

BENJAMIN F. EDWARDS & CO. INVESTMENTS for GENERATIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. Continues to Expand By Adding Branches in Birmingham, Ala. and Destin, Fla.

Branches in White Plains, NY and Chattanooga, Tenn. also add Financial Consultants

(ST. LOUIS, May 6, 2013) – Brokerage <u>Benjamin F. Edwards & Co.</u> has opened offices in Birmingham, Ala. and Destin, Fla., company officials announced today. This marks the firm's first branch in the state of Alabama and its third branch in the state of Florida, joining Melbourne and Panama City. The company has now surpassed the 30-branch mark as well.

In addition, the firm's offices in White Plains, NY, and Chattanooga, Tenn., each added a financial advisor. In total, the firm announced the hiring of 12 employees, including nine advisors.

Birmingham, Ala.

Anchoring the firm's new Birmingham location as Branch Manager and Senior Vice President – Investments is **Steven S. Phillips, AAMS**[®]. Phillips brings more than 20 years of financial services experience.

Thomas A. Luttrell is also joining the Birmingham office as Vice President – Investments. Luttrell brings with him more than 25-years of experience in the brokerage industry. He is also a member of the Luttrell Financial Group, which he co-founded with his brother, Jim Luttrell, in 1999.

Destin, Fla.

James P. Luttrell, Jr. is also making the move to Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. and joining the firm's new Destin location. With nearly three decades of brokerage industry experience, he comes aboard as Vice President – Investments.

Rounding out the Luttrell Financial Group is **Matthew J. Dahlman**, who joins the firm as Financial Consultant, having moved into the securities industry three years ago after a career in hospitality industry management.

Also moving to the Destin location as Senior Vice President – Investments is **Nicholas T. Barlotta, Jr.**, who is a member of the Barlotta Cauley Wealth Management Group. Barlotta is an 18-year veteran of the securities industry. Prior to his career in financial services, he served 20 years in the U.S. Air Force. Other members of the Barlotta Cauley Wealth Management Group are the following:

Daniel R. Cauley, Vice President – Investments: Cauley joins the branch with almost 25 years of securities industry experience. Prior to transitioning into financial services, he was an intelligence officer with the U.S. Air Force.

Nicholas T. Barlotta III, Financial Consultant: Barlotta entered the financial services industry in 2007 after serving 10 years in the U.S. Air Force maintaining aircraft. He joined the team at Barlotta Cauley Wealth Management Group four years ago.

Assisting Phillips and Luttrell in Birmingham with their client management responsibilities is Ashley Brook, who joins as Financial Associate and brings with her more than 13 years of financial services experience. Helping out in a similar capacity in Destin are Marti Lohr, who comes aboard as a Senior Registered Financial Associate with more than 20 years of financial services experience and Maeve Brennan, who also joins as a Senior Registered Financial Associate with more than 15 years of industry experience, most recently with Credit Suisse Securities in West Palm Beach, Fla.

With the exception of Maeve Brennan in the Destin office, all of the financial professionals joining the Destin and Birmingham offices come from Wells Fargo Advisors.

"We are proud to broaden our presence in Florida and also add Birmingham to our growing list of branch locations," said Benjamin F. (Tad) Edwards IV, founder, chairman, and CEO of the St. Louis-based brokerage firm. "These advisors bring extensive financial services experience, share our dedication to putting clients first, and look forward to doing so with the freedom and entrepreneurial spirit we foster."

Company continues to focus on adding financial advisors at existing locations

In addition to the Destin and the Birmingham branch openings, the firm's branches in White Plains, NY, and Chattanooga, Tenn., also added financial advisors.

Darrelyn Brennan, AAMS[®], CFP[®] joins the firm's White Plains, NY branch as Vice President-Investments. She brings 25 years of financial services experience, most recently at Wells Fargo Advisors. Darrelyn began her career in the international commodity industry before becoming a financial advisor in 1999 and offering comprehensive financial advice to her clients.

Thomas Trivers is joining the Chattanooga, Tenn. branch of Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. A 20-year industry veteran, he was most recently with the Chattanooga office of Hilliard Lyons.

"We welcome these professionals to our firm and continue to add personnel who share our firm's core values," said Edwards. "Opening new locations is important, but so too is adding outstanding talent to our existing offices. We are thrilled to have these experienced professionals on board."

About Benjamin F. Edwards & Co.

With a tagline of "Investments for Generations" and a company logo anchored by the Edwards crest, Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. is headquartered in St. Louis, Mo. The firm was founded in 2008 by Benjamin F. (Tad) Edwards IV, the great-great-grandson of Albert Gallatin Edwards, the founder of brokerage firm A.G. Edwards. Currently, the firm has 31 branches in 17 states and more than 250 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 and advisory services to its clients and financial consultants. For more information about Benjamin F. Edwards & Co., please visit the firm's corporate website, <u>benjaminfedwards.com</u>, <u>GetInAtBenEdwards.com</u> for advisors, or follow the company on <u>Twitter.com/GrowWithBFEC</u>.

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