FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bankers association lauds six bankers of distinction

DENVER – The Colorado Bankers Association (CBA) today recognized six bankers for their commitment to community with the 2020 Banker of Distinction award during the organization’s annual legislative luncheon at the Brown Palace.

CBA annually bestows the Banker of Distinction citation upon bankers who embody the industry’s spirit of giving back. The awardees are nominated by their peers.

“Our role is to build a better economy to benefit all of us and to help Coloradans realize their dreams, and we take that seriously,” said Don Childears, chief executive officer of the Colorado Bankers Association.

Colorado Senate President Leroy Garcia Jr. presented the awards, saying, “Each of these bankers has gone above and beyond to serve his or her community and customers.”

Recognized were:
- Lavonne Heaviland, president of treasury management and bank operations, FirstBank
- Bruce Heilbaum, president and CEO of RNB State Bank and Front Range State Bank
- Marty May, president and CEO of Solera Bank
- Matthew Hanson, regional president of Alpine Bank
- Debbie Tolley, executive director of government, higher education and not-for-profit Banking for J.P. Morgan Chase
- Brett Wyss, president and CEO of Integrity Bank & Trust

Photos of each recipient are attached; bios are below.

Lavonne Heaviland, FirstBank
Lavonne Heaviland started with FirstBank in 2004 and is currently a President working in the Support Services market in Lakewood. Since 2006 she has managed a variety of internal departments supporting
the bank’s processes and procedures. Currently, Lavonne is President over Payment Operations, including the bank’s fraud prevention and payment processing efforts within FirstBank. Previously she managed strategic initiatives in the bank’s loan operations areas, developed and managed FirstBank’s anti-money laundering department, and managed the bank’s real estate valuation services area. Lavonne currently serves on the board of the Denver Housing Authority’s Youth Employment Academy, the Colorado Council of Advisors on Consumer Credit, FirstBank’s Advocacy Committee, and is an active member of the Colorado Banker’s Association Bank Advocacy Program. Lavonne graduated from Western Colorado University with her B.S. degree in Business Administration. She also earned her M.B.A. from the University of Denver, Daniels College of Business, a graduate degree in banking at the Graduate School of Banking in Boulder, Colorado and completed the CBA’s Center for Bank Advocacy Program.

Bruce Hellbaum, RNB State Bank, Front Range State Bank
Bruce is the President and CEO of RNB State Bank and its Colorado division, Front Range State Bank. Front Range State Bank has operated in Colorado for over ten years with a full-service branch in Longmont and an LPO in Lakewood. The bank is looking to expand its Front Range operations with additional branches. Since moving to Longmont, Bruce has thoroughly enjoyed all that Colorado has to offer, taking full advantage of the outdoor lifestyle. He is a member of the Longmont Rotary Club, attends the Longs Peak United Methodist Church and was elected to the Longmont Economic Development Partnership, where he currently serves as the organization’s Treasurer. LEDP has recently launched its economic development initiative, Advance Longmont 2.0. With unanimous backing from the City Council and other local civic organizations, Advance Longmont 2.0 is a comprehensive effort to improve and create sustainability for the economic viability of Longmont for many decades to come. Front Range State Bank is a member of the Longmont Chamber of Commerce, the Berthoud Chamber of Commerce and the Carbon Valley Chamber of Commerce (Frederick, Firestone, Dacono). The bank is also a key supporter of the Longmont Community Foundation, which supports a wide array of charitable and educational non-profits throughout the municipality. In addition to local community endeavors, Bruce also serves on the Boards of Bankers Bank of the West in Denver, CO and the Western States Directors Education Foundation, which focuses on providing educational opportunities for Directors of community banks, throughout the Rocky Mountain region.

