Trent Bowman has joined Associated Bank as assistant vice president, Community Reinvestment Act residential loan officer. He will work with first time home buyers to help them obtain down payment assistance funds, as well their best mortgage solution by assisting them throughout the process from loan origination to signing. Bowman brings 17 years of lending experience to the position and is part of the Emerging Markets Home Ownership Initiative. His office is located at 176 Snelling Ave., North St. Paul.

Bowman was born and raised in North Minneapolis and is a shining example of the stellar business leadership North Minneapolis continues to produce, said Al McFarlane, Editor-in-Chief, Insight News, and President of McFarlane Media Interests, Inc., an North Minneapolis-based business.

"Trent Bowman and his brother Troy delivered newspapers door to door for Insight in their pre-teen years," McFarlane said. "They helped clean the Insight offices for pocket money, and if I remember correctly, young Trent reinvested his earnings into candy which he purchased to resell at school and to neighborhood youth. He is a born entrepreneur and the consummate professional.

"Associated Bank chose right in selecting Bowman to lead their efforts to bring home ownership solutions for first time home buyers and others in our rebounding urban communities in St. Paul and Minneapolis," McFarlane said.

Associated Bane-Corp (NASDAQ: ASBC) has total assets of $22 billion and is one of the top 50 financial services holding companies operating in the United States. Headquartered in Green Bay, Wis., Associated is a leading Midwest banking franchise, offering a full range of financial products and services through more than 250 banking locations serving more than 150

communities throughout Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota, and commercial financial services in Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Texas. Associated Bank, N.A. is an Equal Housing Lender, Equal Opportunity Lender and Member FDIC. More information about Associated Bane-Corp is available at www.associatedbank.com .