**Press Release**

**For immediate release**

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 **West Central Georgia Bank Named Among Top 100 Community Banks in**

**the U.S. by S&P Global Market Intelligence**

THOMASTON – Eddie Rogers, President of West Central Georgia Bank, joined bank CEO Bill Bazemore in announcing that the Thomaston-based bank has been named a Top 100 Community Bank in the United States for 2023. The distinction was defined by considering community banks with assets less than three billion dollars. West Central Georgia Bank was the highest-rated bank in Georgia in the category,

S&P Global Market Intelligence ranks institutions based on returns, growth and funding but places a premium on the strength and risk profile of balance sheets. The rankings were launched in 2011 to assess the performance of community banks and credit unions.

“As banks and credit unions weather a higher for longer interest rate environment, we are delighted to see them continue serving their local markets,” said Nathan Stovall, director of financial institutions research at S&P Global Market Intelligence. “During these volatile times, quality data and insights continue to be vital, and we are committed to providing transparency through these rankings to help the market make informed decisions.”

 “We are privileged and proud to have been named one of the top 100 independent banks in the nation,” Rogers said. “Since our founding in 1974, we have been dedicated to the finest princples of community banking. That dedication is shared by our entire team, hence the foundation of being such a highly-rated institution.”