



News Release

FROM: United Bankshares, Inc.
514 Market Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Steven E. Wilson
Executive Vice President and CFO
(304) 424-8704

Date: May 16, 2005

United Bankshares, Inc., a \$6.4 billion regional banking company headquartered in Charleston, WV and Washington, DC held its Annual Meeting of Shareholders today at the University of Charleston. United started in Parkersburg 166 years ago as a branch of the Northwestern Bank of Virginia.

The following directors were elected by the Shareholders to serve on the Board of Directors until the 2006 Annual Meeting: Richard M. Adams, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer; Robert G. Astorg, Managing Director, American Express Tax and Business Services and Member, Astorg, Weyer & Daugherty; Thomas J. Blair, III, Consulting Engineer; Harry L. Buch, Attorney-at-Law, Partner, Bailey, Riley, Buch & Harman; W. Gaston Caperton, III, President, The College Board, New York, NY, President, Caperton Group, and Former Governor, State of West Virginia; Lawrence K. Doll, President, The Lawrence Doll Company and Chairman, United Bank-VA; H. Smoot Fahlgren, Chairman of the Board, Fahlgren, Inc.; Theodore J. Georgelas, Commercial Real Estate Developer and Managing Director – Georgelas Group, LLC; F. T. Graff, Jr., Attorney-at-Law, Partner, Bowles, Rice, McDavid, Graff & Love; Russell L. Isaacs, Owner, Russell L. Isaacs and Company; John M. McMahon, Chairman, Miller & Long Co., Inc.; J. Paul McNamara, Vice Chairman, United Bank; G. Ogden Nutting, President, The Ogden Newspapers, Inc., William C. Pitt, III, Hotel and Resort Developer; I. N. Smith, Jr., former President, UBSI; Mary K. Weddle, Executive Vice President, Long & Foster Real Estate; and P. Clinton Winter, Jr., President, Bray and Oakley Insurance Agency.

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Richard M. Adams, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, stated that 2004 celebrated the 20th anniversary of the formation of United Bankshares. During that time, United had grown from \$300 million to \$6.4 billion, while delivering excellent results for its shareholders and increasing franchise value. Adams announced that 2004 was also the most successful year in the Company's history with before tax earnings of \$137 million. He stated that the dividend to shareholders had increased for the 31st consecutive year and the stock price had increased 22%. In addition, United successfully integrated its 26th acquisition, Sequoia Bancshares in Bethesda, Maryland which added over a half billion dollars in assets.

Adams reported that United was once again recognized as the only West Virginia corporation listed in the prestigious Forbes 500, as well as being listed in the Russell 2000 and the S&P 600. He stated United continues to give back to the communities it serves. In 2004, United contributed nearly one million dollars to organizations needing its help, and paid over \$46 million in federal, state and local taxes.

Adams advised that 2005 was off to a great start reporting record earnings for the first quarter and the dividend to shareholders is expected to increase for the 32nd consecutive year. United Bankshares, with \$6.4 billion in assets, has 90 full-service offices in West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Ohio, and Washington, D.C.

United Bankshares' stock is traded on the NASDAQ (National Association of Securities Dealers Quotation System) National Market System under the quotation symbol "UBSI".