



Catherine P. Bessant Chief Operations and Technology Officer

CATHERINE P. BESSANT is chief operations and technology officer at Bank of America, and is a member of the company's executive management team. Since 2010, Bessant has led Global Technology and Operations (GT&O) and delivered end-to-end technology and operating services across the company through nearly 95,000 employees and contractors in more than 35 countries.

GT&O provides the platforms and fulfillment services that enable the company's consumer banking, wealth management, commercial banking, treasury services, sales and trading, and investment banking businesses, as well as risk management, finance and other critical support functions. Bessant's team also oversees the company's business continuity and information security strategies and policies.

Bessant has held a number of senior leadership roles for the company. Most recently, she was president of Global Corporate Banking. Previously, she was president of Global Product Solutions and Global Treasury Services; chief marketing officer; president of Consumer Real Estate and Community Development Banking; national Small Business Segment executive; and president of the Florida market. She joined the bank as a corporate banker in 1982.

Bessant represents the company on a number of important topics, including diversity and inclusion. She serves as executive sponsor for the company's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride executive board and the LGBT Ally program, and was named to the 2017 Leading LGBT+ & Ally Executives List by OUTstanding, a professional network for LGBT executives and allies. She also serves as executive management team sponsor for the company's Disability Advisory Council.

Active in the community, Bessant was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine for her civic and business contributions to the state of North Carolina, and received the Women in Business Lifetime Achievement Award from the Charlotte Business Journal. She chairs the North Tryon Vision Plan Advisory Committee.

Bessant serves on the board of directors of Zurich Insurance Group and the advisory board for the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. She previously served on the board of directors for Florida Blue, formerly Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida; the Export-Import Bank of the United States; the University of North Carolina at Charlotte; and the Foundation for the Carolinas. She formerly chaired the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce.

Bessant is ranked No. 1 among the "25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" on American Banker's 2017 ranking and previously was ranked No. 1 on Institutional Investor magazine's Tech 50 list of financial technology leaders. She also appears on Working Mother magazine's "50 Most Powerful Working Moms" list of 2017.