

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 4, 2018

**CAPE GIRARDEAU'S PROSPECT LEAGUE TEAM UNVEILS NAME AND LOGO
New Team Officially Coined "Cape Catfish"**

Cape Girardeau, Mo. – Following a weeklong public voting period, Prospect League officials announced the name of Cape Girardeau's newest baseball team – Cape Catfish. The name and logo were revealed at a Capaha Park press conference held May 4, 2018. Catfish proved to be the most popular choice, beating Cape Bluebirds and Cape Steamboats.

"Our goal from the beginning was to find a name with a significant connection to the area," said Hogan, the team's general manager. "Anyone who's tried to reel in a catfish knows they put up a fight. That's exactly what this team will bring to each game – energy, excitement and aggression."

From April 24 to May 1, more than 1,700 area residents voted. Catfish won by a thin margin, capturing 37 percent of the results. Bluebirds followed with 32 percent, and Steamboats took 31 percent of the vote.

Catfish are prevalent throughout Southeast Missouri, with several species inhabiting local lakes, streams and rivers. The channel catfish serves as the state fish of Missouri and is a popular catch among fishermen. Catfish are fierce fighters, positioning them as fitting representatives of the new team's future tenacity.

"So many people throughout the area have taken an interest in this team, which shows that Cape Girardeau is ready for this dynamic organization," said Hogan. "There were strong opinions for each choice, igniting controversy and illustrating how the team will have a lot of passionate fans come next spring."

The Cape Catfish will throw their first pitch during spring 2019, following staff hiring in the coming months. Before the season begins, renovations to the Capaha Park baseball field are planned. Improvements will include new seating, fencing, a new concession area and a picnic zone. The Southeast Missouri State University Redhawks and Cape Girardeau Capahas baseball teams will also enjoy these improvements.

###

ABOUT THE PROSPECT LEAGUE AND ITS EXPANSION TEAM

The Prospect League is a collegiate summer baseball league in the Midwest, with 12 teams in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Players are current National

Collegiate Athletic Association players selected by Prospect League coaches as players with potential to play professional baseball. To date, more than 175 Prospect League players have gone on to careers in the MLB.

The ownership and management of the new team includes Anand “Andy” Patel, Principal of Apple IG and local businessman; James Limbaugh, Executive Vice President of Montgomery Bank; and Mark Hogan, retired Southeast Missouri State University baseball coach. Hogan will serve as general manager of the team.

CAPE CATFISH LOGO

