# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



# **Corporate Profile**

Leader Bancorp, Inc. is the holding company for Leader Bank, N.A., an FDIC-insured community bank headquartered in Arlington, Massachusetts. Leader Bank opened for business on May 8, 2002 and is a full-service commercial bank that provides a broad range of products and services to individual, professional, corporate, and municipal government clients through its branch network throughout Massachusetts, its loan production offices in various cities and towns in Massachusetts and Connecticut, and its online and mobile banking platforms.

# **Our Mission**

Leader Bank is committed to being the leading community-based financial institution by providing client-centric banking products and services. We are dedicated to offering our clients creative financial products and customized solutions that allow them to achieve financial prosperity for themselves, their families, and their businesses. Our ultimate goal is to create life-long partnerships by making sure that we continue to be a forward-thinking Bank for our clients, our communities, our team members, and our shareholders.

In 2023 the entire banking system has experienced multiple shocks with the failures of several large and reputable institutions. During this period of uncertainty, Leader Bank is proud to have a solid foundation with robust capital and liquidity to allow us to withstand pressures which have challenged other institutions. Despite record inflation and the resulting rising-rate environment, Leader Bank was able to grow and find new ways to deliver for our clients while maintaining this stability. In times like these, being a privately held institution is a great advantage.

The commitment of our team members paved the way for the Bank's growth in 2022, with assets growing to nearly \$4 billion and total deposits to more than \$3.3 billion. We also continued to search for top talent throughout the country, as our team has expanded across 27 states with the addition of 85 new team members.

Our Residential Lending division faced headwinds last year with rising interest rates and record low inventories. Nevertheless, our team was able to close nearly \$2.5 billion in residential mortgage loans and we remained the top home purchase lender in Massachusetts among banks. Leader's Commercial Lending team also grew our outstanding portfolio loan volume by more than \$328 million, and our Securities-Based Lending team experienced remarkable success in creating a portfolio of more than \$100 million in outstanding loan balances in its first year of operations.

Innovation continues to be a priority for Leader Bank, as we expanded our suite of products and services last year with the introduction of a new insurance subsidiary, Leader Insurance, LLC. With this exciting new company, we look forward to offering our clients great rates and services for their home, car, and investment property policies all with an easy-to-use digital experience. We also expanded our 1031 exchange subsidiary, Leader1031, with two new team members in the Midwest and West Coast to help grow this business line.

As Leader Bank grew over the last year, so did our brand. In our second season as the naming-rights partner of the Leader Bank Pavilion in Boston's Seaport, we reached nearly 200,000 people across 50 concerts, providing an invaluable and exciting opportunity for the Greater Boston community to interact with the Leader Bank brand.

I am excited to build on the momentum we established in 2022 as we continue to prioritize world-class client experience.



Jay Tuli, President

Dear Shareholders, Clients, Team Members, and Friends:

When we founded Leader Bank in 2002, our goal was to create a truly entrepreneurial community financial institution that approached banking and lending differently by focusing on innovation and client service. As we celebrated our 20th anniversary throughout 2022, it filled me with pride to see not only how much the Bank has grown over the last two decades, but how we have remained true to the values that the Bank was built upon through this success.

When we opened our first branch, Leader Bank had \$6.5 million in assets and seven team members. Today, the Bank has \$4 billion in assets and more than 375 team members. This journey to become one of the most successful community banks not just in Massachusetts but in the entire country has been made possible by all of your support.

Despite the turmoil that has roiled the financial sector to start the year, Leader Bancorp has maintained a robust capital position, ending 2022 with a 12.56% capital leverage ratio and a 19.83% total risk-based capital ratio. This level of capital allows Leader Bank to take advantage of opportunities while ensuring overall strength and stability. Our credit quality remains strong, as we ranked in the 96th percentile among banks in our peer group with respect to our percentage of non-performing loans. Even during interest rate increases not seen in decades, Leader Bancorp was able to grow our assets by more than 27% while earning nearly \$23 million in net income to allow us to build towards the future.

"It is a pleasure to look back on what Leader Bank has accomplished since we opened our doors more than 20 years ago, and I am incredibly excited about what we will accomplish together moving forward." Alongside the Bank's financial growth, I am also particularly proud that we continue to be recognized for both our work in the community and for being a great place to work. Leader Bank was named as one of the top places to work in Massachusetts by *The Boston Globe* last year, the sixth time making the list since the Bank's founding and an especially meaningful achievement because it is based on feedback from our valued team members. Leader Bank was also recognized as one of the Best Places to Work in Boston by Built In for our positive workplace culture, demonstrating the success we've had adapting to a hybrid work environment following the COVID-19 pandemic. We also were thrilled to be named one of the top charitable contributors in Massachusetts by the *Boston Business Journal* for the sixth year in a row.

As always the management team and our Board of Directors thank you for your unwavering support as Leader Bank continues to expand our suite of exemplary banking and lending products and services to better serve our clients. It is a pleasure to look back on what Leader Bank has accomplished since we opened our doors more than 20 years ago, and I am incredibly excited about what we will accomplish together moving forward.

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Sushil K. Tuli, Chairman & CEO

# Leader Bancorp, Inc.

(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT ACCOUNTS, YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31)

| Performance Statistics          | 2022        | 2021        | 2020        |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Assets                    | \$3,907,384 | \$3,073,443 | \$2,174,477 |
| Total Deposits                  | \$3,324,559 | \$2,641,422 | \$1,725,580 |
| Total Equity <sup>(1)</sup>     | \$459,883   | \$345,806   | \$294,226   |
| Total Net Loan Portfolio        | \$3,012,698 | \$2,206,304 | \$1,531,321 |
| Total Loans Closed              | \$3,759,923 | \$6,725,954 | \$6,002,942 |
| Deposit Accounts                | 41,343      | 31,394      | 28,009      |
| Earnings                        |             |             |             |
| Net Interest Income             | \$91,353    | \$72,861    | \$49,577    |
| Non-Interest Income             | \$14,196    | \$75,329    | \$109,592   |
| Non-Interest Expense            | \$68,110    | \$60,164    | \$52,094    |
| Net Income                      | \$22,927    | \$59,433    | \$70,372    |
| Ratio                           |             |             |             |
| Return on Average Assets        | 0.62%       | 2.27%       | 3.71%       |
| Return on Average Common Equity | 6.12%       | 19.15%      | 35.60%      |
| Net Interest Margin             | 2.54%       | 2.91%       | 2.69%       |
| Efficiency Ratio                | 64.49%      | 40.60%      | 32.73%      |
| Capital                         |             |             |             |
| Core Capital (leverage)         | 12.56%      | 11.91%      | 14.00%      |
| Tier 1 Risk-based Capital       | 18.72%      | 17.79%      | 20.80%      |
| Total Risk-based Capital        | 19.83%      | 19.62%      | 22.90%      |
|                                 |             |             |             |

