



# News Release

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## **WELLS FARGO PLAZA SEEING AN INCREASE IN LEASING ACTIVITY**

*-- Former Wachovia Plaza recently rebranded as part of the bank's transition --*

(ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.) June 14, 2011 – Wells Fargo Plaza, located in the heart of downtown St. Petersburg, has signed more than 23,500 square feet of space over the past two months. The increase in leasing activity includes a combination of both new and existing tenants.

CNL Commercial Real Estate, an affiliate of CNL Financial Group, leases and manages the 185,674-square-foot Class A building, which was recently rebranded Wells Fargo Plaza. The building had previously been known as Wachovia Plaza.

In May, litigation firm Buckley, Zinober & Curtis, PA relocated its St. Petersburg law offices from McNulty Station to Wells Fargo Plaza. The firm now occupies 5,057 square feet on the 12th floor.

“Wells Fargo is a premiere office building with beautiful views and is located within walking distance of many local shops and restaurants,” says Eunice Cooke-Buckley, Director of Legal Administration at Buckley, Zinober & Curtis, PA. “We are settling into our new suite nicely, and the CNL team, from management and maintenance to security, is very accommodating, which is refreshing.”

Katie Trott, a Vice President at CNL Commercial Real Estate, spearheads leasing of Wells Fargo Plaza.

“We are feeling more confident about the economy and are seeing an increase in interest from tenants regarding expansions and relocations,” says Trott. “It’s no secret the market has been sluggish the past few years, but the St. Petersburg market is improving and Wells Fargo Plaza is ideally situated to take advantage of the increase in new tenant demand.”

Other tenants to renew their lease or expand at Wells Fargo Plaza the past two months include:

- Investment firm Manning & Napier expanded its offices an additional 3,561 square feet and now occupies 10,448 square feet in the building.

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- The Appleton Group, a company that offers legal and accounting services and education, renewed and expanded its offices to 2,725 square feet.
- Existing tenants Paradise Advertising & Marketing; financial services firm Stephens; Aspen Marketing Services and CoreLogic all renewed their existing office leases, collectively totaling 12,343 square feet.

Wells Fargo Plaza is located on Second Avenue halfway between St. Petersburg's two main downtown corridors along Central Avenue and Beach Drive. The building is ideally situated for companies hoping to take advantage of downtown amenities and is positioned near several key government centers.

### **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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