



Eric Thomas, *Executive Director*, Central Ohio River Business Association



Since January 2010, Mr. Thomas has served as general manager of Benchmark River and Rail Terminals, LLC located in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Thomas started Benchmark from the ground up, converting a retired department of defense fuel facility into a premier for-hire terminal. The terminal, along the Ohio River and the CSXT railroad, focuses on distribution of bulk liquid chemicals by barge, rail, and truck. Previously, Mr. Thomas was president of Southside River-Rail Terminal, Inc., also in Cincinnati. He holds a bachelor of science in accounting from Northern Kentucky University. He is a past chairman of the board (2015) for the International Liquid Terminals Association (ILTA). He is the current executive director, a co-founder, and inaugural chairman of the board for the Central Ohio River Business Association (CORBA), and also chairs its Regional Maritime Committee. Mr. Thomas is also a past chairman of the Greater Cincinnati Harbor and Maritime Control Committee (GCHMCC) from 2007-2008. Mr. Thomas has accumulated 27 years of experience in the tank terminal industry, and over 40 years in distribution. Mr. Thomas is a lifelong resident of Northern Kentucky, where he lives with his wife, Dena.