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## Freedom First Expands Commercial Lending into Lynchburg Region

**November 2021 (Roanoke, VA)** — Freedom First has expanded its Commercial Lending efforts into the Lynchburg Region, with Brent Jenkins serving as the Market Executive for the Lynchburg Region and Nickolas Gillan as Vice President Commercial Lending. “The Commercial Lending team in Lynchburg has seen a great amount of growth in just a short amount of time,” says Freedom First Chief Banking Officer Shon Aguero. “Brent and Nickolas are extremely experienced in fostering and managing commercial relationships and we are excited to see what develops from their hard work.”

Brent Jenkins has been with Freedom First since 2015 and is ready for new opportunities in Lynchburg. “My focus is on building the commercial lending team and portfolio from the ground up,” says Jenkins. “Right now, we’re working on relationship building and showing people our community impact. It has been very rewarding to see tangible changes in local businesses through the projects we’ve financed in the Roanoke Valley and I’m ready to see the same type of improvements in the Lynchburg Region.”

Nickolas Gillan has been working in the Lynchburg banking industry for 11 years. “Freedom First values community give back and reinvestment and I cannot wait to bring that to Lynchburg,” says Gillan. “Through my role as Vice President Commercial Lending, I would like to provide superior banking service to the businesses of Lynchburg while upholding Freedom First’s community values.”

“There is so much rapid growth happening all over Lynchburg,” says Jenkins. “There is a need for affordable multifamily developments for students and community members and a great deal of historic rehabilitation projects that preserve the charm of Downtown Lynchburg. We are working with many businesses that haven’t been getting all they need from their banking relationship. At Freedom First, we are able to take the time to look closely at their business to figure out how we can help them grow responsibly so they can get bigger projects, make more profit, and hire more people.”

Brent and Nickolas have an office located at 105 Hexham Drive and can be contacted by phone at (540) 339-3479.

For more information about Freedom First’s expansion, visit [www.freedomfirst.com/who-we-are](http://www.freedomfirst.com/who-we-are).

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**ABOUT FREEDOM FIRST CREDIT UNION:** Freedom First Credit Union is the largest member owned, Community Development Financial Institution in Southwest Virginia. Founded in 1956, Freedom First has grown to over 57,000 members, assets of over \$850 million, and 10 branch locations in the Roanoke and New River Valleys. Freedom First members benefit from competitive rates, secure and convenient technology, and the knowledge that their money is being reinvested in their community. For more information, please visit [www.freedomfirst.com](http://www.freedomfirst.com)