



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Berthiaume, Branch President, Merchants Bank's Bennington Office

SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT—Executive Vice President Thomas S. Leavitt announced the appointment of David Berthiaume to the position of Branch President of Merchants Bank's Putnam Square office in Bennington. The Branch President position was previously held by Kathy Hamilton, who sadly and unexpectedly passed away earlier this year. Berthiaume will continue Hamilton's excellent tradition of leadership, directing a team that includes Personal Bankers Annette Dixon, Gerilyn Shaw, Lindsay Witherbee and Meghan Coyne.

Berthiaume was previously employed at TD Banknorth as a Business Development and Sales Manager. He has managed TD Banknorth's Greenwich, New York office for the past four years. Prior to TD Banknorth, Berthiaume performed four years of service with Fleet Bank as a Trust Administrator and Small Business Client Specialist.

Berthiaume is a graduate of Rhode Island College and has completed studies at Cannon Trust School. He resides in Cambridge, New York, with his family.

"Despite the bittersweet circumstances under which I assume my new role, I look forward to working with the Merchants Bank Team and the clients we are proud to serve," said Berthiaume.



David Berthiaume, Branch President for Merchants Bank's Bennington Office

Vermont Matters.[®] Merchants Bank strives to provide funding to support organizations with programs and services throughout Vermont that help meet basic needs; advance environmental initiatives, energy efficiency and awareness; and promote community enrichment through local sports related initiatives. The continuing mission of Merchants Bank is to provide Vermonters with a state-wide community bank that blends a strong technology platform with a genuine appreciation for local markets. Merchants Bank fulfills this commitment through a branch-based system that includes 34 community bank offices and 42 ATMs throughout Vermont, Personal Bankers dedicated to top-quality customer service and streamlined solutions, including: Personal Banking with *CashRewards Checking*sm, *Free Checking for Life*[®], a low-cost Money Market Account, Free Online Banking and Bill Pay, Overdraft Coverage, Direct Deposit, Free Debit Card, and Free Automated Phone Banking; Business Banking with Rewards Checking for Business, Business Online Banking and Bill Pay, Business Lines of Credit and Merchant Card Processing; Small Business Loans; Health Savings Accounts; Credit Cards; Flexible Certificates of Deposit; Vehicle Loans; Home Equity Credit; and Home Mortgages. **Visit mbvt.com for more information.** Merchants' stock is traded on the NASDAQ National Market system under the symbol MBVT. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

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