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BankRI Promotes Longtime Financial Professionals to Executive Vice President Roles

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Recognizing their contributions to the company and deep commitment to the customers and communities it serves, Bank Rhode Island (BankRI) has promoted five veteran staff members to executive vice president positions.

Promoted were, Stephen Russell, EVP, Director of Credit and Portfolio Administration; Keb Brackenbury, EVP, Division Head, Commercial Real Estate; Tom Fitzgerald, EVP, Commercial Team Leader, Franchise Banking; Tim Coggins, EVP, Division Head, Commercial Banking; and Manny Barrows, EVP, Business Banking Team Leader. Previously, all held senior vice president titles.

“The promotion to executive vice president is a career milestone and reflects each’s dedication to their profession and their contribution to the success of Bank Rhode Island,” said Will Tsonos, President and CEO of BankRI. “They are leaders at the Bank, and I congratulate them all on this important achievement.”

Previously SVP, Relationship Manager within BankRI’s Commercial Lending Group, **Stephen Russell** has been with the company for nearly 20 years among the more than three decades of experience he has in banking and finance. In his new role as EVP, Director of Credit and Portfolio Administration, he has increased responsibility in the commercial credit underwriting and approval process, as well as with the overall administration of the commercial portfolio. In the community, Stephen serves on the board and is chair of the finance committee of Community Preparatory School in Providence. Previously, he was a board member with the Central Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce. Stephen holds an MBA from the University of Rhode Island and is a graduate of Bentley University. He and his wife live in South Kingstown.

With more than 25 years of banking experience, focusing on commercial real estate, **Keb Brackenbury** has cultivated financial solutions for developers, investors, and businesses. Keb’s responsibilities encompass managing a team in BankRI’s Commercial Real Estate Division, including lenders, portfolio managers, credit analysts, and lending assistants. Keb has served on the boards of LISC Rhode Island, The Providence Foundation, and the Ocean State Soccer School. He is a longtime volunteer and coach with Exeter-West Greenwich youth sports.

As the Commercial Team Leader of BankRI’s Franchise Banking Division, **Tom Fitzgerald** is responsible for the origination of new commercial relationships and arranging financing solutions for franchisees throughout the Bank’s target market. Tom manages a franchise banking team and has more than 20 years of experience in financial services. He holds an MBA from Providence College, is a graduate of Rhode Island College and The New England College of Finance and completed the advanced executive leadership development program at Babson College. Tom, who lives in Coventry with his wife and children, serves on the Rhode Island College Foundation Board and previously was a member of the college’s Executive Advisory Council for the School of Business.

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Tim Coggins joined BankRI in 2010 and has more than two decades of commercial banking experience. He brings a unique perspective to leading the Bank's lending team, having run a successful business for ten years. He is a tireless relationship builder committed to helping Rhode Island businesses grow and prosper, with expertise identifying financial solutions across a multitude of industries. Personally, Tim is a longtime board member of the Business Development Company of Rhode Island, which provides support to local small businesses. He also has served on the Jewelers Board of Trade and as a Trustee and Treasurer of The Lincoln School. Tim lives in Cranston with his family and is a graduate of Bryant University.

Manny Barrows is a lifelong Rhode Islander who has spent his entire 36-year career in the banking industry. He joined BankRI in 2000 and manages its Business Banking Team, leaning on his vast business lending experience and professional network to serve commercial banking customers throughout Rhode Island and the surrounding region. Manny focuses his expertise on health care, education, and not-for-profit banking. Away from work, he prides himself on working with organizations whose missions center on education, financial literacy, and overall individual health. Manny serves on the Board of Directors for Lifespan, is an appointed member of the East Providence Waterfront Commission and is an active member of the Rhode Island Commodores. He recently completed his service on the board of Sophia Academy and with the Providence Police Advisory Council.

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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 21 branches and more than 30 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties. For more information, visit www.bankri.com.