



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Edward J. Williams, a former Executive Vice President with Harris Bank, Joins NexGen Senior Advisory Council**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS—September 22, 2008—NexGen Capital Partners (**NCP**) announced today that Edward J. Williams has agreed to serve as a Senior Advisor to firm and its wholly-owned subsidiaries NexGen Strategic Advisors (**NSA**) and NexGen Strategic Investors (**NSI**).

“My vision for NexGen is to build the firm into a niche provider of financial advisory services and investment advice to community banks and their corporate clients,” said Lawrence C. Manson, Jr., Senior Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of NCP, NSA and NSI. “An executive like Ed brings a wealth of business and community banking experience that we hope to leverage as we build NexGen.

One of our strategic objectives is to provide innovative and creative Community Reinvestment Act (**CRA**) solutions to community bank clients while not requiring them to neither reduce their return expectations nor increase their risk profile without receiving adequate compensation. Our CRA fund, the NexGen CRA Investment Trust I, achieves those objectives.”

In 2003, Ed retired as Executive Vice President, Community Affairs for Harris Bank, N.A. (**Harris**) with more than 40 years of banking experience with Harris in Chicago. In his most recent role, he was responsible for overseeing the bank’s community development activities in the Chicago area. Ed was a member of the Harris’ Management Committee and served as President of the Harris Bank Foundation and CRA Officer from 1977 to 2003.

In addition, Ed was appointed to the Federal Reserve Board’s Consumer Advisory Council ending his three-year term in 1988 as vice-chairman. Other relevant board positions previously or currently held by Ed includes Director, Chicago Capital Fund; Director, Chicago Low Income Housing Trust Fund; Director, Chicago Council on Urban Affairs and Director, Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago.

#### **About NexGen Capital Partners**

NCP currently serves as a holding company for NSA and NSI, but in the future may conduct other business activities that promote the interests of the Principals and are consistent with the mission of NSA and NSI.

**About NexGen Strategic Advisors**

NSA assists both private and public companies in meeting their strategic and financial objectives by offering a selective range of services. Specifically, NSA targets community banks and their middle-market corporate clients. Success in providing advice and transaction execution requires vision, commitment, integrity, teamwork and experience. We combine these elements to create value for their clients. We advise clients from the early stages of tactical, strategic and financial planning to the final implementation of these strategies.

**About NexGen Strategic Investors**

NSI has developed several proprietary investment products for a range of institutional investors, including community banks. Specifically, NSI has recently launched a CRA fund, the NexGen CRA Investment Trust I, for community banks which should provide them with appropriate geographic and risk diversification, high relative returns and targeted community development initiatives.

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