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COMMUNITY WEST BANK OPENS FIRST FULL-SERVICE BANKING CENTER IN BAKERSFIELD

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA – February 24, 2025 – James J. Kim, President and CEO of Community West Bank (Bank), proudly announced the grand opening of its first full-service Banking Center in Bakersfield, completing its expansion into the Kern County region as the Bank enters its 45th year of business.

The Bakersfield Banking Center is led by a team of highly-regarded local professionals: Janet Hepp, Senior Vice President, Market Manager, Kevin Trihey, Senior Vice President, Relationship Manager and Richard Rojas, Vice President, Banking Center Manager. Each brings extensive regional knowledge and banking expertise to the Bakersfield business community. The Bank entered the Bakersfield community in the fall of 2023, operating from temporary offices. The team works under the guidance of Ken Ramos, Executive Vice President and Regional Executive.

“Community West Bank remains dedicated to providing innovative financial solutions and a steadfast commitment to community involvement as it celebrates 45 years of banking excellence,” stated Kim. “We are proud to be a part of Bakersfield and to serve local businesses, individuals and the community.”

The newly constructed, state-of-the-art Bakersfield Banking Center held its grand opening in mid-January. Clients and guests toured the new contemporary facility, showcasing the Bank’s innovative relationship-focused model. The Banking Center offers private meeting spaces with advanced technology available for clients and community groups to host meetings.

Relationship Team Committed to Kern County

Janet Hepp is a seasoned financial leader with over 35 years of experience in Kern County. She led the Bank’s local team while the new Banking Center was under construction. Known for her problem-solving skills and passion for community banking, Janet specializes in delivering tailored business solutions that drive success for clients and the broader community. She can be reached directly at 661-469-3560. Her Commercial Team is comprised of Kevin Trihey, Relationship Manager and Aracely Estrada, Loan Support Specialist.

Richard Rojas brings extensive expertise in financial services and local relationship management. He is dedicated to building strong relationships with Bakersfield businesses and their families, offering personalized banking solutions to meet the diverse needs of clients in the region. Richard can be reached directly at 661-469-3570. His Banking Team consists of Jeannette Cobian, Assistant Vice President, Banking Center Officer and Starlyn Reyes Escobedo, Banking Center Specialist.

“We are excited to have a well-respected and experienced local team representing our banking expansion into the Bakersfield Market,” said Ken Ramos. “Their market knowledge, expertise and relationship based style of service to clients and the community exemplify what makes them ideal ambassadors of our relationship brand of banking.”

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About Community West Bank and Bancshares

Community West Bancshares ("Company") (NASDAQ: CWBC) and its wholly owned subsidiary, Community West Bank ("Bank"), are headquartered in Fresno, California. The Company was established in 1979 with the vision to help businesses and communities by exceeding expectations at every opportunity, and opened its first Banking Center in January 1980. Today, the Bank operates full-service Banking Centers throughout Central California and maintains a variety of departments supporting Commercial Lending, Agribusiness, SBA, Residential Construction and Mortgage, Manufactured Housing, Private Banking and Cash Management.

Members of the Company and Bank Board of Directors are: Daniel J. Doyle (Chairman), Robert H. Bartlein (Vice Chairman), James J. Kim (CEO of the Company and President and CEO of the Bank), Martin E. Plourd (President of the Company and Director), Suzanne M. Chadwick, Daniel N. Cunningham, Tom L. Dobyms, F.T. "Tommy" Elliott IV, Robert J. Flautt, James W. Lokey, Andriana D. Majarian, Steven D. McDonald, Dorothea D. Silva, William S. Smittcamp and Kirk B. Stovesand. Louis C. McMurray is Director Emeritus.

More information about Community West Bancshares and Community West Bank can be found at www.communitywestbank.com. Also, follow the Company on LinkedIn, X and Facebook.

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Community West Bank - Bakersfield Banking Center

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