

CONTACT:

Catherine Povalitis
Chartwell Agency
cpovalitis@chartwell-agency.com
(779) 537-1282

Savant Capital Management CEO is Sought-After Speaker on Business Succession Planning and M&A for Financial Advisory Firms

Brodeski Speaks at Barron's and Forbes Events

ROCKFORD, IL (May 4, 2017) – Following the successful acquisition and integration of five financial advisory firms during the past five years, <u>Savant Capital Management</u> CEO <u>Brent Brodeski</u> has become a recognized thought leader and sought-after speaker in the area of business succession planning and mergers and acquisitions for the RIA industry.

Headquartered in Rockford, IL, with 12 offices in three states, Savant, a nationally recognized wealth management firm, recently hit another important milestone in the firm's 30-year history by reaching \$5 billion in assets under management (AUM). Savant set a goal to achieve \$5 billion in AUM 10 years ago, when the firm reached the \$1 billion milestone. The firm accomplished that goal by growing 400 percent over the past 10 years.

Additionally, Brodeski led the initiative to raise more than \$50 million plus additional future capital commitments to address shareholder liquidity needs and create a capital structure and investor group to support future M&A opportunities. The new capital structure positions the firm to remain independent now, and into the future.

Those accomplishments have further put Savant and Brodeski on national radar as a leading authority for RIAs seeking to grow or to acquire/merge or become acquired.

Recently, Brodeski shared his insight when he spoke at the *Barron's* Top Independent Advisors Summit and the *Forbes-SHOOK* Top Advisor Summit. Both are exclusive, invitation-only events for the nation's top independent financial advisors and industry leaders.

On March 16, Brodeski co-facilitated the "Succession Planning and M&A" session at the Forbes-SHOOK Top Advisor Summit at the Wynn in Las Vegas, NV. He spoke about the challenges and opportunities related to positioning advisory firms for future success and growth, the drivers of firm valuation, how to obtain good terms in a sale transaction and how to assure that owners of advisory firms optimally protect their investment and also protect their clients and team.

He also participated in a panel discussion during the "Succession, Continuity Planning and Next Generation Talent" session at the *Barron's* Top Independent Advisors Summit on March 23 at the Ritz-Carlton in Orlando, FL. He spoke about key trends in advisory firm M&A, how to pick the best outside capital partner, creating a great company culture, scaling business to greater profits, and human capital strategies designed to build firm value and provide an advisory firm with long-term viability.

Savant employs more than 145 team members. Headquartered in Rockford, IL, Savant also has offices in the following locations: Chicago, IL; Freeport, IL; Geneva, IL; Hoffman Estates, IL; Naperville, IL; Peoria, IL; Sterling, IL; Wilmette, IL; McLean, VA; Madison, WI; and Park Falls, WI. For more information, visit savantcapital.com.

About Savant Capital Management

Savant Capital Management is a leading independent, nationally-recognized, fee-only firm, serving clients for 30 years with \$5 billion in assets under management. As a trusted advisor, Savant Capital Management offers investment management, financial planning, retirement plan and family office services to financially established individuals and institutions. Savant also offers corporate accounting, tax preparation, payroll and consulting through its affiliate, Savant Tax & Consulting.

Savant is regularly recognized among the top wealth managers in the United States. Savant was the recipient of the 2015 Best-in-Business IMPACT Award™, part of Schwab's IMPACT Awards® program to recognize excellence in the business of independent financial advice. Savant has consistently received other industry recognitions including recently being included on the *Forbes* top 200 financial advisors list, the *Barron's* top 20 independent advisory firms list, being named the #9 rated RIA firm by *Financial Planning* magazine, and included in additional top advisors lists by *Financial Advisor* magazine and *InvestmentNews*.

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