

# February 22, 2023



## Advocacy

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Check Out Our Preferred Service Providers!

**TRAVELERS** 



## Bankers Testify Against Proposed Interchange Legislation



CBA's Lori Godfrey, EVP, Government & Regulatory Relations, and John McNair, CEO, with David Black, Georgia Banking Company (center)

The Georgia banking industry was well represented yesterday in the Senate Banking & Financial Institutions hearing regarding the proposed interchange legislation. **David Black, Georgia Banking Company**, testified on behalf of CBA of Georgia and **Rhodes McLanahan, First American Bank & Trust Co.** represented Georgia Bankers Association. Strong testimony was also presented by those in the payments industry. [View the testimony.](#)

Read more about SB 126 in [CBA's Advocacy Blog](#).

## Moving the Needle—Colony Bank's Innovation Journey

The innovation journey looks different for every Georgia community bank. Banks have questions about where to start, who to partner with, what bank peers are doing, regulatory concerns, current offers and more.

CBA invited **Heath Fountain, CEO of Colony Bank, Albany**, to share how Colony Bank began its innovation journey as well as his advice to community bankers starting their own journey. Check it out in [the latest issue of Georgia Communities First magazine.](#)



## CBA Advocacy Fund: Thank You!

At CBA, we must constantly build and renew relationships with legislators that understand and support community banking.

Thank you to the following banks for their generous contributions to CBA's Advocacy Fund:

- **Community Bank of Dublin – Laurens County, Dublin** – Mr. Brian Bazemore
- **Mr. Brian Bazemore, Dublin**
- **VSoft Corporation, Atlanta** – Ms. Alicia McKinley



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Community Bankers Association of Georgia presents the

2023



*J. Steven Walraven*  
**MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
A Scholarship Designed Specifically for Community Bank Employees

### Benefit for Bank Employees: Walraven Scholarship

Applications for the annual **J. Steven Walraven Memorial Scholarship** application are now available. The \$500 scholarship is awarded to a Georgia community bank employee attending a college or university within the state of Georgia. The goal of the scholarship is to assist those employees interested in furthering their education to enhance their career in community banking. The scholarship is named for the late J. Steven Walraven, a former community bank president who dedicated much of his life to his community and community banking. The deadline to submit applications to CBA is **Friday, April 14, 2023**, and the winner will be announced mid-May. Spread the word at your bank! [Learn more about the J. Steven Walraven Scholarship.](#)




2023  
*Julian & Jan Hester*  
**MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

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Georgia's community bankers do great things in their communities every day. Here is the latest on community outreach and news from CBA Members:

- **Matt Fordham and BJ Coody, The Citizens Bank of Cochran**, recently spoke about the economy and budgeting to eight-grade students at Bleckley County Middle School.

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**Bartow Morgan, CEO, Georgia Banking Company, Atlanta**, was recently published in *CEOCFO Magazine*.



**Wayne Bradley and Ann-Marie Notaro** have joined **Troutman Pepper, Atlanta**, in the firm's national Corporate Practice Group.



**Doug Williams, President, Atlanta Banking Group** and Head of Corporate Banking, **SouthState Bank, Atlanta**, recently named

[Read article.](#)

[Read more.](#)

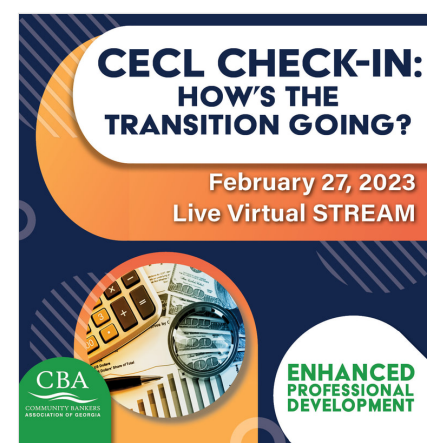
to Atlanta magazine's Top 500 list.

[Read more.](#)



### Think CBA First for Your Professional Development Needs!

Here are some upcoming CBA events:

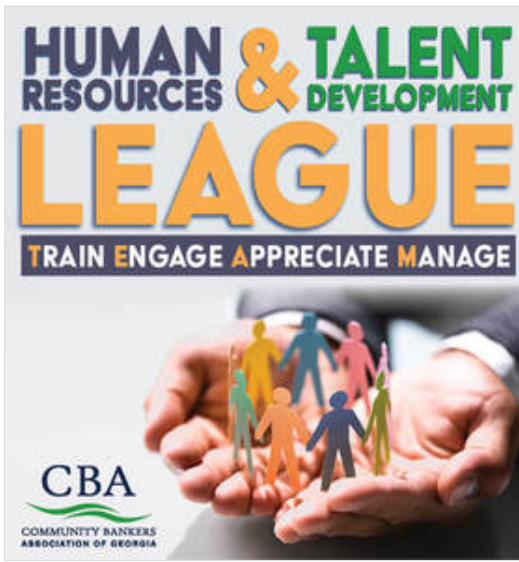


### Successful Kickoff of Essentials of Banking

Earlier this month our state's Community Bankers gathered with bankers from Missouri and Virginia to participate virtually in The Essentials of Banking program facilitated by **Christie Drexler** with **Performance Solutions, Inc.** During the initial session, topics revolved around the evolution of banking and key regulations as well as the Federal Reserve System and other key Regulatory Agencies.

