

## **Robert Barnes Biography**

Mr. Barnes currently serves as President and CEO of PriorityOne Bank headquartered in Magee, MS. PriorityOne Bank is a Community Bank with approximately \$900 million in total assets with 16 locations throughout south/central Mississippi and was named the “Best Bank in Mississippi” by Forbes in 2019. He joined the bank as a teller in 1983 while still attending the University of Southern Mississippi. After graduating with a BSBA in Banking and Finance, he continued with the Bank as a loan officer. Since then he has served as Branch Manager, Division President and as the Chief Credit Officer for the bank.

He currently serves on the Board of Directors of PriorityOne Bank, PriorityOne Capital Corporation, Mississippi Bankers Association, Copiah-Lincoln Community College Foundation, Simpson County Economic Development District (Chairman), Magee General Hospital, Mississippi Public Funds Guaranty Pool, Mississippi Baptist Foundation and the Independent Community Bankers Association as Chairman of the Legislative Issues Committee. He also served as the Chairman of the Finance Committee for the Governor’s economic response team for Restart Mississippi when the pandemic began. He is past President of the Simpson County Development Foundation, the Magee Chamber of Commerce and the Magee Lions Club.

He has always been very involved in civic activities and has served as Chairman of the Adopt-a-School program and as a founder of the Youth Leadership program for Simpson County. He is a graduate of Magee High School, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the University of Southern Mississippi and The School of Banking of the South at LSU. He and his wife Melissa are the parents of two daughters, and they have six grandchildren who all reside in Magee. They are both active members of First Baptist Church of Magee where Mr. Barnes serves as a deacon and Church Treasurer.