



Glass Lewis to Host Proxy Talk Call on Delaware Appraisal Rights in Advance of Providian Financial Corp.'s Merger Vote

San Francisco (Aug. 23, 2005) - Glass, Lewis & Co., an investment research and proxy advisory firm providing services to institutional investors that collectively manage more than \$8 trillion, will host a special Proxy Talk conference call on Thursday, Aug. 25, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. (ET) regarding the legal and operational aspects of appraisal rights in Delaware. Glass Lewis has recommended that institutional investors holding shares of Providian Financial Corp. consider exercising their right to an appraisal rather than accepting the merger proposal Providian's board has recommended.

Proxy Talk will be moderated by Glass Lewis' chief executive officer, Gregory P. Taxin. The conference call is only for Glass Lewis institutional investor clients and other specially invited guests.

A transcript of the Aug. 25 call will be made public by Glass Lewis to allow any interested party access to a complete record of the call.

About Glass, Lewis & Co.

Glass, Lewis & Co. is a leading investment research and proxy advisory firm, serving institutions that collectively manage more than \$8 trillion. Glass Lewis helps institutional investors make more informed investment and proxy voting decisions by identifying business, legal, governance and financial statement risks at more than 8,000 companies worldwide. For more information about Glass Lewis, go to <http://www.glasslewis.com/>.

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