

ABA Media Contact:

John Hall
jhall@aba.com, 202-663-5473

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABA ENDORSES BANK-OWNED LIFE INSURANCE FROM EQUIAS ALLIANCE

WASHINGTON — The American Bankers Association has awarded Equias Alliance with its exclusive endorsement for their executive and director benefits services and bank-owned life insurance. This exclusive endorsement is awarded through its subsidiary, the Corporation for American Banking.

Equias Alliance programs help banks enhance earnings, restore existing retirement program shortfalls, and offset the costs of medical, group life and other ERISA benefits.

The selection of Equias Alliance follows a lengthy due diligence process – with the assistance of an independent industry consultant – that extensively reviewed the products, technology, service and industry expertise of Equias Alliance and other major providers in the BOLI and executive and director benefits arena. To earn the endorsement, companies must meet stringent quality standards, fulfill industry needs, and satisfy certain other key criteria, such as the ability to meet the long term needs of financial institutions, customer service, financial soundness and management strength.

“Although Equias Alliance is a new company, the principals and employees are very experienced in the BOLI and nonqualified plan marketplace,” said John Wolff, president of CAB. “The six board members have combined industry experience of 90 years, the 14 consultants have combined industry experience of 190 years and the 35 Equias team members have combined industry experience of 350 years. In addition to the industry expertise they provide, their strong technical support, the advanced technology they utilize and the quality control procedures they have in place made them stand out during our vetting process.”

“It was an honor to present our company’s capabilities to CAB and demonstrate the advantages we bring in this highly competitive marketplace,” said David Shoemaker, president of Equias Alliance. “I was impressed with the depth of their analysis, as well as their knowledge of the BOLI and Executive and Director Benefits industry. The people at CAB take the selection process very seriously. We are excited to work with ABA to provide best-of- class products and services to banks of all sizes.”

About American Bankers Association

The American Bankers Association represents banks for all sizes and charters and is the voice for the nation’s \$13 trillion banking industry and its 2 million employees. The majority of ABA’s members are banks with less than \$165 million in assets.

About Corporation for American Banking

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Corporation for American Banking (CAB) is an affiliate of the American Bankers Association that endorses bank solutions on behalf of the Association, helping banks save money, make money, and operate more efficiently. Solutions range from mission-critical insurance, compliance and risk management programs to services that help banks stay competitive and efficient through technology and business growth platforms. More than 6,000 banks use at least one ABA-endorsed CAB program. These programs are also supported by State Bankers Associations through co-endorsement relationships.

About Equias Alliance

Equias Alliance delivers nonqualified benefit and BOLI portfolio services to banks across the United States via its team of 14 consultants and 21 support personnel. With some of the most experienced former consultants of Clark Consulting located in 11 regional offices, Equias Alliance offers a near-seamless approach from design to implementation. They have helped nearly 800 banking organizations recruit, retain, and reward executives, directors and employees critical to each bank's success.

In addition, the company's in-house service professionals offer practical, hands-on assistance to banks and their professional advisors in responding to auditors and examiners, as well as timely, accurate documentation and regulatory compliance support. The organization's 35 team members include 8 CPA's, 2 attorneys, 7 MBA's, 3 CLU's, 1 CFP®, 2 ChFC®, a former bank regulator, several former bankers and bank directors and hold many other degrees and licenses.

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