#### **UNITED STATES**

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

**BROWN & BROWN, INC.** 

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

**FLORIDA** 

59-0864469

(State or other jurisdiction of

(I.R.S. Employer

incorporation or organization)

**Identification Number**)

220 South Ridgewood Avenue

Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

(386) 252-9601

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Laurel L. Grammig, Esq.

Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel

Brown & Brown, Inc.

401 East Jackson Street, Suite 1700

Tampa, Florida 33602

(813) 222-4100

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number including area code, of registrant's agent for service)

Copies to:

Chester E. Bacheller, Esq.

Holland & Knight LLP

**400 North Ashley Drive** 

**Suite 2300** 

(813) 227-8500

APPROXIMATE DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF PROPOSED SALE TO THE PUBLIC: From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement, as determined by market conditions.

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

		Proposed Maximum	Proposed Maximum	Amount of
Title of Each Class of	Amount to be	Offering Price	Aggregate	Registration
Securities to be Registered	Registered	Per Share	Offering Price(2)	Fee
Common Stock, \$.10 par value(1)	180,830 shares	\$30.65(2)	\$5,542,440	\$1,386
Common Stock Purchase Rights (3)				

- (1) Outstanding shares held by certain selling shareholders.
- (2) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(c) and based on the average high and low prices reported for March 27, 2001.
- (3) Each share of common stock is accompanied by a common stock purchase right pursuant to a Rights Agreement, dated as of July 30, 1999, between the Registrant and First Union National Bank, as rights

THE REGISTRANT HEREBY AMENDS THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON SUCH DATE OR DATES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO DELAY ITS EFFECTIVE DATE UNTIL THE REGISTRANT SHALL FILE A FURTHER AMENDMENT WHICH SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL THEREAFTER BECOME EFFECTIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8(a) OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, OR UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON SUCH DATE AS THE COMMISSION, ACTING PURSUANT TO SAID SECTION 8(a), MAY DETERMINE.

Subject To Completion, Dated March 30, 2001

**PROSPECTUS** 

# 180,830 SHARES

# **BROWN & BROWN, INC.**

#### **Common Stock**

These shares of common stock are being sold by the selling shareholders listed on page 9. Brown & Brown will not receive any proceeds from the sale of these shares.

Brown & Brown's common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "BRO." The last reported sale price on March 29, 2001 was \$32.40 per share.

The common stock may be sold in transactions on the New York Stock Exchange at market prices then prevailing, in negotiated transactions, or otherwise. See "Plan of Distribution."

INVESTING IN THESE SECURITIES INVOLVES RISKS. SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 4 OF THIS PROSPECTUS.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is March 30, 2001.

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# **FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

We make "forward-looking statements" within the "safe harbor" provision of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 throughout this prospectus and in the documents we incorporate by reference into this prospectus. You can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as "may," "will," "expect," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "plan" and "continue" or similar words. We have based these statements on our current expectations about future events. Although we believe that our expectations reflected in or suggested by our forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot assure you that these expectations will be achieved. Our actual results may differ materially from what we currently expect. Important factors which could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements in this prospectus or in the documents that we incorporate by reference into this prospectus include:

- material adverse changes in economic conditions in the markets we serve;
- future regulatory actions and conditions in the states in which we conduct our business;
- competition from others in the insurance agency business;
- the integration of our operations with those of businesses or assets we have acquired or may acquire in the future and the failure to realize the expected benefits of such integration; and
- other risks and uncertainties as may be detailed from time to time in our public announcements and Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

You should read this prospectus and the documents that we incorporate by reference into this prospectus completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We may not update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation will change in the future. All forward-looking statements attributable to us are expressly qualified by these cautionary statements.

In this prospectus, "Brown & Brown," "we," "us" and "our" refers to Brown & Brown, Inc., its wholly owned subsidiaries and all predecessor entities collectively, unless the context requires otherwise.

#### **SUMMARY**

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THIS OFFERING

- A. The purpose of this offering is to register the resale of common stock received by the selling shareholders in connection with the acquisition by Brown & Brown of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation. Selling shareholders are required to deliver a copy of this prospectus in connection with any sale of shares.
- Q. ARE THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS REQUIRED TO SELL THEIR SHARES OF BROWN & BROWN COMMON STOCK?
- A. No. The selling shareholders are not required to sell their shares of common stock.
- Q. HOW LONG WILL THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS BE ABLE TO USE THIS PROSPECTUS?
- A. Under the terms of stock purchase agreements between Brown & Brown and the selling shareholders, Brown & Brown agreed to keep this prospectus effective for a period expiring on the earlier of (1) the date on which all of the selling shareholders' shares have been sold, (2) the date on which all such shares are eligible for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or (3) one year from the closing date of the acquisition in which the selling shareholder received such shares. After that, the selling shareholders will no longer be able to use this prospectus to sell their shares.

#### **ABOUT BROWN & BROWN**

We are a diversified insurance brokerage and agency that markets and sells primarily property and casualty insurance products and services to its clients. Because we do not engage in underwriting activities, we do not assume underwriting risks. Instead, we act in an agency capacity to provide our customers with targeted, customized risk management products.

As of December 31, 2000, our activities were conducted in 39 locations in 12 states; however, with the acquisitions consummated in 2001, we currently have 108 locations in 24 states. Of the 108 locations, 28 are in Florida; 19 in New York; nine in Minnesota; eight in Virginia; seven in Louisiana; five in Colorado; four in South Carolina; three each in Arizona, Georgia and North Dakota; two each in California, Michigan, New Jersey, New Mexico and Texas; and one each in Indiana, Iowa, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Because a significant amount of our business is concentrated in Arizona, Florida, and New York, the occurrence of adverse economic conditions or an adverse regulatory climate in these states could have a materially adverse effect on our business, although we have not encountered such conditions in the past.

Our business is divided into four divisions: (i) the Retail Division; (ii) the National Programs Division; (iii) the Service Division; and (iv) the Brokerage Division. The Retail Division is composed of Brown & Brown employees who market and sell a broad range of insurance products to insureds. The National Programs Division works with underwriters to develop proprietary insurance programs for specific niche markets. These programs are marketed and sold primarily through independent agencies and agents across the United States. We receive an override on the commissions generated by these independent agencies. The Service Division provides insurance-related services such as third-party administration and consultation for workers' compensation and employee benefit markets. The Brokerage Division markets and sells excess and surplus commercial insurance, as well as certain niche programs, primarily through independent agents. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000, we achieved commission and fee revenues of approximately \$204.9 million.

#### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Since December 31, 2000, we have acquired six insurance agencies, based in Tampa, Florida; Rochester, New York; Lafayette, Louisiana; Thousand Oaks, California; Rome, New York; and Titusville, Florida. As mentioned above, with these acquisitions, we now have 108 offices in 24 states. In particular, on January 3, 2001, we completed the acquisition of all of the insurance agency business-related assets of Riedman Corporation, headquartered in Rochester, New York with offices located in 13 states. Simultaneously with this transaction, Brown & Brown of Wyoming, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Brown & Brown, acquired all of the insurance agency business-related assets of Riedman Insurance of Wyoming, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Riedman based in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

For other recent developments, we refer you to our most recent and future filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Our principal executive offices are located at 220 South Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114, and 401 East Jackson Street, Suite 1700, Tampa, Florida 33602, and our telephone numbers at those addresses are (386) 252-9601 and (813) 222-4100, respectively. Our website is located at http://www.bbinsurance.com. Information contained in our website is not a part of this document.

**RISK FACTORS** 

# Our commission revenues are dependent on premium rates charged by insurers, which are subject to fluctuation

We are primarily engaged in insurance agency and brokerage activities, and derive revenues from commissions paid by insurance companies and fees for administration and benefit consulting services. We do not determine insurance premiums. Historically, property and casualty premiums have been cyclical in nature and have varied widely based on market conditions. Since the mid-1980s, general premium levels have been depressed as a result of the expanded underwriting capacity of insurance companies and increased competition. In many cases, insurance companies have lowered commission rates and increased volume requirements. Significant reductions in premium rates occurred during the years 1987 through 1989 and continued, although to a lesser degree, through 1999. The effect of this softness in rates on our revenues was somewhat offset by our acquisitions and new business production. As a result of increasing loss ratios of insurance carriers through 1999, there was a general increase in premium rates beginning in the first quarter of 2000 and continuing through the fourth quarter of 2000. Although the premium increases varied by line of business, geographical region, insurance carrier and specific underwriting factors, it was the first time since 1987 that we operated in an environment of increased premiums for four consecutive quarters. We cannot predict the timing or extent of premium pricing changes as a result of market fluctuations or their effect on our operations in the future.

# We rely on a significant underwriter

The programs offered by our National Programs Division are primarily underwritten by the CNA Insurance Companies (CNA). For the year ended December 31, 2000, approximately \$7.5 million, or 39.2%, of our National Programs Division's commissions and fees were generated from policies underwritten by CNA. During the same period, our National Programs Division represented 9.8% of our total commission and fee revenues. In addition, for the same period, approximately \$7.4 million, or 5.1%, of our Retail Division's total commissions and fees were generated from policies underwritten by CNA. Accordingly, revenues attributable to CNA represent approximately 7.4% of our total commissions and fees. These dollar amounts and percentages represent a decline in recent years of revenues generated by policies underwritten by CNA. This decline results from certain of our programs and program accounts moving from CNA to other carriers such as, for example, our Lawyer's Protector Plan® moving from CNA to Clarendon National Insurance Company in November of 1999.

We have an agreement with CNA relating to each program underwritten by it and each such agreement provides for either six months' or one year's advance notice of termination. In addition, we have an existing credit agreement with CNA under which \$3 million is currently outstanding. Upon the occurrence of an event of default by us under this credit agreement, including our termination of any insurance program agreement with CNA, CNA may, at its option, declare any unpaid balance due and payable on demand.

Although we believe we have a good relationship with CNA, there is no assurance that future events will not produce changes in the relationship. If the relationship were terminated, we believe that other insurance companies would be available to underwrite the business, although some additional expense and loss of market share would result.

#### Our business is highly concentrated in Arizona, Florida and New York

For the year ended December 31, 2000, our Retail Division derived \$14.9 million, or 10.4%, and \$83.0 million, or 57.7%, of its commissions and fees from its Arizona and Florida operations, respectively, constituting 7.3% and 40.5%, respectively, of our total commissions and fees. We believe that these revenues are attributable predominately to customers in Arizona and Florida. Additionally, as a result of the Riedman Insurance acquisition in January 2001, we now have four additional Florida offices and have folded other Riedman insurance business into our existing Florida offices. For the year ended December 31, 2000, Riedman derived \$9.9 million, or 18.2% of its commissions and fees from its Florida operations. Additionally, as a result of this acquisition, we now have 19 offices in New York, where \$15.1 million, or 27.8%, of Riedman's insurance business was concentrated as of December 31, 2000. We believe the regulatory environment for insurance agencies in Arizona, Florida and New York currently is no more restrictive than in other states. The insurance business is a state-regulated industry, however, and there is no assurance that the current regulatory environment will remain unchanged. In addition, the occurrence of adverse economic conditions, natural disasters, or other circumstances specific to Arizona, Florida and/or New York could have a material adverse effect on our business.

#### Our success depends upon our retaining key management personnel

Although we operate with a decentralized management system, the loss of the services of J. Hyatt Brown, our Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, who beneficially owns approximately 18.7% of our outstanding common stock, could materially adversely affect our business. We maintain a \$5 million "key man" life insurance policy with respect to Mr. Brown. We also maintain a \$20 million insurance policy on the lives of Mr. Brown and his wife. Under the terms of an agreement with Mr. and Mrs. Brown, at the option of the Brown estate, we will purchase, upon the death of the later to die of Mr. Brown or his wife, shares of our common stock owned by Mr. and Mrs. Brown up to a maximum number that would exhaust the proceeds of the policy. If the Brown estate were to make such an election, none of the proceeds of this \$20 million policy would be available to us for use in our ongoing operations.

