

EAGLE BANCORP INC  
Form DEF 14A  
April 01, 2016  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, DC 20549**

**SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities**

**Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. \_\_\_\_\_)**

Filed by Registrant

Filed by Party other than Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- |                                     |  |                          |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Preliminary Proxy Statement                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Confidential, for Use of the Commission<br>Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Definitive Proxy Statement                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Definitive Additional Materials  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Soliciting Materials Pursuant to §240.14a-12 |                          |  |

**Eagle Bancorp, Inc.**

*(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)*

*(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)*

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- |                                     |   |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No fee required.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.                                |
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(1) Amount previously paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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**The Annual Meeting Of Shareholders Will Be Held At:**

**The Bethesda Marriott Hotel  
5151 Pooks Hill Road  
Bethesda, Maryland 20814-2432**

**on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. EDT**

**To The Shareholders of Eagle Bancorp, Inc.:**

**Proxy Statement**

The Board of Directors of the Eagle Bancorp, Inc. is soliciting your proxy for use at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, to be held at 10:00 A.M. EDT on Thursday, May 12, 2016, and at any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. This proxy statement and proxy card are being sent to shareholders of the Company on or about April 2, 2016 to shareholders of record as of March 16, 2016, the record date for the meeting. A copy of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, which includes our audited financial statements, also accompanies this proxy statement.

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In this proxy statement, we refer to (a) Eagle Bancorp, Inc. as the Company, Eagle, we or us, (b) the Board of Directors as the Board or Board of Directors and (c) EagleBank, our wholly owned subsidiary, as EagleBank or the Bank.

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on May 12, 2016.** A copy of this proxy statement, our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, and our Report to Shareholders is available online at <http://viewproxy.com/eaglebankcorp/2016>.

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## Notice of Meeting:

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Eagle Bancorp, Inc. (the Company), will be held for the following purposes:

1. To elect eight directors to serve until the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified;
2. To consider and approve an amendment to the Company's Articles of Incorporation to require that directors of the Company be approved by majority vote in uncontested elections;
3. To consider and approve the adoption of the Company's 2016 Stock Plan;
4. To ratify the appointment of Stegman & Company as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm to audit the consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2016;
5. To vote on a non-binding advisory resolution approving the compensation of our named executive officers; and
6. To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the meeting.

Shareholders of record as of the close of business on March 16, 2016 are entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the meeting.

**YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT.** Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, we urge you to vote and submit your proxy in order to ensure the presence of a quorum.



Registered shareholders may vote:

- By Internet: go to [www.cesvote.com](http://www.cesvote.com);
- By toll-free telephone: call 1 (888) 693-8683; or
- By mail: mark, sign, date and promptly mail the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

If your shares are not registered in your name, please see the voting instructions provided by your recordholder on how to vote your shares. You will need additional documentation from your recordholder in order to vote in person at the meeting.

	By Order of the Board of Directors,
	Jane E. Cornett, Corporate Secretary
April 1, 2016	

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## Proxy Statement

### *When and where is the meeting being held?*

The meeting is being held at 10:00 A.M., EDT on Thursday, May 12, 2016, at the Bethesda Marriott Hotel, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, Maryland.

### *What am I being asked to vote on at the meeting?*

You are being asked to vote on five proposals at the meeting:

1. the election of eight directors for a one year term until the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified;
2. the approval of an amendment to the Company's Articles of Incorporation to require that directors of the Company be approved by majority vote in uncontested elections;
3. the approval of the Company's 2016 Stock Plan;
4. the ratification of the appointment of Stegman & Company as the Company's independent registered public accountants for the year ended December 31, 2016; and
5. a non-binding advisory resolution approving the compensation of our named executive officers.

### *How does the Board recommend I vote?*

The Board unanimously recommends that you vote:

- **FOR the election of all of the nominees for election as director,**
- **FOR the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation,**
- **FOR the approval of the 2016 Stock Plan,**
- **FOR the ratification of accountants, and**
- **FOR the nonbinding resolution approving our named executive officer compensation.**

***Who is entitled to vote at the meeting?***

Only shareholders of record of the Company's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the common stock), at the close of business on March 16, 2016, will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. On that date, the Company had 33,579,314 shares of common stock outstanding, held by approximately 16,340 total shareholders, including 940 shareholders of record. The common stock is the only class of securities entitled to vote at the meeting.

If your shares are registered directly in your name with Computershare Trust Company, N.A., our transfer agent, then you are a shareholder of record. As a shareholder of record, you may vote in person at the meeting, or vote by proxy, using any of the following three methods to submit your proxy:

- by Internet: go to [www.cesvote.com](http://www.cesvote.com) and follow the instructions provided;
- by toll-free telephone: call 1 (888) 693-8683; or
- by mail: mark, sign, date and promptly mail the enclosed proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

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If your shares are held in an account at a broker, bank or other nominee (collectively, your broker ), rather than in your name, then you are a beneficial owner of street name shares, and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you by your broker. Only your broker is entitled to vote your shares at the meeting or submit a proxy. (Please see the next question for important information regarding voting by your broker.) As a beneficial owner, you are entitled to direct your broker how to vote your shares. You will need to follow the directions your broker provides you and give the broker instructions as to how the broker should vote your shares by following the instructions you received with your copy of this proxy

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statement. If you want to vote your shares held in street name at the meeting, you will need to obtain a legal proxy from your broker authorizing you to vote your shares. A brokerage statement or the voting instruction form you receive from your broker will not allow you to vote in person at the meeting. Please note that your broker may have a deadline for submitting voting instructions which is earlier than the deadline for voting for recordholders.

**Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, we urge you to vote and submit your proxy, by Internet, telephone or mail, or to instruct your broker how to vote, in order to ensure the presence of a quorum.**

***Will my broker vote my shares for me?***

Under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange applicable to its member firms, your broker will not vote your shares on the election of directors, the approval of the 2016 Stock Plan or the advisory resolution on executive compensation unless they receive instructions from you. **If you hold your shares through a broker, it is extremely important that you instruct your broker how to vote your shares.** The election of directors (even if not contested) and the non-binding advisory vote on executive compensation are not considered routine matters. As such, your broker cannot vote your shares with respect to these proposals if you do not give instructions.

***How many votes do I have?***

You have one vote for each share of common stock you hold as of the record date on each matter submitted for the vote of shareholders. You do not have the right to cumulate votes in the election of directors.

***What is the quorum requirement for the meeting?***

The presence, in person or by proxy, of at least a majority of the total number of outstanding shares of common stock is necessary to constitute a quorum at the meeting.

***How will proxies be voted and counted?***

Properly executed proxies received by the Company in time to be voted at the meeting will be voted as you specify. If you do not specify how you want your shares voted, proxies will be voted **FOR** the election of all the nominees for election as directors, **FOR** the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation, **FOR** the adoption of the 2016 Stock Plan, **FOR** the ratification of the appointment of Stegman & Company, and **FOR** the non-binding advisory resolution approving the compensation of our named executive officers. We do not know of any other matters that will be brought before the meeting. If other matters are properly brought before the meeting, the persons named in the proxy intend to vote the shares to which the proxies relate in accordance with their best judgment.

The inspector of election appointed for the meeting will determine the presence of a quorum and will tabulate the votes cast at the meeting. Abstentions will be treated as present for purposes of determining a quorum, but as unvoted for purposes of determining the approval of any matter submitted to the vote of shareholders. If a broker advises the Company that it cannot vote on a matter because the beneficial owner has not provided voting instructions and it does not have discretionary voting authority on a particular matter, this is a broker non-vote with respect to that matter. Shares subject to broker non-votes will be counted as shares present or represented at the meeting for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists; however, such shares will not be considered as present or voted with respect to the matters on which the broker does not have the power to vote.

***Can I revoke my proxy after I submit it?***

Yes. You may revoke your proxy or change your vote at any time before it is voted at the meeting by:

- granting a later proxy with respect to the same shares;
- sending written notice to Jane E. Cornett, Corporate Secretary of the Company, 7830 Old Georgetown Road, Third Floor, Bethesda, Maryland 20814 at any time prior to the proxy being voted; or
- voting in person at the meeting.



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Your attendance at the meeting will not, in itself, revoke your proxy. If your shares are held in the name of your broker, please see the voting form provided by your broker for additional information regarding the voting of your shares.

***What votes are required to approve the election of directors and the other proposals?***

Under Maryland law and our current bylaws, directors are elected at this Annual Meeting by a plurality of the votes cast in the election, in the order of the number of votes received. Approval of the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation requires the vote of at least two-thirds of the outstanding shares of common stock. Each of the other proposals requires a majority of the votes cast on that matter in order to be approved.

***How are proxies being solicited?***

Proxies may also be solicited personally or by telephone by officers, regular employees or directors of the Company or its subsidiary, EagleBank, who will not receive any special compensation for their services in soliciting proxies. Additionally, we have engaged Alliance Advisors, LLC ( Alliance ), a proxy solicitation firm, to assist us in the distribution of proxy materials and the solicitation of votes. We will pay Alliance a base fee of \$5,500, plus per-call fees and reimbursement of its out-of-pocket expenses, for its services. We may also reimburse brokers, custodians, nominees and other fiduciaries for their reasonable out-of-pocket and clerical costs for forwarding proxy materials to their principals. The cost of this proxy solicitation is being paid by the Company.

***How can I find out the results of the voting at the annual meeting?***

Voting results will be announced by the filing of a Current Report on Form 8-K within four business days after the Annual Meeting ends. If final voting results are unavailable at that time, we will file an amended Current Report on Form 8-K within four business days after the day final results are available.

***What does it mean if I receive more than one set of materials?***

This means you hold shares of common stock in more than one way. For example, you may own some shares directly as a shareholder of record and other shares through a broker, or you may own shares through more than one broker. In these situations you may receive multiple sets of proxy materials. In order to vote all the shares you own, you must either complete, sign, and return all of the proxy cards or follow the instructions

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for any alternative voting procedure on each of the proxy cards voting forms you receive. Each proxy card you received came with its own prepaid return envelope. If you vote by mail, make sure you return each proxy card in the return envelope that accompanied that proxy card.

***Why aren't all of the shareholders who are in my household getting their own copy of the proxy materials?***

In some cases, only one copy of the proxy statement and the annual report is delivered to multiple shareholders sharing an address. However, this delivery method, called "householding," is not used if we have received contrary instructions from one or more of the shareholders. We will deliver promptly, upon written or oral request, a separate copy of this proxy statement and the Annual Report to a shareholder at a shared address to which a single copy of the documents were delivered. To request a separate delivery of these materials now or in the future, you should submit a written request to: Jane E. Cornett, Corporate Secretary, at the Company's executive offices, 7830 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, or by calling (301) 986-1800. Additionally, any shareholders who are presently sharing an address and receiving multiple copies of shareholder mailings and who would prefer to receive a single copy of such materials may let us know by directing that request to us in the manner provided above.

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# Proxy Statement Summary

## *Introduction*

Eagle Bancorp, Inc. is the parent company of EagleBank. The Bank operates as a community bank alternative to the super-regional financial institutions which dominate its primary market area. The cornerstone of the Bank’s philosophy is to provide superior, personalized service to its clients. The Bank focuses on relationship banking, providing each client with a number of services, familiarizing itself with, and addressing itself to, client needs in a proactive, personalized fashion. Management believes that the Bank’s target market segments, including small, medium and large-sized for profit and non-profit businesses and the consumer base working or living in and near the Bank’s market area, demand the convenience and personal service that an independent locally based financial institution such as the Bank can offer. It is these themes of convenience and proactive personal service that form the basis for the Bank’s business development strategies.

## *Our Mission*

We have a mission to be the most respected and profitable community bank. To do this, we put relationships first to the delight of our customers, employees and shareholders and relentlessly deliver the most compelling service and value.

## *Our Values*

### *Flexible*

We **begin** our relationships based on our time-tested tradition of listening to our customer, collaborating with colleagues and designing a comprehensive, creative solution that brings value to and appreciation from our customer. We enhance the relationship with empowered “YES, We Can” service and live up to our strong belief that formulas do not make good banking sense, relationships do. We are entrepreneurial – it is our differentiator.

### *Involved*

We **build** our relationships by developing a rapport that is based on partnership, mutual respect and a desire to delight. We are unwavering in our commitment to the goals and growth of our customers, colleagues and community through volunteerism. We believe that doing the little extras and staying involved with our customer demonstrates our difference.

### *Responsive*

We **shape** our relationships by taking ownership for being ever-responsive, from beginning to end, day in and day out. We understand that reliable, accurate and time-sensitive communication is fundamental to preserving reputation and relationships, internally and externally.

### *Strong*

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We **strengthen** our relationships each time we are called upon for our expertise and know-how. We are committed to enhancing our professional knowledge in order to remain credible, current and strong partners with our customers, colleagues and community. Our history of sustaining a well-capitalized and profitable position emphasizes our strength and reinforces our relationships.

***Trusted***

We **uphold** our relationships with honesty, openness and reliability. We can be counted on to do the right thing. We understand that underlying a sound, long-lasting relationship is the essential element of trust. Trust can be lost in a moment, so we are vigilant in our actions and words.

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***Eagle Bancorp, Inc. at a Glance - 2015***

<p><b>What Did We Accomplish?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successfully integrated the acquisition of Virginia Heritage Bank;</li> <li>• Consummated an offering of \$100 million of common stock;</li> <li>• Entered into a ten-year support relationship with George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia (which, among other things, resulted in the Patriot Center being renamed the EagleBank Arena); and</li> <li>• Redeemed the Company's Small Business Lending Fund ( SBLF ) preferred stock prior to the dividend rate thereon jumping to 9%.</li> </ul>
<p><b>How Did We Perform?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assets grew to \$6.1 billion. EagleBank is the largest community bank founded in the Washington, DC area.</li> <li>• 2015 continued a trend of strong and sustained underlying financial performance across each line of business (diluted EPS growth of 28.2%).</li> <li>• One-year and three-year Total Shareholder Return (42.1% and 178.1%) substantially outperformed industry.</li> <li>• Return on Average Assets grew 13.7% last year, to 1.49%.</li> <li>• Capital position was strengthened and streamlined with redemption of SBLF preferred stock and with \$100 million common stock offering.</li> </ul>
<p><b>How Did We Pay our Named Executive Officers (NEOs)?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced a disciplined and balanced framework in response to shareholder feedback by eliminating the discretionary component of, and adding payment caps to, the Senior Executive Incentive Plan (occasionally referred to as the SEIP ), our cash incentive plan.</li> <li>• Paid our named executive officers ( NEOs ) commensurate with 2015 performance and appropriately situated relative to peers.</li> <li>• Added a performance-vested share component to our long term incentive plan, effective 2016.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are Our Pay Practices and Perspective?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEO compensation components are decided through goal-based cash bonuses and equity-based compensation that align our executives' interests with shareholder interests.</li> <li>• Executives do <u>not</u> receive any significant special perks or gross-ups.</li> <li>• Compensation is awarded based on strong corporate governance and independent board oversight.</li> <li>• Compensation plans reflect valued feedback from shareholder engagement efforts.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay policies are consistent with best practices, including maintaining a sound set of compensation principles, managing our equity awards responsibly and closely monitoring competitors and market opportunities for our executives.</li> </ul>
<p><b>How Do We Address Risk?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We impose clawback/recovery provisions.</li> <li>• We continue our extensive risk assessment process.</li> <li>• In 2016, we adopted Share Ownership, Anti-Hedging and Pledging Policies.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Why Should our Shareholders Approve our Say on Pay Advisory Vote?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our 2015 performance represents outstanding performance compared to our performance goals and peer group performance. (See Peer Table, page 44).</li> <li>• Pay is commensurate with Company and individual performance, and peers.</li> <li>• Pay programs were revised in 2015 and will continue to evolve in 2016 in response to shareholder feedback.</li> <li>• Pay practices and policies are aligned with interests of shareholders.</li> <li>• Pay is subject to extensive risk and control features.</li> </ul>

## ***Shareholder Engagement and How We've Responded***

### ***Investor Outreach***

We value the opinion of our shareholders and look forward to a continued, open dialogue on compensation and governance matters relevant to our business. As a result of last year's advisory Say-on-Pay vote, which received the support of 48.7% of votes cast, we enhanced our shareholder outreach efforts beyond those that have been made in the past several years. In the fall of 2015, we reached out to our top 30 shareholders in order to gather feedback regarding our executive compensation program and disclosures, and had substantive discussions with almost half of them. The input we did receive ranged the full spectrum, from being very complimentary to expressing concerns about certain aspects of our compensation plan design and/or desiring greater transparency in our proxy statement regarding plan philosophy and the meeting of goals.

Some of the positive feedback reinforced our high level of insider ownership and alignment with shareholders, with some investors noting a particular comfort that our Chief Executive Officer holds a

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significant number of shares. (In fact, Ronald Paul, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and his family interests own or control shares representing, as of December 31, 2015, over 90 times his 2015 base salary.) There was general support that total direct compensation, including that of our Chief Executive Officer, aligns with performance.

On the other hand, some investors expressed a desire for us to eliminate the discretionary line item within the SEIP, have caps on how much an executive can earn under the SEIP, add a long term equity incentive plan tied to future multi-year Company performance, and generally to provide more details in our disclosures on how the Compensation Committee made its decisions. There was also concern expressed over the allocation of executive incentive compensation between cash and equity.

We also held conversations with two prominent shareholder advisory firms, to further appreciate their policies and perspectives.

We listened carefully and have made many substantial changes to our compensation and governance practices effective to the Say-on-Pay vote and to the subsequent shareholder engagement for 2016 (including relating to 2015) as a result of feedback from our shareholders. Below we summarize the feedback, and how we responded. Greater detail can be found later in this proxy statement, in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section starting on page 29.

