



Vermont Bankers Association  
2022 Trustees and Directors Forum  
Capital Plaza Hotel & Conference Center  
Montpelier, VT, Governors' Ballroom

**Thursday, November 3, 2022 – Trustees & Directors Forum Agenda**

- 8:00 – 8:25 am**                      **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:25 – 8:30 am**                      **Welcome and Introductions**  
[Chris D'Elia, President, Vermont Bankers Association](#)
- 8:30 – 9:30 am**                      **The Federal Reserve: Lender of Last Resort, and Much More**  
[Jim Reber, President/CEO, ICBA Securities](#)  
The eyes of the financial world are on the Federal Reserve in 2022. For just the third time this century, the Fed has begun raising rates to hopefully engineer a soft landing as inflation runs at a 30-year high while the prospect of a recession has increased. We will discuss the Fed's makeup, its congressional mandates, and the tools it has at its disposal to accomplish its objectives.
- 9:30 – 10:30 am**                      **Rapid Retention**  
[Joey Spivey, Learning & Development Manager, Diversity Officer, SHAZAM Network](#)  
There is no shortage of research exploring the most common factors that drive employees away from organizations. This action-oriented session synthesizes that research, and pairs each of the ten most common reasons employees are leaving with impactful recommendations to ensure your bank is attracting and retaining top talent.
- 10:30 – 10:45 am**                      **Networking Break**
- 10:45 – 11:45 am**                      **Digital Banking and Payments Trends**  
[Brooke Ybarra, Senior Vice President, Innovation & Strategy, American Bankers Association \(ABA\)](#)  
In this session, we'll discuss the latest trends in digital banking and payments. The session will cover digital assets, particularly the emergence of stablecoin and blockchain networks as an alternative payment rail, as well as the latest on FedNow and other P2P payment initiatives.
- 11:45 am – 12:45 pm**                      **Lunch & Legislative Update**  
[Chris D'Elia, President, Vermont Bankers Association](#)
- 12:45 – 1:45 pm**                      **Model Risk Management in an Evolving World**  
[Merry Piotti, Principal, Wolf & Company](#)  
As technology continues to change the way we rely on and interpret data, developing a strong model risk management program becomes paramount to ensuring strategic decisions are made using reliable, accurate information. Many institutions are struggling as they try to harness the data they have to gain insights in customer's behavior and leverage that information to gain a competitive advantage. The failure rate for big data projects is reported to be between 60-85%.  
Attendees will leave the presentation with:



Vermont Bankers Association  
2022 Trustees and Directors Forum  
Capital Plaza Hotel & Conference Center  
Montpelier, VT, Governors' Ballroom

**Trustees & Directors Forum Continued**

- An understanding how to establish and the importance of a strong model risk management program in the evolving world of model, data analytics and machine learning/Artificial Intelligence.
- Key things to consider in their Model Risk Management Policy and overall Risk Appetite Statements
- Oversight requirements to ensure controls are in place to address model risk

1:45 – 2:00 pm

**Networking Break**

2:00 – 3:00 pm

**ESG and You: What your financial institution should be thinking about**

[David Stone, Manager & Susan Weber, Senior Manager, BerryDunn](#)

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) matters are all the rage right now. From new disclosures to personal, professional, investor, and social media pressures, ESG presents itself as a vast topic, encompassing many facets of an organization. It can be daunting to even know if, how, or where to begin ESG efforts. In this session, we will provide an update on the current ESG landscape and actionable insights for your financial institution to consider.

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**Balance Sheet Management in a Dynamic Rate Environment**

[Dale Sheller, Senior Vice President, Financial Strategies Group, The Baker Group](#)

In late 2021, with inflation running near 40-year highs, the Federal Reserve pivoted their policy stance in a short amount of time. The Federal Reserve has aggressively raised rates throughout 2022 fighting to get inflation back down to their 2 percent target. Loan and bond durations have extended as bankers searched for yield as balance sheets were flooded with liquidity during the historical lows in interest rates. Regulators have taken notice of the heightened interest rate risk profiles and will likely refocus on Interest Rate Risk Management during their upcoming examination cycle. The broad-based session will focus on the challenges banks face in managing liquidity, interest rate risk and the investment portfolio in the face of rising and potentially volatile interest rates. Topics will include:

- Market Update and Fed Policy Outlook
- Industry Trends for Balance Sheets
- Strategies to Effectively Deploy Excess Liquidity During a Challenging Rate Environment
- Best Practices for Interest Rate Risk Management to Ensure Regulatory Compliance

4:00 pm

**Conference Adjourns**