FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Schrage Named Leader in Banking Excellence



INDIANAPOLIS (June 9, 2023) – **Michael E. Schrage**, chairman of **Centier Bank, Merrillville**, is being honored by the Indiana Bankers Association with the IBA Leaders in Banking Excellence award, to be presented on Aug. 4 at a special ceremony in Indianapolis. This award celebrates exceptional leaders who have positively impacted Indiana banks and communities. Two other members of the Indiana banking community are being inducted into the class of 2023 leaders.

Indiana dignitaries will present the awards at the upcoming ceremony, and honorees will receive an ebony plaque etched with a portrait and biography. Identical crystal plaques will be on permanent display in the IBA offices in Indianapolis.

The Leaders in Banking Excellence awards are the Association's highest honor. For more information, **visit the Association's website**.

BIOGRAPHY

Michael E. Schrage is the chairman and CEO of Centier Bank, Merrillville. He first joined the bank in 1972 when it was known as Bank of Whiting, eventually being elected chairman of the board in 1982. Schrage represents the fourth generation of family ownership. Under his leadership, Centier became the largest private, family-owned bank in Indiana, and American Banker magazine named it the #2 best bank to work for in the nation in 2021. Schrage has served numerous community organizations including the Northwest Indiana Symphony, St. Jude House, American Red Cross, YMCA and the Calumet Council Boy Scouts. He is an alumnus of Culver Academy, earned his bachelor's degree from Denison University and a master's from the University of Colorado-Boulder. He was named a Sagamore of the Wabash in 1995 and is a member of the Indiana Bankers Association 40 Year Club.

Congratulations to the full 2023 class of IBA Leaders in Banking Excellence:

Michael K. Bauer, WesBanco Bank, Wheeling, WV
Michael F. Petrie, Merchants Bank of Indiana, Carmel
Michael E. Schrage, Centier Bank, Merrillville

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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.

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