



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FBA PRESIDENT & CEO ALEX SANCHEZ RESPONDS
TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF TOM CARDWELL AS
DIRECTOR OF THE STATE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL REGULATION**

“For the past 28 years, Tom Cardwell has served the Florida banking industry with a profound knowledge and understanding of the financial services legal and regulatory environment. He has seen this industry through ups and downs and has the character, integrity and management skills to lead the OFR through these challenging times and the current economic climate.

Having served as managing partner of one of our nation’s largest law firms, Tom has sound judgment and extraordinary leadership skills that will serve him, and the OFR, very well. Tom has been a counselor and mentor to bankers throughout the state in his role as FBA General Counsel and we are so very proud to see him take on this new role as a public servant. The state of Florida is fortunate that a man of Tom Cardwell’s character and integrity will lead the agency that plays such a vital role in the safety and soundness of the financial services sector.”

About the Florida Bankers Association: The Florida Bankers Association serves as the primary resource through which Florida financial service providers work in unity to influence the state and federal legal regulatory environment in which they serve their customers. Established in 1888, the FBA is one of Florida’s oldest trade associations and has a membership of nearly 400 financial institutions ranging in size from small community banks, thrifts, and trust companies to medium sized banks operating in several parts of the state, to large regional financial institutions that are headquartered in Florida or outside the state. Nearly 96 percent of banks operating in Florida are members.

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