



News Release



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Chuck Withee, President of The Provident Bank is SBA's NH 2016 Financial Services Champion of the Year

Chuck Withee, President of the Provident Bank has been named the NH Small Business Administration's 2016 Financial Services Champion of the Year. Under his leadership, The Provident Bank has been the leading SBA lender in NH in terms of dollars amount of 7(a) loans for the last two years. Since joining the bank in 2004 and throughout his 31 year career, Withee has been a strong advocate for small business financing throughout the state of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Withee has always been a strong supporter of the Small Business Administration and encourages his lending team to utilize the programs to help provide financing to small businesses unable to obtain credit without that support. The bank has significantly increased their presence in New Hampshire as well as their lending. In 2013, for the first time in the bank's history, over \$100 million in loan production was achieved. In 2015, Withee instituted new methods for the lending team and they closed the year with over \$220 million in commercial loans to deserving small and medium businesses throughout the region.

Commenting on the announcement, Chuck Withee President of the Provident Bank said, "The Financial Services Champion of the Year is a very high honor and I am very pleased to accept the award on behalf of the entire Provident Bank team; who shares this award with me, with their dedication and hard work on behalf of small businesses throughout New Hampshire."

Greta Johansson, District Director for the New Hampshire District Office of the SBA added, "Chuck is a true champion for small businesses in New Hampshire. He and the team at the Provident Bank continue to recognize and respond to the capital needs of small and mid-sized businesses, and their use of several of the SBA loan guarantee programs helps even more of their clients grow and prosper."

Chuck is very active in his local business community as well as with the Peter T. Paul College of the University of New Hampshire. He is a board member of Turning Point, Coastal Economic Development Corp. and Abeniqui Country Club, where he is the Finance Committee Chair. Chuck is also involved

in the UNH CEO Peer group., which is a group of diverse small and mid-market business leaders that assist and advise each other on business and strategic matters. Chuck truly enjoys his involvement with the UNH Paul College Executive Advisory Board and the Paul College Mentoring Group, which he chairs. He recognizes the importance of encouraging the next generation to consider a career in the banking and finance industries through this important channel.

Mr. Withee will be recognized locally at the annual **NH SBA Small Business Awards** event on **May 3rd** at the Manchester Country Club in Bedford.

*For information on the May 3rd event contact Warren Haggerty at 603-225-1405 or warren.haggerty@sba.gov
To register for the event click [here](#) or visit <http://www.nhbankers.com>*