

NexGen News Alert

Bank of America Community Development Expert Phyllis Caldwell Joins NexGen Council of Senior Advisors

Chicago, Illinois (April 9, 2009) – NexGen Strategic Partners, LLC (**NCP**) announced today that Phyllis R. Caldwell has agreed to serve as a Senior Advisor to NCP and its subsidiaries NexGen Strategic Advisors, LLC (**NSA**) and NexGen Strategic Investors, LLC (**NSI**).

Ms. Caldwell is a senior executive with 25 years of sales and management experience. She has worked in community development for the past decade and has been an innovator in affordable housing and socially-responsible investing. She is currently President of the Washington Area Women's Foundation, the only donor-supported public foundation solely focused on improving the lives of women and girls in the Washington, DC metropolitan area by leveraging collective giving to foster increased philanthropy.

In 2008, Ms. Caldwell retired from Bank of America where she served as President of Community Development Banking, leading a team of more than 200 people and managing a \$5 billion portfolio of real estate loans and investments focused on revitalizing urban and rural communities. This work was a key component to Bank of America's continuing "outstanding" ratings in Community Reinvestment Act (**CRA**) compliance. Creating CRA-eligible investments is at the core of NexGen's mission.

"Phyllis is one of the leading community development experts in the country," said Lawrence C. Manson, Jr., Senior Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of NSA and NSI and principal of NCP. "She will add significant value to the NexGen strategy development and implementation process."

While at Bank of America, Ms. Caldwell also managed equity and tax credit investments in funds and projects supporting economic development, historic preservation and affordable housing throughout the United States. She also oversaw investments in venture capital funds targeting businesses owned by ethnic minorities or women, and companies located in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. Prior to joining Bank of America, she enjoyed a 10-year career in finance and consulting, spending time at Citicorp and Ernst & Young.

"NexGen's goal is to produce superior CRA products to support community and economic development," said Mary A. Laraia, Senior Managing Director of NSA and NSI and principal of NCP. "Her experience in this field is unparalleled."

Ms. Caldwell is a founding member of Washington 100, a group of more than 100 women and men who each give The Women's Foundation \$10,000 over two years, generating more than \$1 million of capital to invest in women and girls. She serves as Chair for the Low Income Investment Fund and on the national board of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation. In Washington D.C., she serves on the board of the Cultural Development Corporation, a nonprofit that operates Source Theatre and Flashpoint Gallery and creates housing and performance space for local artists. Previously, she was a member of the Community Development Advisory Committee for the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

Ms. Caldwell received her Master of Business Administration degree from the Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland, College Park and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and urban planning, also from the University of Maryland.

About NexGen Capital Partners, LLC

NCP offers investment and advisory services to community financial institutions and their corporate clients through its wholly-owned subsidiaries NexGen Strategic Investors, LLC and NexGen Strategic Advisors, LLC, respectively.

About NexGen Strategic Investors, LLC

NSI, a registered investment advisor licensed in the State of Illinois, has developed several proprietary structured investment products for a range of institutional investors, including community financial institutions, which should provide them with appropriate risk diversification, higher relative returns and targeted community development exposure.

About NexGen Strategic Advisors, LLC

NSA assists businesses in meeting their strategic and financial objectives by offering a selective range of services. Specifically, NSA targets community financial institutions and their middle-market corporate clients. Success in providing advice and transaction execution requires vision, commitment, integrity, teamwork and experience. We combine these elements to create value for our clients.

About the NexGen Council of Senior Advisors

NCP has established a Council of Senior Advisors comprised of seasoned professionals in banking, investment, management, compliance and community development to consult and advise in connection with the ongoing business of NCP and its subsidiaries. All advisors serve pursuant to a Senior Advisor Agreement with NCP and do not have any decision making or executive authority, nor do they have any fiduciary duties to NCP or its subsidiaries.