

# PRESS RELEASE

March 2009

## Austin Bank Announces Promotions

Jeff Austin, III, Vice Chairman of the Board, recently announced the promotion of Marketing Director Patty Steelman to Vice President and Community Lender Austin Vass to Assistant Vice President.

The promotions were approved at the March 10, 2009 Board of Directors meeting in Jacksonville.

“Each of these employees is a true professional who is dedicated to giving our customers exceptional service,” said Austin. “We are proud to have them as members of the Austin Bank team.”

**Patty Steelman, Vice President**, joined Austin Bank as Director of Marketing in 1999. With more than 26 years of marketing and advertising experience, she is a graduate of the American Bankers Association School of Bank Marketing at the University of Colorado and is currently attending the ABA School of Bank Marketing and Management at SMU. Steelman is a current Board Member of the Literacy Council of Tyler, the Better Business Bureau of Central East Texas, and member of the Tyler Executive Women’s Network. She is the 2007 / 2008 Past Board President of the Literacy Council of Tyler and 2007 Chair of the American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life of Tyler/Smith County. In 2006, Steelman received the Austin Bank Community Involvement Award for her contribution to the Literacy Council of Tyler. Steelman currently attends the Austin Bank Leadership Class and is a graduate of Leadership Tyler Class 19.

A Tyler resident since 1977, she has one daughter, Erin, and is a member of Green Acres Baptist Church.



**Patty Steelman**

**Austin Vass, Assistant Vice President**, is a Loan Officer at the South Tyler office located at 5515 Old Bullard Road. He joined Austin Bank five years ago in August 2004 as a Credit Analyst. In 2005, he became a Lender at the bank’s Grand Saline location, and moved to the South Tyler office in May 2006. He is a graduate of Liberty High School and Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Economics.

Vass was recently named the 2008 United Way Team Captain of the Year. He has served as a volunteer Loaned Executive for the United Way the past three years. A graduate of Leadership Tyler Class 21, his community service also includes volunteer work for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Glenwood Church of Christ.

Vass and his wife, Jessica, have one son, Tyler.



**Austin Vass**

Austin Bank is a community bank with more than \$1 Billion in assets. Headquartered in Jacksonville, Austin Bank serves the needs of East Texas families and businesses in 28 locations, 18 cities and nine counties. Austin Bank is locally owned and operated by the Austin Family who is celebrating 100 years of serving the banking industry. More information about Austin Bank can be found on the bank’s website at [www.austinbank.com](http://www.austinbank.com).