



News Release

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CNL COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE BROADENS ITS PLATFORM TO INCLUDE 1031 EXCHANGES

-- Expansion of 1031 exchange investments to cross multiple sectors --

(ORLANDO, Fla.) May 31, 2011 – CNL Commercial Real Estate, an affiliate of CNL Financial Group, has expanded its brokerage platform to offer 1031 exchange investment acquisitions and dispositions that will focus on a variety of property types, including office, retail and medical.

The new platform will be led by Vice President of Investment Property Sales PJ Behr, former founder of Trinity Real Estate Group. This move brings Behr back to CNL; he originally joined the company in 2000, working with CNL Restaurant Properties, a nontraded real estate investment trust (REIT). Behr stayed with that REIT for nearly a decade, even as it went public on the New York Stock Exchange as Trustreet Properties in 2005 and was later purchased by GE Capital. Prior to leaving GE Capital in 2009, Behr and his team averaged over \$250 million in transactions per year.

“We have had tremendous success with the 1031 platform at CNL and are excited to broaden this offering across multiple sectors,” said CNL Financial Group Vice Chairman Robert Bourne. “PJ has extensive depth of knowledge in this industry and we look forward to leveraging his expertise to secure quality opportunities for our clients.”

The expansion of CNL Commercial Real Estate into the 1031 market will primarily target affluent individuals and organizations interested in investing in net-lease properties, which have been gaining in popularity as investment vehicles, especially among baby boomers.

“We continue to see a number of people shift from management-intensive real estate investments to more passive income investment opportunities, like those offered by net lease properties,” Behr said. “There are some good investment opportunities right now, and we are well-positioned in a market that is poised for growth.”

Behr will work with investors and the disposition of properties nationwide.

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Despite the economic recession, CNL Commercial Real Estate has grown its employee count more than fivefold in the past 4 years. The company is actively serving clients in more than 25 states across the country.

“PJ is another example of top talent in our industry being attracted to the CNL platform,” said Paul Ellis, president of CNL Commercial Real Estate. “Many aspects of our space have remained stagnant for more than a decade; we are building an innovative company that provides highly talented people the opportunity to flourish and fully exercise their gifts.”

About CNL Commercial Real Estate

CNL Commercial Real Estate, an affiliate of CNL Financial Group, offers a full range of commercial real estate services, including tenant representation, project management, facilities management, brokerage and advisory services as well as an investment platform. It operates in all sectors of commercial real estate, including office, industrial, multifamily and retail. A division of the firm, CNL Specialty Real Estate Services is the country’s leading provider of faith-based real estate services and also serves not-for-profit and educational clients.

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