multiplying the change in rate by the change in average balance, and are allocated to the volume variance.

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 vs. 2014 Increase (Decrease)		
	Due to Change In:		
	Average Volume	Average Rate	Net Change
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Income from interest earning assets:			
Loans, gross	\$ 490	\$ (97)	\$ 481
Securities taxable	1	(7)	(76)
Securities tax exempt(1)	(2)	(9)	(11)
Federal funds sold and interest-bearing deposits in other financial institutions	13	8	21
Total interest income from interest earnings assets(1)	502	(87)	415
Expense on interest-bearing liabilities:			
Demand, interest-bearing	26	(37)	(11)
Savings and money market	(1)	(12)	(13)
Time deposits under \$100	(1)	(1)	(1)
Time deposits \$100 and over	(2)	(4)	(6)
Total interest expense on interest-bearing liabilities	23	(54)	(31)
Net interest income(1)	\$ 479	\$ (33)	446
Less tax equivalent adjustment(1)			4
Net interest income			\$ 450

- (1) Reflects tax equivalent adjustment for tax exempt income based on a 35% tax rate.

Interest income on a tax equivalent basis increased by \$415,000 in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the same period in 2014, due to volume growth associated with loans. The overall volume of taxable investment securities remained consistent between the two periods, however, average yield declined 0.60% in the first quarter of 2015, in comparison to the same period in 2014, resulting in a decline in interest income on a tax equivalent basis of \$76,000. The declining investment yields reflect a combination of factors related to the low interest rate environment experienced throughout 2014 and shortening of the portfolio's overall duration. While average interest-bearing deposits increased \$52.6 million, interest expense decreased by \$31,000 in the first quarter of 2015 from the comparative period in 2014.

Table of ContentsProvision for Loan Losses

Focus Bank made provisions for loan losses of \$50,000 and \$100,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The allowance for loan loss as a percent of outstanding loans declined from 1.68% at March 31, 2014 to 1.51% at the March 31, 2015. Favorable migration trends for loans within Focus Bank's loan risk rating categories resulted in lower coverage ratio even as outstanding loans increased over the same period. Focus Bank's recorded net loan charge-offs of \$124,000 in the first quarter of 2014 compared to no net charge-offs during the first quarter of 2015.

Noninterest Income

The following table sets forth the various components of Focus Bank's noninterest income for the periods indicated:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,		Increase (Decrease) 2015 versus 2014	
	2015	2014	Amount	Percent
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Service charges and fees on deposit accounts	\$ 102	\$ 82	\$ 20	24%
Increase in cash surrender value of life insurance	11	26	(15)	58%
Servicing income	(12)	51	(63)	124%
Gain on sales of SBA loans	910	312	598	192%
Gain on sales of securities	2	13	(11)	85%
Other	180	41	139	339%
Total noninterest income	\$ 1,193	\$ 525	\$ 668	127%

Noninterest income grew by \$668,000 or 127% in the first quarter of 2015, compared to the same quarter in 2014. Gain on sales of SBA loans increased \$598,000 or 192%, compared to the prior period. Other noninterest income increased \$139,000 or 339% from the prior period due to higher loan referral fee income and gain on sale of other real estate owned.

Noninterest Expense

The following table sets forth Focus Bank's noninterest expenses for the periods indicated:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,		Increase (Decrease) 2015 versus 2014	
	2015	2014	Amount	Percent
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Salaries and employee benefits	\$ 1,654	\$ 1,050	\$ 604	58%
Occupancy and equipment	176	181	(5)	3%
Software subscriptions	70	36	34	94%
Data processing	137	112	25	22%
Insurance expense	19	12	7	58%
FDIC deposit insurance premiums	64	50	14	28%
Correspondent bank charges	7	7		0%
Advertising and promotion	86	64	22	34%
Professional fees	331	255	76	30%
Foreclosed assets		22	(22)	100%
Other	390	259	131	51%
Total noninterest expense	\$ 2,934	\$ 2,048	\$ 886	43%

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Noninterest expense as a percentage of average earnings assets increased from the prior year. It grew from 2.75% in the first quarter of 2014 to 3.36% in the first quarter of 2015. Much of the growth in noninterest expense in 2015 was the result of increases in employee and benefit costs. Focus Bank continued to invest in staff throughout 2014 to support new customer acquisition and support the larger customer base, resulting in increased salary and benefit expense totaling \$604,000 or 58% for the first quarter of 2015, when compared to the same period in 2014. Focus Bank's efficiency ratio was 80% for both periods.

Provision for Income Taxes

Income tax expense was \$279,000 in the first quarter of 2015, which represented a \$132,000 or 90% increase over the same period in 2014. Focus Bank's effective tax rate increased from 37% for the first quarter of 2014 to 41% for the first quarter of 2015.

Financial Condition

Summary

Total assets grew by \$5.8 million or 2% to \$397.1 million during the three months ended March 31, 2015 compared to \$391.3 million at December 31, 2014. The increase in assets was primarily due to cash and cash equivalents growth of \$12.0 million or 11% from December 31, 2014. The investment portfolio declined by \$3.1 million or 4%. Total liabilities grew by \$5.2 million or 1% from December 31, 2014. Substantially all of Focus Bank's funding comes from deposits maintained by core business customer relationships.

Loan Portfolio

Focus Bank's loan portfolio consists almost entirely of loans to customers who have a full banking relationship with Focus Bank. Net loan balances decreased by \$1.7 million or 1% from December 31, 2014 to March 31, 2015 and increased by \$30.6 million or 21% from March 31, 2014 to March 31, 2015. The loan portfolio is evenly split between commercial and industrial loans and commercial real estate loans. A substantial percentage of the commercial real estate loans are considered owner-occupied loans. Focus Bank's loans are generated by its relationship managers and executives. Focus Bank's senior management is actively involved in its lending, underwriting, and collateral valuation processes. Higher dollar loans or loan commitments are also approved through a bank loan committee comprised of executives and outside board members.

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The following tables set forth the composition of Focus Bank's loan portfolio as of the dates indicated:

Loan Portfolio Composition

	March 31,		December 31,
	2015	2014	2014
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Loans:			
Commercial	\$ 88,967	\$ 71,324	\$ 90,899
Real estate construction	1,749	666	1,534
Real estate mortgage	89,315	73,743	89,266
Consumer and other	550	4,168	592
Loans	180,581	149,901	182,291
Deferred loan (fees) costs, net	126	(1)	118
Loans, net of deferred fees and costs	180,708	149,900	182,409
Allowance for loan losses	(2,730)	(2,524)	(2,679)
Loans, net	\$ 177,977	\$ 147,376	\$ 179,730

Loan Maturities

The following table shows the maturity distribution for total loans outstanding as of March 31, 2015. The maturity distribution is grouped by remaining scheduled principal payments that are due within one year, after one but within five years, or after five years. The principal balances of loans are indicated by both fixed and floating rate categories.

Loan Maturities and Re-pricing Schedule

	Due in One Year or Less	Over One Year But Less than Five Years	Over Five Years	Total	Loans with Fixed Rates(1)	Loans with Variable Rates
	(Dollars in thousands)					
Commercial	\$ 26,141	\$ 28,727	\$ 34,099	\$ 88,967	\$ 29,152	\$ 59,815
Real estate construction	1,500	249		1,749	1,517	232
Real estate mortgage	3,838	41,318	44,159	89,315	84,058	5,257
Consumer and other	34	516		550	403	147
Loans	\$ 31,513	\$ 70,810	\$ 78,258	\$ 180,581	\$ 115,130	\$ 65,451

(1)

Excludes variable rate loans on floors.

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In the normal course of business, Focus Bank makes commitments to extend credit to its customers as long as there are no violations of any conditions established in contractual arrangements. These commitments are obligations that represent a potential credit risk to Focus Bank, and a \$65,000 reserve for unfunded commitments is reflected as a liability in Focus Bank's balance sheet at March 31, 2015. Total unused commitments to extend credit were \$53 million at March 31, 2015 compared to \$51 million as of December 31, 2014. Unused commitments represented 29% and 28% of gross loans outstanding at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, respectively. Focus Bank also had \$276,000 in standby letters of credit and commercial letters of credit at March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014.

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The effect on Focus Bank's revenues, expenses, cash flows and liquidity from the unused portion of the commitments to provide credit cannot be reasonably predicted, because there is no certainty that lines of credit will ever be fully utilized.

Nonperforming Assets

Nonperforming assets are comprised of loans on nonaccrual status, loans 90 days or more past due and still accruing interest, and other real estate owned. Focus Bank had no loans 90 days or more past due and still accruing interest and no other real estate owned at March 31, 2015. A loan is placed on nonaccrual status if there is concern that principal and interest may not be fully collected or if the loan has been past due for a period of 90 days or more, unless the obligation is both well secured and in process of legal collection. When loans are placed on nonaccrual status, all interest previously accrued but not collected is reversed against current period interest income. Income on nonaccrual loans is subsequently recognized only to the extent that cash is received and the loan's principal balance is deemed collectible. Loans are returned to accrual status when they are brought current with respect to principal and interest payments and future payments are reasonably assured. Loans in which the borrower is encountering financial difficulties and Focus Bank has modified the terms of the original loan are evaluated for impairment and classified as TDR loans.

The following table presents information concerning Focus Bank's nonperforming and restructured loans as of the dates indicated:

Nonperforming and Restructured Loans

	March 31,		December 31,	
	2015	2014	2014	
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Nonaccrual loans	\$	\$ 215	\$	
Loans over 90 days past due and still accruing				
Total nonperforming loans		215		
Other real estate owned				574
Total nonperforming assets	\$	\$ 215	\$	574
Performing TDRs	\$	\$	\$	

Allowance for Loan Losses

Focus Bank establishes an allowance for loan losses through a provision for loan losses, for both specific losses on impaired loans and the inherent risk of probable loss for non-impaired loans based on loan grades, loan characteristics, and economic trends. The allowance consists of specific, general, and qualitative components. The allowance for loan losses is evaluated on a regular basis by management and the estimate is based upon management's periodic review of the collectability of the loans that considers historical experience, the nature and volume of the loan portfolio, adverse situations that may affect the borrower's ability to repay, estimated value of any underlying collateral, and prevailing economic conditions. The specific component relates to loans that are considered impaired for which an allowance is established when the discounted cash flows (or collateral value or observable market price) of the impaired loan is lower than the carrying value of that loan. The evaluation is inherently subjective as it requires estimates that are susceptible to significant revision as more information becomes available. Focus Bank's allowance for loan loss was \$2.7 million as of March 31, 2015, compared to \$2.7 million as of December 31, 2014. A provision for loan losses of \$50,000 was recorded in the first quarter of 2015. The allowance for loan loss as a percent of outstanding loans increased from 1.47% at December 31, 2014 to 1.51% at March 31, 2015. The

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increase was due to a recording of a \$50,000 provision for loan losses and a slight decline in outstanding loans. A loan is considered impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable that Focus Bank will be unable to collect all amounts due (principal and interest) according to the original contractual terms of the loan agreement. Factors considered by management in determining impairment include payment status, collateral value, and probability of collecting scheduled principal and interest payments. Measurement of impairment is based on the present value of expected future cash flows of the impaired loan, which are discounted at the loan's effective interest rate. For collateral-dependent loans, Focus Bank uses the fair value of the collateral for the impaired loan to measure impairment. An impairment allowance is established to record the difference between the carrying amount of the loan and the present value, or in the case of a collateral-dependent loan, the fair value of the collateral. There were no impaired loans, including performing TDRs, as of March 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014. The allowance for loan loss is maintained at a level that management believes is adequate to provide for loan losses based on currently available information. A comprehensive discussion concerning Focus Bank's allowance for loan loss is included in Note 5 of the accompanying interim Financial Statements.

