

shakers and makers

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FRED FORGIONE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND GROUP DIRECTOR, SIGNATURE BANK



Fred Forgione

Fred Forgione, with 28 years of banking experience, has been appointed senior vice president of Signature Bank.

He has also been named group director for the financial institution's new private client banking team.

Forgione's vast experience in the industry includes a five-year stint as senior vice

president and team leader for private banking in Long Island at Sovereign Bank and its predecessor, Independence Community Bank. In that role, Forgione and his team focused on serving the private banking needs of businesses and individuals.

"Fred and his team have established a strong following throughout the Long Island business community," said Joseph J. DePaolo, president/CEO of Signature Bank.

"At Signature Bank, we will be able to offer our clients a broad range of services and capabilities found at large financial institutions while providing highly personalized service . . ." said Forgione. "This makes a dramatic difference in the quality of the banking relationship we will maintain with our clients and the community."

Forgione, who resides in Bellerose with his wife and three daughters, earned his bachelor of arts degree at Queens College and his master's in business administration in finance from St. John's University.

Signature Bank has 18 offices located throughout the metropolitan New York area. Since commencing operations in May 2001, the bank has grown to approximately \$4.7 billion in assets. For more information on Signature Bank, visit www.signatureny.com.

THOMAS M. O'BRIEN COO AND PRESIDENT OF STATE BANK OF LONG ISLAND



Thomas M. O'Brien

Thomas M. O'Brien may have made history. At the tender age of 34, he became the president of a bank. No small accomplishment at such an early age, his resourcefulness and abilities propelled him to the top of the financial industry.

He has just been named the Chief Operations Officer (COO) and president of State Bank of Long Island.

An impressive career for the 55-year-old banking executive precedes him.

Thomas F. Goldrick Jr. will be stepping down as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in December 2007 to be succeeded by O'Brien. Goldrick will remain as chairman.

O'Brien had been the CEO and president of Atlantic Bank when it was acquired by New York Community Bancorp earlier this year. He decided to move on after the acquisition.

Born in Rome, New York, O'Brien worked for the State Senate in Albany after graduating college. He had an opportunity in 1978 to join a bank in Riverdale. The

board of the \$600 million bank was so impressed with him that when the company needed a "fix-it" man, they chose him.

O'Brien served them well, taking the bank – only the second savings bank in New York State – public, a complicated process in those days which required a change in the state constitution. In 1986, he accomplished his goal.

Within a short time, he purchased Richmond Hill Savings Bank, turning his company into a \$2 billion bank with 400 employees.

It was a challenging time, but he made it work. During those years, he learned a lot about being an effective leader. O'Brien realized that one must be nimble and move his "ship" quickly in changing market conditions.

His tenure at Atlantic Bank taught him how to refine his business model, and O'Brien believes that the key to his success is never being afraid to take risks and push himself. The mental attitude he uses is that "you learn how to make it work and work hard at it."

His goal for State Bank of Long Island is to raise the institution's profile in the communities they serve and brand the bank.

"I want to be as good as my predecessor [Goldrick] and build on the solid base I was handed," said O'Brien. "Change is good."

Well, he certainly seems up to the task.

FRANKLIN MANCHESTER GENERAL MANAGER OF THE INN AT FOX HOLLOW



Franklin Manchester

Franklin Manchester has been named the general manager of The Inn at Fox Hollow, which is a luxury, all-suite hotel located in Woodbury, Long Island that is owned by Scotto Brothers.

Manchester also serves as the executive director of marketing for Scotto Brothers, whose properties include Fox Hollow and Chateau Briand.

"Franklin is an important asset to our organization; he has a strong background in the hospitality business and has demonstrated keen decision making in marketing and sales," said Anthony Scotto, the president and CEO of Scotto Brothers. "His promotion to general manager is in recognition of his talents and the contributions he has made to the continued success of Scotto Brothers and our properties."

Among Manchester's duties are overseeing daily operations of the hotel and all marketing, advertising and promotions. He will also "work with the hotel staff to continually provide superior amenities and services to all its guests."

The Inn at Fox Hollow, which has the motto of going "Above and Beyond" when it comes to its service, has 145 suites and includes an outdoor pool, courtyard and five meeting rooms.

"The Inn has a strong reputation to uphold, and it's my responsibility to ensure our guests receive the "Above and Beyond" customer service they have come to expect," said Manchester, who has been with Scotto Brothers since 2003. "I'm proud of my staff and how hard they work, and we're committed to making all our guests feel right at home."

Before joining Scotto Brothers, Manchester was the complex group sales manager for Starwood Hotels and

Resorts in New York City and served as the director of sales and marketing for the Starwood property at JFK. Along with holding various other management positions for different hospital organizations, Manchester has also served as the director of tour and travel for the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau.

DEIRDRE MITACEK ASSOCIATE OF THE FARRELL FRITZ TAX PRACTICE GROUP



Deirdre Mitacek

Deirdre Mitacek, an associate of the Farrell Fritz Tax Practice group, has been selected by the Lawyers Alliance for New York to receive the Cornerstone Award for her ten years pro bono work.

"I really enjoy my pro bono work. I feel that I am, in some small way, helping them to achieve their charitable missions and improve communities that are truly in need," said Mitacek.

She deals with tax-exemptions for non-profit organizations. Whether it is helping children receive sports equipment or scholarships, Mitacek has helped many organizations obtain tax-exempt status. Though when comparing these non-profit organizations with for-profit organizations Mitacek says, "They are challenging in that the legal issues that they face are no less important or complicated than those faced by any for-profit organization, and rewarding in that by providing them with necessary legal services."

Recently, Mitacek has helped incorporate and obtain tax-exempt status for the East River Development Alliance which is a community development organization that works with city and state agencies, local businesses and other charitable organizations to improve economic and social conditions in Long Island City.

Working with The Queensbridge Scholarship Fund, which provides educational grants to high school seniors and other residents of the Queensbridge housing project seeking to further their education, Mitacek helped establish the Fund as a non-profit public housing corporation. She is currently advocating obtaining federal, New York State and New York City tax-exemptions for the Fund.

Another non-profit organization that Mitacek has made possible was the Shooting for Scholarships that helps underprivileged basketball players further their education and improve academically to qualify for colleges.

Mitacek also helped set up the legal foundation and tax-exempt status the Patriot Group which is a post 9/11 organization that assists emergency response personnel on a local, national and international level during a major crisis in an urban setting.

Mitacek obtained her Bachelor of Science in accounting, cum laude from LeMoyné College in 1991. She went to Fordham law school where she received her Juris Doctor in 1996 and was the Notes and Review editor of the Fordham Review.

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