## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

January 13, 2025



## Opportunity Bank of Montana President and CEO Elected to Serve on Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis' Board of Directors

HELENA, MT—Opportunity Bank of Montana is proud to announce that President and Chief Executive Officer Laura Clark has been elected to serve as a Class A Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis' Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2025.

As a Class A Director, Clark will represent member banks in the Ninth District, which encompasses Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, northwestern Wisconsin, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis is one of 12 regional Reserve Banks that, with the Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., make up the Federal Reserve System, the nation's central bank.

This prestigious election reflects Clark's dedication, leadership and extensive banking experience, showcasing her commitment to supporting local economies.

"Laura's appointment to the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Board is a testament to her exceptional leadership," said Rick Hays, Chairman of the Board at Opportunity Bank. "Her extensive experience gives her a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing community banks and her passion for making a difference will be a tremendous asset to the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. We couldn't be prouder of her and this well-deserved recognition."

Clark joined Opportunity Bank in 2014 and has served as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Operating Officer before assuming the role of President of Opportunity Bank in in April 2022, and Chief Executive Officer in January 2023. While serving in her leadership roles, Clark contributed to the bank's growth from \$500 million in total assets to more than \$2 billion today.

A graduate of Montana State University - Billings, Clark has held numerous bank executive positions throughout her career. In addition to her professional achievements, Clark is a dedicated community leader, serving on the boards of ExplorationWorks, a Helena-based science center focused on STEM education, Helena Rotary, and Montana Independent Bankers.

"Community banks play a critical role in supporting the economic health and vitality of our communities. I look forward to bringing my experience to this important work and representing the interests of banks and communities across the Ninth District," said Clark.

The responsibilities of Minneapolis Fed directors are broad, ranging from overseeing the general operations of the Minneapolis Fed to reporting on district economic conditions. This information helps prepare the Minneapolis Fed president for participation in Federal Open Market Committee meetings, where decisions are made about monetary policy. For more information, visit minneapolisfed.org.