

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE
SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of American National Bankshares Inc. (the "Company") for the period ended March 31, 2009 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Charles H. Majors, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Charles H. Majors

Charles H. Majors
President and Chief Executive Officer

May 8, 2009