

PRESS RELEASE



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BANTERRA BANK HIRES ERIC IKEMIRE AS A MARKET EXECUTIVE OF THEIR EAST REGION; OPENS LOAN PRODUCTION OFFICE IN MT. CARMEL, ILLINOIS

Marion, IL – *Banterra Bank*, with over \$1.4 billion in assets and locations throughout the Midwest, is pleased to announce that Eric Ikemire has joined their East Region of Southern Illinois as a Market Executive. Ikemire will lead a Loan Production Office in Mt. Carmel, Illinois that is scheduled to open mid-December. Ikemire brings more than 15 years of banking experience to his new position. The Loan Production Office will be located at 825 Chestnut.

“Banterra is a strong community bank, and we focus on building solid relationships with our customers by assisting them with the necessary financial tools needed to achieve their goals,” said Dennis Andrews, Sr. Market Executive of *Banterra Bank’s* East Region. “Eric’s knowledge, not only of the financial industry, but also of the areas in Southern Illinois that he will serve, will be a valuable asset to the Banterra team and to our customers.”

Eric Ikemire has a strong financial background in the Southern Illinois market area, with previous positions at First Mid-Illinois Bank and Trust, formerly Old National Bank, and First Robinson Savings Bank.

“I’m looking forward to this opportunity to continue Banterra’s growth, and to build the relationships that Banterra’s customers have come to both appreciate and expect,” said Ikemire. “I look forward to leading a future expansion of Banterra’s Southern Illinois footprint into the Mt. Carmel market.”

Banterra’s East Region currently consists of 14 of their 25 Southern Illinois locations including: Carmi, Cave-In-Rock, Christopher, Eldorado, Elizabethtown, Golconda, Harrisburg (2), McLeansboro, Norris City, Ridgway, Rosiclare and Vienna (2).

Ikemire most recently served as Region President of the Southern Illinois region for First Mid-Illinois Bank and Trust working out of Mt. Carmel, Illinois. Prior to this position, Ikemire started his career in the financial industry as a Commercial Credit Analyst and Loan Officer at First Robinson Savings Bank in Robinson, Illinois, before moving to Old National Bank, now First Mid-Illinois Bank and Trust, in 2003. He began as a Commercial Lending Officer before working his way through a handful of other positions before becoming Senior Vice President, Commercial Relationship Executive the seven years prior to his last position.

Eric Ikemire and his wife, Casey, reside in Mt. Carmel Illinois with their two young children, Maddox and Jack. Ikemire received his Bachelor of Science degree in Finance at Eastern Illinois University and completed the Corporate and Executive Education Leadership Program from Butler University in 2014. Ikemire is involved in the community where he resides, currently serving as City of Mt. Carmel City Commissioner, Member, Director, Past President, Past Treasurer of Kiwanis Club of Mt. Carmel, Member and past House Committee Chairman Elk’s Lodge #715 and Mt. Carmel Eagles Lodge, and is Treasurer of West Berwick Golf Club.

Banterra Bank began as a single bank in Ridgway, Illinois in July of 1975. Today, *Banterra* is the largest, locally-owned bank in the region with \$1.4 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 35 locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Missouri. For more information, call 866-BANTERRA (226-8377), or go to www.banterra.com.

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