

Kathy Leombruno  
SVP & Marketing Officer  
304.636.4095 x159  
leombruno@citizenswv.com

211 Third Street  
Elkins, WV  
304.636.4095  
www.citizenswv.com



## **For Immediate Release**



William T. Johnson Jr., President & CEO of Citizens Bank of West Virginia, has announced that he will retire effective July 31, 2011. Johnson has served in this position since April 2005, and will continue his association with Citizens Bank as a member of its Board of Directors.

Johnson is the longest serving employee of Citizens Bank having started his banking career 47 years ago in 1963 as a teller. During his tenure, he has served as Head Teller, Marketing Director, Assistant Vice President/Cashier, Vice President/Cashier, Vice President/Investment Officer, and Executive Vice President. Johnson served under every bank president since its inception in 1924, with the exception of first president and former Governor of WV H.G. Kump; those presidents included Enoch W. Channell, James W. Wallace, H.H. Keim, Warren M. Roy, Emery Thompson, Jr. and Robert J. Schoonover.

Johnson's contributions to Citizens and the banking industry have been notable. He orchestrated significant changes, including the successful completion of changing from a national bank charter to a state charter in 2009, renaming the 84-year-old institution of Citizens National Bank to Citizens Bank of West Virginia. Along with several initiatives to improve efficiency and product delivery, Johnson also instituted a new gold standard of service program taking Citizens to its next level of excellence.

From 2000 – 2004, President Johnson was one of four individuals representing the State of West Virginia on the Fifth District Advisory Committee of the Federal Reserve Board of Richmond. He was also appointed to represent West Virginia on the American Bankers Association Community Bank Council.

A native of Randolph County, Johnson is a graduate of Elkins High School. He graduated from the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University and the Graduate School of Bank Investments at the University of Colorado.

President Johnson's leadership and commitment to Citizens' banking practices have enabled the organization to thrive. "It has been a great privilege and incredible experience to lead a premiere

financial institution that has such a significant impact on its community. Our role as a vital community bank is something we take to heart each day. We work hard at putting the right products and services in place for the success of our customers.”

Active in the community, he is a member and past president of Elkins Rotary Club, past president and Director Emeritus of the Mountain State Forest Festival Association, and past commissioner of the Elkins Housing Authority. Johnson is a member of the First United Methodist Church of Elkins, and past trustee and chairman of the FUMC Administrative Board. In 2010, Johnson received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Elkins-Randolph County Chamber of Commerce.

“While my years at Citizens have been incredible, I am looking forward to a new phase in my life, which includes some travel, more golf, and additional time with my family, especially my wife and grandchildren. I will, however, continue my volunteerism and non-profit work in retirement, giving back to this community that has been so good to me and the bank for so many years.” said Johnson.

Married to Beverly Johnson, President & CEO of Johnson Realty Inc., they have one daughter Kim Barnett and son-in-law Steve Barnett, and two grandchildren, Jillian and Brendan.

“It’s been a fulfilling career and I leave the bank in very capable hands with a strong capital position. I have been privileged to work with a great leadership team and board of directors. I’ve been surrounded by a great group of employees who have an unwavering commitment to Citizens Bank’s mission and goals. During the next few months, I look forward to helping guide the transition of leadership.”

According to Max L Armentrout, Chairman of the Board, “Johnson’s administration and allegiance to Citizens Bank will be missed. Like all good leaders he has done a very good job of preparing a capable management team that will continue the bank’s commitment and service to our customers, shareholders and the community. Over upcoming weeks, the board will be working with Bill and the management team to ensure a smooth transition for our continued success. For now we extend best wishes for a well deserved retirement.”

Citizens Bank of West Virginia, with headquarters in Elkins, offers full service banking, trust, and investment services. As of February 15, 2011, Citizens had \$240 million in consolidated assets and operates four banking offices and nine ATM facilities in Randolph, Tucker and Pocahontas counties.