# We intend to pursue acquisitions, which may or may not be available on acceptable terms in the future and which, if consummated, may or may not be advantageous to us

Our growth strategy includes the acquisition of insurance agencies. There can be no assurance that we will be able successfully to identify suitable acquisition candidates, complete acquisitions, integrate acquired businesses into our operations, or expand into new markets. Once integrated, acquired entities may not achieve levels of revenue, profitability, or productivity comparable to our existing locations, or otherwise perform as expected. We are unable to predict whether or when any prospective acquisition

candidates will become available or the likelihood that any acquisition will be completed should any negotiations commence. We compete for acquisition and expansion opportunities with entities that have substantially greater resources. In addition, acquisitions involve a number of special risks, such as: diversion of management's attention; difficulties in the integration of acquired operations and retention of personnel; entry into unfamiliar markets; unanticipated problems or legal liabilities; and tax and accounting issues, some or all of which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

# We compete with companies that have greater financial resources

The insurance agency business is highly competitive and we actively compete with numerous firms for customers and insurance carriers. Although we are the largest insurance agency headquartered in Florida and were ranked, prior to the Riedman Insurance acquisition, as the nation's ninth-largest insurance agency by *Business Insurance* magazine, a number of firms with significantly greater resources and market presence than we have compete with us in Florida and elsewhere. This situation is particularly pronounced outside of Florida.

A number of insurance companies are engaged in the direct sale of insurance, primarily to individuals, and do not pay commissions to agents and brokers. To date, such direct writing has had relatively little effect on our operations, primarily because our Retail Division is commercially oriented.

In addition, to the extent that the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Financial Services Modernization Act of 1999 and regulations newly enacted thereunder permit banks, securities firms and insurance companies to affiliate, the financial services industry may experience further consolidation, which in turn could result in us facing increased competition from diversified financial institutions.

#### Effect of possible tort reform

Legislation concerning tort reform is currently being considered in the United States Congress and in several states. Among the provisions being considered for inclusion in such legislation are limitations on damage awards, including punitive damages, and various restrictions applicable to class action lawsuits, including lawsuits asserting professional liability of the kind for which insurance is offered under policies sold by our National Programs Division. Enactment of these or similar provisions by Congress or by states in which we sell insurance, could result in a reduction in the demand for liability insurance policies or a decrease in policy limits of such policies sold, thereby reducing our commission revenues. We cannot predict whether any such legislation will be enacted or, if enacted, the form such legislation will take, or the effect, if any, such legislation could have on our operations.

#### Adverse effect of legislation and regulatory actions on our business

We conduct business in a number of states and are subject to comprehensive regulation and supervision by government agencies in many of these states in which we do business. The primary purpose of such regulation and supervision is to provide safeguards for policyholders rather than to protect the interests of stockholders. The laws of the various state jurisdictions establish supervisory agencies with broad administrative powers with respect to, among other things, licensing to transact business, licensing of agents, admittance of assets, regulating premium rates, approving policy forms, regulating unfair trade and claims practices, establishing reserve requirements and solvency standards, requiring participation in guarantee funds and shared market mechanisms, and restricting payment of dividends. Also, in response to perceived excessive cost or inadequacy of available insurance, states have from time to time created state insurance funds and assigned risk pools, which compete directly, on a subsidized basis, with private insurance providers. We act as agents and brokers for state insurance funds such as these in certain states. Therefore, such state funds could choose to reduce the sales or brokerage commissions we receive. Any such event, in a state in which we have substantial operations, could substantially affect the profitability of our operations in such state, or cause us to change our marketing focus. Further, state insurance regulators and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners continually reexamine existing laws and regulations. It is impossible to predict the future impact of potential state and federal regulations on our operations, and there can be no assurance that future insurance-related laws and regulations, or the interpretation thereof, will not have a material adverse effect on our business.

# Carrier override and contingent commissions are less predictable than usual

We derive a portion of our revenues from carrier override and contingent commissions. Contingent commissions are paid by insurance underwriters and are based on the profit that the underwriter makes on the overall volume of business that we place with that underwriter. We generally receive these commissions in the first and second quarters of each year. Override commissions are paid by insurance underwriters based on the volume of business that we place with them and are generally paid over the course of the year. Due to recent changes in our industry, including changes in underwriting criteria due in part to the high loss ratios experienced by insurance carriers, we cannot predict the payment of these commissions as well as we have been able to in the past. These commissions affect our revenues, and any decrease in their payment to us could have an adverse effect on our operations. Further, we have no control over the ability of insurance carriers to estimate loss reserves, which affects our ability to make profit-sharing calculations. The aggregate of these commissions generally account for 3.1% to 5.3% of our total revenues.

# The general level of economic activity can have an impact on our business that is difficult to predict

The volume of insurance business available to our business has historically been influenced by factors such as the health of the overall economy. The specific impact of the health of the economy on our revenues, however, can be difficult to predict. When the economy is strong, insurance coverages typically increase as payrolls, inventories and other insured risks increase. The insurance commissions we receive generally would be expected to increase. As discussed above, however, our commission revenues are

highly dependent on premium rates charged by insurers, and these rates are subject to fluctuation based on prevailing economic and competitive conditions. As a result, the higher commission revenues we generally would expect to see in a strong economic period may not necessarily occur, as any increase in the volume of insurance business brought about by favorable economic conditions may be offset by premium rates that have declined in response to increased competitive conditions, among other factors.

# If we are unable to respond in a timely and cost-effective manner to rapid technological change in our industry, there may be a resulting adverse effect on our business and operating results

Frequent technological changes, new products and services and evolving industry standards are all influencing the insurance business. The Internet, for example, is increasingly used to transmit benefits and related information to customers and to facilitate business-to-business information exchange and transactions. We believe that we have actively responded to explore and integrate new information technology into our profit centers' operations. We believe that the development and implementation of new technologies will require additional investment of our capital resources in the future. We have not determined, however, the amount of resources and the time that this development and implementation may require.

There is a risk that we may not successfully identify new product and service opportunities or develop and introduce these opportunities in a timely and cost-effective manner. In addition, opportunities that our competitors develop or introduce may render our products and services noncompetitive. As a result, we can give no assurances that technological changes that may affect our industry in the future will not have a material adverse effect on our business and operating results.

# Quarterly and annual variations in our commissions that result from the timing of policy renewals and the net effect of new and lost business production may have unexpected effects on our results of operations

Our commission income (including contingent and override commissions but excluding fees), which typically accounts for approximately 86% to 89% of our total annual revenues, can vary quarterly or annually due to the timing of policy renewals and the net effect of new and lost business production. The factors that cause these variations are not within our control. Specifically, consumer demand for insurance products can influence the timing of renewals, new business and lost business, which includes generally policies that are not renewed and cancellations. In addition, as discussed, we rely on insurance underwriters for the payment of certain commissions. Because these payments are processed internally by these underwriters, we may not receive a payment that is otherwise expected from a particular underwriter in one of our quarters or years until after the end of that period.

We generally expect, however, our revenues to increase with new business and to decrease with lost business. The extent of quarterly and annual fluctuations based on these increases and decreases, and the increases and decreases that may be associated with policy renewals, may be difficult to predict for any period.

#### **SELLING SHAREHOLDERS**

The selling shareholders listed below received their shares of Brown & Brown common stock in connection with the acquisition by Brown & Brown of all of the outstanding capital stock of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., located in Rome and Canton, Georgia, on December 14, 2000. All of the selling shareholders have certain registration rights under the stock purchase agreements entered into in connection with the foregoing acquisitions.

The information included below is based upon information provided by the selling shareholders as of the date of this prospectus. Because the selling shareholders may offer all, some, or none of their shares of common stock, no definite estimate as to the number of shares of common stock or the percentage thereof that will be held by the selling shareholders after such offering can be provided and the following table has been prepared on the assumption that all shares of common stock offered under this prospectus will be sold.

Except as described in the table, none of the selling shareholders has held any position or office or had a material relationship with Brown & Brown or any of its affiliates within the past three years other than as a result of the ownership of Brown & Brown's common stock. The information is "as of" the date of this prospectus but may be amended or supplemented after this date.

		Shares Which May			
		Shares	Be Sold Pursuant	Shares Benefi	cially Owned
	Position with	Beneficially	To This	After O	ffering
Selling Shareholder	Brown & Brown	<u>Owned (1)</u>	Prospectus (2)	Number	Percent
W. M. Huffman, Jr.	Employee	139,301	139,301		*
E. Rhett Butler, Jr.	Employee	38,353	38,353		*
John N. Thacker	Employee	1,588	1,588		*
W. M. Huffman, Sr.		1,588	1,588		*

- \* less than 1%.
  - 1. Includes any shares as to which the individual or entity has sole or shared voting power or investment power and also any shares which the individual has the right to acquire within 60 days of the date of this prospectus through the exercise of any stock option or other right. Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes, each shareholder has sole voting and investment power (or shares such powers with his or her spouse) with respect to the shares shown as beneficially owned.
  - 2. See "Plan of Distribution."

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Brown & Brown is registering the shares on behalf of the selling shareholders. References in this section to selling shareholders also include any permitted pledgees, donees or transferees identified in a supplement to this prospectus, if necessary. The common stock covered by this prospectus may be offered and sold from time to time by the selling shareholders, including in one or more of the following transactions:

- on the New York Stock Exchange;
- in transactions other than on the New York Stock Exchange;
- in connection with "short sales";
- by pledge to secure debts and other obligations;
- in connection with the writing of options, in hedge transactions and in settlement of other transactions in standardized or over-the-counter options;
- in a combination of any of the above transactions; or
- pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act, assuming the availability of an exemption from registration.

The selling shareholders may sell their shares at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices, at negotiated prices or at fixed prices.

Broker-dealers that are used to sell shares will either receive discounts or commissions from the selling shareholders, or will receive commissions from the purchasers for whom they acted as agents.

The sale of common stock by the selling shareholders is subject to compliance by the selling shareholders with certain contractual restrictions with Brown & Brown, including those contained in the stock purchase agreements between Brown & Brown and the selling shareholders. There can be no assurance that the selling shareholders will sell all or any of the common stock.

Brown & Brown has agreed to keep this prospectus effective for a period expiring on the earlier of (1) the date on which all of the selling shareholders' shares have been sold, (2) the date on which all such shares are eligible for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act, or (3) one year from the closing date of the acquisition in which the selling shareholders received such shares. Brown & Brown intends to de-register any of the common stock not sold by the selling shareholders immediately after the expiration of such period. After such period, the selling shareholders will no longer be able to use this prospectus to sell their shares.

Brown & Brown and the selling shareholders have agreed to customary indemnification obligations with respect to the sale of common stock by use of this prospectus.

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

Certain legal matters with respect to the validity of the shares offered hereby will be passed upon for Brown & Brown by Holland & Knight LLP, Tampa, Florida.

#### **EXPERTS**

The financial statements and schedule of Brown & Brown incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement have been audited by Arthur Andersen LLP, independent public accountants, as indicated in their reports with respect thereto, and are incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing in giving said reports.

The financial statements and schedule of Riedman Insurance (a division of Riedman Corporation) incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement have been audited by KPMG LLP, independent public accountants, as indicated in their report with respect thereto, and are incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing in giving said report.

# WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Those reports, proxy statements and other information may be obtained:

- At the Public Reference Room of the SEC, Room 1024 Judiciary Plaza, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549;
- At the public reference facilities at the SEC's regional offices located at Seven World Trade Center, 13th Floor, New York, New York 10048 or Northwestern Atrium Center, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1400, Chicago, Illinois 60661;
- From the SEC, Public Reference Section, Judiciary Plaza, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549;
- At the offices of The New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005; and
- From the Internet site maintained by the SEC at http://www.sec.gov, which contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

Some locations may charge prescribed or modest fees for copies.

### **INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE**

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" the information we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the following documents:

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2000 (including information specifically incorporated by reference into our Form 10-K from our definitive Proxy Statement).
- Amendment to Annual Report on Form 10-K/A, filed with the SEC on March 27, 2001.
- Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 18, 2001.
- Amendment to Current Report on Form 8-K/A, filed with the SEC on March 19, 2001.
- Amendment No. 2 to Current Report on Form 8-K/A, filed with the SEC on March 23, 2001.
- The description of Brown & Brown's common stock contained in Brown & Brown's registration statement on Form 8-A filed on November 17, 1997, pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.
- The description of Brown & Brown's Common Stock Purchase Rights contained in the registration statement on Form 8-A filed on August 2, 1999.
- All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and to be part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.
- All documents filed by the Registrant after the date of filing the initial registration statement on Form S-3, of which this prospectus is a part, and prior to the effectiveness of such registration statement pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and to be part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

On request we will provide at no cost to each person, including any beneficial owner who receives a copy of this prospectus, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated in this prospectus by reference. We will not provide exhibits to any such documents, however, unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents. Written or telephone requests for such copies should be addressed to Brown & Brown's executive offices in Tampa, Florida, Attention: Corporate Secretary.

180,830 Shares

# **BROWN & BROWN, INC.**

Common Stock
PROSPECTUS
March 30, 2001
Part II

# **Information Not Required In Prospectus**

# Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

Set forth below is the Securities and Exchange Commission Registration Fee and an estimate of the other fees and expenses payable by the Registrant in connection with the registration and sale of the securities being registered:

Securities and Exchange Commission Registration Fee	\$ 1,386.00
Legal Fees and Expenses	10,000.00
Accounting Fees and Expenses	2,000.00
Printing, Engraving and Mailing Expenses	<u>20.00</u>
Total	<u>\$ 13,406.00</u>

#### Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

The Registrant is a Florida corporation. Reference is made to Section 607.0850 of the Florida Business Corporation Act, which permits, and in some cases requires, indemnification of directors, officers, employees, and agents of Registrant, under certain circumstances and subject to certain limitations.

Under Article VII of the Registrant's Bylaws, the Registrant is required to indemnify its officers and directors, and officers and directors of certain other corporations serving as such at the request of the Registrant, against all costs and liabilities incurred by such persons by reason of their having been an officer or director of the Registrant or such other corporation, provided that such indemnification shall not apply with respect to any matter as to which such officer or director shall be finally adjudged to have been individually guilty of gross negligence or willful malfeasance in the performance of his or her duties as a director or officer, and provided further that the indemnification shall, with respect to any settlement of any suit, proceeding, or claim, include reimbursement of any amounts paid and expenses reasonably incurred in settling any such suit, proceeding, or claim when, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, such settlement and reimbursement appeared to be in the best interests of the Registrant.

The Registrant has purchased insurance with respect to, among other things, liabilities that may arise under the statutory provisions referred to above.

The general effect of the foregoing provisions may be to reduce the circumstances in which an officer or director may be required to bear the economic burden of the foregoing liabilities and expense.

### **Item 16. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules**

(a) Exhibits:

Exhibit <u>Description</u>

#### Number

- 5.1 Opinion of Holland & Knight LLP.
- 10.1 Stock Purchase Agreement, dated December 14, 2001, among the Registrant and the shareholders of WMH, Inc.
- 10.2 Stock Purchase Agreement, dated December 14, 2001, among the Registrant and the shareholders of Huffman & Associates, Inc.
- 23.1 Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP, independent auditors of the Registrant.
- 23.2 Consent of KPMG LLP, independent auditors of Riedman Insurance (a division of Riedman Corporation).
- 23.3 Consent of Holland & Knight LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).
- 24.1 Powers of Attorney pursuant to which this Form S-3 has been signed on behalf of certain directors and officers of the Registrant.
- 24.2 Resolutions of the Registrant's Board of Directors, certified by the Secretary.

#### Item 17. Undertakings

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

- 1. To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:
  - (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act,
  - (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective Registration Statement,
  - (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs 1(i) and 1(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by such clauses is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

- 2. That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed a new Registration Statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- 3. To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- 4. That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to its Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, by agreement or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question of whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the city of Daytona Beach, State of Florida, on March 30, 2001.

BROWN & BROWN, INC.

By:<u>\*</u>

J. Hyatt Brown

Chief Executive Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on March 30, 2001.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
<u>*</u>	Chairman of the Board, President and
J. Hyatt Brown	Chief Executive Officer
	(Principal Executive Officer)
* _	Vice President, Treasurer and
Cory T. Walker	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)
<u>*</u>	Executive Vice President,
Jim W. Henderson	Assistant Treasurer and Director
<u>*</u>	Director
Samuel P. Bell, III	
* _	Director
Bradley Currey, Jr.	
<u>*</u>	Director
David H. Hughes	

<u>*</u>	Director
Theodore J. Hoepner	
<u>*</u>	Director
Toni Jennings	
<u>*</u>	Director
John R. Riedman	
<u>*</u>	Director
Jan E. Smith	

\*By: /S/ LAUREL L. GRAMMIG

Laurel L. Grammig

Exhibit <u>Description</u>

Attorney-in-Fact

# **Exhibit Index**

<u>Number</u>	
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24.2	Resolutions of the Registrant's Board of Directors, certified by the Secretary.

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Brown & Brown, Inc.

220 South Ridgewood Avenue

Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-3

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We refer to the Registration Statement (the "Registration Statement") on Form S-3, filed by Brown & Brown, Inc., a Florida corporation (the "Company") with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the purpose of registering under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") an aggregate amount of 180,830 shares (the "Shares") of authorized common stock, par value \$.10 per share, of the Company being offered for sale for the benefit of the selling stockholders named in the Registration Statement. We understand that the Shares are to be sold from time to time on the New York Stock Exchange at prevailing prices or as otherwise described in the Registration Statement.

In connection with the above registration, we have acted as counsel for the Company, and have examined originals, or copies certified to our satisfaction, of all such corporate records of the Company, certificates of public officials and representatives of the Company, and other documents as we deemed necessary to require as a basis for the opinion expressed below.

Based upon the foregoing, and having regard for legal considerations that we deem relevant, it is our opinion that the Shares are duly authorized, legally issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as Exhibit 5.1 to the Registration Statement and to the reference to this firm under the caption "Legal Matters" contained in the prospectus filed as part of the Registration Statement, and any amendments thereto. In giving such consent, we do not admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Holland & Knight LLP

**HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLP** 

#### **EXHIBIT 10.1**

#### STOCK PURCHASE AGREEMENT

This **STOCK PURCHASE AGREEMENT**, dated as of December 14, 2000 (this "<u>Agreement</u>"), is made and entered into by and among **BROWN & Brown, Inc.**, a Florida corporation ("<u>Buyer</u>"); and **W.M. HUFFMAN, JR.**, a resident of the State of Georgia ("<u>Huffman</u>"), and **E. RHETT BUTLER, JR.**, a resident of the State of Georgia ("<u>Butler</u>"; and collectively with Huffman, the "<u>Shareholders</u>").

# **Background**

The Shareholders own all of the outstanding capital stock of WMH, Inc., a Georgia corporation doing business as Huffman & Associates (the "Company"). The Company is engaged primarily in the insurance agency business in Rome, Georgia and Canton, Georgia. The Shareholders wish to sell all of the outstanding shares of the Company to Buyer, and Buyer desires to acquire such shares, upon the terms and conditions expressed in this Agreement. It is the intent of the parties hereto that the transactions contemplated in this Agreement be treated as a pooling-of-interests transaction for accounting purposes and as a tax-free reorganization as described in Section 368(a)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

**THEREFORE**, in consideration of the respective representations, warranties, covenants and agreements set forth herein, the parties agree as follow:

#### **Article 1**

#### The Acquisition

Section 1.1 *Purchase and Sale of Shares*. On and subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Buyer agrees to purchase 344.07 shares of common stock of the Company, par value \$1.00 per share (the "<u>Company Shares</u>"), from the Shareholders and the Shareholders agree to sell all of the Company Shares to Buyer, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances. The Company Shares constitute all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of the Company. The Company Shares shall be sold to Buyer for the consideration specified in **Section 1.2**.

- Section 1.2 *Consideration*. The consideration for the Company Shares shall be the issuance of 174,480 shares of common stock of Buyer (the "<u>Buyer Shares</u>") to the Shareholders, calculated as follows:
- (a) The average closing price for a share of common stock of Buyer, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange, in the twenty (20) day period ending at the close of business on the third (3rd) business day in advance of the Closing Date (as defined in **Section 2.1** hereof) (the "Average Price"), is determined to be \$31.771875.
- (b) Because the Closing Date is occurring before December 31, 2000, and the Average Price is greater than \$31.00, the number of Buyer Shares to be issued to the Shareholders is equal to (i) \$4,671,165.00, which equals the sum of (A) \$4,000,000.00 plus (B) the Company's Positive Net Worth (as defined below) of \$785,165.00 minus (C) \$114,000.00, divided by (ii) \$26.771875, which equals the sum of (A) \$26.00 plus (B) \$.771875, the amount by which the Average Price exceeds \$31.00.

For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Positive Net Worth" means, as of the Closing Date, the difference of the Company's (i) total assets minus (ii) total liabilities, determined pursuant to the Company's balance sheet as of October 31, 2000 set forth in Schedule 1.2 which is adjusted in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles, and Buyer's standard accounting practices.

Section 1.3 *Delivery of Buyer Shares*. The Buyer Shares shall be issued to the Shareholders as follows:

- (a) ten percent (10%) of the Buyer Shares shall be pledged to Buyer as partial security for the indemnification obligations of the Shareholders under **Article 8** hereof (the "<u>Pledged Shares</u>"). Such Pledged Shares shall be pledged by the Shareholders pro-rata, based upon their respective percentages of ownership in the Company as set forth in **Section 1.3(d)**. These Pledged Shares, subject to any reduction in number as may be necessary to satisfy the Shareholders' indemnification obligations, shall be delivered to the Shareholders within thirty (30) days after the Anniversary Date, in accordance with the terms of the Pledge Agreement attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1.3</u> (the "<u>Pledge Agreement</u>").
- (b) The remainder of the Buyer Shares shall be delivered to the Shareholders at the Closing.
- (c) The dollar value of each Buyer Share shall be the Closing Price for all purposes in determining (i) the number of Buyer Shares to be issued under **Section 1.2** hereof, or (ii) the number of Buyer Shares to be pledged under this **Section 1.3** (adjusted for any stock splits or stock dividends).
- (d) Of the total number of Buyer Shares to be issued to the Shareholders, seventy-eight and two-tenths percent (78.2%) will be issued to Huffman and twenty-one and eight-tenths percent (21.8%) will be issued to Butler.

Section 1.4 *Accounting and Tax Treatment*. The parties agree (a) to structure this transaction as a tax-free exchange, and (b), as more fully described in **Section 6.6** of this Agreement, to treat this transaction for accounting purposes as a pooling-of-interests

transaction and to take all actions necessary to characterize the transaction as such.

Section 1.5 *Registration of Buyer Shares.* The Shareholders shall have the rights and obligations set forth in the Registration Rights Addendum attached hereto with respect to the registration of the Buyer Shares for sale and other matters addressed therein.

