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Freedom First Commercial Lending Expanding into the New River Valley

September 2021 (Roanoke, VA) — Freedom First is expanding its Commercial Lending Department deeper into the New River Valley by hiring Carie Kingery, Market Executive for the New River Valley, and Spencer Lowry, Vice President of Commercial Lending.

“The future is bright for Freedom First and the opportunity to build a dynamic team in the New River Valley is exciting,” says Kingery. “Customer service is the most important part of banking and that will remain a top priority as we move forward. We are looking forward to growing the commercial lending landscape across our footprint by providing local bankers, local decisions, and a program that allows us to put your money back to work in your local community.”

Carie Kingery was born and raised in the New River Valley and has 19 years of experience in the banking industry. Of her 19 years in banking, 17 of those were spent with Atlantic Union Bank, where she held numerous positions throughout the years as a manager for Retail Banking and as a Business Banker for the NRV. Her most recent role was Vice President-Commercial Relationship Manager with American National Bank.

Spencer Lowry’s banking career has spanned several years, all of which have been spent serving the communities of the New River Valley. Most recently, Spencer was the Assistant Vice President, Financial Center Manager at American National Bank. As AVP, Spencer was a top performer who supported the consumer lending and relationship needs of his clients.

“We have a local commercial team committed to meeting the known as well as unknown needs of our members,” says Lowry. “This commitment is backed by the history and support of a 65-year-old credit union that places a significant amount of emphasis on reinvesting in our local communities. We are poised to provide a banking option in the commercial field where existing and prospective members can bank for good.”

This news is on the heels of the recent announcement that Freedom First is expanding its footprint further into the surrounding region. “Adding a Commercial Lending team focused on the New River Valley is an important step in our plan to better serve the needs of businesses in that community,” says Freedom First Chief Banking Officer Shon Aguero. “Carie and Spencer are extremely experienced in fostering and managing commercial relationships and we are excited to see the growth that comes from their hard work.”

For more information about Freedom First’s expansion, visit www.freedomfirst.com/who-we-are.

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ABOUT FREEDOM FIRST CREDIT UNION: Freedom First Credit Union is the largest member owned, Community Development Financial Institution in Southwest Virginia. Founded in 1956, Freedom First has grown to over 57,000 members, assets of over \$800 million, and 10 branch locations in the Roanoke and New River Valleys. Freedom First members benefit from competitive rates, secure and convenient technology, and the knowledge that their money is being reinvested in their community. For more information, please visit www.freedomfirst.com