

FDIC News

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Employee Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2025

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FDIC Celebrates Excellence at the Annual Chairman's Awards Ceremony

By Carly Brewster, Lead Writer-Editor, Office of Communications



Colleagues gather at the Annual Chairman's Awards ceremony at Virginia Square on November 20.

On Thursday, November 20, 2025, the FDIC community gathered in the Sheila Bair Auditorium and across virtual platforms to celebrate the 2024 Annual Chairman's Awards Ceremony—an event that honored the remarkable contributions of employees across the agency. The ceremony brought together colleagues from every corner of the FDIC, showcasing the dedication, innovation, and professionalism that continue to strengthen the Corporation's mission.

The program opened with welcoming remarks that set the tone for a celebratory and reflective afternoon. Attendees were joined by the Civil Air Patrol of Arlington, whose presence added a fitting sense of ceremony and appreciation.

Marshall Gentry, Deputy to the Chairman, Chief Financial Officer, and Acting Chief Operating Officer delivered opening remarks in which he noted that, "While the ceremony recognizes a select group of honorees, their accomplishments represent the exceptional work taking

place across the agency every day."

As winners were announced, a theme became clear: Whether through supervision, consumer protection, data analysis, legal expertise, corporate operations, or public engagement, FDIC employees continue to make meaningful contributions that support financial stability and reinforce public confidence in the banking system.

CHAIRMAN'S EXCELLENCE AWARDS



The Silicon Valley Bank International Team was awarded the Chairman's Excellence Award for a team.

Acting Chairman Travis Hill announced the winners of the Chairman's Excellence Awards.

The first award of the afternoon—Chairman's Excellence Award for an Individual—recognized an employee whose work in 2024 exemplified both technical mastery and principled problem-solving. **James Watts**, a Counsel in the Legal Division, was honored for creative and pragmatic leadership on some of the year's most complex deposit

The FDIC News is published monthly by the Office of Communications (OCOM) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), 550 17th Street N.W., Room 7102 Washington, DC 20429
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insurance issues. His work strengthened consumer access to deposits following the bankruptcy of Synapse Financial Technologies and shaped a proposed rulemaking to bolster custodial deposit recordkeeping.

The Chairman's Excellence Award for an Executive honored **Jessica Kaemingk**, Kansas City Regional Director, who stepped into her role in 2024, with strategic vision and a commitment to supporting both her region and the broader FDIC. She quickly immersed herself in supervisory, operational, and staffing challenges; helped strengthen examination practices; and provided leadership as the executive sponsor of Supervision360, a major effort to streamline and modernize the agency's supervisory processes.

The Chairman's Excellence Award for a Team recognized a cross-divisional group whose work on the international components of the Silicon Valley Bank receivership demonstrated extraordinary collaboration, expertise, and determination. The team managed legal, financial, and operational challenges across multiple countries and jurisdictions and ultimately recovered more than \$530 million for the Deposit Insurance Fund.

Team members include:

Lynne Baum, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Noah Bloomberg, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Laura Fontaine, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Joanne Fungaroli, Corporate Expert (Resolution Readiness), CISR
Jasa Gitomer, Regional Counsel, Legal
Bruce Hickey, Senior Counsel, Legal
Alicia Hunt, Counsel, Legal
Remetta Jackson, Senior Asset Management Specialist, DRR
Tim Jarrett, Senior Asset Marketing Specialist, DRR
Nicholas Katsonis, Counsel, Legal
Tom Krause, Counsel (Section Chief), Legal
Sonya Levine, Counsel, Legal
Alexandria Luk, Assistant Director, CISR
Luis Mayorga, Assistant Director, CISR
Edward Mertic, Chief, Asset Management Policy and Oversight Section, DRR
Aaron Moore, Regional Counsel, Legal
Shivali Nangia, Assistant Director, Claims and Strategic Operations, DRR

Linda Saville, Chief, Asset Marketing Section, DRR

Jacques Schillaci, Attorney-Adviser, Legal

Jeffrey Schmitt, Senior Counsel, Legal

Sam Taylor Jr, Counsel, Legal

Jeffrey Thomas, Attorney-Adviser, Legal

ARLEAS UPTON KEA CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Arleas Upton Kea Culture of Excellence Award recognized the Facilities Operations Section for its extraordinary efforts during the FDIC's transition to increased on-site work. Charged with coordinating more than 1,000 office moves across four headquarters buildings, the team managed daily logistics, prepared workspaces, supported IT coordination, and engaged directly with employees to ensure a smooth return-to-office experience. Their work exemplified collaboration, responsiveness, and a commitment to service that touched every Headquarters employee.

