WestStar Promotes Erica Saunders to Senior Vice President
And New Mexico Commercial Banking Manager

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 6, 2026 (Las Cruces, NM) – WestStar announced the promotion of Erica M. Saunders to Senior Vice President and Commercial Banking Manager for its New Mexico market. In this role, Saunders will provide leadership for WestStar's New Mexico commercial banking team, driving growth, strengthening client relationships, and supporting the bank's continued investment in the region.

Saunders joined WestStar in October 2022 and has since built strong, trusted relationships across New Mexico while delivering consistent, high-level performance. With 18 years of experience in commercial lending and banking, she has played a critical role in supporting economic development by financing over $200 million in projects in the Las Cruces area. Since 2023, WestStar's New Mexico loan portfolio has grown from approximately $195 million to more than $360 million, reflecting over $167 million in lending deployed to support local businesses and community development across the state.

"Erica has built strong relationships across New Mexico and delivered consistent, strong performance through her drive and leadership," said David W. Osborn, President and Chief Executive Officer of WestStar. "She is well prepared to lead this team and will do a great job for our clients."

She is recognized for her commitment to customer experience and her active role in financing and planning projects that promote business and economic growth across Southern New Mexico.

"As a lifelong Las Cruces resident, it is especially meaningful to lead our New Mexico commercial banking team and continue strengthening relationships with businesses and communities across the state," expressed Saunders. "WestStar has a long-standing commitment to New Mexico, and our team is deeply invested in supporting local businesses, driving economic growth, and helping our communities thrive."

Saunders is also highly engaged in community leadership, serving as Vice Chair of the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance and President of Jardín de los Niños. Her involvement reflects a strong commitment to expanding services, supporting nonprofits, and advancing economic development initiatives throughout Southern New Mexico.

She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from New Mexico State University.

About WestStar
WestStar is the only El Paso-based community bank and the leading commercial bank in the Borderplex region, which includes El Paso, Texas; Las Cruces, New Mexico; and Juárez, Mexico. With over $3.1 billion in assets, 14 branches, and over 350 employees, WestStar provides commercial lending, treasury management, wealth management, and title services across the region.

WestStar's roots trace back over a century and are built on the combined legacies of four local institutions: Bank of Ysleta, Bank of El Paso, First National Bank of Fabens, and Bank of the West (rebranded as WestStar Bank in 2012). These banks united over time and through mergers, ultimately becoming WestStar in 2016. Today, WestStar continues that shared commitment to relationship-based banking.

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