



## **BERKSHIRE BANK PROMOTES REMUS PREDA TO VICE PRESIDENT, TRUST OFFICER**

### *Preda Also Earns Certified Trust & Financial Advisor Designation*

**PITTSFIELD, Mass.** – September 7, 2010 - Berkshire Bank, America's Most Exciting Bank<sup>SM</sup>, has added to its team of exemplary professionals with the promotion of Remus Preda to vice president, trust officer. Preda was also recently awarded the Certified Trust & Financial Advisor (CTFA) designation from the Institute of Certified Bankers (ICB), a subsidiary of the American Bankers Association, in Washington, D.C.

Preda joined Berkshire Bank in October 2007 as a trust officer in the bank's Asset Management and Trust Group in Vermont. Prior to joining the company, he worked for Morgan Stanley Trust as a vice president and national liaison manager and has more than 13 years of experience in the trust and investment areas.

"Remus is a fine example of someone who takes the implications of his job very seriously. He will be a valuable asset to our customers in his new position as vice president, trust officer." Thomas W. Barney, CFP and senior vice president of Berkshire Bank. "The CTFA certification reinforces Remus' commitment to excellence."

Preda brings considerable business development skills and sound trust and investment decisions to his new role. He earned the ABA's Certified Trust & Financial Advisor designation after three years of advanced trust training and is one of 9,000 ICB certified members. As a subsidiary of the American Bankers Association, ICB promotes the highest standards of performance in the financial services industry by validating individuals' knowledge and expertise.

Preda is responsible for leading Berkshire Bank's Asset Management and Trust Group in Vermont. His team specializes in providing high-net worth individuals and families with tailored investment management, retirement, estate planning, taxation and trust services, with the goal of sustaining and growing long-term wealth. In addition, Preda also works with many of the area's leading not-for-profits in managing their endowments and planned giving vehicles.

After earning his BA from Union College and a Jurist Doctorate from New England School of Law, Preda sharpened his tax law expertise while working for the Internal Revenue Service in Boston and New York. He then joined Morgan Stanley Trust as a senior tax consultant and vice president.

Based out of Berkshire Bank's 4912 Main Street, Manchester Center Vermont headquarters, Preda will serve clients across the Berkshire Bank Vermont footprint and beyond.

### **About Berkshire Bank**

Berkshire Hills Bancorp is the parent of Berkshire Bank – America's Most Exciting Bank<sup>SM</sup> – the largest locally headquartered regional bank. The Company has \$2.7 billion in assets and provides services through 45 offices in Massachusetts, New York, and Vermont. Berkshire Bank also offers the added benefit of providing its depositors 100 percent insurance protection, regardless of amount, based on a combination of FDIC insurance and the Depositors Insurance Fund (DIF). For more information, visit [www.berkshirebank.com](http://www.berkshirebank.com) or call 800-773-5601.

###

Contact: Fedelina Madrid, VP, Marketing

[fmadrid@berkshirebank.com](mailto:fmadrid@berkshirebank.com)

413-236-3733

Berkshire Bank

[www.berkshirebank.com](http://www.berkshirebank.com)