

Citizens National Bank Wins Statewide Best of Community Banking Award

Independent Bankers Association of Texas recognizes local bank's architectural design program

CAMERON, TX—The Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT)—the largest state community banking association in the nation—recently honored Citizens National Bank of Cameron with a Best of Community Banking (BOCB) Award. The bank received a Gold Eagle award for its "New Round Rock Branch" architectural design entry.

When Citizens National Bank decided to build a new branch in downtown Round Rock, which was already bustling with a variety of historic buildings, President and CEO Steven Wise had a vision of incorporating a hybrid design with a nod to the Downtown Business District. He wanted the new construction to complement the nearby historical buildings while also standing out as a modern and functional financial center.

After researching Round Rock architecture and putting together a few concepts, Wise reached out to local architects who had extensive experience in designing buildings that complemented the historical architecture of the area. The architects took a walk around the neighborhood and carefully studied the architecture to get a sense of the aesthetic of the area.

"We believe architecture is the art that encompasses all others, and it is best expressed when it responds to the nature of the site as well as to the needs of the client and the demands of schedule and budget." said Principal Architect Bo Spencer of Spencer-Pierce Architecture + Interiors. Similarly, the interior environment was considered throughout all phases of design and never left as an afterthought. "Family owned for 123 years, Citizens National Bank understands the value and importance of history and community and we expect to serve our clients and the Round Rock community for another century," said Steven Wise, President and CEO.

CNB is excited to be in the heart of the city of Round Rock. This project is inspired by the historic architecture of downtown Round Rock with a beautiful blend of historic appearance and modern amenities.

2023 marks the 32nd year that IBAT has celebrated the outstanding accomplishments of Texas community banks with the BOCB Awards. Community banks, such as Citizens National Bank, play a critical role in their local communities. The Best of Community Banking competition is designed to honor local banks for their commitment to helping their customers, neighbors, employees and community. BOCB Awards recognize community banks throughout the state for their innovation, creativity and success in fulfilling a specific community or internal need. Each submission received a gold, silver or bronze eagle award in one of six categories: architectural design, bank culture, community service, financial literacy, marketing and innovation.

All BOCB gold, silver and bronze submissions can be viewed at <u>www.ibat.org</u>. For more information about Citizens National Bank's submission, please contact Vice President & Director of Marketing Michelle Westling at (512) 982-5993.

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About Citizens National Bank

Citizens National Bank is a \$600 million in assets community financial institution and has been proudly serving Central Texas since 1900. That experience is what sets Citizens National Bank apart. A Cameron-based financial institution with eight branches across Central Texas including Milam, Lee, Williamson, Travis and Bell counties. From Cameron to Cedar Park and several towns in between, CNB knows and is active in each of its communities, making it better able to meet the banking needs of the communities it serves. Additional information can be found at <u>cnbanktexas.com</u>.

About the Independent Bankers Association of Texas

Formed in 1974, the Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT) represents Texas community banks. The Austin-based group is the largest state community banking organization in the nation with membership comprised of almost 5,000 banks and branches in more than 700 Texas communities. Providing safe and responsible financial services to all Texans, IBAT member bank assets range in size from \$28 million to \$51 billion with combined assets statewide of \$296 billion. IBAT member banks are committed to supporting and investing in their local communities.

