



First Independent
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March 15, 2010

First Independent Taps Seasoned Professionals To Lead Credit Administration Functions

First Independent Bank has placed two long-time commercial banking experts in senior positions in credit administration. The bank has promoted Rob Davison to Deputy Chief Credit Officer and appointed Gary Ehrig as Special Assets Officer and Senior Vice President in the Special Assets Division.

“Strong and effective credit administration helps to ensure that the bank’s resources are appropriately and responsibly applied to benefit and protect our depositors, shareholders and the community at large,” said Brett Bryant, Executive Vice President and Chief Relationship Officer. “I am pleased to have these two seasoned individuals in key positions as we continue to strengthen the bank’s commercial lending portfolio and manage our exposure to risk.”

A 30-year banking veteran, Davison joined First Independent in 2005 after leadership positions in middle market banking for Bank of America. His first assignment at First Independent was to manage the bank’s Portland commercial banking office before assuming responsibility for commercial and industrial lending bank-wide. In 2008 he became Senior Credit Administrator, playing a key role in managing credit standards and working with bank staff and clients to resolve credit issues during the tumultuous financial crisis that affected all banks in 2008 and 2009.

Ehrig, with 32 years of banking experience, recently joined First Independent from Memphis-based First Horizon National Corp., where he was Senior Vice President/Western Regional Manager for commercial real estate. Prior to his nine years with First Horizon, Ehrig held increasingly responsible commercial real estate lending positions with some of the Northwest’s leading banks.

Ehrig graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in finance and holds a CMB from Michigan State University’s Kellogg School of Business as well as several professional certifications from the Appraisal Institute at Stanford University and the Pacific Coast Banking School.

“With a highly experienced Chief Credit Officer, a seasoned credit team and the addition of Davison and Ehrig in key credit functions, First Independent has been able to effectively manage risk and diversity in its loan portfolio despite the challenges all banks faced with the deterioration of the

housing and commercial real estate industries in 2008 and 2009,” said Bryant. “We are successfully decreasing the percentage of our portfolio in commercial real estate while continuing to selectively grow our business and consumer lending portfolio.”

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A full service community bank with assets of nearly \$1 billion, First Independent is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The bank serves SW Washington and Portland residents and businesses from 20 branches and offices in the region and a variety of online and mobile banking services. Headquartered in Vancouver, WA, with a long tradition of supporting local community organizations, First Independent is committed to enhancing the economic vitality and quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. Member FDIC.