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**Five New Employees Join Highland Associates**

*Andy Webb, Lauren Bates, Kelly Campbell, Forrest Hames, and Caleb Smith join Highland Associates*

**BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – July 13, 2015**, Highland Associates, a leading independent institutional investment advisor, is pleased to announce the addition of five new employees.

Andy Webb serves as the senior research analyst, specializing in capital markets. Webb boasts more than twelve years of experience in the industry, including a senior investment analyst position with Warren Averett Asset Management, where he was a member of the Investment Committee and head of the Asset Allocation Committee. He was also responsible for manager due diligence as well as monitoring the performance of investment managers.

Lauren Bates joins the firm as research analyst, risk management and capital markets. Prior to joining Highland, Bates worked for Regions Financial Corp. as a portfolio manager. CFA level II candidate, specializing in portfolio management and capital markets, Lauren brings a unique passion and perspective to the company.

Kelly Campbell, marketing and communications associate, has joined the team to promote marketing, communications, and growth opportunities. Campbell recently moved from Atlanta where she worked as a project manager for a multi-dimensional advertising agency.

Forrest Hames and Caleb Smith join the team as associate analysts. Hames recently graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Business Administration. Smith, who interned with Highland Associates from January – May 2015, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Samford University.

Highland Associates president and chief executive officer Trey Echols said, “My partners and I are committed to finding the best and brightest with whom to associate ourselves. I believe we achieved success in finding uncommon talent in Andy, Lauren, Kelly, Forrest and Caleb.”

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**About Highland Associates:**

Highland Associates, Inc. is an independent institutional investment advisor headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama. Highland Associates was founded in 1987 with the mission of providing objectives-based portfolio solutions for the total client. Its national client base consists of foundations and endowments, defined benefit plans, defined contribution plans and non-profit health care organizations. Highland remains solely independent and is 100% employee owned. As of December 31, 2014 it serves as investment consultant on \$20 billion in assets. Please visit the website at [www.highlandassoc.com](http://www.highlandassoc.com) to learn more.

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