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Stephanie Grise Joins Midwest BankCentre as Executive Vice President-Chief Strategy Officer

ST. LOUIS (September 7, 2023) --- **Stephanie Grise** has joined **Midwest BankCentre** as Executive Vice President-Chief Strategy Officer reporting to Chairman and CEO **Orvin Kimbrough**.

"We are thrilled to welcome Stephanie to Midwest BankCentre," said Kimbrough. "Her wealth of experience, focus on community building, and commitment to shared economic prosperity align perfectly with our values and mission. We are confident that her leadership will be pivotal in driving our strategic initiatives and fostering innovation to benefit our customers and community."



In this role, Grise will manage key strategic initiatives and change processes, provide advice and partner directly with leadership in strategy planning and execution, improved communications, and decision-making flow throughout the organization and ensure the facilitation and alignment of strategy and vision across the Bank to help more of the Bank's regional communities thrive. Grise will help lead the Bank's growth and adaptability in a rapidly evolving financial landscape and help provide more individuals, businesses, and nonprofits access to reasonably priced capital.

Grise has nearly 20 years of legal and project management experience. For nearly 11 years, she managed legal risk and provided legal advice to U.S. Bank's tax credit investing and community lending group and was a member of the business line's senior leadership team. Grise also engaged in the diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts of the business line and the Law Division and was co-founder and Chair of the law department's Equity & Racial Justice Council. Before she joined U.S. Bank, Grise practiced law for almost nine years as a real estate and public finance attorney at Armstrong Teasdale LLP.

Grise earned her bachelor's degree in business management from Cornell University, where she was also a Division One softball player. She earned her Juris Doctorate and Master of Business Administration from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and is in her second year of the Consumer Bankers Association Executive Banking School program, which she expects to complete in August 2024. Grise is also Chair of the board of ArchCity Defenders, a holistic legal advocacy organization that combats the criminalization of poverty and state violence, especially in communities of color. She also enjoys mentoring black attorneys and other people of color in the legal and financial services industries.

Midwest BankCentre's commitment to diversity and inclusion starts at the top, with an executive team that is 60% diverse by gender and ethnicity. As a community bank, Midwest BankCentre is committed to building a team that reflects its customers' multi-ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic diversity in the St. Louis Region. Midwest BankCentre believes embracing diversity in people, geography, and products, sparks innovation that allows the Bank to better understand and serve customers.

About Midwest BankCentre

Midwest BankCentre's current assets exceed \$2.4 billion and deposits total more than \$2.0 billion. A mainstay of the greater St. Louis community banking scene since 1906, the Bank employs a staff of about 280 working at 17 bank locations in the City of St. Louis, St. Louis, Jefferson and St. Charles counties in Missouri and St. Clair County in Illinois. It empowers people, enables business, and energizes neighborhoods through the strength of its financial services, including personalized consumer and business banking, business cash management, mortgage lending, home equity loans, financial planning and investments, insurance, and digital banking.

Midwest BankCentre is a local leader in the St. Louis Regional Financial Empowerment Coalition (formerly the St. Louis Regional Unbanked Task Force) and its Bank-On Save-Up St. Louis initiative. Since 2001, Midwest BankCentre has consecutively achieved the Bauer Financial 5-Star Superior financial rating each quarter. The Bank has been recognized for its success in bringing access to reasonably priced capital to traditionally underserved markets and elevating financial inclusivity by addressing the banking needs of low- and moderate-income market customers who are often overlooked. Recent awards include the 2023 Innovation in Philanthropy Awards from the St. Louis Business Journal, the 2022 Champions of Diversity & Inclusion Award (for-profits) from the St. Louis Business Journal, and Energage's 2021, 2022, and National Top Workplace Award for diversity, equity, and inclusion practices.