



Senior Executive Vice President Jerry K. Wages Retires After 31 Years With Oconee State Bank

WATKINSVILLE, March 26, 2018 – After 31 years of marking the lives of bank customers, employees and members of the Oconee County community, Jerry K. Wages, senior vice president of Oconee State Bank retired March 21. Following his service as the bank’s interim CEO in 2016, Wages spent the past year guiding bank operations while preparing a smooth, successful transition of his duties at the bank.



“It has been a privilege and honor for me to have been associated with Oconee State Bank and serve on its board over the many years. I am thankful for the opportunities afforded me to be a good steward in serving our shareholders, customers, team members, and community,” said Wages. “I believe the bank is poised to do great things and wish for it continued success in the future!”

After six years at First American Bank of Walton County in Monroe, Ga. and seven years at Bank South, N.A. in Athens, Ga., Wages was a seasoned banking professional when he joined Oconee State Bank as vice president and manager of the Bogart Branch in June 1986. His commitment to providing outstanding customer service soon earned him promotions: to senior vice president and chief financial officer in January 1990, and to executive vice president and chief financial officer in July 1994.

Wages was named Senior Executive Vice President in January 2004 and served as Oconee State Bank’s interim president and CEO following the retirement of Amrey Harden.

“Every interaction with our customers is guided by our promise to be essential to the lives, businesses and communities we serve,” said Neil Stevens, president and CEO of Oconee State Bank. “Jerry has delivered on that promise with remarkable consistency. He’s been an essential part of our Oconee State Bank family, and always will be. We wish him the best in the next chapter of his life.”

Wages was honored by his colleagues and community March 21 at a retirement reception at the Oconee State Bank Operations Center, where a portrait of Wages and the newly named Jerry K. Wages Conference Room were unveiled.

“A remarkable person deserves a remarkable tribute,” said Virginia Wells, chair of the Oconee State Bank Board of Directors. “Jerry will continue to be a vital part of Oconee State Bank for years to come, both

through his presence in our conference room and through the legacy of remarkable service he's instilled in us all."

A native of Athens, Ga., Wages graduated from the University of Georgia with a BBA in Banking and Finance and went on to complete the Graduate School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University. He has served the community through leadership roles in numerous civic organizations over the years, including his service as president of the Rotary Club of Oconee County for the 2004-2005 fiscal years.

About Oconee State Bank

Oconee State Bank is a leading financial institution with a vision to be essential to the lives, businesses and communities we serve. With more than 58 years of service in the banking industry, we continuously strive to create remarkable experiences that significantly mark the lives of others. We are proud to provide an unparalleled commitment to personalized service, innovative products and solutions, and to bring exceptional value to our customers through local ownership, involvement and decision-making.