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ACAMS Awards AML Audit Specialists Landmark Certification

MIAMI, Fla., December 9, 2013– The Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) announces the first-ever graduating class of its newly-launched advanced certification program, CAMS-Audit. An extension of the Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (CAMS) program, the credential focuses on the audit, independent testing and quality assurance functions and is targeted to mid- and senior-level management professionals in both the private and public sectors.

CAMS-Audit was created as an advanced class for those who have already achieved certification through the CAMS program and are seeking to augment their credentials, and take that next step in their careers. The course prepares candidates to effectively evaluate a BSA/AML compliance program, address and correct any deficiencies, recommend improvements to existing compliance programs, and set themselves apart as experts in the field.

The inaugural class – which commenced in January of 2013 – is made up of 16 professionals from both the financial sector and government. In order to receive the CAMS-Audit credential, students successfully completed a 3-day live course, several coursework assignments, and authored white papers as their final exam.

John J. Byrne, CAMS, Executive Vice President at ACAMS, believes CAMS-Audit fulfills an unmet need in the financial crime detection and prevention community: “We are encouraged by the enthusiastic response from the inaugural class of CAMS-Audit and are pleased to be adding value to both the AML community and also our candidates and their careers. CAMS-Audit equips candidates with the tools they need to position themselves as the elite in this important part of the AML/Financial Crime arena.”

Vicki Landon, CAMS, FLMI, CFCS, President of Landon Associates, Inc. agrees with Byrne: “The class has indeed raised my game, and I’m proud to have attained this certification. I came to the class with solid skills and experience; through the class I learned processes that have made my audits more efficient and consistent, and standards for testing and reporting.” On her most valuable experience, Landon cites the various insights she received: “By far the most important take-away was gaining

perspectives from the instructors and other students, greatly expanding my experience and the maturity of my audits."

Initially developed to satisfy the demand for a higher-level certification from existing CAMS members, Byrne sees the inaugural graduating class as the beginning of an expanded advanced certification program: "The success of the CAMS-Audit program has proven that our CAMS members take their roles as compliance specialists seriously. As we continue to offer CAMS-Audit courses, we are also developing additional advance certifications. The next program will focus on financial crime investigations and will launch in 2014."

The next CAMS-Audit live course takes place March 24-26 in Washington, DC.

Press Inquiries

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

ACAMS is the largest international membership organization dedicated to enhancing the knowledge and skills of AML and financial crime professionals from a wide range of industries 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 **www.acams.org** for more information.