

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United Community Bank Welcomes Jay Rajae as Chief Security Officer

GREENVILLE, S.C. – December 7, 2020 – United Community Bank is proud to welcome Jay Rajae as Chief Security Officer, a crucial role within the organization focusing on all aspects of information security and risk management. Rajae has more than 26 years of law enforcement experience and will be responsible for crafting and implementing new policies related to physical security and fraud prevention.

“Creating safe and welcoming environments for our employees and customers remains a top priority for our institution”, and we are extremely fortunate to have someone with Jay’s background join our team,” said Rob Edwards, Chief Risk Officer. “We are constantly implementing new tools and adopting new methods to address the evolving risks our industry faces, and it is critical that our team members are properly trained and able to respond to threats in an efficient, safe manner. Jay’s skills and expertise will be invaluable as we continue to monitor security across the company and work to meet the highest standards.”

Rajae began his career with the Albuquerque Police Department. After years working as a patrolman and undercover detective, he joined the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and relocated to Greenville. Prior to his retirement from the DEA, he worked local, national and international cases related to drug trafficking, money laundering and violent crimes. His main focus areas were the Carolinas, Georgia and Tennessee—areas where United has as strong presence. Rajae earned both his undergraduate and master’s degree from the University of New Mexico.

“Banks have the unique responsibility of protecting both their internal and external audiences, and I’m honored to lead efforts on behalf of the United team,” said Rajae. “The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the rate at which threats are presented, and the ability to identify and accurately assess them is more important than ever. I look forward to working with the entire United team and developing a strong corporate security program that protects our customers, employees and business partners.”

With plans to continue to strengthen security operations for the bank, Rajae has recently hired a Crime Prevention Specialist with specific branch background who will work closely with teams inside the branches to identify and appropriately respond to threats at all levels.

About United Community Banks, Inc.

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United Community Banks, Inc. (NASDAQ: UCBI) (United) is a bank holding company headquartered in Blairsville, Georgia, with executive offices in Greenville, South Carolina. United is one of the largest full-service financial institutions in the Southeast, with total assets exceeding \$17.2 billion and 163 offices in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. United Community Bank, United's wholly-owned bank subsidiary, specializes in personalized community banking services for individuals, small businesses and companies throughout its geographic footprint, now including Florida under the brand Seaside Bank and Trust. Services include a full range of consumer and commercial banking products, including mortgage, advisory, treasury management, and now wealth management. Respected national research firms consistently recognize United for outstanding customer service. In 2020, J.D. Power ranked United highest in customer satisfaction with retail banking in the Southeast, marking six out of the last seven years United earned the coveted award. Forbes included United in its inaugural list of the World's Best Banks in 2019 and again in 2020. Forbes also recognized United on its 2020 list of the 100 Best Banks in America for the seventh consecutive year. United also received five Greenwich Excellence Awards in 2019 for excellence in Small Business Banking and Middle Market Banking, including a national award for Overall Satisfaction in Small Business Banking. Additional information about United can be found at www.ucbi.com.