

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEATTLE RESIDENT SERVES AS CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER TO ALASKA TRUST COMPANY

Anchorage, Alaska (Oct. 20, 2008) –Alaska Trust Company based out of Anchorage, Alaska recently appointed Seattle resident Lisa Russell, CFA, the Chief Investment Officer of the wealth management company. As Chief Investment Officer, Lisa and her team manage approximately \$1 billion in investable assets while the company maintains more than \$4 billion in assets between trusts and managed money.

At Alaska Trust Company, Lisa specializes in unique investment programs offering special advantages to individuals with both investments and trusts.

Lisa Russell, CFA, rejoined Alaska Trust Company after working for US Bank with high net-worth individuals as a Senior Portfolio Manager. Russell has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Southern California and a Masters of Business Administration in Finance from Emory University. Lisa holds the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), and is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Seattle.

Russell is one of the few female Chief Investment Officers for a trust and wealth management company in the nation.

Within weeks of joining Alaska Trust Company, Lisa immediately strategized better ways to serve the clients and improve upon prior investment practices.

Ms. Russell brought to Alaska Trust Company a UMA-based approach to investing called the Alaska Advantage. This Unified Managed Account enables individuals' access to the world's foremost money managers, regardless of a minimum balance invested. To date, Alaska Trust Company is one of the few trust companies in the United States to offer this approach.

"Historically, the UMA approach has been reserved for big investors within large investment banking firms," said Russell. "This UMA program allows the Alaska Trust Company to provide the customization that is so important to the unique needs of every family."

"With the overwhelming concern of finances and how best to invest and safeguard assets, the benefits of an integrated approach to wealth management are hard to beat," added Russell.

Russell's foresight and expertise continue to benefit the Alaska Trust Company and its clients. Lisa's sensitivity to the tax consequences and volatility of investment actions prompted her to make changes in their investment strategies.

"As early as 2007, we began to see the writing on the wall. We realized that financial companies would begin to retreat and we started selling off our high risk financial securities. With our excess cash we began increasing our positions in the municipal bond market. Municipal bonds have been providing higher yields than Treasuries with very little additional risk. These provide more tax free income for investors, especially those looking at retirement."

Alaska Trust Company provides wealth management solutions for more than 1,000 clients who have entrusted the company with more than \$4 billion in assets. The state of Alaska's unique trust laws allow the company to provide better asset preservation and estate planning solutions to its customers, in addition to no state income tax on investment income and trusts in perpetuity and much more. For more about the many unrivaled benefits of Alaska Trust Company, go to www.alaskatrust.com.

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About Alaska Trust Company

The Alaska Trust Company was created to leverage the pioneering laws of the progressive state of Alaska. With the goal of making Alaska the best jurisdiction for establishing and administering trusts, brothers and nationally recognized financial experts Jonathan and Douglas Blattmachr conceived and drafted the Alaska Trust Act, which passed the state legislature in 1997. Today, the hands-on involvement of these same experts allows the company to provide unrivaled wealth management and innovative trust series. For more information about Alaska Trust Company, visit www.alaskatrust.com.

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