For Immediate Release: 2/25/13

Central City Credit Union CEO named board chair for CUNA national, pro-consumer trade group

Pat Wesenberg, President of Central City Credit Union, has been named Chair of the Board of Directors for the Credit Union National Association, the trade association representing 95 million consumers who cooperatively own their financial institution.

In this role Pat will continue what has been decades of strong consumer advocacy; credit unions save their account holders upwards of $6.4 billion annually in the form of higher rates on savings accounts, lower rates on loans and lower and fewer fees for financial services.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to advocate for consumers through my role within the credit union industry. It is truly an honor," Wesenberg said.

"In Wisconsin alone, credit unions have saved consumers close to $1 billion since the start of the recent recession," she noted. "That is *in addition to* credit unions' free financial education in schools, outreach to new Americans, assistance to low-income tax filers, and free financial counseling that helps consumers budget, pay down debt, prevent foreclosures, improve creditworthiness and build wealth."

"I look forward to working with our board under Pat's leadership as we strive to have more Americans choose credit unions as their best financial partner," said Bill Cheney, President & CEO of the Credit Union National Association. "I have always valued Pat's perspective and insight, and how both are energized by her passionate belief in the ability of credit unions to improve people's financial well-being."

Brett A. Thompson, President & CEO of the state credit union trade association, The Wisconsin Credit Union League, said "Pat is an outstanding consumer advocate. She works well with all lawmakers regardless of political affiliation because she is such a passionate voice for credit unions. She will capably lead the nation in protecting consumers' right to invest in themselves and their communities through local ownership and control of their financial institution."

Pat serves as a government affairs liaison for Marshfield Medical Center Credit Union, and represents the smallest credit unions through her role on the CUNA Board. For the Wisconsin Credit Union League she served on the Government Affairs Committee and as President and Vice President for the Central Wisconsin Chapter of Credit Unions. Locally, Pat has also been a board member for the United Way of Portage County, Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MACCI), Central Wisconsin Alliance for Economic Development (Centergy), Portage County Business Council and Meals on Wheels - a program that delivers meals to individuals at home who are unable to purchase or prepare their own meals. She previously served as CUNA's Board Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. She has also chaired CUNA's Governmental Affairs

Committee, Small Credit Union Committee, Corporate Governance Committee, Finance Committee, and Partnership Committee. She also chaired CUNA's Strategic Services Board and Audit Committee.

Credit unions are not-for-profit. Because they have no stockholders they return earnings to account holders. Around 40% of Wisconsin citizens use credit unions to better manage their finances.

Central City Credit Union is a not-for-profit, financial institution with over 23,000 members serving Adams, Clark, Portage, Marathon, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara, and Wood Counties.

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