



## NEWS RELEASE

**For release:** Immediately

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### **Deborah Dickson, CPA** **President of Smith Dickson** **earns prestigious MAFF designation**

IRVINE, CA, MAY 9, 2012 --- **Deborah Dickson, CPA, CFF, MAFF**, President of **Smith Dickson**, a CPA firm based in Irvine, has successfully completed the rigorous certification process to earn the designation of Master Analyst in Financial Forensics (MAFF) with the prestigious National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts (NACVA®).

**Dickson** is an experienced CPA and expert witness, with over 25 years in the accounting profession including 15 years in the litigation services area. She began her career as an auditor for Deloitte Touche (formerly Touche Ross) and subsequently accepted an opportunity to run the Entrepreneurial Services Division at PricewaterhouseCoopers (formerly Coopers & Lybrand). She has been President of Smith Dickson, an Accountancy Corporation, since 1982. She also has her CFF (Certified in Financial Forensics) designation. She has worked as a forensic expert witness in State, Federal, Probate, and Family Law Courts, in arbitration services, and as a Court appointed referee.



In his announcement, NACVA's Chief Executive Officer, Parnell Black, MBA, CPA, CVA, noted, "The MAFF credential is designed to provide assurance to the business and legal communities -- the primary users of financial forensic consulting services -- that the designee possesses a level of experience and knowledge deemed acceptable by the Association to provide competent and professional financial forensic consulting services. The designation is an indication to the professional community that **Deborah Dickson** has met the Association's rigorous standards of professionalism, expertise, objectivity, and integrity in the financial forensic consulting disciplines."

The process of earning the MAFF designation is very challenging. **Dickson** fulfilled all of the requirements, including: demonstrating proof of substantial consulting experience in the discipline; intensive training in an area of specialization offered by the NACVA; having her CPA certification; and passing a comprehensive examination. To maintain her MAFF credential, **Dickson** will be required to periodically obtain continuing professional education in areas related to business valuation and/or litigation consulting and participate in programs sponsored by NACVA that promote quality and adherence to industry standards.

**Smith Dickson**, an Accountancy Corporation, is a full-service Southern California CPA firm that specializes in providing high-quality services designed to create long-term value for our clients. We work with our individual and business clients to maximize their profits, help them grow their investments in their companies and solve their problems. Services include accounting, taxation, litigation support and business consulting.