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GTE FINANCIAL PROMOTES TWO LONG-TIME EMPLOYEES

TAMPA, FL, April 2023: Locally owned and operated credit union, GTE Financial continues to build skilled and passionate teams. The financial institution is proud to announce the promotions of Ashley Stimatz to Vice President and Chief of Staff to the President and Chief Executive Officer and Chris Murrin to Assistant Vice President of Community Financial Center Operations.

Stimatz has been with GTE for 17 years, beginning as a teller and working in several positions throughout her career. In 2011, she became part of the management team for the credit union's Community Financial Centers and managed multiple locations. In November 2015, Stimatz was promoted to Assistant Vice President of Community Engagement. She has helped lead the GTE Cares grant and sponsorship programs, financial education, and business development teams. In her new role, she will continue to work closely with the Chief Executive Officer and lead organizational-wide projects, special events, as well as research for the cooperative.

Murrin has also held various positions in multiple departments at GTE over the past 29 years. He was previously the Senior Manager of Member Sales Experience, helping the credit union provide the best experience for its members, and solid relationships with the community. Additionally, he has volunteered with Feeding Tampa Bay for several years and is GTE's charity champion for this nonprofit organization. In 2022, Murrin helped raise over \$13,000 for Feeding Tampa Bay. In his new position, Murrin will direct, supervise, and coordinate the activities of personnel involved in branch operations within the credit union.

"Ashley and Chris have both played an essential role in elevating the cooperative's standards and operations," said Brian Best, President, and Chief Executive Officer of GTE Financial. "They are exceptional leaders who have done so much for the credit union and the communities we serve."

GTE believes strong leadership teams better serve its employees and member base. The credit union strives to promote from within, creating more advancement opportunities for employees at 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 located throughout West Central Florida with \$2.9 billion in assets and 23 Community Financial Centers. Chartered in 1935, GTE Financial is locally owned and operated in the Tampa Bay area, serving more than 230,000 individuals and businesses. For more information on GTE Financial, visit www.gtefinancial.org.

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

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