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GTE FINANCIAL PROMOTES NEW AVP OF INVESTMENTS AND AVP OF INSURANCE AGENCY

TAMPA, FL, December 2022: Locally owned and operated credit union, GTE Financial, continues to build a knowledgeable and passionate team. The organization is pleased to announce the promotions of Michael Simon to AVP of Investments and August Hopf to AVP of Insurance Agency.

Michael Simon, formerly GTE's Investment Program Manager, will now lead the charge to grow the program while meeting members' financial needs. He will focus on holistic, integrated financial planning and provide members with wealth and risk management solutions. Simon's team has been recognized by their broker-dealer for being the #1 growth program in 2022, out of hundreds of other investment programs. Simon has a Bachelor's in Economics from Florida State University and over 30 years in the financial services field.

August Hopf joined GTE Financial as the Insurance Agency Manager and Principal in 2020, with over 20 years of experience in the insurance and financial services industry. August's new role as AVP of the Insurance Agency will focus on growing the agency through strategic internal and external marketing strategies and acquisitions. He will also restructure and streamline the agency's tools, processes, and procedures to improve the efficiency and quality of sales and services. Additionally, acquiring and retaining top talent will be a big priority.

"Both Michael and August have gone above and beyond in their respective fields and shown excellence in developing the dynamic insurance and investment teams," comments Jeffery Williams, VP of CUSOs, Wealth, and Private Bank at GTE Financial. "Their extensive experience and work ethic make them the perfect candidates, and we are excited to enter the new year with them as leaders in their industry."

GTE believes strong leadership teams better serve its employees and membership. The credit union strives to promote from within, creating more advancement opportunities for employees at all different levels in the financial institution.

If you are interested in starting a career at GTE Financial, check out gtefinancial.org/careers.

About GTE Financial

GTE Financial is a not-for-profit financial cooperative with more than \$2 billion in assets and 23 Community Financial Centers located throughout West Central Florida. Chartered in 1935, GTE Financial is locally owned and operated in the Tampa Bay area, serving more than 230,000 individuals and businesses. More information on GTE Financial can be found at gtefinancial.org.

For more information, interviews, or media requests, please call (813) 644-7443 or email Savannah Cruz at pr@bkncreative.com.