# **2022 Peer Group Comparative Performance**

| Leader Bank (2) | Peer Group Average   | Percentile Rank   |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 12.51%          | 9.93%  | 90  |
| 18.62%          | 12.93%   | 91  |
| 19.73%          | 13.95%   | 91  |
| 59.84%          | 56.63%   | 65  |
|                 |  |   |
| 78.77%          | 68.73%   | 78  |
| 0.01%           | 0.34%  | 96  |
| 0.00%           | 0.05%  | 69  |
|                 |  |   |
| 31.24%          | 16.83%   | 88  |
| 28.80%          | (2.06%)  | 91  |
| 26.98%          | 7.05%  | 89  |
|                 | 12.51% 18.62% 19.73% 59.84%  78.77% 0.01% 0.00%  31.24% 28.80% | 12.51%       9.93%         18.62%       12.93%         19.73%       13.95%         59.84%       56.63%         78.77%       68.73%         0.01%       0.34%         0.00%       0.05%         31.24%       16.83%         28.80%       (2.06%) |

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes Preferred Stock Issued to US Treasury under ECIP participation

<sup>(2)</sup> Leader Bank metrics are for Leader Bank, N.A., not Leader Bancorp, Inc., and are based on average assets. Source: FDIC as of March 31, 2023.

# Leader Bancorp, Inc. Consolidated Balance Sheets

(IN THOUSANDS, YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31)

| Assets   | 2022        | 2021        | 2020        |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cash and due from banks                        | \$20,945    | \$15,250    | \$19,438    |
| Interest-bearing deposits                      | 177,018     | 320,944     | 228,379     |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents                        | \$197,963   | \$336,194   | \$247,817   |
|  |             |             |             |
| Securities held to maturity, at amortized cost | 246,944     | 3,073       | 5,026       |
| Securities available for sale, at fair value   | 268,282     | 321,972     | 121,511     |
| Restricted equity securities, at cost          | 9,564       | 6,248       | 8,069       |
| Loans held for sale                            | 64,806      | 134,366     | 188,976     |
| Loans, net                                     | 3,012,698   | 2,206,304   | 1,531,321   |
| Premises and equipment, net                    | 16,322      | 16,542      | 15,176      |
| Accrued interest receivable                    | 11,305      | 6,768       | 6,208       |
| Mortgage servicing rightS                      | 18,450      | 20,303      | 19,132      |
| Net deferred tax asset                         | 12,801      | 2,596       |             |
| Other assets                                   | 48,249      | 19,077      | 31,241      |
| Total Assets                                   | \$3,907,384 | \$3,073,443 | \$2,174,477 |

THOUSANDS, YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31)

| Liabilities & Stockholders' Equity  | 2022        | 2021        | 2020        |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Deposits  | \$3,324,559 | \$2,641,422 | \$1,725,580 |
| Federal Home Loan Bank advances   | 52,689      | 36,401      | 96,464      |
| Subordinated debt   |             | 12,500      | 12,500      |
| Net deferred tax liability  |             |             | 3,922       |
| Other liabilities   | 70,253      | 37,314      | 41,785      |
| Total Liabilities   | \$3,447,501 | \$2,727,637 | \$1,880,251 |
|   |             |             |             |
| Stockholders' Equity  |             |             |             |
| Common stock, \$0.50 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized; 4,646,415 issued and 4,243,020 outstanding in 2022; 4,638,530 issued and 4,234,595 outstanding in 2021; and 4,634,331 issued and 4,230,896 outstanding in 2020; | 2,323       | 2,319       | 2,317       |
| Senior Non-Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series D,<br>\$1.00 par value; 122,500 issued and outstanding; none issued<br>and outstanding in 2021 and 2020.  | 122,500     |             |             |
| Additional paid-in capital  | 135,195     | 134,368     | 134,162     |
| Retained earnings   | 271,461     | 249,469     | 191,941     |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss  | (37,444)    | (6,198)     | (83)        |
| Treasury shares (403,935 at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, and 403,435 at December 31, 2020)  | (34,152)    | (34,152)    | (34,111)    |
| Total Stockholders' Equity  | 459,883     | 345,806     | 294,226     |
| Total Liabilities & Stockholders' Equity  | \$3,907,384 | \$3,073,443 | \$2,174,477 |

# Leader Bancorp, Inc. Consolidated Statements of Income

(IN THOUSANDS, YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31)

| Interest & Dividend Income                           | 2022      | 2021     | 2020                   |
|--|-----------|----------|------------------------|
| Interest and fees on loans                           | \$107,465 | \$81,649 | \$66,158               |
| Interest and dividends on securities                 | 8,357     | 2,455    | 1,428                  |
| Interest on interest-bearing deposits                | 6,084     | 283      | 412                    |
| Total Interest & Dividend Income                     | 121,906   | 84,387   | 67,998                 |
|  |           |          |                        |
| Interest Expense                                     |           |          |                        |
| Interest on deposits                                 | 29,335    | 9,278    | 13,694                 |
| Interest on borrowings                               | 935       | 1,498    | 3,349                  |
| Interest on subordinated debt                        | 283       | 750      | 1,378                  |
| Total Interest Expense                               | 30,553    | 11,526   | 18,421                 |
|  |           |          |                        |
| Net Interest Income                                  | 91,353    | 72,861   | 49,577                 |
| Provision for loan losses                            | 5,973     | 5,923    | 9,545                  |
| Net Interest Income, After Provision For Loan Losses | \$85,380  | \$66,938 | \$40,032               |
|  |           |          | Continued on next page |

