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John Hairston Elected to Board of Mississippi Bankers Association

JACKSON – John Hairston of Gulfport has been elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Bankers Association.

Hairston was recently elected by the MBA membership to represent a nine-county region of the state on the board, which governs the 129-year-old trade association whose membership includes commercial banks and savings institutions operating in Mississippi. MBA members currently hold over 95 percent of bank deposits in the state.

Hairston is president and chief executive officer of Hancock Whitney Corporation, the parent company of Hancock Whitney Bank, which has offices in Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Texas. He has served as CEO since 2014, having previously served in various executive positions with the bank since 1994. He is a magna cum laude graduate of Mississippi State University with a bachelors degree in chemical engineering. His extensive involvement in the MBA includes chairing the association’s Legislative Committee and service on the board of MissBankPAC, the association’s political action committee. He has been involved in industry affairs on a national level, having served on the Board of Directors of the American Bankers Association, as well as chairing the ABA’s Financial Education and Advocacy Committee, chairing the American Bankers Council, and co-chairing the ABA’s Dodd-Frank Task Force. A strong supporter of banker education, Hairston has served on the faculty at the Graduate School of Banking at LSU.

Hairston is active in numerous business, community, economic development and educational initiatives. He has received gubernatorial appointments to serve as Director of the Board of Mississippi Information Technology Services and as a member of the Mississippi Gaming Commission. He currently co-chairs Governor Phil Bryant’s GoCoast 2020 Commission Tourism Committee and chairs the Gulf Coast Business Council. He is a past chair of the Gulf Coast United Way and the American Heart Association Heart Walk. He is a trustee and executive committee member of the World War II Museum in New Orleans. He serves on the Mississippi State University Bulldog Foundation board and is a past chair of the MSU College of Business Executive Advisory Board.

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