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FPPTA ANNOUNCES 50 NEW CERTIFICATIONS AT ANNUAL CONVENTION

TALLAHASSEE --- Fifty public pension trustees received certification at the Florida Public Pension Trustees Association's annual conference, held June 28 – July 2, 2009. The meeting drew more than 500 trustee board members from across the state who attended three days of professional development opportunities through seminar sessions, continuing education credit classes, and panel discussions.

The FPPTA promotes and offers certification for trustee members who complete a three-tier educational program to enhance financial management skills. Fifty members from around the state who completed the requirements during the 2008-2009 year were honored with FPPTA certification. (*see attached list*)

Certification requires the completion of a Basic, Intermediate and Advanced tier of classes offered periodically throughout the year at locations around the state. Participants spend three days for each tier to receive Continuing Education Units through intensive classroom instruction, followed by a locally administered exam.

“Our educational certification program was initiated in 1999 to provide relevant continuing education and professional development to state and municipal pension plan board members. Our goal is to improve the knowledge base of trustees appointed or elected to serve as board members for local public pension plans,” explained FPPTA's Chief Operating Officer, Kimberlie Ryals, CPPT.

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“Our annual conference is an excellent opportunity for trustees to make sure they stay abreast of changing market conditions and informed of political and legislative initiatives,” she said.

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The FPPTA was established in 1984 and provides educational and support services to pension boards throughout the state. Programs include local continuing education courses, seminars and the annual professional development conference for members statewide.