

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Joseph A. Sheils

(BA '90) • EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT OF CONSUMER AND DIGITAL BANKING, BUSEY BANK



Joseph A. Sheils (BA '90) is an executive vice president and president of consumer and digital banking at Busey Bank. As a banking executive, Sheils has devoted much of his career to innovating in consumer and commercial finance, and building strong and integrated operations at the major financial service corporations where he has served.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in English from Loyola University Chicago, Sheils later attended the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, where he earned an MBA, specializing in finance and entrepreneurship.

Sheils began his career at GMAC Financial Services, moving to Bank of America, and then to LaSalle Bank, where as senior vice president and a division head of commercial banking he managed a lending team. He later served as senior vice president at MB Financial Bank, where he was appointed head of retail banking. Sheils then opened his own business strategy firm, Commonwealth Consulting, working with clients on business development, crisis management, and financial structuring, before taking his current position at Busey Bank.

Throughout his career Sheils has earned praise for his leadership, promoting positive customer experiences, maintaining the operational integrity and regulatory compliance of firms across complex organizational structures, and employing data-driven solutions to improve performance.

One of a long line of Loyola University Chicago graduates in the family, Sheils is highly active with the university. He is on the Dean's Advisory Council of the College of Arts and Sciences and is also a member of the National Alumni Advisory Board. He is the president and co-founder of the St. Ignatius College Prep Business Society, as well as a member of the Board of Regents for the school. Sheils serves as treasurer of the Union League Club of Chicago, a civic organization.