FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Howrey Named Leader in Banking Excellence



INDIANAPOLIS (Sept. 14, 2026) – **Matthew W. Howrey**, president and CEO of **North Salem State Bank**, was honored by the Indiana Bankers Association with the IBA Leaders in Banking Excellence award, presented on Sept. 14 during a ceremony as part of the IBA's Annual Convention at the French Lick Springs Resort. This award celebrates exceptional leaders who have positively impacted Indiana banks and communities. Four other members of the Indiana banking community were also inducted into the class of 2026 leaders.

Indiana dignitaries presented the awards, including Indiana Senate Pro Tem Rodric Bray, R-Martinsville; Director Thomas C. Fite, Indiana Department of Financial Institutions; IBA Chairman David M. Findlay, chairman and CEO of Lake City Bank, Warsaw; Amber R. Van Til, IBA president and CEO; and a video message from U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind. Honorees were invited to offer their own comments in reflection on their career and the industry.

Honorees received an ebony plaque etched with a portrait and biography. Identical crystal plaques are on permanent display at the IBA office in Indianapolis.

The Leaders in Banking Excellence awards are the Association's highest honor. This year's honorees represent a range of industry leaders. Each was nominated by IBA-member organizations and approved by the Association's Board of Directors. For more information, **visit the IBA's website**.

BIOGRAPHY

Matt Howrey has served as president and CEO of The North Salem State Bank since 2010. Prior to joining the bank in 2008 as chief financial officer, he served as a bank examiner for the Indiana Department of Financial Institutions. During his tenure, the bank has grown from $125 million in assets to nearly $800 million and is routinely one of the highest performing community banks. Howrey served as chairman of the Indiana Bankers Association in 2025 and played a vital role in the development of the IBA's Financial Services Academy. He also serves numerous community and economic development organizations, and actively volunteers as a coach and fundraiser for youth sports. Howrey was named a Distinguished Hoosier by Gov. Mike Braun in 2025 and was named a Rising Star in Banking in 2013 by Northwestern Financial. He earned bachelor's and MBA degrees from Indiana University.

Congratulations to the full 2026 class of IBA Leaders in Banking Excellence:

Alvin "Al" Fritschle, First Bank, Carmi, Ill.
Travis Holdman, KeyState, Markle
Mark "Doc" Holt, First Farmers Bank & Trust Company, Converse
Matthew W. Howrey, North Salem State Bank
D. Grant Whaley, The Farmers and Merchants Bank, Boswell

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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.

Indiana Bankers Association
8425 Woodfield Crossing Blvd., Suite 155E
Indianapolis, IN 46240-7321
indiana.bank
CONTACT: Evan Hoffmeyer, EHoffmeyer@indiana.bank, 317.333.7143