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**For Immediate Release
Photo Included**

Citizens Bank of West Virginia's board of directors has named Nathaniel S. Bonnell executive vice president effective August 1, 2011. Additionally, he will retain the responsibility of chief financial officer in his new executive role and serve as treasurer of Citizens Financial Corp., the bank's holding company.

"Nathaniel has demonstrated outstanding leadership coupled with a great understanding of the banking climate since joining Citizens Bank," said William T. Johnson, Jr., president & CEO. "Upon my retirement, our board and staff are pleased that Nathaniel has accepted this key role as EVP in leading our team along with Tom Derbyshire at the helm as president & CEO."

A native of Elkins, Bonnell started his banking career with Citizens in 2000 working part-time in the internal auditing department and as a teller. In 2003, he was hired full-time as special projects officer and was promoted to financial reporting manager in 2005. He was appointed vice president and chief financial officer in 2007 before advancing to senior vice president and chief financial officer in 2008.

The newly appointed EVP is a 1999 graduate of Elkins High School. Valedictorian of Davis & Elkins College's Class of 2003, Bonnell graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.S. in Accounting & Management and received a Master of Business Administration from West Virginia University in 2007.

Bonnell is a Certified Information Systems Auditor and Certified Public Accountant – having previously received a merit award in 2003 for earning the highest score on the CPA exam in the state of WV. He was selected as D&E's 2007 Outstanding Young Alumnus and was elected to D&E College's National Alumni Council. He is a member of the American Institute of CPAs and Member WV Society of CPAs.

"Nathaniel is a valued member of our senior leadership team and a tremendous asset to our bank," said current EVP Thomas K. Derbyshire. "This promotion is recognition of the successes he has facilitated at Citizens. He has been a major catalyst for some great changes we have made throughout the years and he's a great choice to help guide our internal team as we continue to move forward."

He is a member of the board of directors of the Randolph County Children's Advocacy Center and a member of the Mercy Chapel United Methodist Church in Montrose.

Married to Christina Bonnell, they reside in Montrose with their two children, Braelyn and Kelsea.

Citizens Bank of West Virginia, with headquarters in Elkins, offers full service banking, trust, and investment services. The bank has \$237 million in consolidated assets and operates four banking offices and nine ATM facilities in Randolph, Tucker and Pocahontas counties.