



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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One Color Photo Attached (Thomas Moran Portrait)

Moran Recognized as Southwest Florida's Top Financial Advisor

NAPLES, Fla. (March 2, 2010) – For the second year in a row, Thomas Moran, Managing Director-Investments and founding member of The Moran Asset Management Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, has been recognized by *Barron's Magazine* as the number one financial advisor in Southwest Florida. The list was part of a state-by-state ranking of the Top 1,000 Advisors in the United States.

Moran is a 29-year veteran of the securities industry and has received local, national and industry recognition for his ability as a financial advisor. He is a Senior PIM Portfolio Manager – the firm's highest level designation for an advisor, and is well known throughout the firm as one of the top fee-based financial advisors. In February 2009, Moran was also recognized by *Barron's Magazine* as the number one financial advisor in Southwest Florida. A frequent speaker at investment symposiums, he was recognized for his wealth of knowledge and ability to adapt in a downturn economy by *Research Magazine*, naming him one of Florida's top advisors in January 2008. He was also named *Research Magazine's* 2008 Winner's Circle in September 2008.

Moran is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Colorado. A strong supporter of the Southwest Florida community, he serves on the Corporate Advisory Board of the United Arts Council and on the Board of Directors of Opera Naples, Southwest Florida's only regional opera company. In addition, he is a member of the board for Youth Haven and the Scholarship Committee for the Culinary and Hospitality Education Foundation.

About Moran:

The Moran Asset Management Group is a money management practice.* The group is responsible for managing in excess of \$2 billion in client assets and has served the Naples Community for 29 years. The Group utilizes 15 distinct investment portfolios and has been acknowledged by Nelson's World Best Money Managers as the number one manager in their discipline on three separate occasions. In 2009, Moran's Conservative Growth Equity Portfolio was ranked number two in its investment category.

Under the direction of founder Thomas Moran, the team of financial advisors has helped clients meet their investment goals, build wealth, and preserve capital with sound financial strategies.

The offices of The Moran Asset Management Group are located at 5801 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 200 in Naples. For more information about The Moran Asset Management Group, call (239) 254-2200 or visit www.MoranGroup.wfadv.com.

**Fees for the PIM program include Advisory services, performance measurement, transaction costs, custody services and trading. The fees do not cover charges and expenses of any mutual funds that may be purchased within the program and customary brokerage charges apply to non-program assets. Fees are based on the assets in the account and are assessed quarterly. There is a minimum fee of \$250 per calendar quarter to maintain this type of account. Advisory accounts are not designed for excessively traded or inactive accounts and may not be suitable for all investors. During periods of lower trading activity, your costs might be lower if our compensation was based on commissions. Please carefully review the Wachovia Securities advisory disclosure document for a full description of our services, including fees and expenses. The minimum account size for this program is \$50,000.*

Nelson's performance calculated "net" of all fees and brokerage commissions, inclusive of cash and in U.S. dollars. Results calculated on a minimum asset base of at least \$10 million for "traditional" U.S. asset classes (equity, fixed income, balanced accounts) and \$1 million for all international and for "alternative" U.S. asset classes. Only categories/time period combinations for which there are at least 21 contenders are published. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Barron's Top 1000 Advisors: The number of advisors shown for each state is based on the total population of the state, so larger states have larger listings. The rankings reflect assets under management, revenues, quality of the advisors' practices and other factors. Total assets are all assets overseen by the advisor's team, including some that are held at other institutions. Assets managed for institutions are given less weight in the scoring. Portfolio performance is not a criterion because most advisors do not have audited track records. For 2010, criteria was based on more than 4,000 filtered nominations from investment, insurance, banking and other related independent financial service firms. For 2009, criteria was based on more than 3,000 filtered nominations from more than 100 investment, insurance, banking and other related independent financial service firms.

Candidates who pass Research Magazine's vigorous screens have served a minimum of 15 years in the industry, have acquired substantial assets under management, demonstrate superior client service and have earned recognition from their peers and the broader community for the honor they reflect on their profession.

With over \$1 trillion in client assets as of December 31, 2009, Wells Fargo's brokerage businesses have over 15,000 full-service financial advisors and 6,300 licensed financial specialists. This vast network of advisors, one of the nation's largest, serves clients through offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and in Latin America. Wells Fargo Advisors is the trade name used by two separate registered broker-dealers and non-bank affiliates of Wells Fargo & Company: Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC, (members SIPC). Statistics include other broker-dealers of Wells Fargo & Company. www.wellsfargoadvisors.com.

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