Team members include:

Allison Blanchard, Facilities Operations Specialist, DOA

Timothy Eller, Lead Facilities Operations Specialist, DOA

Anthony Ford, Lead Property Management Specialist, DOA

Corey Hamilton, Management Analyst (Space Mgt), DOA

Rodriquez Hendricks, Facilities Services Assistant, DOA

Ajeya Hughes, Facilities Operations Specialist, DOA

Leon King, Assistant Director, DOA

Christopher Kolker, Senior Facility Operations Specialist, DOA

Jay Leung, Safety and Occupational Health Manager, DOA

Gwenn Marley, Supervisory Program Specialist, DOA

Derrick McDaniel, Facilities Services Assistant, DOA

Que Chi Nguyen, Support Services Specialist, DOA

Charlotte Smith, Management Analyst, DOA

Rachel Taylor, Facilities Operations Specialist, DOA

Cara Westholm, Supervisory Facilities Operations Specialist, DOA

EDWARD J. RODDY EXAMINER EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Edward J. Roddy Examiner Excellence Award honored **Eric Guyot**, Assistant Regional Director (Risk Management), a career safety- and soundness examiner whose four decades of service exemplify dedication to the RMS mission. Known for his judgment, leadership, and deep commitment to examiner development, Eric has mentored generations of examiners—including more than 1,200 pre-commissioned examiners through his 31 years of teaching at FDIC Core Schools—leaving a profound legacy of professionalism and public service.

SYLVIA PLUNKETT EXAMINER EXCELLENCE AWARD



Sandra DiChiara is awarded the Sylvia Plunkett Examiner Excellence Award.

The Sylvia Plunkett Examiner Excellence Award was presented to **Sandra DiChiara**, a seasoned consumer compliance examiner whose 32-year career reflects exceptional technical expertise, leadership, and service to the FDIC. Known for her high standards, strong teams, and positive approach to complex challenges, she has served in multiple specialist and leadership

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roles while contributing to major corporate initiatives—including culture transformation efforts—through her thoughtful, values-driven leadership.

JAMES R. MCFADYEN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH, DATA, AND POLICY ANALYSIS



DIR Director Andy Felton presents the James R. McFadyen Award for Excellence in Research, Data, and Policy Analysis.

The McFadyen Award honored the team responsible for implementing and collecting the Special Assessment stemming from the 2023 failures of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank. Their rigorous verification work with large banking organizations led to accurate reporting of uninsured deposits, adjustments totaling \$185 billion, and clear communication with institutions throughout the assessment period. Their efforts have already resulted in the successful collection of \$12.6 billion and positioned the FDIC to fully recover losses to the Deposit Insurance Fund.

Team members include:

Frank Blanchard, Senior Financial Analyst, DIR

Scott Ciardi, Senior Assessment Specialist, DOF

Jason Diedrich, Manager, Assessment Compliance Section, DOF

Melissa Hartley, Senior Assessment Specialist, DOF

Jonathan Houttekier, Senior Financial Analyst, DIR

Ashley Mihalik, Deputy Director, Deposit Insurance and Risk Analysis, DIR

Dennis Probst, Senior Assessment Specialist, DOF

Donna Saulnier, Director, DOF

Kayla Shoemaker, Chief, Banking & Regulatory Policy Section, DIR

Steve Wagoner, Senior Assessment Specialist, DOF

DRR ROBERT F. LONGWORTH LEADERSHIP AWARD



Alale Allal is awarded the DRR Robert F. Longworth Leadership Award.

Alale Allal, Chief of DRR's Risk Sharing Asset Management Section, was honored with the Longworth Leadership Award. Alale was recognized for his exceptional leadership in transforming the Shared Loss Program, implementing a proactive and rigorous claims-review framework that strengthened oversight, reduced risk, and ensured long-term program sustainability. His calm, steady direction guided his team through major operational change during a period of peak workload, delivering meaningful improvements without disruption.