#### Article 2

#### Closing, Items to be Delivered,

#### **Further Assurances, and Effective Date**

Section 2.1 *Closing*. The consummation of the purchase and sale under this Agreement (the "Closing") will take place at 9 a.m., local time, on November 30, 2000 (the "Closing Date"), at the offices of Brinson, Askew, Berry, Seigler, Richardson & Davis, LLP, located at The Omberg House, 615 West First Street, Rome, Georgia, unless another date or place is agreed to in writing by the parties hereto.

Section 2.2 *Conveyance and Delivery by the Shareholders*. On the Closing Date, the Shareholders will surrender and deliver possession of the certificates representing the Company Shares to Buyer, properly endorsed for transfer or with executed stock powers attached. The Shareholders shall take such steps as may be required to put Buyer in actual possession and operating control of the Company, and in addition shall deliver to Buyer such bills of sale and assignments and other good and sufficient instruments and documents of conveyance, in form reasonably satisfactory to Buyer, as shall be necessary and effective to transfer and assign to, and vest in, Buyer all of the Shareholders' right, title, and interests in and to the Company Shares free and clear of any lien, charge, pledge, security interest, restriction or encumbrance of any kind.

Section 2.3 *Delivery by Buyer*. On the Closing Date, Buyer will deliver to the Shareholders certificates representing the number of Buyer Shares to be issued to the Shareholders at the Closing pursuant to **Section 1.3(b)** hereof.

Section 2.4 *Mutual Performance*. At or prior to the Closing, the parties hereto shall also deliver to each other the agreements, certificates, and other documents and instruments referred to in Articles 6 and 7 hereof.

Section 2.5 *Third Party Consents.* To the extent that the Company Shares may not be transferred to Buyer hereunder without the consent of another person which has not been obtained, this Agreement shall not constitute an agreement to transfer the same if an attempted transfer would constitute a breach thereof or be unlawful, and the Shareholders, at their expense, shall use their best efforts to obtain any such required consent(s) as promptly as possible. If any such consent shall not be obtained or if any attempted transfer would be ineffective or would impair Buyer's rights so that Buyer would not in effect acquire the benefit of all such rights, the Shareholders, to the maximum extent permitted by law, shall act after the Closing as Buyer's agent in order to obtain for it the benefits thereunder and shall cooperate, to the maximum extent permitted by law, with Buyer in any other reasonable arrangement designed to provide such benefits to Buyer.

Section 2.6 *Further Assurances*. From time to time after the Closing, at Buyer's request, the Shareholders will execute, acknowledge and deliver to Buyer such other instruments of conveyance and transfer and will take such other actions and execute and deliver such other documents, certifications and further assurances as Buyer may reasonably request in order to vest more effectively in Buyer, or to put Buyer more fully in possession of, the Company Shares. Each of the parties hereto will cooperate with the others and execute and deliver to the other parties such other instruments and documents and take such other actions as may be reasonably requested from time to time by such other party as necessary to carry out, evidence and confirm the intended purposes of this Agreement.

Section 2.7 *Effective Date*. The Effective Date of the Agreement and all related instruments executed at the Closing shall be the Closing Date, unless otherwise specified.

#### Article 3

#### Representations and Warranties of the Shareholders

The Shareholders represent and warrant to Buyer as follows:

Section 3.1 *Organization*. The Company is a corporation organized and in good standing under the laws of Georgia and its status is active. The Company has all requisite corporate power and authority and all necessary governmental approvals to own, lease, and operate its properties and to carry on its business as now being conducted. The Company is duly qualified to do business and is in good standing as a foreign corporation in each jurisdiction where the conduct of its insurance agency business requires it to be so qualified.

Section 3.2 *Authority*. Each Shareholder represents as to himself and not as to any other Shareholder that (a) he has the requisite power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby, and (b) this Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by such Shareholder and constitutes his valid and binding obligation, enforceable against him in accordance with its terms, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, or similar laws from time to time in effect which offset creditors' rights generally, and general equitable principles.

Section 3.3 *Capitalization*. The Company Shares constitute all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of the Company. All of the Company Shares have been duly issued and are fully paid and nonassessable. All of the Company Shares are

owned and held by the Shareholders, free and clear of all liens, encumbrances or other third-party rights of any kind whatsoever. There are no outstanding agreements, options, rights or privileges, whether preemptive or contractual, to acquire shares of capital stock or other securities of the Company.

Section 3.4 *Corporate Records*. The Shareholders have delivered to Buyer correct and complete copies of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Company, each as amended to date. The minute books containing the records of meetings of the shareholders, board of directors, and any committees of the board of directors, the stock certificate books, and the stock record books of the Company are correct and complete and have been made available for inspection by Buyer. The Company is not in default under or in violation of any provision of its Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws.

Section 3.5 *Consents and Approvals; No Violations.* Except as set forth in Schedule 3.5, neither the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement by the Shareholders nor the consummation by them of the transactions contemplated hereby nor compliance by them with any of the provisions hereof will (a) conflict with or result in any breach of any provision of the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of the Company, (b) require any filing with, or permit, authorization, consent, or approval of, any court, arbitral tribunal, administrative agency or commission, or other governmental or regulatory authority or agency (each a "Governmental Entity") by the Company or any Shareholder, (c) result in a violation or breach of, or constitute a default (or give rise to any right of termination, amendment, cancellation, or acceleration) under, any of the terms, conditions, or provisions of any note, bond, mortgage, lease, license, agreement, or other instrument or obligation to which any of the Shareholders or the Company is a party or by which any of the Shareholders or the Company or any of their respective properties or assets may be bound, or (d) violate any order, writ, injunction, decree, statute, rule or regulation applicable to the Shareholders or the Company, or any of their respective properties or assets, except in the case of (c) or (d) above for violations, breaches or defaults that would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on the Company or Buyer's ownership of the Company Shares.

Section 3.6 *No Third Party Options.* There are no existing agreements, options, commitments, or rights with, of or to any person to acquire any of the Company's securities, assets, properties or rights, or any interests therein, other than as listed on <u>Schedule 3.6</u>.

Section 3.7 *Financial Statements.* The Shareholders have delivered to Buyer true and complete copies of (a) the Company's balance sheet as of December 31, 1999 and the related statement of income for the twelve (12) months then ended, and (b) the Company's balance sheet at November 30, 2000 (the "Balance Sheet Date"), and the related statement of income for the eleven (11) months then ended, all of which have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, consistently applied throughout the periods involved. Such balance sheets fairly present the financial position, assets and liabilities (whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise) of the Company at the dates indicated and such statements of income fairly present the results of operations for the periods then ended. The Company's financial books and records are accurate and complete in all material respects.

Section 3.8 **Absence of Certain Changes.** Since the Balance Sheet Date, there have been no events or changes having a material adverse effect on the assets, liabilities, financial condition or operations of the Company or, to the Shareholders' Knowledge, on the future prospects of the Company. Since the Balance Sheet Date, the Company has not made any distributions or payments to shareholders (other than normal compensation that may have been paid to the Shareholders in their capacity as bona fide employees and normal recurring Subchapter S corporation shareholder distributions) and has not entered into any agreements other than in the ordinary course of business, except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.8</u> hereto. Since the Balance Sheet Date, the Company has carried on business in the usual, regular and ordinary course in substantially the same manner as heretofore conducted and has not taken any unusual actions in contemplation of this transaction except to the extent that Buyer has given its prior specific consent.

Section 3.9 *Assets.* (a) Except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-1</u>, the Company owns and holds, free and clear of any lien, charge, pledge, security interest, restriction, encumbrance or third-party interests of any kind whatsoever (including insurance company payables), sole and exclusive right, title, and interests in and to the customer expiration records for those customers listed in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-2</u>, together with the exclusive right to use such records and all customer accounts, copies of insurance policies and contracts in force, and all files, invoices and records pertaining to the customers, their contracts and insurance policies, and all related information. All customer accounts listed in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-2</u> represent current customers of the Company and none of such accounts has been cancelled or transferred as of the date hereof. None of the accounts shown in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-2</u> represents business that has been brokered through a third party, other than those accounts set forth in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-3</u>.

- (b) The name "Huffman & Associates" is the only trade name used by the Company within the past three (3) years. No party has filed a claim during the past three (3) years against the Company alleging that it has violated, infringed on or otherwise improperly used the intellectual property rights of such party, or, if so, the claim has been settled with no existing liability to the Company and, to the Shareholders' Knowledge, the Company has not violated or infringed any trademark, trade name, service mark, service name, patent, copy-right or trade secret held by others.
- (c) The computer software of the Company performs in accordance with the documentation and other written material used in connection therewith, is substantially free of defects in programming and operation. The Shareholders have delivered to Buyer complete and correct copies of all user and technical documentation related to such software.
- (d) The Company owns or leases all tangible assets necessary for the conduct of its business as presently operated. All equipment, inventory, furniture and other assets owned or used by the Company in its business are, to the Shareholders' Knowledge, in a state of good repair and maintenance, having regard for the purposes of which they are used, and the purposes for which such assets are used and for which they are held by the Company are not in violation of any statute, regulation, covenant or restriction.

(e) Except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.9(e)</u>, all notes and accounts receivables of the Company are reflected properly on its books and records, are valid receivables subject to no set-offs or counterclaims either asserted to date or of which the Shareholders have Knowledge, and are presently current and collectible. All of the Company's accounts payable, including accounts payable to insurance carriers, are current and reflected properly on its books and records.

Section 3.10 *Undisclosed Liabilities*. Except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.10</u>, the Company has no liabilities, and there is no basis for any present or future charge, complaint, action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, claim or demand against the Company giving rise to any liability, except (a) those liabilities reflected in the November 30, 2000 balance sheet of the Company, and (b) liabilities which have arisen after November 30, 2000 in the ordinary course of business (none of which relates to any breach of contract, breach of warranty, tort, infringement, or violation of law, or arose from any charge, complaint, action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, claim or demand). The Company has not guaranteed the obligations of any third party, including, without limitation, guarantees relating to premium financing on behalf of its customers.

Section 3.11 *Litigation and Claims*. Except as disclosed in <u>Schedule 3.11</u>, there is no suit, claim, action, proceeding or investigation pending or threatened against the Company, and there is no basis for such a suit, claim, action, proceeding or investigation. The Company is not subject to any outstanding order, writ, injunction or decree which, insofar as can be reasonably foreseen, individually or in the aggregate, in the future would have an adverse effect on the Company or would prevent the Shareholders from consummating the transactions contemplated hereby. No voluntary or involuntary petition in bankruptcy, receivership, insolvency, or reorganization with respect to the Shareholders or the Company has been filed by or, to the Knowledge of the Shareholders, against the Shareholders or the Company. Each of the Shareholders represents for himself only and not for any other Shareholder, that he is solvent on the date hereof and will be solvent on the Closing Date, and that he will not file a petition prior to the Closing Date or for one hundred (100) days thereafter, and if such petition if filed by others, the same will be promptly discharged. Neither the Shareholders nor the Company has, and at the Closing Date will not have, made any assignment for the benefit of creditors, or admitted in writing insolvency or that its property at fair valuation will not be sufficient to pay its debts, nor will the Shareholders permit any judgment, execution, attachment, or levy against them or their properties to remain outstanding or unsatisfied for more than ten (10) days.

Section 3.12 *Compliance with Applicable Law.* To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, the Company holds all permits, licenses, variances, exemptions, orders, and approvals of all Governmental Entities necessary for the lawful conduct of its business (collectively, the "Permits"). To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, the Company is in compliance with the terms of the Permits, except where the failure to comply would not have an adverse effect. To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, the Company is not conducting business in violation of any law, ordinance or regulation of any Governmental Entity, except for possible violations that individually or in the aggregate do not, and, insofar as reasonably can be foreseen, in the future will not, have an adverse effect on its business. As of the date of this Agreement, no investigation or review by any Governmental Entity with respect to the Company is pending or, to the Knowledge of the Shareholders, threatened, nor has any Governmental Entity indicated an intention to conduct the same.

