



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 18, 2013

Contact: Elizabeth Arevalo

561.835.1008

earevalo@bdb.org

### **BDB announces new jobs coming to Palm Beach County**

West Palm Beach, FLA –The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County announced that it has assisted two local businesses expand their operations in Palm Beach County and recruited two new companies to the area resulting in 80 new and 153 retained jobs.

#### **Expansion/Retention Projects:**

In cooperation with the City of Riviera Beach, the BDB has assisted **Sancilio and Company, Inc. (SCI)**, a fully-integrated pharmaceutical company, in expanding its drug manufacturing facility to meet the increase in demand for its products.

Headquartered at 3874 Fiscal Court in Riviera Beach, SCI will make a significant capital investment to expand its existing space by over 20,000 square feet. The company will add 25 new positions to its current workforce of 103, and intends to expand by an additional 20,000 square feet in January 2014.

The BDB provided SCI with permitting assistance for its recent renovation of existing space and expansion in additional contiguous space.

"Founded in Palm Beach County, SCI is a great success story," said Kelly Smallridge, BDB President and CEO. "The company started in 800 square feet of space a few years ago and by January 2014 will occupy over 60,000 square feet. It's clear that SCI's quality products and its focus on providing top-notch service to its customers are working for them."

According to SCI's Founder and CEO, Dr. Fred Sancilio, "issuance of building permits by the City of Riviera Beach in a timely manner was critical to SCI's ability to continue preparations for the manufacturing capacity required by it and its partners in 2014 and beyond." Dr. Sancilio went on to say, "to succeed in the highly competitive drug development and manufacturing industry, SCI must be able to react to increased demand very quickly. Without the support of the City of Riviera Beach and the BDB this would

be difficult, if not impossible. We are very fortunate to have local, county and state officials who understand how our ability to meet the demand for our products and those of our partners translates into more local jobs and a stronger local economy.”

“In particular, we would like to thank Mr. Peter Ringle of the City’s Building Division, Mr. Terrence Bailey of the City’s Engineering Division and Mr. Shawn Rowan of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County. These gentlemen have been instrumental in keeping the lines of communication between SCI and local officials open and active. As a result, Riviera Beach and Palm Beach County will soon be home to some of the most cutting-edge drug manufacturing technology in existence, as well as the highly skilled employees required to utilize that technology.” City Manager Ruth Jones recommended and the Council approved an expedited permitting process to facilitate businesses development and to assist companies such as SCI.

In cooperation with Workforce Florida, the BDB assisted **Belcan Corporation** in obtaining a \$24,980 Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) grant. The grant provides funding for training to existing for-profit businesses. Located at 4750 East Park Drive in Palm Beach Gardens, the company will retain 50 positions as a result of the grant.

“Through this grant, Florida is able to effectively retain businesses and help them stay competitive by supporting skills-upgrade training for existing full-time employees,” Smallridge added.

#### **Recruitment Project:**

In cooperation with the City of West Palm Beach and the West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority, the BDB assisted Delaware-based **Argent Group**, a financial services company, in locating a new office in Palm Beach County. The company will lease 4,700 square-feet of space at 221 Clematis Street in West Palm Beach, make a capital investment of \$500,000 and add 30 new jobs with an average wage of \$150,000.

“The BDB, Workforce Alliance, West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority and the City of West Palm Beach worked together to land Argent. This is a great example of how we all work so well together toward a common goal,” said Smallridge.

"Argent's decision to relocate to the heart of West Palm Beach is the latest sign that downtown West Palm Beach is becoming the newest, hottest location for the financial sector. We welcome them to our city, and wish them the greatest success," said West Palm Beach Mayor Jeri Muoio.

Robert Higgins, managing member with the Argent Group said, “With the passing of the Dodd Frank bill will come the first Rare Coin Fund of its kind where individuals don’t have to decide what exact coin to buy but invest very much like they have in bond markets, municipal funds and diversified portfolio to spread risk evenly across the realm of hard assets.”

“Our new facility currently being renovated in downtown West Palm Beach will offer something new and innovative that has already started people talking,” said Ernie Blazeff, Argent Group managing member.”

