



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jenn Connelly
JCPR
973-732-3521
jenn@jcprinc.com

HIGHTOWER EXPANDS WITH SECOND TEAM IN PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA

CHICAGO, IL – May 31, 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 Blanke Schein Group of Palm Desert, Calif. This is the second group to join HighTower from the Palm Desert area in the past month.

“The Blanke Schein Group delivers more than 50 years of investing and wealth management experience serving individuals, families and businesses,” said Mike Papedis, HighTower’s Managing Director of Business Development. “We are thrilled to welcome the group to HighTower’s growing partnership of elite advisors. This is the second large advisory team to join us in Palm Desert and we expect to expand our California presence over the next year.”

The Blanke Schein Group is led by William F. Blanke, Robert L. Schein and J. Michael Shields, all of whom will serve as Partners and Managing Directors at HighTower. Mr. Blanke has 37 years of experience in the financial services industry, including 30 years with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, 17 of which he spent as a Branch Manager. Mr. Schein has more than 20 years experience working as an investment professional, having spent the past 10 years at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney and the previous decade at American Express Financial Advisors, Merrill Lynch and Dean Witter. Mr. Shields spent three years with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney.

“Wall Street’s model is now designed to maximize the profits it earns off of each client. Our model is designed to maximize the amount of choice and competitive access our clients can get,” said Kevin Geary, Director of Business Development for HighTower on the West Coast. “Rick and Rob and their team are keenly focused on doing what is right for their clients and the HighTower model allows them to do just that.”

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.

###