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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Columbia Credit Union Named SBA Credit Union Lender of the Year

Vancouver, WA – Columbia Credit Union has been named the SBA (Small Business Administration) Credit Union Lender of the Year in the Portland, Oregon district – an area covering 30 counties in Oregon and four counties in Southwest Washington. The credit union was among the top 2009 financial services institutions chosen for their demonstrated commitment to small business during times of economic difficulty and credit shortages.

“SBA lending plays an important role in serving the total financial needs of our members, and we’re doing our best to provide businesses with lending solutions,” said Columbia Chief Credit Officer Jim Brekke. Columbia will be honored at an awards ceremony at the SBA Portland’s Small Business Week Awards Gala in June.

“By keeping their commitment to small business during this rough economic climate, Columbia Credit Union is playing a critical role in the area’s economic recovery,” commented SBA District Director Harry DeWolf.

Columbia has a successful track record as a top-10 business lender and is the only credit union in western Washington and the Portland area to earn the SBA’s Preferred Lender status. For more information, visit www.columbiacu.org or contact Columbia’s Business Lending Dept. at 360.619.3060.

(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 is a top-10 SBA lender in the Portland/Vancouver metro area. 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.

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