

## **LACE Financial Receives Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization (NRSRO) Status from the SEC**

The SEC has approved LACE Financial's (LACE) application to be a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization (NRSRO). The SEC registered LACE to rate financial institutions including insurance companies, corporate companies, asset-backed securities (CDO's), foreign countries, and municipal governments. As such, LACE is seeking highly experienced individuals to head subsidiaries to rate municipal governments, insurance companies, and structured financial products, such as asset backed securities.

The company was founded in 1984 by Dr. Barron Putnam, formally a staff member of the Federal Reserve Board in Washington DC. The company provides credit ratings for 20,000 institutions, including 270 large foreign banks, 57 country sovereign ratings, over 80 Title Insurance Company ratings as well as new issue ratings for securities.

We believe that LACE Financial's practice of not accepting compensation to issue credit ratings enhances the credibility of our ratings and will positively contribute to the industry, investors, credit and risk managers.

This NRSRO designation provides LACE with various rating opportunities and we look forward to working with the SEC to provide a higher level of confidence as well as rating alternatives for investors.

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