



NEWS RELEASE

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Bristow banker completes term as national chairman

BRISTOW, Okla. — Albert “Kell” Kelly, Jr., chairman and CEO of SpiritBank in Bristow, completed his term as 2011-2012 American Bankers Association (ABA) chairman today passing along the reins to his successor at the ABA convention.

“As ABA chairman, Kell has been a non-stop force, urging bankers across the country to ‘stand up for banking.’ He is fiercely passionate about our industry and brings that energy to Washington when testifying before Congress and the many trips he’s made from sea to shining sea,” said Frank Keating, past Oklahoma governor and current president and CEO of ABA.

Kelly has been actively involved in the banking industry by serving as chairman of the Oklahoma Bankers Association (OBA) in 2003-2004 and the ABA Community Bankers Council. Kelly has also served on the ABA board of directors. He currently serves as the OBA Coordinator for banking advocacy. On behalf of the ABA, Kelly has testified before Congress several times.

In addition to his involvement with the banking industry, Kelly has been an active resident of Oklahoma. He has served on the boards of the Oklahoma State Chamber, Tulsa Chamber of Commerce, Oklahoma Policy Institute, Oklahoma Center for Non-Profits, Salvation Army and Opportunity Oklahoma.

Kelly will be replaced by incoming ABA chairman Matthew H. Williams, chairman and president of Gothenburg State Bank in Gothenburg, Neb.

The OBA conducts more than 70 educational programs and seminars each year, which reach more than 5,000 bankers across the state. The Association represents approximately 230 banks across the state and serves as the primary advocate for the banking industry. It’s also heavily involved in fraud training and prevention as well as legal and compliance services and communications for its member banks.

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