Anti-Money Laundering Thought-Leaders to Keynote Risk Management Conference in New York City

United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York and Superintendent of Financial Services at the New York State Department of Financial Services to Share Insights on Financial Crime Compliance Industry Trends and Developments

MIAMI, Fla., December 20, 2013—Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, United States Attorney’s Office; and Benjamin M. Lawsky, Superintendent of Financial Services, New York State Department of Financial Services (NYSDFS), will be the featured keynote speakers at the 2nd Annual AML Risk Management Conference hosted by the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) on January 27 at the Conrad New York Hotel in New York City. The intensive, full-day conference will provide clarification on stringent regulatory expectations, insight into the latest best practices, and access to in-depth discussions of the AML risk management challenges that affect financial institutions today.

As a U.S. District Attorney, Bharara has received numerous accolades in his fight against fraud and organized crime. Named one of Time magazine’s “100 Most Influential People in the World,” Bharara was recently featured in The Washington Post for his latest landmark win against SAC Capital Advisors—the largest insider trading case to date. Last year, Bharara’s office successfully seized more than $3 billion in assets, more than any other U.S. Attorney.

After assuming the newly created role of Superintendent of NYSDFS in 2011, Lawsky captured the attention of the banking industry in 2012 with his high-profile handling of the state’s case against Standard Chartered Bank. As part of his department’s settlement with Standard Chartered for providing clearing services to Iranian and other entities sanctioned under U.S. law, Lawsky has sought to create new standards for banking consultants. Lawsky has also called for hearings on the regulation of Bitcoin and other virtual currencies. Lawsky’s appearance at the AML Risk Management Conference will be the first time compliance executives of financial institutions get to hear from him directly.

John J. Byrne, CAMS, Executive Vice President at ACAMS, believes the caliber of Bharara and Lawsky underscores the importance of the forum: “We are pleased that both the U.S. Attorney and the New York State Banking Superintendent are joining us for this conference and sharing their unique insight,” he said. “Both are leaders known for their courage and willingness to directly confront corruption and compliance
deficiencies, and with the numerous recent enforcement actions against financial institutions for deficiencies in AML risk management, their grasp of complex compliance issues will undoubtedly impart real-world knowledge for financial institutions to take back to their organizations and implement successfully.”

Ted Weissberg, CAMS, Chief Executive Officer at ACAMS, believes the conference addresses a crucial aspect of compliance: “As regulatory expectations continue to tighten, hearing first-hand from expert leaders who are helping to shape the methods in which we fight financial crimes, corruption, and adhere to compliance regulations is invaluable,” he said. “After hearing from Mr. Bharara and Mr. Lawsky, I am confident that attendees will leave the conference with a fuller understanding of their roles and strategies to be more effective.”

As increased scrutiny of AML risk management programs across some of the nation's largest financial institutions has shed light on the demand for financial institutions to perform more intense risk assessments with quantifiable analysis, speakers at the AML Risk Management Conference will also address:

- Lessons from recent enforcement actions and guidance for managing regulatory expectations
- Techniques to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment and document the results
- Strategies to reconfigure AML programs in order to minimize risk exposure
- Solutions to develop and sustain an enterprise-wide AML risk assessment framework

Full conference details and registration information are available at acamsnyc.org or by contacting ACAMS at (305) 373-0020 or info@acams.org. The conference will also offer a real-time broadcast option that provides access to a video feed of the keynote presentations and all training sessions via the Internet. Each session is then archived in an online library for post-conference referral.

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**Editor's Note:** Members of the media may contact Kourtney McCarty (kmccarty@acams.org) or 786-871-3109 or The Murry Agency at 305-531-5720 for credentials. Press may also participate through the virtual conference option.

**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 acams.org for more information.