



News Release -- For Immediate Release

Tony Nuzzo of First Commons Bank in Newton, Massachusetts – Named a Finalist in Two Separate Categories for the 2010 American Business Awards: Chairman of the Year and Financial Services Executive of the Year - First Commons Bank also a Finalist for Best New Company of the Year

Newton, Massachusetts – May 17, 2010 – Tony Nuzzo, Primary Organizer, Chairman, President & CEO of First Commons Bank in Newton, Massachusetts, has been named a finalist in two separate categories in the prestigious 2010 American Business Awards: Chairman of the Year and Financial Services Executive of the Year. First Commons Bank was also named a finalist for Best New Company of the Year.

Finalists in the 8th annual American Business Awards were announced on Thursday, May 13th and the winners in each category will be announced at an awards banquet at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Times Square, New York City on Monday, June 21st. The 7:50PM award ceremony for selected event categories including Chairman of the Year, Financial Services Executive of the Year, and Best New Company of the Year will be broadcast live nationwide by the Business TalkRadio Network. There are 11 main categories of awards this year for which there were over 2,700 nominees. Companies as diverse as Apple, Ford Motor Company, PepsiCo, John Hancock Annuities, PNC Financial Group, McKinsey and others are among those receiving recognition.

Winners in each category will receive The Stevie Award, a name taken from the name Stephen, which is derived from the Greek for "crowned." A Stevie is approximately 16 inches tall, and is hand-cast and finished in 24-karat gold.

There are six finalists for Chairman of the Year and there are no restrictions on nominations in this category by industry or size of company. In addition to Tony Nuzzo from First Commons Bank in Massachusetts, the other finalists come from companies in Arizona, California (2), Utah, and Texas.

There are also six finalists in the Financial Services Executive of the Year category. Executive awards are categorized separately by industry. In addition to Tony Nuzzo, finalists come from companies in California, New York (2), Pennsylvania, and Louisiana.

There are five finalists for Best New Company of the Year and, like Chairman of the Year award, there are no restrictions on nominations in this category by industry or size of company. In addition to First Commons Bank in Massachusetts, the other finalist companies are located in New Jersey, Arizona, Washington, DC, and Florida.

Members of the Board of Distinguished Judges & Advisors for the American Business Awards include some of the most prestigious names in American Business: Tom Peters, best selling author – including *In Search of Excellence*; Anthony Robbins, Chairman and CEO of the Anthony Robbins Companies; and Donald Trump, Chairman, President & CEO of the Trump Organization; and many others.

Tony Nuzzo commented, "First Commons Bank is proud to be a finalist for three prestigious Stevie awards. It is an honor to be acknowledged for our unique business model and extraordinary growth during a difficult economic time. We make banking truly personal, service focused, simple, and sensible."

In just nine months of operation, First Commons Bank reported assets of more than \$84 million making First Commons Bank larger than 2,300 of the nearly 8,000 FDIC-insured institutions in the United States; and one of the fastest growing new banks in the history of the nation.

About First Commons Bank

First Commons Bank, a nationally-chartered, FDIC-insured, full-service, community bank, is dedicated to serving the banking needs of small to mid-size businesses and individuals in Newton, Wellesley, Waltham, and eastern Massachusetts. First Commons Bank combines the industry's most advanced technology with a highly experienced, onsite, management team to provide clients with superior, personalized service and the highest quality banking experience. It offers a comprehensive portfolio of retail and business banking services, including checking and savings accounts, online banking, ATM/debit cards, money market accounts, certificates of deposit, home equity loans, residential and commercial mortgages, consumer and business loans, and cash management services. First Commons Bank (www.firstcommonsbank.com) is headquartered at 718 Beacon Street in Newton Centre, Massachusetts.

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