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## **Mariner Holdings, LLC Continues Growth of Asset Management Business; Closes Agreement to Acquire Controlling Interest in Palmer Square Capital Management LLC**

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**Strategic partnership with Palmer Square will further augment Mariner's alternative investments expertise and asset management product offering**

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LEAWOOD, Kan. – December 15, 2009 – Mariner Holdings, LLC (“Mariner”) is pleased to announce the acquisition of a controlling interest in Palmer Square Capital Management LLC (“Palmer Square”), a leading alternative investment management firm based in Kansas City, MO specializing in funds which invest in hedge funds and private equity funds.

Mariner CEO, Marty Bicknell, commented: “We are delighted to make this significant investment in Palmer Square and its principals. We continue to see very strong investor demand for alternative investment products across our client base. Through the Palmer Square team, we have further strengthened our expertise in alternatives and have broadened our asset management product offering with a range of institutional quality fund of funds products.

Mariner Chief Investment Officer Gary Henson echoed Bicknell’s comments adding, “This partnership augments our experience in an asset class which is increasingly in demand by high net worth and institutional investors as investors further appreciate the high quality risk reward profile of the space. Palmer Square’s team not only has years of experience directly investing in alternative investments such as hedge funds and private equity funds, but also years of collective experience working at and advising some of the top investment firms in the world.”

Founder Chris Long will continue to serve as President and Managing Director of Palmer Square, “We are very excited about our new partnership with Mariner. This is a great opportunity for us to partner with a best of breed asset management firm devoted to bringing clients the performance, innovation, and service level necessary to succeed and thrive in today’s environment. The partnership also provides us with direct access to a significant distribution network for our fund products in a fast growing regional and national marketplace.”

The transaction will not result in any change to Palmer Square’s business strategy. In conjunction with this transaction, Mariner Holdings, LLC, a \$3.8 billion RIA, will also acquire Chris Long’s interest in Guilford Capital Management LLC, a fast growing RIA focused on high net worth investors. Terms of both transactions were not disclosed.

### **About Mariner Holdings, LLC**

Founded in 2006 by former A. G. Edwards investment professionals and management staff, Mariner is an independent investment company focused on wealth and asset management. The asset management platform provides institutional investors, foundations and third party managers with high quality core and alternative investment strategies. The wealth management platform offers business owners, executives, and high net worth individuals extensive portfolio management, tax and estate planning, risk management and other services. For more information, visit <http://www.mariner-holdings.com/>.

### **About Palmer Square Capital Management LLC**

Palmer Square Capital Management provides investment advisory services and proprietary funds focused specifically on alternative investments such as hedge funds and private equity. For more information, visit <http://www.palmersquarecap.com/>.