<b>WHAT WE HEARD:</b>	<b>WHAT WE DID:</b>
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**Compensation Program, Practices and Disclosure**

<p>Add a performance-based component to our <b>long term incentive plan</b> for executive officers.</p>	<p>The Committee adopted a performance-based component to the Long Term Incentive Plan that will incorporate performance shares starting with the 2016 equity grants. Performance shares will vest based on our relative performance as compared to the banks comprising the KBW NASDAQ Regional Banking Index (KRX) over a three year period for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earnings Per Share ( EPS ) growth,</li> <li>• Return on Average Assets ( ROAA ), and</li> <li>• Total Shareholder Return ( TSR ).</li> </ul> <p>To facilitate transition to the new program, the performance shares will represent approximately 35% of a named executive officer s total equity compensation for 2016, the first year. The Compensation Committee expects the weight to increase to 50% of total long term incentive</p>
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	opportunity by 2018.
The short-term Senior Executive Incentive Plan should include <b>absolute caps on bonuses</b> eligible to be earned, to minimize the risk of decisions being made at the expense of long term perspectives.	We have adopted caps in the SEIP.
The short-term Senior Executive Incentive Plan should not have <b>a line item for discretionary awards</b> , although the Compensation Committee always has the right outside of the Plan to exercise its discretion.	We have eliminated the line item inside the SEIP for a discretionary component. (No discretionary awards were made to named executive officers for 2015 performance.)
The proxy statement should <b>explain the process of compensation awarded</b> to each named executive officer in greater detail than in previous years.	This year's proxy statement describes the philosophy and procedures utilized by the Compensation Committee in making the awards.



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<p>The proxy statement should not just state whether a <b>named executive officer's goal</b> was met or exceeded, but include the underlying details and rationale to allow shareholders to independently reach the conclusion that a NEO met or exceed the stated goal.</p>	<p>This year's proxy statement includes greater details and the rationale for our pay decisions.</p>
<p>Company directors and all executive officers should be subject to certain <b>minimum Company stock ownership requirements</b>, affording each of them time to satisfy the requirement.</p>	<p>The Company adopted a policy requiring the following ownership requirements:</p> <p>CEO: 6 times base salary</p> <p>Directors: 3 times annual retainer/base fee</p> <p>Executive Officers: 2 times base salary</p> <p>Directors and executive officers subject to the policy have five years after they commence service to satisfy the requirement; Those serving as of the implementation of the policy have until December 31, 2020. See page 13 for current insider ownership levels.</p> <p>We note that our CEO already is the largest individual shareholder in the Company, with aggregate family holdings as of December 31, 2015 representing over 90 times his 2015 base salary.</p>
<p><b>Board/Governance Practices</b></p>	
<p>Some shareholders did not view Messrs. Pincus and Summers as <b>independent</b> and therefore believed that they should not serve on any of the Audit, Compensation or Governance &amp; Nominating Committees.</p>	<p>Mr. Pincus stepped down from the Audit, Compensation and Governance &amp; Nominating Committees, effective December 31, 2015, while remaining a director and Vice Chairman of the Company Board of Directors and that of EagleBank, and certain EagleBank board committees.</p> <p>Mr. Summers resigned from Board service, effective December 31, 2015.</p>

<p>Company directors and all executive officers should be subject to a <b>policy addressing hedging of Company stock.</b></p>	<p>The Company adopted a policy prohibiting hedging by directors and executive officers.</p>
<p>Company directors and all executive officers should be subject to a <b>policy addressing pledging of Company stock.</b></p>	<p>The Company adopted a policy limiting pledging by directors and executive officers to one-half of applicable holdings, and that the value of such pledged stock cannot exceed 25% of the person's net worth.</p>
<p>There should be <b>diversity on the Company Board of Directors</b>, with an emphasis on gender diversity.</p>	<p>The Company desires to increase diversity on the Company Board of Directors. It will use the EagleBank Board of Directors as a means for directors to learn about EagleBank and the industry, and gain experience and knowledge, with the opportunity to be nominated later for service on the Company Board of Directors. We note the recent addition to the Bank Board of Joanne Kay DiMeglio and the intention (described below) to add Lynn Hackney to the Bank Board.</p>

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Directors in uncontested elections should require a <b>majority vote</b> to be elected.	The Company has proposed (Proposal 2) that shareholders approve an amendment to the Company's Articles of Incorporation requiring a majority vote for a director in an uncontested election.
We found the shareholder engagement to be a valuable exercise for the Company, and we will continue such efforts during 2016 and beyond.	

**Evolution of Equity Awards**

In response to shareholder engagement, the Company enhanced its long-term incentive plan to include performance-vested shares, effective in 2016 for the three year period 2016-2018.

	2015	2016	2017 (Projected-Subject to Committee Action in 2017)
<b>Form of Grant</b>	100% Time-vested restricted stock	35% Performance-vested restricted stock units 65% vested restricted stock	40% Performance-vested restricted stock units 60% Time-vested restricted stock
<b>Performance Metrics for Long Term Equity Award</b>	N/A	<u>Relative to KRX Index:</u> EPS growth ROAA TSR	<u>Relative to KRX Index:</u> EPS growth ROAA TSR
<b>Performance Assessment</b>	Company 2014 performance was considered in award grants, but no future performance metrics were included	Relative performance over a single 3 year period, 2016-2018	Relative performance over a single 3 year period, 2017-2019

<b>Vesting Period</b>	Time-vested: 3 equal annual installments Performance-vested: N/A	Time-vested: 3 equal annual installments Performance-vested: Single 3 year period	Time-vested: 3 equal annual installments Performance-vested: Single 3 year period
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## Performance-Vested Shares

For awards of performance-vested shares made in February 2016 relating to 2015 performance, the Company's performance relative to the Index in the following performance measures will determine whether the awards are earned at the end of the 2016-2018 three year period.

Metric	Percentage of Total Award	Threshold	Target	Maximum
Average Annual Earnings Per Share Growth	33 1/3%	Median	62.5% Percentile	75% Percentile
Average Annual Total Shareholder Return	33 1/3%	Median	62.5% Percentile	75% Percentile
Average Annual Return on Average Assets	33 1/3%	Median	62.5% Percentile	75% Percentile
Payout Range (% of Target)	100%	50%	100%	150%

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<b><i>Securities Ownership of Directors, Nominees, Officers and Certain Beneficial Owners</i></b>			
<p>The following table sets forth certain information concerning the number and percentage of whole shares of the Company's common stock beneficially owned by its directors, its executive officers whose compensation is disclosed in this proxy statement, and by its directors and all executive officers as a group, as of March 16, 2016. Except as otherwise indicated, all shares are owned directly, the named person possesses sole voting and sole investment power with respect to all such shares, and none of such shares are pledged as security. Unvested shares of restricted stock are included in ownership amounts. Except as set forth below, the Company knows of no other person or persons who may beneficially own in excess of five percent of the Company's common stock. Further, the Company is not aware of any arrangement which at a subsequent date may result in a change of control of the Company.</p>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Number of Shares</b>	<b>Percentage(1)</b>
<b><i>Directors</i></b>			
Leslie M. Alperstein, Ph.D.	Director of Company and Bank	86,574	0.26%
Dudley C. Dworken	Director of Company and Bank	234,500 (2)	0.70%
Harvey M. Goodman	Director of Company and Bank	132,693 (3)	0.40%
Ronald D. Paul	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Company, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Bank	1,834,484 (4)	5.45%
Robert P. Pincus	Vice Chairman of Company and Bank	203,152 (5)	0.60%
Norman R. Pozez	Director of Company and Bank	169,060 (6)	0.50%

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Donald R. Rogers	Director of Company and Bank	104,022 (7)	0.31%
Leland M. Weinstein	Director of Company and Bank	132,349 (8)	0.39%
<b><u>Other Named Executive Officers</u></b>			
James H. Langmead	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer of Company and Bank	88,941 (9)	0.26%
Antonio F. Marquez	Executive Vice President, Chief Lending Officer Commercial Real Estate of Bank	19,938 (10)	0.06%
Susan G. Riel	Executive Vice President of Company; Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer of Bank	173,874 (11)	0.52%
Janice L. Williams	Executive Vice President, Chief Credit Officer of Bank	72,204 (12)	0.21%
<b><u>All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (15 persons)</u></b>		3,370,944 (13)	9.99%
<b><u>Other 5% Shareholders</u></b>			
Goldman Sachs Asset Management, LP		2,398,030 (14)	7.1%

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**Footnotes**

- (1) Represents the percentage of 33,579,314 shares issued and outstanding as of March 16, 2016, except with respect to (a) individuals holding options exercisable within 60 days of that date, in which event, represents the percentage of shares issued and outstanding plus the number of shares for which that person holds options exercisable within 60 days of March 23, 2015, and (b) all directors and executive officers of the Company as a group, in which case represents the percentage of shares issued and outstanding plus the number of shares for which those persons hold such options. Certain shares beneficially owned by the Company's directors and executive officers may be held in accounts with third party firms, where such shares may from time to time be subject to a security interest for margin credit provided in accordance with such firm's policies.
- (2) Includes 74,461 shares held in a trust of which Mr. Dworken is beneficiary, 23,544 shares held jointly, 34,062 shares held in pension or retirement accounts, 68,092 shares held by relatives sharing the same household and 16,216 shares held by or in trust for the benefit of a member of his family.
- (3) Includes shares held jointly with Mr. Goodman's spouse, 3,000 shares held for members of his family, 4,818 shares held in profit or retirement accounts for his benefit, 2,330 shares held by an estate over which Mr. Goodman has voting power, and 306 shares held as trustee.
- (4) Includes options to purchase 71,413 shares of common stock. An aggregate of 219,000 shares are pledged as collateral, which represents 11.91% of holdings by Mr. Paul and his family. Includes 85,979 shares held by a charitable foundation over which Mr. Paul shares voting and investment power. Includes 15,000 shares held by a defined benefit plan over which Mr. Paul shares voting and investment power. Does not include 169,489 shares of common stock contributed to Charitable Lead Annuity Trusts in which Mr. Paul has a residual interest, but as to which he does not have or share voting or dispositive power. Mr. Paul's business address outside the bank is c/o Ronald D. Paul Companies, Inc. 4416 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814.
- (5) Includes 2,274 shares held by his spouse, 55,711 shares held in retirement accounts. 10,041 shares held by a family LLC and 8,000 shares held by a trust for the benefit of Mr. Pincus's son.
- (6) Includes 56,164 shares held by pension or retirement plans, and 94,500 shares held by a company controlled by Mr. Pozez and 7,078 shares over which Mr. Pozez.
- (7) Includes 24,537 shares held for the benefit of Mr. Roger's children and 29,552 shares held by his spouse.
- (8) Includes 54,829 shares held jointly and 63,053 shares held in a retirement account.
- (9) Includes options to purchase 28,270 shares of common stock and 43,035 shares held jointly with Mr. Langmead's spouse.
- (10) Includes 1,567 shares held jointly with Mr. Marquez's spouse.
- (11) Includes options to purchase 41,250 shares of common stock. Approximately 8,170 shares are owned by Ms. Riel and her spouse and pledged as collateral, which represents 4.7% of holdings by Mr. and Mrs. Riel.
- (12) Includes options to purchase 29,260 shares of common stock.
- (13) Includes options to purchase 170,193 shares of common stock. An aggregate of 333,175 shares are pledged by members of this group as collateral, which represents 9.88% of their aggregate holdings.
- (14) Based solely on beneficial ownership of shares and percentage of outstanding shares as reported in a Schedule 13G filed on February 2, 2016. Goldman Sachs Asset Management's address is: 200 West Street, New York, New York 10282.





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## Proposal 1: Election of Directors

<p>The Board of Directors has nominated eight persons for election as directors at the 2016 Annual Meeting, for a one-year period until the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and until their successors have been elected and qualified.</p>
<p>Unless you withhold authority to vote for one or more nominees for election as director, all proxies received in response to this solicitation will be voted for the election of the nominees listed below. Each of the nominees for election as a director currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors. Each nominee has indicated a willingness to serve if elected. However, if any nominee becomes unable to serve, the proxies received in response to this solicitation will be voted for a replacement nominee selected in accordance with the best judgment of the persons named as proxies.</p>
<p>The rules of The NASDAQ Stock Market ( NASDAQ ) require that a majority of the members of the Board be independent directors. The Board of Directors has determined that each director and nominee for election as director, other than Mr. Paul, is an independent director as that term is defined in Rule 5605(a)(2) of the NASDAQ rules. The Board has also considered whether the members of the Audit and Compensation Committees are independent under the heightened standards of independence required by Sections 5605(c)(2)(A) and 5605(d)(2)(A), respectively, of the NASDAQ rules, and has determined that they are. In making these determinations, the Board of Directors was aware of and considered the loan and deposit relationships with directors and their related interests which the Company enters into in the ordinary course of its business, the arrangements which are disclosed under Certain Relationships and Related Transactions in this proxy statement, and the compensation arrangements described under Director Compensation.</p>
<p>As required under applicable NASDAQ listing standards, our independent directors meet in regularly scheduled executive sessions at which only independent directors are present.</p>
<p>Set forth below is information concerning the nominees for election as directors. Except as otherwise indicated, the occupation listed has been such person's principal occupation for at least the last five years. Each of the nominees also serves as a director of the Bank. Except as noted below, each nominee has served as a director of the Company since its organization.</p>

### ***Nominees for the Board of Directors***

<p><b><i>Leslie M. Alperstein, Ph.D.</i></b></p>
<p>Mr. Alperstein, 73, has been President of Washington Analysis LLC and its predecessor firm, Washington Analysis Corp., a leading governmental policy investment research group in Washington, DC, since its inception in 1973. He has served as Executive Managing Director and Director of Research of HSBC Securities, Inc., Director of Economic and Investment Research for NatWest Securities, Prudential Securities, Shields Model Roland, Inc. and Legg Mason &amp; Co. His professional memberships include the National Association of Business Economists, the National Economists Club, and the CFA Society of Washington. Mr. Alperstein was appointed to the Board of Directors in September 2003, and has served as a director of the Bank since 2009. Mr. Alperstein's knowledge and experience in the fields of economics and investment management make him uniquely qualified for the Board. His contributions are important in the areas of asset-liability management, investment policy and other</p>

strategic issues.

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***Dudley C. Dworken***

Mr. Dworken, 66, is a private investor and real estate developer and the principal of Dworken Associates, LLC. Mr. Dworken was the owner of Curtis Chevrolet, an automobile dealership in Washington, DC. Mr. Dworken was a Director of F&M Bank Allegiance and its predecessor Allegiance Bank, N.A. (collectively Allegiance ) from 1987 until October 1997, and a director of Allegiance Banc Corporation from 1988 until its acquisition by F&M National Corporation, which was subsequently acquired by BB&T Corporation ( F&M ). Mr. Dworken is an active member of numerous community, business, charitable and educational institutions in the Washington, DC/Montgomery County area. Mr. Dworken has served as a director of the Company and Bank since 1999. In addition to his many years of service on the boards of banking institutions, Mr. Dworken brings entrepreneurial business knowledge and experience to the Board through his ownership and operation of one of the largest automobile dealerships in Washington, DC and his real estate development activities. He is Chairman of the Washington Area, the Philadelphia Area and the Eastern Pennsylvania Better Business Bureaus, and is a former Trustee of the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association. He has intimate knowledge of the Company through his experience as Chairman of the Company s Audit Committee.

***Harvey M. Goodman***

Mr. Goodman, 60, has been with The Goodman, Gable, Gould Company, the Maryland based public insurance adjusting firm where he serves as President, since 1977. He is a director and past president of the National Association of Public Insurance Adjusters, and is a principal, and formerly a director, of Adjusters International, a national public adjusting firm. Mr. Goodman has served as a director of the Company since 2007 and of the Bank since its organization. Mr. Goodman brings both entrepreneurial experience and a wealth of knowledge of the financial services industry, with a specialty in insurance. He possesses valuable expertise in the areas of risk management and compliance. He has expertise in corporate governance through his board service to organizations in the insurance industry.

***Ronald D. Paul***

Mr. Paul, 60, is President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company. He has served as Chairman since May 2008, and prior to that time was Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer since the organization of the Company. He also has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Bank since its organization. Since June 2006, he has served as Chief Executive Officer of the Bank, and he served as Interim President of the Bank from November 3, 2003 until January 26, 2004. Mr. Paul is President of Ronald D. Paul Companies, which is engaged in the business of real estate investment and management. He is active in private investments, including as Chairman of Bethesda Investments, Inc., a private venture capital fund. Mr. Paul was a director of Allegiance from 1990 until September 1997, and a director of Allegiance Banc Corporation from 1990 until its acquisition by F&M, including serving as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors from 1995. Mr. Paul is also active in various charitable organizations, including serving as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Kidney Foundation from 1996 to 1997, and the Chairman from 2002 to 2003. Mr. Paul s qualifications for the Board include his entrepreneurial, management and real estate expertise developed through his operation of a significant real estate and property management company in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Mr. Paul also has significant experience in corporate governance issues from his prior board service with other public companies and major non-profit organizations. He has extensive knowledge of the Company due to his service in Board and management positions since the inception of the Company. Mr. Paul is a member of the Federal Reserve Board Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council. In 2013, Mr. Paul was the recipient of the American Banker magazine Community Banker of the Year award and in 2014 Mr. Paul was named Community Banker of the Year East Region by the Independent Community Bankers of America. Previous honors include: Father of the Year , Entrepreneur of the Year (2009), Washingtonian of the Year (2010) and being inducted into the Washington Business Hall of Fame (2012). Mr. Paul and his wife recently created the Ron & Joy Paul Kidney Center at George Washington University.

