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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. Opens Sixth Florida Location in Sarasota

Adds Advisors to Existing Offices

(ST. LOUIS, April 27, 2015) – Sarasota, Fla., is the latest office addition for Benjamin F. Edwards & Co., the St. Louis-based investment firm, company officials announced today. The new location is the firm's sixth in Florida joining Boynton Beach, Destin, Melbourne, Panama City, and Pensacola.

In addition, the firm announced that two advisors joined its office in Harrison, Ark, while its Melbourne, Fla., Peoria, Ill, and Highlands, N.C., locations have each added one new advisor. Collectively, the new advisors represent \$600 million in assets under management.

“Advisors in Florida and around the country continue to be attracted to our firm and its business model, where they are empowered to work with their clients to develop investment strategies and approaches in a client-first atmosphere free from product mandates or directives,” said Marty Altenberger, senior vice president, director of branches and regional manager. “At Benjamin F. Edwards & Co., this client-first culture enables us to strengthen and support the sacred client-advisor relationship.”

Joining the firm are the following (by location):

Sarasota, Fla.

Robert J. Kahne, Managing Director – Investments: Anchoring the new Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. office in Sarasota is Bob Kahne, who began his financial services career in 1985. Today, he concentrates on portfolio management, investment strategies and retirement planning. He transfers from Morgan Stanley. Also, making the move and assisting him with his client service responsibilities is Anne Maxwell, who joins the office as a senior registered financial associate.

Harrison, Ark.

Chris McNew, RICP®, Branch Manager and Senior Vice President – Investments: McNew has worked in the financial services industry for nearly 20 years and specializes in tax-managed investment strategies and retirement income planning. In 2014, he earned his Retirement Income Certified Professional® (RICP®) certification from The American College. Accompanying McNew is Sonja Snell who joins Benjamin F. Edwards as a financial associate.

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Randy Raney, Vice President – Investments: With 35 years of financial services experience, Raney concentrates primarily on retirement plans and foundation accounts.

McNew, Snell, and Raney are all transferring from Wells Fargo Advisors.

Melbourne, Fla.

Richard Milliard, Financial Consultant: Before he started working with clients on their investment portfolios in 1992, Milliard worked in commercial banking and in the insurance and mutual fund industries. Milliard also joins the firm from Wells Fargo Advisors.

Peoria, Ill.

Arthur C. Laine, Vice President – Investments: A 38-year veteran of the financial securities industry who is transferring from Morgan Stanley, Laine assists his clients with managed portfolios, retirement planning and wealth accumulation.

Highlands, N.C.

Justin Souma, CFP®, Financial Consultant: A graduate of Furman University, Justin Souma, started his financial services career in 2004, and focuses on managed accounts, tax-reduction strategies and client education. He earned his CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification in 2013. Souma joins the firm from LPL Financial.

About Benjamin F. Edwards & Co.

With a tagline of “Investments for Generations”, Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. is headquartered in St. Louis, Mo. The firm was founded in 2008 by Benjamin F. (Tad) Edwards IV and currently has 50 branch offices in 24 states and more than 400 employees.

A subsidiary of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. is a full-service brokerage and a Registered Investment Adviser, which offers a wide array of financial products, advisory and investment banking services to its clients and financial advisors. For more information about Benjamin F. Edwards & Co., please visit the firm’s corporate website, benjaminfedwards.com, GetInAtBenEdwards.com for advisors, or follow the company on [Twitter.com/GrowWithBFEC](https://twitter.com/GrowWithBFEC).

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