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Midwest BankCentre Promotes Lisa Morgan to Senior Vice President, <u>Commercial Lender of Community & Economic Development</u>

Morgan to Focus on Increasing Financial Access for Underserved Communities in North St. Louis

ST. LOUIS (February 21, 2025) --- <u>Midwest BankCentre</u>, the second-largest privately held community bank in the St. Louis region, promotes Lisa Morgan to Senior Vice President, Commercial Lender, Community & Economic Development. She has played a pivotal role in expanding financial access and driving economic growth for St. Louis' small businesses, nonprofits, and underserved communities. A Florissant native, Morgan will continue to focus her efforts in the north St. Louis region.



With over 40 years in banking, including 25 in mortgage and commercial lending, Morgan has led initiatives that expand financial opportunities, strengthen community partnerships, and drive economic growth in historically underserved neighborhoods. She plays a key role in Midwest BankCentre's five-year, \$200 million commitment to increasing homeownership, growing small businesses, and revitalizing historically disinvested neighborhoods through targeted lending and community development partnerships.

"Lisa's deep banking expertise and passion for community development have helped break financial barriers and open doors for those who need it most," said Wes Burns, Executive Vice President of Community and Economic Development at Midwest BankCentre. "Her work is creating new opportunities for minority-owned businesses by expanding access to essential financial resources and credit. Through the partnerships she builds, businesses, churches, families, and individuals will have greater resources to create and sustain generational wealth."

In the past year alone, Morgan has signed 35 new business deposit customers, totaling \$5.9 million in deposits, and secured 24 new business loan customers valued at \$9.8 million. Her expertise

and dedication to underserved communities in north St. Louis and numerous faith-based organizations have been instrumental in driving growth and creating opportunities for local businesses.

"I am passionate about my work at Midwest BankCentre because it allows me to do what I truly love, helping communities thrive," said Morgan. "My mission is to support real estate investors in providing affordable housing for families, assist churches and nonprofits in securing capital to serve their communities, revitalize economically challenged areas in the St. Louis region, and empower business owners with the financial resources, tools, and access to all available products and services at the bank they need to grow and succeed."

Morgan's leadership has helped businesses and organizations across North St. Louis, including <u>Cathy's Kitchen</u>, a north St. Louis-based restaurant with two locations, and <u>Live Church</u>, where Bishop Shadrach Martin continues to uplift the community. She has also provided support to faith-based organizations such as <u>The Way Truth and Life Worship Center</u> and <u>New Life Christian Church</u>, helping them access capital to expand their missions and create a greater impact.

"Lisa has been a true blessing to our congregation," said Bishop Gary Pleasant of New Life Christian Church. "Her dedication to ensuring we have the financial resources to grow and serve our community has been invaluable."

Beyond her professional work, Morgan is actively involved in her community. She serves on the board of directors for both her church, <u>Our Father's House</u>, and the <u>Missouri Midwest Ecclesiastical</u> <u>Jurisdiction Church of God in Christ</u>. She has also served as the Chief Financial Officer of Missouri Midwest for nearly 10 years. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and finance from the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

About Midwest BankCentre

Midwest BankCentre is the second largest privately held community bank in the St. Louis region and a cornerstone of the greater St. Louis community banking scene since its founding in 1906. As of December 31, 2024, the bank's assets are approximately \$2.81 billion, with total deposits of approximately \$2.34 billion. The bank employs nearly 280 team members across 15 locations in St. Louis City and County, Jefferson and St. Charles Counties in Missouri, St. Clair County in Illinois, a business production office in Kansas City, Missouri, and 11 additional states nationwide.

Midwest BankCentre empowers individuals, enables businesses, and energizes neighborhoods through the strength of its financial services. These include personalized consumer and business banking, business cash management, mortgage lending, home equity loans, financial planning and investments, insurance, and digital banking solutions.

The bank's dedication to innovation, inclusivity, and service excellence has garnered recognition through numerous national and local honors, including Energage's National Top Workplace awards in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, with recognition for diversity, equity, and inclusion practices; *Newsweek's* 2025 List of America's Best Regional Banks; the Bauer Financial 5-Star Superior Financial Rating every quarter since 2001; and MortgageYields.com's Top 10 Mortgage Banker list every quarter since 2001. The bank also earned the *St. Louis Business Journal's* Innovation in Philanthropy Award in 2023 and the Champions of Diversity & Inclusion Award (for-profits) in 2022.

For more information, go to <u>www.midwestbankcentre.com</u>.