



NEWS RELEASE

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Wes Burns Promoted to Executive Vice President of Community and Economic Development at Midwest BankCentre

ST. LOUIS (March 23, 2022) – **Wes Burns** has been promoted to executive vice president of community and economic development (CED), reporting to Chairman and CEO **Orvin T. Kimbrough**.

Burns has successfully led the CED team as senior vice president for the past year. As an executive team member, he will continue driving the team’s strategic vision to generate measurable impact in communities served by the bank.



“Wes has been instrumental in leading and implementing our common goal of shared prosperity, which focuses on access to opportunity and capital for traditionally underserved groups,” Kimbrough said. “Wes focuses on fulfilling the capital needs of nonprofits and faith-based institutions, community development projects and small businesses in historically disinvested communities while also reinforcing our team’s strengths in tax credits.”

Midwest BankCentre has committed \$200 million for CED loans over a five-year period to help revitalize the St. Louis region. Midwest BankCentre has grown its CED team with key members concentrating on Black, Bosnian and LatinX

communities as well as on Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) financing for development of workforce housing.

“We believe we can grow the St. Louis economy by providing financial solutions that address chronic challenges by placing capital from our depositors in high-impact investments,” Burns said. “The ripple effect of access to reasonably priced capital on our community will be transformative. Every loan we make to start or scale a business generates jobs and tax revenue that funds community schools and public services. It is easy to imagine the ripple effect we can have on strengthening neighborhoods, energizing local communities and enhancing the St. Louis region.”

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About Midwest BankCentre

Midwest BankCentre’s current assets exceed \$2.3 billion and deposits total more than \$1.8 billion. A mainstay of the greater St. Louis community banking scene since 1906, the bank employs a staff of about 280 working at 18 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 bank 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®.