Section 3.13 *Tax Returns and Audits.* The Company has timely filed all federal, state, local and foreign tax returns required to be filed by it or has paid or made provision for the payment of any penalty or interests arising from the late filing of any such return, has correctly reflected all taxes required to be shown thereon, and has fully paid or made adequate provision for the payment of all taxes that have been incurred or are due and payable pursuant to such returns or pursuant to any assessment with respect to taxes in such jurisdictions, whether or not in connection with such returns. To the best of the Shareholders' Knowledge, there are no circumstances or pending questions relating to potential tax liabilities nor claims asserted for taxes or assessments of the Company that, if adversely determined, could result in a tax liability for any period prior to, including, or beginning after the Closing Date or on the Company's practices in computing or reporting taxes. No federal income tax or information return for the Company is currently the subject of an audit by the Internal Revenue Service. The Company has not executed an extension or waiver of any statute of limitations on the assessment or collection of any tax due that is currently in effect.

- Section 3.14 *Contracts.* (a) <u>Schedule 3.14(a)</u> lists all material contracts, agreements and other written arrangements to which the Company is a party, including, without limitation, the following:
- (i) any written arrangement (or group of written arrangements) for the furnishing or receipt of services that calls for performance over a period of more than one (1) year;
- (ii) any written arrangement concerning a partnership or joint venture;
- (iii) any written arrangement (or group of written arrangements) under which the Company has created, incurred or assumed or may create, incur or assume indebtedness (including capitalized lease obligations) involving more than \$10,000 or under which it has imposed (or may impose) a security interest on any of its assets, tangible or intangible;
- (iv) any employment agreement;
- (v) any written arrangement concerning confidentiality or non-competition;
- (vi) any written arrangement involving the Company and its present or former affiliates, officers, directors or shareholders;
- (vii) any written arrangement under which the consequences of a default or termination could have a material adverse effect on the assets, liabilities, business, financial condition, operations or future prospects of the Company; or

- (viii) any other written arrangement (or group of related arrangements) either involving more than \$10,000 or not entered into in the ordinary course of business.
- (b) Except as set forth in Schedule 3.14(b), the Company is not a party to any verbal contract, agreement or other arrangement which, if reduced to written form, would be required to be listed in Schedule 3.14(a). The Shareholders have delivered to Buyer a correct and complete copy of each written arrangement, as amended to date, listed in Schedule 3.14(a). Each such contract, agreement and written arrangement is valid and enforceable in accordance with its terms, and, to the best of the Shareholders' Knowledge, no party is in default under any provision thereof.
- Section 3.15 *Non-Solicitation Covenants*. The Company is not a party to any agreement that restricts its ability to compete in the insurance agency industry or solicit specific insurance accounts.
- Section 3.16 *Insurance Policies*. Schedule 3.16 sets forth a complete and correct list of all insurance policies held by the Company with respect to its business, and true and complete copies of such policies have been delivered to Buyer. The Company has complied with all the provisions of such policies and the policies are in full force and effect.
- Section 3.17 *Errors and Omissions*. The Company has not incurred any liability or taken or failed to take any action that may reasonably be expected to result in a liability for errors or omissions in the conduct of its insurance business, except such liabilities as are fully covered by insurance. All errors and omissions lawsuits and claims currently pending or threatened against the Company are set forth in <u>Schedule 3.11</u>. The Company has errors and omissions (E&O) insurance coverage in force, with minimum liability limits of \$1 million per occurrence and \$3 million aggregate, with a deductible of \$10,000.00, and the Shareholders will provide to Buyer a certificate of insurance evidencing such coverage prior to or on the Closing Date. The Company has had the same or higher levels of coverage continuously in effect for at least the past five (5) years.
- Section 3.18 *Employees*. Except as disclosed in <u>Schedule 3.14(a)</u>, all employees of the Company are employees at will, and the Company is not a party to any written contract of employment.
- Section 3.19 *Environmental and Public Safety Compliance*. To the Shareholders' Knowledge, the Company and its predecessors and affiliates have complied with all laws (including rules and regulations thereunder) of federal, state and local government (and all agencies thereof) concerning the environment, public health and safety, and employee health and safety. No charge, complaint, action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, claim, demand or notice has been filed or commenced against the Company or its predecessors or affiliates alleging any failure to comply with any such law, rule or regulation. Neither the Company nor any of its affiliates has received any notification from any governmental authority that it allegedly was a contributor to or a potentially responsible party in connection with, any place at which hazardous material was stored, treated, released or disposed.
- Section 3.20 *Employee Benefit Plans*. Schedule 3.20 lists each Employee Benefit Plan (as defined below) that the Company or any trade or business, whether or not incorporated, that together with the Company would be deemed a "single employer" within the meaning of Section 4001 of ERISA (as defined below) (a "Company ERISA Affiliate") maintains or to which the Company or any Company ERISA Affiliate contributes.
- (a) To Shareholders' Knowledge, each such Employee Benefit Plan (and each related trust, insurance contract, or fund) complies in form and in operation in all respects with the applicable requirements of ERISA, the Code, and other applicable laws. No such Employee Benefit Plan is under audit by the Internal Revenue Service or the Department of Labor.
- (b) Except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.20(b)</u>, all required reports and descriptions (including Form 5500 Annual Reports, Summary Annual Reports, and summary plan descriptions) have been filed or distributed appropriately with respect to each such Employee Benefit Plan. The requirements of Part 6 of Subtitle B of Title I of ERISA and of Code Section 4980B have been met with respect to each such Employee Benefit Plan that is an "<u>Employee Welfare Benefit Plan</u>" as such term is defined in ERISA Section 3(1).
- (c) All contributions (including all employer contributions and employee salary reduction contributions) that are due have been paid to each such Employee Benefit Plan that is an "Employee Pension Benefit Plan" as such term is defined in ERISA Section 3(2), and all contributions for any period ending on or before the Closing Date that are not yet due have been paid to each such Employee Pension Benefit Plan or accrued in accordance with the past custom and practice of the Company. All premiums or other payments for all periods ending on or before the Closing Date have been paid with respect to each such Employee Benefit Plan that is an Employee Welfare Benefit Plan.
- (d) Each such Employee Benefit Plan that is an Employee Pension Benefit Plan meets the requirements of a "qualified plan" under Code Section 401(a).
- (e) The Company does not maintain currently and has never maintained, and is not currently and has never been required to contribute to or otherwise participate in, any plan or program subject to Title IV of ERISA or any "Multiemployer Plan" (as such term is defined in ERISA Section 3(37)).
- (f) The Company will deliver (no later than thirty (30) days after the Closing Date) to Buyer correct and complete copies of the plan documents and summary plan descriptions, the most recent Form 5500 Annual Report, and all related trust agreements, insurance contracts, and other funding agreements that implement each such Employee Benefit Plan.
- (g) With respect to each Employee Benefit Plan that the Company or any Company ERISA Affiliate maintains or ever has maintained or to which it contributes, ever has contributed, or ever has been required to contribute:

- (i) To Shareholders' Knowledge there have been no "Prohibited Transactions" as defined in ERISA Section 406 and Code Section 4975 with respect to any such Employee Benefit Plan. No "Fiduciary" as defined in ERISA Section 3(21) has any liability for breach of fiduciary duty or any other failure to act or comply in connection with the administration or investment of the assets of any such Employee Benefit Plan. No action, suit, proceeding, hearing, or investigation with respect to the administration or the investment of the assets of any such Employee Benefit Plan (other than routine claims for benefits) is pending or, to the Knowledge of the Shareholders, threatened. None of the Shareholders has any Knowledge of any basis for any such action, suit, proceeding, hearing, or investigation.
- (ii) Other than respect to the Company's Flex Plan, neither the Company nor any Company ERISA Affiliate maintains or contributes, nor has ever maintained or contributed, or has ever been required to contribute to any Employee Welfare Benefit Plan providing medical, health, or life insurance or other welfare-type benefits for current or future retired or terminated employees, their spouses, or their dependents (other than in accordance with Code Section 4980B).

As used in this Agreement, the term "Employee Benefit Plan" means any (a) nonqualified deferred compensation or retirement plan or arrangement that is an Employee Pension Benefit Plan, (b) qualified defined contribution retirement plan or arrangement that is an Employee Pension Benefit Plan, (c) qualified defined benefit retirement plan or arrangement that is an Employee Pension Benefit Plan (including any Multiemployer Plan), or (d) Employee Welfare Benefit Plan or material fringe benefit plan or program.

### Section 3.21 *Intellectual Property*.

- (a) The Company owns or has the right to use pursuant to license, sublicense, agreement, or permission all Intellectual Property (as defined below) necessary or desirable for the operation of the businesses of the Company as presently conducted and as presently proposed to be conducted. Each item of Intellectual Property owned or used by The Company immediately prior to the Closing hereunder shall be owned or available for use by Buyer on identical terms and conditions immediately subsequent to the Closing hereunder. The Company has taken all necessary and desirable action to maintain and protect each item of Intellectual Property that it owns or uses, other than it has not filed a trade name registration in Cherokee County, Georgia.
- (b) The Company has not interfered with, infringed upon, misappropriated, or otherwise come into conflict with any Intellectual Property rights of third parties, and none of the Shareholders and the directors and officers (and employees with responsibility for Intellectual Property matters) of the Company has ever received any charge, complaint, claim, demand, or notice alleging any such interference, infringement, misappropriation, or violation (including any claim that the Company must license or refrain from using any Intellectual Property rights of any third party). To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, no third party has interfered with, infringed upon, misappropriated, or otherwise come into conflict with any Intellectual Property rights of the Company.
- (c) The Company has no patents issued in its name, or patent applications filed or pending. <u>Schedule 3.21(c)</u> identifies each license, agreement, or other permission that the Company has granted to any third party with respect to any of its Intellectual Property (together with any exceptions). The Company has delivered to Buyer correct and complete copies of all such registrations, applications, licenses, agreements, and permissions (as amended to date) and has made available to Buyer correct and complete copies of all other written documentation evidencing ownership and prosecution (if applicable) of each such item. <u>Schedule 3.21(c)</u> also identifies each trade name and registered or unregistered trademark or service mark used by the Company. With respect to each item of Intellectual Property required to be identified in <u>Schedule 3.21(c)</u>:
- (i) Except as to the failure to file a trade name registration in Cherokee County, Georgia, the Company possesses all right, title, and interest in and to the item, free and clear of any security interest, license, or other restriction;
- (ii) the item is not subject to any outstanding injunction, judgment, order, decree, ruling, or charge;
- (iii) no action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, charge, complaint, claim, or demand is pending or is threatened that challenges the legality, validity, enforceability, use, or ownership of the item; and
- (iv) The Company has never agreed to indemnify any person or entity for or against any interference, infringement, misappropriation, or other conflict with respect to the item.
- (d) <u>Schedule 3.21(d)</u> identifies each item of Intellectual Property that any third party owns and that the Company uses pursuant to license, sublicense, agreement, or permission. The Company has delivered to Buyer correct and complete copies of all such licenses, sublicenses, agreements, and permissions (as amended to date). With respect to each item of Intellectual Property required to be identified in <u>Schedule 3.21(d)</u>:
- (i) the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission covering the item is legal, valid, binding, enforceable, and in full force and effect;
- (ii) the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission shall continue to be legal, valid, binding, enforceable, and in full force and effect on identical terms following the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby (including the assignments and assumptions referred to in **Article 2** above);
- (iii) no party to the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission is in breach or default, and no event has occurred that with notice or default or permit termination, modification, or acceleration thereunder;
- (iv) no party to the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission has repudiated any provision thereof;

- (v) with respect to each sublicense, the representations and warranties set forth in clauses (i) through (iv) above are true and correct with respect to the underlying license;
- (vi) the underlying item of Intellectual Property is not subject to any outstanding injunction, judgment, order, decree, ruling, or charge;
- (vii) no action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, charge, complaint, claim, or demand is pending or, to the Knowledge of the Shareholders, is threatened that challenges the legality, validity, or enforceability of the underlying item of Intellectual Property; and
- (viii) The Company has not granted any sublicense or similar right with respect to the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission.
- (e) To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, the Company shall not interfere with, infringe upon, misappropriate, or otherwise come into conflict with, any Intellectual Property rights of third parties as a result of the continued operation of its businesses as presently conducted and as presently proposed to be conducted.