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***Robert P. Pincus***

Mr. Pincus, 69, serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company and the Bank. Prior to joining the Company in August 2008 upon the acquisition of Fidelity & Trust Financial Corporation ( Fidelity ), Mr. Pincus served as Chairman of its wholly owned subsidiary, Fidelity & Trust Bank ( F&T Bank ) from 2005. He previously served as Chairman of Milestone Merchant Partners, LLC. He was Chairman of the Board of BB&T, DC Metro Region, and was Regional President from 1998 to 2002. From 1991 to 1998, Mr. Pincus was President and Chief Executive Officer of Franklin National Bank of Washington, DC. From 1986 to 1991, Mr. Pincus was the regional president of the DC metropolitan region of Sovran National Bank. From 1971 to 1986, Mr. Pincus was with DC National Bancorp, Inc., where he eventually rose to be President and Chief Executive Officer, prior to its merger with Sovran (Nations) Bank. Mr. Pincus was a Trustee of the University of Maryland Foundation, Inc. and was a Trustee at American University. He is a member of the board of directors of Comstock Homebuilding Companies, Inc., and until 2007 was a director of Mills Corp. Mr. Pincus brings to the Board a wealth of experience in the worlds of commercial and investment banking. He has previously served as CEO of two different community banks and as a member of the executive committee for major regional banks. He has a strong background in many facets of the financial services industry, as well as the real estate and homebuilding industries and mergers and acquisitions. He has prior experience at both the Board and Audit Committee level with other public companies. He has been recognized as Entrepreneur of the Year (1997), Washingtonian of the Year (1998) and was inducted into the Washington Business Hall of Fame (2004).

***Norman R. Pozez***

Mr. Pozez, 61, is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of The Uniwest Companies, Uniwest Construction, Inc., and Uniwest Commercial Realty, Inc., and of Ridemakerz, LLC. Mr. Pozez has been in the real estate development field for over thirty years. Previously, Mr. Pozez was Chief Operating Officer of The Hair Cuttery of Falls Church, Virginia. Mr. Pozez has also served as a Regional Director of Real Estate and Construction for Payless ShoeSource. During his tenure at Payless and for some years thereafter, Mr. Pozez served on the Board of Directors of Bookstop, Inc., which was sold to Barnes and Noble in 1989. Mr. Pozez is a licensed Real Estate Broker in Washington, DC, Maryland and Virginia. Since 1979, Mr. Pozez has been an active member of the International Council of Shopping Centers and is a Board member of a number of non- profit organizations serving community needs in and around the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Mr. Pozez served as Chairman of the Board of Fidelity from April 2004 until February 2005, and as a director of Fidelity from September 2007 until August 2008, at which time Fidelity was acquired by the Company and Mr. Pozez became a director of the Company and Bank. Mr. Pozez s qualifications for Board service include over 30 years of management experience at both regional and national companies such as the Hair Cuttery and Payless ShoeSource. His experience in company operations and real estate are very beneficial in light of the Company s business objectives. He has experience in corporate governance through his prior board service with other companies and non-profit organizations.

***Donald R. Rogers***

Mr. Rogers, 70, has been engaged in the private practice of law since 1972 with the Rockville, Maryland-based firm Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker, P.A., of which he is a principal. Mr. Rogers was a director of Allegiance from 1987 until October 1997. Mr. Rogers has served as a director of the Company since 2007 and of the Bank since its organization. Mr. Rogers has vast business knowledge and experience gained through his position as a senior partner and chair of the commercial business practice for the largest law firm in Montgomery County, Maryland. He has served as adviser to hundreds of privately owned businesses. He has extensive knowledge of the Company through his service on the Company s and Bank s Boards. For the past six years he has been Chairman of the EagleBank Foundation, which has raised more than \$2.5 million for the fight against breast cancer. In addition Mr. Rogers continues to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of a number of privately held companies.

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***Leland M. Weinstein***

Mr. Weinstein, 53, is currently the CEO of Newbridge-Turing LLC, a technology sales and partnership consulting firm. Previously he was a partner and served as President of Syscom Services, Inc., a technology consulting and integration company, from 1997 to 2014. In December of 2014 Syscom Services, Inc.'s web technologies division was sold to a group of investors and rebranded as Brightfind. Prior to Syscom Services he spent thirteen years with Automated Digital Systems, an integrator of duplication and facsimile technologies, where he rose to president and owner of the company, which he sold to Alco Standard Corporation, which became Ikon Office Solutions. Mr. Weinstein has been appointed to advisory councils for Xerox, Intel/Dialogic, Sharp Electronics, Ektron, Opentext/Rightfax, Autonomy/Cardiff, Murata Business Systems, Brooktrout Technologies, Panasonic Electronics, and was Chairman of the technology council of the American Society of Association Executives ( ASAE ) and is currently the Chair of ASAE's Industry Partner Alliance (IPA). Mr. Weinstein also currently sits on the board of the Suburban Hospital Foundation a member of Johns Hopkins Medicine. He was formerly a member of the Board of Governors of the University of Maryland Alumni Association, where he chaired the Admissions Committee. Mr. Weinstein was a member of the Eagle Bancorp founder's advisory board and has served as a director of the Company since 2005 and of the Bank since 1998. Mr. Weinstein has vast business knowledge and experience gained through his position as CEO of successful technology-based enterprises. His expertise in regard to technology issues is valuable as it relates to the Company's business development and operating strategies. He has extensive knowledge of the Company through his service at the Board and committee levels.

***Vote Required and Board Recommendation***

Nominees receiving a plurality of the votes cast at the meeting in the election of directors will be elected as directors, in the order of the number of votes received. **The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that shareholders vote FOR each of the nominees for election as directors.**

***Additional Directors of the Bank***

If elected, the nominees for election as directors intend to cause the Company to vote for each of the nominees and the following persons to serve as directors of the Bank. Each of the following persons currently serves as a director of the Bank.

***Thomas E. Burdette***

Mr. Burdette, 65, is a managing partner of Burdette Smith and Bish LLC, Fairfax, VA and has been an active business leader in the Washington, DC metropolitan area marketplace, particularly with Northern Virginia-based businesses. He is a certified public accountant and a registered investment advisor with over 40 years of experience assisting individuals and businesses. He has also served as director of Virginia Commerce Bank, its holding company, Virginia Commerce Bancorp, Inc. and Potomac Bank of Virginia, and has worked with several other Virginia financial organizations. His financial industry experiences, combined with his professional expertise, will be especially valuable to our Northern Virginia banking team, and will provide additional strength for creating client and Bank success in Virginia. A founder and managing shareholder of The Burdette Smith Group PC (BSG) which, in 2012, merged with Bish & Haffey PC to become Burdette Smith & Bish LLC, his specialty is all aspects

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of tax. Additionally, his experience includes financial reporting services, estate management, and financial advisory services. Burdette has also given expert witness testimony in various states and counties over the years. Early in his career, Burdette was a player's agent for the National Football League. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Accounting from Catawba College in Salisbury, N.C.

*Joann Kay DiMeglio*

Ms. DiMeglio, 59, has been active in residential, commercial, and multi-family real estate development for more than 35 years. Since 1984, she has been with Kay Brothers Management Company and has spent the last 31 years overseeing renovations, design, financing, and budgeting of commercial, residential, and multi-family properties in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Ms. DiMeglio holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from George Washington University.

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***Steven L. Fanaroff***

Mr. Fanaroff, 56, has served as Managing Director of Fanaroff & Steppa, LLC a real estate holding company, since 2005. He also serves as Managing Director of Bedrock, LLC, an asset management company. Mr. Fanaroff served on the Board of Directors of Allegiance from 1990 until 1997. Mr. Fanaroff has served as a director of the Bank since its organization.

***Lynn Hackney***

Ms. Lynn Hackney, 50, is a well-known entrepreneur and innovator in the Washington, DC multifamily real estate industry. She currently serves as President of Urban Pace, the leading condominium sales and marketing firm in the National capital region, with additional offices in New York City and Philadelphia. Since Ms. Hackney founded Urban Pace in 2001, the company has orchestrated the disposition of more than \$1.8 billion of real estate assets comprising more than 6,000 condominiums and townhomes. Ms. Hackney also is a Partner in Allyson Capital, a growing firm specializing in equity and debt for residential and commercial real estate transactions. Allyson Capital has offices in Washington, New York, and Miami. Ms. Hackney was unanimously elected 2016-18 President of the District of Columbia Building Industry Association (DCBIA), the first woman ever to serve in that capacity, and is a 2015 winner of Smart CEO's Brava Awards, placing her among Washington's most distinguished women business leaders. In addition, Ms. Hackney serves on the Boards of the Washington, DC Economic Development Partnership; she also is a founding member of the Washington ULI Women's Leadership Initiative, and has served on the Board of Capital Bank. A longtime resident of Washington, DC, she holds a certificate from Harvard Business School, a master's degree in business administration from Johns Hopkins University, and a bachelor's degree in economics and finance from Virginia Commonwealth University.

***Benson Klein***

Mr. Klein, 71, has been an attorney practicing primarily in the Montgomery County and Washington DC area since 1970. He is a principal with Ward & Klein, Chartered, since 1978. Mr. Klein is also engaged in real estate investment activities in Montgomery County and Washington, DC. Mr. Klein has served as a director of Allegiance Bank from 1996 to 1997 and previously served as a director of Lincoln National Bank. Mr. Klein is currently, and has been, a Board member of a variety of community, business and charitable institutions in the Washington, DC, Montgomery County and on a national level. Mr. Klein has served as a director of EagleBank since its organization.

***Bruce H. Lee***

Mr. Lee, 51, is President & CEO of Lee Development Group, a closely held, family real estate business founded in 1920 and based in downtown Silver Spring. He is principal broker of record for Montgomery Land Company, LLC, which specializes in commercial sales, leasing, and property management and the general partner of Montgomery 1936 Land Company LLC and General Manager of Acorn Self Storage. Mr. Lee was the charter president of the Greater Silver Spring Chamber in 1993. Mr. Lee is currently serving as the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) Washington DC/Maryland/N. Virginia State Alliance Private Sector Co-Chair and is on the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, serving as the Chair of the Economic Development Committee. In addition, Mr. Lee serves as the Chair of Driven to Cure, INC, a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to bring awareness and funding for rare kidney cancers and also serves as a Director on the board of the American Film Institute (AFI) Silver Theater in Downtown Silver Spring. Mr. Lee was an elected Council member and Chairman of the Township of Chevy Chase View, Maryland. Mr. Lee has served as a director of the Bank since 2000.





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<p><b><i>Kathy A. Raffa</i></b></p>
<p>Ms. Raffa, 57, has served as an owner-partner and Vice President at Raffa, PC, one of the top 100 accounting firms in the nation and the 4th largest regional firm in the Washington, DC capital region based on revenue. She oversees the client services for a wide range of non-profit entities. She is also involved in a variety of aspects of the firm's internal operations, including leading business development efforts, directing certain human resource functions, and monitoring financial operations. Prior to joining Raffa, PC, she spent the first 10 years of her career at Coopers &amp; Lybrand (now PricewaterhouseCoopers). She has a CPA certificate from Maryland and is a member of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.</p>
<p><b><i>Benjamin M. Soto</i></b></p>
<p>Mr. Soto, 47, is an attorney practicing in the areas of real estate transactions and bankruptcy. He is the principal of Premium Title and Escrow, LLC, a Washington, DC-based full service title company. In addition he is the owner of Paramount Development, LLC, which is focused on the acquisition and ground up development of commercial buildings and hotels in Washington, DC. He frequently lectures to members of the DC Bar, is a former board member of the National Bar Association, and of the DC Sports and Entertainment Commission, and a former Vice-Chair of the DC Board of Real Property Assessment and Appeals. Mr. Soto is a member of the DC Builders Industry Association, the Maryland Land Title Association, and a member of the Board of Directors of the DC Chamber of Commerce. He is also a Director of the DC Land Title Association and the DC Public Education Fund. Mr. Soto has served as a director of the Bank since 2006.</p>
<p><b><i>James A. Soltesz</i></b></p>
<p>Mr. Soltesz, 61, has served as Chief Executive Officer of Soltesz, Inc., a land development engineering and consulting firm, since 1997. Mr. Soltesz serves on the Board of Trustees of Georgetown Preparatory School, Mater Dei School, as a Life Director of the Maryland-National Capital Area Building Industry Association, and Catholic Charities Foundation. His firm includes 280 people located in six offices throughout the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Mr. Soltesz is currently serving as a Co-Chair for Governor Larry Hogan's Regulatory Reform Commission and as a member of the Governor's One Maryland Blue Ribbon Commission. Mr. Soltesz has served as a director of the Bank since 2007.</p>

Table of Contents***Meetings, Committees, and Procedures of the Board of Directors***

Our Board of Directors met eight (8) times during 2015. All members of the Board of Directors of the Company attended at least 75% of the meetings held by the Board of Directors and by all committees on which such member served during the 2015 fiscal year or any portion thereof.

The Board of Directors has a standing Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Governance & Nominating Committee. The following is membership and meeting information for each of these committees during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, as well as a description of each committee and its functions.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Audit Committee</b>	<b>Compensation Committee</b>	<b>Governance &amp; Nominating Committee</b>
Leslie M. Alperstein, Ph.D.	X	X	
Dudley C. Dworken	C	X	
Harvey M. Goodman		X	X(3)
Ronald D. Paul			
Robert P. Pincus	X(1)	X(1)	X(1)
Norman R. Pozez	X	X	C
Donald R. Rogers			
David P. Summers		X (2)	
Leland M. Weinstein	X	C	X
Number of Meetings in 2015	5	4	5

***C = Denotes Chairperson of committee.***

***(1) Mr. Pincus resigned from the noted Committees effective December 31, 2015.***

***(2) Mr. Summers resigned from the Board of Directors effective December 31, 2015.***

***(3) Mr. Goodman joined the Governance Committee effective January 1, 2016.***

***Audit Committee***

The Audit Committee is responsible for the selection, review and oversight of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, occasionally referred to as the independent accountants, the approval of all audit, review and attest services provided by the independent accountants, the integrity of the Company's reporting practices and evaluation of the Company's internal controls and accounting procedures, including review and approval of quarterly and annual filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Forms 10-Q and 10-K and internal audit departments plans and reports. It also periodically reviews audit reports with the Company's independent accountants. The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Audit Committee. A copy of the charter is available on the Company's website at [www.eaglebankcorp.com](http://www.eaglebankcorp.com). Each of the members of the Audit Committee is independent, as determined under the definition of independence adopted by NASDAQ for audit committee members in Rule 5605(c)(2)(A). Mr. Pincus resigned from the Audit Committee effective December 31,

2015, to eliminate any concerns expressed by certain shareholders as to his independence. The Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Alperstein is the audit committee financial expert as defined under regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Audit Committee is also responsible for the pre-approval of all non-audit services provided by its independent accountants. Non-audit services are only provided by the independent auditors to the extent permitted by law. Pre-approval is required unless a *de minimis* exception is met. To qualify for the *de minimis* exception, the aggregate amount of all such non-audit services provided to the Company must constitute not more than five percent of the total amount of revenues paid by the Company to its independent accountants during the fiscal year in which the non-audit services are provided; such services were not recognized by the Company at the time of the engagement to be non-audit services; and the non-audit services are promptly brought to the attention of the committee and approved by one or more members of the committee to whom authority to grant such approval has been delegated by the committee prior to the commencement of the non-audit services.

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***Compensation Committee***

The Compensation Committee makes determinations with respect to salary levels, bonus compensation and equity compensation awards for executive officers, among others. The Compensation Committee has the sole responsibility for determining executive compensation, including that of the named executive officers, and for establishing compensation philosophy. Each of the members of the Compensation Committee is independent, as determined under the definition of independence adopted by NASDAQ for compensation committee members in Rule 5605(d)(2)(A). Mr. Pincus resigned from the Compensation Committee effective December 31, 2015, to eliminate any concerns expressed by certain shareholders as to his independence. The Committee is also responsible for succession planning for the Company and the Bank.

The Board of Directors has adopted a charter for the Compensation Committee. A copy of the charter is available on the Company's website at [www.eaglebankcorp.com](http://www.eaglebankcorp.com). For further information on the role of the Committee, see page 42.

During 2015, the Compensation Committee retained and worked with Meyer-Chatfield Compensation Advisors, an executive compensation and benefits consulting firm of national scope and reputation, to advise it in connection with executive compensation decisions for 2015.

***Governance & Nominating Committee***

The Board of Directors has a standing Governance & Nominating Committee, consisting of three members of the Board of Directors who are independent directors within the meaning of NASDAQ Rule 5605(a)(2). Mr. Pincus resigned from the Committee effective December 31, 2015, to eliminate any concerns expressed by certain shareholders as to his independence. The Governance & Nominating Committee is responsible for the evaluation of nominees for election as director, the recommendation to the Board of Directors of director candidates for nomination for election by the shareholders, the evaluation of sitting directors and the setting of compensation for directors. The Board of Directors has adopted a charter for the Governance & Nominating Committee addressing the nominations process. A copy of the charter is available on the Company's website at [www.eaglebankcorp.com](http://www.eaglebankcorp.com).

