

JEFF SNYDER OF FORRESTON STATE BANK NAMED BANKER OF THE YEAR BY IBA

Jeffrey D. Snyder, President and CEO of Forreton State Bank, with branches in Forreton, Freeport, and Kent, was recently honored as the 2018 Banker of the Year by the Illinois Bankers Association (IBA). The award ceremony was held on June 21 during the IBA's Annual Conference at the Hilton Chicago.

This is the 16th year for the Banker of the Year award, which is the highest honor the IBA can bestow on one of its members. It is presented annually to an individual whose dedication to excellence has profoundly enhanced the banking industry.

Snyder's banking career spans 40 years. Since becoming President of Forreton State Bank in 1996, Snyder has been involved in local civic organizations such as the Lions Club and Kiwanis Club, and has served as Chairman of the Forreton Hometown Days Committee. He is an advocate for serving the community and local schools - both financially and with his time.

Jeff Snyder models the value of service to community to his employees, who are also involved in many civic organizations and non-profit boards. They volunteer often in their local communities –on their own time or using paid time off that the Bank allows employees to use for volunteering. In 2013, under his leadership, the Bank was awarded the IBA's Community Service Award.

Forreton State Bank has generously supported many organizations over the years, including two recent pledges totaling \$21,000 to Highland Community College in support of scholarships and the HCC Agriculture program.

Snyder reacted with surprise, humility and gratitude when he accepted the award on June 21. He noted that he was grateful, not only for winning the award, but also grateful for having a career that allows him to help other leaders grow.

Snyder's leadership has helped build an organization with a culture that broadens opportunities for leaders to develop in new ways—creating an innovative and engaged team. In the Journal Standard's "2018 Best of the Region" awards, Forreton State Bank placed in the categories Best Workplace Culture, Best Training Programs, Best Leadership, and Best Benefits Program.