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ACAMS Partners with Puerto Rico Bankers Association to Address Urgent Need for Anti-Money Laundering Training in the Caribbean

MIAMI – November 9, 2010 - The Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) announced today that it has partnered with the Puerto Rico Bankers Association (ABPR) to provide anti-money laundering (AML) training throughout the Caribbean.

“Our international approach coupled with the ABPR’s insight into regional needs will result in key education and training that is in demand throughout the Caribbean in both the private and public sectors,” said John Byrne, CAMS, ACAMS Executive Vice President. “It is clear that today’s AML professional needs more than just a local view of AML policies, procedures and red flags. This partnership is going to fill that gap as more Caribbean nations work to establish themselves as international financial centers.”

The partnership will also lay the groundwork for several ACAMS initiatives in the region, including live training and exam centers for the Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS) credential – the only internationally recognized AML certification--as well as a Caribbean Chapter of ACAMS and a jointly produced conference in San Juan early next year.

The conference, entitled Caribbean AML/CTF/Financial Crime Conference: A Practical Approach, is scheduled for February 3-4, 2011, in Puerto Rico.

“ACAMS conferences are ‘active conferences.’ So, in addition to offering attendees an opportunity to listen to subject matter experts, our conferences also challenge participants to engage in active learning through workshops and networking. The February conference will focus on issues and activities affecting compliance professionals throughout the Caribbean, but viewed from a broader international lens,” said Nancy Sauer, CAMS, ACAMS Caribbean Task Force Chairperson and ACAMS Board Member.

“We’re certainly excited to partner this year with such an internationally recognized and respected association like ACAMS. For the past seven years, the Puerto Rican audience has benefited from the knowledge and expertise of many top experts in AML from different federal agencies, as well as local authorities. In this occasion we look forward to a conference that will provide both unmatched training as well as a fresh perspective of the most recent trends in AML and an opportunity to foster greater collaboration through an excellent networking environment,” said Arturo L. Carrion, ABPR Executive Vice President.

About the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS)

ACAMS is an international membership organization dedicated to enhancing the knowledge and skills of AML professionals around the globe. It serves as a uniquely valuable resource for more than 10,000 members in 130 countries, promoting year-round support to develop and sharpen the skills required for superior job performance and career advancement.

About ABPR

The Puerto Rico Bankers Association is a non-profit organization, established in 1966, that represents the commercial banks in the Island at governmental forums, legislative and executive branches, and before the social and economic communities in Puerto Rico.

Its main goals are to encourage the integrity and welfare of Puerto Rico's financial system, promote and preserve a healthy climate of competition among its members while encouraging the most sound banking practices, the provision of the most modern and the highest quality financial services, and contribute to the development and progress of the different sectors of the Puerto Rican economy.

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