The Board has not developed a formal policy for the identification or evaluation of nominees. In general, when the Board determines that expansion of the Board or replacement of a director is necessary or appropriate, the Governance & Nominating Committee will review, through candidate interviews with members of the Board and management, consultation with the candidate's associates and through other means, a candidate's honesty, integrity, reputation in and commitment to the community, judgment, personality and thinking style, willingness to invest in the Company, residence, willingness to devote the necessary time, potential conflicts of interest, independence, understanding of financial statements and issues, and the willingness and ability to engage in meaningful and constructive discussion regarding Company issues. The Governance & Nominating Committee would review any special expertise, for example, expertise that qualifies a person as an audit committee financial expert, and membership or influence in a particular geographic or business target market, or other relevant business experience. The Board of Directors and the Governance & Nominating Committee have not established a specific diversity component in their consideration of candidates for director, but strongly recognizes the benefits of having directors with diverse backgrounds and perspectives. To date, the Company has not paid any fee to any third party to identify or evaluate, or to assist it in identifying or evaluating, potential director candidates.

The Governance & Nominating Committee will consider director candidates nominated by shareholders during such times as the Company is actively considering obtaining new directors, on the same basis as candidates proposed by the Governance & Nominating Committee, the Board or other sources. Candidates recommended by shareholders will be evaluated based on the same criteria described above. Shareholders desiring to suggest a candidate for consideration should send a letter to the Company's Corporate Secretary and include: (a) a statement that the writer is a shareholder (providing evidence if the person's shares are held in street name) and is proposing a candidate for consideration; (b) the name and contact information for the candidate; (c) a statement of the candidate's business and educational experience; (d) information regarding the candidate's qualifications to be director, including but not limited to an evaluation of the factors discussed above which the Board would consider in evaluating a candidate; (e) information regarding any relationship or understanding between the proposing shareholder and the candidate;

(f) information regarding potential conflicts of interest; and (g) a statement that the candidate is willing to be considered and willing to serve as director if nominated and elected. Because of the limited resources of the Company and the limited opportunity to

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seek additional directors, there is no assurance that all shareholder proposed candidates will be fully considered, that all candidates will be considered equally, or that the proponent of any candidate or the proposed candidate will be contacted by the Company or the Board, and no undertaking to do so is implied by the willingness to consider candidates proposed by shareholders.

In addition, the Governance & Nominating Committees regularly discusses the contributions of the persons then serving as directors, to ensure alignment with the strategic and tactical directions of the Company. Formal evaluations are conducted biannually.

### ***Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation***

No member of the Compensation Committee has served as an officer or employee of the Company or Bank at any time. None of our executive officers serve as a member of the Compensation Committee of any other company that has an executive officer serving as a member of our Board of Directors. None of our executive officers serve as a member of the board of directors of any other company that has an executive officer serving as a member of the Compensation Committee. Except for loans and deposit transactions in the ordinary course of business made on substantially the same terms, including interest rates and collateral, as those for comparable transactions with unaffiliated parties, and not presenting more than the normal risk of collectability, or other unfavorable features, and for transactions described under Director Compensation and Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, no member of the Compensation Committee or any of their related interests has any material interest in any transaction involving more than \$120,000 to which the Company is a party.

### ***Board Leadership Structure and Risk Oversight Role***

The role of Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of the Company are currently held by the same person, Mr. Paul. This structure is not mandated by any provision of law or our Articles of Incorporation or bylaws. The Board of Directors reserves the right to establish a different structure in the future. The Board of Directors currently believes that this structure is the most appropriate leadership structure for our Company. Under the Company's bylaws, the official role and power of the Chairman is limited, and is related largely to the conduct of meetings of the Board of Directors and shareholders. The Board of Directors believes that the Chief Executive Officer is in the best position to be aware of major issues facing the Company on a day-to-day and long term basis, and is in the best position to identify key risks and developments facing the Company that may need to be brought to the full Board's attention. While each of the other directors brings unique experience, oversight and expertise from outside the Company and its industry, Mr. Paul's company-specific experience and expertise allow him to most effectively direct Board discussions and focus Board decision-making on those items most important to the Company's long term continued success. Further, a combined Chairman/Chief Executive Officer position eliminates the potential for confusion as to who leads the Company, providing the Company with a single public face in dealing with customers, shareholders, employees, regulators, analysts and other constituencies. To date, this structure has worked successfully for the Company. The Board of Directors has considered whether to have a designated lead director and concluded that to date, a deficiency does not exist that needs to be addressed by such an appointment; it will continue to consider whether such an appointment is in the Company's best interest. We note that all members of the Board of Directors are active in their oversight of management.

The Board of Directors of the Company, all of the members of which are also members of the Board of Directors of the Bank, is actively involved in the Company's and Bank's risk oversight activities. These directors, as well as the directors of the Bank, working through numerous committees of the Company and Bank, review and approve the policies of the Company and Bank. The Boards of Directors regularly review the minutes and other reports from the various Board committees.

### ***Shareholder Communications***

If you wish to communicate with the Board of Directors or an individual director, you can write to Eagle Bancorp, Inc., 7830 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, Attention: Jane E. Cornett, Corporate Secretary. Your letter should indicate that you are a shareholder, and whether you own your shares as a registered holder or in street name. Depending on the subject matter, management will: (a) forward the

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communication to the director or directors to whom it is addressed; (b) handle the inquiry directly or delegate it to appropriate employees, such as where the communication is a request for information, a stock related matter, or a matter related to ordinary course matters in the conduct of the Company's

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banking business; or (c) not forward the communication where it is primarily commercial or political in nature, or where it relates to an improper, frivolous or irrelevant topic. Communications which are not forwarded will be retained until the next Board meeting, where they will be available to all directors.

***Director Attendance at the Annual Meeting***

The Board of Directors believes it is important for all directors to attend the annual meeting of shareholders in order to show their support for the Company and to provide an opportunity for shareholders to communicate any concerns to them. Accordingly, it is the policy of the Company to encourage all directors to attend each annual meeting of shareholders unless they are unable to attend by reason of personal or family illness or pressing matters. All of the nine directors in office at the time attended the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders.

***Audit Committee Report***

The Audit Committee has been appointed to assist the Board of Directors in fulfilling the Board's oversight responsibilities by reviewing the financial information that will be provided to the shareholders and others, the systems of internal controls established by management and the Board and the independence and performance of the Company's audit process.

The Audit Committee has:

1. reviewed and discussed with management the audited consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K;
2. discussed with Stegman & Company, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended, as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in Rule 3200T; and
3. received the written disclosures and letter from Stegman & Company as required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, regarding the independent accountants' communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with Stegman & Company, its independence.

Based on these reviews and discussions, the Audit Committee has recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited consolidated financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. The Audit Committee has also considered whether the amount and nature of non-audit services provided by Stegman & Company is compatible with the auditor's independence.

**Members of the Audit Committee**

Dudley C. Dworken, Chairman



Leslie M. Alperstein	Norman R. Pozez	Leland M. Weinstein
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Table of Contents**Director Compensation**

The following table sets forth information regarding compensation paid to non-employee directors of the Company during the year ended December 31, 2015 for service as members of the Company and Bank Boards of Directors. Members of the Board of Directors who are employees do not receive additional cash compensation for service on the Board of Directors.

	<b>Fees Earned or</b>	<b>Stock</b>	<b>Option</b>	<b>All Other</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Paid in Cash</b>	<b>Awards(1)</b>	<b>Awards(2)</b>	<b>Compensation</b>	<b>Total</b>
Leslie M. Alperstein, Ph.D.	\$55,000	\$102,354	\$--	\$6,019(3)	\$163,373
Dudley C. Dworken	\$92,250	\$102,354	\$--	\$3,845(3)	\$198,449
Harvey M. Goodman	\$51,000	\$102,354	\$--	\$2,808(3)	\$156,162
Robert P. Pincus	\$877,580	\$--	\$--	\$44,810(3)(4)	\$922,390
Norman R. Pozez	\$62,000	\$102,354	\$--	\$2,858(3)	\$167,212
Donald R. Rogers	\$46,500	\$102,354	\$--	\$4,810(3)	\$153,664
David P. Summers	\$308,250	\$102,354	\$--	\$--(3)	\$410,604
Leland M. Weinstein	\$86,500	\$102,354	\$--	\$2,023(3)	\$190,877

(1) Represents the grant date fair value of shares of restricted stock awarded during 2015. At December 31, 2015, the non-employee directors had unvested shares of restricted common stock as follows: Mr. Alperstein 7,198 shares; Mr. Dworken 7,198 shares; Mr. Goodman 7,198 shares; Mr. Pincus 5,798 shares; Mr. Pozez 7,198 shares; Mr. Rogers 7,198 shares; Mr. Summers 0 shares and Mr. Weinstein 7,198 shares.

(2) At December 31, 2015, there were no outstanding option awards, vested or unvested, held by non-employee directors.

(3) Premiums on long term care insurance provided to non-employee directors other than Mr. Pincus and Mr. Summers.

(4) Includes a life insurance allowance of \$10,000 and \$30,000 of payments to defer the cost of health insurance and auto expenses.

During 2015 each non-employee director of the Company, other than Mr. Pincus and Mr. Summers, received annual retainers of \$15,000 in cash in the aggregate, for service as a member of both the Company and Bank Board of Directors, plus a cash fee of \$1,500 for each meeting attended of the Board of Directors of the Company or a committee of the Company Board, and a cash fee of \$750 for each meeting attended of the Board of Directors of the Bank or a committee of the Board of the Bank. The chairs of the Audit and Compensation Committees meeting fees of \$3,000, instead of \$1,500. The chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee received meeting fees of \$2,000, instead of \$1,500. The per meeting fees payable to chairs of certain Bank level committees ranged from \$1,000 to \$1,500 in 2015. In 2015, an aggregate of \$393,750 in cash retainers

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and meeting fees were paid to members of the Board of Directors of the Company (other than Mr. Paul, Mr. Pincus and Mr. Summers) for service on the Board of Directors of the Company and Bank, and \$116,250 in cash retainers and meeting fees was paid to members of only the Board of Directors of the Bank for such service. In February 2015, each non-employee director of the Company other than Mr. Pincus was awarded 2,840 shares of restricted stock, Mr. Pincus did not receive an award of shares of restricted stock. Each non-employee director serving only on the Bank Board of Directors received an award of 620 shares of restricted stock. All of these awards vest in three annual installments commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.

For 2016, director cash compensation rates are unchanged.

Mr. Pincus, the Company and Bank are parties to an agreement, effective June 1, 2014, pursuant to which he is retained as Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company and Bank. Under that agreement, Mr. Pincus receives an annual payment, in lieu of all other cash fees for service on the Board of Directors. During 2015, this payment was \$503,756, and he is currently entitled to receive \$554,131 for 2016. The amount of the fee is subject to annual increase to reflect, at a minimum, the increase in the consumer price index. Mr. Pincus is also eligible to receive incentive bonuses pursuant to Board approved plans, and \$40,000 of reimbursements. The agreement has a term extending until May 31, 2016, subject to automatic renewal for a one year term unless either party gives 60 days notice of nonrenewal. In the event of early termination of the agreement by the Bank, or as a result of Mr. Pincus' death or disability, or

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as a result of nonrenewal by the Bank, Mr. Pincus (or his estate) would be entitled to receive for a period of one year following termination, continued payment on a monthly basis of his annual payment and one twelfth of the amount of the most recent annual bonus, and continuation of the reimbursement payments, subject to his continued compliance with the confidentiality, non-compete and non-solicitation provisions of the agreement. The agreement provides that during the term and for a period of eighteen months after termination, Mr. Pincus will not in any capacity: (i) provide any advice, assistance or services to a bank or financial services business, including but not limited to any consumer savings, commercial banking, insurance or trust business, or a savings and loan or mortgage business, or other business in which the Bank or Company has engaged in within the two prior years in anticipation of commencing, or to any person or entity that is attempting to form such a business if it operates any office, branch or other facility that is (or is proposed to be) located within a fifty mile radius of the location of any office of the Company or Bank or their affiliates, or sell or solicit sales of competitive products within such area; or (ii) induce or attempt to induce any customers, suppliers, officers, employees, contractors, consultants, agents or representatives of, or any other person that has a business relationship with, the Company or Bank or their affiliates, to discontinue, terminate or reduce the extent of their relationship with such entity or to solicit any such customer for any competitive product or service, or otherwise solicit any customer or employee of the Company or the Bank.

Under the agreement, in the event that: (i) Mr. Pincus's retention by the Bank terminated without cause within 120 days prior to, or within twelve months after, a change in control; (ii) Mr. Pincus is not reelected or nominated for reelection as a director of the Company or Bank, or any successor, following a change in control or if he voluntarily resigns as a director within 12 months following a change in control; or (iii) he voluntarily terminates the agreement within the thirty day period following twelve months after a change in control, Mr. Pincus would be entitled to receive a lump sum payment equal to 1.99 times the sum of his highest rate of retainer compensation in effect within the twelve months prior to termination, and cash bonuses paid within the most recent twelve months, subject to adjustment to avoid adverse tax consequences resulting from characterization of such payment for tax purposes as a parachute payment. He would also be entitled to three years of continued personal reimbursements, subject to the provision of certain releases.

Mr. Pincus is also a party to a non-compete agreement with the Bank. The non-compete agreement provides that in the event of termination of his service with the Bank without cause as defined in the agreement pursuant to which he serves as Vice Chairman, including without limitation, in the event of a change in control and subject to timely signing and delivering to the Bank (a) a General Release and Waiver and (b) a monthly certification regarding compliance with the confidentiality and non-competition provisions of the non-compete agreement and reporting other compensation, the Bank shall, for one (1) year following the date on which the release is executed and delivered to the Bank, continue to pay Mr. Pincus, monthly in arrears, his retainer compensation at the rate being paid as of the termination date, together with an additional amount equal to one-twelfth of the most recent annual cash bonus, if any, for each month of the period during which he is in full compliance with the provisions of the agreement.

The non-compete agreement requires that for one year after termination of his service, Mr. Pincus will not, without express written consent of the Bank (except for services performed for or on behalf of the Bank and its affiliates), directly or indirectly, in any capacity (whether as a proprietor, owner, agent, officer, director, shareholder, organizer, partner, principal, manager, member, employee, contractor, consultant or otherwise) engage in employment or provide services to any person or entity in return for remuneration or a right to remuneration of any kind, including but not limited to current or deferred compensation, wages, salary, fees, benefits, tangible or intangible property or ownership rights or interests or other property rights, whether paid or conveyed to him or promised in the future by any person, business or other entity as a result of, or in exchange for, any work or services performed, or any intellectual property conveyed by him.

If Mr. Pincus were entitled to receive the termination benefits as of December 31, 2015, he would receive approximately (a) \$917,580 if terminated other than in connection with a change in control, or (b) approximately \$2,743,964 in connection with a change in control (before analysis of the tax computation regarding excess parachute payments and assuming that he receives the entire amount payable under the non-compete agreement). Additionally, unvested shares of restricted stock having an inherent value as of such date of \$292,171, would vest.

The Company does not maintain any non-equity incentive plans or compensation programs,



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deferred compensation, defined contribution or defined benefit retirement plans, for non-employee directors, or in which such directors may participate.

## **Executive Officers Who Are Not Directors**

Set forth below is certain information regarding persons who are executive officers of the Company or the Bank and who are not directors of the Company. Except as otherwise indicated, the occupation listed has been such person's principal occupation for at least the last five years.

### ***Laurence E. Bensignor, Esquire***

Mr. Bensignor, 59, Executive Vice President and General Counsel of the Company and Bank, joined the Company in April 2010 after 29 years in the legal and real estate industries in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. From February 2009 until joining the Company, he was a principal in CastleGate Partners, LLC, a real estate investment firm. Previously, from 1999 through 2008, Mr. Bensignor served as Trustee of the Van Metre Family Trusts, the controlling owner of a private, multifaceted real estate organization. Previously, he was a partner and chaired the real estate practice group in the Washington, DC office of the national law firm of Arter & Hadden and formerly was a partner in the Washington, DC law firm of Melrod, Redman & Gartlan. Mr. Bensignor is a Fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers.

### ***Charles C. Brockett, CPA***

Mr. Brockett, 52, Executive Vice President and Director of Operations of the Bank, joined the Company in October 2014 in connection with the merger with Virginia Heritage Bank ( VHB ). Prior to joining EagleBank, he served at VHB, where he was a founding director, as well as Chief Financial Officer since 2005, and Chief Operating Officer since 2010. From 1998 until 2005, he was Managing Partner of Enterprise Financial Consulting, a financial consulting firm founded by him in 1998. Prior to founding Enterprise Financial Consulting, Mr. Brockett spent the majority of his career in banking, starting in 1980, with First Commercial Bank in Arlington, Virginia. During his nearly 16 years with First Commercial Bank until its sale to United Bankshares, Inc. in 1996, he held positions covering virtually all aspects of the bank including retail banking, loan accounting and servicing, operations, consumer lending, commercial lending and Chief Financial Officer.

### ***James H. Langmead, CPA***

Mr. Langmead, 66, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company since January 2007, and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Bank since January 2005, previously served as Chief Financial Officer of Sandy Spring Bank and Sandy Spring Bancorp, Inc. Mr. Langmead, a Certified Public Accountant, served in various financial and senior management roles with Sandy Spring Bank from 1992 through 2004. Prior to that time, Mr. Langmead was Chief Financial Officer and managed the Finance Group at the Bank of Baltimore and Baltimore Bancorp. He has over 44 years of experience in the commercial banking industry.

***Antonio F. Marquez***

Mr. Marquez, 57, Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer - Commercial Real Estate, joined the Company in August 2011. Mr. Marquez has over 30 years of experience in the banking industry. Prior to joining the Company, he established the real estate lending franchise for HSBC for the Washington, DC market. Earlier he was the head of Commercial Real Estate lending at Chevy Chase Bank from 1997 to 2005 and previously held various lending positions at The Riggs National Bank in Washington, DC after starting his career at the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York.