(IN THOUSANDS, YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31)

|   |          | (IN THOUSANDS, YI | EARS ENDED DECEMBER 31) |
|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Non-Interest Income                         | 2022     | 2021              | 2020                    |
| Mortgage banking income                     | \$15,241 | \$61,748          | \$99,400                |
| Net loan servicing fees                     | 3,345    | 1,514             | 47                      |
| Gain/loss on sale of securities (net)       | (6,971)  | 1,596             | 3,181                   |
| Gain on sale of SBA PPP Loans               |          | 8,200             |                         |
| Interest rate swap fee income               | 287      |                   | 4,304                   |
| Miscellaneous                               | 2,294    | 2,271             | 2,660                   |
| Total Non-Interest Income                   | 14,196   | 75,329            | 109,592                 |
|   |          |                   |                         |
| Non-Interest Expense                        |          |                   |                         |
| Salaries and benefits                       | 48,766   | 42,479            | 35,325                  |
| Occupancy and equipment                     | 5,355    | 4,549             | 4,128                   |
| Professional services                       | 3,833    | 3,788             | 3,468                   |
| Data processing                             | 2,510    | 2,043             | 1,694                   |
| Advertising and marketing                   | 2,337    | 1,300             | 920                     |
| FDIC Insurance                              | 972      | 634               | 362                     |
| Federal Home Loan Bank prepayment penalties |          | 1,165             | 1,782                   |
| Other general and administrative            | 4,337    | 4,206             | 4,415                   |
| Total Non- Interest Expense                 | 68,110   | 60,164            | 52,094                  |

31,466

82,103

97,530

Income before income taxeS

# **Historical Growth**

# Assets (INTHOUSANDS)



Assets grew by more than \$834 million in 2022, or more than 27.1%, ending the year at over \$3.9 billion. This increase is due primarily to the Bank's growth in residential and commercial loans as well as our new Securities-Based Lending division. The Bank's total net loan portfolio grew by more than \$806 million, or greater than 36.5%, last year as well.

# Loan Portfolio (INTHOUSANDS)

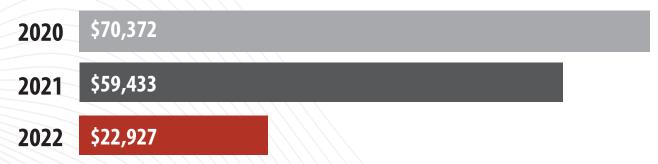


# **Deposit Balances** (INTHOUSANDS)



Deposits grew more than \$683 million, or almost 25.9%, in 2022. This increase is the result of the strength of the Leader Bank brand in our communities and our dedication to working with municipalities to streamline their banking products, as well as innovations in technology and client service.

# Net Income (IN THOUSANDS)



Net income ended 2022 at more than \$22.9 million despite the aggressive interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve leading to corresponding increases of cost of funds and a reduction in loan demand. The Bank's focus on consumer lines of credit and small business loans allowed for a diversification of its assets in a rising-rate environment.

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# **Teamwork**

No one group's or individual's goals are bigger than the collective goals of Leader Bank. We cannot grow unless we are all pulling the same rope in the same direction.

As the size of Leader Bank's **Commercial Lending** team grew in 2022 they embodied the Bank's value of **Teamwork** more than ever. With the addition of several Credit Analysts, Loan Administrators, and an SBA Administrator last year, the team didn't miss a beat when it came to delivering for Leader Bank's clients – even with most of the team working a combination of in-person and remotely out-of-state.

The Commercial Lending team worked together to continue to support the region's small businesses, once again ending the year as one of the top U.S. Small Business Administration Lenders in Massachusetts. This teamwork extended to working across departments of the Bank as well, especially when it came to hosting events for both new and long-time clients to show Leader Bank's appreciation for their business.

# **Commercial Lending**

Leader Bank's Commercial Lending team offers innovative solutions to help our clients achieve their business's goals. Whether an entrepreneur is looking for a commercial loan on an investment property or a line of credit to help finance new equipment for their business, our Commercial Lending team is ready to provide world-class service in finding the perfect solution for every client.

In 2022, the Commercial Lending team closed 266 new commercial real estate loan transactions for more than \$528 million in committed lending. The Bank grew net outstanding in the commercial real estate portfolio by \$328 million and exceeded budget projections by approximately \$37 million.

Our Commercial Lending team uses decades of combined experience to build long-lasting client relationships by providing custom and competitive loan products that help businesses prosper.

# **Commercial Real Estate Portfolio Balances**

(IN MILLIONS)

| 2020 | \$767   |
|------|---------|
| 2021 | \$1,251 |
|      |         |

# **Small Business Lending**

Since the Bank's founding two decades ago, supporting the small businesses that make our communities vibrant places to live and work has been a focus for Leader Bank. As the Bank has continued to work with PPP clients to obtain forgiveness on their loans, resulting in significant reductions in the Bank's small business lending portfolio over the past year, Leader Bank renewed its commitment to local businesses in 2022 by originating 34 loans for nearly \$19 million in committed small business lending.

Leader Bank was a top ten U.S. Small Business Administration lender in Massachusetts in 2022 and also renewed its status as a Preferred Lender of the Small Business Administration. The Bank also remains a proud participant in the Massachusetts Treasury Department's Small Business Banking Partnership.

# **Small Business Portfolio Balances**

(IN MILLIONS)

| 2020 | \$114 |
|------|-------|
|      |       |
| 2021 | \$73  |
|      |       |
| 2022 | \$27  |

# Nashoba Valley Ski Area

Westford, MA

Nashoba Valley Ski Area has been a Massachusetts institution for nearly six decades, from its opening in 1964 with rope tows servicing four slopes to its current operation as a full-service ski area consisting of 70 acres of skiable terrain over 27 trails.

The resort has continually expanded its offerings over the years to become a year-round recreational facility with the addition of New England's largest snowtubing facility, The Outlook restaurant, the Sunset Tiki Bar and Grill, the Witch's Woods Halloween attraction, and more.

As President and Owner of one of the Boston-area's most beloved destinations, Alan Fletcher needed a bank that could help him continue to offer new and exciting experiences to visitors.

Leader Bank's Commercial Lending team worked to help Alan refinance the resort and provide a line of credit to help with operational needs as well as with the purchase of new equipment. With this assistance, Nashoba Valley Ski Area looks to continue to add attractions in the years to come, including an expansion of the snowtubing park already underway.

"It has been a true pleasure working with Leader Bank. Their team worked tirelessly to provide lending solutions that will help our business continue to thrive."

- Alan Fletcher, President and Owner of Nashoba Valley Ski Area



Leader Bank's Commercial Lending team helped Nashoba Valley refinance so they can continue to serve sports enthusiasts





# **MEM Tea Imports**

Wakefield, MA

In 1999, it was rare to find high-quality loose tea available at your local café or restaurant in the United States. The team at MEM Tea Imports stepped in to help fill this void and provide tea drinkers with products that focused on integrity of flavor, purity, and efficacy by sourcing, importing, and distributing tea to the food service and hospitality industries as well as conducting thousands of tastings and trainings for cafés, restaurants, hotels, and emerging tea companies.

