



LOCAL FINANCIAL SERVICES PROFESSIONAL EARNS NATIONAL CERTIFICATION

DENVER, COLORADO December 17, 2009 – Kathleen A. Lantz, Trust Administrator, American National Bank, was recently awarded the Certified Trust & Financial Advisor (CTFA) designation from the Institute of Certified Bankers (ICB), a subsidiary of the American Bankers Association, in Washington, DC.

Ms. Lantz has been with the Wealth Management Group at American National Bank for six years in February and has been a Trust Administrator for the past 2-1/2 years. Prior to that, for twelve years she worked at several highly acclaimed law firms specializing in the field of estate and trust administration. She is a member of the Colorado Planned Giving Roundtable and serves on the program committee. She is also a member of the Mile High Agility Club of Boulder, where she serves on the board of directors. A large, independent bank, American National Bank has locations throughout Colorado, Wyoming with its parent company, Sturm Financial Group, Inc. located in Denver, CO.

The CTFA designation is awarded to individuals who demonstrate excellence in the field of wealth management and trust. To qualify for the CTFA certification, individuals must have certain levels of experience and education in the trust profession, pass an examination, and agree to abide by a code of ethics. The CTFA exam covers many areas including fiduciary and trust activities, financial planning, tax law and planning, investment management and ethics.

Financial services professionals, working through the Institute of Certified Bankers, initiated the CTFA designation and eight others in order to establish meaningful standards of knowledge in specialty areas of the financial services industry. ICB certifications formally recognize those who meet these standards and meet professional continuing education and development requirements.

The ICB, with over 9,000 certified members, provides financial services professionals with confidence, credibility and recognition through its certifications. As a subsidiary of the American Bankers Association, ICB promotes the highest standards of performance in the financial services industry by validating individuals' knowledge and expertise. For more information about the Institute of Certified Bankers and its professional certifications, call 202-663-5092 or visit www.aba.com/icb.