



**Candace Wiest: President and CEO
 West Valley National Bank**

Candace Wiest, who has been in the industry for 20 years, made a large impact on the banking industry in the West Valley when she was brought on board to help create West Valley National Bank in 2006. The paperwork began in March 2006, and by December of that year, the bank premiered with more than \$14 million in start-up capital. The bank quickly expanded, opening locations in Goodyear, Avondale and North Scottsdale in 2007, and another in Buckeye in 2008.

As founding president and CEO, Wiest is involved in all facets of the bank, including planning and developing financial policies and maintaining open communication with the board of directors and federal



regulators. Through the efforts of Wiest and others, the bank has created an economic impact of more than \$1 million on the community.

Wiest's experience in the industry has made her an established authority as a public speaker. She has participated in many panels and special events, including those held at or by the SRP Economic Forecast, Central Phoenix Women and the Urban Land Institute.

Wiest has also used her influential position to benefit the community at large. Most recently, she has been working with officials at Franklin Pierce University to bring private universities to Goodyear. She is also a member of many community organizations, including the Valley of the Sun YMCA, among others.

Time in industry: 20 years
Time at current company: 2 years
Years bank has been in Arizona: 20 months
Number of employees: 22

“She brings her intelligence and problem-solving to bear in a straight forward manner to define issues and present realistic options.”

— Jamie C. Cavalier, Ph.D., director, Civicap Ventures