MEM Tea Imports Owner Gilbert Tsang and his team previously rented two 5,000 square foot facilities where they paid substantial rent. Having two locations created operational and staffing issues, and the team at MEM Tea Imports had always wanted to purchase their own headquarters.

"Leader Bank helped our business realize a long-held goal of owning our own headquarters and set us up to continue to grow our business in the long run."

- Gilbert Tsang, Owner of MEM Tea Imports



Leader Bank's Commercial Lending team worked to help MEM Tea Imports purchase a \$3.5 million commercial building in Wakefield through the Small Business Administration's 504 program which allowed the Bank to finance up to 90% for the business.

MEM Tea Import's new facility is 16,000 square feet which helped the business consolidate their previous two locations into one, improve operational and staffing efficiency, and provide much needed space for future expansion. Now, instead of paying rent, the team at MEM Tea Imports is building equity to support future growth.





# **Salem Waterfront Hotel and Pickering Wharf Complex**

Salem, MA

The Salem Waterfront Hotel and Suites and Pickering Wharf Complex are staples of historic Salem, Massachusetts, providing lodging and entertainment for both residents of the North Shore as well as the influx of visitors the City receives throughout the year.

Between the upscale accommodations offered at the Salem Waterfront Hotel and Suites and the restaurants, small businesses, and apartments located on the Pickering Wharf Complex, the two properties are integral to the thriving Salem community.

Salem Waterfront Hotel and Suites and Pickering Wharf Complex Owners Michael Rockett and Richard Rockett recently worked with Leader Bank's Commercial Lending team to refinance existing loans on the properties.

The Commercial Lending team took the time to understand what lending solutions would best help the clients' businesses thrive, and were able to refinance a \$16.1 million loan for the 86-room Salem Waterfront Hotel and Suites and a \$7.25 million loan for the Pickering Wharf Complex which includes 19 residential units, 30 retail units, and three office tenants.

"We are grateful for Leader Bank's dedication and attention to detail when it came to understanding the needs of our businesses."

- Michael Rockett, Owner of the Salem Waterfront Hotel and Suites and Pickering Wharf Complex







**Community**Give back to our community.

The **Retail Banking** team continued to find innovative ways to connect with Leader Bank's clients in 2022, embracing the Bank's value of **Community**. Throughout the year, Leader Bank's branches hosted 20th Anniversary parties to celebrate with our clients and the wider communities we serve.

The team also focused on improving community visibility through initiatives to increase online reviews for all branch locations as well as through ramping up charitable and volunteering efforts to truly demonstrate the passion Leader Bank has for giving back to the communities we operate in.

# **Retail Banking**

Leader Bank's Retail Banking team worked diligently in 2022 to find the best products and services to meet each client's specific needs with impressive results.

The Retail Banking team partnered with the Commercial and Residential Lending teams to open special checking and savings accounts for HELOC and mortgage clients. This initiative, aimed at delivering a more holistic banking and lending experience while deepening client relationships with the Bank, has been a tremendous success with account balances totaling more than \$30 million.

The Bank's digital branch continues to offer clients a convenient and seamless online banking experience and saw steady growth of nearly \$15.8 million in deposits last year.

# **Total Accounts**

2020 28,009

31,394 2021

2022 41,343

# **Retail Branch Managers**

# **Arlington Heights**

# Saloua Rguioui

AVP, Branch Manager

Belmont

# **Juliana Perez**

AVP, Branch Manager

**Boston Seaport** 

# **Francilot Mendez**

**Branch Manager** 

Burlington

# **Miguel Nunez-Sosa**

**Branch Manager** 

Central Square, Cambridge

# **Mark Orent**

VP, Senior Branch Manager

**East Arlington** 

# **Junee Gurung**

**Branch Manager** 



Leader Bank's Belmont (top), Arlington Heights (bottom left), and Seaport (bottom right) teams celebrating the Bank's 20th anniversar



# **Wyebot**

Marlborough, MA

Wyebot is an industry leader in Al-driven WiFi automation, leveraging technology to end the time-consuming, manual process of network optimization while restoring time, money, and energy to IT teams and their companies.

Driven to provide the best solutions possible for their clients as soon as possible, Wyebot wanted a banking partner who shared their core values of innovation, client-centricity, teamwork, integrity, and simplicity.

Wyebot CEO and Co-Founder Roger Sands worked with Leader Bank to set up his team with customized banking and cash management solutions that help them maintain focus on providing their clients with innovative WiFi solutions.

Leader Bank's Retail Banking team partnered with Wyebot to help them manage several business accounts with the Bank. Wyebot also uses Leader Bank's Business Online Banking service to help modernize and streamline its day-to-day remote deposit and wire management processes.

"The team at Leader Bank is always great to work with and I appreciate their dedication to helping our business find the most efficient banking and cash management solutions."

- Roger Sands, Wyebot CEO and Co-Founder



# **The Traveling CFO**

For more than three decades, The Traveling CFO has helped organizations navigate the intricacies of financial decision-making and restructures of accounting systems in addition to providing invaluable guidance on day-to-day operations.

With a team that provides clients with a range of services from simple bookkeeping to large-scale financing management, Traveling CFO founder Laurie Malcomson needed a bank that could keep up with the fast pace of her business.

Even before opening an Elevate Banking account for The Traveling CFO, Laurie had been an incredible advocate for Leader Bank – referring more than \$10 million in client deposits to Elevate Banking over the years. Laurie also referred several businesses who needed PPP funding during the COVID-19 pandemic to Leader Bank, helping them secure loans that allowed their businesses to survive the hardships of the pandemic.

"At The Traveling CFO we assist our clients with the challenges of running a business, and we needed a bank that provided the same level of care and attention to their business. Leader Bank and the Elevate Banking team have gone above and beyond in delivering an outstanding banking experience."

- Laurie Malcomson, Founder of The Traveling CFO  $\,$ 

Traveling CFO Founder Laurie Malcomson has been an invaluable long-term client and partner of Leader Bank and Elevate Banking.

Photo: Johnson Photography, Inc.