The following table summarizes the activity in the allowance for loan losses for the periods indicated:

Allowance for Loan Losses

	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2014	December 31, 2014
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 2,679	\$ 2,548	\$ 2,548
Charge-offs:			
Commercial		(125)	(172)
Real estate construction			
Real estate mortgage			
Consumer and other			
Total charge-offs		(125)	(172)
Recoveries:			
Commercial	1	1	3
Real estate construction			
Real estate mortgage			
Consumer and other			
Total recoveries		1	3
Net recoveries (charge-offs)		(124)	(169)
Provision (credit) for loan losses	50	100	300
Balance, end of year	\$ 2,730	\$ 2,524	\$ 2,679
Ratios:			
Annualized net (recoveries) charge-offs to average loans	0.00%	0.34%	0.11%
Allowance for loan losses to total loans	1.51%	1.68%	1.47%
Allowance for loan losses to nonperforming loans	NM	1173.95%	NM
	149		

Table of ContentsAllocation of Allowance for Loan Losses

Provided below is a summary of the allocation of the allowance for loan and lease losses for specific loan categories at the dates indicated. The allocation presented should not be viewed as an indication that charges to the allowance will be incurred in these amounts or proportions, or that the portion of the allowance allocated to each loan category represents the total amounts available for charge-offs that may occur within these categories.

Allocation of Allowance for Loan Losses

	March 31,		2014		December 31,	
	2015	Percent of Loans in each category to total	2014	Percent of Loans in each category to total	2014	Percent of Loans in each category to total
	Allowance	loans	Allowance	loans	Allowance	loans
(Dollars in thousands)						
Commercial	\$ 1,418	49%	\$ 1,386	48%	\$ 1,573	50%
Real estate construction	8	1%	14	0%	13	1%
Real estate mortgage	825	50%	876	49%	1,035	49%
Consumer	13	0%	15	3%	10	0%
Unallocated	466	N/A	233	N/A	48	N/A
Total ALLL	\$ 2,730	100%	\$ 2,524	100%	\$ 2,679	100%

Investment Portfolio

Focus Bank's investment portfolio is comprised of debt securities. Focus Bank uses two classifications for its investment portfolio: available-for-sale (AFS) and held-to-maturity (HTM). Securities that Focus Bank has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are classified as "held-to-maturity securities" and reported at amortized cost. Securities not classified as held-to-maturity securities are classified as "investment securities available-for-sale" and reported at fair value. At March 31, 2015, Focus Bank's held-to-maturity investments totaled \$23.1 million, which compares to \$23.2 million at December 31, 2014 and \$14.8 million at March 31, 2014. Available-for-sale securities had a total fair value of \$44.9 million as of March 31, 2015. Available-for-sale securities have declined through security sales and principal repayments over both the last three and twelve months ended March 31, 2015. At March 31, 2015, available-for-sale securities decreased by \$3.0 million or 6% and by \$12.6 million or 22% from March 31, 2014 and December 31, 2014, respectively. The decline in AFS securities was associated with the sale and principal repayment of investment securities over the two periods and the objective to reduce overall portfolio duration. Focus Bank's investments provide a substantial source of liquidity as they can be pledged to support borrowed funds or can be liquidated to generate cash proceeds. The investment portfolio is also a significant resource to Focus Bank in managing interest rate risk, as the maturity and interest rate characteristics of this asset class can be readily changed to match changes in the loan and deposit portfolios. The majority of Focus Bank's available-for-sale investment portfolio is comprised of mortgage-backed securities (MBSs) and collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) that are either issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies or government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs). In addition, the portfolio has an allocation of highly rated municipal securities. The municipal portfolio is comprised of general obligation and revenue bonds and includes more than 40 issuers.

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The following Investment Portfolio table reflects the amortized cost and fair market values for the total portfolio for each of the categories of investments for the following periods:

	March 31, 2015		March 31, 2014		December 31, 2014	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
(Dollars in thousands)						
Securities available-for-sale:						
U.S. Treasury securities	\$ 2,032	\$ 2,032	\$	\$	\$ 2,038	\$ 2,036
U.S. government-sponsored agencies	3,004	2,993	5,708	5,670	3,004	2,979
Mortgage-backed securities residential	25,179	25,183	24,861	24,820	26,061	26,004
Mortgage-backed securities commercial			4,228	4,083	2,096	2,069
Municipal securities	14,610	14,654	23,100	22,854	14,797	14,788
Total	\$ 44,825	\$ 44,862	\$ 57,897	\$ 57,427	\$ 47,996	\$ 47,876
Securities held-to-maturity:						
U.S. Treasury securities	\$ 2,025	\$ 2,027	\$	\$	\$ 2,030	\$ 2,030
U.S. government-sponsored agencies	7,870	8,061	7,842	7,857	7,863	7,974
Mortgage-backed securities residential	2,805	2,800			2,894	2,871
Mortgage-backed securities commercial	5,996	6,116	4,031	4,042	5,997	6,058
Municipal securities	4,415	4,474	2,953	2,946	4,426	4,455
	\$ 23,111	\$ 23,478	\$ 14,826	\$ 14,845	\$ 23,210	\$ 23,388

The investment maturities table below summarizes contractual maturities for Focus Bank's investment securities and their weighted average yields at March 31, 2015. The actual timing of

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principal payments may differ from remaining contractual maturities, because obligors may have the right to repay certain obligations with or without penalties.

	Contractual Maturity									
	Within One Year or Less		After One and Within Five Years		After Five and Within Ten Years		Securities Not Due at a Single Maturity Date		Total	
	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield	Amount	Yield
(Dollars in thousands)										
Securities available-for-sale (at fair value):										
U.S. Treasury securities	\$	0.00%	\$ 2,032	0.39%	\$	0.00%	\$	0.00%	\$ 2,032	0.39%
U.S. government-sponsored agencies		0.00%	2,993	0.95%		0.00%		0.00%	2,993	0.95%
Mortgage-backed securities residential		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	25,183	1.28%	25,183	1.28%
Municipal securities	3,798	0.50%	9,768	1.01%	1,088	2.00%		0.00%	14,654	0.82%
Total	\$ 3,798	0.50%	\$ 14,793	0.91%	\$ 1,088	2.00%	\$ 25,183	1.28%	\$ 44,862	1.07%
Securities held-to-maturity (at amortized cost):										
U.S. Treasury securities	\$	0.00%	\$ 2,025	0.54%	\$	0.00%	\$	0.00%	\$ 2,025	0.54%
U.S. government-sponsored agencies		0.00%	1,993	0.82%	5,877	2.28%		0.00%	7,870	1.91%
Mortgage-backed securities residential		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	2,805	1.81%	2,805	1.81%
Mortgage-backed securities commercial		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	5,996	2.10%	5,996	2.10%
Municipal securities		0.00%	1,957	1.35%	2,458	1.91%		0.00%	4,415	1.66%
Total	\$	0.00%	\$ 5,975	0.90%	\$ 8,335	2.17%	\$ 8,801	2.01%	\$ 23,111	1.78%

Deposits

Focus Bank's deposits are generated through core customer relationships, related predominantly to business relationships. Many of Focus Bank's business customers maintain high levels of liquid balances in their demand deposit accounts and use the bank's treasury management services extensively. As a result, approximately 29% of Focus Bank's deposits are in noninterest bearing demand deposits. More than 51% of the interest-bearing deposits are held in interest-bearing demand deposit accounts which provide business owners with interest and liquidity. At March 31, 2015, noninterest bearing demand deposits grew by \$12.7 million, or 13%, from December 31, 2014 and by \$18 million, or 21%, from March 31, 2014. Interest-bearing demand deposits grew by \$3.1 million, or 2%, from December 31, 2014 to March 31, 2015 and by \$45.0 million, or 33%, from March 31, 2014 to March 31, 2015.

Information concerning average balances and rates paid on deposits by deposit type for the past three fiscal years is contained in the Distribution, Yield and Rate Analysis of Net Income table located in the previous section on "Results of Operations Net Interest Income and Net Interest Margin"

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beginning on page 142. The following table provides a comparative distribution of Focus Bank's deposits by outstanding balance as well as by percentage of total deposits at the dates indicated:

Deposit Distribution

	March 31,		March 31,		December 31, 2014	
	2015	% of	2014	% of	Balance	% of
	Balance	Total	Balance	Total	Balance	Total
(Dollars in thousands)						
Demand, noninterest-bearing	\$ 107,562	29%	\$ 88,720	29%	\$ 94,901	26%
Demand, interest-bearing	185,257	51%	137,223	44%	179,191	50%
Savings and money market	50,891	14%	57,035	19%	63,878	18%
Time deposits under \$100	3,706	1%	3,422	1%	19,642	5%
Time deposits \$100 and over	19,744	5%	21,481	7%	3,698	1%
Total deposits	\$ 367,160	100%	\$ 307,881	100%	\$ 361,310	100%

Liquidity and Market Risk Management**Liquidity**

Focus Bank's primary source of funding is deposits from its core banking relationships. The majority of the bank's deposits are transaction accounts or money market accounts that are payable on demand. A small number of customers represent a large portion of the bank's deposits, as evidenced by the fact that 14% of deposits were represented by the largest depositor as of March 31, 2015. Focus Bank manages its liquidity in a manner that enables it to meet expected and unexpected liquidity needs under both normal and adverse conditions. The Bank maintains significant on-balance sheet and off-balance liquidity sources, including a relatively large marketable securities portfolio and borrowing capacity through various unsecured sources. Focus Bank maintains Fed funds borrowing lines of \$14 million. The Focus Bank board reviews Focus Bank's liquidity position and key liquidity measurements on a quarterly basis. As of March 31, 2015, Focus Bank's primary liquidity ratio was 25% and its overall liquidity ratio was 36%.

Interest Rate Risk Management

Focus Bank measures its interest rate sensitivity through the use of a simulation model. The model incorporates the contractual cash flows and re-pricing characteristics from each financial instrument, as well as certain management assumptions. The model also captures the estimated impacts of optionality and duration and their expected change due to changes in interest rates and the shape of the yield curve. Focus Bank manages its interest rate risk through established policies and procedures. Focus Bank measures both the potential short term change in earnings and the long term change in market value of equity on a quarterly basis. Both measurements use immediate rate shocks that assume parallel shifts in interest rates up and down the yield curve in 100 basis point increments. There are eight scenarios comprised of rate changes up or down to 400 basis points. Focus Bank has established policy thresholds for each of these eight scenarios. In the current interest rate environment, however, Focus Bank does not consider a decrease in interest rates that is greater than 25 basis points. The impact on earnings for one year and the change in market value of equity are limited to a change of no more than 7.5% for rate changes of 100 basis points, no more than 15% for changes of 200 basis points, no more than 22.5% for rate changes of 300 basis points, and no more than 30% for rate change of 400 basis points. The objective of these various simulation scenarios is to optimize the risk/reward equation for Focus Bank's future earnings and capital. Based upon the results of these various simulations and evaluations, Focus Bank is positioned to be moderately asset sensitive, with earnings increasing in a rising rate environment. If interest rates were to increase by 100 basis points on an immediate, parallel and sustained basis, Focus Bank's net interest income would increase by approximately \$260,000 or 2.6% over the next 12 months.

