HighTower Expands California Presence with Bahnsen Group in Newport Beach

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CHICAGO — April 6, 2015 — The Bahnsen Group joins HighTower as its ninth California-based financial advisor team and 13th West coast practice.

Managing Directors and Partners David L. Bahnsen and Brian T. Szytel bring an eight-person team and approximately $750 million in AUM to HighTower from Morgan Stanley. The Bahnsen Group provides comprehensive financial planning and investment management services to high net-worth individuals and families in Orange County and across the country.

"David leads an elite advisory practice on a phenomenal growth trajectory. The caliber of his team reflects the discriminating process we use for selecting advisors to join the HighTower membership," said Michael Parker, National Director, Enterprise Development. "We take great pride in upholding the highest standards in our industry and the Bahnsen Group is a superb addition to our community."

Mr. Bahnsen, who also serves as the team's Chief Investment Officer, appeared on *Barron's* "Top 1,200 Advisors by State" list (2014, 2015), the *Financial Times* "Top 400 Financial Advisers**"** (2015), and *On Wall Street's* "Top 40 Advisors Under 40" (2013). He directs all portfolio and strategic asset allocation decisions, personal wealth advising and advanced estate planning strategies for The Bahnsen Group's clients. Before joining Morgan Stanley, he was a First Vice President at UBS from 2001 to 2007. Mr. Bahnsen is a Certified Financial Planner®, Certified Investment Management Analyst℠ (CIMA®), and a member of the Investment Management Consultants Association (IMCA).

Mr. Szytel manages investment strategy and specializes in personal wealth advising, strategic asset allocation, and advanced estate planning. He also plays a leadership role in managing the Bahnsen Group's client relationships. Mr. Szytel began his career in 2002 at UBS Financial Services before moving to Citi Smith Barney and then to Morgan Stanley in 2008. He has more than 11 years of experience as an advisor serving high net-worth individuals and businesses and is also a Certified Financial Planner®.

"Becoming part of the HighTower community grants our team the opportunity to collaborate with our peers in a sophisticated environment," said Mr. Bahnsen. "I am incredibly honored and humbled to join the HighTower membership and take a giant leap forward in our ability to serve our clients."

For media inquiries, please contact Melinda Brodbeck, Jennifer Connelly Public Relations (JCPR), at 973-850-7348 or 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.

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