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PRESS RELEASE

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CDFA Recognizes Michele O'Connor, 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 Michele O'Connor, Investment Manager from the West Virginia Jobs Investment Trust Board, as the newest graduate of the prestigious Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) program. A new graduate, Ms. O'Connor, 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 Michele O'Connor 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."

Michele O'Connor has more than 25 years' experience in the finance and banking industry. She has attained her Certified Financial Planner designation along with the Accredited Investment Fiduciary Manager designation. Michele was the Portfolio Manager for the Trust Department at First United Bank and managed over \$600 million for the department. Currently she is the Investment Manager for the West Virginia Jobs Investment Trust, which is a leading WV venture capital firm focused on turning the innovation of new ideas into successful world-class companies. She is a Board member and Treasurer of TechConnect West Virginia and serves as an Advisory Board Member for the WWSBDC.

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.

CDFA: Advancing Development Finance Knowledge, Networks & Innovation

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