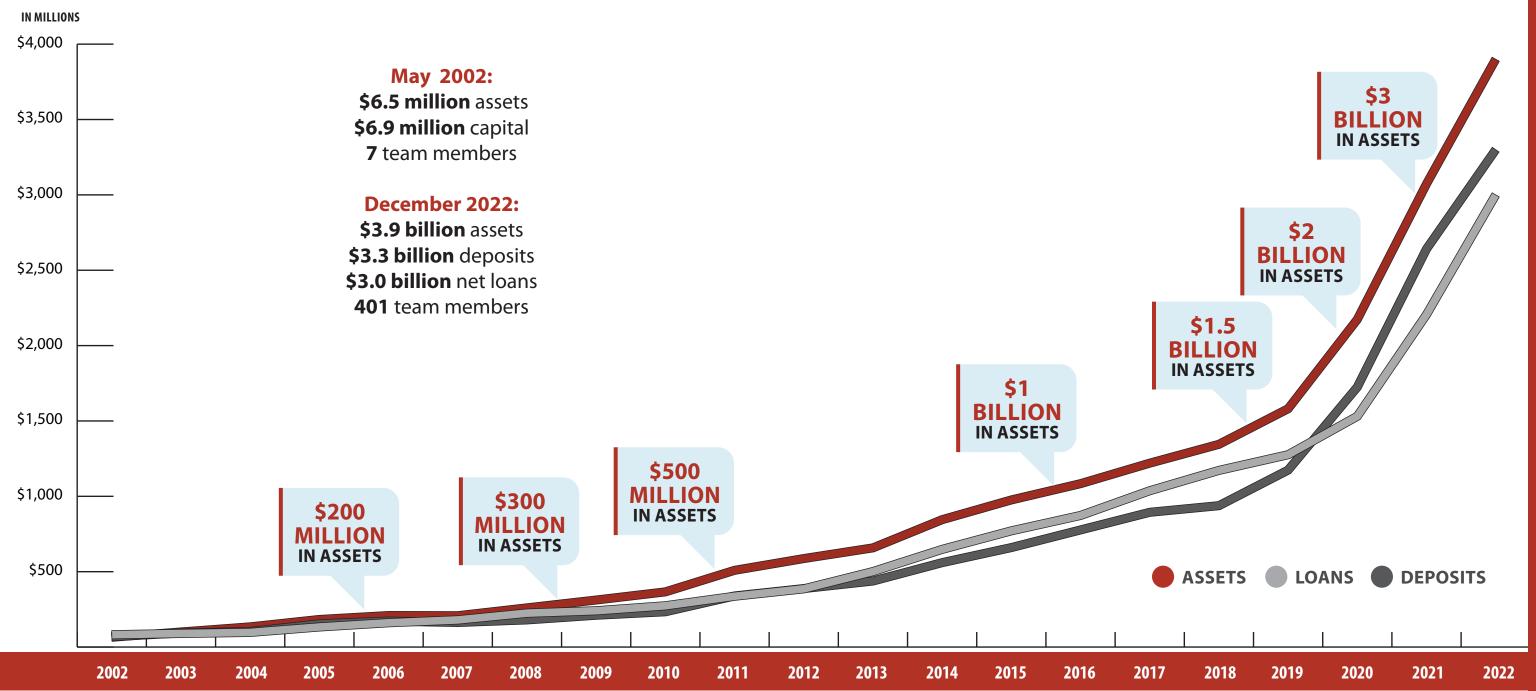


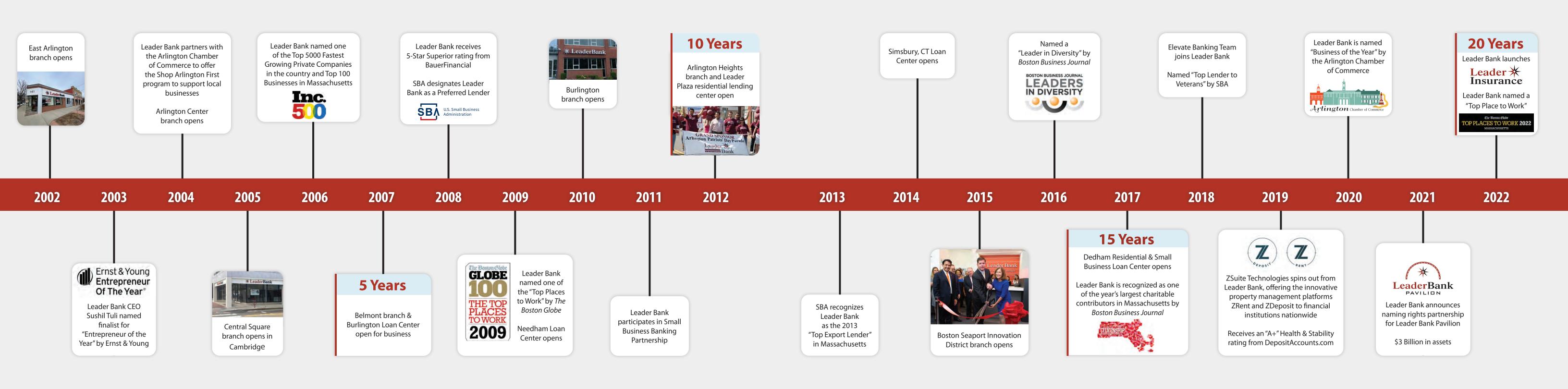
# **Continuous Improvement**

Believe that we can always be better. There are always ways to innovate, new products to design, and new strategies to ideate and employ.

The **Residential Lending** team exemplified the Bank's value of **Continuous Improvement** by remaining committed to finding innovative ways to connect our clients with the ideal lending solution for their needs despite the challenges presented by a difficult rising-rate environment. This dedication to continuous improvement resulted in Leader Bank once again finishing the year as the #1 Home Purchase Lender among Massachusetts banks.

By remaining confident in their ability to help clients achieve their homeownership goals, the Residential Lending team continued to cultivate the Bank's dedicated Home Equity Line of Credit channel which resulted in the origination of over 650 HELOCs totaling more than \$120 million in 2022.





# **Residential Lending**

In 2022 Leader Bank's Residential Lending team navigated the rising-interest rate environment and finished the year as the top residential purchase lender among Massachusetts banks. By introducing innovative lending solutions like the Purchase Pass 10-day closing guarantee, the Residential Lending team continued to find new ways to help our clients achieve their homeownership goals.

