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CRFS Announces NYS Expansion Project, Recruits Displaced JP Morgan Chase Workers

Founder/CEO, Jodi Gaines becomes largest private employer in Orleans County and leading provider of post-foreclosure claim processing management solutions in the nation

For Immediate Release

September 13, 2013--Albion, NY--Helmed by Founder/CEO **Jodi Gaines**, Claims Recovery Financial Services, LLC, is primed for a growth and expansion project in New York State that will also cement the nation's leading provider of claim processing management solutions as the largest private employer in Orleans County (NY). CRFS will move and expand their operations into the former JP Morgan Chase complex at 231 East Avenue in Albion, recently purchased by developer Roger Hungerford/Talis Equity. Their goal is to have all CRFS employees in New York State transitioned into the new 60,000 square foot facility by March 2014, as well as fast-track already- extensive recruiting efforts aimed at hiring another 150 employees this year and up to 315 in the next several year. CRFS also has, to date, hired 55 former JP Morgan Chase employees - who lost their jobs as a result of the bank closing the Albion (NY) call center that employed approximately 413 local residents.

At a formal press conference today, attended by officials from all over New York State, Gaines (who started CRFS at her kitchen table in 2002 with one employee and one client) stated, " One of the many benefits of the Chase complex is that it's a state-of-the-art, turnkey facility - which will allow CRFS to ramp-up quickly and fast-track our much-needed expansion. CRFS has just hired 55 former Chase managers and employees are we are already seeing tremendous results. We are now in a position to offer other candidates job opportunities. I can enthusiastically tell you today that there are 150 newly available positions at CRFS - and we are actively recruiting!"

Empire State Development has offered CRFS an \$872,500 incentive package to assist with job creation and retention. Gaines & CRFS were also granted local incentives, the Orleans Revolving Loan Fund (ORLF) approved a low-interest loan in the amount of \$250,000 for the purchase of new equipment and the Orleans Economic Development Agency (OEDA) is making available sales tax abatement for the related equipment purchases. A New York State Community Development Block Grant (NYS CDBG) was also awarded to assist CRFS in its expansion. Finger Lakes regional director Vincent Esposito who heralded CRFS as "a great New York success story" moderated the press conference. (cont...)

Discussing details of the expansion project were **U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer**, who personally intervened on Jodi Gaines behalf with JP Morgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon to give CRFS immediate access to Chase workers seeking jobs said, "This effort has been months in the making and the results speak for themselves: jobs, jobs, jobs. Fifty-five former Chase workers are putting their skills to work for CRFS and there are even more jobs to come. Thanks to Jodi Gaines and her commitment to the local workforce, CRFS will expand in New York State. The future is bright for CRFS and Orleans County."

Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Kenneth Adams added earlier, "Governor Cuomo's top priority continues to be new jobs for New Yorkers. Claims Recovery Financial Services' decision to stay and grow in Albion reflects an environment that is conducive to the creation, retention and attraction of good jobs and the growth of business. I look forward to CRFS's continued growth in Orleans County."

"The relocation and expansion of Claims Recovery Financial Services, LLC, is a solid shot in the arm for the economy of Albion and all of Orleans County, said **Congressman Chris Collins** (NY-27). He noted, " Now, the largest private employer in Orleans County is putting more people to work and giving life to the former JP Morgan Chase complex. Jodi Gaines has built a thriving national business and regional employer. I applaud her vision and look forward to continuing to work with her for the betterment of this community."

New York State Senator George Maziarz (R-C, Newfane) said in an earlier interview, "It is truly amazing how far CRFS has come in the past decade, and it's wonderful that our community can find ways to welcome the company's rapid expansion. This is a great example of the private sector and the public sector coming together to support homegrown business success."

Assemblyman Stephen Hawley (R-NY) also at the press conference stated, "The loss of JP Morgan Chase brings news opportunity to Orleans County. Now, the building that once housed over 400 local jobs has been purchased by a successful local businessman and community leader and leased to Jodi Gaines, another community leader and successful businesswoman. This is a winning combination for our local economy." (cont ...)

Orleans County Legislative Chairman David Callard spoke to the history of CRFS and recognized Gaines as a leader and innovator, "From humble beginnings - in Orleans County - using a collection of not-so-gently used office furniture, cramped office space and an untried business model, Jodi Gaines and an outstanding, small group of predominately women, redefined the American dream." Callard continued, " Under the CRFS banner, we celebrate a business now over 600 plus employees strong and growing, poised to expand into a state-of-the-art office complex here in Albion. On behalf of Orleans County, I heartily congratulate CRFS. Their remarkable success demonstrates that - in this county, this state and this country - a grass roots micro-business can become a major employer and nationally recognized success story."

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