



June 15, 2011

## Jack Cohen Named President of CRE Finance Council, 2011-2012

NEW YORK—June 14, 2011—CRE Finance Council is pleased to announce the succession of Jack M. Cohen as President of CREFC. Mr. Cohen begins his one-year term as President of the organization today.

Mr. Cohen serves as Chief Executive Officer of [Cohen Financial](#), a national real estate capital services company and an originator of CRE debt and equity transactions. Mr. Cohen follows Lisa Pendergast, Managing Director, CMBS Strategy and Risk for Jefferies, who served as President of CREFC for the past twelve months.

“On behalf of CRE Finance Council and its membership, I want to thank Lisa for her guidance and dedication to us and the industry,” said CREFC CEO Steve Renna. “Lisa’s lengthy relationship and contributions to the association preceded her role as President, and she took the reins during an unquestionably challenging period. We want to thank Lisa for her tremendous efforts and successes as President and we look forward to her counsel going forward,” Mr. Renna said.

The appointment of the CRE Finance Council President occurs during the organization’s annual meeting, the June Convention, now taking place in New York.

“Today, CREFC welcomes Jack as our newest President,” Mr. Renna said. “I’m fortunate to begin my role alongside an extraordinarily talented professional, selflessly dedicated to our organization and the industry. As the commercial real estate finance markets rebound and as policymakers in Washington implement regulations directly affecting our industry, Jack’s leadership will be instrumental in charting our course.”

Today’s appointment of Jack Cohen as President of CREFC for 2011-2012 coincides with the naming of Paul Vanderslice, Managing Director, Citigroup Capital Markets, as President-Elect of the association. The June Convention also marks the appointments of the [2011-2012 Executive Committee](#) and the new [Board of Governors](#).

“I am incredibly excited to serve as CREFC’s President and committed and honored to work with a dynamic Executive Committee and Board of Governors,” said Jack Cohen. “I am also very fortunate to begin my tenure alongside CRE Finance Council’s new CEO, Steve Renna,” Mr. Cohen said. “What makes CRE Finance Council exceptional is its member-driven culture and my goal is to work with our leadership to help make commercial real estate prosperous and vibrant again.”

*As CEO of Cohen Financial, Jack Cohen has overall responsibility for management of the operations for the Chicago-based company, one of the nation’s largest originators of commercial real estate financing. Mr. Cohen holds both a M.S. in Construction Management and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Stanford University. In addition, Mr. Cohen holds a B.A. from Claremont Men’s College. Mr. Cohen also is among the first professionals in the industry to earn the Chartered Realty Investor (CRI) designation. He has also earned the Certified Mortgage Banker (CMB) designation.*

*He is a member of the Mortgage Bankers Association, the Urban Land Institute, and the World Presidents Organization. In addition to his role as President of CRE Finance Council, Mr. Cohen serves on its Board of Governors and the Executive Committee. Additionally, Mr. Cohen has served as a board member of the MBA’s Commercial Real Estate/Multifamily Finance Board of Governors (COMBOG) and was a founding Governor of the Chartered Realty Investor Society.*

**Media Relations:** [Ken Reed](#), CRE Finance Council; 212-589-0961

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### About CRE Finance Council

CRE Finance Council ([www.crefc.org](http://www.crefc.org)) is a trade association dedicated to promoting the strength and liquidity of commercial real estate finance worldwide. CRE Finance Council acts as a legislative and regulatory advocate, plays a vital role in setting industry standards, promotes best practices and provides education for market participants in this key sector of our global economy.

With hundreds of member companies, and with a presence in Europe, Japan and North America, CRE Finance Council is dedicated to insightful, forward-thinking research and industry initiatives that encourage vision, innovation and continuous professional growth for market participants. CRE Finance Council is committed to being responsive to its members with a culture of collaboration, collegiality, open and inclusive dialogue, consensus building and respect for diverse views.

Members of the CRE Finance Council are active participants in the process to effect change within the commercial real estate finance industry. Members participate in industry initiatives, take part in Committee-level processes, debate the issues, and influence the global debate within commercial real estate finance.