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**PRESS RELEASE**

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### **CDFA Recognizes Darla Garrett, 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 Darla Garrett, Program Manager from the Maryland Department of Commerce, as the newest graduate of the prestigious Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) program. A new graduate, Ms. Garrett, joins numerous other graduates who have invested in their professional development and are ready to tackle the complexities of the development finance industry.

“We are happy to welcome Darla Garrett into the ranks of DFCP graduates. CDFA looks to consistently engage the best and brightest in the development finance industry in this program,” states Toby Rittner, DCFP and President & CEO of CDFA. “Our hope that through their work in the DFCP program, graduates are ready to tackle critical development finance efforts in the communities where they work.”

Darla Garrett is a Program Manager with the Maryland Department of Commerce and oversees the Office of Finance Programs Accounting and Administration Unit. Additionally, she administers Maryland’s Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Businesses Account-Video Lottery Terminal Fund, and the State’s Small Business Credit Initiative. Darla has over 20 years of combined professional experience in finance, banking and economic development. Prior to joining Commerce in 2001, Darla worked with First National Bank of Maryland in the Small Business Lending Center. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Public Policy, and a Master’s degree in Public Administration.

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 will 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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