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***Lindsey Rheume***

Mr. Rheume, 55, Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer – Commercial and Industrial, joined the Company in December 2014. Prior to joining the Company, he served as relationship executive for JPMorgan Chase, responsible for business development in the Washington, DC, suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia market. Previously, he served as Executive Vice President and Commercial Lending Manager at Virginia Commerce Bank, which was acquired by United Bankshares, Inc. in 2014, where he managed the bank’s entire commercial and industrial lending activities. Earlier in his career, he held senior commercial lending and credit positions with SunTrust Bank, GE Capital and Bank of America.

***Susan G. Riel***

Ms. Riel, 66, is currently Senior Executive Vice President - Chief Operating Officer of the Bank, and Executive Vice President of the Company. She was formerly Executive Vice President - Chief Operating Officer of the Bank and Chief Administrative Officer, and previously served as Executive Vice President - Chief Operating Officer of Columbia First Bank, FSB from 1989 until that institution’s acquisition by First Union Bancorp in 1995. Ms. Riel has over 38 years of experience in the commercial banking industry. Ms. Riel has been with the Company since its inception in 1997.

***Janice L. Williams, Esquire***

Ms. Williams, 59, Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer of the Bank, has served with the Bank as Credit Officer, Senior Credit Officer, and Chief Credit Officer since 2003. Prior to employment with the Bank, Ms. Williams served with Capital Bank, Sequoia Bank, and American Security Bank. Additionally, Ms. Williams, a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center and a Member of the Maryland Bar, was previously employed in the private practice of law in Maryland.

## **Open Letter from Compensation Committee Chairman**

*Dear Reader,*



*As reported elsewhere in this proxy statement, the Compensation Committee engaged in meaningful shareholder engagement during 2015. We adopted a number of key changes to our compensation plan design and to the following Compensation Disclosure & Analysis is a direct result of the 2015 Say-on-Pay vote and the ensuing shareholder engagement. The compensation program is more formulaic in design and includes the introduction of performance-vested shares commencing with the 2016-2018 period. Some plan components were adopted immediately in full (such as imposing a cap on each executive officer's eligible cash payout under the Senior Executive Incentive Plan) while others will be phased in over several years (such as the ratio of performance-vested share awards to time-vested share awards.)*

*With this year's disclosures, we seek to be even more transparent in describing our compensation practices, including the disclosure of actual performance on the various metrics measured in our Senior Executive Incentive Plan, enabling you to see for yourself how our named executive officers fared versus the applicable metrics; this is a departure from prior years, where, for some of the metrics, we just stated the conclusion as to whether actual performance exceeded the goal for such metric.*

*The following Compensation Disclosure and Analysis reflects the insightful shareholder engagement process we engaged in during 2015. We look forward to continuing those efforts and considering such input in 2016 and beyond.*

*Leland M. Weinstein*

*Chairman, Compensation Committee*

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## Compensation Discussion and Analysis

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis ( *CD&A* ) provides information about the 2015 compensation for our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and our next three most highly-compensated executive officers in 2015:

- Ronald D. Paul, our President and Chief Executive Officer (and Chairman);
- James H. Langmead, our Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer;
- Antonio F. Marquez, our Executive Vice President, Chief Lending Officer – Commercial Real Estate;
- Susan G. Riel, our Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer; and
- Janice L. Williams, our Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer.

Compensation information for these individuals, (who we refer to collectively as our named executive officers or NEOs ) is presented in the compensation tables following this Compensation Discussion and Analysis.

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis describes our executive compensation program for 2015. It also describes how the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors (the Compensation Committee ) arrived at the specific compensation decisions for our named executive officers, and discusses key factors that the Compensation Committee considered in determining their compensation.

## Executive Summary

## Record Setting Performance

### ***2015 Financial Results and Operating Highlights***

The Company, headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, was incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland on October 28, 1997, to serve as the bank holding company for EagleBank. The Company was formed by a group of local businessmen, including our CEO, Ronald Paul, and professionals with significant prior experience in community banking in the Company's market area, together with an experienced community bank senior management team.

The Company has a long history of sustained high performance. The Company has achieved a streak of 28 consecutive quarters of record earnings. As shown in the graph below, our total shareholder return continues to outperform the NASDAQ and S&P Market Indices over the most recent five year period.



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<i>Index</i>	<i>Period Ending</i>					
	<b>12/31/10</b>	<b>12/31/11</b>	<b>12/31/12</b>	<b>12/31/13</b>	<b>12/31/14</b>	<b>12/31/15</b>
Eagle Bancorp, Inc.	100.00	100.76	138.39	233.49	270.77	384.73
NASDAQ Stock Market Index-(U.S. Companies)	100.00	99.21	116.82	163.75	188.03	201.40
NASDAQ Bank Index	100.00	89.50	106.23	150.55	157.95	171.92
S&P 500	100.00	102.11	118.45	156.82	178.28	180.75

The Company continues to show increasing net income, revenue and earnings per share. Tangible book value per share also continues to show strong growth over one, three and five years.

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As a result of last year's Say-on-Pay advisory vote, we enhanced our investor outreach, as discussed earlier in this proxy statement. We contacted our 30 largest institutional shareholders and substantively engaged with half of them and two prominent shareholder advisory firms. We appreciate the perspectives our shareholders have on our compensation program and practices and have implemented a number of changes to our program going forward. We remain committed to providing compensation that motivates and rewards our corporate success and the success of our shareholders. We believe the adjustments made in response to shareholder feedback will enhance that effort. We began implementing some of the changes in 2015 and additional enhancements have been implemented in 2016. Below is a summary of key elements of our newly designed compensation program:

<b>Compensation Practice</b>	<b>New Eagle Bancorp Policy/Program</b>
Pay for Performance	We are requiring that a portion of total direct compensation will be based on future performance. During 2015, we eliminated the discretionary component, incorporated caps and paid formula-based cash incentives under our Senior Executive Incentive Plan. The Compensation Committee considered performance relative to our strategic plan and budget as well as relative to peers in making pay decisions for our executives. We paid formula-based cash incentives under our Senior Executive Incentive Plan. During 2016, we added performance-vested shares to our long term incentive program.
Long term Performance-Based Incentive	Our historic practice was to grant time vested restricted stock in February of each year based on an in-depth review of Company and Individual performance for the prior year. However, based on feedback from shareholders during 2015, we modified our equity award program for executive officers to include forward-looking performance-vested stock awards in addition to the time-vested awards. This new program was in effect for our February 2016 grants.
Robust Stock Ownership Policy	We adopted a policy mandating ownership by the CEO, directors and executive officers, based on a multiplier of their respective base salary or annual retainer.
Prohibit Hedging of Company Stock	We adopted a policy prohibiting executive officers and members of the Board of Directors from engaging in transactions intended to hedge or offset the market value of Company stock owned by them.
Restrict Pledging of Company Stock	We adopted a policy restricting the amount of Company stock executive officers and members of the Board of Directors may pledge as collateral.

***2015 Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation***

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At our 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, we conducted a non-binding advisory vote of our shareholders ( Say-on-Pay vote) to approve the compensation of the named executive officers. At that meeting, 48.7% of the votes cast were voted in approval of the compensation of the named executive officers. These results represented a decrease in the proportion of votes cast in favor of our executive compensation program compared to our 2014 Say-on-Pay vote.

As a result of last year s advisory Say-on-Pay vote, we enhanced our shareholder outreach efforts beyond those that have been made for the past several years. We contacted each of our 30 largest institutional shareholders in order to gather feedback regarding our executive compensation program and disclosures, and had substantive discussions with almost half of them. The objective was to identify shareholder concerns and potential areas for modifying our executive compensation program.

While some shareholders appreciated our pay-for-performance alignment and valued the level of insider ownership, particularly that of our Chief Executive Officer who holds a significant number of shares.



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(In fact, Mr. Paul, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and his family interests own or control shares representing as of December 31, 2015 over 90 times his 2015 base salary.) On the other hand, some investors expressed a desire for us to be less discretionary within our SEIP, have caps on how much an executive can earn under the SEIP, add a long term equity incentive plan tied to future multi-year Company performance, better balance the allocation of cash versus equity, and generally to increase disclosures on how the Compensation Committee made its decisions.

We also held conversations with two prominent shareholder advisory firms, to further appreciate their policies and perspectives.

The Compensation Committee considered the input of investors and advisory firms and made significant changes to its 2015 and 2016 programs as summarized above.

The Company is committed to continuing its engagement with our shareholders on executive compensation matters to understand their views concerning our executive compensation philosophy, policies and practices.

Consistent with the recommendation of our Board of Directors and the preference of our shareholders, as reflected in the advisory vote on the frequency of Say-on-Pay votes conducted at our 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, our Board of Directors believes it is appropriate to conduct annual shareholder non-binding advisory votes regarding our executive compensation programs.

## ***Compensation Philosophy***

We design our executive compensation program to be driven by performance, rewarding our executives for creating value for shareholders, and represent strong governance. The following sets forth the best practices that we adhere to in designing and determining our executive compensation.

Our compensation philosophy provides the guiding principles for structuring compensation programs that embody these values. The policies and underlying philosophy governing the Company's executive compensation plan, as endorsed by the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors, are designed to accomplish the following:

- Maintain a compensation program that is equitable in a competitive marketplace.

- Provide compensation opportunities that provide the ability to vary pay in line with performance.
- Encourage achievement of strategic objectives and creation of shareholder value.
- Recognize and reward individual initiative and achievements.
- Maintain an appropriate balance between base salary and short- and long term incentive opportunity.
- Allow the Company to compete for, retain, and motivate talented executives critical to its success.

The Compensation Committee seeks to target executive total direct compensation commensurate with performance by the Company and the individual. Our goal is to provide pay for performance through annual and long term incentives that reward a combination of strategic and financial achievements as well as our performance relative to industry peers. The Compensation Committee annually considers the Company's performance when setting pay. Goals for specific components include:

- Base salaries for executives are generally targeted at the 50th percentile with variation reflective of executive's role, performance, experience and contribution.
- The Senior Executive Incentive Plan targets cash compensation to align with performance. High performance is expected to result in pay that is aligned with our performance relative to peers/industry. Performance below goals and peers is designed to result in pay below median.
- Long term incentives in the form of time-vested restricted stock have historically been granted based on a look-back on the prior year's performance. The Compensation Committee believes that time-based vesting incentivizes retention, supports our ownership goals and encourages shareholder alignment. Time-vested equity is awarded when target goals are met,

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with the potential for higher awards when goals are exceeded.

- Going forward, and in consideration of shareholder feedback, we added a component of long term incentive that provides performance-vested restricted stock units (occasionally referred to as PRSUs ) that will vest based on future Company performance relative to specific financial metrics as compared to the KBW NASDAQ Regional Banking Index (KRX) over a three-year timeframe.
- Benefits and perquisites are not a significant component of total 2015 compensation.

The Compensation Committee is committed to tying compensation to performance and ensuring that compensation, both cash and equity, is commensurate with our financial results and ranking relative to peers. The Committee believes the Company's current executive team is of extremely high caliber and contributed significantly to the Company's strong historical growth and impressive continued performance. As indicated in the Executive Summary, the Company has consistently exceeded peer performance, and our total shareholder return exceeded bank and broader industry indices (e.g. S&P, NASDAQ). Rewarding, motivating and retaining a strong executive team is critical to the continued success of the Company. The Compensation Committee is confident that its decisions provide compensation commensurate with performance.

## ***Our Compensation Drivers***

In determining compensation levels, we utilize five key drivers:

- Incentive plans are designed to encourage achievement of our strategic business goals and reinforce our business values. All our incentive pay programs and decisions are filtered through the perspective of ensuring sound compensation practices that do not encourage inappropriate risk-taking or result in excessive compensation.
- Pay levels should be fair and internally equitable. Fairness is vital in all compensation programs and results. We do not discriminate in the creation or implementation of pay programs. Pay is based on demonstrated performance, skills, commitment and results.
- We pay for performance and the attainment of our vision, business strategy, operating imperatives and results. A meaningful percentage of overall executive compensation is based on Company and individual performance. Our compensation programs are geared to performance as the basis of determining pay. Our incentive plans are designed to drive prudent individual and enterprise performance.

- We recognize the impact of the individual. Not all positions have the same level of responsibilities, require the same skills and qualifications or have the same effect on the Company. Our compensation programs enable us to reward both Company results and individual performance in furtherance of our philosophy of being fair and paying for performance and thus motivate our officers to perform and succeed as reflected in our stated goals.

- We are mindful of the market. The market sets the framework for opportunity. Then it is Company and individual achievements that drive the payouts and awards. We seek to provide market-based compensation commensurate with performance, to attract and retain top executive talent, while providing value to shareholders.

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***Our Pay Mix***

The cornerstone of our executive compensation program is competitive pay for demonstrated performance. We seek to ensure that the compensation received by our executives is aligned with our performance, and that a meaningful portion of our executives' pay is contingent on the achievement of annual and forward-looking long term performance goals that drive our success as a Company and accordingly, add value for our shareholders.

For example, our CEO 2015 compensation mix and target 2016 compensation mix is shown below:



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The key components of our 2015 executive compensation program for all named executive officers consisted of a base salary, the SEIP, a Long Term Incentive Plan, a 401(k) Plan, and except Mr. Paul, a nonqualified supplemental executive retirement benefit program. The Committee typically reviews and determines executive compensation in the first quarter of the year. However, due to circumstances that arise during the year, the Committee may adjust or approve a compensation component at other times during the year, as warranted.

The following table outlines the major elements of 2015 total compensation for our NEO s:

<b>Compensation Element</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Link to Performance</b>	<b>Fixed/ Performance Based</b>	<b>Short/Long Term</b>	
<b>Base Salary</b>	Helps attract and retain executives through market-competitive base pay	Reflects individual experience, performance and contribution of each executive	Fixed	Short Term	
<b>Annual Cash SEIP</b>	Encourages achievement of short-term strategic and financial performance metrics that create long term shareholder value	Based on achievement of short-term, predefined corporate performance objectives and an assessment of individual performance	Performance-Based	Short Term	
<b>Long Term Incentive</b>	Aligns executives interests with shareholders, motivates and rewards long term sustained performance, and creates a retention incentive through multi-year vesting	Award amount is determined by the Committee based on Company and individual performance  Starting with 2016 grant, a portion of the award will be contingent on future 3-year performance	Performance-Based	Long Term	
<b>Senior Executive Retirement Plan</b>	Provides income security into retirement and creates a retention incentive through multi-year vesting	N/A	Fixed	Long Term	
<b>Benefits and Perquisites</b>	Establishes limited perquisites in line with market practice, as well as health and welfare benefits on the same basis as our general employee population	N/A	Fixed	Short Term	

**2015 Programs and Pay Decisions**

2015 was another outstanding performance year for the Company, as we exceeded our financial objectives and ranked among the top percentile of our industry peers on many fronts. Our 2015 executive compensation awards reflected both financial and operational results that our Board of Directors determined critical to our long term strategic objectives. The connection between our performance results and named executive officer compensation awards continues to be at the forefront of the Compensation Committee's decision-making. In addition to financial performance, the Compensation Committee also takes into account risk management practices within the organization, including results of federal and state regulatory examinations and internal control matters that may arise from internal and independent audits throughout the year.

In making pay decisions, the Compensation Committee reviews Company, peer and individual performance as well as the results of market survey data prepared by Meyer-Chatfield Compensation Advisors ( MCCA ), the Company's outside compensation consultant. Below is a summary of our 2015 compensation programs and pay decisions with respect to the compensation of the named executive officers:



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• **Base Salaries**

The Compensation Committee believes that base salaries for named executive officers should be targeted at market competitive levels. Base salaries are reviewed annually and adjusted based on our review of market data and assessment of individual executive performance.

	<b>Named Executive Officer</b>	<b>2014 Base Salary</b>	<b>2015 Base Salary</b>	
	Ronald D. Paul	\$807,070	\$863,565	
	James H. Langmead	\$334,457	\$354,524	
	Antonio F. Marquez	\$290,954	\$320,049	
	Susan G. Riel	\$430,194	\$456,006	
	Janice L. Williams	\$321,376	\$340,659	

• **Senior Executive Incentive Plan**

The SEIP was established to reward our executives for achieving or exceeding predefined performance goals. In 2015, all named executive officers participated in the SEIP. Under the SEIP, an executive is eligible to earn an award based on achievement of Company and individual performance objectives. In response to investor feedback we eliminated the discretionary component of the SEIP, incorporated a formulaic approach and implemented caps (or maximum) payouts for the 2015 plan.

The Compensation Committee defines performance measures and goals for each executive. The performance measures support our strategic plan and are allocated to executives to create accountability and ensure rewards are tied to our financial and strategic success. The performance measures and weights applicable to our named executive officers are summarized in the table below:

	<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>Mr. Paul</b>	<b>Mr. Langmead</b>	<b>Mr. Marquez</b>	<b>Ms. Riel</b>	<b>Ms. Williams</b>	
	Net Operating Income (available to common shareholders)	35%	15%		20%		
	Nonperforming Assets					30%	
	Strategic Alignment	25%	25%		20%		
	Total Loan Growth (Average Balance CRE)			30%			
	Average Core Deposit Growth (CRE Team)			20%			
	Efficiency Ratio		20%		20%		
	Non-Interest Expenses (Salaries, Benefits, Other Expenses)				20%	20%	
	Net Interest Margin		15%	25%			
	Charge-Offs					30%	
	Dept/Individual Performance	40%	25%	25%	20%	20%	

Specific performance goals, and a range of performance for each measure are defined at the start of the performance period. Below we summarize the performance ranges for each measure, actual performance and the payout percentage used to calculate the incentive payout for each named executive officer.



