

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 19, 2019

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MICHAEL LEWALLEN JOINS *BANTERRA BANK'S* CARBONDALE TEAM AS COMMERCIAL LENDER

Carbondale, IL – *Banterra Bank* is excited to announce Michael Lewallen has joined the *Banterra* team as a Commercial Lender. Lewallen, a Carbondale resident, has more than 10 years of banking experience in Southern Illinois, both in management and lending, and is no stranger to community involvement for the region.

"*Banterra* has a dominant presence in Southern Illinois, with more than 25 locations, and we have invested considerably in Carbondale including new team members, renovation of a banking center facility and most recently, naming rights partnership with Southern Illinois University," said Jeff May, president of *Banterra Bank*. "Michael Lewallen not only has strong banking experience, but he has a personal connection with the local business community and ties to SIU, which is a big asset to our efforts in this area."

Lewallen was most recently the Branch Manager and Small Business Banker at Regions Bank in Carbondale, where he served since 2009. Prior to joining Regions Bank, he was a Branch Account Executive at Citigroup.

Born and raised in Decatur, Illinois, Lewallen moved to Carbondale to attend SIU. He received a Bachelor of Science in Finance in 2006 and made Carbondale his home after graduation.

In addition to banking expertise, Lewallen received Accident, Health and Life Insurance Sales Licenses and a Property and Casualty Insurance Sales License from the State of Illinois, as well as Illinois Real Property Salesperson Certificate from John A. Logan College in 2005.

Lewallen currently serves as Chair of the Saluki Pride Committee through the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce, where he works to strengthen the relationship between the university and the business community as well as recruit and retain students.

Banterra Bank began as a single bank in Ridgway, Illinois in July of 1975. Today, *Banterra* has nearly \$2 billion in assets and is ranked in the Top Ten Percent of U.S. Charter Banks and Top Five Percent for Illinois Charter Banks, according to asset size. *Banterra* has 40 locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, and Arizona and entered the Carbondale market in 1993. In May, SIU and *Banterra* announced a 10-year naming-rights agreement to rebrand SIU Arena as Banterra Center. In addition to offering a variety of personal and business banking products, *Banterra* provides services nationwide through specialty lending divisions including Aircraft Finance, Machine Tool Finance, Corporate, Transportation and RV and Marine Lending. *Banterra* also offers *Banterra* Insurance for auto, home, life, business and *Banterra* Investment services. For information, call 866-BANTERRA (226-8377), or go to www.banterra.com.

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