



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rebecca Morley

(215) 568-2525

rmorley@devinepowers.com

**FIRSTTRUST NAMES JOSEPH RAGO AS SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF
REAL ESTATE FINANCE GROUP**

CONSHOHOCKEN, PA (October 7, 2011) - Firsttrust Bank announced today that Joseph L. Rago has joined as Senior Vice President/Relationship Manager of the bank's Real Estate Finance Group.

Mr. Rago brings more than 18 years of real estate experience to Firsttrust, having started his career working with a boutique real estate firm in South Jersey that specialized in working with financial institutions to manage, lease and ultimately sell troubled assets. In his time at the firm, Mr. Rago's portfolio consisted of multifamily, office, retail and single family properties.

Later Mr. Rago joined Commerce Bank's Pennsylvania Commercial Real Estate Team, where he was responsible for an extensive real estate loan portfolio and developing new commercial real estate and construction loan relationships with builders, developers, investors and entrepreneurs.

In 2008, he joined TriState Capital Bank as Senior Vice President/Commercial Real Estate and Construction Financing where he was responsible for providing construction and permanent financing to commercial real estate developers and investors throughout the Eastern Pennsylvania region.

"Joe is highly experienced in developing new commercial real estate and construction loan relationships, and his skills will be a tremendous asset to our team," said Timothy J. Abell, President of Firsttrust Bank..

Mr. Rago is a native of Philadelphia and a graduate of St. Joseph's University.

About Firsttrust Bank

Founded in 1934 and currently in its third generation of family ownership, Firsttrust is a privately-held bank with assets of \$2.4 billion. Safe and Sound for more than 75 years, Firsttrust is a Small Business Administration (SBA) preferred lender, and provides both retail and commercial services through its 24 banking offices located in Bucks, Burlington, Chester, Lehigh, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties. Continuing to meet the needs of its customers, Firsttrust offers a wide variety of deposit products, consumer and business loan options, residential and commercial real estate mortgages and cash-management products. For more information, visit firsttrust.com or call 800-220-BANK. Member FDIC.