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Contact:

Danielle Kernell
Cadence Bank, N.A.
713-871-4051 direct | 713-392-7709 mobile
danielle.kernell@cadencebank.com

Cadence Bancorp Appoints New CFO

Leader in Business and Financial Integration Chosen to Head Financial Services

HOUSTON – Dec. 20, 2012 – Cadence Bancorp, LLC announced today the appointment of Valerie C. Toalson as executive vice president and chief financial officer. Most recently, Toalson served as executive vice president, chief financial officer of BankAtlantic Bancorp.

Toalson brings more than 25 years of banking experience in accounting and accounting operations, financial and regulatory reporting, treasury, and investor relations. She also has played key roles in budgeting as well as customer and relationship profitability management.

“The experience that Valerie brings will be invaluable as we continue our growth trajectory,” said Paul B. Murphy, president and chief executive officer of Cadence Bancorp and chairman of Cadence Bank. “Her ability to blend the financial aspects that are inherent in the CFO role with the insights into the growth of our businesses will be a significant asset to us. This combination of skills and business acumen will be a great addition to our management team.”

Toalson became chief financial officer of BankAtlantic in 2006 and became CFO of the holding company in 2007, which had assets of over \$6.5 billion, 2800 employees and a market cap of \$1 billion. At BankAtlantic, she oversaw accounting, including financial and regulatory reporting, accounting operations, accounts payable and tax. She also was responsible for budgeting and forecasting, deposit pricing analysis, as well as asset/liability management and investments. Prior to this, she was at Bank of Oklahoma, where she held several leadership positions including manager of credit services, corporate controller, manager of process improvement and chief auditor. Toalson began her career in audit at Price Waterhouse, where she earned her CPA.

“Valerie clearly brings a wealth of financial experience to Cadence,” said Sam Tortorici, CEO of Cadence Bank. “Her broad background will be a perfect fit for our growing company.”

A graduate of Oklahoma State University with a degree in accounting, Toalson is a board member of the Broward County YMCA and a member of its finance committee, chairman of the Parkland Family Center YMCA, and a member of the financial advisory team of Church by the Glades. She also is active with Crown Financial Ministries and Financial Peace University as a group coordinator and class facilitator.

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About Cadence Bank

Cadence Bancorp LLC, is a bank holding company headquartered in Houston, Texas. CBC raised equity capital commitments of \$1.0 billion in 2010 for the purpose of making investments in the U.S. banking sector, with a particular focus on community banks that are well positioned to benefit from the equity capital, management and industry expertise Cadence can provide. Today, through Cadence Bank, N.A., headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, CBC has more than 100 locations in six states, including Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas. As an extremely well-capitalized financial organization, Cadence is intent on supporting the economic growth of the communities it serves. Through exceptional customer service, relevant products and services, a disciplined credit and risk management framework, cost controls, and the implementation of enhanced technology, Cadence has become a strong regional bank.

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