BOBBY BEAN AWARD FOR BANKING POLICY LEADERSHIP

The Bobby Bean Award was presented to **Ryan Tetrick**, Deputy Director of CISR's Resolution Readiness Branch. Ryan was honored for his strategic leadership in strengthening the FDIC's resolution readiness, enhancing public understanding of the resolution process, and improving coordination across domestic and international stakeholders. His work in advancing firm-specific planning, crisis preparedness, and inter-divisional collaboration significantly bolstered the agency's ability to respond effectively in times of stress.

DOUGLAS H. JONES LEGAL EXCELLENCE AWARD



Legal Division staff (and guest) were awarded the Douglas H. Jones Legal Excellence Award.

The Douglas H. Jones Legal Excellence Award was presented to a cross-regional team whose work on a complex enforcement action showcased exceptional collaboration, professionalism, and a "One FDIC" approach to achieving justice. The team coordinated with federal partners, managed extensive litigation, and prepared for a major trial, ultimately obtaining prohibition orders, securing \$1 million in restitution for small businesses, and setting important precedents that strengthen the agency's enforcement framework.

Team members include:

Erik Bond, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Anthony Borzaro, Senior Attorney, Legal
Peter Casey, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Andrew Dober, Senior Counsel (Clu), Legal
Matthew Doyle, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Daveanand Durga, Attorney, Legal
Kent Oz, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Matthew Piersall, E Discovery

Specialist, Legal

Graham Rehrig, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Seth Rosebrock, Assistant General Counsel, Enforcement Section, Legal
Walter Siedentopf, Attorney-Adviser, Legal

Rikki Simmons, Attorney-Adviser, Legal
Daniel Stein, Senior IT Specialist, Legal

ANNIE D. MOORE AWARDS



Elizabeth Ortiz, recipient of the Annie D. Moore Award for an Executive/Corporate Manager.

The Annie D. Moore for an Executive was presented to **Elizabeth Ortiz**, Deputy Director of Consumer and Community Affairs in DCP. Liz was recognized for her

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outstanding leadership in expanding the FDIC's community impact, strengthening employee trust, and spearheading an initiative that enabled staff nationwide to support Volunteer Income Tax Assistance programs. Her vision and dedication empowered employees to serve American families at a critical financial moment (i.e., tax time) and advanced the agency's mission of financial inclusion.



Robin Elliott received the Annie D. Moore Award for a Non-Executive.

The Annie D. Moore Award for a Non-Executive was presented to **Robin Elliott**, Special Advisor to the Chief Operating Officer. Robin was honored for exemplifying the FDIC's Core Values through her professionalism, integrity, and unwavering commitment to organizational excellence. Her exceptional judgment, collaboration, and support of others ensure the effective operation of the COO's office and strengthen trust across the agency.

VISIONARY AWARD

The Visionary Award was presented to **Sudhin K. Nayak**, Senior Quantitative Financial Analyst in DRR, an employee whose transformative work fundamentally modernized one of the FDIC's most critical analytical tools: the Least Cost Test Model. After large bank failures in 2023 exposed vulnerabilities in the legacy system, he took the initiative to rebuild

the model from the ground up. The new version dramatically reduced processing time, improved accuracy, enhanced transparency, and strengthened the FDIC's ability to carry out its resolution responsibilities.

NANCY K. RECTOR PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Mark Taylor, Assistant Regional Director (RMS), Dallas, was honored with the Nancy K. Rector Public Service Award. Mark was recognized for his remarkable dedication to public service, providing life-changing mobility assistance through the Wheels of Hope Mission, and leading construction projects that support communities across the country—as well as in Mexico. His compassion, humility, and decades-long commitment to helping others reflect the very best of the FDIC's values.

FDIC SUPPORT SERVICES AWARD



Deva Tarin, DCP, was awarded the FDIC Support Services Award.

The Support Services Award was presented to **Deva Tarin**, Consumer Education Specialist in DCP, whose creativity, project management skills, and strategic outreach significantly expanded the reach and impact of the FDIC's consumer and community education programs. Her leadership in developing improved post-event surveys, strengthening external partnerships, and coordinating major events helped boost participation in FDIC-led initiatives and

enhanced national engagement around financial education.

