



SBA Recognizes Berkshire Banks as #1 Small Business Lender in Central New York Region

Pittsfield, MA, October 30, 2018 – The United States Small Business Administration (SBA) has recognized Berkshire Bank as the “Top SBA Lender” for fiscal year 2018 in the Central New York Region and the Syracuse District within the large community lender group, marking the fourth year that Berkshire Bank has been recognized as a top lender in the region.

In fiscal year 2018, Berkshire Bank approved 45 loans for small businesses in the Central New York Region, totaling \$4.2 million and 92 loans district-wide worth \$10.2 million.

“At Berkshire Bank, we are proud to support the small businesses that are the economic backbone of many communities throughout the United States,” said Jamison Flora, VP, Business Banking, SBA Team Leader at Berkshire Bank. “These loans make a significant difference, and we are honored that the SBA has recognized Berkshire Bank as a top lender in this region.”

As a preferred SBA lender, Berkshire’s Small Business division is dedicated to helping small businesses grow their companies and invest in the surrounding communities. Berkshire Bank has a team of dedicated small business banking professionals located in every region throughout its footprint, focused on helping customers find the best combination of services to make their businesses prosper today, and in the future. Berkshire Bank works closely with the New York Business Development Corporation (NYBDC) and is a participant in the Massachusetts Treasurer’s Office Small Business Partnership Program.

Nationally, Berkshire Bank ranked 23rd in loan volume approving 375 loans for small business totaling \$179,036,800 in fiscal year 2018. For more information regarding Berkshire Bank’s Small Business Lending programs, contact the Business Banking group at (518) 729-1422.

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About Berkshire Bank

Berkshire Bank, America's Most Exciting Bank®, is recognized for its entrepreneurial approach, relationship customer experience and distinctive culture. With \$12.0 billion in assets, Berkshire provides business and consumer banking, mortgage, wealth management, investment and insurance services through 115 full service branch offices throughout New York, Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts, including Commerce Bank, a division of Berkshire Bank. Berkshire Hills Bancorp (NYSE: BHLB) is the parent of Berkshire Bank. To

learn more, visit www.berkshirebank.com, call 800-773-5601 or follow us on: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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