

# Spring CEO/President/Senior Management Meeting 2025

May 15-16-2025

# **Speaker BIOS**



Frank Pigulski VP/Congressional Relations American Bankers Association (ABA)

Frank Pigulski is Vice President for Congressional Relations at the American Bankers Association (ABA). In this role, Pigulski engages Democratic lawmakers and their staff on policy and legislative issues affecting America's banks and the communities they serve.

Before joining ABA, Frank came from the Executive Office of the President where he served as Senior Policy Advisor working on investment security and competition issues. Before his time at the White House, Frank was Senior Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of the Treasury where his primary focus was the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. (CFIUS). Frank also served on Capitol Hill for nearly a decade working for Congressman Beto O'Rourke (D-TX), including as his Chief of Staff and as a 2018 Senate campaign advisor, and for Dan Lipinski (D-IL).



John Hintze Sr Correspondent ABA Banking Journal

John Hintze is a senior correspondent for the ABA Banking Journal. He has written about banking, financial markets and risk-related issues for more than 30 years, currently for publications including GARP Risk Insights, The American Banker, and Risk Management

Magazine.



**David Ciullo** CEO

## **Career Management Associates**

David is an experienced Business and Executive Coach, Trainer, and HR Consultant who provides trusted HR solutions for organizations of all sizes. He is the CEO of Career Management Associates, a Northern New England HR Consulting firm and HR thought

leader.

While David works in multiple industries, financial institutions have been at the forefront of his practice. His clients state that he is not only insightful and authentic, but they also value him and his firm as trusted partners who provide realistic guidance and advice that deliver results. David currently provides executive coaching for CEOs and C-suite leaders in the banking industry and understands the unique challenges you face.

He is current Board member and Past President for both Human Resource Association of Southern Maine and the Institute for Family-Owned Businesses and served as a Member of the Maine State Civil Service Appeals Board.

David is also certified in Creative Training Techniques, an Eagle Scout, and a Black Belt in Tae-Kwon-Do.



#### **The Honorable Bernadette Jordan** Consul General of Canada in New England

Bernadette Jordan (BA [Political Science], St. Francis Xavier University, 1984) was raised on the South Shore of Nova Scotia in a small fishing community. Her love of her community and desire to see it grow and thrive started at a young age when she became a community volunteer while in junior high school.

Bernadette started her working career in the field of economic development and built an extensive network. She then went on to a career in community news, spending almost 12 years as the special projects manager for the award-winning newspaper publisher Lighthouse Publishing. She received multiple awards in the areas of advertising, promotion, business campaigns and volunteerism. During this time, she also served as the president of the Atlantic Canadian Newspapers Association and as a member of the board of the Canadian Community Newspapers Association.

In 2006, Bernadette left community news to take on a new role in fund development with the Health Services Foundation of the South Shore. Her work helped the foundation raise millions of dollars for health care in her community. She was an active member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, received their Rising Star Award and led a campaign that won their Ten Star Chapter Award.

In 2015, Bernadette ran for and won the federal riding of South Shore-St. Margarets by the largest margin ever in the riding and became the first woman to hold the seat. In her first years in government, she was the chair of the Atlantic Liberal Caucus, a member of the standing committees on the Status of Women and on the Scrutiny of Regulations, and the chair of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans. During that time, she introduced a motion calling on the government to deal with abandoned and derelict vessels in Canada's waterways, which led to legislation passed in 2018 to address this ongoing problem. She was then appointed parliamentary secretary to the minister of democratic institutions. In 2019, she became the first minister of rural economic development. Later that same year she became minister of fisheries, oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. This made Bernadette the first woman elected in Nova Scotia to hold a seat at the Cabinet table.

After leaving politics in 2021, Bernadette went back to her fund development roots, accepting a position as the national director of philanthropy with Shelter Movers, a volunteer-powered charity providing free moving and storage services to people, primarily women and children, leaving abuse.

Bernadette and her husband, David, live on the beautiful South Shore. They have raised 3 children and enjoy the beach, kayaking and their dog Alfie. She continues to volunteer with organizations in her community. Bernadette was recently the recipient of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal (Nova Scotia) for service to Nova Scotia and Canada. In her spare time, Bernadette is a fabric artist and speaker at many events involving women in leadership.



Shannon Prescott, CWCA, COSS Director of Risk Control The Richards Group

Shannon is the Director of Risk Control for The Richards Group property and casualty clients. She is a licensed P&C Producer, a Certified WorkComp Advisor, Certified Occupational Safety Specialist and is an Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer for General

Industry and Construction industries.

She assists clients with compliance and safety program evaluation and implementation, helping them achieve compliance with OSHA, DOT and DOL regulations. In addition, she provides First Aid/CPR, Suicide Prevention and Mental Health First Aid courses.

Shannon serves on the VT Safety & Health Council Board of Directors and is an active community volunteer.



**Dr. Jeffrey P. Thompson** VP & Economist, Research Department **Federal Reserve of Boston** 

Jeffrey P. Thompson is a vice president and economist in the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Research Department, where he is the director of the New England Public Policy Center. Prior to joining the Boston Fed, Thompson was a principal economist at the Federal Reserve Board and a professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst's

Political Economy Research Institute. He specializes in public and labor economics, household finance, applied microeconomics, income, wealth and consumption inequality, state and local taxes, and regional economics. Thompson earned his PhD in economics from Syracuse University. He joined the Boston Fed in 2018.

Work Experience Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Vice President and Economist, 2020– Senior Economist and Policy Advisor, 2018–2019 Director, New England Public Policy Center, 2018– Federal Reserve Board Principal Economist, Microeconomic Surveys Section, 2015–2018 Economist, Microeconomic Surveys Section, 2012–2015 University of Massachusetts Amherst Political Economy Research Institute Assistant Research Professor, 2009–2012 Syracuse University Maxwell School Center for Policy Research Graduate Research Associate, 2004–2009

Education PhD, Economics, Syracuse University, 2009 BA, Political Science (Economics minor), Lewis & Clark College, 1994



**Thomas W. Grottke, CPA** Managing Partner, and CEO The NBS Group, LLC

Tom has nearly 40 years of professional experience working full-time in the financial services industry as a consultant, executive/board advisor, and auditor. After Crowe spun-off Grottke's business, The NBS Group continues to deliver strategic, technology,

and operational consulting services, specializing in community and regional banks and credit unions and technology providers to the industry. Clients in the last five years are from New England to Texas, Florida, Washington, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, Wisconsin, Illiniois, Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and Maryland, and in countries including Canada, Europe and South America.

# Professional and Industry Experience:

Tom led the national Financial Services Performance Improvement Consulting practice at Crowe LLP from 2018 to 2023. Prior to Crowe acquiring his own bank advisory services practice in 2018, he led a northeast regional consulting practice focused on community and regional based FI providing strategy, technology, and operational consulting services from 2002 to 2018. Prior to starting his own practice in 2002, he was the Lead Advisory Services Partner on hundreds of banks, thrifts, credit unions, and investment services companies with his previous employers KPMG LLP (1995 – 2002) and Arthur Andersen & Co. (1985 – 1995). Tom's most senior positions with his previous employers were: Managing Director at Crowe, Advisory Services Partner at KPMG, and Senior Manager at AA&Co.

## **Education & Certifications:**

- Bachelor of Science, Accounting, University of Connecticut | Storrs, Connecticut
- Certified Public Accountant Connecticut (CSCPA)