



PRESS RELEASE

300 West Wieuca Road Building One Suite 300 Atlanta GA 30342 678-781-7200 Fax 678-781-7239 www.williammills.com

CONTACTS:

Charlyne H. McWilliams/Megan Ard
Media Contacts for Lenders One
301.933.5567/678.781.7223

Lenders One Continues to Increase Membership *First quarter growth supports cooperatives' strength in services*

ST. LOUIS, May 19, 2009 – After the addition of 42 new members to its roster in 2008, [Lenders One Mortgage Cooperative](#), a national alliance of mortgage bankers, announced today that it is continuing the trend of steady growth by adding seven new members in the first quarter of 2009 and another six members in the month of April.

“Independent mortgage bankers must rely heavily on the help of their peers to transform today’s mortgage challenges into opportunities for growth,” said Scott Stern, CEO of Lenders One. “That is why so many of them have turned to Lenders One. We provide our members access to quality products and services, while giving them opportunities to network with a variety of industry professionals.”

Springfield, Mo.-based Oakstar Bank joined Lenders One in January. The locally-owned community bank focuses on providing up-to-date technology. Julie Barker, executive vice president, said, “Lenders One’s business model gives us the power of combined purchasing and working with some of the best investors and vendors. Oakstar will become a stronger bank because of our membership in Lenders One Mortgage Cooperative, and we will have the knowledge and industry associations to help us achieve market leadership.”

Other new members from the first quarter include: Ideal Home Loans, Englewood, Colo.; Covenant Mortgage, Westford, Mass.; Advisors Mortgage Group, Manasquan, N.J.; Platte Valley Bank, Platte City, Mo.; Pinnacle Mortgage Group, Lakewood, Colo.; and Trident Mortgage Company, Devon, Pa.

New member Platte Valley Bank, offers conventional, FHA, VA and USDA loans as well as other programs. “Lenders One provides us with an additional leg to stand on to remain competitive,” said Nic Smith, director of Platte Valley Bank’s secondary marketing division. “The pricing incentives allow us to attack the market and stay at the head of the industry in our respective lending areas.”

Brian Rindels, vice president at Pinnacle Mortgage, explained, "Having the ability to participate in continuing education through Lenders One was an important factor in deciding to join, as well as having access to valuable marketing and customer retention programs. We are looking forward to attending the upcoming conferences, where we can network with other member companies and gain insight into best practices used by other successful mortgage bankers." Pinnacle Mortgage specializes in conventional, FHA and VA loans as well as reverse mortgages.

"Each year the cooperative's membership has experienced steady growth, and that is especially notable because of the very unpredictable state of the mortgage industry," Stern said. "Our strong presence in the current mortgage industry is further evidence of the value that mortgage bankers see in membership with Lenders One."

About Lenders One Mortgage Cooperative

Lenders One is a national alliance of mortgage bankers which was established in 2000 and is based in St. Louis. With more than 125 members originating \$40 billion in mortgage loans annually, the Lenders One alliance ranks as the ninth largest mortgage originator in the U.S. Lenders One leverages its aggregate buying power and preferred-investor relationships to negotiate better lending terms and provide premium business services at reduced costs. Its mortgage productivity system additionally allows members to close more loans, satisfy continuing education requirements and market themselves more powerfully. For more information about membership, contact Tim Stern 866.728.5678 or visit www.lendersone.com.

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