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Contact: Megan Bobiak
(407)-629-8466 x13186
mbobiak@bankfirst.com

BRIAN BUCK JOINS BANKFIRST LENDING TEAM



Winter Park, Florida – (September 13, 2013) – Julie Kleffel, BankFIRST’s Executive Vice President and Commercial Sales Leader, announced today that Brian Buck has joined the bank’s veteran lending team. Having been employed in the financial services industry since 1999, Brian brings nearly 15 years of business development, commercial banking and portfolio management to his new role. “Brian’s extensive lending background and proven reputation in the marketplace precedes him, and he will be a welcome asset to our team of established commercial lenders. We are extremely pleased to welcome him as the newest member of our organization,” Kleffel said.

Brian has served the greater Orlando, Sarasota and Bradenton communities for the length of his career. He began his tenure in banking with Holland and Knight, LLP, where he served as Credit Risk Manager, and went on to hold the position of Assistant Vice President and Account Manager - Business Banking at Provident Bank/RBC Centura. Most recently, Brian was employed with Hancock Bank in the role of Vice President of Commercial Banking. Throughout his career, he has garnered extensive lending experience in the areas of manufacturing, dental, medical, legal, non-profit organizations, and commercial real estate. "I am very excited to continue assisting BankFIRST’s business clients throughout Central Florida in achieving - and in turn, exceeding their financial goals," Brian commented.

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A graduate of Cumberland University, Lebanon, TN, Buck received his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, with a minor in Business Management in 1997. After graduation, he played minor league baseball for the New York Mets Single A Affiliate from 1997-1999. Buck successfully completed the Leadership Seminole program in 2013, and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club of Orange County, FL.

About BankFIRST

Since its founding in 1989 as a state-chartered, federally insured commercial bank, BankFIRST has grown its assets to over \$750 million. Situated in Central Florida, BankFIRST has twelve branch offices located in Orange, Seminole, Lake, Brevard, and Volusia Counties, and has approximately 150 employees. BankFIRST provides commercial banking services, including real estate, construction and commercial loans, primarily to individuals and small and medium-sized businesses.

BankFIRST has been the recipient of numerous awards including: "Best Community Bank in Central Florida" by the readers of the Orlando Business Journal in 2006 and 2009, "Best Bank in Seminole County" in 2008 and 2009, "2009 Business Achievement Award for Civic and Community Efforts" by the Lake Eustis Chamber of Commerce, US Small Business Administration's "#1 Community Bank SBA Lender" designation in the North Florida District, and the "#1 Small Business Lender in Florida". For more information on BankFIRST, visit www.bankfirst.com.

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