

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TODAY

News and topics of interest to financial institutions regulated by the Department of Banking and Finance

June 2022

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Graduate School of Banking Graduation

Congratulations to Chris Ward, Ashley Poe, Steven Caudell, and Billy Houston, on their graduation from the Graduate School of Banking on the campus of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This concludes courses that began in 2019 with a one-year delay due to the pandemic. We also want to recognize that Steven Caudell earned "A"s on every bank-study project, a notable achievement that only 115 graduates in the over 70-year history of the school have accomplished.

Commissioner Kevin Hagler stated that "successful completion of the Graduate School of Banking is a notable accomplishment, and the Department continues to be represented by an exceptional team that continuously strives to expand their knowledge and professional skills. Congratulations to the 2022 graduating class!"



2022 National Survey of Community Banks

Survey Link: https://frbstlspra.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8jNJV1VfPiQFjPE
Survey Close Date: July 15, 2022

The Department would like to share with you that the 2022 National Survey of Community Banks is now live.

This survey is a vital pillar of the Community Banking Research Conference sponsored by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS), the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB), and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). The results from the survey have enabled community banks to inform policymakers and researchers about the opportunities and challenges facing the community banking industry.

This year's questions focus on current banking conditions and emerging issues, such as technology and inflation, product service design and offerings, and the future of community banking.

The Department would like to thank those who have completed the survey and encourage those who have not yet participated. We would like to see great Georgia participation to make sure Georgia Banker perspectives are fully captured into the results. We ask that you complete the survey by July 15, 2022.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, then please contact Deputy Commissioner for Supervision Melissa Sneed at msneed@dbf.state.ga.us.

CISA Provides Cyber Hygiene Services Fact Sheet

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) published details of no-cost services the agency provides to financial institutions to help identify vulnerabilities in their Internet-facing infrastructure. Per CISA, adversaries use known vulnerabilities and phishing attacks to compromise the security of organizations. CISA offers several scanning and testing services to help organizations reduce their exposure to threats by taking a proactive approach to mitigating attack vectors.

- **Vulnerability Scanning:** Evaluates external network presence by executing continuous scans of public, static IPs for accessible services and vulnerabilities. This service provides weekly vulnerability reports and ad-hoc alerts.
- **Web Application Scanning:** Evaluates known and discovered publicly-accessible websites for potential bugs and weak configuration to provide recommendations for mitigating web application security risks.
- **Phishing Campaign Assessment:** Provides an opportunity for determining the potential susceptibility of personnel to phishing attacks. This is a practical exercise intended to support and measure the effectiveness of security awareness training.

Additionally, CISA recommends you further protect your organization by identifying assets that are searchable via online tools and taking steps to reduce related exposures. Further information is located on CISA's website [here](#).

CFPB Resources for Elder Financial Exploitation Prevention

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has toolkits available on its website for both banks and credit unions that contain materials to use in the institution's elder financial exploitation prevention program. The toolkits contain sample excerpts that can be inserted into an institution's newsletters, blogs, email blasts, and/or social media to help raise awareness of elder financial exploitation and prevention practices. Links to the toolkits are below:

- Bank: <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/educator-tools/resources-for-older-adults/protecting-against-fraud/age-friendly-promotional-toolkit-for-banks/>
- Credit Union: <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/educator-tools/resources-for-older-adults/protecting-against-fraud/age-friendly-promotional-toolkit-for-credit-unions/>

Annual Assessment Notices—Banks, Credit Unions, and Holding Companies

The bank and credit union annual assessments are due no later than September 30th. An email will be sent to each institutions' primary contact from GADBF@micropact.com at the beginning of September with the annual assessment invoice. Please be on the lookout for this email. The Department will initiate an ACH debit for the assessment fee for regulated banks and credit unions unless stated otherwise in the body of the assessment notice.

The assessment fee for holding companies will need to be paid through the [Department's online portal](#). Holding company assessments are due no later than September 15th. If you do not receive the annual assessment invoice email at the beginning of September or have any questions on using the online portal, please contact your Supervisory Manager using the information provided below:

Banks and Holding Companies:

Districts 1 and 2: Victoria Williams, vwilliams@dbf.state.ga.us, 770-986-1645

District 4: Mathew Robinson, mrobinson@dbf.state.ga.us, 770-986-1627

District 5: Dawn McCaskill, dmccaskill@dbf.state.ga.us, 770-986-5049

Credit Unions:

District 1: Victoria Williams, vwilliams@dbf.state.ga.us, 770-986-1645

Districts 2 and 5: Dawn McCaskill, dmccaskill@dbf.state.ga.us, 770-986-5049

District 4: Mathew Robinson, mrobinson@dbf.state.ga.us, 770-986-1627

ACTION ON APPLICATIONS FOR THE MONTH

The following is a summary of official action taken by the Department on certain applications by Georgia state-chartered financial institutions, petitions for certificate of incorporation of financial institutions, and other matters of interest during the month of June 2022:

APPLICATIONS TO ESTABLISH A BRANCH OFFICE

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>BRANCH OFFICE</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
LGE Community Credit Union Atlanta, GA	6615 Roswell Road Sandy Springs, GA 30328	06/03/2022	

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION MERGERS

<u>SURVIVOR</u>	<u>MERGERED INSTITUTION</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Credit Union 1 Rantoul, IL	Emory Alliance Credit Union Decatur, GA	Pending	

APPLICATIONS TO ACQUIRE A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>TO ACQUIRE</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Heart of Georgia Bancshares, Inc. Vidalia, GA	Bank of Lumber City Lumber City, GA	06/30/2022	

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE BRANCH OFFICE LOCATION

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>BRANCH OFFICE</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
CGR Credit Union Macon, GA	From: 571 Hammock Road Suite 100 Milledgeville, GA 31061 Baldwin County To: Cobb Street Milledgeville, GA 31061 Baldwin County	06/23/2022	

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE MAIN OFFICE LOCATION

<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>MAIN OFFICE LOCATION</u>	<u>APPROVAL DATE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Pinnacle Credit Union Atlanta, GA	From: 536 North Ave NE Atlanta, GA 30308 Fulton County To: 1342 Glenwood Ave SE Atlanta, GA 30316 Fulton County	06/23/2022	
OneSouth Bank Blakely, GA	From: 12347 Columbia Street Blakely, GA 39823 Early County To: 4070 Forsyth Road Macon, GA 31210 Macon-Bibb County	Pending	

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The Department is the state agency that regulates and examines Georgia state-chartered banks, state-chartered credit unions, state-chartered trust companies, international banking organizations, and bank holding companies that own Georgia state-chartered financial institutions. The Department also has responsibility for the supervision, regulation, and examination of Merchant Acquirer Limited Purpose Banks chartered in Georgia.

In addition, the Department has regulatory and/or licensing authority over mortgage brokers, lenders and processors, mortgage loan originators, consumer installment loan companies, check cashers, sellers-issuers of payment instruments, and money transmitters.

Our Mission is to promote safe, sound, competitive financial services in Georgia through innovative, responsive regulation and supervision.