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PRESS RELEASE

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CDFA Announces Steve Bamford, DFCP

—Newest Graduate of the Prestigious Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) Program —

Columbus, OH — The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is delighted to congratulate Steve Bamford, Executive Director of the Allentown Neighborhood Improvement Zone Development Authority in Allentown, PA, as the newest graduate of the prestigious Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) program. Mr. Bamford joins the ranks of fellow graduates who are recognized as the most qualified leaders in the development finance industry.

“We are excited to welcome Steve into the ranks of the DFCP program” states Toby Rittner, DFCP and President & CEO of CDFA. “Steve has been engaged with CDFA for many years and we are excited to watch him grow and learn in his professional career.”

Steve Bamford serves as the Executive Director of the Allentown Neighborhood Improvement Zone Development Authority (ANIZDA). The Neighborhood Improvement Zone is a special tax incentive district created by state law used to encourage development in the city of Allentown, Pennsylvania utilizing a unique development finance tool. To date, 2.3 million square feet of urban development and redevelopment projects have been funded and completed within the 130-acre zone including PPL Center, a 10,000-seat arena owned by the Authority that served as a catalyst for the private development that followed. Steve is committed to building vibrant, sustainable communities through public-private partnerships. He has over 30 years of experience in economic development, urban redevelopment, brownfield redevelopment, real estate, construction, location incentives, public finance, development finance, government relations, and management. Prior to joining ANIZDA he held a variety of positions in both the public and private sectors including serving as Executive Director of Pottstown Area Industrial Development, Inc.; Senior Manager in the state and local tax practice of Ernst & Young, LLP; Vice President of Operations for the Allentown Economic Development Corporation; Executive Director of the Allentown Commercial and Industrial Development Authority; Vice President/Special Projects at the New Castle County (DE) Economic Development Corporation; and Economic Development Specialist for the City of Reading, PA. He began his career as a commercial real estate sales professional. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Economics and Business Administration from Ursinus College and earned a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Delaware.

CDFA’s Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) Program is an intense training course learning experience and is the industry’s only comprehensive development finance professional certification program. The DFCP Program is designed to produce graduates with a comprehensive knowledge of development finance concepts, tools and applicability as well as a deep understanding of the entire development finance spectrum. Graduates of the DFCP Program gain valuable knowledge and experience within the complex development finance industry and achieve a level of understanding unmatched by any other professional certification program.

The **Council of Development Finance Agencies** is a national association dedicated to the advancement of development finance concerns and interests. CDFA is comprised of the nation’s leading and most knowledgeable members of the development finance community representing public, private and non-profit entities alike. For more information about CDFA, visit www.cdfa.net.

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