In cooperation with the city of Delray Beach, the BDB assisted **PMR**, a provider of catalytic converter recycling services, in securing a 5,000 square-foot manufacturing facility at 1100 SW 10th Street in Delray Beach. Based in Montreal, Quebec (Canada), the company will make a capital investment of \$650,000 and create 25 new jobs over the next 2 to 3 years.

The BDB helped PMR by identifying available properties, providing introductions to key community members and solution providers, and offering guidance through state and local regulatory agencies.

“Delray Beach is pleased to be selected as the U.S. home for this expanding international business, with their innovative and environmentally sensitive technology. We appreciate the BDB’s efforts in bringing PMR and the associated jobs to our city,” said Vin Nolan, Economic Development Director, City of Delray Beach and Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency.

“PMR is an innovative company that recycles catalytic converters and extracts precious metals from them. This environmentally responsible company is a welcome addition to Palm Beach County. This project is also a great example of the BDB’s successful Behind the Gates initiative. One of the principals of PMR owns a home in Highland Beach. With the assistance of city officials, we were able to connect with this company and bring this project to fruition,” said Smallridge.

**About SCI:** Sancilio and Company, Inc. is a vertically integrated pharmaceutical company focused on the development, manufacture and sale of cardiovascular, dental and women’s health products. SCI’s products include its Ocean Blue® family of Omega-3 products, as well as numerous prescription drug products that are sold in pharmacies throughout the United States. In addition, SCI has partnered with multiple international drug companies to develop and manufacture prescription drug products for global distribution. SCI’s research and development labs and manufacturing facilities are all located in Palm Beach County.

**About the City of Riviera Beach:** Riviera Beach is a growing harbor city located along the shores of the Atlantic Ocean in southeast Florida, USA. The City’s municipal beach is one of the finest in the state. Our beautiful sandy beaches make Riviera Beach an appealing place for sporting events. With an average year-round temperature of 75 degrees, Riviera Beach is also a popular location for business and casual activities. Our community and visitors provide an interesting, varied mix of young people, families and retirees from just about anywhere.

**About Belcan Corporation:** Belcan Corporation provides engineering, staffing, and other flexible workforce solutions to clients around the globe. A dedication to the success of our clients and employees, along with a commitment to a core set of beliefs that start with integrity, has led to over 50 years of growth and success. From jet engines to electronics, heavy equipment to pharmaceuticals, and distribution centers to manufacturing, Belcan takes a partnering approach to provide customer-driven solutions that are flexible, scalable, and cost-effective.

**About Argent Group:** The Argent Group is a young company that is comprised of people who have been in the business for over 25 years and are among some of the best at what they do. It is the first of its kind and will be looked at as a hybrid of the financial sector and the hard asset sector, combined under

one roof with incredible capacity to service both wholesale and consumer alike in the precious metals, rare coins, IRA setup and fulfillment, depository capacity with service to over 75 countries.

**About PMR:** Since its creation more than 15 years ago, PMR has acquired a solid expertise and built an enviable reputation in the recycling of precious metals contained in catalytic converters. Its high-tech facility offers a wide range of services, including the analysis, cutting and refining of the metals found in all types of catalytic converters. In total, PMR processes over 10 million pounds of material every year. Our state-of-the-art laboratory and methodical processes allow us to extract as much precious metal from the available material as possible, thereby ensuring that absolutely nothing is wasted. Through our continuous reinvestment in our company and ongoing process research and development, we will continue to offer the best catalytic converter recycling services available.

**About the BDB:** The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County is the official public/private economic development organization for Palm Beach County and Enterprise Florida. Founded in 1982 as a not-for-profit corporation, our primary purpose is to attract and retain new industry, business investment, high quality jobs and workforce development through corporate relocations, expansions and international trade. During the past five years, the BDB has assisted companies that have created more than 10,000 direct jobs with average salaries greater than \$58,000, resulting in more than \$595 million in capital investment to Palm Beach County and an economic impact that exceeds \$4.1 billion. Additional information can be found at the BDB's Web site, [BDB.org](http://BDB.org).