



Citizens Business Bank Named a Top Money Manager

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Nelson Information has named The Citizens Business Bank Wealth Management Group one of the "World's Best Money Managers" for the five-year period through the third quarter 2002.

The Citizens Business Bank Wealth Management Group placed 39th out of 242 balanced funds for the past five years, according to Nelson, a Port Chester, N.Y.-based firm that tabulates investment performance of money managers worldwide. This places the Pasadena-based bank trust department in the top 16% of money managers with similar funds during this time period.

"We are extremely proud of these outstanding investment performance results," said D. Linn Wiley, president and chief executive officer of CVB Financial Corp. and Citizens Business Bank. "This is a testament to the leadership of the Wealth Management Group's leader, Edwin J. Pomplun, and to the skill of the investment team led by Jack Gurley, Steve Marrs and Dick McDonald."

Pomplun, executive vice president of Citizens Business Bank and the head of the Wealth Management Group, noted that a large percentage of money managers trail the major stock indices such as the Standard & Poor's 500 and Wilshire 5000.

However, Citizens Business Bank has beaten these benchmarks for the past one year, three years, five years and since new investment-reporting standards went into effect for money managers in 1993.

"Citizens Business Bank places top priority on its professionalism and on serving our customers. Our stellar investment performance underscores our commitment to achieving superior performance for our customers," said Pomplun, whose department manages about \$450 million for individual and institutional clients.

"Our clients have enjoyed consistently better investment performance and lower fees than many other financial institutions over a period of many years."

John R. Gurley, investment manager of the Wealth Management Group, pointed to strong investment research and an ability to avoid poor performing companies as helping Citizens Business Bank outperform many other investment managers.

"Our superior investment performance demonstrates the importance of strong research and individual stock selection over index funds, especially in this kind of market," said Gurley, CTFA. "Our results may not surpass the stock market averages every quarter or even every year, but we can guarantee our professional investment approach that has produced superior results over the short-term and the long-term."

The Nelson rankings, released this week, compared the Citizens Business Bank Balanced Composite with other U.S. Balanced/Multi-Asset composites and funds of money managers.

The Citizens Business Bank Wealth Management Group has been managing money for individuals and institutions since 1932. Citizens Business Bank, based in Ontario, is the largest bank with headquarters in the Inland Empire region of Southern California. It serves 25 cities with 32 business financial centers in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange and Kern counties. The parent company, CVB Financial Corp., trades on Nasdaq under the symbol CVBF.

Citizens Business Bank, Ontario

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