

Banking and the Economy: A FORUM FOR WOMEN IN BANKING

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY, DENVER BRANCH • OCTOBER 6-7, 2021

Speaker and Panelist Biographies

(ordered in alignment with their session time)



Tammy Edwards

Senior Vice President of Community Engagement and Inclusion and Director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion – Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

Tammy Edwards is senior vice president of the Community Engagement and Inclusion Division, and director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion for the Federal Reserve's Tenth District, which includes Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Wyoming, northern New Mexico and western Missouri. She is a member of the Bank's Management Committee and leads the Bank's strategic focus on addressing community and economic development issues, promoting the role of women and minorities in banking and fostering an engaged and inclusive workplace. Ms. Edwards also provides strategic leadership for the development and implementation of diversity and inclusion strategies. She regularly presents on various leadership, community and economic development topics and co-edited the 2015 book, *Transforming U.S. Workforce Development Policies for the 21st Century*. She was promoted to her current position in November 2019.

Ms. Edwards joined the Bank in July 2008 as assistant vice president and Community Affairs Officer after having various leadership positions at Sprint Corp.



Esther George

President and Chief Executive Officer – Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

Esther George leads a workforce of more than 2,000 employees at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's headquarters in Kansas City and Branches in Denver, Oklahoma City and Omaha. Throughout the seven-state Tenth District, the Kansas City Fed plays a role in national monetary policy, supervises financial institutions, and provides payment and financial services to depository institutions and the U.S. Treasury.

Ms. George joined the Bank in 1982 and spent much of her career in the Division of Supervision and Risk Management. She began by becoming a commissioned bank examiner and eventually served 10 years as the District's chief regulator. She was directly involved in the Tenth District's banking supervision and discount window lending activities during the banking crisis of the 1980s and post-9/11.

She is a former chair of the Federal Reserve System's Community Banking Organizations Management Group. Ms. George has also served as the acting director of the Federal Reserve's Division of Banking Supervision and Regulation at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Washington, D.C.

Ms. George also is the host of the Bank's annual Jackson Hole Economic Policy Symposium and has participated in the Bank for International Settlement's Financial Stability Institute programs in Lima, Abu Dhabi, Beijing and Malaysia.

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Lisa Gold Schier

Senior Vice President of Business Innovation and Endorsed Solutions— American Bankers Association

Lisa Gold Schier leads business innovation for the American Bankers Association. In addition to her expertise in bank/fintech partnerships, she also leads the strategic direction for ABA's Endorsed Solutions area, overseeing a team of experts that research third-party providers based on banker need.

She also leads a banker-driven Advisory Council and ABA's Core Platforms Committee, which is focused on improving relationship with core processor providers. Prior to joining ABA, she gained her banking experience with U.S. Bank in a variety of roles.



Natalie Bartholomew

**Chief Impact Officer – Citizens Bank of Edmond, Oklahoma
Owner/Host – The Girl Banker Blog/Podcast**

Natalie Bartholomew is a career banker with experience in a variety of areas including lending, deposit operations, culture building, strategic planning and marketing.

Ms. Bartholomew is an active philanthropist and sits on various boards and committees that serve the northwest Arkansas region. Among recent recognition for her efforts include being selected to the *Northwest Arkansas Business Journal's* 2018 Women In Business list as well as the 2019 *Arkansas Business* and 2020 ICBA Forty Under 40 classes.

She launched the Girl Banker Blog in November 2017 to create a voice for women in banking and working moms. She also speaks at a variety of banking conferences and schools across the country and is host of the Girl Banker Podcast.



Tara Humston

Senior Vice President, Supervision and Risk Management – Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

Tara Humston is senior vice president of the Supervision and Risk Management Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. She was appointed to this position in 2019. In this role, she is responsible for the supervision of the District's state member banks and bank holding companies, as well as the Bank's discount window and risk management functions and national responsibilities for technology initiatives supporting supervision staff in all districts. She is also a member of the Bank's Management Committee, which is responsible for strategic planning and policy direction.

