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HIGHTOWER ANNOUNCES NEW ADVISORY TEAM IN NEW YORK

CHICAGO, IL – August 2, 2010 – HighTower, the first open-source, advisor-owned financial services company, announced that it has expanded the firm's advisory talent in New York with the team of Morse, Towey & White. The team of five brings a combined 60 years experience serving high net worth clients.

Elliot S. Weissbluth, HighTower's CEO said, "We are thrilled to welcome Andy, Justin, Bob, Pamela and Maja to HighTower. Their commitment to a placing their clients' interest first and impressive industry experience brings significant value to our firm. Morse, Towey & White are precisely the type of advisor team that fits the HighTower standard and partnership.

Andrew Morse, who has more than 25 years of experience with high net worth clients, will be a Managing Director of HighTower. Mr. Morse's partners, Justin Towey and Bob White, bring more than 20 years of combined experience in wealth management and will also be Managing Directors at HighTower. In addition to the three principals, two senior members of their team, Pamela Tang and Maja Janko, also elected to make the move to HighTower.

"At HighTower, advisors aren't captive to the firm's desks, investment bank, or selection of products. We have the flexibility to access a much greater choice of Wall Street firms and independent providers, selecting from the entire investment universe," said Andrew Morse, Managing Director, HighTower. "We're very excited to join HighTower and leverage its open source platform for the benefit of our clients."

The team selected Fidelity Institutional Wealth Services as its principal custodian. Mike LaMena, HighTower Chief Operating Officer, said: "The more sophisticated wirehouse advisors are appropriately focused on an easy transition and improving their ability to deliver to their clients. Fidelity continues to demonstrate a strong strategic commitment to supporting advisors leaving the wirehouses."

Morse accepted a position as a Special Advisor to the CEO to assist with the strategic development of the firm's growth plans.

For media inquiries, please contact Jennifer Connelly at 973-732-3521 or jenn@jcprinc.com.

About HighTower

HighTower is the first open-source, advisor-owned financial services company. HighTower advisors are experienced investment professionals with large, established practices serving high net worth and institutional clients. As a dually-registered, multi-custodial firm, HighTower provides sophisticated investment solutions as well as an independent and unobstructed view of the markets. The company is headquartered in Chicago and maintains corporate centers in New York and San Francisco and offices around the country. See www.hightoweradvisors.com.