



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Carolina Alliance among banks to aid elderly veterans with crime prevention**

SPARTANBURG, S.C. (October 28, 2010) - Carolina Alliance Bank (OTCBB: CRLN.OB) has joined with the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation (SHCPF), the American Bankers Association (ABA) and the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA) to help ensure that more than 40,000 veterans living in 160 state veteran nursing homes in the U.S. are able to live out their lives in safe, secure, enhanced quality-of-life environments free from the daily fear of crime, abuse, neglect, hostility and deprivation of personal freedom, as provided through the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation's Senior Crimestoppers (SCS) program.

"Our nation's elderly veterans once put their lives on the line for this country," said John Poole, president and chief executive officer of Carolina Alliance. "Veterans have done so much for this great country that it is an honor to return the favor. We believe that it is not only appropriate, but our moral duty, to help ensure their comfort and security at this stage of their lives."

The Senior Crimestoppers program is a proprietary operation of the SHCPF, a national 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which was established to provide a vehicle for banks to earn Community Reinvestment (CRA) credit through support of nursing home residents who are classified as low-to-moderate income individuals.

Senior Crimestoppers is built on a zero tolerance-to-crime platform that is vigilantly maintained for the residents, staff, management and visitors. Each resident is provided their own personal lock box to safeguard valuables. In addition, cash rewards up to \$1,000 are posted on every crime incident that is reported to the SCS call center. Rewards are paid anonymously to tipsters having information about the crime incident reported. In addition, all facilities in the program display a membership charter and are provided regular in-service training for residents, staff and management together with employee oath sheets, yard signs and quarterly reporting of crime prevention status.

“Protecting our nation’s 40,000 elderly veterans living in long-term care is a need that must be addressed, and I can’t think of a better way to get this done than by asking every bank in the country to allocate a portion of their annual CRA budget to securing the Foundation’s successful Senior Crimestoppers program,” said SHCPF chairman, Charles C. King III.

“America’s servicemen and women dedicate their lives to ensuring our freedom and making our country a safer place to live. Our nation’s more than 8,000 community banks are proud to call many of these veterans customers and serve them in cities and towns throughout Main Street America,” said Gary Teagno, president and CEO of the Services Network for the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA). “ICBA is pleased to support this important effort that will provide our Veterans with peace of mind, safety and security.”

Because of Carolina Alliance, each veteran resident will be provided a specially designed veterans personal lock box. In addition, SHCPF will provide each State Veterans Nursing Home with its annual *Time of Your Life* video exhibit for the resident’s enjoyment and each facility will receive an annual cash contribution for a *Wish Comes True* grant to be given to select veterans.

“It is time for the banking industry to make a positive statement to the larger veteran community since one out of every six American citizens is a veteran. Now is time to step forward with our full commitment to solving this problem and restoring the dignity deserved to those who have defended our freedom and the rights that we as a banking industry enjoy every day,” said Edward Yingling, president and CEO of the ABA.

For additional information about Carolina Alliance please call (864) 208-BANK (2265) or visit [www.carolinaalliancebank.com](http://www.carolinaalliancebank.com).