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The following reflects Focus Bank's estimated net interest income sensitivity as of March 31, 2015:

	Increase/ (Decrease) in Estimated Net Interest Income	
	Amount	Percent
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Change in Interest Rates (basis points)		
+400	\$ 1,064	10.7%
+300	\$ 796	8.0%
+200	\$ 528	5.3%
+100	\$ 260	2.6%
0	\$	0.0%
25	\$ (55)	10.5%

In an effort to measure the long-term impact of interest rate risk, Focus Bank uses a technique called the market value of equity (MVE), which calculates the net present value of Focus Bank's assets and liabilities, based on a discount rate derived from current replacement rates. The market value of equity is obtained by subtracting the market value of liabilities from the market value of assets. The change in market value of equity will differ based on the characteristics of each financial instrument and type of deposit. The longer the duration of a financial instrument, the greater the impact a rate change will have on its market value. As Focus Bank has minimal deposits with contractual maturities, the decay rate assumptions used for non-maturity deposits can have a significant impact on the market value of equity. The following reflects Focus Bank's estimated changes in MVE as of March 31, 2015:

	Increase/(Decrease) In Estimated Market Value of Equity	
	Amount	Percent
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Change in Interest Rates (basis points)		
+400	\$ 11,230	38.6%
+300	\$ 8,728	30.0%
+200	\$ 6,022	20.7%
+100	\$ 3,346	11.5%
0	\$	0.0%
100	\$ (2,095)	7.2%

Capital Resources

As of March 31, 2015, Focus Bank had total shareholders' equity of \$29.1 million, compared to \$27.1 million at March 31, 2014. Focus Bank uses a variety of measures to evaluate capital adequacy. Management reviews various capital measurements on a quarterly basis and takes appropriate action to ensure that such measurements are within established internal and external guidelines. The external guidelines, which are issued by the FDIC, establish a risk-adjusted ratio relating capital to different categories of assets and off balance sheet exposures. There are three categories of capital under the FDIC guidelines: Common Equity Tier 1, Tier 1 and Tier 2 Capital. Common Equity Tier 1 Capital currently consists of total common shareholders' equity (excluding accumulated other comprehensive income or loss), less intangible assets and disallowed deferred tax assets. Tier 1 Capital includes common shareholders' equity less goodwill and certain other deductions, notably the unrealized net gains or losses (after tax adjustments) on securities available for sale, which are carried at fair market value. Tier 2 Capital includes the allowance for loan losses, subject to certain limitations. Our current capital position exceeds all current guidelines established by the FDIC. By the current regulatory

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definitions, we were "well capitalized," the highest rating of the five capital categories defined under FDIC regulations, at March 31, 2015. At March 31, 2015, Focus Bank had a Common Equity Tier 1 capital ratio of 14.1%, Tier 1 risk based capital ratio of 14.1%, a total capital to risk-weighted assets ratio of 15.4%, and a leverage ratio of 7.5%.

LEGAL AND TAX OPINIONS

Buchalter Nemer, a professional corporation, and Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP will deliver prior to the effective time of the merger their opinions to Heritage and Focus Bank, respectively, as to certain United States federal income tax consequences of the merger. Please see the section entitled "Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger" beginning on page 113. The validity of the Heritage common stock to be issued in connection with the merger will be passed upon for Heritage by Buchalter Nemer, a professional corporation.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Heritage and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014 and the effectiveness of Heritage's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 have been audited by Crowe Horwath LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report appearing in Heritage's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and incorporated in this joint proxy statement/prospectus by reference. Such consolidated financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The financial statements of Focus Bank as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and for the years then ended have been audited by Crowe Horwath LLP, an independent auditor, as set forth in their report included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Such financial statements have been included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

OTHER MATTERS

As of the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, neither the Heritage nor the Focus Bank boards of directors know of any matters that will be presented for consideration at their respective shareholders' meetings other than as described in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. However, if any other matter shall properly come before either the Heritage special meeting or the Focus Bank special meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof and shall be voted upon, the proposed proxies will be deemed to confer authority to the individuals named as authorized therein to vote the shares represented by the proxy as to any matters that fall within the purposes set forth in the notices of shareholders' meetings.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows Heritage to incorporate certain information into this joint proxy statement/prospectus by reference to other information that has been filed with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is deemed to be part of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, except for any information that is superseded by information in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. The documents that are incorporated by reference contain important information about Heritage and you should read this joint proxy statement/prospectus together with any other documents incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

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This joint proxy statement/prospectus incorporates by reference the following documents that have previously been filed with the SEC by Heritage:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 filed March 6, 2015;

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2015 filed on May 8, 2015;

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed April 1, 2015, April 23, 2015 (two reports filed) and May 22, 2015; and

The description of Heritage common stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A, dated March 5, 1998, which registers its common stock under Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, together with any amendments or report filed with the SEC for the purpose of updating the description.

In addition, Heritage is incorporating by reference any documents it may file under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus and prior to the date of the respective shareholders' meetings of the Heritage shareholders and the Focus Bank shareholders, provided, however, that Heritage is not incorporating by reference any information furnished (but not filed), except as otherwise specified herein.

Heritage files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other business and financial information with the SEC. You may obtain the information incorporated by reference and any other materials Heritage files with the SEC without charge by following the instructions in the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page i of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Neither Heritage nor Focus Bank has authorized anyone to give any information or make any representation about the merger or its companies that is different from, or in addition to, that contained in this joint proxy statement/prospectus or in any of the materials that have been incorporated into this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Therefore, if anyone does give you information of this sort, you should not rely on it. If you are in a jurisdiction where offers to exchange or sell, or solicitations of offers to exchange or purchase, the securities offered by this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the solicitation of proxies is unlawful, or if you are a person to whom it is unlawful to direct these types of activities, then the offer presented in this joint proxy statement/prospectus does not extend to you. The information contained in this joint proxy statement/prospectus speaks only as of the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus unless the information specifically indicates that another date applies.

AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER AND REORGANIZATION

BY AND AMONG

HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP

HERITAGE BANK OF COMMERCE

and

FOCUS BUSINESS BANK

dated as of

April 23, 2015

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AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER AND REORGANIZATION

This Agreement and Plan of Merger and Reorganization (this "*Agreement*"), is entered into as of April 23, 2015, by and among FOCUS BUSINESS BANK, a California banking corporation ("*Focus*"), HERITAGE COMMERCE CORP, a California corporation ("*HCC*"), and HERITAGE BANK OF COMMERCE, a California banking corporation ("*HBC*") (each a "*party*" and collectively the "*parties*").

RECITALS

- A. Focus is a California chartered bank having its principal place of business in San Jose, California.
- B. HCC is a bank holding company organized under the laws of California and registered as a bank holding company pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, having its principal place of business in San Jose, California.
- C. HBC is a California chartered bank having its principal place of business in San Jose, California.
- D. The respective Boards of Directors of Focus, HCC and HBC have approved, and declared it to be advisable and in the best interests of their respective shareholders to consummate the business combination transaction provided for in this Agreement in which Focus would merge with and into HBC.
- E. It is the intention of the parties that the merger of Focus and HBC shall qualify as a reorganization under the provisions of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- F. In connection with the execution and delivery of this Agreement and as a material inducement for HCC and HBC to enter into this Agreement, each of the directors of Focus is concurrently executing and delivering to HCC a shareholder agreement (each a "*Shareholder Agreement*") in the form attached hereto as *Exhibit B* and a non-solicitation and confidentiality agreement in the form attached hereto as *Exhibit C* ("*Non-Solicitation and Confidentiality Agreement*"), to be effective as of the Effective Time.

AGREEMENT

The parties to this Agreement, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I
THE MERGER**

Section 1.01 *The Merger.* On the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement, at the Effective Time, Focus shall merge with and into HBC (the "*Merger*") and the separate corporate existence of Focus shall cease. HBC shall be the surviving corporation in the Merger (sometimes hereinafter referred to as the "*Surviving Corporation*"), and shall continue to exist as a California corporation with all its rights, privileges, immunities, powers and franchises continuing unaffected by the Merger. An agreement of merger (the "*Agreement of Merger*"), substantially in the form of *Exhibit A* hereto, shall be filed with the California Department of Business Oversight ("*DBO*") and the Secretary of State of the State of California.

Section 1.02 *Effective Time.* Subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions set forth in *Article VI*, other than those conditions that by their nature are to be satisfied at the consummation of the Merger (the "*Closing*"), but subject to the fulfillment or waiver of those conditions, the parties shall cause the filings contemplated by *Section 1.01* to be made (i) no later than the fifth (5th) business day

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after such satisfaction or waiver or (ii) on such other date to which HCC and Focus may agree in writing (the "*Closing Date*"). The Merger shall become effective (the "*Effective Time*") upon such filing with DBO and the Secretary of State of the State of California or on such date as may be specified in the Agreement of Merger.

Section 1.03 *Effect of the Merger.* At the Effective Time, the effect of the Merger shall be as provided in Section 1108 of the California General Corporation Law ("*CGCL*") and Section 4887 of the California Financial Code ("*CFC*"), including any regulations or rules promulgated thereunder. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, and subject thereto, at the Effective Time, all the property, rights, privileges, immunities, powers and franchises of Focus and HBC shall vest in the Surviving Corporation, and all debts, liabilities, obligations, restrictions, disabilities and duties of Focus and HBC shall become the debts, liabilities, obligations, restrictions, disabilities and duties of the Surviving Corporation.

Section 1.04 *Articles of Incorporation; By-laws.* The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of HBC as in effect immediately prior to the Effective Time shall be the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Surviving Corporation.

Section 1.05 *Directors and Executive Officers.* Subject to *Section 5.19*, all the directors and officers of HCC and HBC immediately prior to the Effective Time shall be the directors of HCC and HBC after the Merger, in each case until their respective successors are duly elected or appointed and qualified.

Section 1.06 *Possible Alternative Structures.* Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, prior to the Effective Time HCC shall be entitled, after consultation with Focus, to revise the structure of effecting the acquisition of Focus, provided, however, that (a) there are no adverse federal or state income tax consequences to Focus's shareholders as a result of the modification (including no impact upon the opinions of counsel related to tax matters to be delivered pursuant to this Agreement), (b) the consideration to be paid to the holders of Focus Common Stock and Focus Stock Options under this Agreement is not thereby changed in kind, value or reduced in amount and the delivery of such consideration will not be delayed, (c) the benefits to be received by Focus's directors, officers and employees under this Agreement are not diminished, and (d) such modification will not delay materially or jeopardize the receipt of any regulatory approvals or other consents and approvals relating to the consummation of the Merger or otherwise cause any condition to Closing set forth in *Article VI* not to be capable of being fulfilled. The parties agree to appropriately amend this Agreement and any related documents in order to reflect any such revised structure.

Section 1.07 *Additional Actions.* If at any time after the Effective Time the Surviving Corporation shall consider or be advised that any deeds, bills of sale, assignments or assurances or any other acts or things are necessary, desirable or proper (a) to vest, perfect or confirm, of record or otherwise, in the Surviving Corporation its right, title or interest in or to or under any of the rights, privileges, powers, franchises, properties or assets of Focus, or (b) otherwise to carry out the purposes of this Agreement, the Surviving Corporation and its proper officers and directors or their designees shall be authorized to execute and deliver, in the name and on behalf of either of Focus or its Subsidiaries all such deeds, bills of sale, assignments and assurances and to do, in the name and on behalf of Focus, all such other acts and things as may be necessary, desirable or proper to vest, perfect or confirm the Surviving Corporation's right, title or interest in or to or under any of the rights, privileges, powers, franchises, properties or assets of Focus and otherwise to carry out the purposes of this Agreement.

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ARTICLE II
EFFECT OF THE MERGER ON CAPITAL STOCK

Section 2.01 *Effect of the Merger on Capital Stock.* At the Effective Time, as a result of the Merger and without any action on the part of HCC, HBC or Focus or the holder of any capital stock of HCC, HBC or Focus:

(a) *Cancellation of Certain Focus Common Stock.* Each share of Focus Common Stock that is owned by HCC or Focus (as treasury stock or otherwise) or any of their respective direct or indirect wholly-owned Subsidiaries will automatically be cancelled and retired and will cease to exist, and no consideration will be delivered in exchange therefor.

(b) *HCC Capital Stock.* (i) Each share of HCC Common Stock and (ii) each share of HCC Series C Preferred Stock, issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, shall remain issued and outstanding and shall not be affected by the Merger.

(c) *HBC Capital Stock.* Each share of HBC common stock, no par value, issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time shall remain issued and outstanding and shall not be affected by the Merger.

