

April 18, 2005



BBSI Announces Three-For-Two Stock Split

PORTLAND, Ore., April 18, 2005 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Barrett Business Services, Inc. (Nasdaq: BBSI) today announced that its Board of Directors has declared a three-for-two split of the company's common stock. The additional shares to be issued in the stock split will be distributed on May 19, 2005 to stockholders of record at the close of business on April 29, 2005. Cash will be paid in lieu of fractional shares.

"The stock split reflects our confidence in the company's continued strong growth and financial results following a record year in 2004. We believe the split will increase accessibility and enhance liquidity for our shares in the trading market," said William W. Sherertz, President and Chief Executive Officer.

As of March 25, 2005, BBSI had 5,810,254 shares of common stock outstanding, 57 stockholders of record and approximately 1,025 beneficial owners. Following the stock split, BBSI will have approximately 8.7 million shares outstanding. The par value of the common stock will remain \$.01 per share.

BBSI provides human resource management solutions to large and small companies throughout many regions of the United States.

Statements in this release about future events or performance, including earnings expectations for the first quarter of 2005, are forward-looking statements, which involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results of the Company to be materially

different from any future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that could affect future results include economic conditions in the Company's service areas, the effect of changes in the Company's mix of services on gross margin, future workers' compensation claims experience, the effect of changes in the workers' compensation regulatory environment in one or more of our primary markets, collectibility of accounts receivable, and availability of funding for working capital purposes, among others. Other important factors that may affect the Company's future prospects are described in the Company's 2004 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Although forward-looking statements help to provide complete information about the Company, readers should keep in mind that forward-looking statements may be less reliable than historical information. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements in this release to reflect events or changes in circumstances that occur after the date of this release.

SOURCE Barrett Business Services, Inc.

William W. Sherertz, President and Chief Executive Officer of Barrett Business Services, Inc., +1-503-220-0988