



*For Immediate Release*

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## **Bank of the West Joins ICBA For Meeting with President Trump**

*White House meeting focuses on regulatory relief to 'Make Community Banking Great Again'*

**Washington, D.C. (May, 2017)**—**Cynthia Blankenship, Vice Chairman, CFO, Corporate President, Bank of the West, Grapevine, Texas** joined more than 100 community bankers and the Independent Community Bankers of America® (ICBA) in May for a meeting with President Donald Trump and other top administration officials at the White House as part of the [2017 ICBA Capital Summit](#). In the meeting with President Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, NEC Director Gary Cohn and Small Business Administration chief Linda McMahon, Trump said the administration is focused on addressing regulatory burdens to help community banks lend to small businesses.

“**Bank of the West** was deeply honored to be invited to attend this historic meeting, where the president reiterated his support for community banking,” said **Cynthia Blankenship**. “**Bank of the West** was proud to be in Washington to advocate on behalf of our industry so we can continue to serve our community and be a powerful job creator and economic engine right here in **Grapevine and the North Texas Region.**”

During the meeting community bankers presented President Trump with a red “Make Community Banking Great Again” cap. In attendance at the meeting were community bankers from ICBA’s Executive Committee, board of directors, Federal Delegate Board, and policy committees.

More than 1,000 community bankers were in Washington for ICBA’s Capital Summit to discuss critical issues facing community banks and their communities, such as excessive regulatory burdens that affect their ability to serve their customers, make loans and create jobs. The industry’s solution to the regulatory burden problem—ICBA’s [Plan for Prosperity](#)—is a pro-growth platform to eliminate onerous and unnecessary regulatory burdens that inhibit lending and innovation.

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The summit featured meetings with policymakers, remarks from speakers such as Secretary Mnuchin and House Financial Services Committee Chairman Jeb Hensarling (R-Texas), and the first-ever [ICBA Future of Banking Symposium](#), which offers insights into the future of the rapidly changing community banking industry.

“The nation’s community banks are dedicated to fostering local economic and job growth by serving the consumers and small businesses in their communities,” said ICBA Chairman Scott Heitkamp, president and CEO of ValueBank Texas in Corpus Christi, Texas. “Unfortunately, one-size-fits-all regulations are preventing community banks from lending and promoting prosperity at the local level. ICBA looks forward to continuing to work with President Trump, his administration and Congress to advance common-sense reforms that will help unleash the economic power of community banks.”

More information about ICBA's Capital Summit, Future of Banking Symposium, and Plan for Prosperity is available on the [ICBA website](#).

#### **About ICBA**

*The Independent Community Bankers of America®, the nation's voice for more than 5,800 community banks of all sizes and charter types, is dedicated exclusively to representing the interests of the community banking industry and its membership through effective advocacy, best-in-class education and high-quality products and services. For more information, visit ICBA's website at [www.icba.org](http://www.icba.org).*

#### **About Community Bank**

*[Bank of the West](#) is an Independent Community Bank in the North Texas Region, serving it's customers through exceptional customer support and offering state-of-the-art banking services. It is our goal to make sure you receive the level of service that you expect.*