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HIGHTOWER EXPANDS WITH NEW ADVISOR TEAM IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

CHICAGO, IL – May 2, 2011 – HighTower, a national financial services company serving high net worth and institutional clients, is pleased to announce that it has expanded with a new advisor team, the Amidei Romano Group, based in Palm Desert, Calif.

“The Amidei Romano Group brings more than 40 years of knowledge and experience to serving sophisticated clients,” said Mike Papedis, HighTower’s Managing Director of Business Development. “We are extremely pleased to welcome them to HighTower and our growing partnership of advisors.”

The team is led by Brian P. Amidei, Joseph G. Romano III and Brett C. D’Orlando, who will serve as Managing Directors and Partners at HighTower. Mr. Amidei has more than 16 years of experience in the financial services industry, including 12 years with Merrill Lynch. He also previously served as a member at the Chicago Board Of Trade for three years. Mr. Romano was previously at Merrill Lynch for more than 12 years. Mr. D’Orlando was previously at Merrill Lynch for seven years.

“At HighTower, we are dedicated to supporting first-rate advisors who offer sophisticated solutions for complex financial needs,” said Kevin Geary, Director of Business Development for HighTower on the West Coast. “The Amidei Romano Group delivers on that promise, while bringing extensive experience and knowledge to the HighTower partnership.”

“We continue to attract advisors with impeccable reputations and a track record of success,” Mr. Papedis said. “As we expand, we are focused on finding the best advisors in the business and providing them with a truly innovative offering that puts independence and client interests first.”

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

About HighTower

HighTower is a national, advisor-owned financial services company serving high net worth and institutional clients. HighTower advisors are experienced investment professionals with large and established practices. 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.

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