# **Closed Residential Loans** (IN MILLIONS)

| 2020 | \$5,604 |
|------|---------|
| 2021 | \$5,910 |
| 2022 | \$2,499 |

# **Residential Lending Sales Managers**

| Burlington                 |
|----------------------------|
| <b>Sherry Keenan Burke</b> |
| Holden                     |
| <b>Brian Moore</b>         |
| Leader Direct              |
| Vikas Selhi                |
|                            |

Needham

David Kurzman

James Shanahan

Simsbury, CT

Daniel Rosenfeld

South Boston

Matthew McCarthy

Michael McCarthy

Patrick Walsh

# **2022 Highlights**

- Nearly \$2.5 billion in total residential loans closed
- Over 650 HELOCs closed for more than \$120 million in lending
- Opened new mortgage office in Holden
- Largest purchase lender in loans and dollars lent among banks in Massachusetts
- Over 5,000 individual mortgages and HELOCs closed





# **Celebrate**

Enjoy the process and have fun. Be proud to work for Leader Bank. The **Business and Government Banking** team is a perfect representation of Leader Bank's value of **Celebrate** – showing pride in being able to provide their clients with a high level of services while helping them improve their business's or municipality's banking processes. This passion clearly resonated with clients, as evidenced by the Business and Government Banking team greatly expanding the Bank's municipality and lockbox relationships in 2022.

And with the Bank's Digital Escrow and Leader1031 Exchange services the team is able to represent Leader Bank with pride to more clients than ever on a national scale.

# **Business and Government Banking**

The Business and Government Banking team worked to deliver customized solutions for their clients, helping businesses and municipalities improve their banking and cash management operations regardless of size or industry. The team saw deposits grow by a remarkable \$830 million in 2022 across its full suite of deposit accounts and services.

# **Government Banking**

The biggest driver of growth for the Business and Government Banking team in 2022 was expansion of the Bank's portfolio of government clients with the team continuing to gain market share with 52 new municipal clients and expansion into the New Hampshire market. The team focused on finding ways to help clients streamline fund management, including leveraging the Bank's lockbox services to improve operational efficiencies around tax collection. These efforts led to 19 new lockbox clients and \$252 million being processed through the Bank's lockbox services in 2022.

# **Business Account Balances**

(IN MILLIONS)

2020 \$874

2021 \$1,544

2022 \$2,467

# Leader1031

Leader Bank's Qualified Intermediary subsidiary, Leader1031, expanded in 2022 to help real estate investors use the tax-deferred advantages of a Section 1031 exchange in the sale and purchase of property. Leader1031 provides clients with a world-class service experience while helping them build and maintain wealth from commercial real estate transactions. In 2022 the team processed more than \$47.6 million in transaction balances and looks to further expand Leader1031's presence nationally in 2023.



ng Jim Gudenau

VP, 1031 Exchanges

VP, Digital Escrow Manager

# **Digital Escrow**

Leader Bank officially launched our Digital Escrow service in 2022 to offer business and municipal clients a completely digital solution for funding commercial escrow accounts and streamlining banking processes. This product has been a resounding success and has resulted in more than \$218 million in deposits for the Bank.

# **The Town of North Andover**

A charming community with more than 30,000 residents, the Town of North Andover, Massachusetts needed a bank that could provide them with solutions to allow them to better serve their residents.

Leader Bank's Business and Government Banking team worked to understand the Town's banking needs and provided a customized package of services to help them improve their banking and cash management.

The Business and Government Banking team was able to help the Town of North Andover improve their tax collection processes through the use of the Bank's lockbox services and maximize their savings with a Leader Bank Money Market account.

North Andover also uses the Bank's Digital Escrow service to streamline the escrow account funding process, make the management of sub accounts easier, and eliminate the manual paperwork traditionally associated with escrow account funding.

"Leader Bank has been an indispensable partner in helping North Andover improve our banking and cash management operations."

Kimberly Mackie,
 Town of North Andover
 Treasurer and Collector





# **Red Tree Real Estate**

Brookline, MA

Founded in 2013 by three longtime friends and real estate agents, Red Tree Real Estate specializes in investment brokerage, private sales, and all real estate within 45 minutes of Boston.

The team at Red Tree Real Estate was looking for a bank that could offer a complete package of products and services to help improve their cash management processes and operational efficiency. It was also important to them to find a banking partner who placed equal emphasis on innovation and client service.

Leader Bank's Business and Government Banking team worked closely with Red Tree Real Estate Co-Owner Arthur Deych and his partners to understand how the Bank could best help their business continue to excel in the Boston real estate market.

"Leader Bank has gone above and beyond in every aspect of helping us find new and innovative ways to improve how we run our business." - Red Tree Real Estate Co-Owner Arthur Deych

Through a customized Leader eBusiness plan designed specifically to meet their needs, Red Tree Real Estate has streamlined their cash management processes, and also uses the Bank's wire services, cash pick up, and remote deposit scanner to make running their business even easier.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Leader Bank was also able to help Red Tree Real Estate secure PPP loans that provided critical support to help the business avoid any layoffs.





# **Integrity**

Be trustworthy, honest, and accountable.

Working to ensure that all departments across Leader Bank remain true to our brand promise to focus, plan, and deliver on providing innovative banking products and services alongside the highest level of client service, the **Bank Innovation team** incorporates the value of **Integrity** across all their projects and initiatives.

From expanding digital client survey efforts to improving the escrow process for clients to ensure more timely payments and communications, the Bank Innovation team works tirelessly to ensure Leader Bank always meets the high standard it sets for itself. The team also constantly works on the development of products and services that anticipate our clients' needs and contribute to a more modern and secure banking experience – further helping to protect the integrity of the Bank's brand promise.

# **Bank Innovation**



# **Qualtrics Surveys:**

To centralize and standardize our client surveys, the Bank's client-facing teams migrated all surveys over to the Qualtrics platform in 2022. Since launch, Leader Bank has sent more than 1,300 client surveys. The team plans to expand its survey offerings in 2023 to gather more feedback, using this critical information to continue to improve our client experience.



# **Card Controls:**

In August of 2022, Leader Bank updated our card controls feature in the Leader Bank Mobile App which now offers deeper insight into debit card transactions and summary information. The module still allows clients to turn their card on and off and set certain restrictions, but the upgrade offers a better client experience with added functionality.



# **Positive Pay:**

After introducing Positive Pay to help Business Banking clients with high-volume check and ACH transactions stay protected from forged, altered, and counterfeit checks, Leader Bank implemented additional enhancements to the service in 2022 by creating a more streamlined process for clients to send check data.



# **Escrow Process Improvements:**

Based on client feedback, Leader Bank worked to improve the timeliness of payments to clients with escrow accounts. The Bank was also able to provide customized digital communication to help clients better understand the escrow analysis process. These efforts were incredibly successful and resulted in reduced client inquiries and improved satisfaction.