As used in this Agreement the term "Intellectual Property" means (A) all inventions (whether patentable or unpatentable and whether or not reduced to practice), all improvements thereto, and all patents, patent applications, and patent disclosures, together with all reissuances, continuations, continuations-in-part, revisions, extensions, and reexaminations thereof, (B) all trademarks, service marks, trade dress, logos, together with all translations, adaptations, derivations, and combinations thereof and including all goodwill associated therewith, and all applications, registrations, and renewals in connection therewith, (C) all copyrightable works, all copyrights, and all applications, registrations, and renewals in connection therewith, (D) all mask works and all applications, registrations, and renewals in connection therewith, (E) all trade secrets and confidential business information (including ideas, research and development, know-how, formulas, compositions, manufacturing and production processes and techniques, technical data, designs, drawings, specifications, customer and supplier lists, pricing and cost information, and business and marketing plans and proposals), (F) all computer software (including data and related documentation), (G) all other proprietary rights, and (H) all copies and tangible embodiments thereof (in whatever form or medium).

- Section 3.22 *Accounting Matters*. To the Knowledge of any of the Shareholders, no "Affiliate" (as defined below) of any Acquired Company has, during a period of thirty (30) days prior to the date of this Agreement, sold, pledged, hypothecated, or otherwise transferred or encumbered any capital stock of the Company held by such Affiliate. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Affiliate" means any officer, director, or owner of ten percent (10%) or more of the voting capital stock of the Company.
- Section 3.23 *Securities Law Representations*. (a) The Shareholders were granted access to the business premises, offices, properties, and business, corporate and financial books and records of Buyer. The Shareholders were permitted to examine the foregoing records, to question officers of Buyer, and to make such other investigations as they considered appropriate to determine or verify the business and financial condition of Buyer. Buyer furnished to the Shareholders all information regarding its business and affairs that the Shareholders requested, including, without limitation, (i) Buyer's Annual Report to Shareholders for the year ended December 31, 1999; (ii) Buyer's quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the three (3) month-periods ended March 31, 2000, June 30, 2000 and September 30, 2000, respectively; and (iii) the Proxy Statement for Buyer's 2000 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.
- (b) Each Shareholder represents for himself, and not for any other Shareholder, that because of his considerable knowledge and experience in financial and business matters, such Shareholder is able to evaluate the merits, risks, and other factors bearing on the suitability of the Buyer Shares as an investment. Such Shareholder (either himself or through a purchaser representative) qualifies as an "accredited investor," as defined under Rule 501(a), promulgated by the SEC under the Securities Act.
- (c) Each Shareholder represents for himself, and not for any other Shareholder, that such Shareholder's annual income and net worth are such that he would not now be, and does not contemplate being, required to dispose of any investment in the Buyer Shares, including the risk of losing all or any part of his investment and the inability to sell, transfer, pledge, or otherwise dispose of any of the Buyer Shares for an indefinite period. Each Shareholder recognizes that the Buyer Shares will not be registered under the Securities Act and will therefore constitute "restricted securities," which means, among other things, that the Shareholders generally will not be able to sell the Buyer Shares for a period of at least one (1) year following the Closing Date.
- (d) Each Shareholder represents for himself, and not for any other Shareholder, that Shareholder's acquisition of the Buyer Shares will be solely for his own account, as principal, for investment, and not with a view to, or for resale in connection with, any underwriting or distribution.
- Section 3.22 *No Misrepresentations*. Each Shareholder represents for himself, and not for any other Shareholder, that none of the representations and warranties of the Shareholders set forth in this Agreement or in the attached Schedules, notwithstanding any investigation thereof by Buyer, contains any untrue statement of a material fact, or omits the statement of any material fact necessary to render the statements made not misleading.

### **Article 4**

#### **Representations and Warranties of Buyer**

Buyer represents and warrants to the Shareholders as follows:

Section 4.1 *Organization*. Buyer is a corporation organized under the laws of Florida and its status is active. Buyer has all requisite corporate power and authority and all necessary governmental approvals to own, lease and operate its properties and to carry on its business as now being conducted. Buyer is duly qualified or licensed to do business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which the property owned, leased, or operated by it or the nature of the business conducted by it makes such qualification or licensing necessary, except where the failure to be so duly qualified or licensed and be in good standing would not in the aggregate have a material adverse effect.

Section 4.2 *Authority.* Buyer has the requisite corporate power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement, and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action on the part of Buyer and no other corporate proceeding on the part of Buyer is necessary to authorize this Agreement or to consummate the transactions so contemplated. This Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by Buyer and constitutes its valid and binding obligation, enforceable against Buyer in accordance with its terms, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or similar laws from time to time in effect which offset creditors' rights generally and general equitable principles.

Section 4.3 *Consents and Approvals; No Violations.* Neither the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement by Buyer nor the consummation by Buyer of the transactions contemplated hereby nor compliance by Buyer with any of the provisions hereof will (a) conflict with or result in any breach of any provision of the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of Buyer, (b) require any filing with, or permit authorization, consent, or approval of, any Governmental Entity, except where the failure to obtain such permits, authorizations, consents, or approvals or to make such filings would not have a material adverse effect, (c) result in a violation or breach of, or constitute a default (or give rise to any right of termination, amendment, cancellation, or acceleration) under, any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any note, bond, mortgage, lease, license, agreement, or other instrument or obligation to which Buyer is a party or by which Buyer or its properties or assets may be bound, or (d) violate any order, writ, injunction, decree, statute, rule or regulation applicable to Buyer or any of its properties or assets, except in the case of (c) or (d) above for violations, breaches or defaults that would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect.

Section 4.4 **SEC Reports and Financial Statements**. Buyer has filed with the SEC, and has heretofore made available to the Shareholders true and complete copies of all forms, reports, schedules, statements and other documents required to be filed by it since December 31, 1999 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") or the Securities Act (as such documents have been amended since the time of their filing, collectively, the "Buyer SEC Documents"). The Buyer SEC Documents, including without limitation any financial statements and schedules included therein, (a) did not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, and (b) complied in all material respects with the applicable requirements of the Exchange Act and the Securities Act, as the case may be, and the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder. The financial statements of Buyer included in the Buyer SEC Documents comply as to form in all material respects with applicable accounting requirements and with the published rules and regulations of the SEC with respect thereto, have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis during the periods involved (except as may be indicated in the notes thereto or, in the case of the unaudited statements, as permitted by Form 10-Q of the SEC) and fairly present (subject, in the case of the unaudited statements, to normal, recurring audit adjustments) the consolidated financial position of Buyer and its consolidated subsidiaries as at the dates thereof and the consolidated results of their operations and cash flows for the periods then ended.

Section 4.5 *Absence of Certain Changes*. Except as disclosed in the Buyer SEC Documents, since December 31, 1999, there have been no events, changes or events having, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Buyer.

Section 4.6 *No Undisclosed Liabilities*. Except as and to the extent set forth in Buyer's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2000, as of December 31, 1999, Buyer had no liabilities or obligations, whether or not accrued, contingent or otherwise, that would be required by generally accepted accounting principles to be reflected on a consolidated balance sheet of Buyer and its subsidiaries. Since September 30, 2000, Buyer has not incurred any liabilities, whether or not accrued, contingent or otherwise, outside the ordinary course of business or that would have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Buyer.

Section 4.7 *Litigation*. Except as disclosed in the Buyer SEC Documents filed prior to the date of this Agreement, there is no suit, claim, action, proceeding or investigation pending or, to the Knowledge of Buyer, threatened against Buyer or any of its subsidiaries before any Governmental Entity that, individually or in the aggregate, is reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on Buyer or would prevent Buyer from consummating the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. Except as disclosed in the Buyer SEC Documents, neither Buyer nor any of its subsidiaries is subject to any outstanding order, writ, injunction or decree that, insofar as can be reasonably foreseen, individually or in the aggregate, in the future would have a material adverse effect on Buyer or would prevent Buyer from consummating the transactions contemplated hereby.

Section 4.8 *Accounting Matters*. (a) To the Knowledge of Buyer, neither Buyer nor any of its affiliates has through the date of this Agreement taken or agreed to take any action that (without giving effect to any action taken or agreed to be taken by the Company or any of its affiliates) would prevent the parties from accounting for the transaction to be effected by this Agreement as a pooling of interests.

(b) Without limiting the generality of **Section 4.8(a)**, to the Knowledge of Buyer, no Affiliate of Buyer has, during a period of thirty (30) days prior to the date of this Agreement, sold, pledged, hypothecated, or otherwise transferred or encumbered any Buyer Shares held by such Affiliate.

Section 4.9 *Errors and Omissions*. Buyer has not incurred any material liability or taken or failed to take any action that may reasonably be expected to result in a material liability for errors or omissions in the conduct of its insurance business, except such liabilities as are fully covered by insurance and those disclosed in the Buyer SEC Documents. Buyer has errors and omission (E&O) insurance coverage in force, with minimum liability limits of \$35,000,000 per occurrence and \$35,000,000 aggregate, with a deductible of \$250,000.

- Section 4.10 *Securities Law Representations*. (a) Buyer was granted access to the business premises, offices, properties, and business, corporate and financial books and records of the Company. Buyer was permitted to examine the foregoing records, to question officers of the Company, and to make such other investigations as it considered appropriate to determine or verify the business and financial condition of the Company. The Shareholders furnished to Buyer all information regarding the business and affairs of the Company that Buyer requested.
- (b) Because of its considerable knowledge and experience in financial and business matters, Buyer is able to evaluate the merits, risks, and other factors bearing on the suitability of the Company Shares as an investment.
- (c) Buyer's annual income and net worth are such that it would not now be, and does not contemplate being, required to dispose of any investment in the Company Shares, including the risk of losing all or any part of its investment and the inability to sell, transfer, pledge, or otherwise dispose of any of the Company Shares for an indefinite period. Buyer recognizes that the Company Shares will not be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and will therefore constitute "restricted securities," which means, among other things, that Buyer generally will not be able to sell the Company Shares for a period of at least one (1) year following the Closing Date.
- (d) Buyer's acquisition of the Company Shares will be solely for its own account, as principal, for investment, and not with a view to, or for resale in connection with, any underwriting or distribution.

