



## **WestStar Appoints John Morales as Executive Vice President of Information Technology and Chief Information Officer**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 24, 2026 (El Paso, TX)** – WestStar today announced the appointment of John Morales as Executive Vice President of Information Technology and Chief Information Officer (CIO), effective immediately. In this role, Morales will lead WestStar’s information technology strategy, cybersecurity posture, digital transformation initiatives, and enterprise technology operations to support the company’s long-term growth, resilience, and commitment to the Borderplex.

Morales brings decades of Federal Senior Executive leadership experience overseeing complex, mission-critical organizations, and large multidisciplinary teams. Most recently, he served as a Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent in Charge, where he provided executive leadership over regional operations, strategic planning, workforce management, and interagency coordination in one of the nation’s most complex operational environments.

In addition to his most recent service, Morales held multiple executive leadership positions at the federal level, including roles within the Federal Senior Executive Service where he was responsible for leading large-scale organizations, managing significant budgets and driving enterprise-wide modernization initiatives. Across these roles, he developed a reputation for disciplined execution, risk-informed decision-making and building high-performing teams aligned to mission outcomes.

“John’s appointment reflects WestStar’s continued investment in strong leadership, technology modernization and operational excellence,” said David W. Osborn, President and Chief Executive Officer of WestStar. “His experience leading complex organizations, managing enterprise-level risk and driving modernization efforts makes him exceptionally well suited to guide WestStar’s information technology and cybersecurity strategy as we continue to grow and serve our communities.”

“In this role, I look forward to being able to continue working for and serving the people and the community, who have been so very kind and welcoming,” said Morales. “I am very excited and look forward to building on the foundation of service and leadership I established in my previous role, while helping WestStar strengthen its technology capabilities, protect its clients and position the company for long-term success in an increasingly competitive digital financial landscape.”

Morales holds multiple Bachelor of Science, and Master of Business Administration degrees. His academic and professional background reflects a combination of scientific rigor, financial expertise, and executive leadership experience.

### **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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**For media inquiries, please contact:**

Christopher Ramos, Digital Strategy Specialist

915.585.4547

[Christopher.Ramos@weststarbank.com](mailto:Christopher.Ramos@weststarbank.com)