



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Midwest BankCentre Receives National and Local Awards for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Work**

**ST. LOUIS (October 25, 2022)** --- **Midwest BankCentre**, the St. Louis region's second largest locally owned bank, is celebrating national and local recognition of its work in the area of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

For the second year in a row, **Energage**, a national technology company based in Exton, Penn., has listed Midwest BankCentre among **St. Louis' Top Workplaces** for mid-sized employers (100-499 employees). Based on employee responses, there are nearly 5,000 organizations recognized over the past year as Top Workplaces and of those 101 organizations were recognized as DE&I top Workplaces. Midwest BankCentre was one of only two banks in their size category honored nationally and one of six banks honored overall for their DE&I practices. Energage powers the national **Top Workplaces** employer recognition program, which identifies and recognizes people-first businesses regionally and across the country in partnership with 58 of the nation's most reputable media. Research is based on employee feedback to anonymous, science-based employee engagement surveys conducted by Energage.

The **St. Louis Business Journal** awarded Midwest BankCentre its **Diverse Business Leader award** in the category of **For-Profit Champion in Diversity and Inclusion**. The annual award honors St. Louis, Missouri Metro Area individuals, companies, and civic organizations committed to employing a diverse workforce and that offer programs, initiatives, resources, and/or engage in community involvement that promotes diversity in the workplace. Midwest BankCentre credits its selection for this award to a broad range of factors, including its diverse staff, corporate culture, diversity of its board of directors, and being active in the St. Louis community where its 17 bank branches are located.

Over the past decade, Midwest BankCentre has been on a journey to become more diverse and inclusive, striving to create economic opportunity for more people. "Diversity and inclusion is more than a workplace initiative. It's a culture that we continuously strive to grow for our employees and our clients through employment practices and community involvement," said **Orvin T. Kimbrough**, chairman and CEO at Midwest BankCentre. "Diversity and inclusion efforts at Midwest BankCentre are intentional and proactive, and we are committed to ensuring that our staff and board of directors reflect the communities we serve."

Midwest BankCentre's staff reflects the communities it serves. In 2021, approximately 39% of new hires were minorities. Midwest BankCentre has one of the most diverse legal board of directors in the Banking Industry, with women, Black, Hispanic, Bosnian, and Asian members comprising 50% of the 18-member board. Its executive team is 62% diverse, including three females and two Blacks holding key leadership positions, including the bank chairman and CEO.

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***About Midwest BankCentre***

Midwest BankCentre's current assets exceed \$2.3 billion and deposits total more than \$1.9 billion. A mainstay of the greater St. Louis community banking scene since 1906, the Bank employs a staff of about 280 working at 17 bank locations in the City of St. Louis, St. Louis, Jefferson and St. Charles counties in Missouri and St. Clair County in Illinois. It empowers people, enables business, and energizes neighborhoods through the strength of its financial services, including personalized consumer and business banking, business cash management, mortgage lending, home equity loans, financial planning and investments, insurance, and digital banking.

Midwest BankCentre is a local leader in the St. Louis Regional Financial Empowerment Coalition (formerly the St. Louis Regional Unbanked Task Force) and its Bank-On Save-Up St. Louis initiative. Since 2001, Midwest BankCentre has consecutively achieved the Bauer Financial 5-Star Superior financial rating each quarter. It has been recognized for its success in bringing mainstream financial services to unbanked and underbanked citizens in the region and other diversity and inclusion contributions with the 2019 Community Commitment Award from the American Bankers Association Foundation and the 2018 National Community Bank Service Award from the Independent Community Bankers of America.