ACAMS Executive Vice President Awarded for Distinguished Service During the 20th Annual West Coast AML Forum

John J. Byrne Accepts Award for Contributions to the Detection and Prevention of Financial Crime

MIAMI – May 9, 2012 – John J. Byrne, CAMS, Executive Vice President of the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS), accepted the first Patricia Wise Memorial Award from the West Coast Anti-Money Laundering Forum on May 2. The award was presented to Byrne in recognition of his contributions to the education of anti-money laundering (AML) professionals, efforts in advancing the fight against financial crime, and his support of the West Coast AML Forum. The award was created in the memory of the late Patricia Wise, an AML pioneer and staunch advocate for public-private sector partnerships.

"Pat Wise was a dear friend and forward thinking colleague—I was moved and deeply honored when this award was announced. It has been a huge privilege to work closely with the West Coast AML Forum over the years and help build the vital cooperation between the private and public sectors in the never ending struggle to combat money laundering and financial crime," commented Byrne.

The West Coast AML Forum serves to provide an open, candid and confidential dialogue between financial institutions, and government and law enforcement professionals. Byrne, a dedicated proponent of cross-sector support and cooperation, has worked closely with the West Coast AML Forum during his time with ACAMS and long before.

“There was no question as to who should be the first recipient of the West Coast AML Forum’s Pat Wise Memorial Award,” said Margaret Silvers, CAMS, Compliance Consultant for Wells Fargo Bank, and Committee Member for the West Coast AML Forum. “John’s contribution to the AML industry during the past 20 plus years has been vital. He has played a key role in ensuring regulatory requirements are meaningful, effective and well understood by the financial industry. He has supported the West Coast AML Forum in various capacities, almost since its inception. He has served as the key note speaker, participated in various panel presentations and moderated discussions. He even schedules his travel to ensure that he arrives early enough to help the planning committee assemble the meeting materials. This year he was responsible for clipping name badges to folders. In other words, no job is too big or too small for John. I’m sure Pat Wise is thrilled that John was designated the first recipient of her memorial award.”

About the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists®
ACAMS is an international membership organization dedicated to enhancing the knowledge and skills of AML professionals from a wide range of industries. It serves 12,500 members in 160 countries with extensive resources designed to develop and sharpen the skills required for superior job performance and career advancement. Its CAMS certification is the most widely recognized AML certification among compliance professionals worldwide. Visit the new ACAMS website at www.ACAMS.org.
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