

# LESLIE MITCHELL

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## EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Seasoned banking executive with a passion for community service and a solid foundation of management experience. Collaborative leader who inspires others to achieve their best. Respected and trusted community leader with a proven track record of commitment and results. Highly ethical and motivated team player. Energetic and optimistic hard worker.

**Community Engagement – Integrity – Accountability – Collaborative Leadership**

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**FIRSTBANK HOLDING COMPANY OF COLORADO – Lakewood, CO (1984 – 2010)**

President - FirstBank of Cherry Creek

- Began working for FirstBank as a Management Trainee in a well-respected and proven training program, emphasizing knowledge and understanding of all operational areas of the bank
- After eight years at FirstBank of Aurora, transferred to FirstBank of Cherry Creek as the lead lender, specializing in all areas of real estate lending
- Promoted to President of FirstBank of Cherry Creek in 2000
- Tripled the bank's assets during my tenure, from \$150 million to almost \$500 million
- Consistently met profitability and growth goals
- During my presidency, the bank grew to one of the largest and most profitable banks within the multi-bank system
- Under my leadership, the bank exceeded company and regulatory benchmarks in lending and operations compliance
- Named first female Loan Committee Chair and Credit Policy Committee Chair in the history of the company
- By serving on both the Loan and the Credit Policy Committees, I ensured that bank lending policies and procedures were consistent with the company mission and regulatory requirements
- Successfully won city approval for major redevelopment of bank site by working with City Council, city planners, neighborhood groups and the local business community to achieve a design plan enthusiastically embraced by all stakeholders
- Increased bank's physical footprint from two locations to five, thus increasing the bank's market share and sustained profitability
- Mentored dozens of junior officers and senior staff, thus guaranteeing seamless transition upon my retirement

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

**AAA COLORADO – 2012 to present**

Board Member

- Member based automobile service, travel, financial and insurance provider
- Currently serving on Investment Committee
- Currently serving on the Compensation and Benefits Committee

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE, CITY OF DENVER - 2012 to present**

Board Member

- Appointed by Denver's City Council to serve as its representative on an independent audit committee
- Review monthly performance audits prepared by the City's Audit Department
- Review City's internal and externally prepared financial statements
- Review and approve external auditing firm

**STATE OF COLORADO, DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE, BOARD OF MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATORS - 2010 to present**

**Board Member**

- Appointed by the governor and confirmed by the State Senate to this newly created regulatory board empowered to interpret legislation, create rules and regulations, enforce policies and implement disciplinary measures

**EMILY GRIFFITH FOUNDATION – 2014 to present**

**Board Member**

- Recently joined the fundraising arm of the Emily Griffith Technical College, a 100 year old public technical college located in downtown Denver

**GIRLS ON THE RUN - 2010 to present**

**Volunteer Coach**

- I coach an after school running program for at-risk girls at Schmitt Elementary School, where over 90% of students are eligible for free/reduced lunch
- In addition to training the girls to run their first 5k race, I lead a robust and proven curriculum which emphasizes good decision making skills and gives the girls health, nutrition and self- advocacy skills

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN ROAD RUNNERS - 1999 to present**

**Board Member and Treasurer**

- I have served as the Treasurer of the largest running club in Colorado for over 10 years
- In addition to ensuring financial soundness, I have implemented solid financial policies and procedures to ensure the sustainability of the organization

**CITY YEAR – 2013 to present**

- I mentor a City Year Corp Member who is devoting a year to working in a high needs public school
- I provide career advice and coaching

**INNOVAGE – 2014 to present**

**Bill Payer Volunteer**

- I volunteer in the Bill Payer Program where I help a disabled women pay bills, write checks and budget her finances

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN HONOR FLIGHTS – 2012 to present**

**Lead Guardian**

- I chaperone World War II and Korean War veterans to Washington D.C. to visit their monuments.

## **PAST CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

**PUBLIC EDUCATION AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE – 2007 to 2014**

**Board Member**

- Served as Board Secretary and Finance Committee member of organization committed to improving K-12 educational opportunities in Colorado by increasing business involvement. In addition, chaired the Nominating Committee and successfully recruited three new board members

**DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION - 2004 to 2013**

**Board Member**

- Served as Board Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair for three years during which time Investment and Financial Policies were created and implemented
- Served on two Executive Director Search Committees
- Currently serving as 401(k) Trustee and Finance Committee member
- Actively advocated and raised funds for Denver Public Schools

**CHERRY CREEK NORTH BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT – 1998 to 2004**

**Board Member, Board Chair, and Treasurer**

- Served as Board member, Board Chair, and Treasurer of a BID which represents the property owners and merchants in the 20 square blocks known as Cherry Creek North
- Working with neighbors, city planners and business representatives, successfully implemented Cherry Creek

North's first strategic parking programming

- Integral member of team promoting a \$19 million bond to upgrade and enhance the physical structure of the district. The bond passed and the district recently completed the project

**SAINT JOSEPH HOSPITAL FOUNDATION - 2004 to 2010**

**Board Member, Community Race Chair**

- Served as Board member (2004 – 2010) and Finance Committee member of the supporting foundation of a large, urban hospital
- Served as the Community Race Chair of the Stadium Stampede for five years. The Stadium Stampede is one of the foundation's largest fund raising events, celebrating its 26<sup>th</sup> year as a very successful 5k community race
- In 2010 the Stadium Stampede exceeded prior records in funds raised and number of participants

**STATE OF COLORADO, DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE, BOARD OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS - 2008 to 2010**

**Board Member**

- Appointed by governor and confirmed by the State Senate as the required Commercial Lender on regulatory board that licenses, monitors and disciplines real estate appraisers

## **EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**University of Wisconsin, Madison - Graduate School of Banking, 1991**

**University of Colorado, Denver – MBA - Finance, 1990**

**University of Colorado, Boulder – BS - Marketing, 1983**

## **AFFILIATIONS**

In addition to the activities listed above, I have served on numerous other civic and charitable boards and have participated in many community projects and events, including interviewing President Leadership Class and Daniels Scholars candidates, as well as serving as a judge for the University of Denver Business School Race and Case Competition

## **AWARDS**

**Girl Scouts Woman of Distinction, 2009**

**Outstanding Women in Business Nominee, 2008 and 2010**

Leslie Mitchell retired June 2010 after 26 years with FirstBank Holding Company. At the time of her retirement, she was the president of FirstBank of Cherry Creek. During her tenure with FirstBank, she was Credit Policy Committee Chair, as well as Chair of the Loan Committee. Along with the Denver's Audit Committee, Leslie currently serves on the boards of AAA Colorado and the Emily Griffith Foundation, as well as on the State of Colorado Board of Mortgage Loan Originators. Past community service includes serving on the boards of the Cherry Creek North Business Improvement District, Denver Public Schools Foundation, Public Education and Business Coalition, the state Board of Real Estate Appraisers, and Saint Joseph's Hospital Foundation. She also volunteers with Innovage.

As a passionate runner, Leslie also coaches with Girls on the Run, an after school running program at Schmitt Elementary. She has completed 8 marathons, including the Boston Marathon, and is on the board of the Rocky Mountain Road Runners.

Leslie graduated from the University of Colorado – Boulder with a B.S. in Business Administration and from the University of Colorado – Denver with a Masters of Business Administration.

She has been named a Girl Scout Women of Distinction, as well as a twice nominated for Colorado Outstanding Women in Business.

She and her husband, Rob Insinger, live in Washington Park and are intrepid travelers. She has two adult sons, Mitch and Peter Goudy.

