

Press Release

Contact: Elaina Boudreau
BELA Communications • (913) 660-0548

Barron's ranks Marty Bicknell of Mariner Wealth Advisors the #1 Financial Advisor in the state of Kansas for the fourth consecutive year.

Industry recognition an honor for national wealth advisory firm headquartered in Kansas City area

LEAWOOD, Kan. – February 21, 2012 – Martin C. Bicknell and the teams at Mariner Wealth Advisors – an independent and national wealth advisory firm – have been ranked the best financial advisor in the state of Kansas, according to Barron's magazine – one of the nation's most respected publications covering financial news and market developments. This is the fourth consecutive year that the firm has been recognized by Barron's as the #1 financial advisor in the state of Kansas, where the firm is headquartered.

On February 18, Barron's released its list of top advisors, organized by state and based on data provided by more than 4,000 of the nation's wealth advisors. The rankings take into account several factors, including client retention rate, regulatory record, quality of the practice and philanthropic work. The total asset value used in the Barron's rankings includes all assets managed under Bicknell as CEO of Mariner Holdings, a global financial services firm that owns and manages both Mariner Wealth Advisors and Montage Investments, an asset management firm.

The firm has landed in the #1 spot for each of the last four years, which CEO and founder Marty Bicknell credits to the firm's unwavering commitment to its clients. "It is a reflection of the hard work and commitment of each of our associates that we have received this #1 ranking for four years in a row," said Bicknell. "I believe our continued success in this competitive industry comes down to our willingness to deliver innovative solutions to meet our clients' needs."

About Mariner Holdings

Mariner Holdings was founded in 2006 and is a rapidly growing and award-winning, independent financial services firm focusing on wealth and asset management through its two subsidiaries: Mariner Wealth Advisors and Montage Investments.

Visit www.mariner-holdings.com.

About Mariner Wealth Advisors

Mariner Wealth Advisors is an independent, national wealth advisory firm that has earned a reputation for providing unbiased financial advice focused on meeting client needs. Mariner's performance has resulted in steady growth and a national reputation as one of the top financial advisors in the industry.

Mariner's expert wealth advisory teams help clients achieve and maintain financial peace of mind – preserving the wealth they have created and building a legacy for future generations of family and business leaders. The firm's services include:

- Wealth transfer
- Risk management
- Philanthropy
- Investment advisory services
- Executive compensation planning
- Business succession planning
- Family office services

Visit www.marinerwealthadvisors.com

About Montage Investments

Montage Investments brings together a unique group of institutional investment managers – each offering a distinct approach to money management that reflects many decades of professional experience and proprietary investment strategies across global asset classes. Currently managing more than \$10 billion, the firm's organizational approach is to allow individual investment managers to retain boutique processes, talent and culture that have proven records of adding value to portfolios and meeting client objectives.

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