



# *South Carolina Department of Agriculture*

**Hugh E. Weathers, Commissioner**

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## **First Citizens Bank Makes Donation to Plant it Forward SC**

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – First Citizens Bank donated \$5,000 to *Plant it Forward South Carolina*, an initiative by South Carolina Advocates for Agriculture, on May 9, 2016.

Plant it Forward SC will provide relief funds specifically for covering a portion of seed costs for 2016, as well as hay losses livestock farmers suffered because of the flood. Total agricultural losses from October's flooding are approaching \$600 million.

"First Citizens Bank is honored to support the Plant It Forward Relief Fund," said Chris Bradham, manager of Agricultural Business for First Citizens Bank. "Agriculture is a vital part of the communities we serve throughout South Carolina, and many of these communities would not survive without farmers. At First Citizens, we are committed to the success of our farm clients and the rural communities that rely on them."

Founded in 1898 and headquartered in Raleigh, N.C., First Citizens Bank serves customers at more than 500 branches in 19 states and the District of Columbia. First Citizens Bank is a major subsidiary of First Citizens BancShares Inc. (Nasdaq: FCNCA), which has more than \$32 billion in assets. First Citizens Bank. Forever First®.

"On behalf of South Carolina farmers, I cannot thank First Citizens Bank enough for their generous donation to Plant it Forward SC. First Citizens has a longstanding tradition of service to South Carolinians and this further illustrates their commitment to serving the people of our state, particularly the farmers still trying to recover from the flood," said Agriculture Commissioner Hugh Weathers.

For more information about First Citizens Bank, call toll free 1.888.FC DIRECT (1.888.323.4732) or visit [firstcitizens.com](http://firstcitizens.com). For more information on Plant it Forward SC, visit [www.plantitforwardsc.org](http://www.plantitforwardsc.org) or contact Stefanie Kitchen at 803-734-2210.

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