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	<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>Threshold</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Target Plus</b>	<b>Actual Performance (Adjusted)</b>
	Net Operating Income (available to common shareholders)	\$64,333,648	\$75,686,645	\$87,039,642	\$85,292,427
	Non-performing assets	\$43,122,008	\$37,497,398	\$31,872,788	\$19,091,237
	CRE Loan Growth	\$599,365,743	\$705,136,168	\$810,906,593	\$802,041,599
	Average Core Deposit Growth by CRE	\$27,200,000	\$32,000,000	\$36,800,000	\$103,893,000
	Efficiency Ratio	49.12%	42.76%	36.35%	41.17%
	Non-Interest Expenses	\$124,510,627	\$108,270,110	\$92,029,594	\$106,885,076
	Net Interest Margin	3.59%	4.22%	4.85%	4.33%
	Charge-offs	\$14,639,512	\$12,730,010	\$10,820,509	\$8,026,224

Participants receive a pay out of incentive awards at, above or below target, depending on performance results of each performance goal as may be adjusted in accordance with the Plan. Performance must be at least 15% above budgeted goals to achieve target-plus payouts.

Reflecting our above-target performance for the year, the named executive officers received incentive cash payments under the SEIP that were 108% to 147% of their target incentive opportunities.

	<b>Named Executive Officer</b>	<b>2015 Incentive Compensation at Target</b>	<b>Actual Payout for 2015 Performance</b>
	Ronald D. Paul	\$1,295,348	\$1,775,075
	James H. Langmead	\$301,345	\$353,426
	Antonio F. Marquez	\$272,042	\$400,061
	Susan G. Riel	\$387,605	\$420,189
	Janice L. Williams	\$289,558	\$425,824

Payments under the SEIP are subject to the Company's clawback policy. The Compensation Committee maintains the right to exercise discretion in paying bonuses outside of the SEIP in appropriate circumstances. For 2015, no such discretion was exercised by the Committee with regard to the named executive officers.

• **Mid-Year Bonus**

In response to shareholder feedback, the Committee decided that effective in 2016, no mid-year bonuses for the Chief Executive Officer would be granted, and all compensation would be determined as part of the annual process.

In March 2015, before our expanded shareholders engagement process, the Company, under Mr. Paul's guidance and spearheaded by his personal efforts, sought to raise \$65 million in common equity, the proceeds of which were to facilitate the redemption of preferred stock issued to the U.S. Treasury in connection with the Small Business Lending Fund. Through Mr. Paul's leadership and efforts, the offering was oversubscribed and we concluded the offering earlier than anticipated. A total of \$100 million was raised in the offering, allowing not just for the redemption of the preferred stock but the buttressing of the Company's capital. The Compensation Committee has previously considered

whether extraordinary capital transaction efforts and results should be incorporated into base salary (which would result in a higher level of salary) or compensated only in applicable years, as a way to only pay the chief executive officer in years when such transactions occur, rather than in every year. The Committee concluded that not increasing base compensation is in the best interest of the Company, and so did not factor in such scope when setting 2016 base salary. In 2015, Mr. Paul received \$750,000 as a cash bonus directly attributable to his performance and efforts in connection with this highly successful raise.

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• **Long term/Equity Compensation Time-Vested**

We believe equity ownership aligns our executives with our shareholders, promotes a long term focus on the performance and success of the Company and serves as a powerful means of retaining our high performing executives.

In February 2015, consistent with our historical practice, we granted equity in the form of restricted stock to our named executives based on an assessment of Company-wide and individual performance in 2014, as well as direct compensation values in accordance with our market analysis.

To determine the amount of the equity award to a particular executive, that executive's performance is considered along with payouts they earned under our SEIP. We then determine the optimal level of direct compensation (base salary plus cash incentives plus equity) that we believe each executive should receive. For example, a high performing executive who achieved target-plus performance levels on all of his/her goals, as well as the Company-wide goals, would receive an equity award reflective of the matching percentile compared to peers. The Compensation Committee carefully reviews each executive's performance as well as the Company's performance relative to peers. Equity awards also reflect having executives' pay be in line with performance. Using this methodology, the time-vested equity awards granted to named executive officers in 2015 in respect of 2014 performance, ranged from 39% to 52% of an executive's base salary.

The 2015 time-vested equity awards vest ratably over three years commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant. This helps retain executives and ensure they maintain a long term focus on maintaining and improving Company-wide performance. We believe this feature of the plan enhances shareholder value for the long term. Our new equity ownership guidelines reinforce our goal for executives to have and hold significant stock.

• **Long Term Incentive Plan Changes**

In response to comments received from shareholders during our investor outreach in 2015, the Compensation Committee adjusted the long term incentive program starting with the 2016 grants in respect of 2015 performance. The new program incorporated performance-based vesting to supplement the use of time-based vesting restricted stock. The 2016 award consists of 35% performance-based restricted stock units ( PRSUs ) and 65% time-vested restricted stock. To facilitate transition and minimize disruption, the Compensation Committee plans to transition to a 50%/50% split over two years. PRSUs will be awarded at target subject to performance-based vesting following a three year measurement period, 2016-2018. At the end of the period, three metrics shall be measured to determine vesting. An executive officer may vest in awards related to none, one, two or all three metrics, depending on the Company performance. In order to receive any vesting for this component, the Company needs to perform at a minimum level of median performance to the KBW NASDAQ Regional Banking Index (KRX) (the Index ).

The three metrics for the 2016 - 2018 performance grant will be:

Average Earnings Per Share ( EPS )growth,

Average Return on Average Assets ( ROAA ), and

Average Total Shareholder Return ( TSR ).

Performance shares will be awarded based on the Company's ranking for each metric relative to the Index and can range from 50% at threshold to 150% at maximum depending on performance. Threshold is defined as median performance, target is defined as the 62.5% percentile, and stretch (or maximum) is defined as the 75th percentile or greater ensuring we only provide rewards for strong performance. Payouts are interpolated on a straight-line pro rata basis in between these points. If the metric does not reach threshold performance (i.e. median performance), PRSUs for that metric will not vest. If only the threshold is met for a metric, then 50% of the award shall become vested. If the maximum is met for a metric, then 150% of the target award shall become vested (with points in between measured on a straight-

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line *pro rata* basis). Metrics performance will be calculated and PRSUs vest no later than March 31 of the year following the performance period (i.e. 2019 for the 2016 awards), or as soon thereafter as data is available. An executive must be employed by the Company, on December 31, 2018 and on the vesting date, except in the event of death, disability or retirement.

The Compensation Committee concluded that the target goals are reasonably achievable with good performance and are sufficiently challenging but not overly difficult. The Long Term Incentive Plan does not include exponential upside for exceeding goals, as there is a maximum award tied to each metric.

The Compensation Committee retained the authority to make adjustments to applicable targets and calculations in the event of extraordinary regional circumstances, such as a regional economic downturn arising from *force majeure* events such as a terrorist act or further governmental sequestration. While this authority is not expected to be utilized, the Committee recognized the possibility of an extraordinary regional economic condition. Since the Index includes a national array of banks, the Committee felt that it was important to be able to react to some circumstance uniquely affecting the Washington, DC metropolitan area, such as a terrorist act and the resulting effect on the economy, and therefore, Company performance.

The long term incentive program is subject to the Company's clawback policy.

The 2016 program will continue to include time vested equity awards as the Compensation Committee believes this not only a promotes retention, but provides an impetus for achieving continued performance. While awarded in part as a result of individual performance, the number of time vested restricted stock awards to an executive are also based on the overall performance of the Company.

- **[Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan](#)**

The Company also provides certain of its executive officers, including all of the named executive officers other than the Chief Executive Officer, with a supplemental retirement benefit, with benefits payable well into retirement years, in order to focus our executives on long term Company performance. This Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan ( SERP ), adopted by the Company in 2013, provides for a lifetime retirement benefit utilizing annuities as a funding source, a program that at the time cost approximately 86% of the cost of similar plans for comparably situated executives that did not utilize annuities. The target retirement age for the benefit is age 67, with reduced benefits prior to age 67.

- **[Retirement Benefit](#)**

Our 401(k) plan allows all officers and employees of the Company working 1,000 hours or more in a calendar year to defer a portion of their compensation, and provides a match of up to 3% of their base salaries, subject to certain IRS limitations. While the decision to match employee contributions is discretionary, all employees receive the same percentage match. During 2015, the Company made the maximum matching contributions. Please refer to the discussion accompanying the Summary Compensation Table for additional information regarding the SERP.

- **[Health and Welfare Benefits](#)**

We provide health benefits to our executive officers, including the named executive officers, generally on the same basis as all of our full-time employees. These benefits include medical and dental benefits, short-term and long term disability insurance, basic life insurance coverage, and also long term care insurance coverage. We design our employee benefits programs to provide choice and to be affordable and competitive in relation to the market, and to be compliant with applicable laws and practices. We adjust our employee benefits programs as needed based upon regular monitoring of applicable laws and practices and the competitive market.

The Compensation Committee believes our current executive compensation policies and practices are effective in advancing our long term strategic plan, reasonable in relation to our



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compensation peer group and responsible in encouraging the named executive officers to work for meaningful shareholder returns without taking unnecessary or excessive risks.

- **Employment, Non-Compete and Severance Arrangements**

Each of our named executive officers has an employment agreement which contains provision for payments upon a change in control of the Company under a modified double trigger. Each named executive officer is also party to a non-compete agreement which provides for payments following termination without cause or in connection with a change in control, which payments are contingent on compliance with the agreements requirements regarding not competing with the Company and Bank following such termination. None of these agreements provide tax gross-ups. These agreements are described in detail under Employment and Non-Compete Agreements following the Summary Compensation Table. The Committee believes that the agreements provide continuity of executive management and employment security, which is conducive to maximum employee effort and valuable protections for the Company and its executive officers.

## ***CEO Pay-for-Performance***

We operate in a highly-dynamic business environment, which has been and continues to be characterized by rapidly changing market and customer trends, regulatory changes and requirements, as well as increased expectations from shareholders for meaningful growth without excessive risk taking. To succeed in this environment, our senior leadership must be able to continually refine and enhance products and services; respond to competitive challenges in our markets; attract, satisfy and retain customers; and demonstrate an ability to quickly identify and capitalize on business opportunities.

Our steady and consistent growth over the years, as well as our success in developing a leading market position relative to our peers and competitors, has largely been the result of the exceptional leadership of Mr. Paul, and the team he has assembled, whose focus, creativity and ability to motivate our workforce has enabled us sustained year over year growth and improvement in profitability. As a result, we have sought to structure the compensation opportunities for Mr. Paul to achieve two principal objectives: to motivate and reward the achievement of our annual and longer term financial and strategic objectives and to ensure that he remains with the Company to guide our business into the future.

At the same time, we seek to align the CEO's compensation with our shareholders' long term interests. Accordingly, the Compensation Committee focuses on using incentive compensation with long term company performance implications as a key element of his target total direct compensation opportunity. By focusing on performance-based pay opportunities tied to specific performance goals, the Compensation Committee seeks to ensure the CEO's pay is aligned with Company performance and the value provided to our shareholders. The compensation plan rewards Mr. Paul if the Company's performance is exceptional, because of his ability to earn at the higher end of the payouts under the SEIP and receive share awards of restricted stock and PRSUs under the Long Term Incentive Plan. Going forward the Compensation Committee enhanced the performance-based pay program to include performance-vested equity that will reward future performance. The value of his awards and his stock ownership will rise and fall over the long term, with our stock performance. Mr. Paul and his family owned shares of Company stock valued at December 31, 2015 greater than 90 times his 2015 base salary.



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## ***Executive Compensation Process***

### **The Role of the Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee, among its other responsibilities, establishes our overall compensation philosophy and reviews and approves our executive compensation program, including the specific compensation of our executive officers, including the named executive officers. The Compensation Committee has the authority to retain special counsel and other advisors, including compensation consultants, to assist in carrying out its responsibilities to determine the compensation of our executive officers.

The Committee considers information from its compensation consultant and legal counsel, as well as Mr. Paul, our Chief Financial Officer and our Human Resources department to formulate recommendations with respect to specific compensation actions. The Compensation Committee makes all final decisions regarding compensation, including base salary levels, target bonus opportunities, actual bonus payments and equity awards. The Compensation Committee meets on a regularly-scheduled basis and at other times, as needed.

The Compensation Committee regularly conducts a review of our executive compensation program to assess whether our compensation elements, actions and decisions (i) are aligned with our vision, mission, values, corporate goals and compensation philosophy, (ii) provide appropriate short-term and long term incentives for our executive officers and (iii) are competitive with the compensation of the executive in comparable positions at the companies with which we compete for executive talent. It is a result of this process that the long term incentive plan was adopted in 2015 and includes forward-looking performance-based vesting.

As part of this process, the Compensation Committee takes into consideration Mr. Paul's recommendations for NEOs other than himself and a competitive market analysis prepared by its independent compensation consultant. In the course of its deliberations, the Compensation Committee also considers competitive positioning, internal equity and our corporate and individual achievements against one or more short-term and long term performance objectives. The Compensation Committee considers all of this information in light of their individual experience, knowledge of the Company, knowledge of the peer companies, knowledge of each named executive officer and business judgment in

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making decisions regarding executive compensation and our executive compensation program.

As part of this process, the Compensation Committee also evaluates the performance of Mr. Paul each year and makes all decisions regarding his base salary adjustments (if any), bonus payments and equity awards. Mr. Paul is not present during any of the deliberations regarding his compensation.

## **The Role of Consultants**

The Compensation Committee has engaged the services of MCCA as its independent advisor on matters of executive and board compensation (the Engagement). MCCA reports directly to the Committee and provides no other remunerated services to the Company or any of its affiliates. The Company has affirmatively determined that no conflicts of interest exist between the Company and MCCA or any individuals working on the Company's account on MCCA's behalf. In reaching such determination, the Company considered the following enumerated factors, all of which were attested to or affirmed by MCCA:

- During 2015, MCCA provided no services to and received no fees from the Company other than in connection with the Engagement;
- MCCA has adopted and put in place adequate policies and procedures designed to prevent conflicts of interest, which policies and procedures were provided to the Company;
- There are no business or personal relationships between MCCA and any member of the Compensation Committee other than in respect of (i) the Engagement, or (ii) work performed by MCCA for any other company, board of directors or compensation committee for whom such Committee member also serves as an independent director;
- No employees of MCCA owns any stock of the Company; and
- There is no business or personal relationships between MCCA and any executive officer of the Company other than in respect of the Engagement.

## **The Role of Management**

Input from Mr. Paul is considered by the Compensation Committee regarding the criteria to be used to determine base salary, bonuses and other benefits for named executive officers other than Mr. Paul. Although input from Mr. Paul is considered by the Compensation Committee, the Compensation Committee exercises final authority on compensation matters for all named executive officers. Mr. Paul is not present at meetings during which his own compensation is discussed and deliberated.

## **Competitive Positioning**

In making compensation decisions, the Compensation Committee considers the competitive market for executive talent, as well as the compensation policies and practices of the companies with which we compete for talent, which include both publicly-traded and privately-held companies in a wide range of sizes and stages of development. For this purpose, the Compensation Committee uses a number of resources, including executive compensation data compiled by its compensation consultant from publicly-available sources and from various national compensation surveys.

A peer group is one source of reference used by the Compensation Committee. A peer group was developed in 2014 and utilized in 2015 for 2015 salary and incentive targets represented 20 public banks between \$2.7 billion and \$7.3 billion in assets. The peer group was selected based on assets, performance and regional similarities. In applying the methodology, we started in 2014 with seventy-five public banks between \$2.7 billion and \$7 billion in assets. We then narrowed the list further using asset size, geographic location, number of employees, number of offices and performance, as well as adjustments for mergers and acquisitions. The Compensation Committee approved the following peer group, consisting of 23 financial institutions, for use in connection with its annual compensation review for 2015 pay decisions. It is comprised of the prior peer group with the addition of City Holding Company, Financial Institutions, Inc. Lakeland Bancorp, Inc. and NBT Bancorp, Inc.

