



CONNECTICUT BANKERS ASSOCIATION



Diane Arnold is the President and CEO of Essex Savings Bank. She is the 18th president of the 172-year-old Bank, and the first female to hold this position. Diane has spent most of her career in commercial lending, and prior to her current role, she served as Senior Vice President, Chief Lending Officer, who over 19 years had been an integral part of Essex Savings Bank's success in growing the commercial loan portfolio from a start-up operation to over \$130 million, while maintaining excellent credit quality. Diane's outstanding customer service skills resulted in a very loyal customer

base, including numerous referrals from her existing accounts, as well as from professionals such as accountants and attorneys.

Diane's strong leadership skills have been recognized by her promotions during her 21-year tenure at the Bank. She began as a commercial lender and went on to manage the commercial loan officers as well as the loan administration department, was promoted to SVP/CLO in July 2019 and then to President/CEO in 2021. Diane is an effective problem solver, with excellent listening skills and the ability to act as a liaison between parties to achieve desired results. She has spent her career in community banking and enjoys the diversity of knowledge that is required in a smaller institution.

Diane began her career as a management trainee in a community bank in Branford, CT, which exposed her to each department within the institution. Upon completion, her first role was as a junior commercial lender, and she also became the supervisor for the loan administration staff. She recognized the need for more formal credit training to further her lending knowledge and went to work as a credit analyst for Southington Savings Bank where she rose to the position of Vice President, before returning to the field of commercial lending, this time with Essex Savings Bank.

Diane is a graduate of Quinnipiac College where she graduated as Valedictorian of her class. She also graduated from the CT School of Finance and Management and is a 2017 recipient of the Woman of FIRE award. Diane currently serves as Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. and is a member of the Executive Board of the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce.