

For Release: Upon Receipt

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Jeffrey R. Ritter Named Managing Partner of Indianapolis-Based John Hancock Financial Network - Midwest Financial Partners Firm

BOSTON, MA (March 12, 2009)—Jeffrey R. Ritter was recently named Managing Partner of John Hancock Financial Network - Midwest Financial Partners based in Indianapolis, Indiana, announced Peter Gordon, President of John Hancock Financial Network.

Ritter, a resident of Fishers, IN, succeeds Robert Canfield who recently retired from the firm after 13 years with John Hancock Financial Network.

Ritter joined John Hancock Financial Network - Midwest Financial Partners in 1989 as Managing Associate and has served in the role of Associate Managing Partner since 2002. As a member of the firm's management team, he has been instrumental to the growth of the business. Ritter also mentors new financial representatives in creating strong relationships with their clients and the community.

"Jeff's many years as a business partner and manager of financial representatives positions him well for a smooth transition to the role of Managing Partner," commented Gordon.

A graduate of Rollins College in Winter Park, FL, Ritter is also a member of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors and the Financial Planning Association.

"Given the current economic and financial climate, our client's need for financial guidance is unprecedented," said Ritter. "There is a tremendous opportunity to grow the footprint of the firm in Indiana and surrounding areas. With the resources available through our affiliation with John Hancock Financial Network, we have a very focused plan to build our business and serve the needs of our clients."

About John Hancock Financial Network

John Hancock Financial Network (JHFN) is a leader with the stability and scale to offer an innovative business model that gives entrepreneurial financial professionals the power to effectively build unique businesses, based on their own vision and market opportunity. JHFN is a national network of independent career firms with over 1,800 financial professionals across the U.S. For more information on John Hancock Financial Network and its national network of independent career firms, visit www.jhnetwork.com.

About John Hancock and Manulife Financial

John Hancock is a unit of Manulife Financial Corporation (the Company), a leading Canadian-based financial services group serving millions of customers in 19 countries and territories worldwide. Operating as Manulife Financial in Canada and in most of Asia, and primarily as John Hancock in the United States, the Company offers clients a diverse range of financial protection products and wealth management services through its extensive network of employees, agents and distribution partners. Funds under management by Manulife Financial and its subsidiaries were Cdn \$404.5 billion (U.S. \$330.3

billion) as at December 31, 2008. Manulife Financial Corporation trades as 'MFC' on the TSX, NYSE and PSE, and under '0945' on the SEHK. Manulife Financial can be found on the Internet at www.manulife.com.

The John Hancock unit, through its insurance companies, comprises one of the largest life insurers in the United States. John Hancock offers a broad range of financial products and services, including life insurance, fixed and variable annuities, mutual funds, 401(k) plans, long term care insurance, college savings, and other forms of business insurance. Additional information about John Hancock may be found at www.johnhancock.com.

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0185-02192009-16290773