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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**CDFA Recognizes Michael Catsi, DFCP**

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

Columbus, OH - The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) is pleased to congratulate Mike Catsi, Business Development Communications Director for the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA), as the newest graduate of the prestigious Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) program. A new graduate, Mr. Catsi, joins numerous other graduates who have invested in their professional development and are ready to tackle the complexities of the development finance industry.

"As a long-time friend and colleague of mine, I'm pleased to welcome Mike into the ranks of DFCP graduates," states Toby Rittner, DFCP and President & CEO of CDFA. "Our hope is to continue to engage the very best that the development finance industry has to offer in the DFCP Program. Mike is most certainly one of them."

Mike Catsi serves as the Business Development Communications Director for AIDEA. Appointed to this position in 2010, Mr. Catsi pursues business development opportunities, oversees the Authority's communications, and assists clients through the Authority's financing process in partnership with AIDEA's finance and development staff. Michael serves as the Chair of AIDEA's Project Suitability Committee, and as a member of AIDEA's project review committees. Prior to joining the Authority, Michael led economic development organizations as executive director of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference and the Skagway Development Corporation. Michael currently serves as President of the Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and as a member of the Advisory Board for the Launch:Alaska business accelerator. Michael has served as president of the Alaska Partnership for Economic Development, was elected to the Skagway City Council, and served on the board of the Alaska Municipal League.

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](http://www.cdfa.net).

*CDFA: Advancing Development Finance Knowledge, Networks & Innovation*

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