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**Agility Bank (in organization) Appoints Richard Pontious Chief Financial Officer**

HOUSTON, TEXAS – January 4, 2022 – The Board of Directors of Agility Bank (in organization) announced today the appointment of Richard (Rich) Pontious, CPA, as Chief Financial Officer. In this role, he will oversee all aspects of financial management and reporting of the new bank which is the first primarily women – owned and led bank created for its purpose in the country under a special charter.

“It has always been our intent to bring the best people to the table, male and female,” said Lauren Sparks, founder, chairwoman and CEO of Agility. “Rich, with his solid financial background in banking and accounting, brings strong insights and skills to a de novo, or new, bank committed to increasing financial parity to all. His interest in supporting our innovative solutions for our clients is particularly gratifying as we build out a technology platform that is second to none in commercial community banking.”

A graduate of Texas A&M University in accounting with a MS in finance, Rich, a Certified Public Accountant, has been in financial accounting and banking for 15 years.  He is a proven leader and innovator in previous banking positions by developing new reporting procedures, enhancing internal revenue and cost allocation methodology, and overseeing all financial aspects of the PPP program during the pandemic. He also has extensive experience in budgeting, mergers and acquisitions, board of director and regulatory reporting, stress testing, and risk management.

“Every day I see the opportunities for small and mid-sized businesses where Agility can make a difference through its technology and its people,” said Pontious. “To be on the ground floor of this unique bank is exciting.  We are going to be an extraordinary force in Houston for those who want to grow businesses and create jobs.”

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