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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Columbus-based Professional Practice Management, Inc. to merge with Blue & Co., LLC

Columbus, OH (January 10, 2019): Blue & Co., LLC, a Top 65 firm based in Carmel, Indiana is combining with the consulting firm Professional Practice Management, Inc. (Worthington, OH) effective January 1, 2019. The combined firm will operate as Blue & Co., LLC (Blue & Co.) and will welcome the employees of Professional Practice Management, Inc. (PPM) to Blue & Co.'s Central Ohio location.

PPM's owners, Neil Madsen and David Sproule, will become Directors (partner) in Blue & Co. bringing the total number of directors to 50. James Yerina, PPM owner, will remain a friend of the firm and will be working in a CFO capacity with MaternOhio Clinical Associates, Inc. The combined staff of Blue & Co. and PPM will total more than 400 professionals in 10 offices across 3 states.

"As a firm deeply ingrained in the health care industry, we are looking forward to combined expertise that both firms bring to better serve our clients. We believe the expertise and reputation of both firms complement one another and offer a friendly, client-first culture" said Brad Shaw, Managing Director of Blue & Co. "Blue & Co. has seen tremendous growth over the last five decades and continues to seek opportunities to bring a first-class experience to its client base. We believe this is another step in that continuous journey."

Neil Madsen, PPM owner said, "Professional Practice Management has refined its specialty health care expertise over the last 85 years. As we approached the next step in shaping the firm's future, we realized the time was right to partner with another firm to expand our reach in the market and to offer additional services to our growing client base." David Sproule, owner, added,

"The speed of change in today's business environment presents some challenges for firms of all sizes but more importantly, it creates opportunities to foster growth while remaining agile and attune to shifts in technology and leading practices. We feel as though this merger helps us remain competitive as we look ahead to the coming changes in the accounting industry."

About Professional Practice Management

Professional Practice Management, Inc. is a business consulting and accounting firm that has worked primarily with physicians, dentists, and other health care professionals since 1934. The firm specializes in practice management and provides monthly accounting, payroll, tax planning, tax return preparation, accounts payable, and other consulting services. This approach enables its professionals to render advice with a comprehensive view of both practice performance and personal financial considerations.

About Blue & Co., LLC

Blue & Co., LLC is a large regional independent accounting and advisory firm employing more than 400 people across the organization's offices in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky. Blue's public accounting expertise includes the practice areas of assurance, tax compliance and consulting, healthcare consulting, IT advisory, benefit plan services, valuation and litigation support, and business services and consulting. Its industry specializations include healthcare, construction, not-for-profit, manufacturing and distribution, financial institutions, higher education, and agribusiness.

Established in 1970 and headquartered in Carmel IN, Blue & Co. has been ranked in the top 100 U.S. public accounting and consulting firms for more than 15 years according to both INSIDE Public Accounting and Accounting Today magazines. In addition, the firm has been named to the prestigious Best of the Best Firms list from INSIDE Public Accounting Magazine and is consistently named as one of the Best Places to Work in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky. Blue is a member of the AICPA Division for CPA Firms, Employee Benefit Plan Audit Quality Center, Governmental Audit Quality Center, and Center for Audit Quality as well as the Center for Nonprofit Excellence.

For more information, please visit <u>www.blueandco.com</u>.

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If you'd like more information about this topic, or wish to schedule an interview, please call Amanda Goldsmith at 614-222-4879 or email agoldsmith@blueandco.com.