



PRESS RELEASE

Doug Dickens Retires as Chair of Oconee State Bank Board of Directors

*Virginia Wells Named Chair; Albert Hale Named Vice Chair
Dr. Jonathan Murrow Added to Board*

WATKINSVILLE, Sept. 2, 2016 – After more than 27 years as a director and 19 years as chairman, Doug Dickens will retire from the board of Oconee State Bank effective Tuesday, September 27. Mr. Dickens is President of Dickens Farms, Inc., Dickens Builders, Inc. and Vice President of A. E. Carter Funeral Home.

"Few things have given me greater pleasure than being a part of the Oconee State Bank family for the past 27 years," said Dickens, 65. "But after much consideration in early 2016, the time has come for me to focus on my health and that of my family. With 12 grandchildren to enjoy, and taking on some additional caregiver responsibilities with my wife's family, it's a good decision for me at this time."

Longtime director Virginia S. Wells has been named board chair, and James Albert Hale, Sr. has been named vice chair, also effective Tuesday, September 27. Ms. Wells, president and CEO of Wells & Co. Realtors, was formerly the Bank's vice chair. She has been a board member since 1990. Hale is the owner of Hale's Dairy and has served as a director since 2008.

The board also appointed Jonathan Murrow, MD to fill Doug Dickens' unexpired term on the board. Dr. Murrow, 41, practices cardiology with Athens Regional Cardiology Group and is the physician lead of Medical Education at Athens Regional Medical Center. In addition, he also serves as the Campus Associate Dean of Research and Associate Professor at the Augusta University/University of Georgia Medical Partnership.

Interim President & CEO Jerry Wages stated that "Doug Dickens has been a great ambassador for Oconee State Bank over the years, and has worked tirelessly to promote the best interests of the bank and its customers, shareholders, and employees. I am confident the bank will be in good hands with Virginia Wells and Albert Hale in their new leadership roles, along with the board and management that remain in place." Wages also added that, "Jonathan Murrow will be a tremendous addition to our board with local roots in our community and beyond.

In addition to Wells, Hale and Murrow, Oconee State Bank's Board of Directors consists of Jerry K. Wages, Interim President & Chief Executive Officer, Oconee State Bank; G. Robert Bishop, Retired, Georgia Department of Natural Resources; Jimmy L. Christopher, Certified Public Accountant; Mack H. Guest, III, President of LAD Logistics, Inc., LAD Truck Lines, Inc., Dutch Properties, LLC and Chicken Brothers Leasing, Inc.; Henry C. Maxey, President, Maxey Brothers, Inc.; Tom F. Wilson, Executive Vice President & Chief Lending Officer, Oconee State Bank, and Brian J. Brodrick, Partner, Jackson Spalding.

Since the doors of the Main Street office opened in 1960, Oconee State Bank has proudly served the local community, providing an unparalleled commitment to personalized service, value-added products, and a deep sense of responsibility to its customers. With more than 56 years of service, Oconee State Bank is the only locally owned and operated community bank in Oconee County.