



Press Release

For Immediate Release

GULF CAPITAL BANK APPOINTS DOWNEY BRIDGWATER AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Bridgwater to propel growth of the Houston-based bank

HOUSTON (September 11, 2023) -- [Gulf Capital Bank](#) today announced that Downey Bridgwater will join Gulf Capital Bank as Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Bridgwater succeeds [Ed Jones](#), who will remain as Executive Chairman and Chief Development Officer. The strategic transition will strengthen the company's position in the Houston market as it moves towards becoming the trusted relationship bank of choice for Houstonians and their businesses.

Bridgwater joins Gulf Capital Bank with more than 43 years in the banking industry. Bridgwater began his banking career with Allied Bank in 1978 (acquired by First Interstate Bank) before going on to serve as Senior Vice President of Corporate Banking at Charter Bank (acquired by Nations Bank) and President, CEO and Chairman of the Board at Sterling Bank and Sterling Bancshares, Inc., where he is credited with growing assets from \$1 billion to more than \$5 billion (acquired by Comerica Bank). Most recently, Bridgwater served as the President of the Houston Market at Comerica where he successfully led strategic planning, organic growth, and profitability.

"As an independent Texas bank, Gulf Capital Bank provides competitive products and an exceptional customer banking experience to the greater Houston community," said Bridgwater. "It is a privilege for me to be part of this growing company and I look forward to helping Houstonians thrive."

A prominent name in the Houston business community, Bridgwater has served on numerous boards including the Greater Houston Partnership, the Board of Visitors at the University of Houston, the Deans' Advisory Board at the Bauer College of Business at the University of Houston, and the Harris County Housing Finance Corporation. He is the past Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Texas Medical Center and is currently a Life Director.

"Downey's wealth of experience in the industry is unmatched," shared Ed Jones, Executive Chairman and Chief Development Officer. "I'm confident that in his role as CEO of Gulf Capital Bank, he will bring the talent, experience and energy necessary to successfully grow the bank to \$1 billion in assets and beyond."

Opening its doors in 2020, Gulf Capital Bank aims to redefine the value of a bank by offering the personal touch of a traditional community bank combined with state-of-the-art banking technology and commercial banking expertise led by a group of Houston's business and civic leaders.

Earlier this year, the bank surpassed \$500 million in assets. Under Bridgwater's and Jones' collaborative leadership, the bank is well positioned to continue its growth in the greater Houston area. For more information about Gulf Capital Bank visit <http://www.gulfcapitalbank.com/>.

About Gulf Capital Bank:

Gulf Capital Bank, headquartered in Houston, Texas, is redefining the value of a bank. The bank opened its doors in January 2020 and keeps personal relationships at the center of everything it does. With decades-deep local roots, the team uses hard work, straight talk and smart thinking to help customers accomplish their business and personal financial objectives. For additional information, please visit <http://www.gulfcapitalbank.com/>.

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