

NEWS RELEASE



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Alliance Bank of Arizona Board of Directors member Sharon Harper honored

PHOENIX – An Alliance Bank of Arizona Board member has been honored as one of the Valley’s top 25 Most Admired CEOs at the inaugural Phoenix Business Journal awards recently held on 6/9/2009. Sharon Harper, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Plaza Companies, has been a member on the bank’s Board of Directors since April 2005.

“Sharon’s business and civic leadership has been a tremendous addition to our board, underscoring that this ‘Most Admired CEO’ recognition is well deserved,” said Alliance Bank of Arizona’s President and Chief Executive Officer Jim Lundy. “Harper’s community involvement, dedication and major contributions in the real estate and healthcare industries in Arizona have stood the test of time, with more to come,” Lundy continued.

As one of Arizona’s premier real estate firms, The Plaza Companies specializes in medical facilities, luxury senior living and technology and bioscience facilities.

The Plaza Companies supplies real estate services such as strategic planning, development, sales, leasing and property and asset management. It has developed projects including an upscale senior living community in North Scottsdale, Classic Residences at Silverstone, in association with Hyatt; as well as a 1.2 million square-foot multi use development, SkySong, with partners including Arizona State University, USAA Real Estate Co. and Higgins Development Partners.

Sharon Harper’s charity and civic involvement also includes service with the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, the Arizona Community Foundation, the Greater Phoenix Economic Council and the Arizona Bioscience Steering Committee, just to name a few.

A native of Mankato, Minn., and a graduate of Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, Harper and her husband, Dr. Oliver Harper, have four children and live in Central Phoenix.

About Alliance Bank of Arizona

Founded in 2003, Alliance Bank has quickly become one of the fastest-growing banks in the U.S. with total assets of \$886 million, total deposits of \$733 million and total loans of \$682 million (as of 3/31/09). Alliance Bank is a “super community” commercial bank with local decision-making, focused on Arizona’s business and professional community, along with individuals seeking personalized banking service. Alliance Bank has 11 offices statewide including Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa, Tucson, Flagstaff and Sedona. For more information, visit the Alliance Bank of Arizona web site at alliancebankofarizona.com.

Alliance Bank of Arizona is a subsidiary of Western Alliance Bancorporation, which is one of the largest regional bank holding companies in the country with more than \$5 billion in assets.