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**Contact:** Judy Walz, SVP Marketing & Planning  
[walzj@vystarcu.org](mailto:walzj@vystarcu.org) or (904) 908-2699

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **VyStar Reports Record Performance in 2016**

**Jacksonville, Florida**—VyStar Credit Union held its 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting on March 29, 2017 and reported a record year in their 2016 Annual Report to members. Terry R. West, President/CEO said, “Thanks to our loyal members and dedicated volunteers and staff, VyStar experienced another strong year; one of the best in our history.”

Chairman P.E. (Ted) Hewitt recognized Mr. West for his 29 years of service to VyStar Credit Union, most of which were spent serving as President/CEO. VyStar’s Board of Directors expressed their gratitude for Mr. West’s leadership and great compassion for the credit union and its members. Last month, West announced his plan to retire later this year.

After the meeting, VyStar announced the following Board election results. Elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Board were George R. Berry, Chairman; P. Kem Siddons, Vice Chairman; Eric J. Hatfield, Treasurer; and William C. Vivian, Secretary. The following Board members were reelected to serve three-year terms on VyStar’s Board of Directors: Larry D. Myers, Brian J. Roche and P. Kem Siddons. Other VyStar Board of Directors include: P.E. (Ted) Hewitt, Ralph R. Story and Dr. Susan Ruffin.

During 2016, VyStar grew to nearly \$6.6 billion in assets and over 545,000 members, ranking them the 17<sup>th</sup> largest credit union in the country among almost 6,000 credit unions. VyStar successfully expanded into Volusia County with branches in Ormond Beach and Port Orange. These, in addition to the new branches in St. Augustine Beach and Springfield, brought the number of VyStar branches to a total of 41 at the end of the year. They continued to expand their ATM network as well, reaching 199 ATMs in 14 counties across Northeast to Central Florida. VyStar’s high school branch program also continued to grow with branch openings in Clay County’s Middleburg High School and Duval County’s First Coast High school for a total of 11 high school branches.

VyStar continued its strong community support through fundraising and sponsorships with over \$1 million for local nonprofits and 260 local events in 2016. VyStar was awarded the Partners of Philanthropy Award for the second year in a row by the Jacksonville Business Journal as one of Jacksonville’s top philanthropic companies for their support of local nonprofits and the Northeast Florida communities.

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*VyStar Credit Union is the largest credit union headquartered in Northeast Florida. VyStar serves over 548,000 members with assets totaling more than \$6.6 billion. VyStar membership is open to everyone who lives or works in Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Brevard, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lake, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, St. Johns, Seminole, Sumter, Suwannee, Union and Volusia Counties.*

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