

Berkshire Bank Appoints Key Corporate Finance Officers

Nihill named SVP, Treasurer; O'Rourke assumes additional new role as EVP, Finance

Expansion of Finance Team Supports Growth

PITTSFIELD, MA, January 24, 2017 – Berkshire Bank, America's Most Exciting Bank[®], announced the following key appointments within its Corporate Finance Department to accelerate the company's progress and to empower the next level of leadership.

- **Kevin Nihill - Senior Vice President, Treasurer.** Mr. Nihill has been serving as the lead of Berkshire's Strategic Analytics group. Nihill has nearly 20 years of experience in the financial services industry in a number of treasury, financial modeling and finance-related roles and joined the company in 2010. Nihill is a Chartered Financial Analyst[®] (CFA) charter holder, earned his bachelor's degree from Cornell University and received his MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.
- **Allison O'Rourke - Executive Vice President, Finance.** Ms. O'Rourke will assume the role of Executive Vice President, Finance. With this new position, O'Rourke will be responsible for leading Financial Planning and Analysis, including budgeting, planning and profitability, in addition to Investor Relations and Financial Institution Banking. Ms. O'Rourke joined the bank in 2013 from NYSE Euronext as Vice President, Investor Relations, and has nearly 20 years of experience in the financial services industry. O'Rourke earned a bachelor's degree in Economics from Smith College.

“These leadership changes within our Finance group create synergies that strengthen our ability to adapt to changing economic and regulatory landscapes,” said Berkshire Bank Chief Financial Officer, Jamie Moses. “Both have demonstrated strong leadership skills in their time at Berkshire. Kevin has unofficially been filling the role of Treasurer for us for over a year; he has a strong analytical background and the necessary skills needed to serve as a successful treasurer. Ali is a results driven, high integrity leader and her new responsibilities will provide additional support to our Finance team.”

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About Berkshire Bank

Berkshire Hills Bancorp (NYSE: BHLB) is the parent of Berkshire Bank, America's Most Exciting Bank[®]. The Company, recognized for its entrepreneurial approach and distinctive culture, has \$9 billion in assets and 99 full service branch offices in Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey and Pennsylvania providing personal and business banking, insurance, and wealth management services. Berkshire Bank was named one of Massachusetts Most Charitable Companies in 2016 by the *Boston Business Journal*. To learn more, visit www.berkshirebank.com, call 800-773-5601 or follow us on: Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Berkshire Bank is the official bank of NESN's Boston Bruins coverage and the community partner of Boston Seasons at City Hall Plaza.

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