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## Eagle Bancorp Peer Group

	Bank	Ticker	City	State	ROAE (%) 2015 (Y)	ROAA (%) 2015 (Y)	Net Interest Margin (%) 2015 (Y)	Efficiency Ratio (%) 2015 (Y)	NPAs/Assets (%) 2015 (Y)	Core EPS Growth (%) 2015 (Y)	Net Charge-offs/Avg Loans (%) 2015 (Y)	Market Cap% Change 2014 (Y) 2015 (Y)
1	Bancorp, Inc.	TBBK	Wilmington	DE	4.48	0.31	2.07	92.23	0.05	-84.1	0.11	-41.27%
2	BNC Bancorp	BNCN	High Point	NC	9.52	0.94	4.16	57.80	0.91	20.6	0.01	84.46%
3	Boston Private Financial Holdings, Inc.	BPFH	Boston	MA	9.50	0.98	2.92	68.46	.36	NA	-0.08	-15.36%
4	Brookline Bancorp, Inc.	BRKL	Boston	MA	7.90	0.90	3.54	56.82	.34	17.8	0.09	14.95%
5	Cardinal Financial Corporation	CFNL	McLean	VA	11.76	1.29	3.32	56.94	0.02	NA	-0.07	15.78%
6	Century Bancorp, Inc.	CNBA	Medford	MA	11.26	0.59	2.18	64.46	NA	4.7	-0.04	8.49%
7	City Holding Company	CHCO	Charleston	WV	13.03	1.52	3.76	54.04	NA	-10.7	0.26	-1.74%
8	Customers Bancorp, Inc.	CUBI	Wyomissing	PA	11.51	0.81	2.81	50.61	0.19	26.9	0.19	40.69%
9	Dime Community Bancshares, Inc.	DCOM	Brooklyn	NY	9.40	0.96	2.89	48.52	0.06	-4.6	-0.03	8.94%
10	Enterprise Financial Services Corp.	EFSC	Clayton	MO	11.47	1.14	3.86	55.07	0.48	40.7	0.06	44.99%
11	Financial Institutions, Inc.	FISI	Warsaw	NY	9.78	0.87	3.18	63.05	0.25	-1.2	0.40	11.91%
12	Flushing Financial Corporation	FFIC	Lake Success	NY	9.93	0.86	3.04	59.21	0.54	1.6	0.06	4.68%
13	Independent Bank Corp.	INDB	Rockland	MA	8.79	0.93	3.40	62.66	0.41	10.9	0.01	18.80%
14	Lakeland Bancorp, Inc.	LBAI	Oak Ridge	NJ	8.28	0.89	3.47	62.02	0.61	4.3	0.06	0.76%
15	Lakeland Financial Corporation	LKFN	Warsaw	IN	12.26	1.29	3.20	48.95	0.35	5.0	0.09	7.77%
16	NBT Bancorp, Inc.	NBTB	Norwich	NY	8.70	0.96	3.50	61.98	0.51	-0.3	0.38	4.99%
17	Northfield Bancorp, Inc.	NFBK	Woodbridge	NJ	3.41	0.63	2.83	63.65	0.28	9.4	0.09	1.26%
18	Oritani Financial Corp.	ORIT	Township of Washington	NJ	9.10	1.44	3.14	39.32	0.50	-3.0	0.03	0.88%
19	Sandy Spring Bancorp, Inc.	SASR	Olney	MD	8.73	1.01	3.44	61.05	0.80	2.2	0.07	0.28%
20	Sterling Bancorp	STL	Montebello	NY	4.86	0.69	3.71	54.28	0.68	8.3	0.13	74.72%
21	Tompkins Financial Corporation	TMP	Ithaca	NY	11.53	1.08	3.38	63.29	0.43	2.8	0.00	2.13%
22	Washington Trust Bancorp, Inc.	WASH	Westerly	RI	12.00	1.19	3.12	57.48	0.58	6.6	0.07	-0.04%
23	WSFS Financial Corporation	WSFS	Wilmington	DE	10.24	1.06	3.87	60.34	0.71	-4.5	0.29	33.22%
	25th Percentile				8.72	0.86	2.98	63.05	0.53	-1.23	0.11	0.82%
	50th Percentile				9.52	0.96	3.32	59.21	0.43	4.27	0.07	7.77%
	75th Percentile				11.49	1.11	3.52	54.68	0.34	9.36	0.02	17.29%
	90th Percentile				11.95	1.29	3.84	49.28	0.06	20.64	-0.04	44.13%
	<b>Eagle Bancorp, Inc.</b>	<b>EGBN</b>	<b>Bethesda</b>	<b>MD</b>	<b>11.40</b>	<b>1.49</b>	<b>4.33</b>	<b>42.81</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>57.78%</b>
	Eagle Bancorp, Inc. Percent Rank				71st	99th	Highest	98th	73rd	87th	20th	93rd
Source: Meyer-Chatfield Compensation Advisors.												





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## ***Other Compensation Policies***

- ***Compensation Recovery Policy ( Clawback )***

The Board of Directors has adopted a policy relating to the clawback of incentive compensation paid to executive officers in the event of certain restatements of our financial statements. Under that policy, the Board of Directors will, to the full extent required by applicable law, in all appropriate cases, require reimbursement of any bonus paid or incentive compensation awarded to the executive, and/or effect the cancellation of unvested equity awards previously granted to the executive if: (1) the amount of the bonus or incentive compensation was calculated based on the achievement of financial results that were subsequently the subject of a material restatement; (2) the executive engaged in intentional misconduct or (3) applicable law or listing standard so requires.

- ***Robust Stock Ownership Guidelines***

In direct response to our 2015 shareholder engagement the Company adopted a policy requiring that our executive officers and directors own, directly or indirectly, shares of our common stock having a value as follows:

CEO: 6 times base salary

Directors: 3 times annual retainer/base fee

Executive Officers: 2 times base salary

The persons subject to this requirement have five years after commencing service to satisfy this minimum holdings requirement; executive officers and directors in office as of the date of the policy was adopted have until December 31, 2020. We note that the CEO already is the largest non-institutional shareholder in the Company, with aggregate family holdings representing over 90 times his 2015 base salary as of December 31, 2015. Total insider ownership equates to approximately 10% of all outstanding stock.

- ***Anti-hedging/Anti-pledging Policies***

The Company has adopted a policy prohibiting our executive officers and directors from engaging in any hedging of the Company's common stock, including buying or selling puts or calls, short sales, or any other hedging transaction.

The Company's policy also limits the ability of directors and executive officers to pledge Company common stock which they own. The policy limits pledging to one-half of the number of shares owned by such person for purposes of the Company's ownership guidelines, and limits the value of such pledged shares to 25% of the director's or executive officer's net worth.

- **Executive Perquisites**

We do not provide any significant perquisites or other personal benefits to our executive officers; our executive officers participate in our health and welfare benefit programs on the same basis as all of our employees. In 2013, executive officers were provided a Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan as described on page 49.

- **No Tax Gross-Ups or Payments**

We do not provide any gross-ups or tax payments in connection with any cash or equity compensation element or any excise tax gross-up or tax reimbursement in connection with any change in control payments or benefits.

- **Timing and Pricing of Equity Awards**

Equity compensation awards for named executive officers and employees are generally approved in the first quarter of each year. Awards may be made periodically for new hires during the year. Awards are based on a number of criteria including the Company's performance, the relative rank of the employee within the Company and his or her specific contributions to the success of the Company.

The grant date is established when the Compensation Committee approves the grant. We set the exercise price for our stock as the average of the high and low stock price on the grant date.

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Our equity award process is independent of any consideration of the timing of the release of material nonpublic information, including with respect to the determination of grant dates or stock option exercise prices. Similarly, we expect that the release of material nonpublic information will not be timed with the purpose or intent to affect the value of executive compensation.

- **Prohibit Re-Pricing or Exchange**

Our equity based compensation plans do not permit re-pricing or exchange of underwater options without shareholder approval.

- **No Guaranteed Minimum Bonus**

Our SEIP does not guarantee any minimum bonus to executive officers.

## ***Risk Assessment of Incentive Compensation Programs***

In setting compensation, the Compensation Committee of the Company also considers the risks to the Company's shareholders and the achievement of our goals that may be inherent in our compensation programs. Although a significant portion of some employees' compensation is performance-based and at-risk, we believe our compensation program is appropriately structured and does not pose a material risk to the Company. The Compensation Committee of the Company receives feedback from the Chief Risk Officer identifying any risks associated with named executive officer compensation plans and other employee incentive compensation plans. The report below outlines our process and the steps taken to mitigate any risks that were uncovered in our discussions.

## **Executive Compensation Plan Risk Assessment**

Our Chief Risk Officer has reviewed all 2016 incentive programs, including the SEIP, and concluded that none of the plans considered individually or as a group, presented any material threat to our capital or earnings, encouraged taking undue or excessive risks, or encouraged manipulation of financial data in order to increase the size of an award. This feedback was provided to the Compensation Committee. The conclusions were based on the following:

- The SEIP is a formal performance-based plan in which the Compensation Committee is deeply involved. The Board of Directors of the Company establishes Company-wide goals early in the performance year through approval of the budget, and communicates these performance goals to the Compensation Committee for their review and approval. We use a balance of Company-wide goals, strategic goals and individual or departmental goals and customize the goals each year based on each executive's functional responsibility. The Compensation Committee is active in setting and approving the Company-wide goals each year. The Chief Executive Officer provides input on weighting of departmental or individual goals for executive officers. Once these are presented to the Compensation Committee, the Compensation Committee will discuss and approve, or revise the goals for the other named executives.

- When setting actual officer-specific goals, we consider not only our annual budget, but our strategic initiatives, peer performance and individual goals, which we believe mitigates risk and keeps executives focused on the long term success of the Company. The Compensation Committee reviews these performance evaluations each year, not only to determine final award payouts, but to discuss developmental opportunities for our named executives. In addition, for any payout to occur, we must have satisfactory regulatory ratings and reviews.
- We believe that target and target plus awards are reasonable and competitive based on market research that was provided by our compensation consultant. We also pay out on a pro-rata basis for actual performance results that fall in between threshold, target and target plus levels but not above the established caps. We believe this reduces the likelihood of an executive misstating numbers to reach the next award level or withholding information to count toward the next performance year.
- A clawback policy was adopted in early 2009 under the SEIP. This allows us to recover all or part of a cash or stock incentive award in certain cases of inaccurate financial statement

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information that resulted in a restatement of our financial statements, or on a fraudulent, willful or grossly negligent misrepresentation or where required by law. Accordingly, such activities would not be rewarded. We have updated the clawback policy to permit the Company to recover equity based compensation whenever required by applicable law, regulation, or exchange listing standard.

- The individual named executive officer employment agreements, which have previously been reviewed and approved by the Compensation Committee, provide for the payment to each named executive officer of base salaries, certain insurance benefits, car allowances, and eligibility for participation in our incentive plans, equity compensation plans and other compensation programs we may adopt, as well as certain benefits and payments upon termination or a change in control. None of the agreements provides for any specific mandatory variable or incentive pay, or any other conditional compensation. As such, the Compensation Committee believes that none of such agreements present any material threat to our capital or earnings, encourage taking undue or excessive risks, or encourage manipulation of financial data in order to increase the size of an award.

### **Non-Executive Compensation Plan Risk Assessment**

Our Chief Risk Officer reviewed 2016 incentive programs in which employees who are not executive officers participate, and provided analysis and conclusions to the Compensation Committee. It was concluded that none of these programs presented any material threat to our capital or earnings, encouraged taking undue or excessive risks, or encouraged manipulation of financial data in order to increase the size of an award. The following incentive compensation plans were reviewed:

- Under the Community Banking, C&I Lending and Commercial Real Estate Lending plan, certain employees are compensated with cash incentives calculated as a specific percentage of salary or of qualifying loans, deposits and other business they produce. A portion of the potential compensation under these plans is tied to individual and/or team performance and paid on an annual basis. There are also components, such as the collection of loan fees and the expansion of existing, or the establishing of new, customer deposit accounts, that are paid quarterly. We believe intrinsic features of these plans protect us against unnecessary risk taking, including: the plan modifier that reduces or eliminates incentive payouts when asset quality measures decline or fall below minimum acceptable levels.
- The SBA Lender Incentive plan rewards departmental personnel with a percentage of the net premium income received by the Bank for the sale of a loan. Intrinsic features of this plan address reducing incentive payments when asset quality measures decline or fall below minimum acceptable levels and when there are critical documentation exceptions, to protect us against unnecessary risk taking.
- Residential Mortgage Loan Officers are generally compensated based on loan production. There are separate agreements with each mortgage loan officer outlining his/her individual compensation package. There is also an incentive program for loan processors, loan closers, and underwriters in the Residential Lending department. Loan processors and loan closers are paid for each loan closed, with closers being required to reach an established minimum number for each month. Underwriters are paid for each loan dispositioned, regardless of the decision made, providing he or she reaches an established minimum number handled per month.

Clawback provisions are included in all incentive compensation plans. All of our incentive plans call for the employee to be in good standing with no adverse written performance documentation. Once an employee receives adverse written documentation for performance, the employee is ineligible to receive incentive payments for a minimum of 90 days.



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**Compensation Committee Report**

<p>We have reviewed and discussed the foregoing Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management. Based on our review and discussion with management we have recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Disclosure and Analysis be included in this proxy statement and incorporated by reference in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.</p>		
<p><b>Members of the Compensation Committee</b></p>		
<p>Leland M. Weinstein, Chairman</p>		
	Leslie M. Alperstein, Ph.D.	Harvey M. Goodman
	Dudley C. Dworken	Norman R. Pozez
<p>This report shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this proxy statement into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under such acts.</p>		

**Executive Compensation Tables**

<p>The following table sets forth a comprehensive overview of the compensation for Mr. Paul, the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of the Company; Mr. Langmead, the Chief Financial Officer of the Company; and the three most highly compensated executive officers of the Company (including officers of the Bank) who received total compensation of \$100,000 or more during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. The summary compensation table does not reflect rights to purchase shares of common stock at a discount to the market price granted to or exercised by named executive officers under the Company's 2011 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.</p>
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**Summary Compensation Table**

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Bonus (1)	Stock Awards (2)	Option Awards (2)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (3)	Change in Pension Value and Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Earnings	All Other Compensation (5)	Total
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							(4)		
<b>Ronald D. Paul,</b>	2015	\$863,565	\$ 750,000	\$1,754,981	\$--	\$ 1,775,075	\$--	\$63,112	\$5,206,733
Chairman, President and CEO of	2014	\$807,070	\$ 1,418,929	\$416,731	\$--	\$ 1,314,063	\$--	\$62,962	\$4,019,755
Company; CEO of Bank	2013	\$733,700	\$ 600,000	\$6,057,587(6)	\$--	\$ 800,141(7)	\$--	\$63,325	\$8,254,753
<b>James H. Langmead,</b>	2015	\$354,524	\$ --	\$489,216	\$--	\$ 353,426	\$281,729	\$35,683	\$1,514,578
EVP; CFO of Company and Bank	2014	\$334,457	\$ 225,951	\$138,141	\$--	\$ 141,525	\$258,898	\$35,828	\$1,134,800
	2013	\$318,530	\$ 40,000	\$115,090	\$--	\$ 164,634	\$231,770	\$36,191	\$906,215
<b>Antonio F. Marquez,</b>	2015	\$320,049	\$ --	\$404,996	\$--	\$ 400,061	\$37,648	\$37,858	\$1,200,612
EVP; CLO-CRE of Bank	2014	\$290,954	\$ 35,000	\$112,337	\$--	\$ 448,679	\$34,596	\$37,708	\$959,274
	2013	\$271,920	\$ 150,000	\$99,592	\$--	\$ 134,872	\$31,050	\$38,130	\$725,564
<b>Susan G. Riel,</b>	2015	\$456,006	\$ --	\$627,991	\$--	\$ 420,189	\$450,946	\$34,319	\$1,989,451
EVP of Company; SEVP-COO of	2014	\$430,194	\$ 267,213	\$177,713	\$--	\$ 289,660	\$414,451	\$34,464	\$1,613,695
Bank	2013	\$402,050	\$ 150,000	\$147,245	\$--	\$ 281,412	\$396,951	\$34,827	\$1,412,485
<b>Janice L. Williams,</b>	2015	\$340,659	\$ --	\$385,021	\$--	\$ 425,824	\$73,395	\$27,544	\$1,252,443
EVP CCO of Bank	2014	\$321,376	\$ 165,000	\$132,735	\$--	\$ 181,592	\$67,446	\$27,394	\$895,543
	2013	\$306,072	\$ 75,000	\$109,870	\$--	\$ 196,492	\$59,970	\$27,640	\$775,044

(1) Amount shown for 2015 includes \$750,000 paid in recognition of the extraordinary service provided in connection with the \$100 million capital raise. See Mid-Year Bonus under the CD&A. Amount shown for 2014 includes \$1.3 million paid in recognition of the extraordinary services provided by Mr. Paul in connection with the VHB merger and



