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Barfield, Murphy, Shank & Smith Joins Forces with Hindsman, P.C.

Birmingham, AL – Barfield, Murphy, Shank & Smith (BMSS) continues its planned growth strategy across Alabama by announcing its merger with Hindsman, P.C., a Gadsden-based CPA firm. The merger will take place on January 1, 2018 bringing the combined entity to about 170 employees. The firms will consolidate under the name Barfield, Murphy, Shank & Smith, LLC.

BMSS ranked 12th on *Accounting Today's* 2017 Regional Leaders list for the Top Firms in the Gulf Coast region, with \$18.3 million in annual revenue and an expected \$20.5 by the end of 2017. Additionally, BMSS has been named a *Best Place to Work* by numerous publications, including the *Wall Street Journal* and *Accounting Today*.

Hindsman, P.C. has evolved from its formation in 1928 by founder George King. Brothers Scott and Todd Hindsman became the managing shareholders in 1995. "Much of our firm's growth and success has come through the support of the local businesses and community," said Todd Hindsman. "We look forward to being able to continue supporting the growth of our clients' businesses with access to additional resources gained in this merger."

Currently, Hindsman, P.C. provides a broad range of accounting, tax, audit and advisory services to both businesses and individuals throughout Northeast Alabama. These services also include a robust, outsourced bookkeeping practice as well as payroll services. The firm works with clients in a variety of industries such as medical practices, manufacturing and construction.

"For many years, we have witnessed, admired and respected how BMSS has taken care of its people and its clients throughout the state," said Scott Hindsman. "Their culture and primary mission closely mirror ours. The skill sets of both firms are complementary to one another. It just seemed to make sense to bring the two firms together."

Hindsman, P.C. is comprised of two partners, three certified public accountants, and support staff bringing the total to 12 in all. As the team joins BMSS Scott Hindsman and Todd Hindsman will continue to manage the local office which will maintain its location at 2010 Club Drive in Gadsden.

“This merger is significant for all of us,” said BMSS Founding Partner Don Murphy. “In Hindsman, P.C., we found people who, like us, could add real value at every stage of an organization’s life cycle with strengths that complement and extend our own. Beyond that, we feel that they’re a great fit with our people, our culture and our mission of delivering an exceptional client experience.”

Barfield, Murphy, Shank & Smith was established in Birmingham in 1991 and has grown to be a Top 5 accounting firm in the state of Alabama. With an entrepreneurial and innovative mindset at the core of its operations, the firm’s ultimate mission is to serve as a trusted advisor to its clients. BMSS specializes in several industries, including manufacturing, wholesale distribution, construction, technology, nonprofits, and professional services. In addition to tax and audit, the firm offers robust practice areas in state and local tax, estate planning, employee benefit plan audits, and business advisory services. The firm is an independent member of the BDO Alliance USA, a nationwide association of independently owned local and regional accounting, consulting and service firms with similar client service goals. For more information, visit www.bmss.com.