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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Columbia Credit Union hires Bill Fulk as SVP/Chief Lending Officer**

**Vancouver, WA**– Columbia Credit Union announces the hiring of Bill Fulk as the credit union’s new SVP/Chief Lending Officer. Fulk will be responsible for directing all of Columbia’s mortgage, direct, indirect, and member business lending activities. “Sustainable loan growth is fundamental to Columbia’s future success,” said Columbia President/CEO Steve Kenny. “Bill’s background and experience will help Columbia meet current lending objectives and plan for future growth and profitability.”

Fulk’s past experience spans a 23-year career in the financial industry in a variety of strategic and operational leadership roles. Just prior to joining Columbia, he held the Chief Lending Officer position at Elevations Credit Union (\$927 million assets) in Boulder, Colorado. There he was responsible for real estate, consumer, and business lending as well as credit cards and collections.

“Helping individuals, families and small businesses improve their financial lives is very rewarding,” said Fulk. “I’m excited to help expand Columbia’s lending efforts in a way that truly benefits members.”

Active in the community, Fulk plans to continue his volunteer efforts while at Columbia. His past commitments include positions with the YMCA, the Allen County Community Development Corporation, Rotary, Optimist and Exchange Clubs. In addition, he has served as a committee member for two Colorado credit union service organizations, Centennial Lending and CUDC. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Indiana University.

(more)

**About Columbia Credit Union:** Established in 1952, Columbia Credit Union has \$757.9 million in assets and 12 Clark County, WA locations. Columbia serves more than 64,000 members with a 2009 satisfaction rating of 95.9 percent - an industry benchmark. Columbia is nationally recognized by PBS and Associates as a “Best Place to Work” and was voted the “Best Financial Institution” for 2009 & 2010 and “Best Overall Customer Service” 2010 in Clark County. Columbia is a top local lender for auto and home loans, and was named the SBA “Credit Union Lender of the Year” for 2009 in the Portland, Oregon district. Committed to sustainability, Columbia built Clark County’s first financial institution branches to strict LEED standards set by the U.S. Green Building Council. Individuals and businesses in Washington State are eligible for membership. For more information visit [www.columbiacu.org](http://www.columbiacu.org).

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