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WBA Announces Duncan Taylor as President & CEO



SEATTLE — The Washington Bankers Association (WBA) Board of Directors announced today that Duncan Taylor has been selected to serve as its next President and Chief Executive Officer, effective February 1, 2026. Taylor will succeed Glen Simecek, who is retiring at the end of January after serving eight years with the Association. Taylor is currently the Association's senior vice president and chief operating officer.

“The Board is pleased to welcome Duncan Taylor as the next President and CEO of the Washington Bankers Association,” said Brent Beardall, WBA Chair and WaFd Bank president and CEO. “Duncan’s deep understanding and passion for banking, built over years of service with WBA, make him uniquely qualified to lead our association into the future. His strong relationships with members and the WBA team have earned the respect of bankers and lawmakers across the state. We’re confident that under his leadership, WBA will continue to thrive and strengthen Washington’s banking community.”

“I’m honored to lead WBA at a pivotal time for our industry,” said Taylor. “Together with our members and partners, we’ll focus on advancing our policy goals, workforce development, innovation, and keeping banking safe, competitive, and accessible for all Washingtonians.”

Under Simecek’s tenure, WBA extensively revamped and expanded the Association’s advocacy program, introduced new professional development programs, including the launch of Understanding Bank Performance, which now includes partners from over 30 states, strengthened community initiatives such as Bankers Care, and achieved membership growth. He also oversaw the Association through the COVID pandemic and the 2023 bank crisis.

“It’s been a privilege to serve Washington’s banking community, but, most importantly, it’s been an honor to work alongside all of the individuals I’ve gotten to know over the last eight years,” said Simecek. “WBA is well-positioned for the future with Duncan leading the WBA team.”

Taylor has served in his current role as SVP/Chief Operating Officer for four years and was previously the director of membership and operations, helping to lead many of the Association's initiatives, including Bankers Care. He is a graduate of Pacific Coast Banking School.

About the Washington Bankers Association

Founded in 1889, the Washington Bankers Association is Washington State’s largest financial services trade organization, advocating for and educating on the needs and interests of banks in Washington.