

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 8, 2016

**Contact:** Brent Wilder ([brent.wilder@huntington.com](mailto:brent.wilder@huntington.com)), 614-480-5875

**HUNTINGTON BANK MAINTAINS PERFECT RATING AMONG 2017 HRC  
BEST PLACES TO WORK FOR LGBT EQUALITY**

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** – Huntington Bancshares Inc. today announced it is rated among the Best Places to Work for LGBT Equality for the fourth consecutive year, based on a 100 percent score on the 2017 Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation Corporate Equality Index (CEI). The annual index is the leading national measurement of corporate support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer workers.

“LGBTQ equality within our workforce, customer base and communities is an important part of Huntington’s overall commitment to diversity and inclusion as one of our core values,” said Steve Steinour, Huntington chairman, president and CEO. “We at Huntington strive to be an ally to LGBTQ community, and appreciate the validation by the Human Rights Campaign of our efforts to foster an inclusive workplace.”

The 2017 CEI rated 1,043 U.S.-based businesses evaluating LGBTQ-related policies and practices including non-discrimination policies, employment benefits, demonstrated organizational competency and accountability around LGBTQ diversity and inclusion, public commitment to LGBTQ equality, and responsible corporate citizenship.

A 2017 CEI 100 percent score is the first to require that businesses must have sexual orientation and gender identity nondiscrimination protections explicitly included in all operations, both domestic and global; require U.S. contractors to abide by companies’ existing inclusive nondiscrimination policy; and implement internal requirements prohibiting U.S. company philanthropic giving to nonreligious organizations that have a written policy of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

“The Corporate Equality Index provides a useful benchmark in our efforts to continuously improve our inclusive environment,” Steinour said. “We are pleased to see a record number of companies committed to the LGBTQ community. Our work together will strengthen our communities and reflect a workplace environment that is welcome to all.”

**About Huntington**

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated (NASDAQ:HBAN) is a regional bank holding company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, with \$101 billion of assets and a network of 1,103 branches and 1,979 ATMs across eight Midwestern states. Founded in 1866, The Huntington National Bank and its affiliates provide consumer, small business, commercial, treasury management, wealth management, brokerage, trust, and insurance services. Huntington also provides auto dealer, equipment finance, national settlement and capital market services that extend beyond its core states. Visit [huntington.com](http://huntington.com) for more information.

###