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PRESS RELEASE

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Darla Garrett Elected Chair of CDFA's Board of Directors

— New Officer Slate Confirmed for 2022 —

Columbus, OH — CDFA is proud to announce that Darla Garrett has been elected as Chair of the CDFA Board of Directors, after serving as Vice-Chair since 2019.

The announcement of CDFA's newest Board Chair was shared at the organization's recent CDFA National Development Finance Summit, held virtually on November 1-5, 2021. Over 250 attendees welcomed Darla to this position.

"CDFA is so fortunate to have Darla as our new Board Chair. Her years of experience in the finance industry and public administration, coupled with her passion and enthusiasm, will no doubt help CDFA strengthen and grow its role as the leading voice in the development finance industry," said CDFA President & CEO Toby Rittner.

Darla is a Director with the Maryland Department of Commerce overseeing 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 the Maryland Department of 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, a Master's degree in Public Administration, and is Maryland's first to obtain CDFA's Development Finance Certified Professional designation.

"It is an absolute privilege to be the Chair of such an excellent organization," said Ms. Garrett. "I am truly humbled to be surrounded by such expertise that Toby, his staff, and the Board bring to CDFA. It is both a challenging and exciting time in the world of development finance. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provides an incredible opportunity to use development finance tools to help steer economic development projects and grow the economy. CDFA has been instrumental in this regard by leading the charge to reinstate the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) which is a part of ARPA. Their resources and webinars are excellent, offering best practices for a wide variety of development finance tools. I tell everyone I meet, if they want to know what is going on in the development finance world, not just in their State but across the country, they need to join CDFA!"

In addition, David Misky, Assistant Director, Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee, was elected Vice-Chair. Sue Housel, Economic Development District Manager of the City of Dallas, was elected Secretary. Steve Johnson, Director, Community Development for the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, will continue to serve as Treasurer. Richard Frampton, Executive Vice President of the Illinois Finance Authority, was elected Officer-In-Waiting. The new officers will serve in their positions through the CDFA National Development Finance Summit this coming November 2022.

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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