



**BAYFIRST NATIONAL BANK MARKET PRESIDENT ANTHONY PEREZ NAMED TO
USF MUMA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS EXECUTIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL
*SVP Joins Illustrious List of Business Leaders on Tampa Campus Council***

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (March 6, 2024) – BayFirst is proud to announce that Senior Vice President, Tampa Market President Anthony Perez has been selected as a member of the Executive Advisory Council for the University of South Florida MUMA School of Business. Comprised of business leaders from across Tampa Bay, the council advises on curriculum and strategy, supports the engagement USF faculty and students in the business community, and provides insight into topics shaping the business school.

As a 22-year banking industry veteran, Perez brings a wealth of expertise to this new role. He is a previous recipient of the Hispanic Man of the Year Award, presented by the Board of Directors of Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. He serves as a member of USF's Latin Scholarship Advisory Committee and is also a past chairman and a seven-year board member of the City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council.

"Anthony has dedicated his career to educating others, giving back, and making a positive difference both in his role at BayFirst and out in the community," said BayFirst CEO Tom Zernick. "We are proud to have him representing BayFirst within the business school at USF and look forward to seeing the positive impact he has on the program and its students."

An advocate for education, Anthony earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of South Florida. Committed to lifelong learning, he is currently pursuing advanced studies at the LSU Graduate School of Banking.

"It is an honor to return to my alma mater as a member of this prestigious council and give back to the institution that shaped so much of who I am today," said Perez. "I look forward to playing a role in the future success of the next generation of business leaders in Tampa Bay and contributing to the ongoing success of one of the best business schools in the region."

About BayFirst National Bank

Headquartered in St. Petersburg, BayFirst National Bank, the principal subsidiary of BayFirst Financial Corp. (NASDAQ: BAFN), operates twelve banking centers in the Tampa Bay area. In addition, BayFirst offers a broad range of retail and business banking services, including small business loans through its government-guaranteed lending division, and is one of the top-producing SBA lenders in the country. Since it opened in 1999, BayFirst has grown exponentially without losing sight of its commitment to making an impact in the community and being Here for What's Next® in the lives of its customers. For more information, visit: www.BayFirstFinancial.com.

###