

NEWS RELEASE
TO BUSINESS EDITOR
PHOTOS ATTACHED

Jim Gardas and The Dime Bank's Wealth Management Division Honored



James M. Gardas, an investment adviser in our Wealth Management Division, was awarded Financial Adviser of the Year at the BAR Financial region of Cetera for 2013, the investment firm through which The Dime Bank conducts all securities transactions. There are 27 financial institutions in the BAR Financial region and to receive this award is the utmost honor for any adviser. This award is based on professional standards for financial advisors, and was awarded to Jim Gardas for his attention to sound financial advice and overall investment practices resulting in exceptional financial

customer service. This recognition places Gardas in the top position when compared to similar programs at financial institutions nationwide. Joe Adams, vice president of The Dime Bank's Wealth Management Division stated, "Jim has done and continues to do an outstanding job for our customers, our staff, our community, and our Bank. We are very proud that Jim is part of our team."

Additionally, The Dime Bank's Wealth Management Division was also honored when it received BAR's "Best Performing Financial Institution for 2013" award. Of the 27 banks and credit unions in this division, The Dime Bank's program was feted as the best based on a number of sales criteria. The Dime Bank's Wealth Management Division serves thousands of client accounts, with nearly \$190,000,000 in assets under management. Gary Beilman, president and chief executive officer of The Dime Bank commented, "The whole array of investment choices offered through our Wealth Management Division is very exciting. The expertise that Joe, Jim, George, Cindy, and Christine bring to our customers every day has long been appreciated, and they now have received national attention for their efforts. Our entire team is to be congratulated."

Two photos attached:

First photo: Jim Gardas, , Investment Advisor Representative

Second Photo: The Wealth Management Team: back row left to right: George Cobb, Registered Representative; Joe Adams, Vice President Wealth Management; Jim Gardas, Investment Advisor Representative. Front row: Cindy Galloway, Wealth Management Administrative Specialist; Christine Angland, Administrative Representative.

Source: The Dime Bank, February 26, 2014 / Deborah Unflat