Marty May, Solera Bank
Marty has been a banker since 1990 starting in Santa Cruz California and then moving to Colorado in 2002. He has worked for large and small institutions but found his passion working for smaller banks where he could make a difference. Marty May has been the President & CEO of Solera National Bank since 2015. When Marty joined Solera, it was a struggling bank that had just gone through tremendous board and management turmoil and regulatory distress. When he started with Solera it had $141 million in assets and made about $100,000 per month in pre-tax income, today, the bank is thriving as it approaches $300 million assets and makes over $450,000 per month pre-tax all while maintaining excellent capital and credit quality ratios and a sub 50% efficiency ratio. Marty has served on many non-profit boards such as Dumb Friends League, Pet Aid Colorado, and Boys & Girls Club focusing primarily on animal and child welfare.

Matthew Hanson, Alpine Bank
Matt grew up in Colorado Springs and received a Bachelor of Science with honors in Psychology with a minor in Chemistry from University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He’s been married for 12 years and
has four kids, 8, 7, 4 and 1. He started a career in golf course management in Colorado Springs following college. Matt moved to the mountains to manage two different courses and a few years later, a career in banking became an option for him. He’s been in the banking industry for over eight years now, all with Alpine Bank. He started in Avon, Colorado and then had the chance to move to Summit County where he has been for the last seven years. Currently, he is the Regional President of the Summit region for Alpine Bank overseeing four locations in the county. He is a past participant in the Colorado Banker’s Association Advocacy program in 2017, taking two trips with the CBA group to Washington DC. Matt is a graduate of GSBC, graduating with honors in 2016. In the community, Matt serves as chairman of the Board for the Breckenridge Backstage Theater; he also serves on the Breck Film Fest Board and the board for Breckenridge Creative Arts. He is on the advisory board for the Summit Combined Housing Authority as well. He has spent time volunteering with the Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center and the Wounded Heroes Family Ski Week for multiple years in addition to volunteering with his local church. Matt has served on the finance committee and the board for the Family Intercultural Resource Center in Summit County and was a member of the Breckenridge Rotary Group. When Matt is not working, volunteering or spending time with family, he can be found on the ski slopes in the winter and the golf course during the summer with an occasional trail run or road bike trek mixed in.

Debbie Tolley, JP Morgan Chase
Debbie joined the Government, Higher Education, Not-for-Profit, Commercial Banking team for JP Morgan Chase in 2001 and successfully grew the Bank’s portfolio of clients in Colorado to one of the largest portfolios across the country consisting of state governments, cities, counties, K-12 public school districts, higher education, special districts, human service organizations and cultural institutions. In her current role as Relationship Executive, she serves as the dedicated Banker and Relationship Manager to several of the Bank’s important and complex state and local government, higher education and not-for-profit relationships throughout the Intermountain west region. She works with a team of product specialists and partners to address the complex financial services needs of these clients across multiple agencies. She is currently serving as Chair of the Bank’s Market Leadership Team in Colorado directing its local philanthropic and charitable activities. As a senior leader, she has served on the Bank’s National Government Council that guides its line of business focus and strategies across the country. She serves as Chair Emeritus of the Colorado chapter of the bank’s Employee Business Resource Group, Women on The Move-Interactive Network which she launched in 2016.

Brett Wyss, Integrity Bank & Trust
Brett Wyss began his banking career in 2004 with Integrity Bank & Trust. He attended the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado from 2006 to 2008 and he attended the Executive Development Institute with the Graduate School of Banking in 2017-2018. Brett is currently active with the Colorado Banker’s Association where he serves on the Government Action Committee and is an advisory member of the board. In May of 2017, Brett was promoted to the President/CEO of Integrity. Brett has been married to Kate for 17 years and they have three children, Maren, Truett and Elin. In his spare time, he likes to ski and read.

About the Colorado Bankers Association
The Colorado Bankers Association represents more than 95 percent of the 135 banks in Colorado, which have $146 billion in assets, 1,482 branches, and 21,172 proud professionals. CBA advocates for Colorado banks of all sizes and charter types before governmental bodies and
the public to continually promote and improve the banking industry amid challenge and a changing environment. CBA proactively seeks to increase benefits for bank customers, improve value for shareholders, and grow a stronger business climate for banks and our local economies. CBA supplements its effective advocacy with superior industry-specific information and education for bankers, and various high-quality products and services. CBA focuses on creating a stronger economy and helping Coloradans realize dreams by building better banks.

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