



CBSC Partners With AudioEye

CBAI Member Banks Gain Access to Website ADA Compliance Tools

Springfield, IL. (March 23, 2021) -- Community BancService Corporation, Inc. (CBSC), the business services subsidiary of the Community Bankers Association of Illinois (CBAI), the only state bank trade association dedicated exclusively to representing the interests of Illinois community banks, announced it has entered a strategic partnership with AudioEye, a US-based leader in web site accessibility compliance.

Enacted in 1990, the ADA requires physical public spaces be accessible to persons with disabilities. The Department of Justice says that electronic spaces must also be accessible, including websites, mobile apps, and other online spaces. Failure to comply can result in severe financial penalties, lost opportunities to serve a customer with disabilities, and litigation that may result in large settlements and unfavorable publicity for community banks. Unfortunately, community banks are becoming prime targets for trolls that use software to easily search the web and identify bank websites that are not ADA compliant. They threaten litigation unless the target bank agrees to make ADA compliant changes and pay a "settlement fee."

"Maintaining an ADA-compliant website should be a high priority for banks. Having a website that follows accessibility guidelines, helps protect banks against lawsuits and fines, in addition to providing needed accommodations and creating an inclusive user experience for all bank customers," said Jenny Dial, senior vice president of operations at CBAI.

"By making a good-faith effort to achieve reasonable accessibility for users with disabilities, community banks can get ahead of the regulatory curve in developing a compliant website and avoiding potential lawsuits" said Dial. "AudioEye will perform an <u>ADA & WCAG compliant scan</u> at no charge to member banks."

"Legence Bank started using AudioEye ADA Solutions a few years ago and we are extremely pleased with the software. As our company continues to grow, we have more and more visits to our website. Audio Eye will take care of our accessibility compliance needs long into the future of our company's growth." -**Tricia Overturf, Vice President of Marketing and Communications Legence Bank, Eldorado**

"Thanks Jenny!! All employees have been impressed with AudioEye and to know that our website is now accessible to all customers; I am sure that will be the same reaction from customers when they check out the features!" -Eric Selstad, CFO First Federal Savings & Loan Association of Central Illinois S.B, Shelbyville

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