

To: All Media

From: Independence Bank **Date**: September 9, 2015

For: immediate release

Local Bank Recognized As One of the Best Banks to Work For in the Nation

Independence Bank has been named one of the *Best Banks to Work For* in 2015 coming in 14th out 50 and the highest ranked Bank in Kentucky. The full list is featured in the September issue of *American Banker Magazine* and may be available online at www.AmericanBanker.com This is the second year Independence Bank has been recognized as a Best Bank to Work for by American Banker Magazine. In 2014, it finished 18th on the list.

The program, which was initiated in 2013 to identify, recognize and honor the best banks to work for in the nation, is a project of *American Banker* and Best Companies Group. In all, 50 banks achieved "Best Bank" status in this third year for the program.

To be considered for participation, banks had to fulfill the following eligibility requirements:

- Have at least 50 employees working in the US;
- Be a Commercial Bank, Thrift, Mutual Association, Mutual Savings Bank, Savings and Loan Association or a Savings Bank.

Determining the *Best Banks to Work For* involved a two-step process. The first step consisted of evaluating each participating bank's workplace policies, practices, and demographics. This part of the process was worth approximately 25% of the total evaluation. The second part consisted of employee surveys aimed at assessing the experiences and attitudes of individual employees with respect to their workplace. This part of the process was worth approximately 75% of the total evaluation. The combined scores determined the top banks and the final ranking. Best Companies Group managed the overall registration and survey process and also analyzed the data and used their expertise to determine the final ranking.

Vice President, Human Resources Officer, Tawna Wright stated that "It is very rewarding to be recognized as a Best Bank nationally. Our employees are the third largest shareholder in our company and they are one of our greatest assets at Independence Bank. Without their support and belief in our organization, none of this would be possible. This is something everyone at Independence Bank as well as our customers and the communities we serve can be very proud of."

For more information on the *Best Banks to Work For* program, visit www.BestBankstoWorkFor.com. To learn more about what makes Independence Bank a Best Bank visit www.1776bank.com to learn more about who we are and what we do.

Independence Bank is a regional community bank with assets over \$1.7 Billion and 20 locations throughout Kentucky serving the following counties: Calloway, Daviess, Franklin, Hancock, Henderson, Hopkins, McCracken, McLean, Warren and Webster.

###