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## **HIGHTOWER NETWORK EXPANDS WEST COAST PRESENCE**

**CHICAGO, IL – May 27, 2014** – HighTower welcomes The Ezzell Group to the HighTower Network. The Sacramento-based team is the fourth to join the Network, which launched last year and enables breakaway advisors to transition to independence.

“The Ezzell Group will build equity in their own businesses and retain 100 percent autonomy over their practices, while leveraging the HighTower platform to lower operating risk and increase access to world-class investment solutions,” said Elliot Weissbluth, HighTower’s CEO. “Network teams have access to the industry’s best investment solutions and a robust services and technology platform to fuel their growth starting on day one.”

Advisors who join the HighTower Network follow a path to independence with the support of HighTower’s industry-leading platform. Network members retain control, build equity in their own businesses, and at the same time, gain access to HighTower’s world-class investment solutions and proprietary infrastructure that includes comprehensive technology, compliance, research, operations and business development support.

Jason Ezzell, Managing Director and Founder, and Alec Fisher, Senior Manager, are transitioning to HighTower from Merrill Lynch and oversee nearly \$300 million in client assets. Mr. Ezzell joined Merrill Lynch in 1999 and specializes in individual wealth management as well as deferred compensation plans, concentrated stock and option plans, and business succession planning. Mr. Fisher develops holistic financial plans based on individual client needs, goals and tolerance for risk. The team serves the Sacramento and San Francisco areas.

“HighTower’s culture of transparency and integrity reflects the values that inform every one of our client relationships,” said Mr. Ezzell. “The firm’s sophisticated technology and deep operational resources will be invaluable in driving our growth and enabling us to go above and beyond for our clients.”

For media inquiries, please contact Melinda Brodbeck, Jennifer Connelly Public Relations (JCPR), at 973-850-7348 or [mbrodbeck@jcprinc.com](mailto:mbrodbeck@jcprinc.com).

### **About HighTower**

HighTower is an industry-leading financial services firm offering a unique platform that blends objective wealth management advice with innovative technology. Our dedication to transparency in wealth management for investors and comprehensive support for independent advisors sets us apart. See [www.hightoweradvisors.com](http://www.hightoweradvisors.com).

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