(d) *Conversion of Focus Common Stock.* Each share of Focus Common Stock issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time (other than shares to be cancelled and retired in accordance with *Section 2.01(a)*, and (ii) Dissenting Shares) shall, by virtue of the Merger, be converted into the right to receive the number of shares of HCC Common Stock equal to 1.8235 shares of HCC Common Stock (the "*Exchange Ratio*"), together with any cash in lieu of fractional shares as specified in *Section 2.01(g)*, (the "*Merger Consideration*").

(e) *Dilution.* If HCC changes (or the HCC Board sets a related record date that will occur before the Effective Time for a change in) the number or kind of shares of HCC Common Stock outstanding by way of a stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization, reclassification, reorganization or similar transaction, then the Merger Consideration (and any other dependent items, such as the amounts payable to holders of Focus Stock Options) will be adjusted proportionately to account for such change to provide to the holders of HCC Common Stock (and holders of Focus Stock Options) the same economic effect contemplated by this Agreement prior to such change.

(f) *Cancellation of Shares and Closing of Focus's Transfer Books.* At the Effective Time (i) none of the shares of Focus Common Stock shall be outstanding and shall automatically be cancelled and shall cease to exist, and each holder of a valid certificate (each a "*Certificate*") previously representing any such shares of Focus Common Stock or owner designated by a book entry previously representing a non-certificated share of Focus Common Stock (a "*Book-Entry Share*") shall thereafter cease to have any rights with respect to such securities, except the right to receive (i) the Merger Consideration, (ii) any dividends and other distributions in accordance with *Section 2.03(e)*, and (iii) any cash to be paid in lieu of any fractional share of HCC Common Stock in accordance with *Section 2.01(g)*. The stock transfer books of Focus shall be closed with respect to all shares of Focus Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, and no further transfer of any such shares of Focus Common Stock shall be made on such stock transfer books after the Effective Time. If, after the Effective Time, Focus Certificates or Book-Entry Shares representing such shares of Focus Common Stock are presented for transfer to the Exchange Agent or to the Surviving Corporation or HCC, they shall be cancelled and shall be exchanged as provided in *Section 2.03*.

(g) *No Fractional Shares.* No fractional shares of HCC Common Stock shall be issued in connection with the Merger, and no certificates or scrip for any such fractional shares shall be issued upon the surrender for exchange of Certificates or Book-Entry Shares. Any holder of Focus Common Stock who would otherwise be entitled to receive a fraction of a share of HCC Common Stock (after aggregating all fractional shares of HCC Common Stock issuable to such holder), in lieu of such

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fraction of a share and, upon surrender of such holder's Certificates or Book-Entry Shares to the Exchange Agent, shall be paid in cash the dollar amount (rounded to the nearest whole cent), without interest, determined by multiplying such fraction of a share of HCC Common Stock multiplied by the HCC Average Closing Price.

Section 2.02 *Exchange Agent; Deposit of Merger Consideration.* Prior to the Closing Date, HCC shall select a bank or trust company to act as exchange agent in the Merger (the "Exchange Agent") and provide the Exchange Agent with appropriate instructions regarding the matters described in this *Article II* in form and substance reasonably acceptable to HCC and Focus, all in accordance with the provisions of an agreement executed between HCC and the Exchange Agent. HCC shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Exchange Agent (by instruction to HCC's transfer agent) prior to the Effective Time (a) certificates representing the shares of HCC Common Stock issuable pursuant to *Section 2.01(d)* (or make appropriate alternative arrangements if uncertificated shares of HCC Common Stock represented by a book entry will be issued), and (b) cash sufficient in lieu of fractional shares to be paid in accordance with *Section 2.01(g)*. The shares of HCC Common Stock and cash amounts so deposited with the Exchange Agent are referred to collectively as the "Exchange Fund."

Section 2.03 *Exchange of Certificates and Book-Entry Shares.*

(a) HCC shall take all steps necessary to cause the Exchange Agent, not later than five (5) business days after the Effective Time, to mail to holders of Focus Common Stock of record immediately prior to the Effective Time (i) a letter of transmittal in customary form that is reasonably acceptable to Focus and containing such customary provisions as HCC may specify (which shall specify that delivery shall be effected and risk of loss and title to shall pass only upon proper delivery of the Certificates or Book-Entry Shares to the Exchange Agent upon adherence to the procedures set forth in the letter of transmittal, and instructions for use in effecting the surrender of such holder's Certificates and Book-Entry Shares) ("*Letter of Transmittal*"), and (ii) instructions for use in effecting the surrender of such holder's Certificates and Book-Entry Shares in exchange for certificates representing HCC Common Stock (or appropriate alternative arrangements if uncertificated shares of HCC Common Stock represented by a book entry will be issued).

(b) Upon surrender of a Certificate or Book-Entry Share to the Exchange Agent for exchange, together with a properly completed Letter of Transmittal and such other documents as may be reasonably required by the Exchange Agent or HCC, the holder of such Certificate or Book-Entry Share shall be entitled to receive in exchange therefor (i) a certificate representing the number of whole shares of HCC Common Stock (or uncertificated shares of HCC Common Stock represented by a book entry) to which such holders of Focus Common Stock shall have become entitled in accordance with *Section 2.01(d)*, and (ii) a check representing the amount of cash in lieu of any fractional share of HCC Common Stock, if any, which such holder has the right to receive in respect of the Certificate or Book-Entry Share surrendered pursuant to *Section 2.01(g)*. No interest will be paid or accrued on the cash in lieu of fractional shares. The Certificates or Book-Entry Shares so surrendered shall be canceled.

(c) If any Certificate shall have been lost, stolen, or destroyed, HCC or the Exchange Agent may in its sole discretion require the owner of such lost, stolen, or destroyed Certificate to make and deliver to HCC or the Exchange Agent an affidavit of that fact and an agreement in form reasonably satisfactory to HCC indemnifying HCC and the Surviving Corporation against any claim that may be made against HCC or the Surviving Corporation and to deliver a bond (in such sum as HCC or the Exchange Agent may reasonably direct) as indemnity against any claim that may be made against the Exchange Agent, HCC, or the Surviving Corporation with respect to such Certificate.

(d) If any portion of the HCC Common Stock that a person has the right to receive pursuant to the provisions of *Section 2.01(d)* is to be issued in a name other than that in which the Certificate or Book-Entry Share surrendered is registered, it shall be a condition to such issuance thereof that the

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Certificate or Book-Entry Shares surrendered shall be properly endorsed (or accompanied by an appropriate instrument of transfer) and otherwise in proper form for transfer, and the person requesting such exchange shall pay to the Exchange Agent in advance any transfer or other Tax required by reason of a certificate or uncertificated book entry share, as applicable, or establish to the reasonable satisfaction of the Exchange Agent that such Tax has been paid or is not payable.

(e) No dividends or other distributions declared after the Effective Time with respect to HCC Common Stock and payable to the holders of record thereof shall be paid to the holder of any unsurrendered Certificate or Book-Entry Share until the holder thereof shall surrender such Certificate or Book-Entry Share in accordance with this *Article II*. After the surrender of a Certificate or Book-Entry Share in accordance with this *Article II*, the record holder thereof shall be entitled to receive any such dividends or other distributions, without any interest thereon, which theretofore had become payable with respect to shares of HCC Common Stock represented by such Certificate or Book-Entry Share.

(f) Any portion of the Exchange Fund that remains undistributed to holders of Certificates or Book-Entry Shares as of the date twelve (12) months after the Effective Time shall be delivered to HCC upon demand, and any holders of Certificates or Book-Entry Shares who have not theretofore surrendered their Certificates or Book-Entry Shares in accordance with this *Section 2.03* shall thereafter look only to HCC for satisfaction of their claims for the Merger Consideration, cash in lieu of fractional shares of HCC Common Stock, and any dividends or distributions with respect to HCC Common Stock, in each case without interest thereon. Notwithstanding the foregoing, none of HCC, the Surviving Corporation, Focus or the Exchange Agent or any other person shall be liable to any former holder of shares of Focus Common Stock for any amount properly delivered to a public official pursuant to applicable abandoned property, escheat or similar Law.

(g) Each of the Exchange Agent, HCC, and the Surviving Corporation shall be entitled to deduct and withhold from any consideration payable or otherwise deliverable pursuant to this Agreement to any holder or former holder of Focus Common Stock such amounts as may be required to be deducted or withheld therefrom under the Code or any provision of state, local, or foreign Tax law or under any other applicable Law. To the extent such amounts are so deducted or withheld, such amounts shall be treated for all purposes under this Agreement as having been paid to the person to whom such amounts would otherwise have been paid.

(h) Any portion of the HCC Common Stock made available to the Exchange Agent in respect of any Dissenting Shares shall be returned to HCC upon demand.

Section 2.04 Dissenting Shares. Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, shares of Focus Common Stock that are outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time and that are held by a shareholder who is entitled to demand, and who properly demands, the fair market value of such shares pursuant to, and who complies in all respects with, Chapter 13 of the CGCL (a "*Dissenting Shareholder*") shall not be converted into the right to receive the Merger Consideration. For purposes of this Agreement, "*Dissenting Shares*" means any shares of Focus Common Stock as to which a Dissenting Shareholder has properly exercised a demand for fair market value pursuant to Chapter 13 of the CGCL. At the Effective Time all Dissenting Shares shall be cancelled and retired and shall cease to exist. No Dissenting Shareholder shall be entitled to any Merger Consideration in respect of any Dissenting Shares unless and until such holder shall have failed to perfect or shall have effectively withdrawn or lost such holder's right to demand fair market value of its Dissenting Shares under the CGCL, and any Dissenting Shareholder shall be entitled to receive only the payment provided by Chapter 13 of the CGCL with respect to the Dissenting Shares owned by such Dissenting Shareholder and not any Merger Consideration. Focus shall give HCC (a) prompt notice of any written demands for fair market value, attempted withdrawals of such demands and any other instruments served pursuant to applicable Law relating to shareholders' demands for fair market value, and (b) the

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opportunity to direct all negotiations and proceedings with respect to demands for fair market value under the CGCL. Focus shall not, except with the prior written consent of HCC, voluntarily make any payment with respect to any demands for fair market value of Dissenting Shares, offer to settle or settle any such demands.

Section 2.05 *Treatment of Stock Options.*

(a) Prior to and effective as of the Effective Time, Focus shall have taken all such action as is necessary to terminate, subject to compliance with this *Section 2.05*, the Focus Equity Plans and shall have provided written notice to each holder of an option to acquire shares of Focus Common Stock (each, a "*Focus Stock Option*") that is outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Time, whether or not then vested or exercisable, that such Focus Stock Option shall terminate at the Effective Time and that, if such Focus Stock Option is not exercised or otherwise terminated on or before the Effective Time, such holder shall be entitled to receive in cancellation of each Focus Stock Option a cash payment in an amount, without interest, equal to the product of (i) the total number of shares of Focus Common Stock subject to the Focus Stock Option times (ii) the excess, if any, of the product of the Exchange Ratio multiplied by the HCC Average Closing Price over the exercise price per share under such Focus Stock Option ("*Option Consideration*"). HCC or the Exchange Agent shall be entitled to deduct and withhold from the consideration paid in accordance with this *Section 2.05* on account of Focus Stock Options such amounts as HCC or the Exchange Agent is required to deduct and withhold from such payment under the Code or any similar Law. At the Effective Time the Focus Equity Plans and all Focus Stock Options issued thereunder that have not previously been exercised, whether or not then vested and whether or not then exercisable, shall terminate and be of no further effect. Any payments pursuant to this *Section 2.05* shall be made only after the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions set forth in *Article VI*.

