FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Colorado Bankers Association begins leadership transition

DENVER – The Colorado Bankers Association announced today the promotion of Jenifer Waller to CBA president, effective January 1. Don Childears will remain chief executive officer (CEO) until 2022.

This is the first step in a multi-year transition plan approved by the CBA board of directors. Waller has served as chief operating officer (COO) since 2017 and oversees the organization’s state government relations activities and operations. Childears commented, “Jen has been an increasingly essential part of CBA. We just marked her 20th anniversary with CBA. We’ve been good colleagues and her experience means she has my confidence and that of the CBA officers and board to follow as CEO in several years.”

Childears, who has led the organization since 1975, will continue to serve CBA as CEO through December 31, 2022 and then as “president and CEO emeritus and CBA advisor” until December 31, 2024. Meanwhile, Waller will become CEO as well as president, beginning January 1, 2023. This meets mutual objectives of maintaining Childears’ 45 years of experience with the organization while progressing with an orderly transfer of duties to Waller as the next CEO, carefully planned to ensure CBA’s work to support Colorado’s banks is uninterrupted.

Waller said, “It has been my privilege and passion to advocate for Colorado bankers and their customers for 20 years. Don and I are a great team, and I am honored to be named CBA president. I look forward to my continued work alongside Don as we make a smooth transition for CBA and its service to Colorado’s banking industry.”

Waller grew up in a Colorado community banking family, worked for a community bank early in her career and spent four years as a state bank examiner before joining CBA in 1999 as senior vice president.

CBA 2019-2020 Chairman Joanne Sherwood, president and CEO of Citywide Banks remarked, “The CBA is most fortunate to have both Don Childears and Jenifer Waller at its helm. Their close working relationship will ensure that there is a seamless transition regarding government relations and continued advocacy on behalf of Colorado banks.”
About the Colorado Bankers Association

The Colorado Bankers Association represents more than 95 percent of the assets, offices and employees in the 135 regulated, traditional banks in Colorado, which have $142 billion in assets, 1,482 branches, and 21,000 proud professionals. CBA advocates for Colorado banks of all sizes and charter types before governmental bodies and the public. 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. CBA focuses on creating a stronger economy and helping Coloradans realize dreams by building better banks.

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