#### Article 5

# [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

#### Article 6

# **Additional Agreements**

- Section 6.1 *Access to Information*. Upon reasonable notice, the Shareholders shall cause the Company to afford to the officers, employees, accountants, counsel, and other authorized representatives of Buyer full access, during the period prior to the Closing Date, to all of the properties, books, contracts, commitments, records, and senior management of the Company. Unless otherwise required by law, Buyer will hold any such information that is nonpublic in confidence, will not use such information in its business if the transaction does not close, and will return such information if the transaction does not close.
- Section 6.2 *Expenses*. Whether or not the transaction is consummated, all costs and expenses incurred in connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby shall be paid by the party incurring such expenses.
- Section 6.3 *Brokers or Finders*. Each of the parties represents, as to itself, its subsidiaries and its affiliates, that no agent, broker, investment banker, financial advisor, or other firm or person is or will be entitled to any broker's or finder's fee or any other commission or similar fee in connection with any of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, and each of the parties agrees to indemnify and hold the others harmless from and against any and all claims, liabilities, or obligations with respect to any fees, commissions, or expenses asserted by any person on the basis of any act or statement alleged to have been made by such party or its affiliate.
- Section 6.4 *Additional Agreements; Best Efforts.* Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, each of the parties agrees to use its best efforts to take, or cause to be taken, all actions and to do, or cause to be done, all things necessary, proper, or advisable under applicable laws and regulations to consummate and make effective the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, including cooperating fully with the other parties.
- Section 6.5 *Non-Competition Covenants*. Each of the Shareholders agrees that shall not, directly or indirectly, for a period of three (3) years beginning on the Closing Date, engage in, or be or become the owner of an equity interest in, or otherwise consult with, be employed by, or participate in the business of, any entity (other than Buyer or the Company) engaged in the insurance agency business within a thirty (30) mile radius of Rome, Georgia or Canton, Georgia. The Shareholders acknowledge that the confidentiality and non-solicitation covenants to be contained in any employment agreements they may enter into with Buyer will be in addition to, and will not supersede or be subordinate to, the non-competition covenants contained in this **Section 6.5**.
- Section 6.6 *Accounting Matters*. Each of the Shareholders agrees that they would each be deemed "Affiliates" of the Company (as such term is defined in **Section 3.22** of this Agreement) and that, in order to preserve the pooling-of-interests treatment of this transaction, such Shareholder shall not sell, pledge, hypothecate, or otherwise transfer or encumber any Buyer Shares issued to such Shareholder under this Agreement until the final results of at least thirty (30) days of post-Closing combined operations have been published by Buyer, via the issuance of a quarterly earnings report or other means at Buyer's sole discretion.
- Section 6.7 *Remedy for Breach of Covenants*. In the event of a breach of the provisions of **Section 6.5** or **6.6**, Buyer and the Company shall be entitled to injunctive relief as well as any other applicable remedies at law or in equity. Should a court of

competent jurisdiction declare the covenants set forth in **Section 6.5** or **6.6** unenforceable due to a unreasonable restriction, duration, geographical area or otherwise, the parties agree that such court shall be empowered and shall grant Buyer, the Company and their affiliates injunctive relief to the extent reasonably necessary to protect their respective interests. The Shareholders acknowledge that the covenants set forth in **Sections 6.5** and **6.6** represent an important element of the value of the Company Shares and were a material inducement for Buyer to enter into this Agreement.

Section 6.8 *Successor Rights*. The covenants contained in **Section 6.5** and **6.6** shall inure to the benefit of any successor in interests of Buyer by way of merger, consolidation, sale or other succession.

Section 6.9 *Errors and Omissions Tail Coverage*. On or prior to the Closing Date the Company shall purchase, at the Company's expense, a tail coverage extension on the Company's errors and omissions insurance policy. Such coverage shall extend for a period of at least three (3) years from the Closing Date, shall have the same coverages and deductibles currently in effect, and shall otherwise be in form reasonably acceptable to Buyer. A certificate of insurance evidencing such coverage shall be delivered to Buyer at or prior to Closing.

Section 6.10 *Pledge Agreement*. The parties agree on the Closing Date to enter into the Pledge Agreement.

Section 6.11 *Confidentiality.* The parties agree to maintain the existence of this transaction and the terms hereof in confidence, until the earliest of the following circumstances occurs: (a) the parties mutually agree to release such information to the public; (b) Buyer reasonably concludes that such disclosure is required by law; or (c) the Closing has occurred and ownership of the Company Shares has passed to Buyer.

Section 6.12 **Preparation of Tax Return.** The Shareholders recognize that a year-to-date income tax return must be prepared and filed for the Company as a result of this transaction and that the Shareholders are primarily responsible for preparing this return. The Shareholders therefore agree to prepare this return promptly after the Closing, at their expense, and deliver it to the Company to review and file. Buyer and the Company shall be solely responsible for any changes they make to the return prepared by the Shareholders, <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that no changes shall be made to such return without the prior written consent of the Shareholders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

#### Article 7

#### **Conditions**

Section 7.1 *Conditions to Each Party's Obligation*. The respective obligations of each party to effect the transactions contemplated by this Agreement shall be subject to the satisfaction prior to or on the Closing Date of the following conditions:

- (a) *Approvals*. All authorizations, consents, orders, or approvals of, or declarations or filings with, or expirations of waiting periods imposed by, any Governmental Entity, the failure to obtain which would have a material adverse effect on the Company, shall have been filed, occurred, or been obtained.
- (b) *No Injunctions or Restraints*. No temporary restraining order, preliminary or permanent injunction, or other order issued by any court of competent jurisdiction or other legal restraint or prohibition preventing the consummation of the transaction shall be in effect.
- Section 7.2 *Conditions to Obligations of Buyer.* The obligation of Buyer to effect the transactions contemplated by this Agreement is subject to the satisfaction of the following conditions, unless waived by Buyer:
- (a) *Representations and Warranties*. The representations and warranties of the Shareholders set forth in this Agreement shall be true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date.
- (b) *Performance of Obligations by the Shareholders*. The Shareholders shall have performed all obligations required to be performed by them under this Agreement at or prior to the Closing Date.
- (c) *Non-Disclosure and Non-Piracy Agreements*. Each employee of the Company that Buyer intends to retain shall have executed and delivered to Buyer a copy of Buyer's standard employment agreement, which contains confidentiality and non-solicitation provisions.
- (d) *Due Diligence*. Buyer shall be satisfied, in its sole discretion, with the results of its due diligence investigation of the Company.
- (e) *Release*. The Shareholders shall have delivered to Buyer an executed Release dated as of the Closing Date in substantially the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 7.2(e)</u>.

- (f) *Opinion of the Shareholders' Counsel*. The Shareholders shall have delivered to Buyer a written opinion of counsel dated as of the Closing Date in substantially the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 7.2(f)</u> with only such changes therein as shall be in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to Buyer.
- (g) *Employment Agreements*. Each Shareholder shall have executed and delivered an employment agreement with Buyer, in form and substance mutually agreeable to the parties thereto.
- (h) *Pledge Agreement*. Each Shareholder shall have executed and delivered to Buyer the Pledge Agreement.
- (i) *Adverse Changes*. There shall have been no material adverse change to the business or financial condition of the Company since the Balance Sheet Date.
- (j) *Board Approval*. Buyer's Board of Directors shall have approved this transaction and the issuance of the Buyer Shares to the Shareholders.
- (k) *Tangible Net Worth*. Buyer shall be satisfied that the Company has a tangible net worth, after purchasing an errors & omissions tail policy pursuant to **Section 6.8** and after all distributions to the Shareholders, of at least ten percent (10%) of the Company's Core Revenue for the twelve (12) month period ended as of the Closing Date.
- Section 7.3 *Conditions to Obligation of the Shareholders.* The obligations of the Shareholders to effect the transactions contemplated by this Agreement are subject to the satisfaction of the following conditions, unless waived by the Shareholders:
- (a) *Representations and Warranties*. The representations and warranties of Buyer set forth in this Agreement shall be true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date.
- (b) *Performance of Obligations by Buyer.* Buyer shall have performed in all material respects all obligations required to be performed by it under this Agreement at or prior to the Closing Date.
- (c) *Opinion of Buyer's Counsel*. Buyer's Assistant General Counsel shall have delivered to the Shareholders a written opinion dated as of the Closing Date in substantially the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 7.3(c)</u>, with only such changes therein as shall be in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Shareholders.
- (d) *Employment Agreements*. Buyer shall have executed and delivered an employment agreement with each of the Shareholders, in form and substance mutually agreeable to the parties thereto.
- (e) *Buyer's Guaranty of Company Liabilities*. Buyer shall have executed and delivered, in form and substance mutually agreeable to the parties, a Guaranty of all of the Company's obligations set forth in <u>Schedule 7.3(e)</u> (the "<u>Guaranty</u>").

#### **Article 8**

#### Indemnification

Section 8.1 *Survival of Representations, Warranties, Indemnities and Covenants.* The representations, warranties and indemnities set forth in this Agreement and any right to bring an action at law, in equity, or otherwise for any misrepresentation or breach of warranty under this Agreement shall survive for a period of one (1) year from the Closing Date. All post-closing covenants shall survive the Closing for the period specified in this Agreement or, if not specified, for a period of one (1) year following the Closing Date. The Guaranty specified in **Section 7.3(e)** hereof shall survive the Closing and shall expire only upon payment of the liabilities subject to such Guaranty.

#### Section 8.2 Indemnification Provisions for the Benefit of Buyer.

- (a) Subject to the limitations set forth in **Section 8.4**, the Shareholders, jointly and severally, agree to indemnify and hold Buyer, the Company and their respective officers, directors and affiliates (collectively, the "<u>Buyer Indemnified Parties</u>") harmless from and against any and all Adverse Consequences (as defined below) any of such parties may suffer or incur resulting from, arising out of, relating to, or caused by (i) the breach of any of the Shareholders' representations, warranties, or, obligations contained herein, or (ii) the operation of the Company's insurance agency business or ownership of the Company Shares by the Shareholders on or prior to the Closing Date, including, without limitation, any claims or lawsuits based on conduct of the Company or the Shareholders occurring before the Closing. For purposes of this **Article 8**, the phrase "<u>Adverse Consequences</u>" means all charges, complaints, actions, suits, proceedings, hearings, investigations, claims, demands, judgments, orders, decrees, stipulations, injunctions, damages, dues, penalties, fines, costs, amounts paid in settlement, liabilities (whether known or unknown, whether absolute or contingent, whether liquidated or unliquidated, and whether due or to become due), obligations, taxes, liens, losses, expenses, and fees, including all attorneys' fees and court costs.
- (b) Each Shareholder shall, severally but not jointly, indemnify and hold the Buyer Indemnified Parties harmless from and against any and all Adverse Consequences any of such parties may suffer or incur resulting from, arising out of, relating to, or caused by such Shareholder's breach of his covenants set forth in **Sections 6.5** and **6.11**. The Shareholders' indemnification obligations under this **Section 8.2(b)** shall not be subject to the limitations set forth in **Section 8.4**; however, each Shareholder's obligations under this **Section 8.2(b)** shall be limited to the value of the Buyer Shares issued to such Shareholder, as of the Closing Date.

Section 8.3 *Indemnification Provisions for the Benefit of the Shareholders*. Buyer agrees to indemnify and hold the Shareholders harmless from and against any and all Adverse Consequences the Shareholders may suffer or incur resulting from, arising out of, relating to, or caused by (a) the breach of any of Buyer's representations, warranties, obligations or covenants contained herein, or (b) the operation of the insurance agency business of the Company or ownership of the Company Shares by Buyer after the Closing Date, including, without limitation, any claims or lawsuits based on conduct of Buyer or the Company occurring after the Closing, or the nonpayment by the Company of any obligation set forth in Schedule 7.3(e).

