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January 8, 2010

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Thornton Named BankFIRST Goldenrod Vice President, Client Relationship Manager

Winter Park, Florida – (January 8, 2010) – Sharon Thornton was recently named Vice President and Client Relationship Manager for BankFIRST’s Goldenrod Financial Center Location. She has been employed in the banking industry for 25 years, and has a diverse background with skill sets ranging from sales to operations.

“We are extremely pleased to welcome Sharon to the BankFIRST Goldenrod team,” said Julie Kleffel, BankFIRST Executive Vice President and Central Florida Commercial Sales Leader. “Having known Sharon personally and professionally for many years, her experience in the industry is well-suited for her leadership position within the BankFIRST organization.”

Thornton spent a large portion of her career with AmSouth bank. During her 18 year tenure, she served as a Branch Manager at three office locations, servicing loan and deposit needs for customers. She also held the role of Branch Operations Officer, where she was actively involved with auditing, security and the training of employees. Most recently, she was employed by Old Florida National Bank where held the positions of Security Officer and New Branch Coordinator.

About BankFIRST

Since it’s founding in 1989 as a state-chartered, federally insured commercial bank, BankFIRST has grown its assets to over \$600 million. Situated in Central Florida, BankFIRST has ten branch offices located in Orange, Seminole, Lake and Brevard Counties, and has approximately 140 employees. The bank has been the recipient of numerous awards, including: “Best Community Bank in Central Florida” by the readers of the Orlando Business Journal in 2006 and 2009, “Best Bank in Seminole County” in 2008 and 2009, “#1 Small Business Lender in Florida”, “2009 Business Achievement Award for Civic and Community Efforts” by the Lake Eustis Chamber of Commerce, and “#1 Community Bank SBA Lender in Florida”.

For more information on BankFIRST, visit www.bankfirst.com.