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Contact: Jennifer Hawke
Senior Registered Client Associate
239.254.2238

One Color Photo Attached (Thomas Moran Portrait)

Barron's Recognizes Thomas Moran as Southwest Florida's Top Financial Advisor

NAPLES, Fla. (March 16, 2011) – For the third consecutive year, Thomas Moran, Managing Director-Investments and founding member of the Moran Edwards 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. He received the same honor in both 2009 and 2010.

Moran is a 30-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 a top fee-based financial advisor. In 2010, he was named to *Barron's* list of America's Top 100 Financial Advisors. In 2009, he was named among the "Top 100 Financial Advisors in America" by *Registered Rep* magazine.

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.

Moran Edwards Asset Management Group, formerly known as Moran Asset Management Group, is a money management practice. The group is responsible for managing in excess of \$2 billion in client assets as of 9/30/2010 and has served the Naples Community for 30 years.

Moran Edwards Asset Management Group is located at 5801 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 200 in Naples. For more information, call (239) 254-2200 or visit www.MoranEdwards.com.

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Barron's Top 100 Financial Advisors: *The rankings reflect each advisor's assets under management, his or her contribution to the firm's revenues and profits, and indications of service quality. Assets managed for institutions were not counted toward the*

score. Many of the top independent advisors head up firms, however, their scores were based on assets in accounts that they oversee themselves. Portfolio performance isn't a criterion, because many advisers don't have audited track records. *Barron's Top 1000 Advisors (2009): State-by-state ranking. Criteria: 3000 filtered nominations from more than 100 investment, insurance, banking, and other related independent financial service firms. Factors: Assets under management, revenues, quality of the advisors' practices and other factors; Institutional assets given less weight; portfolio performance excluded. **Barron's Top 1000 Advisors** .Ranking criteria based on: Data provided by over 4,000 of the nation's most productive advisors. Factors considered: Assets under management, revenues, regulatory record, quality of practice and philanthropic work. Portfolio performance not explicit component. . **Registered Rep:** The list of advisors was compiled by Discovery Database, an online database of financial service intermediaries, which weighed factors of FINRA registered representatives such as total assets under management and years in the industry, then validated by direct surveys.*

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