

Meet the Garden State Team



T rue independence and understanding are at the core of our unique value proposition. Caring for and thoughtfully guiding our clients has created the strong trusting relationships we have nurtured over many decades. That's why so many people rely upon our independent company for wealth management and trust & estate services.



Ira J. Brower

Chief Executive Officer

WALL - MAIN OFFICE
ibrower@gstrustco.com

As Founder and CEO of Garden State Trust, Ira has grown the company with the simple premise that caring for and thoughtfully guiding clients through a commitment to always providing the highest level of service develops strong trusting relationships that span generations. Ira is proud of the company he built and the outstanding team of people who are dedicated to upholding this commitment on a daily basis.



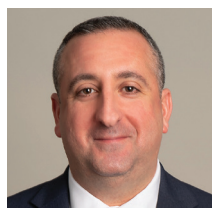
Barbara Kannheiser

Chief Financial Officer

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bkannheiser@gstrustco.com

Barbara is a principal of Garden State Trust Company with over 30 years of experience in fiduciary administration and operations.

Barbara oversees all facets of fiduciary activities and is responsible for all financial reporting for Garden State Trust Company. Barbara's experience and dedication to problem solving promotes a culture of quality within the company, as well as responsive service to clients.



Adam B. Brower, CFPA

President

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abrower@gstrustco.com

Adam was appointed President of Garden State Trust Company in January 2023. He is focused on the overall delivery of wealth management services to our clients. Since joining the company in 2012, Adam has always taken pride in finding solutions for client's needs while developing strong and lasting relationships.



Siobhan M. Connolly, CFPA

Senior Vice President & Trust Officer
Director of Administration

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sconnolly@gstrustco.com

Siobhan's focus is on client relationships and day to day contact with our investment management, trust, and charitable foundation clients. Her expertise in the area of Special Needs Trusts often requires her to work closely with special needs clients and their families to help them navigate the unique regulatory challenges and complexities of their situation.



Sean M. Rice, CFPA

Senior Vice President & Trust Officer
Regional Manager So. Jersey & Philadelphia

SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL OFFICE
srice@gstrustco.com

Sean serves as Regional Manager for our South Jersey and Philadelphia markets. Sean plays a pivotal role in attracting and retaining clients by cultivating new relationships via professional associations, local community events, and a wide array of relationship-building activities.



Kurt G. Talke, CFPA

Senior Vice President & Trust Officer
Regional Manager

LEBANON REGIONAL OFFICE
ktalke@gstrustco.com

As Regional Manager, Kurt leverages his decades of experience helping clients reach their goals in connection with trust and investment management. Kurt plays a vital role in client development efforts by cultivating new relationships via a wide range of legal, financial and professional associations.



John M. Bonk, CFPA

Senior Vice President & Trust Officer

LEBANON REGIONAL OFFICE
jbonk@gstrustco.com

John's role is to expand our Investment and Fiduciary Service business in the Lebanon Region. His approach has always been to provide trust, estate, investment, and tax services in a coordinated manner to enhance the client experience.



John P. Ritter

Senior Vice President & Trust Officer

SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL OFFICE
jritter@gstrustco.com

John has worked in the trust and wealth management industry for the past thirty years in the South Jersey marketplace. His extensive knowledge of trust administration, taxes, portfolio management, and retirement planning has enabled John to provide guidance and maintain relationships with his clients for decades.



Emily Brower

Compliance Officer

WALL - MAIN OFFICE
ebrower@gstrustco.com

As compliance officer, Emily is responsible for ensuring that Garden State continues to adhere to the highest industry standards through diligent oversight of policies and procedures necessary to properly manage and safeguard our client's accounts.



Kerri Bockin

Tax & Operations Officer

WALL - MAIN OFFICE
kjablonski@gstrustco.com

As Assistant Tax & Operations Officer, Kerri works closely with our CFO and is responsible for all fiduciary tax administration for our clients. She also handles many of our financial operational tasks.



Mary Gonzalez

Assistant Trust Officer

WALL - MAIN OFFICE
mgonzalez@gstrustco.com

As an Assistant Trust Officer, Mary's responsibilities include working directly with clients in meeting their needs and their associated relationship management. Mary takes extreme pride in interacting with our clients and helping them reach their goals.

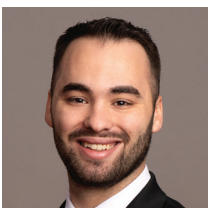


Carolyn Valdata-Beton

Assistant Trust Officer

WALL - MAIN OFFICE
cbeton@gstrustco.com

Carolyn brings a wealth of banking and finance experience from the corporate and private banking sectors in the UK and USA. She has specialized experience in annuities, estate planning and life insurance.



Corey Dawson

Assistant Trust Officer

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cdawson@gstrustco.com

Corey has a strong background in Finance, Investment Management, and Trust & Estate Planning and is a licensed life insurance agent. He has a passion for helping individuals and families protect their financial future.



Walter Pennett

Assistant Trust Officer

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wpennett@gstrustco.com

As Trust Administrator in the Lebanon, NJ office, Walter assists clients with personal financial planning, investment strategies and estate planning. Walter takes pride in getting to know the clients he serves and developing strategies to achieve their financial goals.



Linda Laubach

Administrative Assistant

SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL OFFICE
llaubach@gstrustco.com

Working out of our South Jersey Regional office, Linda assists with internal office management including interoffice communications and operations as well as assisting trust officers with client relationship management. With her prior marketing experience, she is responsible for the public relations activities for the company.



Gale Conti

Receptionist

WALL - MAIN OFFICE
gconti@gstrustco.com

As the Receptionist at the main office in Wall, NJ, Gale warmly greets our guests and handles all incoming calls and interoffice communications. She also assists our trust officers with both account maintenance and accounts payable.



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