



**OPPORTUNITY FINANCE NETWORK NAMES
NEW SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES**

PHILADELPHIA, PA.///June 21, 2006///The Opportunity Finance Network (OFN) today announced that Laura Sparks has joined the organization as senior vice president of Financial Services.

Sparks will manage OFN's \$40 million Financing Fund invested nationally in community development financial institutions (CDFIs). She will also recruit mortgage originators for the year-end launch of OFN's residential mortgage platform that will create a competitive response to predatory and other high cost lenders by offering alternative residential mortgage products.

OFN is a national network of financial institutions that create opportunities for American people, communities, and markets that are outside the economic mainstream today and open those markets to conventional financial institutions.

OFN's EVP and Chief Lending and Investment Officer, Arthur Fleming said: "Opportunity Finance Network is focused on transforming the industry into a high-volume financing system. We will leverage Laura's experience in both conventional and opportunity markets as we develop innovative products and services for the opportunity markets served by our network of CDFIs."

Sparks previously worked at UBS Securities LLC as an associate of the Municipal Securities Group, where she modeled and structured bond transactions for government, higher education, and other nonprofit clients, and managed the production of transaction and presentation materials at all stages of the bond issuance process. From 1998–2000, Laura worked with OFN as a senior associate in Financial Services. She was responsible for analyzing investments in CDFIs and presenting recommendations to OFN's Investment Committee and Board of Directors.

Sparks holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy and economics from Wellesley College, where she graduated with honors. Sparks also has an MBA degree from the Wharton School of Business, and a JD with honors from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

ABOUT OPPORTUNITY FINANCE NETWORK

The Opportunity Finance Network is the new \$4 billion national network of 167 financial institutions that finds and finances opportunities that others overlook. Formerly the National Community Capital Association, OFN was launched in January 2006 to advance its 20-year track record with a bold, new emphasis on high-volume and high-impact financing strategies to align capital with social, economic, and political justice. OFN's financing, advocacy, and knowledge sharing are dedicated to closing the gap between promising opportunities and real accomplishments for American people, communities, and markets that are outside the economic mainstream today. For more details about Opportunity Finance Network initiatives for 2006 and beyond, go to <http://www.opportunityfinance.net>.

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