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NEWS RELEASE

Wayne Hummer Investments Names New President & CEO

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Thomas McDonald Tapped To Lead Expansion Of One Of Chicago's Premier Brokerage Firms

CHICAGO, April 3 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Wayne Hummer Investments, a subsidiary of Wintrust Financial Corporation (Nasdaq: WTFC), today announced the appointment of Thomas M. McDonald as the firm's President and Chief Executive Officer. McDonald succeeds Raymond L. Kratzer, who will remain with the firm as Senior Managing Director. In that capacity, Mr. Kratzer will assist in recruiting and the development of branch offices, in addition to leading a variety of strategic projects for the firm.

"As Wayne Hummer Investments expands its resources and capabilities, Tom's experience in recruiting quality investment professionals, combined with Ray Kratzer's continued involvement with our firm, will allow us to expand our capabilities, while remaining loyal to the tradition of service that our clients associate with the Wayne Hummer name," said James F. Duca, II, Executive Vice President of Wealth Management for Wintrust Financial Corporation, the parent company of Wayne Hummer.

"Tom is a very talented individual with a solid reputation in the securities industry," Duca continued. "His leadership will be a great asset as Wayne Hummer Investments continues its expansion at their Chicago and Appleton offices, and as we begin offering investment services in Wintrust's affiliated banks. Hiring Tom reaffirms our commitment to enhance Wayne Hummer's client-focused wealth management services, and we're extremely pleased that he will be a part of our team."

McDonald joins Wayne Hummer from McDonald Investments, where he served as Managing Director and National Sales Manager, over-seeing 60 retail offices with responsibility for over 700 registered investment professionals. Prior to that, he was Branch Manager at Prescott, Ball, & Turben's flagship office. Mr. McDonald received a B.S. in Personnel Management from the University of Tennessee, and is currently a member of the Sales & Marketing Committee of the Securities Industry Association.

"Wayne Hummer's acquisition by Wintrust Financial broadened the scope of our services and facilities, and made working with us more convenient for all of our clients. Now, with the addition of Tom McDonald, we can accelerate the growth we have planned for the firm, and continue the tradition of service that Wayne Hummer exemplifies," Kratzer added.

"I am very excited to be a part of Wayne Hummer Investments," said McDonald. "This a tremendous opportunity to join one of Chicago's oldest and most trusted firms, as well as one of the few in the industry that is rapidly expanding. The firm has an unparalleled history in the investment community, and a real commitment to growth and client service. I look forward to leading Wayne Hummer Investments as we continue along the path to success for our firm and our clients."

"Wayne Hummer continues to reaffirm its commitment to maximizing the synergies between their wealth management services and our Wintrust affiliated banks," said Edward J. Wehmer, President & CEO of Wintrust Financial Corporation. "Congratulations to Tom and a sincere 'thank you' to Ray for bringing Wayne Hummer Investments to where it is today, and for continuing to play an important role in the firm's future."

About Wayne Hummer Investments

Founded in 1931, Wayne Hummer Investments is Chicago's oldest brokerage firm operating under the same name. Wayne Hummer's Wealth Management services are subsidiaries of Wintrust Financial Corporation and are comprised of the following: Wayne Hummer Investments, LLC is a broker-dealer providing a full range of private client and brokerage services to clients located primarily in the Midwest. Wayne Hummer Asset Management Company provides money management and investment advisory services to individuals, institutions and public entities as well as the Wayne Hummer Companies' four proprietary mutual funds. Wayne Hummer Trust Company provides a full complement of trust services through the offices of Wayne Hummer Investments and several affiliated banking locations. Focused Investments, LLC is a broker-dealer that provides a full range of investment solutions to clients through a network of community-based financial institutions throughout the Midwest.

To learn more about Wayne Hummer Investments, visit www.whummer.com .

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