



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BankRI Hires Karen Seippel to Lead Centerville Branch in Warwick; Sandra Vermette Joins Team as East Side Branch Manager**

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** – With a continued focus on enhancing the delivery of its branch services and commitment to relationship banking, **Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)** recently welcomed two new branch managers to their team of financial professionals.

Karen Seippel has been hired as the branch manager of the Bank’s Centerville Road location in Warwick, while Sandra Vermette has joined BankRI to lead its East Side branch in Providence.

A veteran of the banking industry, Seippel comes to BankRI from Citizens Bank, where she spent eighteen years in roles that included manager and assistant manager of the Hoxie and Wildes Corner branches in Warwick. Vermette is also a former longtime Citizens Bank employee, most recently having managed its Narragansett branch.

As branch managers with BankRI, Seippel and Vermette are responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of their respective locations while developing new business and individual banking customers. Each also focuses heavily on identifying long-term growth opportunities for customers across their markets through recommending personalized financial products that meet client needs. Seippel and Vermette are also responsible for the hiring and training of their teams of financial professionals.

“At BankRI, we place a premium on the personal interactions that our customers are looking for and that can best be found working one-on-one with your local bank,” said Steven M. Parente, Senior Vice President and Director of Retail Banking for BankRI. “Throughout their careers, Karen and Sandra have not only demonstrated exceptional financial expertise, they embrace the communities they work in and the importance of relationship banking, which will make them both a tremendous asset to our customers.”

Karen Seippel is a resident of Warwick and studied business at the University of Rhode Island. In her spare time, she is active in the community, volunteering with the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, Rhode Island Academic Decathlon, and Friends Way.

Also a resident of Warwick, Sandra Vermette studied business and real estate at the Community College of Rhode Island. She donates her time in support local election campaigns and for Narragansett events such as the Blessing of the Fleet and Concert on the Beach.

### **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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