

The logo for El Paseo Bank features the words "EL PASEO BANK" in a serif font, centered between two horizontal gold bars with a stepped, architectural design.

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EL Paseo Bank Welcomes Banking Industry Veteran as Chief Credit Officer

(Palm Desert—March 19, 2009) Western Community Bancshares, parent company of El Paseo Bank and Frontier Bank is pleased to announce that long time Coachella Valley Banker; Jack Brittain Jr. has joined El Paseo Bank and Park City, Utah-based Frontier Bank as Executive Vice President and Chief Credit Officer. Brittain succeeds, Chris Wold who retires on April 10.

“Jack comes to the bank with more than 30 years of banking and lending experience. Most notably he served as Chief Credit Officer of Valley Independent Bank from 1988 until its sale to Rabo Bank in 2005. During that period, Valley Independent Bank grew from \$42 million in assets to nearly \$3 billion. Jack’s experience and perspective will help guide this bank through its next stage of evolution,” observed, Andy Montgomery, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of Western Community Bancshares.

Brittain who has lived in the Desert since 1991 feels his longtime banking experience in the Coachella Valley makes for a perfect fit at El Paseo Bank. “As the Bank grows, I can look at more sophisticated credit opportunities. With my contacts here and in other parts of Desert, I can bring an additional customer base to the Bank.” Banking is all about integrity and reputation and Brittain has an impeccable one.

El Paseo’s reputation in the community as an honest, healthy and growing organization is what attracted Brittain. “I see the same vision, local community spirit and providing impetus to the local economy in El Paseo Bank as I did with Valley Independent. Also, El Paseo’s old-fashioned and long-standing commitment to its customers and customer service was a major draw for me,” Brittain explains.

Brittain is married with two children and resides in Rancho Mirage.

With three branches in Palm Desert, one in Park City and one in Salt Lake City, Utah, El Paseo Bank continues to be a “Well Capitalized” bank. Utah branches operate under the name Frontier Bank, FSB.

