



NEWS

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Don J. McGrath to retire as CEO of BancWest Corp.

SAN FRANCISCO – April 1, 2009 – BancWest Corporation announced today that Don J. McGrath will retire as CEO, effective at the company's annual meeting on April 16.

McGrath's retirement is part of a planned succession and follows his retirement at the end of 2007 as CEO of Bank of the West, BancWest's largest subsidiary. McGrath, 60, will continue as Chairman of the boards of both BancWest and Bank of the West. He has served as CEO of the holding company since Jan. 1, 2005, and was CEO of Bank of the West from 1995 through 2007.

Michael Shepherd will succeed McGrath as CEO of BancWest and will continue as President and CEO of Bank of the West, a position to which he was elected on Jan. 1, 2008.

Shepherd, 53, joined the bank in 2004 as General Counsel and, after also serving as Chief Risk Officer and Chief Administrative Officer, was elected President and Chief Operating Officer in July, 2006. Before joining Bank of the West, Shepherd served with The Bank of New York and with Shawmut National Corporation. He was previously a partner in the San Francisco law firm of Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison, LLP. Earlier in his career, Shepherd served as Senior Deputy Comptroller of the Currency, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, and Associate Counsel to the President of the United States.

BancWest Corp., is a holding company for Bank of the West, San Francisco, and First Hawaiian Bank, Honolulu, and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNP Paribas. Shepherd is a member of the Executive Committee of BNP Paribas Retail Banking.

About BancWest Corporation: BancWest Corporation is a financial services holding company, with assets of \$80 billion which was formed in 1998 as a result of the merger between the holding companies of its two banking subsidiaries, for Bank of the West, San Francisco, and First Hawaiian Bank, Honolulu. In 2001, the company became a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNP Paribas, a leading global financial services group that is among the six strongest banks in the world, according to Standard & Poor's.

About Bank of the West: Founded in 1874, \$67 billion-asset Bank of the West (www.bankofthewest.com) offers a full range of business, corporate, personal, trust and international banking services and currently operates more than 700 branch locations and commercial banking offices in 19 Western and Midwestern states.

About First Hawaiian Bank: First Hawaiian Bank (www.fhb.com) with \$12.8 billion assets, was founded in 1858 and is Hawaii's oldest and largest bank. It has 58 branches in Hawaii, three on Guam and two on Saipan.

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