(b) At least thirty (30) business days prior to the Closing Date and prior to any such payment, Focus shall use its reasonable best efforts to obtain a written acknowledgement and waiver (in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to HCC) from each holder of a Focus Stock Option (i) confirming the number of Focus Stock Options held, (ii) confirming that the treatment of such Focus Stock Options pursuant to this Agreement and the amounts to be paid pursuant to this Agreement have been correctly calculated, (iii) acknowledging that in consideration for the cancellation of such Focus Stock Option, the holder agrees to accept the Option Consideration, and (iv) containing waivers for such other matters as reasonably determined by HCC. Focus shall provide a copy of each such acknowledgement and waiver to obtain to HCC at least five (5) business days prior to the Closing Date.

(c) Each holder of in-the-money Focus Stock Option listed on *Schedule D-1* shall have entered into an In-the-Money Option Holder Agreement in the form of *Exhibit D* attached to this Agreement (the "*In-the-Money Stock Option Holder Agreement*") dated the date of this Agreement providing for the termination of such holder's Focus Stock Options and restricting the exercise of in-the-money Focus Stock Options (whether vested or not vested). Each holder of such terminated Focus Stock Options that are in-the-money shall be entitled to receive, in lieu of each share of Focus Common Stock that would otherwise have been issuable upon exercise thereof the Option Consideration.

(d) Focus shall take all actions necessary to ensure that from and after the Effective Time neither HCC nor the Surviving Corporation will be required to deliver shares of HCC Common Stock or Focus Common Stock or other capital stock to any person pursuant to or in settlement of Focus Stock Options after the Effective Time.

(e) At or prior to the Closing Date, Focus and the Focus Board and its compensation committee, as applicable, shall adopt any resolutions and take any actions which are necessary to effectuate the provisions of *Section 2.05(a), (b)* and *(d)*.

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Section 2.06 *Tax Consequences.* For federal income tax purposes, the Merger is intended to constitute a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "*Code*").

**ARTICLE III
REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF FOCUS**

Except as set forth in the Focus Disclosure Schedule, Focus hereby represents and warrants to HCC and HBC that the following is true and correct:

Section 3.01 *Organization; Qualification and Subsidiaries.*

(a) *Corporate Organization.* Focus is a corporation and a California chartered bank duly organized, validly existing in good standing in California. Focus is authorized by the DBO in accordance with the CFC to conduct a commercial banking business. The deposits of Focus are insured up to the applicable limits (or fully insured if there is no limit) through the Deposit Insurance Fund ("*DIF*") as administered by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("*FDIC*") to the fullest extent permitted by applicable Law, and all premiums and assessments required to be paid have been paid when due. No Legal Action for the termination or revocation of such insurance is pending, or to the knowledge of Focus, has any such termination or revocation been threatened. Focus has the requisite corporate power and authority to own or lease and operate all of its properties and assets and to carry on its business as is now being conducted. Focus is duly licensed or qualified to do business in each jurisdiction in which the nature of the business conducted by it or the character or location of the properties and assets owned or leased by it makes such licensing or qualification necessary, except where the failure to be so licensed or qualified would not reasonably be expected to, individually or in the aggregate, have a Focus Material Adverse Effect.

(b) *Charter Documents.* Focus has delivered or made available to HCC a correct and complete copy of the Charter Documents of Focus, as amended and currently in effect. Focus is not in violation of any of the provisions of its Charter Documents.

(c) *Minute Books.* The minute books of Focus and its Subsidiaries, in all material respects, contain accurate records of all meetings and accurately reflect all other material actions taken by the shareholders, their respective Boards of Directors and all standing committees of their respective Boards of Directors.

(d) *Subsidiaries.* Section 3.01(d) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule sets forth a complete and correct list of all the Subsidiaries of Focus (each, a "*Focus Subsidiary*" and collectively the "*Focus Subsidiaries*"). Section 3.01(d) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule also sets forth a list identifying the number and owner of all outstanding capital stock or other equity securities of each Focus Subsidiary, options, warrants, stock appreciation rights, scrip, rights to subscribe to, calls or commitments of any character whatsoever relating to, or securities or rights convertible into, shares of any capital stock or other equity securities of such Subsidiary, or Contracts by which such Subsidiary may become bound to issue additional shares of its capital stock or other equity securities, or options, warrants, scrip, rights to subscribe to, calls or commitments for any shares of its capital stock or other equity securities and the identity of the parties to any such Contracts. All of the outstanding shares of capital stock or other securities evidencing ownership of the Focus Subsidiaries are validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable and such shares or other securities are owned by Focus or another of the Focus Subsidiaries free and clear of any Liens (other than Permitted Liens). Each of the Focus Subsidiaries (i) is a duly organized and validly existing corporation, partnership or limited liability company or other legal entity under the Laws of its jurisdiction of organization, (ii) is duly licensed and qualified to do business and is in good standing in all jurisdictions (whether federal, state, local or foreign) where its ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of its business requires it to be so qualified (except for jurisdictions in which the failure to be so qualified would not reasonably be expected to, individually or

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in the aggregate, have a Focus Material Adverse Effect), and (iii) has all requisite corporate power and authority to own or lease its properties and assets and to carry on its business as now conducted. A correct and complete copy of the Charter Documents of each of the Focus Subsidiaries, as amended and currently in effect, has been delivered and made available to HCC. None of the Focus Subsidiaries are in violation of their respective Charter Documents. Focus does not possess directly or indirectly any material equity interest in any person, except for (i) the Focus Subsidiaries, (ii) equity interests held in the investment portfolios of Focus, (iii) equity interests held by Focus in a fiduciary capacity, and (iv) equity interests held in connection with the lending activities of Focus. Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries is or has ever been a general partner of any general or limited partnership. There are no restrictions on the ability of any Focus Subsidiary to pay dividends or distributions to Focus.

Section 3.02 *Capital Structure.*

(a) *Capital Stock.* The authorized shares of stock of Focus consist of 40,000,000 shares of Common Stock, no par value ("*Focus Common Stock*") and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, no par value ("*Focus Preferred Stock*"). As of the date of this Agreement (i) 3,001,722 shares of Focus Common Stock are issued and outstanding (and no shares of Focus Common Stock are held by Focus in its treasury), of which 72,440 shares are restricted shares subject to risk of forfeiture during certain periods of vesting, (ii) 753,623 shares of Focus Common Stock have been reserved for issuance pursuant to the Focus Equity Plans in respect of Focus Stock Options outstanding as of the date of this Agreement, subject to adjustment on the terms set forth in Focus Equity Plans, and (iii) 191,607 shares of Focus Common Stock have been reserved for future issuance pursuant to awards under Focus Equity Plans not granted on the date of this Agreement. Except as set forth in this *Section 3.02(a)*, as of the date of this Agreement, Focus had no Focus Common Stock, Focus Preferred Stock or any other securities reserved for issuance or required to be reserved for issuance. All such issued and outstanding shares of Focus Common Stock are duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid, nonassessable and were not issued in violation of or subject to any preemptive rights, Lien, voting restriction, purchase option, call option, right of first refusal, subscription agreement, or any other similar right, and were issued in accordance with applicable Law.

(b) *Voting Securities.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries have any authorized, issued or outstanding any bonds, debentures, notes, or other indebtedness which the holders thereof have the right to vote (or convertible into, or exchangeable for, securities having the right to vote) on any matters on which shareholders of Focus may vote.

(c) *Focus Stock-Based Rights.* Section 3.02(c) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule sets forth, as of the date of this Agreement, a complete and correct list of each Focus Stock Option, award of restricted shares of Focus Common Stock, Contract relating to the issued or unissued capital stock of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries, or obligating Focus or any of its Subsidiaries to issue, grant, or sell any shares of capital stock of or other equity interests in or securities convertible into equity interests in Focus or any of its Subsidiaries (each, a "*Focus Stock-Based Right*"), setting forth with respect to each such Focus Stock-Based Right (i) the name, (ii) the holder thereof, (iii) the plan under which such Focus Stock-Based Right was granted, if any, (iv) the number of shares of Focus Common Stock subject to such Focus Stock-Based Right, (v) the per-share price at which such Focus Stock-Based Right may be exercised or the shares of Focus Common Stock subject to such Focus Stock-Based Right were sold or issued, (vi) the grant and expiration dates, and (vii) the terms of vesting, including whether (and to what extent) the vesting will be accelerated in any way by this Agreement or by termination of employment or change in position following consummation of the Merger (whether alone or upon the occurrence of any additional or subsequent events). With respect to each grant of a Focus Stock-Based Right, (i) each such grant was made in accordance with the terms of the applicable Focus Equity Plan and applicable Law, and (ii) each such grant was properly accounted for in accordance with GAAP in the financial statements (including the related notes) of Focus. All Focus Stock Options have been granted with a per share exercise at least equal to the fair market value of the underlying stock on the

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date the option was granted within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code and associated Treasury Department guidance. Each Focus Stock Option intended to qualify as an "incentive stock option" under Section 422 of the Code has been structured to so qualify. Each grant of a Focus Stock Option was duly authorized no later than the date on which the grant of such Focus Stock Option was by its terms to be effective by all necessary corporate action, including, as applicable, approval by the Focus Board (or a duly constituted and authorized committee thereof), and any required shareholder approval by the necessary number of votes or written consents, and the award agreement governing such grant (if any) was duly executed and delivered by each party thereto. Focus has not granted, and there is no and has been no Focus policy or practice to grant, any Focus Stock Options prior to, or otherwise coordinated the grant of Focus Stock Options with, the release or other public announcement of material information regarding Focus or its financial results or prospects. The treatment of the Focus Stock Options provided for under this Agreement, including but not limited to *Section 2.05*, is consistent in all material respects with and not in violation of any document or agreement pertaining to a Focus Stock Option or a Focus Equity Plan or applicable Law. From January 1, 2015 through the date of this Agreement, neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has accelerated the vesting or lapsing of restrictions with respect to any Focus Stock-Based Right, or adopted or amended any Focus Equity Plan. All shares of Focus Common Stock subject to issuance pursuant to a Focus Stock-Based Right will, upon issuance on the terms and conditions specified in the instruments pursuant to which they are issuable, be duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid, and nonassessable. Except for Focus Stock-Based Rights set forth on Section 3.02(c) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule, there are no outstanding options, warrants, calls, subscription rights, exercisable, convertible or exchangeable securities, stock appreciation rights, phantom stock rights, any other rights, awards or Contracts (contingent or otherwise) that obligate Focus to issue, transfer or sell any Focus Common Stock or any investment that is convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for any such shares.

(d) *Contracts.* There are no Contracts of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries (i) to repurchase, redeem or otherwise acquire any shares of capital stock of Focus or any equity security of Focus or its Subsidiaries or any securities representing the right to purchase or otherwise receive any shares of capital stock or any other equity security of Focus or its Subsidiaries, or (ii) pursuant to which Focus or any of its Subsidiaries is or could be required to register shares of Focus capital stock or other securities under the Securities Act. Except for the Shareholder Agreements, there are no voting trusts, proxy, rights agreement, "poison pill" antitakeover plan or other Contract to which Focus, any of its Subsidiaries or, to the knowledge of Focus, any of their respective officers or directors, is a party with respect to any equity security of any class of Focus or with respect to any equity security, partnership interest or similar ownership interest of any class of any of its Subsidiaries.

(e) *Debt.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries have authorized, issued or outstanding any bonds, debentures, notes, trust preferred securities or other similar obligations.

