



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ACCION TEXAS & DELTA ANNOUNCES
PROMOTIONS AMONG CHIEF MANAGEMENT STAFF**

SAN ANTONIO – Accion Texas & Delta – the nation’s largest microlender – announces the promotion of two key staff members to top management positions.

Dan Lawless has been named chief lending officer, in charge of all lending production, including Small Business Administration 504 loans and customer service. Lawless now also supervises the executive vice president for lending in Texas, the organization’s Delta Team leaders and the director of SBA loans. Lawless joined Accion Texas in July 2012 as the executive vice president of sales and operations. He most recently was president of Chase Bank-Rio Grande Valley Region in McAllen, Texas, where he managed a multi-million-dollar portfolio and directed the bank’s growth throughout the Rio Grande Valley. He holds a bachelor’s degree in statistics and operations research from the University of Texas at Austin and an MBA from Arizona State University.

Celina Peña has been named chief program officer. Her responsibilities include continuing to manage and support the business education department, along with overseeing the training department and Microloan Management Services™ (MMS™), the organization’s web-based proprietary loan application and credit scoring program. Peña has served as Accion’s vice president of business support and vice president of central Texas lending and also as director of the Women’s Business Center, in cooperation with the Small Business Administration. She is passionate about small, minority, and women-owned businesses, as well as education quality in San Antonio. She most recently served as co-chair of the San Antonio Independent School District’s Citizens’ Bond Advisory Committee in 2010. She currently is a member of the SAISD Bond Citizens’ Oversight Committee, serves on the Teach for America San Antonio board and is an incoming board member of the Texas Civic Engagement Table. Peña earned her bachelor’s degree in political science at the University of Texas Pan American in Edinburg, Texas, and a master’s degree in political science at the University of Texas-San Antonio.



About Accion Texas & Delta

Established in 1994 in San Antonio, Accion Texas & Delta financial and business-support services help entrepreneurs strengthen their businesses, stabilize and increase their incomes, create employment and contribute to the economic revitalization of their communities.

Accion Texas & Delta has the nation's largest microlender portfolio and is committed to providing capital to entrepreneurs who do not have access to loans from commercial sources. Since its inception, Accion has made nearly 13,000 loans totaling more than \$143 million. Accion now operates in eight states – Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas. For more information, visit www.acciontexas.org.

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