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Name: Amy Biggs
Bank: Seiling State Bank
City: Seiling
Position: AVP
How long in position: 9 years
How long in banking: 12 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2024
Community Involvement: Chair of Seiling Education Foundation, Secretary of Lions Club, member of Crossroads for Progress, councilperson for Town of Seiling, serve on Seiling Hospital Board, Treasurer for After Prom Party, personal trainer
Brief Description: I have enjoyed the Emerging Leaders Program and the ideas and skills that have been introduced. The people have been fun and it has been great getting to know people around the state. I also serve on the Emerging Leaders Committee so it has been wonderful to get to know that group of people as well. I feel that I could bring some new ideas to the table and the involvement in the committee can only help with that endeavor.

Name: Adam Howell
Bank: Quail Creek Bank
City: Oklahoma City
Position: AVP, Lender
How long in position: 2 years
How long in banking: 24 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2024
Community Involvement: United Way Community Outreach Sub-Committee, Aztec Charter High School Financial Literacy Teacher
Brief Description: Married, 3 children, Dog person, Type A (personality and blood). I started my banking career as a part time teller in 2000. Experience: Teller, New Accounts, Branch Manager, Operations Specialist, Customer Service Manager, Auditor, Credit Analyst, Lender. I'd like to network, help teach, and learn from the next class of Emerging Leaders. I'm an excellent mediator between two opposing forces.

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Name: Laurie Richardson
Bank: InterBank
City: Oklahoma City
Position: SVP, Director of Compliance
How long in position: 2 years
How long in banking: 16 years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2024
Community Involvement: Active member of the American Business Women's Association (past president, treasurer and VP)
<p>Brief Description:</p> <p>On a normal day you can find me at my desk, usually with my phone on speaker, talking through various compliance objectives throughout the bank. I am currently the Director of Compliance for Interbank in Oklahoma City. I have served in this role for about two years. Prior to this change I worked in the Banks internal audit department for 9 years where I gained an extensive knowledge base regarding banking regulations and standards. As the Director of Compliance, I am very involved in all aspects of the Bank, I am able to interact with almost all 500+ employees (of course not all at once), and I'm able to ensure the Bank maintains a strong standard of compliance while maintaining its community bank feel.</p> <p>As I've moved over and up throughout the banking industry I have learned a wealth of information from the people I get to talk with, mentors, and of course great training opportunities that have been afforded to me. The experiences have been invaluable to my career. My dream would be to continue to lead in the banking industry. By Chairing the Emerging Leaders Academy, I will have the opportunity to aid in the expansion of knowledge for bankers across Oklahoma. I firmly believe that knowledge is power and being able to help do that for community bankers like me brings me joy.</p> <p>The skills that I best possess include the ability to multitask and problem solve, the ability to lead and also learn from the people I'm leading, and the ability to communicate effectively through written and verbal communications.</p> <p>After hours you can find me reciting terribly awesome dad jokes, playing volleyball with my family, or tending to my ten pet chickens. I am a mother of three spunky girls who I hope grow into fearless leaders---bonus points if that's in the banking world. I am also very involved in the Oklahoma City Chapter of the American Business Women's Association. Where I have served as President, Vice President, and Treasurer.</p> <p>Thank you for the consideration for this position.</p>

Name: Jamie Vafadar
Bank: First Liberty Bank
City: Oklahoma City
Position: Vice President – Healthcare Banking Relationship Manager
How long in position: 7.5 years
How long in banking: 10+ years
Emerging Leaders Academy graduation year: 2024
Community Involvement: I started a support group for female entrepreneurs in Healthcare 6 month ago called Wonder Women. I'm about to roll onto the board at the Oklahoma Dental Foundation.
Brief Description: I'm passionate about helping people and being a part of their professional and personal growth. I want to serve so I can be a part of doing just that! I love topics centered around leadership development because it is often about becoming a better person. I'm excellent with people, empathetic, nurturing, sharp, very ambitious, and kind. I'm skilled at reading people and being a good listener. My goal is to be the Division Manager in my current department so I can be a mentor and pivotal part of helping others reach their goals.

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