

Lakeland Bank Receives the Veterans Support Award

Lakeland Bank has joined forces with the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation (SHCPF), the American Bankers Association (ABA) and the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA) to ensure that 40,000 veterans living in 160 state veteran nursing homes in the United States are able to live out their lives in safe, secure, enhanced quality-of-life environments free from the daily fear of crime, abuse, neglect, hostility and deprivation of personal freedom, as provided through the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation's Senior Crimestoppers program.

"Lakeland Bank is proud to work with an organization that is dedicated to helping and protecting American veterans. Veterans have done so much for this great country that it is an honor to return the favor," stated Thomas Shara, president and CEO of Lakeland Bank.

The Senior Crimestoppers program is a proprietary operation of the SHCPF, a national 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that was established to provide a vehicle for banks to earn Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) credit through support of nursing home residents who are classified as low- to moderate-income individuals.

Because of Lakeland Bank, each veteran resident will be provided a specially designed personal lock box. In addition, SHCPF will provide each state veterans' nursing home with its annual "Time of Your Life" video exhibit for the residents' enjoyment, and each facility will receive an annual cash contribution for a "Wish Comes True" grant to be given to select veterans. For all that they have done, Lakeland Bank has received the "Veterans Support Award" from the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation.

"Lakeland Bank is humbled to receive the Veterans Support Award. The Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation is doing a commendable job for our veterans and we are proud to support them as well as these veterans and heroes," stated Thomas Shara.