



For Immediate Release
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Illinois Bankers Association teams with Empire Advisory Group to provide 401(k) Plans, 403(b) Plans, and Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plans to Illinois Banks and their Commercial Customers

Springfield, Ill. – The Illinois Bankers Association (IBA) and Empire Advisory Group, Inc. (Empire) announced the two organizations will begin promoting Empire's 401(k) Plan, 403(b) Plan, and NQDC Plan Platforms to banks throughout the state, designating Empire as the exclusive, Preferred Provider to the IBA.

Empire provides Custom-Built, Private-Label Retirement Plans for banks and their commercial customers. The President and Founder of Empire, David Brooks, noted, "Together with our partners, Benefit Planning Consultants (BPC, Inc.), Charles Schwab Trust Company, 401k ASP, and Corporate & Endowment Solutions (CES), Empire offers 'best of breed' products, services, and pricing...driven by our leading-edge technology. On average, we reduce aggregate costs by approximately 60%." Empire's platforms were specifically designed for banks and their commercial customers. Initially, Empire offers each bank a complimentary Plan review and cost comparison.

"As an association representing Illinois banks, we strive to ensure that our financial institutions have the best products and services to better serve their commercial customers," said Linda Koch, IBA president and CEO. "We're committed to the success and longevity of financial institutions in Illinois. Our banks have commitments to their customers, employees and communities, who expect and rely on their services. Empire's solutions offer Illinois banks access to the most advanced Corporate Retirement Platforms in the industry."

Empire's website is: www.empire4u.net. The Illinois Bankers Association is a full-service trade association dedicated to creating a positive business climate that benefits

the entire banking industry. Founded in 1891, the IBA brings together state and national banks, savings banks and savings and loan associations of all sizes in the State of Illinois and collectively represents the vast majority of banking assets and banking employees in our state. The IBA has two offices: one in the State Capitol complex in Springfield and the other in Chicago.

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