



### *Securities America Welcomes Lear, Patterson, Pucci*

LA VISTA, Neb. – May 8, 2012 – Financial advisors Bruce Lear, Jeffrey Patterson and Rick Pucci have become registered representatives with Securities America, Inc., an independent broker-dealer located in La Vista, Neb.

Lear joined the financial services industry in 1994 at Dean Witter Reynolds and later served as a manager at the Trust Department at First National Bank of Kearney. Lear joins Securities America as senior vice president for Black Oak Investment Counsel in Kearney, Neb.

“I chose Securities America due to its well established presence as an independent broker-dealer, the strong team of advisors in place across the state of Nebraska and throughout the Midwest, and the opportunity to work with Black Oak Investment Counsel’s advisors who have established expertise in proactive portfolio management,” Lear said. “I look forward to the ability to access a broad range of resources for my clients, supported by an experienced team of securities and investment professionals at Securities America.”

Patterson joined the financial services industry in 1995 and made the transition to the independent sector five years ago. Realizing he had outgrown his prior broker-dealer, he decided to transition to Securities America for better systems and infrastructure.

“Securities America seems to be an excellent fit,” Patterson said. “The technology Securities America utilizes is head and shoulders above my previous firm and, being from St. Louis, I appreciate the Midwest mindset and partnership mentality of Securities America.”

After 20 years in corporate finance, Pucci turned his attention to helping specific individuals and small businesses with one-on-one personal financial planning. He then worked for a large international wire house before moving to the independent sector to build his own independent financial service practice.

“I chose to partner with Securities America because I want to stay with one company for the remainder of my life,” Pucci said. “I believe Securities America, as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ladenburg Thalmann, has the financial commitment in place to support its advisors while allowing me to remain unbiased and granting me 100 percent independence – so I can always choose what's best for my clients.”

Pucci has \$300,000 in annual revenue and \$18 million in assets under management, and he holds the Series 7 and 66 licenses and life, health, long-term care and variable insurance licenses. His business, Park Ridge Financial, is located in Park Ridge, Ill.

Patterson has more than \$375,000 in annual revenue and \$32 million in assets under management, and he holds the Series 7, 63 and 66 licenses and variable life and annuity insurance licenses. His business, Patterson Wealth Management, is located in Chesterfield, Mo.

Lear holds the Series 7 and 66 securities licenses, and variable life and annuity insurance licenses. A former senior vice president and trust officer at Platte Valley State Bank & Trust Company, Lear managed the delivery of wealth management services with more than 200 clients, \$150 million in assets and more than \$670,000 in annual revenue.

#### ***About Securities America***

Headquartered in La Vista, Neb., Securities America Inc. is the nation's seventh largest independent broker-dealer (as ranked by Financial Planning magazine, June 2011, based on 2010 total revenue). For more than 25 years, Securities America's mission has been to foster the success of financial professionals so they can provide quality, objective counsel and services to their clients. Advisors benefit from the firm's industry-leading programs in practice management, advisory services and retirement income distribution, supported by state-of-the-art technology. Founded in 1993, Securities America Advisors Inc. is an SEC-Registered Investment Advisory firm that offers investment management, financial advice and financial planning through a national network of independent financial advisors. Securities America Financial Corp. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ladenburg Thalmann Financial Services Inc. (NYSE Amex: LTS). Securities America received the inaugural Thought Leadership Award from the Retirement Income Industry Association in March 2011. Additional information is available at [www.securitiesamerica.com](http://www.securitiesamerica.com).

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