

For immediate release

New Chief Banking Officer at Bankwell

Matthew J. McNeill has been appointed to Executive Vice President, Chief Banking Officer at Bankwell, announced Christopher R. Gruseke, President and CEO of Bankwell and its parent company, Bankwell Financial Group. In his new capacity, Mr. McNeill will join Bankwell's Executive Team and report to Mr. Gruseke.

Mr. McNeill was most recently Head of Commercial Lending at Metropolitan Commercial Bank in New York where he was responsible for managing all aspects of commercial banking for a \$3.2 Billion commercial bank; including commercial lending, cash management, commercial deposits and consumer lending.

During his 20 year banking career, he previously served as Senior Commercial Relationship Manager at HSBC, a Business Banker at Santander and a Managing Partner at American Real Estate Lending.

As Chief Banking Officer, Mr. McNeill will oversee Bankwell's C&I Lending Business, Commercial Real Estate Lending Business, Small Business Lending, Treasury Management and Business Development teams.

Mr. Gruseke stated, "We are excited to welcome Matt to the Bankwell management team. A proven winner, Matt has demonstrated his ability to build successful lending teams and to deepen customer relationships. Bankwell's addition of Matt as Chief Banking Officer represents a critical step toward achieving our strategic goal of becoming a more commercially-focused community bank."

"I'm thrilled to join such a dynamic and accomplished Bankwell team. I look forward to becoming part of the company's continued success," said Mr. McNeill.

Mr. McNeill resides in New Canaan, CT with his wife and son. He is a member of NYS Society of CPAs, where he serves as a member of the Real Estate, Banking and Healthcare Committee.

Bankwell is a community bank that serves the banking and lending needs of businesses and residents throughout Connecticut. More about Bankwell can be found at www.mybankwell.com.