35-YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

The ceremony also recognized a remarkable milestone: 141 employees reached 35 years of federal service in 2024. These individuals were recognized for their unwavering dedication to the FDIC mission through decades of economic, technological, and regulatory change. Each honoree received a Board Resolution acknowledging their years of public service and their enduring contributions to financial stability.

(See page 5 for a full list of 35-year service honorees.)

CELEBRATING A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE



Staff celebrate another successful Chairman's Awards Ceremony.

The Annual Chairman's Awards Ceremony served as a powerful reminder that the FDIC's greatest strength lies in its people—their expertise, collaboration, and commitment to the agency's mission.

Congratulations to all of this year's award recipients, and thank you to every FDIC employee for your continued service.



FDIC Honors Employees with 35 Years of Federal Service

The following individuals were recognized at the Chairman's Awards Ceremony on November 20, 2025, for achieving 35 years of federal service in 2024:

Trisha Adams RMS
Angel Adams-Brown DOA
Paul Raymond Agosti RMS
Georgia Rowell Bass DCP
Todd Bator RMS
Darren Beckman RMS
William Beier RMS
Donna Bell RMS
Richard Berrett RMS
Daryn Edward Berry RMS
Louis Joseph Bervid III RMS
Shan Weissinger Bilotta RMS
Marc Bond RMS
Monee Boswell DCP
Eric Kennard Bowman RMS
John Brian Bowman DCP
Kurtis Brown RMS
Sherri Wilson Brown DCP
Zolitta Brown DCP
Shannon Brubaker DIT
Suzanne Clair RMS
Jeff Conrad RMS
Tom Hugh Cothran DRR
Karen Jones Currie RMS
Scott Daggett DOA
Debra Marie Dean RMS
Stephen Doyon DCP
John Drewery Jr DOA
Matthew Duke DCP
Kevin Early RMS
Victoria Johnson Eddington RMS
Kenneth Egan CISR
Kristie Elmquist RMS
Sherri England DRR
Lisa Ennis RMS
Anthony John Fata RMS
Remo William Ficca Jr CISR
Linda Susan Finck RMS
Kenneth Fitzgerald DOF
Roxana Carmen Flores COO
Bernadette Flynn Legal
Carolyn Friedt RMS
Joanna Gekas Legal
Jeffrey Gershow RMS
Mark Goetzmann DCP

John Graziano RMS
Shenita Hamlin COO
Larry Havenridge RMS
Nathan Heizer RMS
Janine Henkes DRR
Nicole Hill COO
Hoang Van Ho DIT
Eric Hollander RMS
Linda Hoover DCP
Cheyann Houts DRR
Eric Howe DOA
Chris Latham Hubbard RMS
Denise Bell Hudson DCP
Douglas Hush RMS
Victor Ingram RMS
Christy Jacobs RMS
Sherry Jenkins RMS
Shirley Johnson-Boyd DIT
Kenneth Justice RMS
Adam David Karlin RMS
Sondra King Legal
Marvin Klein RMS
Liza Krisher RMS
Mark Krolicki DIT
Matthew Noel La Salle RMS
David Larson RMS
Laura Le Sieur COO
Cecilia Hyeeseung Lee RMS
Mary Colleen Leroux DCP
Joseph List RMS
Ava Livas CU
Eugene Francis Loecken Jr DIT
Christopher Loeffelholz CISR
Judy Long CU
Irma Lopez RMS
John Mark Love RMS
Larry Lucas RMS
Wilfrid Lussier Jr RMS
Thomas Francis Lyons RMS
Robert Macrae DCP
Andrea Joy Mariano RMS
Lawrence McConnell DCP
Earl McJett OMWI
Lisa Bailey McQueen DCP
John Mercado OCISO
Susan Mitchell DOF
Paul Moen RMS
Jennifer Conboy Molony OO
Rena Morris RMS

