



PRESERVING FAIR STANDARDS FOR COMMUNITY LENDERS

COMMUNITY MORTGAGE LENDERS OF AMERICA (CMLA) TO PARTNER WITH ARI KAREN OF OFFIT KURMAN TO PROVIDE EDUCATION, COUNSEL AND ADVICE

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Contact: Kevin M. Cuff at the CMLA, 978.239.5612

The Community Mortgage Lenders of America announced today a partnership with Ari Karen, a principal of the Law Offices of Offit Kurman. Mr. Karen, a nationally recognized legal expert on issues affecting the mortgage banking and lending industries, will provide CMLA's members with unique and exclusive access and insights into the problems and solutions associated with legal challenges impacting the financial services industry. Mr. Karen, an experienced litigator representing clients nationwide, is teaming with CMLA to assist its members in understanding and adapting to developments in regulations, industry trends, and other legal challenges.

When asked why he was interested in collaborating with CMLA, Mr. Karen replied "without the CMLA, there is a distinct absence in a voice in Washington that can deliver a message focused on the unique needs of community-based banks and lenders. Without that voice, our nation's banking industry may well become centralized and uncompetitive to the detriment of consumers."

Mark McDougald, CMLA Chairman of the Board commented, "Mr. Karen is as well known legal consultant in the community banking and mortgage banking industries nationwide. The idea that we partner at this critical time is imperative to the future of our industries. It is the CMLA's best intentions to be certain that all of our membership is as well informed, compliant and competitive in this changing marketplace. Ari Karen will help us do that."

About the CMLA

The CMLA is a national community mortgage banking trade association representing Main Street community mortgage bankers. Founded in 2009, CMLA is a national organization dedicated to providing a voice for the independent community based mortgage bankers. The CMLA is founded on the principal that a thriving independent mortgage banking sector increases competition in the industry and provides borrowers with choice resulting in lower costs, and innovative products. For more information, visit www.thecmla.com, or call Kevin M. Cuff, Executive Director, 978.239.5612

About Offit Kurman

Offit Kurman is a growing, dynamic, full-service law firm serving clients in the mid Atlantic region. With offices serving Washington DC, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Wilmington, Offit Kurman is a trusted legal advisor for commercial litigation, insurance recovery, business law, real estate, intellectual property, entertainment and media, labor and employment, construction law, estate planning, asset protection, elder law, family law, government contracting, landlord representation, family law and health care law.

For media inquiries, please contact Steve Kozak, Director of Marketing at skozak@offitkurman.com.