

## Ladenburg Partners with The W Source™ to Facilitate Further Growth of Female Financial Advisors' Businesses

Alliance Between Ladenburg Institute of Women & Finance and The W Source™ Seeks to Strengthen Initiatives That Support Women in the Independent Financial Advice and Brokerage Industry

MIAMI--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ladenburg Thalmann Financial Services Inc. (NYSE American: LTS, LTS PrA) ("Ladenburg"), a publicly-traded, diversified financial services company, today announced that the Ladenburg Institute of Women & Finance (LIWF) has entered into a strategic partnership with The W Source™, a nationwide networking organization for female professionals. The partnership will aim to support female financial advisors' businesses through business network referrals and help drive the advancement of women within the industry.

Founded in 2012, the Ladenburg Institute of Women & Finance has become a positive force for helping female advisors affiliated with Ladenburg's independent advisory and brokerage firms Securities America, Triad Advisors, Securities Service Network, Investacorp and KMS Financial Services build and strengthen their businesses through innovative practice management and coaching programs, multigenerational business growth support and mentoring opportunities for younger women advisors as well as career changers through its LIFT Mentoring Program. LIWF also hosts an annual Symposium dedicated to developing and accelerating the success of female advisors.

The W Source™ was launched in September 2017 with corporate offices in Santa Barbara, California. The organization aims to help female professionals grow their businesses by establishing networking groups of 20-25 professionals in local areas and offering proprietary tools and resources, marketing support and dedicated sales coaches that assist them in running their local chapters. Members include financial advisors, CPAs, attorneys and risk management specialists.

Jaime Desmond, chief operating officer of Ladenburg Thalmann Asset Management and committee chair for LIWF, said, "We are very excited to work with The W Source to build on our momentum in helping women advisors capture opportunities for growth, build lasting businesses and bring more female professionals into this industry. Our partnership with The W Source will bring another dimension of support to this mission by empowering female financial advisors to develop powerful local networks and further strengthen their marketing efforts."

Hannah Buschbom, co-founder of The W Source™, said, "We are so excited to partner with Ladenburg Thalmann and the Ladenburg Institute of Women & Finance to further accelerate

the growth of female advisors' businesses, strengthen the bonds between women advisors within the Ladenburg network and bring more female professionals into the industry. This is a great example of putting actions behind words and our industry's interest in growing and supporting female financial advisors."

Janine Wertheim, president of Securities America's advisory firm and LIWF committee member, said, "After hearing about The W Source from one of our female advisors who just successfully launched her chapter, we are thrilled to introduce this unique business building program across the Ladenburg community of women advisors. This turn-key program is an incredible opportunity for female advisors with a passion for serving the community of women business professionals while growing their businesses by providing comprehensive financial advice."

To learn more about The W Source<sup>™</sup>, please call 1-833-W-SOURCE or visit www.thewsource.com. For information about Ladenburg, visit www.ladenburg.com.

## **About Ladenburg**

Ladenburg Thalmann Financial Services Inc. (NYSE American: LTS, LTS PrA) is a publicly-traded diversified financial services company based in Miami, Florida. Ladenburg's subsidiaries include industry-leading independent advisory and brokerage (IAB) firms Securities America, Triad Advisors, Securities Service Network, Investacorp and KMS Financial Services, as well as Premier Trust, Ladenburg Thalmann Asset Management, Highland Capital Brokerage, a leading independent life insurance brokerage company, Ladenburg Thalmann Annuity Insurance Services, a full-service annuity processing and marketing company, and Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc., an investment bank which has been a member of the New York Stock Exchange for over 135 years. The company is committed to investing in the growth of its subsidiaries while respecting and maintaining their individual business identities, cultures, and leadership. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.ladenburg.com">www.ladenburg.com</a>.

## About The W Source™

The W Source™ is a unique women's network that connects like-minded professionals and service providers. Unlike other organizations, The W Source™ uses a proven approach to help professionals increase referrals and grow their businesses while fostering a network of female professionals and service providers to share ideas, knowledge, and opportunities. We facilitate a dynamic environment for our members to collaborate through connections within the local community. Our members represent a diverse business group of various specialties, goods, and professional services.

This press release includes certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including statements regarding future growth and growth of our independent brokerage and advisory business. These statements are based on management's current expectations or beliefs and are subject to uncertainty and changes in circumstances. Actual results may vary materially from those expressed or implied by the statements herein due to changes in economic, business, competitive and/or regulatory factors, including the United States Department of Labor's rule and exemptions pertaining to the fiduciary status of investment advice providers to 401(k) plans, plan sponsors, plan participants and the holders of individual retirement or health savings

accounts, future cash flows, a change in the Company's dividend policy by the Company's Board of Directors (which has the ability in its sole discretion to increase, decrease or eliminate entirely the Company's dividend at any time) and other risks and uncertainties affecting the operation of the Company's business. These risks, uncertainties and contingencies include those set forth in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017 and other factors detailed from time to time in its other fillings with the SEC. The information set forth herein should be read in light of such risks. Further, investors should keep in mind that the Company's quarterly revenue and profits can fluctuate materially depending on many factors, including the number, size and timing of completed offerings and other transactions. Accordingly, the Company's revenue and profits in any particular quarter may not be indicative of future results. The Company is under no obligation to, and expressly disclaims any obligation to, update or alter its forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, changes in assumptions or otherwise, except as required by law.

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