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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. Adds More Than \$1 Billion In AUM Firm Brings Aboard 14 Financial Advisors with Office Openings and New Hires

(ST. LOUIS, October 18, 2018) — St. Louis-based financial services firm [Benjamin F. Edwards & Co.](http://benjaminfedwards.com) added a total of 14 financial advisors, company officials announced today. Collectively, the new hires bring with them nearly \$1.2 billion in assets under management (AUM).

Nine of the new hires came aboard with new offices recently opened in Chesterton, Ind., Shreveport, La., and Champaign, Ill. Chesterton is the firm's first Indiana location, which gives the company a presence in 27 states, while the Shreveport office joins Mandeville and Metairie as the company's third location in Louisiana. Champaign is the company's 13th office in Illinois.

The remaining five advisors joined existing offices – three in Geneva, Ill., and one each in Hiawatha, Iowa, and Grand Rapids, Mich.

“Together, these advisors have decades of combined experience and expertise in all aspects of investment and wealth management,” said Marty Altenberger, executive vice president and director of branches for Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. “When it came to choosing a home for their clients and building their business, these advisors recognized what our service-oriented culture and our sophisticated platform of financial products and services can bring to their client relationships.”

The following individuals have joined Benjamin F. Edwards & Co.:

[Shreveport, La.](#)

Scruggs-Sumlin Wealth Management

[Jimmy R. Scruggs, CFP®](#), Senior Vice Presidents—Investments: A United States Air Force veteran with 32 years of investment management experience, Scruggs specializes in estate planning and general wealth management issues. He earned his CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification in 1999.

William “Shane” Sumlin, Vice President – Investments: With nearly 25 years in financial services, Sumlin concentrates on assisting his clients with financial planning issues, and frequently proposes solutions that incorporate advisory platforms.

Chesterton, Ind.

Clifford (Cliff) E. Bryan, Branch Manager and Managing Director – Investments: Bryan concentrates on helping his clients develop financial planning strategies designed to meet their goals and objectives. He has worked in the financial services industry for 23 years.

Jeff Fernandez, Financial Advisor: A financial services veteran of 11 years, Fernandez worked in financial planning and portfolio construction at a corporate level before joining Bryan in 2017 to work with clients.

Roberts Jackson Wealth Management

Thomas T. Roberts, Senior Vice President – Investments: With a focus on wealth management, asset allocation, and succession planning, Roberts has worked in financial services for more than 50 years. He, along with his daughter, Kristin, and son-in-law, Ryan, formed Roberts Jackson Wealth Management in 2016.

Kristin Louise Jackson, Vice President – Investments: With 12 years in financial services, Jackson concentrates on personal- and family planning investment matters.

Ryan Jackson, Financial Advisor: In addition to his work as a financial advisor, Jackson has worked as an options risk analyst and as a commodities trader.

Geneva, Ill.

Cunningham Wealth Management

Jay Cunningham, CFP[®], Senior Vice President – Investments: With 36 years in the financial services industry, Cunningham is versed in all aspects of client service. He earned his CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER[™] (CFP[®]) certification in 2006. In 2016, he and two colleagues formed Cunningham Wealth Management.

Marcia Gregory, AAMS, Financial Advisor: With 15 years of financial services experience, Gregory initially started her career as a credit analyst and now helps individuals, families and businessowners assess their financial goals and determine an approach to achieve them. She received her Master’s in International Management (MIM) from Thunderbird School of Global Management in 1984 with a concentration in banking, and earned her ACCREDITED ASSET MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST[™] (AAMS[®]) certification in 2003.

Bryan Hoppe, CFA, CFP[®], Financial Advisor: After beginning his career in the capital markets, Hoppe spent seven years as a chief financial officer and director for HOPE International, an international microfinance organization. He moved into private wealth management and started advising clients in 2016.

Champaign, Ill.

Gary Buller, CFP[®], Vice President – Investments: With nearly 30 years of financial services experience, Buller is a well-rounded advisor who frequently relies on advisory portfolio solutions as he assists individuals and families with retirement- and estate-planning. He earned his CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER[™] (CFP[®]) certification in 2006.

Matt Buller, Financial Advisor: In 2014, Buller moved into financial services to join his father's practice, and concentrates on portfolio construction and wealth management issues.

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Jay Farquharson, Vice President – Investments: A financial advisor with 26 years of experience, Farquharson concentrates on wealth management service in the areas of estate, executive, retirement, and financial planning for individuals and corporate and small business retirement plans.

Hiawatha, Iowa

Richard C. Lawrence, Financial Advisor: With five years in the financial services industry, Lawrence specializes in retirement planning.

With the exception of Jay Farquharson, who transfers from Oppenheimer & Co., all of the advisors were previously with Wells Fargo Advisors.

About Benjamin F. Edwards & Co.

With a tagline of "Investments for Generations," Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. is headquartered in St. Louis, Mo. Founded in 2008 by Benjamin F. (Tad) Edwards IV, the firm opened its first branch in 2009 and currently has 69 offices in 27 states and more than 500 employees.

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