



CVA Represents Benefits and Incentives Group in Acquisition **by Mesirow Financial**

CVA is pleased to announce the acquisition of Benefits and Incentives Group (“BIG”) by Mesirow Financial. CVA served as the exclusive financial advisor to BIG. “I have had the pleasure of knowing Rich and BIG for several years, and I know how committed Rich and his team are to providing the best insurance and benefits solutions for their clients. In joining Mesirow, I know they will continue to provide the very best levels of service to their clients and will continue the legacy Rich and his team have built. It was terrific for us to be able to help BIG with this phase of their growth and evolution,” said Chris Younger, Managing Director at CVA.

BIG is a leading provider of employee benefits consulting and advisory services to employers across the Front Range of Colorado. The Company has an experienced and well-respected management and consulting team which provides services to over 300 clients, including some of the leading employers in Colorado. This transaction provides BIG a unique opportunity to serve as the platform for Mesirow Financial’s growth in the Denver market. The combined company will have the scale, breadth and capabilities to serve its clients’ additional needs including property and casualty, investment management, investment services, investment banking, consulting and real estate. Rich Johnson will continue with the company in a business development role.

“It was our desire to find a buyer that wanted to use our long-established brand recognition and reputation in the market place as a platform for their growth going forward. More than just an exit strategy, we wanted to provide an environment where our culture would continue and our employees would have opportunity for personal growth and where our clients would continue to enjoy the relationships and service level they have become accustomed, while adding to the financial strength and resource base supporting our team. CVA helped us select a buyer, guided us through the arduous process of due diligence and worked relentlessly in structuring favorable terms. This process was much more than we had anticipated and cannot imagine having been able to cross the finish line without CVA’s expert advice and assistance,” said Rich Johnson, President of BIG.

About Mesirow Financial

Mesirow Financial was founded in 1937 and is a preeminent diversified financial services firm. For more information, visit the website at www.mesirowfinancial.com

The testimonials contained in this press release may not be representative of the experience of other clients and are no guarantee of future performance or success.