



FLORIDA BANKERS ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 14, 2022

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Brooke Harrison, Publications Director
850-701-3513
bharrison@floridabankers.com

Marine Bank & Trust's Bill Penney Named Chair of the Florida Bankers Association

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.— Bill Penney, president and CEO of Marine Bank & Trust in Vero Beach, has been named Chair of the FBA. The announcement was made during the Florida Bankers Association's (FBA) 134th Annual Meeting held at the Ritz-Carlton Grande Lakes in Orlando. Penney follows in the footsteps of Fabiola Brumley, Bank of America's president of Palm Beach County.

"The more you get involved, the more you realize you can make a difference. And the more involved I became with the FBA, the harder it was to sit in the back of the room. I wanted to sit at the front," Penney said. "It is an incredible honor to be recognized by your peers around the state as the one they've chosen to lead the organization. I don't take that lightly."

Penney is an experienced banker of 44 years and has been actively involved with the FBA for the past decade. His first leadership role was as Chair of the Florida Bankers Educational Foundation (FBEF). Penney received an FBEF scholarship grant himself for his junior and senior years at Florida Atlantic University. In 2017, Penney was recognized with the FBA Chairman's Award for his continuous support of the association, engagement in FBA events and commitment to the success of Florida's banking industry.

During his year as Chair, Penney's goals include protecting our free enterprise system, pressing the issue of tax-exempt credit unions, and maintaining FBA membership.

"Our free enterprise system is under assault. I am an unapologetic, entrepreneurial capitalist. I think we need to protect the banks' ability to fuel the fire for entrepreneurs... It's just incredibly important," Penney said. "Our country has the best entrepreneurial system in the world, and that is because we are a country of explorers and risk takers. Those entrepreneurs are funded by community banks."

Penney started his banking career in 1978 with Barnett Bank. He became involved in the bank's political action committee (PAC), making trips to Tallahassee and Washington, and developed an interest in politics.

"Our Chairs take time out of their busy schedules to lead the fight for our industry in Washington and Tallahassee," said FBA President and CEO Alex Sanchez. "Bill is an experienced banker who is passionate about speaking out for our industry. His knowledge and leadership will make him a powerful advocate for bankers throughout Florida."

In addition to his service with the FBA, Penney is active in his community and is involved with the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce, the Indian River County United Way, the Indian River County Economic Development Council and the Alzheimer & Parkinson Association of Indian River County.

Penney earned a finance degree from Florida Atlantic University and later graduated from the School of Banking of the South. He also earned a Master of Professional Banking designation from The Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University and Sheshunoff Management Services.

Penney will be followed by FBA Chair-Elect Jose Cueto, president and CEO of International Finance Bank, who will serve a term as FBA Chair in 2023-2024.

About Florida Bankers Association

The Florida Bankers Association (FBA) 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 more than 200 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. Deposits of the members of the FBA make up 98 percent of total deposits in the state of Florida.

###