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PRESS RELEASE

Washington Financial hires Business Banking Officer

WASHINGTON, PA- Washington Financial Bank hired Jeffery Francona as an Assistant Vice President in the Business Banking Department. Mr. Francona will eventually join Bill Harker at the Bank's Wexford Loan Production Office. Mr. Francona's primary responsibilities include commercial lending and business development.

Mr. Francona is a 2002 graduate of Slippery Rock University and has 10 years of experience in the financial industry. Prior to joining Washington Financial's team, he managed a commercial loan portfolio consisting of C&I loans and CRE loans at Mars National Bank. As an active member of the community, Mr. Francona is on the Board of Directors of Leadership Butler County and The Risk Management Association (RMA).

Mr. Francona was initially attracted to work at Washington Financial because it is a mutual institution. As a mutual institution, the Bank has no stockholders, so it is free to concentrate on meeting the long range needs of its customers and community rather than focusing as heavily on short-term earnings and stock prices.

"Mutual institutions like Washington Financial tend to have stronger community ties," said Mr. Francona. "I am proud to work for a company that is committed to helping the local economy grow and prosper."

With over 111 years of history, an exceptionally strong financial position, the latest in technology and a staff of 150+ strong committed to its definition of relationship banking, Washington Financial is very well positioned to meet the financial needs of business and retail customers. It's banking that's in your best interest.

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