



The Connelly Insurance Group, Inc. and The Benefit Group, Inc. Join Brown & Brown, Inc.

August 1, 2001

CLEARWATER, Fla., Aug. 1 /PRNewswire/ -- John and Kevin Connelly, principals in The Connelly Insurance Group, Inc., of Clearwater, Florida and Don Volpe, principal of The Benefit Group, Inc. have announced that The Connelly Insurance Group and The Benefit Group have combined with Brown & Brown, Inc. The transaction was effective August 1, 2001.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20001003/BROLOGO>)

The combined entities, The Connelly Insurance Group and The Benefit Group, have been serving the commercial and personal insurance needs of Pinellas County and Tampa Bay area residents and businesses for twenty years. According to John Connelly, "This change should allow us to provide an even broader range of products and services to our clients. We will be a freestanding Brown & Brown operation, with access to its additional resources, but will retain the same staff and office locations in Clearwater, St. Petersburg and Ocala, thus giving Brown & Brown two additional Pinellas locations. Our intent is that this action will be virtually transparent to our customers and will enhance our ability to continue fully serving our clients needs in the future." Don Volpe, President of The Benefit Group says, "Our clients insurance needs & services will be greatly increased as a result of this merger."

Brown & Brown provides a broad range of insurance products and services, as well as risk management, employee benefit administration, and managed health care services through over 100 offices located across the United States. The company is ranked by Business Insurance magazine as the nation's eighth largest independent insurance intermediary organization.

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CAPTION: BROLOGO BROWN & BROWN LOGO Brown & Brown, Inc. logo. (PRNewsFoto)[HD] DAYTONA BEACH AND TAMPA, FL USA 10/03/2000