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Contact: Sara Hocker
Director of Marketing & Communications
(717) 255-6921; shocker@pabankers.com

Dec. 20, 2023

JAMES V. DIONISE HONORED WITH BANKING ADVOCACY AWARD

Harrisburg, Pa. – The Pennsylvania Bankers Association (PA Bankers) is pleased to announce James (Jim) V. Dionise, president and chief executive officer, Mars Bank, as the recipient of the 2023 William S. Latoff Advocacy Award.

The award recognizes an individual who displays excellence in advocacy as an active policymaker for PA Bankers, an outspoken and successful advocate for the industry and a committed supporter of the Pennsylvania Bankers Public Affairs Committee (PaBPAC).

“Throughout his two-decade career, Jim has been a passionate advocate for the banking industry, its customers and its shareholders,” said Duncan Campbell, PA Bankers’ president and CEO. “From the creation of the PA Bankers Advocacy Committee during his tenure as chair to his active engagement with public officials at both the state and federal levels, Jim truly epitomizes the banker advocate.”

Throughout his tenure as a PA Bankers volunteer, Dionise served as chair of the PA Bankers Board of Directors and Member Relations Policy Committee as well as a member of the PaBPAC Board of Directors. At the national level, Jim represented Pennsylvania as a member of the American Bankers Association’s (ABA) Government Relations Council. He currently chairs the PA Bankers Federal Government Relations Committee and regularly engages with the association through its advocacy events and initiatives.

The award honors the late William S. Latoff, former chairman and CEO of DNB First, National Association in Downingtown. Latoff was the chair of the PaBPAC Board of Directors from 2007-10, a PA Bankers Government Relations Policy Committee member, the chairman of the Nominating Advisory Committee of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and a representative to the ABA’s BankPAC Committee.

“I am humbled by this recognition. I am honored to be a Pennsylvania banker and proud of my peers who are also engaged in regular and active advocacy,” said Dionise. “A strong and relevant banking system is critical to the customers and communities we serve and their futures. As stewards of the industry, we have an important responsibility to educate and communicate with the public, elected officials and regulators about the value of the banking system.”

PA Bankers has been bringing banks and bankers together for more than 125 years to learn, grow, serve and engage with their peers, communities and lawmakers. The association has built a strong reputation as a leading advocate for banking policies at the state and federal levels, as well as the delivery of quality education, products and services for banks of all sizes and their employees. Follow the Pennsylvania Bankers Association on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter (@PABankers).

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