Charles Morrison DCP
Mindy Mosier RMS
Eugene Moyes RMS
Mark Mulholland DIT
Joyce Northwood DIR
Frederic Ortiz Legal
Joyce Otani Jones RMS
Valentino Pallis ORMIC
Gerard Parnacott DCP
Lisa Michelle Peterson DIR
Coreen Rafert RMS
Anthony Rahm RMS
Cecilia Rambert RMS
Raymond Raysor Legal
Michael Regan RMS
David Riley RMS
Donna Marie Robbins RMS
Patrick James Roche DIT
Gregory Roy DRR
Lorelei Parsons Russell DCP
Teresa Sabanty DCP
Melinda Salisbury DOF
Cynthia Cueva Santiago RMS
Maryanne Schofield Legal
Timothy Schuett RMS
Jeanie Shackelford RMS
Khader Shaheen RMS
Richard Simmons OMWI
Curtis Smith DRR
Kimberly Smith RMS
Nathan Smith RMS
Lisa Sorge CU
Christine Stammen DCP
William Stell DRR
Minette Sternke RMS
Debra Ann Sweeny DCP
Twila Tedder RMS
Danita Thompson RMS
Deborah Thorpe RMS
Kevin Trosper RMS
Thomas Lynn Trujillo RMS
Rafael Valle DCP
Oscor Viarrial RMS
Susan Welsh DCP
Antonier White Legal
Gina Williams Legal
Stephanie Juliet Williams RMS
Stephanie Sanders Wilson RMS
Rachel Zinkhan COO. 🏠

From the Board

Acting Chairman Travis Hill Testifies at Nomination Hearing

Following his selection to serve as FDIC Chairman by President Donald Trump, Acting Chairman Hill testified at a nomination hearing held by the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs on October 30, 2025. “Over the course of my career, I have observed the importance of a well-tailored regulatory framework that strikes an appropriate balance between allowing banks to take risks to power economic growth and serve their communities while ensuring a safe, sound, and resilient banking system,” said Acting Chairman Hill. “If confirmed, I look forward to working with members of this Committee to ensure the FDIC continues to fulfill its critical mission.” [Read his full statement.](#)

FDIC Board of Directors Meeting

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation’s Board of Directors met in open session on November 25, 2025, to address:

- **Community Bank Leverage Ratio Proposed Rule.** The federal bank regulatory agencies are inviting public comment on a proposal that would [implement changes to the community bank leverage ratio](#) framework. The revisions seek to reduce regulatory burden and provide community banks with greater flexibility and optionality in their capital management approach. Read Acting Chairman Travis Hill’s [statement on the proposal.](#)
- **Supplementary Leverage Ratio Final Rule.** The Federal Reserve Board, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the FDIC jointly issued a final rule to [modify certain leverage capital standards](#) that apply to the largest and most systemically important banking organizations to serve as a backstop to risk-based capital requirements and to avoid discouraging these organizations from engaging in low-risk activities. Read Acting Chairman Hill’s [statement on the rule.](#)
- **Adjusting and Indexing Certain Regulatory Thresholds.** This final rule [amends certain regulatory thresholds](#) in the FDIC’s regulations to reflect inflation.
- **Designated Reserve Ratio for 2026.** The Federal Deposit Insurance Act requires the FDIC Board to designate a reserve ratio for the Deposit Insurance Fund and publish this ratio before the beginning of each calendar year. The Board approved maintaining the ratio at 2 percent for 2026.
- **FDIC Official Signage Requirements.** The Board approved a final rule to extend the date for FDIC-insured institutions to comply with certain regulatory requirements to display the FDIC official digital sign. This extension addresses concerns that these institutions would need to make investments in preparation for the prior March 1, 2026, compliance date at the same time the FDIC expects to amend those provisions through its pending rulemaking.

You can watch the meeting by clicking [here](#). 📺

Briefs

FDIC Appoints Dana T. Wade as Deputy to the Chairman and Chief of Staff

As the Deputy to the Chairman and Chief of Staff, [Dana T. Wade](#) will serve as advisor to Acting Chairman Hill on all issues that affect the internal and external roles of the FDIC, participate in administratively implementing the various programs of the Corporation, help manage the agency’s day-to-day

operations, oversee all of the agency’s divisions and offices, and interface with the Acting Chairman’s Deputies, Division and Office Directors, and Board Members on a broad range of issues.

FDIC Releases Results of Third Quarter 2025 Quarterly Banking Profile

On November 24, 2025, the FDIC [presented the latest financial summary](#) for FDIC-insured commercial banks and

savings associations. In third quarter 2025, these institutions reported a return on assets ratio of 1.27 percent and aggregate net income of \$79.3 billion, an increase of \$9.4 billion (13.5 percent) from the prior quarter. Strong net interest income growth and a reduction in provision expense, primarily related to last quarter’s large bank acquisition, drove the quarterly increase in earnings. 📊