



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2017

Contact: Kim Fulgham

(806)342-4237

kfulgham@happybank.com

Happy State Bank Wins Statewide Best of Community Banking Award

*Independent Bankers Assoc. of Texas recognizes local community bank's
financial literacy program*

AMARILLO, TX—The Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT)—the largest state community banking association in the nation—recently honored Happy State Bank with a Best of Community Banking (BOCB) Award in gold for financial literacy.

2017 marks the 26th year that IBAT has celebrated the outstanding accomplishments of Texas community banks with the BOCB Award. Community banks, such as Happy State Bank, play a critical role in their local communities. The Best of Community Banking competition is designed to honor banks for their commitment to helping their customers, neighbors and community. BOCB Awards recognize community banks throughout the state for their innovation, creativity and success in fulfilling a specific community need. Each submission received a gold, silver or bronze award in one of four categories: community service, financial literacy, marketing and architectural design.

Happy State Bank has been awarded with the Gold award for financial literacy in recognition of the Kids' Bank program. Kids' Bank was developed in 1997 to teach students the value of saving, while introducing them to the many important aspects of banking. The program serves students at schools across the state of Texas.

"While we are honored to receive this award, we believe teaching kids financial literacy is our responsibility and the right thing to do. We dedicate countless hours to this program and we believe it is making an impactful difference in the lives of many children," says Happy State Bank CEO, Pat Hickman.

All BOCB gold, silver and bronze winners were on display during IBAT's 43rd Annual Convention in Austin, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2017. For more information about Happy State Bank's award submission, please contact Kim Fulgham at kfulgham@happybank.com or (806)342-4237.

About Happy State Bank

Happy State Bank was established in 1908 and has been providing quality services to its neighbors and friends ever since. Today, after 109 years, it operates through 34 conveniently located offices in Abilene, Addison, Allen, Amarillo, Borger, Canadian, Canyon, Dalhart, Dumas, Floydada, Fort Worth, Happy, Hereford, Higgins, Lockney, Lubbock, Olton, Pampa, Panhandle, Plainview, Shamrock, Silverton, Stratford, Sunray and Texline and can be found on the web at happybank.com.

Happy State Bank: "Your 5-Star Community Bank." Member of the FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

About the Independent Bankers Association of Texas

Formed in 1974, the Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT) represents Texas community banks. The Austin-based group is the largest state community banking organization in the nation, with membership comprised of more than 2,000 banks and branches in 700 Texas communities. Providing safe and responsible financial services to all Texans, IBAT member bank assets range in size from \$10 million to more than \$20 billion with combined assets statewide of nearly \$165 billion. IBAT member banks are committed to supporting and investing in their local communities.