

Executive Officers

Betsy Lawer | BOARD CHAIR AND CEO/PRESIDENT

Lawer shapes the bank's vision, strategies and goals today and moving forward. As a third-generation Alaskan banker, Lawer grew up with many of Alaska's business and community leaders. She learned the banking business literally at her father's knee, earned her economics degree from Duke University, and returned in 1974 to work her way up to the leadership position she holds today. Lawer previously served on the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco's Board of Directors and their Audit Committee. She currently serves on the Smithsonian Alumni Board.

**Darren Franz** | PRESIDENT – LENDING DIVISION, CHIEF CREDIT OFFICER AND BANK DIRECTOR

Franz brings decades of banking experience to First National. During his career, Franz has successfully overseen the management of retail and business banking in 16 Alaska communities with broad geographic, economic, and cultural diversity. As President of the Lending Division, Franz uses his proven expertise to lead the bank's full complement of lending managers and officers throughout the Great Land. He also provides oversight of branch operations in bank communities outside Anchorage and the bank's loan processing team. Franz holds a bachelor's degree in finance and economics and is a graduate of the renowned Pacific Coast Banking School. He is a board member of the University of Alaska Foundation Finance and Audit Committee, and the Alaska Support Industry Alliance.

**Cheri Gillian** | SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND BOARD SECRETARY

Gillian oversees the Central Administration Division, including the bank's Corporate Communication & Customer Experience, Human Resources and Audit departments, and the Wealth Management & Trust Section. An Alaskan for 50-plus years, Gillian has spent nearly 35 of those years building First National's brand and helping shape the bank's unique workplace culture, one recognized by *Alaska Business* magazine readers as the Best Place to Work in Alaska. Gillian helped formalize the bank's relationship management program, provides administrative oversight for bankwide initiatives, and serves as Board Secretary.

**Ryan Strong** | SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND CHIEF BANKING OFFICER

Strong's steady progression to the First National leadership team began more than 20 years ago when he joined the bank as a Management Associate. In his current role as head of the Retail, Treasury & Compliance Division, Strong leverages hands-on lending and operations experience. His responsibilities include oversight of the operations of Anchorage branches, Treasury Management, Mortgage Lending, Escrow, Compliance, and risk management. He is an active member and past president of the Alaska Bankers Association and serves as chair on the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation board of directors.



Executive Officers *continued*

Phil Griffin | EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Griffin began his banking career in the early 1980s after graduating from the University of Nebraska with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He arrived in Alaska after holding Chief Information Officer positions in California and Nevada. Griffin plays a key role in business continuity planning and is responsible for the bank's information technology strategic planning, implementation and security, core and item processing systems, network services, software solutions and support, e-Payment services, card processing systems, ATMs and online banking.



Michele Schuh | EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

A third-generation banker and second-generation First National banker, Schuh brings more than 35 years of finance and leadership experience to her role as Chief Financial Officer. She directs the bank's Property and Finance departments, encompassing a wide variety of functions including treasury and securities portfolio management, shareholder relations, facilities, financial reporting and tax. Schuh is a graduate of the University of Washington and the Pacific Coast Banking School.



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