

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**3 Indiana Bankers
Receive Top Honor**



INDIANAPOLIS (Aug. 22, 2024) – The Indiana Bankers Association recognized three members of the state’s banking community with Leaders in Banking Excellence awards, the Association’s highest honor. The awards were presented at a ceremony on Friday, Aug. 2, at the IBA’s headquarters in Indianapolis.

Class of 2024 Honorees

Michael L. Kubacki, Lake City Bank, Warsaw

Annette M. Russell, Security Federal Savings Bank, Logansport

Stephen E. Zahn, First Federal Savings Bank, Huntington



Honorees are chosen for their positive impact not only on Indiana’s banking industry but on the communities they serve. They are nominated by IBA-member organizations and approved by the IBA Board of Directors. Details about each honoree can be found at the end of this release.

“Each of this year’s honorees has contributed immensely to the benefit not only of Indiana’s banking community but their local communities as well,” said Amber R. Van Til, president and CEO of the Indiana Bankers Association. “It is our honor to recognize their achievements and contributions by adding them to the IBA’s Wall of Excellence.”

Speakers at the ceremony included Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston; Indiana Senate Republican Caucus Chair Travis Holdman; Director Thomas C. Fite, Indiana Department of Financial Institutions; IBA Chairman Ben Bochnowski, CEO of Peoples Bank, Munster; and Amber R. Van Til, IBA president and CEO. Each honoree was invited to make comments and then received an ebony keepsake plaque. A permanent Wall of Excellence at the Association’s offices displays a plaque commemorating all 43 Leaders in Banking Excellence honorees inducted since the award’s inception in 2018.

For more information about IBA Leaders in Banking Excellence, including past honorees, visit indiana.bank/Leaders-Banking-Excellence.



(from left) Stephen E. Zahn, chairman of First Federal Savings Bank, Huntington; Annette M. Russell, president and CEO of Security Federal Savings Bank, Logansport; and Michael L. Kubacki, chairman of Lake City Bank, Warsaw; were honored by the Indiana Bankers Association as Leaders in Banking Excellence, the Association's highest honor, at a ceremony at IBA headquarters in Indianapolis on Friday, Aug. 2, 2024.

###

ABOUT MICHAEL L. KUBACKI

Michael L. Kubacki's 51-year banking career had an enduring impact at Lake City Bank, Warsaw, and The Northern Trust Company. In 1998, Mike and his wife, Rebecca, returned to their Hoosier roots when he joined Lake City Bank as president and CEO. For the next 26 years, he played a critical role in defining the culture and operational excellence of the bank. During his tenure, the bank grew organically from \$1 billion to \$6.6 billion, and its market value grew from \$104 million to \$1.6 billion – an increase of more than 1,400%. Kubacki has been active as a board member in many organizations, including The Nature Conservancy, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, the Indiana Bankers Association, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Newfields, the Center for the Performing Arts and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. Kubacki earned a bachelor's degree from Indiana University and an MBA from the University of Chicago.

ABOUT ANNETTE RUSSELL

Annette Russell is the president and CEO of Security Federal Savings Bank, Logansport. She graduated from the Stonier Graduate School of Banking and the Graduate School of Bank and Investment and Financial Management. A pioneer for women and diversity in Indiana banking, Russell was the first woman to serve as chair of the Indiana Bankers Association, was appointed by Gov. Mike Pence to serve on the Indiana Board of Depositories in 2016, was honored with the Circle of Corydon by Gov. Eric Holcomb in 2017, chaired the Ivy Tech Kokomo board of trustees and Logansport/Cass County Economic Development Corporation, and has served on the boards of the Logansport Hospital, Cass County Chamber of Commerce, Special Olympics of Cass County and more. Under her leadership, the bank grew from \$170 million with three branches in two markets to nearly \$400 million with eight branches serving five markets.

ABOUT STEPHEN E. ZAHN

Stephen E. Zahn began his career at First Federal Savings Bank, Huntington, in May of 1964. In his role as president, CEO and chairman, he grew the bank and took it public in 1995. Under his leadership, the bank has achieved success and accolades, consistently being named one of the Top 200 Community Banks and being recognized as a Dividend Champion company. Zahn chaired the Indiana League of Savings Institutions in 1996-97, which went on to merge with the IBA in 2000. When he retired from daily duties at the bank, he was honored as a Distinguished Hoosier by Gov. Mitch Daniels. Zahn was also named to the Chiefs of the Flints Springs Tribe, the highest honor an individual can receive for service and dedication to the Huntington community.

ABOUT THE INDIANA BANKERS ASSOCIATION

The Indiana Bankers Association supports Indiana banking through issues advocacy, professional education, and products and services that enhance financial institutions' ability to help build better communities.

Indiana Bankers Association

8425 Woodfield Crossing Blvd., Suite 155E

Indianapolis, IN 46240-7321

indiana.bank

CONTACT: Evan Hoffmeyer, EHoffmeyer@indiana.bank, 317-333-7143