**Kayla Williams**, AVP & Branch Manager with **First Port City Bank** said the following "Today's session was wonderful! I can't wait until session 2!" It's not too late to join this group for Session 2 on March 28th! Learn more about [future sessions](#).





## HR/TD RAP Session 1

March 3, 2023 | Macon or Live STREAM

- Legal Update
- Advocacy Update
- 2023 Conference Outline and Update
- Topics for the Year - NEEDS Discussion
- Quiet Hiring - T&D
- Roundtable Q/A

[Learn more and register.](#)



## CECL Check-in: How's the Transition Going?

February 27, 2023 | Live Virtual STREAM

CECL is here! How are we doing? In this CECL Check-In session, we'll share information from banks we've been working with. We will also discuss challenges they have faced on the road to CECL adoption. We'll cover best practices, practical tips, timelines (*not everything has to be done the first day*) and suggested documentation needed to support the CECL standard. Bring your CECL questions! [Register here.](#)



**Shawn O'Brien**  
Qwickrate



**Jeff Burleson**  
Warren Averett

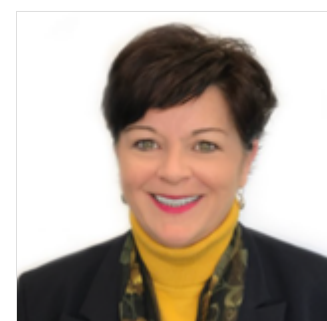
## Compliance Officer Bootcamp

February 28–March 3, 2023 | St. Simons

During Compliance Officer Bootcamp, we will cover:

- Organizing the Compliance Function
- Finding and Understanding the Applicable Laws, Rules, Regulations, and Guidance
- Conducting Reviews and Analysis
- Compliance Examinations
- Highlight of Key Regulations—Lending, Deposits, Enterprise-Wide
- Explore Presentation Skills and Influencing Management
- Communicating with Leadership—Ensuring Your Seat at the Table
- Breakout Sessions with Peers
- Mini Workshops to Apply Learnings
- Resources, Resources and More Resources!

[Register here.](#)



**Leah M. Hamilton, JD**  
Pro Bank Austin

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**CBA Affiliate Education Program Providing  
Additional Opportunities for Professional  
Development**



Collaborating with ICBA gives our members even more choices to support the learning and development goals of individuals and your bank. [Check out Community Banker University Powered by ICBA.](#)

When selecting to register for a Community Banker University Powered by ICBA program, please use our state association code **GA-CBA**. Using the code will alert ICBA to give back to Georgia through our alliance in supporting the community banking industry. Let's all win by increasing knowledge, improving efficiency, and investing in our employees while working together to uplift the industry we love—COMMUNITY BANKING!



**Target Future Leaders!**

The first quarter of **CBA's Leadership Academy** kicks off March 28–29 in Macon, focusing on the topic: **Winning Together: Becoming the Leader Your Team Needs & Wants**. Enjoy lunch and dinner with approximately 15 bankers who are focusing on their leadership skills. Only one co-sponsorship available for this session. For more information, contact [Lindsay Greene](#).



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Contact [Diana Baker](#) at 404-386-7146 or visit their [website](#).



Here are some of the latest news stories relevant to community banking and the financial services industry:

- [Financial Stability Board Warns of DeFi Risks](#)
- [FDIC Issues New Cease-and-Desist Letters on Deposit Insurance Claims](#)
- [Report on Cross-Border Settlements Could Influence CBDC Debate](#)
- [OCC Revises Change in Bank Control Booklet](#)

## Want to submit an article or promotion for the next newsletter?

Email the article and/or promotion that you'd like included in the next newsletter to [Lindsay Greene](mailto:lindsay@cbaofga.com) at [lindsay@cbaofga.com](mailto:lindsay@cbaofga.com). Be sure to include a press release, a short description, or a link to the full article. In addition, please include any photos or headshots.

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**Leadership  
Academy  
Session 1:  
Winning  
Together:  
Becoming the  
Leader Your  
Team Needs &  
Wants - 3/28-  
3/29**

Mar 28, 2023

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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School -  
Atlanta - 4/3-**

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