



AQUANNETTE TYSON THOMAS, MPA

Identifying opportunities that increase community involvement and minority-owned businesses development.

As a highly accomplished professional, Aquannette offers 16+ years of experience and leadership within the banking industry. With a background in program management, project management, and change management, she has garnered a proven track record of success in developing and implementing programs and solutions that drive the success, growth, and sustainability of organizations.

Through fostering value-based relationships with community organizations and partnering with business executives, Aquannette has helped identify and capture strategic opportunities. As a DEI advocate and LGBTQIA + ally, she is dedicated to creating an enterprising workforce. She believes that the growth and success of an organization is achieved through forward-thinking leaders who shape, strengthen, and embrace innovation. By working alongside of executive leaders and stakeholders, she has advanced efforts in creating an inclusive culture that empowers employees to thrive.

In her current role as the Vice President, Business Development Officer of Community Lending at Valley Bank, she assists women and minority-owned businesses who are often overlooked by larger institutions by examining their growth potential. Beyond managing relationships with current banking clients, she also strives to create new relationships while working to ensure the needs of the bank and its clients are met. You can count on her to deliver quality service to each and every client she works with through consistent communication and problem-solving.

Prior to that, she worked as an AVP, Banking Center Manager II at Seacoast Bank where she managed branch operations and sales production. In addition to hiring, coaching, and performing her day-to-day duties, she continuously worked to build a top-performing team. Through networking and building partnerships, she was able to generate new loans, deposits, and other business opportunities while serving her community.

In her role at PNC Bank as a Branch Sales and Service Consultant II, she strived to deepen the customer base and build community-based partnerships using proactive sales strategies. In using various internal tools, she was able to identify client lending and deposit needs while forming sustainable relationships. By working with the Branch Manager to model appropriate communication behaviors, she effectively increased engagement, minimized risk, and identified new opportunities.

Over the years, Aquannette has been recognized for her work efforts through the receipt of multiple awards and accolades. She was featured in the Legacy Magazine of South Florida as a 40 Under 40 Black Leader of Today and Tomorrow, in the Black Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County as the Young Professional of the Year, in Compass Community Center as an Above and Beyond Recipient, PNC Bank as a Diversity Award Nominee, and by the Banwo Foundation as a Blaze Award Recipient.

She is extremely passionate about serving her community and currently holds multiple board appointments, including Alumnae Leadership of Palm Beach County, Member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women WPB Chapter, Board of Directors of the St. Mary's Medical Center and Palm Beach Children's Hospital Foundation, Board of Directors of the South Florida Fair and Palm Beach County Expositions, and Advisory Board Member of the Palm Beach County Commission on Affordable Housing. Most recently she was named Co-Chair of the Board of Directors for Compass Gay and Lesbian Community Center and Regional Vice Chair of the Valley Bank LGBTQIA + Associate Resource Group PROUD.

Aquannette holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in Policy and Government from Grand Canyon University and a Bachelor's Degree in Applied Science with a focus on Supervision Management from Palm Beach State College. She also has an Executive Certificate in Fostering Diversity and Inclusion from the Yale School of Management.

As a native of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Aquannette is proud of her Caribbean heritage. She enjoys traveling and spending her free time with her family.