Section 3.03 *Authority; Non-contravention; Governmental Consents.*

(a) *Authority.* Focus has full corporate power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and the other agreements referred to in this Agreement to which it is or will be a party, and, subject to the receipt of regulatory and shareholder approvals, to perform its obligations and consummate the transactions contemplated under this Agreement. The execution and delivery of this Agreement and the consummation of the Merger and the other transactions contemplated under this Agreement (collectively, the "*Contemplated Transactions*") have been duly and validly approved by the Board of Directors of Focus (the "*Focus Board*"). The Focus Board, at a meeting duly called and held, has determined that this Agreement and the Contemplated Transactions are fair to and in the best interests of the Focus shareholders and resolved to recommend that the holders of the Focus Common Stock vote in favor of approval and adoption of this Agreement and the Contemplated Transactions, including the Merger. Except for the adoption of this Agreement by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Focus Common Stock (the "*Requisite Focus Vote*"), no

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further corporate proceedings on the part of the Focus Board or the Focus shareholders (except for matters related to setting the date, time, place and record date for said meeting) are necessary in order to authorize or approve this Agreement or to consummate the Contemplated Transactions including the Merger. This Agreement has been duly and validly executed and delivered by Focus and (assuming due authorization, execution and delivery by HCC and HBC of this Agreement) this Agreement constitutes a valid and binding obligation of Focus, enforceable against Focus in accordance with its terms, except as enforcement may be limited by applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, moratorium, or other similar Law affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights generally, and subject to general principles of equity (whether considered in a proceeding whether in equity or at law). All corporate proceedings on the part of Focus necessary to consummate the Contemplated Transactions will have been taken prior to the Effective Time.

(b) *Non-Contravention.* Subject to the receipt of the Requisite Focus Vote, the execution, delivery and performance under this Agreement and the consummation of the Contemplated Transactions by Focus, do not and will not (i) violate any provision of the Charter Documents of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries or (ii) assuming that the consents and approvals referred to in *Section 3.03(c)* are duly obtained or made, (A) violate in any material respect any Law applicable to Focus or any of its Subsidiaries, or any of their respective properties or assets, or (B) violate or conflict with, or result in a material breach of any provision of or the loss of any benefit under, constitute a material default (or an event which, with notice or lapse of time, or both, would constitute a material default) under, result in the termination of or a right of termination or cancellation under, accelerate the performance required by, or result in the creation of any Lien (other than Permitted Liens) upon any of the properties or assets of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries under any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any note, bond, mortgage, indenture, deed of trust, license, lease, Focus Material Contract or other instrument or obligation to which Focus or any of its Subsidiaries is a party, or by which they or any of their respective properties, assets or business activities may be bound or affected.

(c) *Regulatory Filings and Approvals.* Except for (i) the filings of applications or notices with, and approvals or waivers by, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the "*FRB*"), the FDIC and the DBO, (ii) the filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("*SEC*") and declaration of effectiveness of a registration statement on Form S-4 (the "*Registration Statement*") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "*Securities Act*") including the joint proxy statement/prospectus (the "*Joint Proxy Statement/Prospectus*") relating to the meetings, including any adjournments or postponements thereof, of Focus shareholders and HCC shareholders to be held in connection with this Agreement and the Merger (the "*Focus Meeting*" and the "*HCC Meeting*," as the case may be), (iii) approval of the listing on the NASDAQ Global Select Market ("*NASDAQ*") of the HCC Common Stock to be issued in connection with the Merger, (iv) the Requisite Focus Vote and the Requisite HCC Vote, (v) the filing of the Agreement of Merger pursuant to the CGCL and the CFC, (vi) such filings and approvals as are required to be made or obtained under applicable state securities laws in connection with the issuance of the shares of HCC Common Stock pursuant to this Agreement, no consents or approvals of or filings or registrations with any Governmental Entity, or with any third party are necessary in connection with, (A) the execution and delivery by Focus of this Agreement, (B) the consummation by Focus of the Merger and the other Contemplated Transactions, or (C) the execution and delivery by Focus of the Agreement of Merger.

Section 3.04 *Financial Statements; Internal Controls.*

(a) *Financial Statements.* Focus has furnished to HCC correct and complete copies of (i) the audited balance sheets of Focus as of December 31, 2012, 2013 and 2014, and the related audited statements of income, shareholders' equity and cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2013 and 2014, (ii) an unaudited balance sheet of Focus as of March 31, 2015, and the related unaudited statement of income for the period ended March 31, 2015 (such balance sheets and the related statements of income and shareholders' equity are collectively referred to herein as the "*Focus*")

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Financial Statements"). The balance sheet for the period ended March 31, 2015 is referred to herein as the "*Focus Balance Sheet*". The Focus Financial Statements (i) were prepared in accordance with GAAP, applied on a consistent basis throughout the periods involved, subject in the case of the unaudited interim financial statements, to normal year-end adjustments and the fact that they do not contain all of the statements of cash flow or footnote disclosures required by GAAP (the effect of which will not, individually or in the aggregate, be material) and complied in all material respects with applicable accounting requirements, (ii) fairly presented in all material respects the financial position of Focus and its Subsidiaries at the respective dates thereof and the results of Focus's operations and, to the extent applicable, cash flows for the periods indicated therein, subject in the case of unaudited interim financial statements, to normal and year-end audit adjustments as permitted by GAAP, and (iii) are consistent with the books and records of Focus in all material respects. Focus maintains accurate books and records and in all material respects they have been, and are being maintained in the ordinary course of business and in accordance with GAAP and any other applicable Law and accounting requirement.

(b) *Reports and Assessments.* Since December 31, 2011, Focus and each of its Subsidiaries have filed (or furnished, as applicable) all material reports, forms, correspondence, registrations and statements, together with any amendments required to be made with respect thereto ("*Focus Reports*"), that they were required to file (or furnish, as applicable) with any Governmental Entity having jurisdiction over Focus or any of its Subsidiaries. As of their respective dates (and without giving effect to any amendments or modifications filed after the date of this Agreement with respect to reports and documents filed before the date of this Agreement), each Focus Report (including the financial statements, exhibits, and schedules thereto), complied in all material respects with applicable Law, and did not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements made therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. There are no material violations or exceptions in any Focus Report that are unresolved as of the date of this Agreement.

(c) *Internal Controls.*

(i) Focus has implemented and maintains internal controls over financial reporting that are sufficient to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of its financial reporting and the preparation of its financial statements for external purposes in accordance with GAAP and includes policies and procedures for its own purposes that (A) pertain to the maintenance of records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of Focus and its Subsidiaries, (B) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and that receipts and expenditures of Focus and its Subsidiaries are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of Focus and its Subsidiaries, and (C) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of Focus's assets that could have a material effect on its financial statements. Since December 31, 2011, Focus has not experienced or effected any material change in internal control over financial reporting.

(ii) Since December 31, 2011, neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries or, to the knowledge of Focus, any director, officer, employee, auditor, accountant, or representative of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries has received or has otherwise had or obtained knowledge of any complaint, allegation, assertion, or claim, whether written or oral, regarding the accounting or auditing practices, procedures, methodologies, or methods of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries or their internal control over financial reporting, including any complaint, allegation, assertion, or claim that Focus or any of its Subsidiaries has engaged in questionable accounting or auditing practices.

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(iii) To the knowledge of Focus, (A) there are no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal controls over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to materially adversely affect Focus's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information and (B) since December 31, 2011, there is no fraud whether or not material that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in Focus's internal control over financial reporting. Focus has made available to HCC (A) a summary of any such disclosure made by management to Focus's auditors and audit committee since December 31, 2011 and (B) any material communication since December 31, 2011 made by management or Focus's auditors to the audit committee required or contemplated by the audit committee's charter or professional standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

(d) *Allowance for Loan Losses.* All allowances for loan and lease losses ("ALLL") of Focus and its Subsidiaries, including any reserves for unfunded commitments, are, and as of the Effective Time will be, to the knowledge of Focus, made in compliance with all applicable Law, Focus's methodology for determining the adequacy of its allowance for losses and the standards established by the Financial Accounting Standards Board in all material respects. Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has been notified by any Governmental Entity or by Focus's independent auditor, in writing or otherwise, that (i) such allowances are inadequate, (ii) the practices and policies of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries in establishing such allowances and in accounting for non-performing and classified assets generally fail to comply with applicable accounting or regulatory requirements, or (iii) such allowances are inadequate or inconsistent with the historical loss experience of Focus or its Subsidiaries.

(e) *Off-balance Sheet Arrangements.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries is a party to, or has any commitment to become a party to, any joint venture, off balance sheet partnership or any similar Contract (including any Contract relating to any transaction or relationship between or among Focus and any of its Subsidiaries, on the one hand, and any unconsolidated Affiliate), including any structured finance, special purpose or limited purpose entity or person, on the other hand, or any "off balance sheet arrangements" (for reference, as defined in Item 303(a) of Regulation S-K under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "*Exchange Act*"), where the result, purpose or intended effect of such Contract is to avoid disclosure of any material transaction involving or material liabilities of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries in the Focus Financial Statements, the Focus Balance Sheet, the Closing Financial Statements, or the Focus Reports.

(f) *Undisclosed Liabilities.* Except for (i) those liabilities that are set forth on Focus Balance Sheet, (ii) those liabilities and expenses incurred in connection with the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and (iii) liabilities incurred since the date of the Focus Balance Sheet in the ordinary course of business and that are not and would not be, individually or in the aggregate, material to the financial condition of Focus and its Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, neither Focus nor any of the Focus Subsidiaries has any liabilities, which were required to be reflected on the Focus Balance Sheet under GAAP if it had existed on the date of the Focus Balance Sheet.

Section 3.05 *Absence of Certain Changes or Events.*

(a) *Ordinary Course of Business.* Since December 31, 2013, Focus and its Subsidiaries have conducted their respective businesses in the ordinary course of business, and no event has occurred or circumstances exists, that individually or in the aggregate, would reasonably be expected to result in a Focus Material Adverse Effect.

(b) *No Changes or Events.* Since December 31, 2013, neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries engaged in any of the following:

(i) incurred any obligation or liability, except deposits taken, Federal funds purchased and Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Reserve Bank and correspondent bank borrowings and current

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liabilities for trade or business obligations, none of which, individually or in the aggregate, were material to the financial condition of Focus and its Subsidiaries;

(ii) declared or made any payment of dividends or other distribution to its shareholders, or purchased, retired or redeemed, or obligated itself to purchase, retire or redeem, any of its shares of capital stock or other securities;

(iii) issued, reserved for issuance, granted, sold or authorized the issuance of any shares of its capital stock or other securities or subscriptions, options, warrants, calls, rights or commitments of any kind relating to the issuance thereof (except for the issuance of stock options and restricted stock under the Focus Equity Plans in the ordinary course of business);

(iv) acquired any capital stock or other equity securities or acquired any ownership interest in any bank, corporation, partnership or other entity (except (A) through settlement of indebtedness, foreclosure, or the exercise of creditors' remedies or (B) in a fiduciary capacity, the ownership of which does not expose it to any liability from the business, operations or liabilities of such person);

(v) mortgaged, pledged or subjected to a Lien or restriction any of its property, business or assets, tangible or intangible, except for Permitted Liens;

(vi) sold, transferred, leased to others or otherwise disposed of any of its assets or canceled or compromised any debt or claim, or waived or released any right or claim outside the ordinary course of business;

(vii) terminated, canceled or surrendered, or received any notice or threat of termination or cancellation of any Focus Material Contract;

(viii) Since December 31, 2014, made any change in the rate of compensation, commission, bonus, vesting or other direct or indirect remuneration payable, paid or agreed or orally promised to pay, conditionally or otherwise, any bonus, extra compensation, pension or severance or vacation pay, to or for the benefit of any of their directors, officers, employees or agents, or entered into any employment or consulting contract or other agreement with any director, officer or employee or adopted, amended or terminated any plan, arrangement, program or agreement that would constitute a Focus Employer Plan, except periodic increases consistent with past practices, or as disclosed in the Focus Disclosure Schedule or specifically permitted by this Agreement;

(ix) made any capital expenditures in excess of an aggregate of \$100,000;

(x) instituted, had instituted against them, settled or agreed to settle any Legal Action relating to their property other than routine collection suits instituted to collect amounts owed or suits in which the amount in controversy is less than \$100,000;

(xi) experienced any material damage, destruction or other casualty loss with respect to any material asset or property owned, leased or otherwise used by Focus or any of its Subsidiaries, whether or not covered by insurance;

(xii) experienced any material adverse change in relations with its employees (exclusive of the termination of any employees in accordance with their existing policies and procedures), depositors, loan customers, or correspondent banks;

(xiii) except for the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or as otherwise permitted under this Agreement, entered into any transaction, or entered into, modified or amended any Focus Material Contract;

(xiv) made any, or acquiesced with any, change in any accounting methods, principles or material practices except as required by GAAP; or

(xv) entered into a Contract to do any of the foregoing.

