

Carla Brooks of Commerce Street Capital Named on Top 25 Nonbank Women in Finance List

Annual ranking by U.S. Banker and American Banker Announced

DALLAS, TEXAS (September 23, 2009) Commerce Street Capital LLC (CSC) is pleased to announce that Carla Brooks, the firm's managing director and deputy portfolio manager, was ranked No. 12 on this year's Top 25 Nonbank Women in Finance list. The *U.S. Banker* and *American Banker* publications have featured Brooks' performance-based influence ranking in their seventh-annual 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking (25 MPWIB) report. Brooks was also ranked in 2008, as No. 13.

"These women have successfully adapted to lead their companies, their clients and their employees through challenging economic times," said Barbara A. Rehm, editor in chief of *American Banker*. "We are honored to recognize their achievements." The list of honorees is featured in the October 2009 issue of *U.S. Banker* magazine and [online](#).



Honoree selections and rankings are based on a broad range of quantitative and narrative information submitted by the honorees and their firms, as well as on supplementary information gathered and compiled by the editorial staffs of the two publications. Among other factors, the selections take into account an executive's influence and accomplishments, the size and scope of the business she oversees, and her philanthropic and mentoring activities.

In conjunction with the magazine ranking, *U.S. Banker* and *American Banker* will host the 25 MPWIB awards gala. This invitation-only celebration of achievement in banking brings together 400 of today's most influential leaders, including those named in the magazine's special ranking and past honorees. This year, Brooks will be attending on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2009, at The Plaza in New York, NY. The keynote speaker will be Sheila Bair, chairman of Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

Brooks has more than 30 years of experience analyzing financial institutions. She joined CSC's predecessor firm, SAMCO Capital Markets Inc., in 2002 and has played an integral role in developing the firm's fund management business. Having built a successful career in bank regulation and oversight, Brooks was in a unique position to help create private equity funds to invest in banks. In addition to her performance in managing funds, Brooks also played a key role in advising and assisting her client in obtaining the country's first-ever shelf charter.

"I am honored to be recognized again this year as one of the top leaders within my industry," Brooks stated. "This is especially significant given the turmoil currently affecting financial institutions."

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About Commerce Street Capital LLC

Commerce Street Capital LLC is a privately held investment banking firm headquartered in Dallas, Texas, focused on serving financial institutions across the United States through three lines of business: investment banking, bank development and fund management. For more than 20 years, the firm's leadership has built their reputation as leading investment bankers, financial advisors and investors in community banks across the United States. For more information, visit www.commercestreetcapital.com. Commerce Street Capital is a member of FINRA/SIPC.

About American Banker and U.S. Banker

American Banker (www.americanbanker.com) is the banking industry's daily source of information, news and analysis covering national and global issues, mortgages, consumer finance, legislation, investment products, card and payment systems, and technology.

U.S. Banker (www.us-banker.com) is written for executives who must generate greater profits and shareholder value for their financial institutions and covers market trends, regulations, innovations and individuals that reshape the financial services landscape.

The 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking™ has grown from an influence ranking recognizing the business acumen, professional achievements and personal tenacity of top-performing women to include a community committed to fostering women's professional development, career advancement and peer-to-peer networking. Visit www.25mpwib.com.

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