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NCUA Media Advisory

James to Lead Newly Created Office of Minority and Women Inclusion

November 18, 2010, Alexandria, Va. -- National Credit Union Administration Chairman Debbie Matz announced today that Tawana Y. James has been selected to head the agency's new Office of Minority and Women Inclusion (OMWI) to be established effective January 21, 2011.

The OMWI is being created in response to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, signed into law by President Obama on July 21, 2010. As OMWI director, Ms. James will oversee all Dodd-Frank Act requirements related to diversity in management, employment, and business activities, including:

- ✓ Equal employment opportunity and the racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of the workforce and senior management of the agency;
- ✓ Increased participation of minority-owned and women-owned businesses in the programs and contracts of the agency, including standards for coordinating technical assistance to such businesses;
- ✓ Assessing the diversity policies and practices of entities regulated by the agency; and
- ✓ Preserving credit unions run by minorities and/or serving minorities.

"Tawana will bring to this position a wealth of experience and skills in dealing with challenging assignments," commented NCUA Chairman Debbie Matz. "She has demonstrated over the years an ability to stand up a new office and to provide valuable assistance to credit unions serving diverse communities. I have every confidence that Tawana will make the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion an effective advocate for diversity, both at NCUA and at credit unions."

Ms. James has over 30 years of service with NCUA and has served in numerous senior level positions. Prior to being selected as the Director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion, she served as the Director of the Office of Small Credit Union Initiatives, Regional Director, Deputy Executive Director, Deputy Director of the Office of Examination and Insurance, and Associate Regional Director of Operations.

James holds a B.S. degree in accounting from Towson State University, Towson, MD. She has completed several higher education courses; most notably the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government Program for Senior Managers. She is a recipient of several NCUA awards and the 2007 Pete Crear Lifetime Achievement Award. Tawana is married to Reginald Stevens and has two children, Reginald and Felicia.

NCUA is the independent federal agency that regulates, charters and supervises federal credit unions. With the backing of the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, NCUA operates and manages the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, insuring the deposits of over 90 million account holders in all federal credit unions and the overwhelming majority of state-chartered credit unions. NCUA is funded by credit unions, not taxpayer dollars.

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