

Ammar Askari
Director of Community Affairs Outreach

Ammar Askari is the Director of Community Affairs Outreach at the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC). In this role, Mr. Askari coordinates the work of the district community affairs officers in the agency's four districts.

Mr. Askari joined the OCC in 2010 as a community development expert within Community Affairs. In that role, Mr. Askari researched and authored publications informing national banks and federal savings associations about federal programs and best practices in community development lending, investment, and service.

Prior to joining the OCC, Mr. Askari held the positions of Community Education Administrator and Vice President in retail administration at M&I Marshall & Ilsley Bank, Milwaukee, Wis. At that time, the bank had \$63 billion in assets and more than 300 branches spread over seven states. In that role, Mr. Askari designed, implemented, and administered a bank-wide community financial literacy program, served on the bank's compliance team, and led the bank's effort in designing products and services targeting the unbanked and underbanked. He joined the bank in 2001 as a risk analyst, a role in which he built econometric models to prioritize collection accounts and forecast losses in the bank's retail, wholesale, and auto loan portfolios.

Prior to his career in banking, Mr. Askari was a faculty member of the economics department at Indiana University at Columbus. There, he taught economics and statistics and served as an academic advisor for the School of Business and College of Liberal Arts. He founded and managed a nonprofit Center for Economic Education, which spread economic literacy among youth by training K-12 teachers on how to incorporate economics into their curricula.

Mr. Askari received his bachelor's degree in business and economics from Damascus University, Syria. He has a master's degree in Social and Applied Economics from Wright State University and a master's degree and a doctorate in economics from Indiana University at Bloomington.