# **Leader Insurance**

Leader Bank officially launched its new insurance subsidiary, Leader Insurance, in 2022 to become a true one-stop-shop for our clients by offering property, auto, and umbrella insurance policies. By partnering with the top-rated insurance carriers in the region Leader Insurance offers clients great rates and service all with an easy-to-use digital experience. Since launching Leader Insurance, we've saved clients tens of thousands of dollars in annual insurance premiums with the average client saving more than \$500. Leader Insurance will continue to expand operations throughout New England in 2023.



# IntraFi

Given the recent uncertainty in the financial markets, Leader Bank is proud to offer IntraFi Cash Services (ICS) accounts to clients looking to access additional FDIC insurance coverage for their deposits. By participating in IntraFi, Leader Bank is a member of a network of institutions across the country. When a client opens an ICS account with Leader Bank, their deposit is divided into amounts of \$250,000 or less which are then placed in accounts at other insured banks in the IntraFi network. Clients maintain full access to their funds through their Leader Bank account, however, and receive just one monthly statement instead of dealing with multiple banks. For more information on IntraFi, please visit www.leaderbank.com/intrafi.

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# **Community Commitment**

# **Top Charitable Contributor in Massachusetts**

Leader Bank received a 2022 Corporate Citizenship Award from the *Boston Business Journal*, marking the sixth consecutive year the Bank was named one of the largest charitable contributors in the Commonwealth. Leader Bank was recognized both for monetary donations to worthy nonprofits as well as for the time team members dedicated to local organizations. The Bank's contributions addressed a variety of local causes, including financial education, support for affordable housing, food security, education and children's issues, and contributions to key civic organizations.

# **Supporting Affordable Housing in Arlington**

Leader Bank was proud to continue its support for affordable housing in our hometown with a \$25,000 contribution to the Housing Corporation of Arlington in 2022. This contribution helped to support the HCA's mission of creating affordable housing units for low- and moderate-income families and individuals in Arlington.

# 20th Anniversary Choose-A-Charity Campaign

In honor of Leader Bank's 20th anniversary, all clients who opened new savings, checking, or CD accounts in 2022 were able to select a local charity for the Bank to donate \$20 to on their behalf. With the support of our clients and team members, Leader Bank raised more than \$17,000 for local causes including the Animal Rescue League of Boston, Best Buddies, The Children's Room, Food Link, and the Somerville Housing Coalition.



Leader Bank was proud to support local charities and community organizations like The Children's Room (top left), Food Link (top right), and the Housing Corporation of Arlington (bottom).



# Some of the organizations Leader Bank supported in 2022 include:

- Adopt-a-Student Foundation
- Allston-Brighton CDC
- Animal Rescue League of Boston
- Arlington Education Foundation
- Best Buddies International
- Candorful, Inc.
- Center for Women & Enterprise, Inc.
- The Children's Room
- Citizens' Housing & Planning Association
- Community Servings
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Food Link, Inc.
- Greater Boston Food Bank
- Horizons for Homeless Children, Inc.

- Housing Corporation of Arlington
- LISC Boston
- Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance
- Medford Community Housing
- MetroHousing Boston
- Partnership for Financial Equity
- Pine Street Inn
- Project Citizenship
- Rashi School
- Rosie's Place
- Somerville Homeless Coalition
- Vision-Aid
- YMCA Cambridge
- Youth Villages, Inc.

Leader Bank is dedicated to supporting our communities through good corporate citizenship, donating nearly \$210,000 to charities, non-profits, local municipalities, and community groups in 2022 from the Bank and the Leader Bank Charitable Foundation Corporation.



# Brian R. Taylor, Sushil K. Tuli, Jay Tuli

# **Executive Management**

Leader Bank's Executive Management team brings a wealth of experience in the banking, lending, and financial service industries. Having served in roles in nearly every capacity for banking and financial institutions throughout New England, these respected executives provide invaluable leadership in guiding and shaping Leader Bank's growth and success.

**Sushil K. Tuli** has served as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Leader Bank since its formation in 2002 and Leader Bancorp, Inc. since its formation in 2006.

**Jay Tuli** was named the President of Leader Bank effective January 1, 2020, having served in various roles at the Bank since 2006.

**Brian R. Taylor** is the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Leader Bank. Mr. Taylor, who joined the Bank in 2002, manages all financial operations.

# **Board of Directors**



**Sushil K. Tuli** has served as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Leader Bank since its formation in 2002 and Leader Bancorp, Inc. since its formation in 2006.



Heather Carillo is a Senior Vice President of Corporate Development at Fidelity Investments, responsible for working with various business units to help develop strategy and to source partnership opportunities.



Peter Conrad is the retired President and Chief Executive Officer of The Cooperative Central Bank in Boston, where he oversaw the insuring of state-chartered cooperative banks and monitored institutions in times of financial crisis.



Priscilla H. Douglas, Ed.D. is the founder and principal of PHDouglas & Associates, a consulting firm that coaches individuals and executive teams to be more skillful leaders by working collaboratively and strategically.



Charles S. Morrison, II is the retired President of Fidelity Investments' Asset Management organization, where he oversaw all of Fidelity's investment divisions and all investment operations.



V.G. Narayanan, Ph.D. is the Thomas D. Casserly, Jr. Professor of Business Administration and the Chair of MBA Elective Curriculum at Harvard Business School.



Peter Palandjian is the Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of Intercontinental Real Estate Corporation, overseeing the affiliated operating companies with primary responsibility for investment strategy and institutional relationships.



Eric Silverman is an active entrepreneur and investor in a number of businesses. He is a Founder and General Partner of Eastham Capital, a private real estate investment business.



Jay Tuli was named the President of Leader Bank effective January 1, 2020, having served in various roles at the Bank since 2006.

