



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BankRI Hires Sheila Hagen to Lead Highland Avenue Branch in East Providence**

*Longtime manager and financial professional oversees branch's business development and operations*

**PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)** today announced the hiring of longtime banking professional Sheila Hagen as the new Branch Manager, Assistant Vice President of its Highland Avenue branch in East Providence.

Hagen brings with her to BankRI more than three decades of experience in a wide range of financial leadership positions with BankNewport.

In her role as Branch Manager, Assistant Vice President of BankRI's Highland Avenue location, Hagen is responsible for maintaining the branch's day-to-day operations with a heavy focus on business development and identifying long-term growth opportunities for the customers and markets she serves. She also works to enhance customer relationships throughout East Providence and the surrounding communities, which represents BankRI's expanded footprint in the East Bay, by recommending the appropriate financial products to meet client needs.

"As we continue to enhance and grow our presence in the East Bay and surrounding area, including nearby Massachusetts, Sheila's years of experience and knowledge of the local market will greatly benefit all of our current and prospective customers," said Steven M. Parente, Senior Vice President and Director of Retail Banking for BankRI. "Not only does Sheila have an impeccable reputation within the banking sector, she brings to the table the high level of customer service Rhode Islanders have come to expect from BankRI."

A resident of Cranston and mother of two daughters, Sheila earned her Associate's Degree in Business from the Community College of Rhode Island. She takes pride in being active in the community, serving as Treasurer on the Board of Directors of the Rhode Island Ovarian Cancer Alliance, as a Board member of the James L. Maher Center, and as a Board member of the Long Wharf and Public Schools Trustees. She is also Past President of the Portsmouth Business Association.

**About Bank Rhode Island**

Bank Rhode Island, a wholly owned subsidiary of Brookline Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ:BRKL), is a full-service, FDIC-insured financial institution headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island. The bank operates 20 branches and more than 55 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties. For more information, visit [www.bankri.com](http://www.bankri.com). You can also find BankRI on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/BankRhodeIsland](https://www.facebook.com/BankRhodeIsland).

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