



NEWS

For Immediate Release

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ICBA and 1st State Bank Celebrate Small Business Week 2016

Washington, D.C. (April 29, 2016)—The Independent Community Bankers of America® (ICBA) and 1st State Bank are joining the Small Business Administration (SBA) in celebrating National Small Business Week, May 1-7.

“Small businesses are at the center of the nation’s economic prosperity as they create local jobs and economic growth in cities and towns across the country,” said ICBA Chairman Rebeca Romero Rainey, chairman and CEO of Centinel Bank of Taos, N.M. “Community banks make half of small business loans and 90 percent of agricultural loans, so serving small business is part of their DNA. We are proud to serve such a critical part of America’s economic fabric.”

Community banks also know their local communities and are able to counsel small business owners on the dynamics of the community. In fact, many small business owners view community banks as their partner in building business success.

“The relationship between community banks and small businesses is symbiotic and one that truly works,” said Rick Goedert, President & CEO, 1st State Bank, “There’s a reason why more than half of small business owners choose to work with a community bank when it comes to building and growing their business. As a small business and local community bank, we are proud to serve the Great Lakes Bay Region and to highlight the important role small businesses serve to our local community.”

In fact, a new study from [seven Federal Reserve Banks](#) shows that small businesses that apply for loans with community banks are the most successful and most satisfied.

Small business owners and consumers can find their local community bank by visiting ICBA’s Community Bank Locator at www.banklocally.org. To learn more about community banks and the positive impact they have on small businesses across the nation, visit www.icba.org or follow #GoLocal and #BankLocally on Twitter.

About ICBA

The Independent Community Bankers of America®, the nation’s voice for more than 6,000 community banks of all sizes and charter types, is dedicated exclusively to representing the interests of the community banking industry and its membership through effective advocacy, best-in-class education and high-quality products and services. For more information, visit www.icba.org.

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