



June 15, 2012

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of GTI's application for an Illinois Gigabit Communities Challenge Grant.

GTI has been a valued customer of First Bank since 1999. First Bank has made loans to GTI to finance capital improvement to upgrade and expand the company's infrastructure for telephone, internet and cable TV services. GTI has always managed its loans in an exemplary matter.

GTI is a family owned business with deep roots in Jersey County. The company has been providing high quality service to the residents and businesses in Jersey County since 1910. This grant will provide the capital necessary for GTI to make additional investment in infrastructure to meet the growing demand for high speed broadband and global connectivity required by schools, hospitals, public safety departments and a multitude of other businesses. The GCC grant presents an ideal opportunity for the State of Illinois to make an investment in GTI and Jersey County to help create and retain jobs.

I would appreciate your strong consideration of GTI as a recipient for the Gigabit Communities Challenge Grant.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas Distler".

Douglas Distler

Southern Illinois Regional President