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# **Leader Bank Officers**



SVP, General Counsel, Chief Risk Officer & CRA Officer



SVP, Commercial Lending



SVP, Residential Lending Operations



SVP, Chief Credit Officer, Commercial Lending



SVP, Commercial

Lending



SVP, Chief Technology Officer



SVP, Chief Talent Officer



SVP, Chief Lending Officer



SVP, Business & Government Banking



SVP, Head of Commercial & Industrial Lending



SVP, Residential Secondary Markets & Investor Relations



SVP, Chief Commercial Real Estate Officer



SVP, Residential Sales & New Markets



SVP, Head of Retail and Elevate Banking

# **Leader Bank Officers**

# **Bank Operations**

# **Sandy Armstrong**

AVP, Talent Management

# **Sydney Clapp**

Head of Digital Marketing

### **Akram Daneshvar**

AVP, Senior BSA Analyst

### **Gregor Farber**

VP, Compliance & Audit

### **Kerry Ferraro**

VP, Head of Brand Marketing

### **Munaf Ghaswala**

AVP, Quality Control Manager

# **Sofi Isakhanian**

VP, Loan Operations

### **Colm Kennedy**

VP, Information Security Officer

### **Ryan Kenny**

AVP, Senior Fraud Analyst

# **James Madigan**

VP, Accounting Operations

# **William Mavroides**

VP, Controller

### **Jose Montoya**

VP, Enterprise Application & Automation

# **Marcelo Pagotti**

AVP, IT Infrastructure & Innovation

### **Deanna Presutti**

AVP, Loan Servicing Project Manager

### **Bret Schofield**

VP, BSA Officer, Security & Facilities

# **Andrew Swinney**

VP, Head of Data & Marketing

# **Anosh Zaveri**

VP, Technology Risk and Information Security



# DepositAccounts.com "A+" Health & Stability

This score is calculated based on several factors including capitalization, deposit growth, and loan-to-reserve ratios.



# Weiss Ratings "A" Financial Strength

This grade is determined by an analysis of complex components which are combined into five indexes: capitalization, asset quality, profitability, liquidity, and stability.



# **BauerFinancial, Inc. 5-Star Safety Rating**

The firm's highest rating, denoting the highest level of overall banking performance and designating Leader Bank as one of the strongest banks in the nation in terms of financial health.



# **Boston Globe "Top Place to Work"**

Leader Bank was named as one of the Top Places to Work in Massachusetts in 2022 as part of the 14th annual employee-based survey from *The Boston Globe*, ranking 27th among large companies which includes employers with between 250 and 999 employees.

# **Leader Bank Officers**

# **Commercial Lending**

**Elise Corbett** 

VP, Commercial Portfolio Manager

**Mark Haroutunian** 

VP, Credit Manager

Sandeep Jain

VP. Commercial Loan Officer

**Kevin McSweeney** 

VP, Commercial Lending

# **Jonathan Pedi**

VP. Commercial Loan Officer

**Vanishree Singh** 

VP, Head of Commercial Credit Management

**Lisa Marie Vanino** 

VP. SBA Administrator

**Christine Varquez** 

VP, Credit Officer

# **Residential & Consumer Lending**

**Dori Alexandropoulos** 

VP, Head of Appraisal

Trina Arzaga

VP, SBL Credit Risk Management

**Mackenzie Bigelow** 

AVP, Home Equity Specialist

**Robin Brown** 

VP, Residential Underwriting

**Robert Chatfield Jr.** 

AVP, SBL Credit Operations

**Michael Fede** 

VP, SBL Product Manager

**Michael Girard** 

VP, Residential Lending Underwriting

**Teri Jackson** 

AVP, Senior Underwriter

Pranay Jhanjhari

VP, Secondary Market

# Rebecca Kendall

VP, Operations

**Troy Koerner** 

VP, Treasury Management & Market Risk

**Stephen McHugh** 

VP, Community Bank Relationship Manager

**Priyanka Patel** 

AVP, Residential Lending Closing Department

**Eric Prue** 

FVP, Residential Lending Innovation

**Andrew Stephan** 

AVP, Secondary Market

**Christopher Verzone** 

VP, Sales Manager Leader Insurance

Vidurshi Sehgal Zaveri

AVP, Closing Manager

# **Retail Banking, Deposit Operations & Product Development**

**Victoria Blechter** 

AVP, Quality Control Manager

**Paola Dutschmann** 

VP, Retail Banking

**Travis Hall** 

VP, Elevate Banking

**Mary Lavigne** 

FVP, Client Experience

**Danielle Lemelin** 

AVP, Deposit Operations Manager

**Doreen O'Hare** 

AVP, Wire Transfer Supervisor

**Mark Orent** 

VP, Senior Branch Manager

**Savy Ouk-Fernandes** 

VP, Retail Banking Trainer/Elevate Banking Manager

**Juliana Perez** 

AVP, Branch Manager

Saloua Rguioui

AVP, Branch Manager

**Lindsey Rohan** 

FVP, Bank Innovation

**Donna Spencer** 

VP, Client Experience and Deposit Operations

**Dennis Walker** 

FVP, Strategy & Planning

# **Business & Government Banking**

**Danielle Brown** 

AVP, Business Banking Officer

**Tripti Das** 

VP, Head of Operations-Product Research

**Susan Delahunt** 

Director, Government Banking

**Danielle Desmond** 

AVP, Lockbox Specialist

**Sumit Dhankhar** 

VP, Business Development

**Kayla Frerking** 

VP, 1031 Exchanges

**Anna Gorska** 

Director, Government Banking

Jim Gudenau

VP, Digital Escrow Manager

Renee LeMoure

AVP, Lockbox Specialist

**Elizabeth Pero** 

VP, Director of Deposit Ops & Electronic Banking

**Christopher Rodriguez** 

AVP, Business Banking

# Locations

# **Corporate Headquarters**

180 Massachusetts Avenue Arlington, MA 02474 781-646-3900

Personal & Business Banking

Residential Lending Services

Small Business Lending Services

# **Retail Branches**

# Arlington, MA

141 Massachusetts Avenue 🚔 Arlington, MA 02474 781-641-3900

1201 Massachusetts Avenue Arlington, MA 02476 781-641-8800

# **Belmont, MA**

363 Pleasant Street 🔷 Belmont, MA 02478 617-489-5100

# Boston, MA

48 Northern Avenue 🚔 🏚 🚞 Boston, MA 02210 617-261-6300

# **Burlington, MA**

50 Mall Road, Suite 110 📫 💼 Burlington, MA 01803 781-221-1700

# Cambridge, MA

675 Massachusetts Avenue 🚔 📋 Cambridge, MA 02139 617-497-2500

# **Mortgage Offices**

# Arlington, MA

864 Massachusetts Avenue 🐽 Arlington, MA 02476 781-641-8600

# Holden, MA

61 Boyden Road, Suite 2 💼 Holden, MA 01520 781-544-2569

# Marblehead, MA

60 Atlantic Avenue 🗊 Marblehead, MA 01945 781-641-0038

# Marshfield, MA

1020 Plain Street, Suite 170 💼 Marshfield, MA 02050 781-710-1812

# Needham, MA

160 Gould Street, Suite 205 🛖 Needham, MA 02494 781-726-7290

# Simsbury, CT

8 Wilcox Street, Suite D 💼 Simsbury, CT 06070 860-413-2171

# **Leader Online**

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www.instagram.com/leaderbank/

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