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Carriage Services Announces Purchase of Jay Chapel in Madera, California

HOUSTON, Sept. 20, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Carriage Services, Inc. (NYSE: CSV) is pleased to announce that we have partnered with Jay Chapel in Madera, CA. as the newest **Being The Best** member of the Carriage portfolio of operating businesses. Founded in 1893, Jay Chapel has been the premier funeral service provider in the Madera-Fresno area for over 100 years. The business' current leader, Dan Whistler, has been President of Jay Chapel since 1984 and has instilled a high performance culture of client family service in the Madera market area. Dan will continue to be involved in the business and with his community activities. Consistent with our Strategic Acquisition Model, Carriage has entered a new market with a business that has a top quality reputation enabling us to execute our Five to Ten Year Strategy of building a portfolio of elite funeral homes in the Madera and Greater Fresno areas consistent with our Ten Year Strategic Vision.

Mel Payne, Chairman and CEO of Carriage, stated, "Not only does the acquisition of Jay Chapel expand Carriage's presence in this strategic California market, but it also demonstrates our continued mission to only affiliate with the best remaining independent funeral homes in some of the best markets in the country. Dan Whistler has a passion for serving his client families and community at the highest level and his business will benefit greatly from Carriage's High Performance Support functions enabling Dan, the Funeral Home Leadership and Staff to grow the business by successful execution of our Standards Operating Model."

Dan Whistler said, "After a career of over 50 years in funeral service, I have been honored to help the many families through one of life's most difficult times, the loss of a beloved family member. This has also allowed us a way to give back with public service to our community. Our goal has always been to serve all families to the best of our ability. From simple acts of kindness to the special care during traumatic times, our guiding principles are to provide the most caring and sincere service. We will continue these traditions of service going forward by partnering with the Carriage Services family. With support and standards of service from Carriage Services, the families of the Central Valley of California will continue receiving excellent personalized services from our local staff of professionals. The goal is to always strive to be the best."

Carriage Services is a leading provider of funeral and cemetery services and merchandise in the United States. Carriage operates 170 funeral homes in 27 states and 32 cemeteries in 11 states.

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