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The Boston Globe names Eastern Bank Corp. to Globe 100's Top Places to Work in Mass. 2009

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Eastern Bank Corp. has been named one of the Top Places to Work in Mass. in the second annual employee-based survey project from The Boston Globe. The Globe 100's Top Places to Work '09 magazine was published in the Sunday Globe on November 8th.

Produced by the same team that compiles the 22-year-old Globe 100 report of the best-performing public companies in Mass., the Top Places to Work recognizes the most progressive companies in the state based on employee opinions about company leadership, compensation and training, diversity/inclusion, career development, family-friendly flexibility, and values and ethics.

Private companies and nonprofits as well as publicly-held businesses were included in the analysis. The rankings in the Globe 100's Top Places to Work are based on survey information collected by Workplace Dynamics, an independent company specializing in employee engagement and retention, from 86,000 employees at 269 Massachusetts organizations. This marks the second year that a Globe 100 report has honored private as well as publicly-held organizations.

Eastern Bank was ranked 94th on the overall list. Eastern Bank was also ranked 23rd out of 46 "large employers" in the Globe 100's Top Places to Work.

"We are very proud to be recognized for the second straight year as one of the best places to work in Massachusetts," said Richard E. Holbrook, chairman and CEO of Eastern Bank. "This is a tremendous compliment to our team of banking, investment and insurance professionals."

The publisher of The Boston Globe Steve Ainsley stated, "The companies included in the Globe 100's Top Places to Work have succeeded in creating a positive workplace for their employees in the midst of the uncertainties of the general economy. I congratulate each of them for an outstanding accomplishment."

Eastern Bank offers its employees a multitude of career growth opportunities, a challenging, yet fun workplace environment and a competitive compensation and benefits package that includes a 401 (k) program, pension plan and education reimbursement. Nearly 200 years in business, Eastern Bank has earned a reputation in Massachusetts for its commitment to customers and its employees, who work in a variety of departments including Consumer Banking, Marketing, Human Resources, Finance, Operations, Technology and Customer Service.

Eastern Bank, the largest independent, mutually owned commercial banking franchise in New England, offers an array of commercial, business and personal banking services. It also offers commercial insurance products through its subsidiary, Eastern Insurance. Eastern Bank's private banking group, which is part of its wealth management division, is adept at meeting the often-complex borrowing and deposit needs of business owners and individuals alike.

To qualify for the Globe 100's Top Places to Work, a company must have more than 100 employees in Massachusetts. Nearly 1,000 qualified companies accepted an invitation to participate. Rankings

were composite scores calculated purely on the basis of employee responses.

About Eastern Bank

Founded in 1818 and based in Boston, Eastern Bank is the largest independent and mutually owned bank in New England, with almost \$7.0 billion in assets and more than 80 branches serving communities from the Merrimack Valley to Cape Cod. Eastern Bank offers banking, investments and insurance all under one roof, and prides itself on working harder to understand its customers' needs so it can deliver these services in a committed and personal way. Eastern Bank includes Eastern Wealth Management, Eastern Insurance and Fantini & Gorga, a real estate advisory firm. For more information, visit www.easternbank.com.

New England Real Estate Journal - 17 Accord Park Drive #207, Norwell MA 02061 - (781) 878-4540