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Section 3.06 *Taxes.*

(a) *Tax Returns.* Focus and each of its Subsidiaries have duly and timely filed or caused to be filed (taking into account any valid extensions) all material Tax Returns required to be filed by or with respect to Focus and its Subsidiaries on or prior to the Closing Date. The Tax Returns have accurately reflected and shall accurately reflect all liability for Taxes of Focus and each of its Subsidiaries for the periods covered thereby. Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries is currently the beneficiary of any extension of time within which to file any Tax Return other than extensions of time to file Tax Returns obtained in the ordinary course of business.

(b) *Liability for Taxes.* All Taxes of Focus and its Subsidiaries (whether or not shown on any tax return) have been timely paid except for Taxes that are both being contested in good faith and adequately reserved against and included as an identifiable tax liability (in accordance with GAAP) on the Financial Statements and Focus Balance Sheet. Focus does not have any liability for taxes in excess of the amount reserved or provided for in the Financial Statements or Focus Balance Sheet (but excluding, for this purpose only, any liability reflected thereon for deferred taxes to reflect timing differences between tax and financial accounting methods).

(c) *Availability of Tax Returns.* Focus has made available to HCC (i) complete and accurate copies of all federal, state, local and foreign income, franchise and other Tax Returns filed by or on behalf of Focus or its Subsidiaries for any Tax period ending after December 31, 2012, and (ii) any audit report issued relating to any Taxes due from or with respect to Focus with respect to its income, assets or operations.

(d) *Withholding.* All Taxes required to be withheld, collected or deposited by or with respect to Focus and each of the Focus Subsidiaries have been timely withheld, collected or deposited, as the case may be, and to the extent required by applicable Law, have been paid to the relevant Governmental Entity. Focus and each of its Subsidiaries have complied in all material respects with all information reporting and backup withholding provisions of applicable Law, including the collection, review and retention of any required withholding certificates or comparable documents (including with respect to deposits) and any notice received pursuant to Section 3406(a)(1)(B) or (C) of the Code.

(e) *Tax Reporting.* Focus and its Subsidiaries have disclosed on their federal income tax returns and state income tax returns all positions taken therein that could give rise to substantial understatement of federal income tax within the meaning of Section 6662 of the Code or any similar provision under applicable state tax law.

(f) *Liens.* There are no Liens for Taxes with respect to any of the assets of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries other than for statutory Liens for Taxes not yet due and payable.

(g) *Tax Deficiencies and Audits.* No deficiency for any Taxes which has been proposed, asserted or assessed in writing against Focus or any of its Subsidiaries has not been resolved. There is no waiver or extension of the application of any statute of limitations of any jurisdiction regarding the assessment or collection of any Tax with respect to Focus and any of its Subsidiaries, which waiver or extension is in effect. Focus is not contesting any Tax liability. To the knowledge of Focus, no Tax Return of Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries is under audit or examination by any Governmental Entity. No written or, to the knowledge of Focus, unwritten notice of such an audit or examination by any Governmental Entity has been received by Focus or any of its Subsidiaries. Any assessments for Taxes due with respect to any completed and settled examinations or any concluded litigation have been fully paid. Since December 31, 2008, Focus has not amended any Tax Return or entered into any settlement or compromise of any Tax. No issue has been raised by any Governmental Entity in any pending Tax audit that could be material and adverse to Focus or the Surviving Corporation for any period after the Effective Time.

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(h) *Tax Jurisdictions.* No claim has been made by any Governmental Entity authority in a jurisdiction where Focus and its Subsidiaries do not file Tax Returns that Focus or any of its Subsidiaries is or may be subject to Tax in that jurisdiction.

(i) *Tax Rulings.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has requested or is the subject of or bound by any private letter ruling, technical advice memorandum or similar ruling or memorandum with any Governmental Entity with respect to any Taxes, and no such request pending.

(j) *Consolidated Groups, Transferee Liability and Tax Agreements.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries (i) has been a member of a group filing Tax Returns on a consolidated, combined, unitary or similar basis, (ii) has any liability for Taxes of any person (other than Focus or any of its Subsidiaries) under Treasury Regulation Section 1.1502-6 (or any comparable provision of local, state or foreign Law) as a transferee or successor by Contract or otherwise, or (iii) is a party to or bound by or has any liability under any Tax sharing, allocation or indemnification Contract with respect to Taxes (including any advance pricing agreement, closing agreement or other Contract) relating to Taxes with any Governmental Entity.

(k) *Change in Accounting Method.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has agreed to make, nor is it required to make, any adjustment under Section 481(a) of the Code or any comparable Tax Law by reason of a change in accounting method and the IRS has not initiated or proposed any such adjustment or change in accounting method, or has any application pending with any Governmental Entity requesting permission for any changes in accounting methods that relate to the business or operations of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries.

(l) *Post-Closing Tax Items.* Focus and its Subsidiaries will not be required to include any material item of income in or exclude any material item of deduction from taxable income for any taxable period (or portion thereof) ending after the Closing Date as a result of any (i) "closing agreement" as described in Section 7121 of the Code (or any comparable or provision of Tax Law) executed on or prior to the Closing Date, (ii) installment sale or open transaction disposition made on or prior to the Closing Date, (iii) prepaid amount received on or prior to the Closing Date, or (iv) election under Section 108(i) of the Code. Focus is not currently receiving any material Tax benefit, credit, or other favorable material tax treatment that will not be extended and available to the Surviving Corporation after the Closing Date.

(m) *Ownership Changes.* Without regard to this Agreement, neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has undergone an "ownership change" within the meaning of Section 382(g) of the Code.

(n) *Section 355.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has constituted either a "distributing corporation" or a "controlled corporation" (within the meaning of Section 355(a)(1)(A) of the Code) in a distribution of stock under Section 355 of the Code (i) within the two-year period ending prior to the date of this Agreement, or (ii) in a distribution which could otherwise constitute part of a "plan" or "series of transactions" (within the meaning of Section 355(e) of the Code) in conjunction with the Contemplated Transactions.

(o) *Reportable Transactions.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has been a party to or a promoter of a "reportable transaction" within the meaning of Section 6707A(c)(1) of the Code and Treasury Regulations Section 1.6011-4(b).

(p) *Listed Transactions.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has engaged in any "listed transaction" within the meaning of Treasury Regulations Section 1.6011-4(b)(2).

(q) *Real Estate Holding Company.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has been a United States real property holding corporation within the meaning of the Section 897(c)(2) of the Code during the applicable period specified in Section 897(c)(1)(A)(ii) of the Code.

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(r) *Inter-Company Transactions.* (i) There are no deferred intercompany transactions between Focus and any of its Subsidiaries or between its Subsidiaries and there is no excess loss account (within the meaning of Treasury Regulations Section 1.1502-19 with respect to the capital stock of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries) which will or may result in the recognition of income upon the consummation of the Contemplated Transactions, and (ii) there are no other transactions or facts existing with respect to Focus or its Subsidiaries which by reason of the consummation of the Contemplated Transactions will result in Focus or its Subsidiaries recognizing income.

(s) *Loss Carryforwards.* Section 3.06(s) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule sets forth a complete and correct list and description of any United States federal and state net operating and capital loss carryforwards for Focus and any of its Subsidiaries (including any limitations of such net operating or capital loss carryforwards under Sections 382, 383 or 384 of the Code and related the Treasury Regulations), if any, as of December 31, 2014, and the expiration dates thereof. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the audited consolidated statement of financial condition of Focus at December 31, 2014 included in the Financial Statements reflects a net deferred tax asset with a balance of \$1,696,000, and such entries are true, accurate and correct as of such date and have been prepared by Focus in accordance with GAAP.

(t) *Qualifying Reorganization.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has taken or agreed to take any action or is aware of any fact or circumstance that would prevent or impede, or could reasonably be expected to prevent or impede, the Merger from qualifying as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code.

Section 3.07 *Government Authorizations.* Focus and its Subsidiaries hold all material Government Authorizations required for the lawful conduct of their respective business as presently conducted or the ownership or use of any of their respective properties, rights, assets, and deposits under and pursuant to applicable Law (and have paid all fees and assessments due and payable in connection therewith). Focus and each of its Subsidiaries is in compliance in all material respects with the terms of all Government Authorizations. Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has received, any notice or other communication (whether oral or written) from any Governmental Entity regarding any failure to comply with any Governmental Authorization. No such Governmental Authorization is subject to a suspension or cancellation, and to the knowledge of Focus, no suspension or cancellation of any such Governmental Authorization is threatened, the suspension or cancellation of which would have a Focus Material Adverse Effect.

Section 3.08 *Compliance with Law.*

(a) *Compliance.* Focus and each of its Subsidiaries has conducted its business and is in compliance (after giving effect to any non-compliance and cure) in all material respects with each Law that is or was applicable to any of them or to the conduct or operation of their respective business as presently conducted, or the ownership or use of any of their respective properties, rights, assets and deposits, including (i) the Bank Secrecy Act, Title III of the U.S. Patriot Act or related state or federal anti-money-laundering laws, regulations and guidelines, (ii) consumer lending, deposit and savings and related operations laws and regulations, including the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, the Truth in Lending Act, applicable regulations promulgated by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and other investor and mortgage insurance company requirements relating to the originating, sale and servicing of mortgage and consumer loans, (iii) extensions of credit to and transactions with officers, directors and affiliates, and (iv) the Community Reinvestment Act (the "CRA"). Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has received any notice from any Governmental Entity or any other person regarding any failure to comply with any material alleged or threatened liability under such Law that has not heretofore been cured and for which there is any remaining liability. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Focus has not been advised of any material regulatory concerns regarding its compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act or related state or federal

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anti-money-laundering laws, regulations and guidelines, including those provisions of federal regulations requiring (i) the filing of reports, such as Currency Transaction Reports and Suspicious Activity Reports, (ii) the maintenance of records and (iii) the exercise of diligence in identifying customers. Focus has adopted such procedures and policies as are necessary or appropriate, in the reasonable judgment of Focus management, to comply with Title III of the U.S. Patriot Act. No matter described in Section 3.08(a) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule, individually or in the aggregate, had or would reasonably be expected to have a Focus Material Adverse Effect.

(b) *Community Reinvestment Act.* Focus had a rating of "satisfactory" or better as of its most recent CRA compliance examination and it has no knowledge of any facts that may result in not receiving a rating of "satisfactory" or better at its next CRA compliance examination or have any basis to believe that any Governmental Entity may seek to restrain, delay or prohibit the Contemplated Transactions as a result of any act or omission of Focus under the Community Reinvestment Act.

(c) *Fiduciary Accounts.* Focus and each of its Subsidiaries has properly administered in all material respects all accounts for which it acts as a fiduciary, including accounts for which it serves as a trustee, agent, custodian, personal representative, guardian, conservator or investment advisor, in accordance with the terms of the governing documents and applicable Law. Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries, or any director, officer or employee of Focus or of any of its Subsidiaries, has committed any material breach of trust or fiduciary duty with respect to any such fiduciary account, and the accountings for each such fiduciary account are correct and complete and accurately reflect the assets of such fiduciary account.