Ms. Humston joined the Bank in 1998 as an analyst and most recently has served as vice president responsible for community bank supervision activities, leading the Kansas City Fed's examination and inspection teams.

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Jenifer Waller
President – Colorado Bankers Association

Jenifer Waller is president of the Colorado Bankers Association, a position she has had since January 2020. She previously had been the association’s chief operating officer since 2017 and a senior vice president starting in 1999.

Ms. Waller started in community banking in southern Colorado in 1985 and attended the Western States School of Banking. Prior to joining the Colorado Bankers Association, she had spent almost five years as a bank examiner for the Colorado Division of Banking.

Ms. Waller is involved with numerous organizations, serving on the Board of the Colorado Civil Justice League, LIFT Colorado and the Colorado Energy Environment District. She has been appointed to several state task forces addressing issues impacting Colorado, including the elder abuse task force and the wildfire task force.



Kim DeVore
President and Chief Executive Officer – Jonah Bank, Wyoming

Kim DeVore is president, chief executive officer and a charter founding director of Jonah Bank of Wyoming, which was chartered in July 2006. Ms. DeVore says Jonah has been an opportunity to partner in developing a community bank ethically centered on “doing what’s right.”

Ms. DeVore began her banking career in 1988 with Valley National Bank, through her high school DECA program. Since then, she has worn many hats in banking including teller, operations, new accounts, cash management, loan assistant, securities sales, commercial lender and compliance officer.

Ms. DeVore is active in community organizations statewide, including the Wyoming Business Council, Two Fly Foundation, The Lyric and the Central Wyoming Boys & Girls Club Foundation. She also represents her industry on various national regulatory advisory boards, including the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City’s Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council.



Rachel Gerlach
Chief Credit Officer – Alpine Bank, Colorado

Rachel Gerlach is chief credit officer, a new role she started in 2021, for Alpine Bank in Colorado. Ms. Gerlach has worked in a variety of roles with increasing responsibility for Alpine since joining the bank in 1997. Most recently she had been chief operations officer, a role she took on in 2017.

In 2021 Ms. Gerlach joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City’s Denver Branch Board of Directors.

Ms. Gerlach has had leadership roles for a dozen community, municipal and business organizations, including the 4-H program, which she credits as formative for her in the areas of leadership, responsibility and sportsmanship.

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Sheila Mathews

President and Chief Executive Officer – Four Corners Community Bank, New Mexico

Sheila Mathews is president and chief executive officer of Four Corners Community Bank, a member of its board of directors and one of the organizers of the bank, which opened in 2000.

Prior to creating Four Corners, Ms. Mathews worked at Bank of America in Farmington, New Mexico, for 16 years, formerly as assistant vice president and business banker. Among recognition she has received was in 2011 from *New Mexico Business Weekly*, which selected her as a Women of Influence and a Top-Performing CEO.

Ms. Mathews is a member of the boards for the American Bankers Mutual Insurance Services, the New Mexico Banker's Association and The Independent Bankers Bank. She is a former board member of the Community Bank Advisory Council for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, a former council member for the ABA Community Banker's Council and a former ABA board member.



Cindy Solomon

Founder – The Courageous Leadership Institute

Cindy Solomon is founder and chief executive officer of The Courageous Leadership Institute. She works with forward-thinking organizations to replace outdated leadership techniques with new tools that leverage personal courage and transform sluggish cultures into global powerhouses.

Ms. Solomon leads a worldwide team of facilitators who travel the globe sharing her insights on customer service and Courageous Leadership. Through keynote speeches, as well as live and on-demand training programs, Ms. Solomon has helped companies identify, nurture and leverage leadership potential in front line employees, middle managers and senior leadership teams.

She has been included in *Inc. Magazine's* Inc. 5000 (2018), *Fast Company's* Fast 100 and *Forbes Magazine*, among others. She is the author of two books: *The Rules of Woo* and *Creating a Culture of Courage: The Courage Challenge Workbook*.