

Citizens Gives \$1000 Bonuses to Employees

Citizens Bank of West Virginia issued a bonus of \$1,000 to each of their 66 employees, joining a number of U.S. companies to pass along savings from the federal tax reform to its staff. The announcement was made in a surprise staff meeting by the bank's president & chief executive officer.

"One of the best investments we can make is in our employees who are dedicated to making sure our customers have great banking experiences at Citizens," said President & CEO Nathaniel S. Bonnell. "This \$66,000 investment demonstrates our thanks and appreciation to our team for their tireless efforts and commitment to the bank."

The bank's board of directors said it was an easy decision to reward the dedicated and hard-working employees of Citizens Bank. "There are several ways we will put the tax savings to work for Citizens," stated Board Chairman Max L. Armentrout. "However, we are most excited about paying this bonus to the great employees we have working at our bank, serving our customers and shareholders."

Employee reaction was overwhelming as they were excited to have \$1000 checks arrive the same day as the announcement.

"This was totally unexpected!" said Assistant Trust Officer Crystal Kimbleton as she choked back tears. "This check will definitely help with upcoming high school graduation and college expenses."

"It's the best day ever!" exclaimed Alec Rader, Deposit Operations Administrative Assistant. "One thousand dollars, a pizza luncheon – this is not how I was expecting this day to go; what a great surprise!"

Head Teller Amanda Riffle stated she was totally speechless and shocked. "This money is going to go a long way in helping me pay down my college loan. It's greatly appreciated!"

"I'm so grateful and it's so amazing!" stated teary-eyed Mortgage Loan Processor Anita Jones. "I am going home to Indonesia this summer and this money will help tremendously with the cost of that trip!" Anita has not been home in nine years.

Lisa Plum, Deposit Operations Administrative Assistant II, says the employees of Citizens couldn't ask to work for a better organization. "This was just wonderful news. I'm now going

to be able to take a vacation this year that was not going to happen. We are so fortunate to work for a bank that cares so much for their employees.”

The overall sentiment of the employees throughout the bank was shock and gratitude.

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Citizens Bank of West Virginia operates five full-service banking offices in Elkins, Parsons, Beverly, Snowshoe, and Buckhannon. The Bank has earned a coveted 5-Star rating from BauerFinancial, the nation’s premier bank rating firm. A five-star rating indicates the bank excels in areas of capital adequacy, profitability, asset quality and much more.

More information about Citizens Bank may be found on its website at www.citizenswv.com.

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