

New Phase of Leadership for NCB Jamaica

Kingston, Jamaica—August 2, 2019: Starting August 1, Septimus ‘Bob’ Blake will take the lead as CEO of National Commercial Bank Jamaica Limited (NCB Jamaica/the Bank). Blake succeeds Patrick Hylton, who has been leading the Bank for the past 15 years. Malcolm Sadler has also been appointed Chief Financial Officer effective the same date, taking the reins from Dennis Cohen, who has served as CFO of the Bank alongside Hylton since 2004.

Hylton and Cohen will maintain their roles as Group CEO and Group CFO & Deputy CEO, respectively, of NCB Financial Group Limited, while Blake and Sadler will focus on the management of the Bank specifically. Blake will report directly to Hylton, who continues to be on the Board of Directors for the Bank, along with Cohen. Hylton also serves as chairman of the Board for NCBFG subsidiaries Guardian Holdings Limited and Clarien Group Limited.

The appointment of Blake and Sadler as CEO and CFO of NCB Jamaica represents the latest transition in the Group’s leadership to ensure effective oversight and succession for both the Bank and NCB Financial Group. This plan, which has been in progress for several years, started with the appointment of Blake to Chief Operating Officer for the Bank in April 2017.

Keen on delivering increased value for all stakeholders, and leveraging innovation to drive improvements, Blake said, “Improving the overall banking experience for our customers, team members and shareholders, as well investing in our talents and capabilities are at the top of my agenda. These are fundamental to NCB Jamaica fulfilling its potential as a globally competitive bank, while transforming banking in Jamaica.”

With the NCB Financial Group expanding into more of a regional financial services conglomerate, with majority shareholdings in the Trinidad-and-Tobago-based Guardian Holdings Limited (GHL) and Clarien Group Limited (Clarien Group) in Bermuda, Hylton and Cohen will focus on driving the development and seamless integration of the now-expanded NCB Financial Group. NCB Financial Group directly owns three subsidiaries, which are NCB Jamaica, Clarien Group (owner of Clarien Bank Limited) and NCB Global Holdings Limited, through which the majority shareholding in GHL was acquired.

“Bob has proven to be a great leader over the years while he served in various roles at the Bank,” noted Patrick Hylton, CEO of the NCB Financial Group.

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“His experience, coupled with his extensive knowledge of the overall banking operations, makes him the best person to lead the Bank into its new strategic direction. With the constant evolution of our banking industry, we believe Bob has the insight, innovation and drive to keep National Commercial Bank at the top of the game.”

Hylton added, “NCB Jamaica is the largest, and a very important subsidiary of NCB Financial Group. We have full confidence in Bob Blake and Malcolm Sadler taking the baton and leading the growth of the Bank, especially since this allows us to put our full focus behind delivering solid growth and integration across our Group and pursuing our goal of becoming a truly pan-Caribbean financial leader.”

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Contact:

Nichole Brackett Walters

Manager – Group Marketing and Communications Unit

Telephone: 876-935-2342

Email: brackettwaltersnc@jncb.com