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	amounts based on 2014 performance which are paid in the following year. Amounts shown for 2013 are based on 2013 performance and are paid in the following year.																																																																						
(2)	Represents the grant date fair value of awards of restricted stock and PRSUs granted in the subsequent year for performance during year indicated, except for Mr. Paul's 2013 award. Please refer to footnote 6 for information regarding Mr. Paul's 2013 award. Please refer to note 17 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2015 for a discussion of the assumptions used in calculating the grant date fair value.																																																																						
(3)	Reflects amounts awarded under the Company's Senior Executive Incentive Plan. Amounts shown are based on performance in the year indicated and are paid in the following year.																																																																						
(4)	Represents the value of the increase in the named executive officer's accumulated benefit under the SERP adopted in 2013, assuming normal retirement at age 67 and a discount rate of 4.5%. Amounts reflected in this column are not currently payable to the named executive officers and are not considered for purposes of determining the identities of the named executive officers. Please refer to the discussion under the caption "SERP" below, and to the Pension Benefits table below for additional information about the SERP.																																																																						
(5)	Other compensation consisted of the following items:																																																																						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Car Allowance</th> <th>Insurance Premiums</th> <th>401(k) Matching Contributions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Ronald D. Paul</td> <td>2015</td> <td>\$18,000</td> <td>\$37,162</td> <td>\$7,950</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>\$18,000</td> <td>\$37,162</td> <td>\$7,800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>\$18,000</td> <td>\$37,675</td> <td>\$7,650</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">James H. Langmead</td> <td>2015</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$18,733</td> <td>\$7,950</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$19,028</td> <td>\$7,800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$19,541</td> <td>\$7,650</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Antonio F. Marquez</td> <td>2015</td> <td>\$13,000</td> <td>\$16,908</td> <td>\$7,950</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>\$13,000</td> <td>\$16,908</td> <td>\$7,800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>\$13,000</td> <td>\$17,480</td> <td>\$7,650</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Susan G. Riel</td> <td>2015</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$17,369</td> <td>\$7,950</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$17,664</td> <td>\$7,800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$18,177</td> <td>\$7,650</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Janice L. Williams</td> <td>2015</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$10,594</td> <td>\$7,950</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$10,594</td> <td>\$7,800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>\$9,000</td> <td>\$10,990</td> <td>\$7,650</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Year	Car Allowance	Insurance Premiums	401(k) Matching Contributions	Ronald D. Paul	2015	\$18,000	\$37,162	\$7,950	2014	\$18,000	\$37,162	\$7,800	2013	\$18,000	\$37,675	\$7,650	James H. Langmead	2015	\$9,000	\$18,733	\$7,950	2014	\$9,000	\$19,028	\$7,800	2013	\$9,000	\$19,541	\$7,650	Antonio F. Marquez	2015	\$13,000	\$16,908	\$7,950	2014	\$13,000	\$16,908	\$7,800	2013	\$13,000	\$17,480	\$7,650	Susan G. Riel	2015	\$9,000	\$17,369	\$7,950	2014	\$9,000	\$17,664	\$7,800	2013	\$9,000	\$18,177	\$7,650	Janice L. Williams	2015	\$9,000	\$10,594	\$7,950	2014	\$9,000	\$10,594	\$7,800	2013	\$9,000	\$10,990	\$7,650
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(6)	Represents the grant date fair value of awards of restricted stock, 11,913 of which were granted in 2014 for performance during 2013, and 275,000 of which were issued during 2013 in lieu of participation in the SERP program for executive officers adopted in 2013.																																																																						
(7)	In lieu of a cash award, the amount shown was paid in the form of a grant of 35,640 shares of restricted stock at \$20.632 per share under the 2006 Stock Plan.																																																																						
<p>During 2015, the Company did not maintain any nonqualified deferred compensation programs or arrangements. Prior to 2013, the Company did not maintain any defined benefit retirement plans. In February 2013, the Bank adopted SERP for senior executives, including all of the named executive officers other than Mr. Paul. Under the SERP, upon an executive's retirement, the Bank will pay a stated monthly payment for the executive's lifetime. The retirement benefit is tied to a percentage of the executive's projected average base salary over the five years preceding retirement, assuming retirement at age 67. The SERP provides that (a) the benefits vest ratably over six years of service to the Bank, with the executive receiving credit for years of service prior to entering into the SERP, (b) death, disability and change-in-control will be deemed to be retirement resulting in immediate vesting, and (c) the monthly amount will be reduced if retirement occurs earlier than age 67 for any reason</p>																																																																							

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other than death, disability or change-in-control. The SERP further provides for a death benefit in the event the executive has not received at least 180 monthly installments of supplemental retirement benefits; the death benefit will be based upon an election by the executive for either a lump sum payment or continued monthly installment payments, such that the executive and the executive's beneficiary have received payment(s) sufficient to equate to a cumulative 180 monthly installments. The benefits to the named executive officers are as set forth in the following table:

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Percentage Projected of Salary</u>
James H. Langmead	EVP and CFO Company and Bank	30%
Antonio F. Marquez	EVP and CLO Commercial Real Estate Bank	25%
Susan G. Riel	EVP Company; SEVP and COO Bank	35%
Janice L. Williams	EVP and CCO Bank	30%

The SERP Agreements are unfunded arrangements maintained primarily to provide supplemental retirement benefits and comply with Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). The Bank has elected to finance the retirement benefits by purchasing annuities that have been designed to provide a future source of funds for the lifetime retirement benefits of the SERP Agreements. The primary impetus for utilizing annuities is a substantial savings in compensation expense for the Bank as opposed to a traditional SERP. For additional information regarding the SERP, please refer to the table under the caption Pension Plan.

**Employment and Non-Compete Agreements**

The Company and Mr. Paul are parties to an amended and restated employment agreement, effective January 1, 2014, governing his service and compensation as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. The current term of Mr. Paul's employment agreement expires on December 31, 2018. On each December 31, the term of the agreement automatically extends for one additional year, unless Mr. Paul has given notice of his intention not to renew the term. Under his agreement, Mr. Paul is entitled to receive a current annual base salary for 2016 of \$863,565, subject to periodic increase. No increase in base salary was made for 2016. Separately, Mr. Paul received a 3% cost of living adjustment payment. Mr. Paul may receive grants of options or restricted stock, and may also receive a bonus, in the discretion of the Board of Directors. Mr. Paul is also entitled to receive a monthly automobile allowance of \$1,500 and \$1,000,000 of Bank paid life insurance (at standard rates). Mr. Paul is entitled to participate in all other benefit programs generally available to employees or directors of the Bank or the Company. The compensation under Mr. Paul's employment agreement is in lieu of all other cash fees for service on the Boards of Directors or any committees of the Company and the Bank. In the event of termination of Mr. Paul's employment for any reason other than for cause (as defined), Mr. Paul (or his estate), is entitled to receive an amount in cash equal to 1.99 times his then current base salary and most recent annual cash and equity bonuses, subject to certain limitations in the event that his termination occurs in connection with a change in control (as defined) of the Company or the Bank. In addition, subject to the effect of such provisions, all of Mr. Paul's options and restricted stock will immediately vest upon any termination.

Each of the four other named executive officers has an amended and restated employment agreement with the Bank. Each of the agreements expires August 31, 2017. The other named executive officers have 2016 base salaries as follows: Mr. Langmead \$425,429; Mr. Marquez \$368,056; Ms. Riel \$478,806; Ms. Williams - \$391,758. Each of these officers is also entitled to participation in all other health, welfare, benefit, stock, option and bonus plans, if any, generally available to all executive officers and employees of the Bank or the Company. Under each agreement if the officer's employment is terminated without cause for reasons other than death, disability or in connection with a change of control (as defined), he/she would be entitled to receive continued payment of health insurance premiums under COBRA for one year, subject to his/her compliance with the non-compete and non-disturbance provisions of the agreement. In the event of termination of the other named executive officer's respective employment without cause within 120 days before a change in control, or within 12 months after a change in control; the reduction in his/her compensation or position or responsibilities, or the voluntary termination of employment within the 30 day period following 12 months after a change in control, Mr. Langmead, Ms. Riel, and Ms. Williams would be entitled to receive a lump sum payment equal to 1.99 times the sum of (i) his/her base salary at the highest rate in effect during the 12 months preceding termination, (ii) cash bonuses paid to the officer in the most recent 12 months, as well as three years continuation of life, health, long term care and other non-health insurances and benefits, in the case of Mr. Langmead, Ms. Riel and Ms. Williams, and Mr. Marquez would be entitled to receive a lump sum payment equal to 0.99 times the sum of (i) his base salary at the highest rate in effect during the 12 months preceding termination (ii) cash bonuses (incentive plan and discretionary) paid in the most recent 12 months as well as three years continuation of life, health, long term care and other non-health insurances and benefits, increasing to 1.99 times his base salary after his fifth anniversary with the Bank, in each case subject to adjustment to avoid adverse tax consequences resulting from characterization of such payment for tax purposes as an excess parachute payment.



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Each of Mr. Paul and the other named executive officers is also a party to a non-compete agreement with the Bank. The non-compete agreements provide that in the event of termination of the officer's employment by the Bank without cause as defined in such officer's amended and restated employment agreement, including without limitation, in the event of a change in control as defined in the officer's amended and restated employment agreement, or such officer's resignation following a change in control as provided in the officer's amended and restated employment agreement (collectively, Separation), and subject to the officer timely signing and delivering to the Bank (a) a General Release and Waiver and (b) a monthly certification regarding compliance with the confidentiality and non-competition provisions of the non-compete agreement and reporting other compensation, the Bank shall, for one (1) year following the date on which the release is executed and delivered to the Bank, continue to pay the officer, monthly in arrears, salary at the rate being paid as of the termination date, together with an additional amount equal to one-twelfth of the most recent annual cash bonus (incentive plan and discretionary), if any, for each month of the period during which the officer is in full compliance with the provisions of the agreement.

The non-compete agreements require that for one year after separation, the officer will not, without express written consent of the Bank (except for services performed for or on behalf of the Bank and its affiliates), directly or indirectly, in any capacity (whether as a proprietor, owner, agent, officer, director, shareholder, organizer, partner, principal, manager, member, employee, contractor, consultant or otherwise) engage in employment or provide services to any person or entity in return for remuneration or a right to remuneration of any kind, including but not limited to current or deferred compensation, wages, salary, fees, benefits, tangible or intangible property or ownership rights or interests or other property rights, whether paid or conveyed to the officer or promised in the future by any person, business or other entity as a result of, or in exchange for, any work or services performed, or any intellectual property conveyed by such officer.

The table below sets forth the base salary as of December 31, 2015, and the amount of Bank paid life insurance (at standard rates) to which the named executive officers are entitled. The amount to which each of the named executive officers would be entitled to if he/she were terminated, other than for cause or in connection with a change in control, as of December 31, 2015 is set forth in the fourth column of the table below. Such amounts include full payment of amounts due under the non-compete agreements.

The estimated amount of the cash payment which each of the named executive officers would be entitled to receive if the change in control termination benefits were paid as of December 31, 2015, including the full amount payable under the non-compete agreements (without adjustment for other amounts which might be payable as a result of the change in control) is set forth in column 5 of the table below, the value of the accelerated equity awards is set forth in column 6 of the table below, the value of the accelerated vesting of benefits under the SERP is in column 7 and the sum of these three amounts is set forth in column 8.

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Name	Base Salary	Bank Paid Life Insurance (at standard rates)(1)	Payment Following Termination Without Cause(2)	Cash Payment Upon Termination in Connection with a Change in Control(2)	Value of Equity Awards Accelerated Upon a Change in Control(3)	Value of SERP Vesting Acceleration	Sum of Amounts Payable Upon a Change in Control (Sum of Columns 5, 6, and 7)(4)
Ronald D. Paul	\$863,565	\$1,000,000	\$2,226,406	\$15,830,528	\$13,436,277	\$0	\$29,266,805
James H. Langmead	\$354,524	\$750,000	\$577,112	\$2,172,970	\$657,574	\$614,479	\$3,445,023
Antonio F. Marquez	\$320,049	\$750,000	\$322,799	\$1,518,017	\$404,265	\$640,615	\$2,562,897
Susan G. Riel	\$456,006	\$750,000	\$899,323	\$2,671,930	\$905,987	\$856,374	\$4,434,291
Janice L. Williams	\$340,659	\$750,000	\$488,181	\$2,336,161	\$508,435	\$939,859	\$3,784,455

(1) The cost of this benefit is reflected under All Other Compensation in the Summary Compensation Table, and the amount paid in respect of each officer is reflected in the footnotes to that table.

(2) Includes amounts payable under non-compete agreements.

(3) Reflects the excess of the last trade price for the Company's common stock on December 31, 2015 over the exercise or strike price of unvested options, plus the last trade price of unvested shares of restricted stock (assuming vesting of the maximum number of shares subject to the award). Out of the money options have been excluded from the calculation.

(4) Reflects estimated maximum cash payment upon termination in connection with a change in control plus the accelerated value of equity awards. Does not reflect adjustment, if any, of total amount for effect of Section 280G limitation.

Table of Contents**Grants of Plan-Based Awards**

The following table presents information regarding awards made during 2015 to named executive officers under the Company's 2006 Stock Plan and SEIP. The payouts under Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards reflected in the table represent the amount of formula payment which the named executive officer could have earned with respect to 2015 performance under the SEIP if each of the performance targets established by the Compensation Committee were achieved. The amounts reflected under All Other Stock Awards and Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards reflect the shares of restricted stock issued in 2015 under the 2006 Stock Plan.

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards at Target	All Other Stock Awards Number of Shares of Stock or Units	All Other Option Awards Number of Securities Underlying Options	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards
Ronald D. Paul	02/10/15		11,563	--	N/A	\$416,731
	4/22/15; as revised 12/16/15	\$1,295,348				
James H. Langmead	02/10/15		3,833	--	N/A	\$138,141
	4/22/15; as revised 12/16/15	\$301,345				
Antonio F. Marquez	02/10/15		3,117	--	N/A	\$112,337
	4/22/15; as revised 12/16/15	\$272,042				
Susan G. Riel	02/10/15		4,931	--	N/A	\$177,713
	4/22/15; as revised 12/16/15	\$387,605				
Janice L. Williams	02/10/15		3,683	--	N/A	\$132,735
	4/22/15; as revised 12/16/15	\$289,558				

Under the 2006 Stock Plan, the Company can make awards of stock options, stock appreciation rights (SARs), and restricted stock to employees of the Company and to Bank, including all of the named executive officers. The payouts under Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards reflected in the table represent the amount of formula payment which the named executive officer could have earned with respect to 2015 performance under the SEIP if each of the performance targets established by the Compensation Committee were achieved. The aggregate amount which could be earned by the named executive officers, at the target level, represented from 87% to 203% of salary in 2015.

These levels are higher than the levels in 2014 because the 2014 SEIP included the discretionary performance factor. The performance factor was dropped from the 2015 SEIP in response to shareholder feedback, necessitating the increase in the formula, to enable the SEIP to provide appropriate levels of compensation.

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A portion of the aggregate amount is subject to the achievement of designated Company or individual performance targets. No amounts are payable if the Company does not achieve at least 85% of the net income goal. If at least the threshold performance metric is met, proportional payouts are made if performance is between payout levels. The targets were established with the expectation that the goals were stretch goals, representing performance standards in excess of expected results. The attainment of target-plus levels poses highly challenging goals to performance achievement and represents a



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substantial percentage return on incentive costs. The amounts paid in 2016 pursuant to the SEIP for 2015 performance, represented from 92% to 206% of base salary for the named executive officers. The actual amounts earned with respect to 2015 performance, which reflect payments for achievement of results in certain categories in excess of target levels, are reflected in the Summary Compensation Table for 2015 in the column labeled Nonequity Incentive Plan Compensation.

The foregoing table does not reflect rights to purchase shares of common stock at a discount to the market price granted to or exercised by named executive officers during 2015 under the Company's 2011 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, which is generally available to substantially all employees.

## ***Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End***

The following table sets forth, on an award by award basis, information concerning all awards of stock options, restricted stock held by named executive officers at December 31, 2015. All options were granted with an exercise price of 100% of market value as determined in accordance with the applicable plan. The number of shares subject to each award and the exercise price have been adjusted to reflect all stock dividends and stock splits effected after the date of such award, but have not otherwise been modified.

Option Awards

Stock Awards

Name	Number of Securities Underlying		Option Exercise Price	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock that	
	Options Unexercised Exercisable	Options Unexercised Unexercisable			Have Not Vested	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock that have Not Vested(1)
Ronald D. Paul	36,300(2)	--	\$15.47	10/18/2016		
	23,580(3)	6,670 (3)	\$10.79	1/16/2018		
	--	56,910(4)	\$5.76	1/08/2019		
					24,112(5)	\$1,216,933
				166,951(6)	\$8,426,017	
				7,942(7)	\$400,833	
				11,563(13)	\$583,585	
James H. Langmead	6,050(8)	--	\$10.79	1/16/2018		
	22,220(9)	--	\$5.76	1/08/2019		
					3,366(10)	\$169,882
					3,448(11)	\$174,021
				2,382(12)	\$120,220	
				3,833(13)	\$193,452	
Antonio F. Marquez					440(10)	\$22,207
					2,392(11)	\$120,724
					2,061(12)	\$104,019

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					3,117(13)	\$157,315
Susan G. Riel	6,050(8)	--	\$10.79	1/16/2018		
	35,200(9)	--	\$5.76	1/08/2019		
					4,884(10)	\$246,495
					5,089(11)	\$256,842
					3,047(12)	\$153,782
					4,931(13)	\$248,868
Janice L. Williams	29,260(9)	--	\$5.76	1/08/2019		
					2,090(10)	\$105,482
					2,027(11)	\$102,303
					2,274(12)	\$114,769
					3,683(13)	\$185,881

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(1)	Based on the \$50.47 closing price of the common stock on December 31, 2015.						
(2)	Represents grant of stock options pursuant to Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Vests in installments, commencing with an installment of 1,027 shares on January 1, 2007, five annual installments of 6,465 shares on January 1, 2008 through 2012 and a final installment of 2,947 shares on January 1, 2013.						
(3)	Represents grants of stock options pursuant to Company's 2006 Stock Plan in Mr. Paul's capacity as an officer. Vests in installments, commencing with an installment of 5,043 shares on January 16, 2013, two annual installments of 9,269 and 9,268 shares on January 16, 2014 and 2015, and a final installment of 6,670 shares on January 16, 2016.						
(4)	Represents grants of stock options pursuant to Company's 2006 Stock Plan in Mr. Paul's capacity as an officer. Vests in installments, commencing with an installment of 4,863 shares on January 1, 2016 and three annual installments of 17,349 shares on January 1, 2017 through 2019.						
(5)	Represents grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Award vests in five equal annual installments commencing on the date of grant.						
(6)	Represents grant of restricted stock in lieu of participation in SERP. Award vests in four equal installments commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.						
(7)	Represents grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Award vests in three equal annual installments commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.						
(8)	Represents grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Award vests in three annual installments commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.						
(9)	Represents grants of stock options pursuant to the Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Vests in five substantially equal annual installments, commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.						
(10)	Represents grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Award vests in five equal annual installments commencing on the date of grant.						
(11)	Represents grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Award vests in four equal annual installments commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.						
(12)	Represents grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Award vests in three equal annual installments commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.						
(13)	Represents grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Company's 2006 Stock Plan. Award vests in three equal annual installments commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant.						

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## ***Options Exercised and Stock Vested***

The following table sets forth information regarding options exercised by the named executive officers d