

HEROES OF THE U.S. ECONOMY Inc. magazine's Hire Power Awards recognizes America's leading job creators

First Security Bank honored for job creation over the past 18 months

New York, NY (October 25, 2013) – Owensboro, KY-based **First Security Bank** featured in the 2nd annual Inc. Hire Power Awards, recognizing the private businesses that have generated the most jobs in the past 18 months.

First Security Bank generated 27 full-time jobs from January 1st, 2012 to June 30th 2013, placing it among the **top 10 private business job creators within the state of KY.**

“We are extremely pleased to be recognized for our growth by one of the top publications in the country. We have been fortunate to have experienced such rapid growth in these difficult economic times,” stated M. Lynn Cooper, President and CEO of First Security Bank.

“This is the third independent firm in the last few years to recognize First Security Bank for its growth, profitability and capital strength. That recognition included the highest rating awarded by Bauer Financial Inc. and Veribanc in addition to the latest recognition by Inc. Magazine,” further commented M. Lynn Cooper.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that only 222,000 full-time jobs were added in 2012—compare those numbers to the honorees of the *Inc.* magazine's **HIRE POWER AWARDS**, which created 69,182 jobs between January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. The numbers become even more amazing when you look closer—the top job creator, Universal Services of America added 14,240 employees to a workforce of 35,000; second-place Vivint added 1,943 to 6,496 and third-place Heartland Dental Care added 1,759 to 4,965. These small to mid-sized companies and others just like **First Security Bank** could hold the key to restoring America's economic vitality.

“For the second year in a row, we are pleased to recognize the employers who are putting Americans back to work for a second time,” says Eric Schurenberg, Editor-in-Chief of **Inc.** “The **HIRE POWER AWARDS** are the only awards that single out job creators. We think it’s fitting to pay tribute to company founders not just for their business prowess but also for their immense contribution to the welfare of U.S. workers and the vitality of the U.S. economy.”

First Security Bank is among the 437 private growth companies that are **HIRE POWER AWARDS** honorees, leading the way in creating more American jobs. While the honorees are found across the country in 25 categories, industries with the most Hire Power companies include health, financial services, software, human resources and IT services. States with the most honorees include California, Florida, Texas, Ohio, New York, Massachusetts, Illinois and Utah.

Eligibility

The **Inc.** Hire Power Award is for US-based, private companies (both for profit and non-profit). Companies must have been founded in 2011 or earlier and have employed at least 10 full-time US-based employees as of December 31, 2012. Companies must complete the Employee Verification Report. Top award finalists may also be asked to provide their 2012 EEO Employer Information Report.

Award categories include most jobs created in the US, most jobs created by state, most jobs created by industry and highest employee growth percentage,). Companies featured in **Inc.**’s November issue represent the top tier winners for the Higher Power Award and a complete list of the winners can be found on www.Inc.com.

About *Inc.*

Founded in 1979 and acquired in 2005 by **Mansueto Ventures, Inc.**, is the only major brand dedicated exclusively to owners and managers of growing private companies, with the aim to deliver real solutions for today’s innovative company builders. Total monthly audience reach for the brand has grown significantly from 2,000,000 in 2010 to over 6,000,000 today. For more information, visit www.inc.com.