



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GREAT-WEST RETIREMENT SERVICES® APPOINTS VETERAN SALES
EMPLOYEE TO NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ROLE**

GREENWOOD VILLAGE, Colo., Jan. 7, 2010 — Great-West Retirement Services has appointed Steve Shea to director of business development effective Jan. 1, announced Bill Harmon, vice president of 401(k) sales. In this position, Shea is responsible for developing and managing national distribution relationships.

Shea, who helped advisers sell more than 1,000 group retirement plans during his 20-year sales career, brings valuable insight regarding serving the broker-dealer community to his new role. He also brings solid relationships with several broker-dealers and third-party administrators (TPAs).

“Given his extensive background assisting the leading broker-dealers in our industry, Steve is an outstanding addition to our business development team,” Harmon said. “We’ve enjoyed sales growth across all our 401(k) markets, and in particular among the major broker-dealers and TPAs, so his transition to this role is well timed.”

Shea, based in Columbus, Ohio, reports to Tom Connolly, vice president of business development. Shea joined Great-West Retirement Services in 2006. Prior to that, he spent 12 years as a sales leader in the Kentucky and Ohio markets for John Hancock. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Ohio State University and an MBA from the University of Dayton.

About Great-West Retirement Services

Great-West Retirement Services, a business unit of Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company, is the fourth-largest retirement plan record keeper in the United States, based on total participants at year-end 2008, according to a ranking by Spectrem Group. In all, Great-West Retirement Services provides 401(k), 401(a), 403(b) and 457 retirement plan services to more than 22,000 plans representing nearly 4.2 million participants and \$116 billion in assets at Sept. 30, 2009.

Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company, headquartered in metro Denver, serves its customers through a range of group retirement savings products and services, individual life insurance and annuities, and business-owned life insurance. It is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Great-West Lifeco Inc. and a member of the Power Financial Corporation Group of Companies™.

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