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First Citizens Honors Employees, Celebrates Accomplishments And Gives Back to Community

MANSFIELD, PA (March 2018) At their annual family gathering in February, the entire First Citizens team assembled to celebrate accomplishments, talk 2018 strategy, gain additional knowledge about cyber security from an expert in the field, and join together in a fun, community-oriented project.

CEO and President Randall E. Black kicked off the day with positive news about the Banks 2017 performance and other accomplishments. “We had one of the best years on record thanks to everyone’s commitment to serving our customers, communities and shareholders,” stated Black. “Without you, we’d be just another bank. Instead, we continue to be one of the top performing community banks in the nation.” After a well-deserved round of applause came a discussion about the top priorities and key initiatives in 2018. As Black put it “We all need to work from the same playbook.”

Performance awards followed, then recognition for years of service. Twenty-three employees were awarded shares of Citizens Financial Stock and extra vacation days. Black announced the 2017 Employee of the Year recipients, Bonney Welch, Branch Operations and Compliance Administrator and Blaine Fessler, VP Central Ag Lender and Team Leader. “It’s incredibly hard to choose just two employees each year when our TEAM consistently goes the extra mile,” commented Black. “But that’s a problem we’re glad to have.”

Welch has been with the bank for 30 years. She is a key employee in troubleshooting and advice. Welch handles fraud and security issues, and educates employees on criminal activity to prevent losses to the bank and customers. Fessler, who has 40 years’ experience in Ag Banking, was challenged with an aggressive 5-year growth plan for the Winfield office; the office surpassed those goals in 2 years thanks to his leadership.

After the high-energy employee recognition, teams worked to build 32 bikes for local children. Safe Kids Pennsylvania, who First Citizens forged a partnership with in 2017, facilitated distribution of the bikes. **Oswald’s Cycle Works** sourced the bikes and helmets, **Northern Tier Beverage** donated a storage unit to house the bikes, and **Dane’s Lawn Care & Landscaping** donated a trailer to transport the bikes to the event. The process was a heart-warming example of community togetherness.

First Citizens Community Bank is headquartered in Mansfield, Pennsylvania. They currently operate 28 offices throughout Tioga, Bradford, Potter, Clinton, Union, Centre, Lebanon, Lancaster, Schuylkill and Berks counties in Pennsylvania and Allegany County New York. For more information about First Citizens, visit FirstCitizensBank.com, or find them on Facebook.

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Employees of the year—Randall E. Black, CEO and President with Bonney Welch and Blaine Fessler, First Citizens 2017 Employees of the Year.