# PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release** **January 9, 2016**

**HAPPY STATE BANK ANNOUNCES THE PROMOTIONS AND HIRING OF OFFICERS**

J. Pat Hickman, Chairman & CEO of Happy State Bank, announced the hiring of one bank officer and the promotion of two officers. Joe Cowden was hired as a bank officer and Stacey Armstrong and Lisa Kirkwood were both promoted.

**Stacey Armstrong** was promoted to **Bank Officer** at the Soncy Branch. Stacey is the Branch Operations Manager and supervises the tellers and Customer Service Representatives. She grew up in Amarillo, TX and is a graduate of Amarillo High School. Stacy and her husband, Justin, have 2 children, Donnovan and Daughtry.

**Joe Cowden** has joined the bank as an **Information Technology Officer** at the Downtown Taylor Branch. Cowden works with core banking software support and development. He graduated from Caprock High School and attended Westwood College. He is a member of Washington Avenue Christian Church where he is a board member for the Family Service Center and a Co-Leader for the churches Pahfinders program. Joe and his wife, Patricia, have three children, Brandon, Alexzander, Constence and Cadence.

**Lisa Kirkwood** moved from the Soncy Branch over to Branch Manager at the Teckla Branch. She was born and raised in Childress. Lisa and her husband, Danny, have one son, Eric. Lisa is dedicated to the Leukemia Society because Eric was diagnosed with Leukemia when he was 3 years old. She is proud to report that Eric recently graduated from West Texas A&M University.

## About Happy State Bank

**Happy State Bank** currently has offices in Happy, Abilene, Amarillo, Borger, Canadian, Canyon, DFW Metroplex, Dalhart, Dumas, Floydada, Hereford, Higgins, Lockney, Lubbock, Olton, Pampa, Panhandle, Plainview, Shamrock, Silverton, Stratford, Sunray, and Texline**.** With over $2.8 Billion in total assets, Happy State Bank is the 27th largest bank in Texas. **Happy State Bank** was chartered in 1908 in Happy, Texas. In 1990, the then $10 million bank headquartered in Happy, Texas, was acquired by a group of Panhandle area investors and is now the second largest bank in the Amarillo region.

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