



**News**

**For Immediate Release**

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**Kurt Gearhart Named CEO of Life Settlement Service Provider 21st Services**

*May 14, 2012, Minneapolis, MN* – 21st Services, a leader in life expectancy evaluation and related services, announced today the appointment of Kurt Gearhart as Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Gearhart, previously a Managing Director in the Longevity Markets Group of Credit Suisse, replaces the retiring Jack Kettler. Mr. Kettler will assist with the transition and then join 21st Services' Board of Directors.

"For the past five years I've had the opportunity to be a client of 21st Services," said Mr. Gearhart. "Their dedication to customer service and client satisfaction is second to none. I'm excited about the future for 21st Services and look forward to working with the talented team."

21st Services has long been a leader in the life settlement industry, providing life settlement servicing and underwriting. The company has invested substantially over the past several years, analyzing millions of records relating to senior mortality and improving its innovative underwriting process. The investment will not only help those in the life settlement market but also those in other industries that provide retirement products and services to the growing senior population.

"Kurt brings to 21st Services a track record of accomplishment and leadership, and we are confident that he will help 21st Services maintain its leading position in life settlement underwriting and servicing and continue to help the company expand its products, services and customer base," said Mr. Kettler.

Dennis Chookaszian, Chairman of the Board of 21st Services, added: “The Board is excited to have Kurt join 21st Services. He brings deep industry knowledge and expertise to the company, and as a former client of 21st Services, he has a great understanding of the company’s value proposition in the life settlement industry and beyond.”

Mr. Chookaszian added, “I am extremely grateful for the service and leadership provided by Jack Kettler over the past five years. He solidified 21st Services’ position as an industry leader in life expectancy evaluations, focused on improving accuracy and underwriting capabilities, and greatly expanded service offerings to the company’s customers.”

Mr. Gearhart joins 21st Services from Credit Suisse’s Longevity Markets Group where he worked for the past five years. Prior to joining Credit Suisse, Mr. Gearhart was a partner in the Insurance and Financial Services Group of Sidley Austin LLP where he represented insurance companies and financial institutions in a variety of corporate and capital market transactions involving the insurance industry.

### **About 21st Services**

21st Services provides longevity estimates that are used to help funders value life insurance policies in life settlement transactions and to support financial planning decisions. 21st Services also offers post-purchase portfolio management services for the life settlement market. The company’s headquarters are in Minneapolis, MN.

For more information about 21st Services, go to [www.21stservices.com](http://www.21stservices.com).