Section 3.09 *Regulatory Matters.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries or any of their respective properties is directly or indirectly a party or subject to any Order which restricts the conduct of its business, imposes any requirements or procedures, or in any material manner relates to its capital adequacy, its liquidity and funding policies and practices, its ability to pay dividends, its credit, risk management or compliance policies, its internal controls, its management or its operations or business. Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has received at any time since December 31, 2013, any notice or other communication from any Governmental Entity that it is considering issuing, initiating, ordering or requesting any such Order. To the knowledge of Focus, there are no formal or informal investigations relating to any regulatory matter pending before any Governmental Entity with respect to Focus or any of its Subsidiary, that such Governmental Entity is contemplating issuing or requesting (or is considering the appropriateness of issuing or requesting) any Order. Except for normal examinations conducted by a Governmental Entity in the ordinary course of the business of Focus and its Subsidiaries, there is no pending Legal Action before, or, to the knowledge of Focus, examination or investigation by, any Governmental Entity into the business or operations, policies, practices or disclosures of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries. There is no material unresolved violation, criticism or exception by any Governmental Entity with respect to any report or statement relating to any examination of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries. Focus meets or exceeds the criteria to be deemed "well-capitalized" (as that term is defined by 12 C.F.R. 325.103), and "well managed" (as that term is defined at 12 C.F.R. 225.2(s)). Focus has not been informed that its status as "well-capitalized," or "well managed" will change within the next 12 months. No matter described in Section 3.09 the Focus Disclosure Schedule, individually or in the aggregate, had or would reasonably be expected to have a Focus Material Adverse Effect.

Section 3.10 *Litigation.* There is no Legal Action pending, or to the knowledge of Focus, threatened against Focus or any of its Subsidiaries or any of their respective properties or assets (or for which Focus or any of its Subsidiaries is obligated to indemnify a third party) or, to the knowledge of Focus, against any executive officer or director of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries in their capacities as such. To the knowledge of Focus, there is no reasonable basis for and no event has occurred or circumstance exists that (with or without notice or lapse of time or both) would reasonably be expected to give rise to or serve as a basis for, constitute or result in, any material Legal Action against Focus or

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any of its Subsidiaries. No matter described in Section 3.10 of the Focus Disclosure Schedule, individually or in the aggregate, had or would reasonably be expected to have a Focus Material Adverse Effect.

Section 3.11 *Trust Administration*. Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries presently exercise trust powers, including, but not limited to, trust administration, and has not exercised such trust powers prior to the date of this Agreement. The term "trusts" includes (a) any and all common law or other trusts between an individual, corporation or other entities and Focus or any of its Subsidiaries, as trustee or co-trustee, including, without limitation, pension or other qualified or nonqualified employee benefit plans, compensation, testamentary, inter vivos, charitable trust indentures, (b) any and all decedents' estates where Focus or any of its Subsidiaries is serving or has served as a co-executor or sole executor, personal representative or administrator, administrator de bonis non, administrator de bonis non with will annexed, or in any similar fiduciary capacity, (c) any and all guardianships, conservatorships or similar positions where Focus or any of its Subsidiaries is serving or has served as a co-grantor or a sole grantor or a conservator or a co-conservator of the estate, or any similar fiduciary capacity, and (d) any and all agency and/or custodial accounts and/or similar arrangements, including plan administrator for employee benefit accounts, under which Focus or any of its Subsidiaries is serving or has served as an agent or custodian for the owner or other party establishing the account with or without investment authority.

Section 3.12 *Employee Matters*.

(a) *Schedule*. Section 3.12(a) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule contains a complete and correct list, as of the date of this Agreement, of each plan, program, policy, agreement, collective bargaining agreement or other arrangement providing for compensation, severance, supplemental executive retirement, deferred compensation, performance awards, stock or stock-based awards, fringe, retirement, retention, change of control, split dollar insurance, supplemental life insurance benefits, contribution plan, death, disability or medical benefits or other employee benefits or remuneration of any kind, in each case whether written or unwritten or otherwise, funded or unfunded, including each "employee benefit plan," within the meaning of Section 3(3) of ERISA, whether or not subject to ERISA, which is or has been sponsored, maintained, contributed to, or required to be contributed to, by Focus or any of its Subsidiaries for the benefit of any current or former employee, independent contractor, consultant or director of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries (each, a "*Focus Employee*"), or with respect to which Focus or any of its Subsidiaries has or may have any material liability (each a "*Focus Employee Plan*" and collectively, the "*Focus Employee Plans*"). Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has any commitment to create any additional Focus Employee Plan or to materially modify, change or renew any existing Focus Employee Plan (any modification or change that increases the cost of such plans would be deemed material), except as required to maintain the qualified status thereof.

(b) *Documents*. Focus has made available to HCC correct and complete copies (or, if a plan is not written, a written description) of all Focus Employee Plans and amendments thereto in each case that are in effect as of the date of this Agreement, and, to the extent applicable (i) all related trust agreements, funding arrangements and insurance contracts now in effect, (ii) the most recent determination letter received regarding the tax-qualified status of each Focus Employee Plan, (iii) the most recent financial statements for each Focus Employee Plan, (iv) any Form 5310 or Form 5330 filed with the IRS within the previous three (3) years, (v) the Form 5500 Annual Returns/Reports for the most recent plan year for each Focus Employee Plan, (vi) the current summary plan description for each Focus Employee Plan, and (vii) all actuarial valuation reports related to any Focus Employee Plans.

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(c) *Employee Plan Compliance.* Each Focus Employee Plan has been established, administered, and maintained in all material respects in accordance with its terms and in material compliance with applicable Law, including ERISA and the Code. All Focus Employee Plans that are intended to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code have received favorable determination letters from the IRS and, as of the date of this Agreement, no such determination letter has been revoked nor, to the knowledge of Focus, has any such revocation been threatened, and to the knowledge of Focus, as of the date of this Agreement, no circumstance exists that is likely to result in the loss of such qualified status under Section 401(a) of the Code. Focus and its Subsidiaries, where applicable, have timely made all material contributions and other material payments required by and due under the terms of each Focus Employee Plan and applicable Law, and all benefits accrued under any unfunded Focus Employee Plan have been paid, accrued or otherwise adequately reserved to the extent required by and in accordance with GAAP. Except to the extent limited by applicable Law, each Focus Employee Plan can be amended, terminated or otherwise discontinued after the Effective Time in accordance with its terms without material liability to HCC, the Surviving Corporation, Focus or any of its Subsidiaries (other than ordinary administration expenses and in respect of accrued benefits thereunder). There are no Legal Actions pending or, to the knowledge of Focus, threatened against Focus or any of its Subsidiaries with respect to any Focus Employee Plan (in each case, other than routine claims for benefits). To the knowledge of Focus, neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has engaged in a transaction that reasonably likely to subject Focus or any Subsidiary to a Tax or penalty imposed by either Section 4975 of the Code or Section 502(i) of ERISA. Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has incurred or reasonably expects to incur either directly or indirectly any material liability under Title I or Title IV of ERISA, or related provisions of the Code or any other applicable Law relating to employee benefit plans.

(d) *Certain Focus Employee Plans.* With respect to each Focus Employee Plan (i) no such plan is a "multi-employer plan" within the meaning of Section 3(37) of ERISA or a "multiple employer plan" within the meaning of Section 413(c) of the Code, and neither Focus nor any Focus ERISA Affiliate has at any time contributed to or had any liability or obligation in respect of any such multi-employer plan or multiple employer plan, (ii) no Legal Action has been initiated by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to terminate any such plan or to appoint a trustee for any such plan, (iii) no such plan is subject to the minimum funding standards of Section 302 of ERISA or Section 412 of the Code, and (iv) no "reportable event" as defined in Section 4043 of ERISA has occurred with respect to any such plan.

(e) *Post-Employment Obligations.* No Focus Employee Plan provides post-termination or retiree welfare benefits to any Focus Employee or other person (including health insurance, disability insurance or death benefits) ("*Retiree Welfare Benefits*") for any reason, except as may be required by COBRA or other applicable Law, and neither Focus nor any Focus ERISA Affiliate has any liability (or made any representations to any Focus Employee) to provide post-termination or Retiree Welfare Benefits to any Focus Employee or other person, except to the extent required by COBRA or other applicable Law.

(f) *Audits.* No Focus Employee Plan has within the three (3) years prior to the date of this Agreement, been the subject of an examination or audit by a Governmental Entity or is the subject of an application or filing under, or is a participant in, an amnesty, voluntary compliance, self-correction or similar program sponsored by any Governmental Entity.

(g) *Section 409A Compliance.* Each Focus Employee Plan that is subject to Section 409A of the Code has been operated in compliance in all material respects with such section and all applicable regulatory guidance (including, without limitation, proposed regulations, notices, rulings, and final regulations).

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(h) *Health Care Compliance.* Each of Focus and its Subsidiaries complies in all material respects with the applicable requirements of COBRA or any similar state statute with respect to each Focus Employee Plan that is a group health plan within the meaning of Section 5000(b)(1) of the Code or such state statute.

(i) *Effect of Transaction.* Except as set forth in Section 3.12(i) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule, neither the execution of this Agreement, nor the consummation of the Contemplated Transactions, will (either alone or upon the occurrence of any additional or subsequent events) (i) entitle any current or former director, employee, contractor or consultant of Focus to severance pay or any other payment, (ii) accelerate the time of payment, funding, or vesting, or increase the amount of compensation due to any such individual, (iii) limit or restrict the right of Focus to merge, amend or terminate any Focus Employee Plan, (iv) increase the amount payable or result in any other material obligation pursuant to any Focus Employee Plan, or (v) result in "excess parachute payments" within the meaning of Section 280G(b) of the Code.

(j) *Qualifying Reorganization.* Neither Focus nor any of its Subsidiaries has taken or agreed to take any action or is aware of any fact or circumstance that would prevent or impede, or could reasonably be expected to prevent or impede, the Merger from qualifying as a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Code.

Section 3.13 *Labor and Employment Matters.*

(a) *Employees.* Section 3.13(a) of the Focus Disclosure Schedule contains a complete and correct list, as of the date of this Agreement, of the name of each employee, job description, job location, title, current annual base salary, other compensation and wage and hour exemption status of Focus and its Subsidiaries and a summary of all Contracts or commitments by Focus or any of its Subsidiaries to increase the compensation or to modify the conditions or terms of employment. All persons who have been treated as independent contractors by Focus or any of its Subsidiaries for tax purposes have met the criteria to be so treated under applicable Law. No executive or group of employees has informed Focus or any of its Subsidiaries of his, her or their intent to terminate employment with Focus or its Subsidiaries.

(b) *Labor Organizations.* There is no collective bargaining or other labor union contract applicable to any person employed by Focus or any of its Subsidiaries to which Focus or any of its Subsidiaries is a party (each a "*Focus Collective Bargaining Agreement*") and, to the knowledge of Focus, no labor union, or other collective bargaining representative represents any person employed by Focus or any of its Subsidiaries in connection with such employment. No Focus Collective Bargaining Agreement is being negotiated by Focus or any of its Subsidiaries. There is no pending, or to the knowledge of Focus, threatened strike, work stoppage, or other material labor dispute against Focus or any of its Subsidiaries and no such disputes have occurred within the past three (3) years. To the knowledge of Focus, no labor union or labor organization is organizing or seeking to organize any employees of Focus or any of its Subsidiaries and no such organizing activities have occurred within the past three (3) years.

(c) *Compliance.* Focus and its Subsidiaries have complied and are in compliance in all material respects with applicable Law with respect to employment, termination of employment, and terms, practices, conditions and classification of employment (including applicable Law regarding family and medical leave, disability, labor relations, workers compensation, wage and hour requirements, immigration, discrimination, employee health and safety, employee scheduling, occupational safety and health and the WARN Act), and have not engaged in any unfair labor practices or similar prohibited practices that would reasonably be expected to have a Focus Material Adverse Effect. There are no Legal Actions pending or, to the knowledge of Focus threatened against Focus or any of its Subsidiaries brought by or on behalf of any applicant for employment, any current or former employee, any person alleging to be a current or former employee