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Michael J. Cerio | Cerio Communications
Michael@CerioCommunications.com

BankRI Hires John Bunch as Senior Vice President, Franchise Banking

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Bank Rhode Island (BankRI) is growing its Franchise Banking Division. The bank today announced it has hired John Bunch as Senior Vice President, Franchise Banking. The experienced commercial lender specializes in financing for the quick service restaurant market and works out of BankRI’s corporate office in downtown Providence.

John comes to BankRI having spent more than two decades as a lender in the franchise finance space. In his role, he is responsible for generating new commercial business and arranging customized financial solutions for quick service franchisees throughout the bank’s target market. He reports to Tom Fitzgerald, EVP, BankRI’s Franchise Banking Commercial Team Leader.

“We have seen notable local growth in the franchising space, and adding a senior lender of John’s ability and expertise is a tremendous boost for our clients and for BankRI as a team,” said Will Tsonos, President and CEO, BankRI. “Most importantly, John is a trusted relationship builder who is committed to taking care of his clients’ varied banking needs so they can focus on running their business.”

A resident of Cranston with his wife and daughter, John holds a BA in International Relations from Colgate University. Previous to BankRI, he worked for Midcap Financial/Apollo Global Management, Inc. in senior level franchise finance positions. Away from work, John enjoys spending time outdoors with his three dogs.

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