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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Tammy Roncaglione honored with Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County Pete Hegener Leadership Award**

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**Port St. Lucie/May 10, 2019** – Tammy Roncaglione, community president for CenterState Bank, was presented with the prestigious Pete Hegener Leadership Award by the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County (EDC) at its 7<sup>th</sup> annual leadership dinner on May 9.

The award is presented annually to a dedicated business leader who has made significant contributions to St. Lucie County's economy and quality of life. The annual dinner and celebration, held at Harbour Ridge Yacht & Country Club and attended by more than 200, was sponsored by Florida Power & Light Company (FP&L).

Edwin Massey, Ph.D., president of Indian River State College and a previous Hegener award winner, presented the leadership award to Roncaglione, who was nominated by three community members.

Roncaglione began her career in banking as a teller when she was in her teens. She worked her way up to lead business development for Gulfstream Business Bank in St. Lucie County and, after a bank merger, became CenterState's first female community president. One of her nominations was made by Cecilia Jaimes and Roxanne Peters. Roncaglione hired, developed and mentored both women to become commercial lenders, two of a small percentage of women in commercial lending roles at the bank.

“Everyone that has worked with her or alongside her would agree that Tammy's willingness to help is second to none. Her efforts have helped invaluable in the continued growth of St Lucie County,” wrote Jaimes and Peters.

Both nominations cited Roncaglione’s significant leadership in the formation of the Treasure Coast Manufacturers Association (TCMA) in 2016. The TCMA created a forum for local manufacturers, identified their challenges and opportunities, and created outreach and awareness events such as guidance counselor tours, county commissioner tours and lunch and learn sessions, as well as programs such as the Workforce Bootcamp for recent high school graduates.

EDC’s Pete Tesch stated, “Tammy has been a relentless advocate for manufacturing in St. Lucie and the Treasure Coast. Along with her leadership with TCMA, she has rigorously promoting this vitally important industry sector. Tammy has done much to positively reshape our economic development strategy and local government priorities regarding new and expanding industry. As a result, The St. Lucie MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) had Florida’s third fastest annual job growth rate in the manufacturing sector in March of this year.”

“Tammy is a visionary leader both within the bank but also within St Lucie County,” wrote Scott Deal, president and CEO of the Maverick Boat Group, in his nomination. “In addition to the leadership role Tammy demonstrates on a daily basis overseeing all the St. Lucie County operations for the CenterState Bank, Tammy has also been active with several community organizations, such as CASTLE, as well as being a board member of the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County, where she directed the formation of the Treasure Coast Manufacturers Association. Tammy is trusted by colleagues, clients and local businesses advisors. She is a role model in her leadership within CenterState Bank as well as her nonprofit organizations.”

The EDC leadership selection committee selected Roncaglione as the nominee who most embodies the leadership and community mindfulness of the award’s namesake, Pete Hegener, from a field of 13 nominees and five other semi-finalists: Amy Brunjes, Florida Power & Light; Rob Lord Jr., Cleveland Clinic Martin Health; Joey Miller, St. Lucie Battery & Tire; Upendo Shabazz, Allegany Franciscan Ministries; and Howard Tipton, St. Lucie County.

In addition to FP&L’s presenting sponsorship, other leadership dinner award sponsors were Oculus Surgical, PGA Golf Club, Realtors® of the Palm Beaches and Greater Fort Lauderdale, Bank of America,

CenterState Bank, Cleveland Clinic Martin Health, Comcast Business, Dean Mead, Indian River State College, Jungle TV, Keiser University, Phoenix Metal Products, and Re/Max Masterpiece.

### **About the award**

The recipient of the Pete Hegener Leadership Award exemplifies the qualities of a visionary, a trusted role model and leader whose inspiration and achievements impact the quality of job creation, economic vitality and small business growth.

Pete Hegener, the man whose actions inspired this award, was a founding member and integral partner of the EDC, served on the Board of Directors, and was an Executive Committee member. Pete was a pillar of the St. Lucie County community, having played a key role in the development of western St. Lucie County and Tradition. Friends and colleagues described him as “honest, visionary, and caring.” He passed away in March 2012, but his legacy is recognized through this award.

### **About the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County**

The Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County (EDC) is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting economic vitality in St. Lucie County through the attraction, retention and expansion of businesses in the community. The EDC works in partnership with local governments and the private sector to advance its goals of creating more and better-paying jobs for residents, broadening the tax base and improving St. Lucie County’s economic quality of life. Contact the EDC at 772.336.6250, [cmarlow@youredc.com](mailto:cmarlow@youredc.com) or [www.youredc.com](http://www.youredc.com).