Section 8.4 *Indemnification Limitations*. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary:

- (a) no party (the "<u>Indemnified Party</u>") shall be entitled to indemnification under **Section 8.2** until the aggregate amount otherwise payable under **Section 8.2** exceeds \$48,200.00 (the "<u>Materiality Threshold Amount</u>"), in which event the Indemnified Party shall be entitled to indemnification from the other party (the "<u>Indemnifying Party</u>") to the extent such aggregate amount exceeds the Materiality Threshold Amount;
- (b) in no event shall the liability for any party (the Shareholders collectively being considered one party for purposes of this **Section 8.4(b)**) in the aggregate exceed \$1,928,000.00 (the "<u>Maximum Liability Amount</u>");
- (c) the amount of the Purchase Price represented by the Pledged Shares reflects part of the Maximum Liability Amount of the Shareholders, and is not in addition thereto, and to the extent funds are realized from the Pledged Shares for the payment of indemnification liabilities of the Shareholders hereunder, the Shareholders' Maximum Liability Amount shall be decreased by the amount of such funds:
- (d) the indemnification obligations of each Shareholder hereunder shall be prorata to his respective ownership of the Company Shares as set forth in **Section 1.3(d)** hereof, and in the event of any indemnification claim by Buyer hereunder, Buyer's recourse shall first be against the Pledged Shares, prorata as to the percentage of the Pledged Shares issued to each Shareholder pursuant to **Section 1.3(d)**, and thereafter, any remaining indemnification obligations of the Shareholders shall be prorata based on each Shareholder's respective percentage of ownership of the Company Shares, but in no event shall the aggregate indemnification obligations of the Shareholders, including the amount represented by the Pledged Shares, exceed the Maximum Liability Amount; and
- (e) No party shall be entitled to indemnification under this **Article 8** based upon any alleged breach of any representation or warranty in this Agreement if such party, or any agent, representative, or beneficial owner thereof, knew at the time of Closing that such representation or warranty was not true.

#### **Article 9**

# [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

#### Article 10

# Miscellaneous

Section 10.1 *Notices.* All notices and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed given if delivered personally, telecopied (if confirmed), or mailed by registered or certified mail (return receipt requested) to the parties at the following addresses or at such other address for a party as shall be specified by like notice:

(a) If to Buyer, to

Brown & Brown, Inc.

401 E. Jackson Street, Suite 1700

Tampa, Florida 33602

Telecopy No.: (813) 222-4464

Attn: Laurel L. Grammig, Esq.

(b) if to the Shareholders, to

Mr. William M. Huffman, Jr.

201 East First Street

Rome, Georgia 30161

Telecopy No.: (706) 232-3457

with a copy to

Brinson, Askew, Berry, Seigler, Richardson & Davis, LLP

The Omberg House 615 West First Street P.O. Box 5513 Rome, Georgia 30162-5513 Telecopy No.: (706) 234-3574

Attention: Joseph M. Seigler, Jr., Esq.

Section 10.2 *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement, and shall become effective when one or more counterparts have been signed by each of the parties and delivered to the other parties, it being understood that all parties need not sign the same counterpart.

Section 10.3 *Entire Agreement*. This Agreement (including the documents and instruments referred to herein) constitutes the entire agreement and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, among the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof.

Section 10.4 *Assignment.* Except as contemplated in **Section 6.8** hereof, neither this Agreement nor any of the rights, interests, or obligations hereunder shall be assigned by any of the parties hereto (whether by operation of law or otherwise) without the prior written consent of the other parties. This Agreement will be binding upon, inure to the benefit of, and be enforceable by the parties and their respective successors and assigns.

Section 10.5 *Amendment*. This Agreement may not be amended except by an instrument in writing signed on behalf of all the parties hereto.

Section 10.6 *Joint Efforts*. This Agreement is the result of the joint efforts and negotiations of the parties hereto, with each party being represented, or having the opportunity to be represented, by legal counsel of its own choice, and no singular party is the author or drafter of the provisions hereof. Each of the parties assumes joint responsibility for the form and composition of this Agreement and each party agrees that this Agreement shall be interpreted as though each of the parties participated equally in the composition of this Agreement and each and every provision and part hereof. The parties agree that the rule of judicial interpretation to the effect that any ambiguity or uncertainty contained in an agreement is to be construed against the party that drafted the agreement shall not be applied in the event of any disagreement or dispute arising out of this Agreement.

Section 10.7 *Headings*. All paragraph headings herein are inserted for convenience of reference only and shall not modify or affect the construction or interpretation of any provision of this Agreement.

Section 10.8 *Severability*. If any provision or covenant, or any part thereof, of this Agreement should be held by any court to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, either in whole or in part, such illegality, invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the legality, validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions or covenants, or any part thereof, all of which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 10.9 *Attorneys' Fees*. The prevailing party in any proceeding brought to enforce the provisions of this Agreement shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred at both the trial and appellate levels incurred in enforcing its rights hereunder.

Section 10.10 *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Georgia without regard to conflicts of laws principles, except that the provisions of **Section 6.5** hereof shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Florida without regard to conflicts of laws principles, but venue for any such actions shall be in Floyd County, Georgia.

Section 10.11 *Use of Term "Knowledge"*. With respect to the term "Knowledge" as used herein: (a) a Shareholder will be deemed to have "Knowledge" of a particular fact or other matter if such Shareholder, the accounting manager, or any officer of the Company, has actual knowledge, without inquiry, of such fact or other matter; and (b) Buyer will be deemed to have "Knowledge" of a particular fact or other matter if any individual who is serving, as of the Closing Date, as a senior corporate officer (<u>i.e.</u>, President, Chief Financial Officer, or any Vice President) for Buyer, has actual knowledge, without inquiry, of such fact or other matter.

#### Section 10.12 Waiver of Jury Trial; Consent to Jurisdiction; Service of Process.

- (a) The parties hereby knowingly, voluntarily and intentionally waive any right either may have to a trial by jury with respect to any litigation related to or arising out of, under or in conjunction with this Agreement, or any of the transactions contemplated hereunder.
- (b) Each of the parties hereby irrevocably submits to the jurisdiction of the state courts located in Floyd County, Georgia and the federal court located in Floyd County, Georgia, in connection with any suit, action or other proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or any transactions contemplated herein, and hereby agrees not to assert, by way of motion, as a defense, or otherwise in any such suit, action or proceeding that the suits, action or proceeding is brought in an inconvenient forum, that the

venue of the suit, action or proceeding is improper, or that this Agreement or the subject matter hereof may not be enforced by such courts.

Section 10.13 *Public Announcement.* At all times at or before the Closing, none of the parties hereto shall issue or make any statements or releases to the public with respect to this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby without the consent of the other parties hereto, except for such public disclosure as may be necessary, in Buyer's sole discretion, not to be in violation of or in default under any applicable federal or state securities laws, any rule or regulation of any national securities exchange, or any other agreement to which Buyer is a party, copies of which shall be provided to the Shareholders prior to such distribution. Buyer shall also obtain the Shareholders' prior approval (which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed) of any press release Buyer desires to issue following the Closing announcing the consummation of the transactions contemplated in this Agreement.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have signed or caused this Agreement to be signed by their respective officers thereunto duly authorized as of the date first written above.

#### **BUYER:**

**BROWN & BROWN, INC.** 

By: /S/ THOMAS M. DONEGAN, JR.

Name: Thomas M. Donegan, Jr.

Title: Vice President

**SHAREHOLDERS:** 

/S/ W. M. HUFFMAN, JR.

W.M. Huffman, Jr., individually

#### /S/ E. RHETT BUTLER, JR.

E. Rhett Butler, Jr., individually

# SCHEDULES AND EXHIBITS

Schedule 1.2: Adjusted Balance Sheet Adjustments

Schedule 3.5: Consents and Approvals

Schedule 3.6: Third Party Options

Schedule 3.8: Shareholder Distributions; Agreements Outside the Ordinary Course of Business

Schedule 3.9(a)-1: Liens and Encumbrances on Book of Business

Schedule 3.9(a)-2: Book of Business

Schedule 3.9(a)-3: Third-Party Brokered Accounts

Schedule 3.9(e): Exceptions Regarding Receivables

Schedule 3.10: Undisclosed Liabilities

Schedule 3.11: Litigation and Claims

<u>Schedule 3.14(a)</u>: Written Material Contracts

<u>Schedule 3.14(b):</u> Verbal Material Contracts

Schedule 3.16: Insurance Policies

Schedule 3.20(a): Employee Benefit Plans

Schedule 3.20(b): Employee Benefit Plans Filings

Schedule 3.21(c): Owned Intellectual Property

Schedule 3.21(d): Licensed Intellectual Property

Schedule 7.3(e): Company Liabilities Guaranteed by Buyer

Exhibit 1.3: Pledge Agreement

Exhibit 7.2(e): Release

Exhibit 7.2(f): Opinion of the Shareholders' Counsel

Exhibit 7.3(c): Opinion of Buyer's Counsel

#### **REGISTRATION RIGHTS ADDENDUM**

[SEE ATTACHED]

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#### ADDENDUM TO STOCK PURCHASE AGREEMENT

#### REGISTRATION RIGHTS PROVISIONS

#### (WMH, INC.)

Section 1. **Definitions**. As used in this Addendum, the following terms have the meanings specified below and include the plural as well as the singular:

"Common Stock" means the Company's common stock, par value \$0.10 per share.

"Company" means Brown & Brown, Inc., a Florida corporation.

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

"Governmental Authority" means any nation or government, any state or other political subdivision thereof and any court, panel, judge, board, bureau, commission, agency or other entity, body or other Person exercising executive, legislative, judicial, regulatory or administrative functions of or pertaining to government.

"NASD" means the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.

"Person" means an individual, a partnership, a corporation, an association, a joint stock company, a trust, a joint venture, an unincorporated organization, or a governmental entity (or any department, agency, or political subdivision thereof).

"Prospectus" means the prospectus included in any Registration Statement at the time the same becomes effective, as amended or supplemented by any prospectus supplement, including post-effective amendments and all material incorporated by reference in the prospectus.

"Registrable Shares" means the Sellers' Registrable Shares. All such securities shall cease to be Registrable Shares when they (i) have been distributed to the public pursuant to an offering registered under the Securities Act, (ii) become eligible to be sold to the public through a broker, dealer or market maker in compliance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act (or any similar rule then in force), or (iii) are sold by Sellers.

"Registration Expenses" means all expenses incident to the Company's performance of or compliance with this Addendum, including, without limitation, all SEC and stock exchange or NASD registration and filing fees and expenses, fees and expenses of compliance with securities or blue sky laws (including, without limitation, reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel in connection with blue sky qualifications of the Registrable Shares), printing expenses, messenger and delivery expenses, the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the securities to be registered on each securities exchange or national market system on which similar securities issued by the Company are then listed, fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company and all independent certified public accountants (including the expenses of any annual audit, special audit, if necessary, and "cold comfort" letters required by or incident to such performance and

compliance and the fees and expenses of any special experts retained by the Company); however, the Company shall not be responsible for any underwriting discounts or commissions, fees and expenses of counsel to Sellers or transfer taxes, if any, attributable to the sale of Sellers' Registrable Shares.

"Registration Statement" means any registration statement of the Company that covers any of the Registrable Shares pursuant to the provisions of this Addendum, including all pre-effective amendments and post-effective amendments thereto, the Prospectus and supplements thereto, all exhibits, and all materials incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

"SEC" means the Securities and Exchange Commission or any successor thereof.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

"Seller Representative" means William M. Huffman, Jr., or any other person designated in a writing signed by the Sellers and delivered to the Company in accordance with the notice provisions of the Stock Purchase Agreement, to act as their representative under this Addendum.

"Sellers" means the parties identified as "Shareholders" in the Stock Purchase Agreement.

"Stock Purchase Agreement" means the stock purchase agreement to which this Addendum is attached.

"Sellers' Registrable Shares" means all Common Stock issued to Sellers pursuant to the terms of the Stock Purchase Agreement and all Common Stock issued with respect to such Common Stock by way of a stock dividend or stock split or in connection with a combination of shares, recapitalization, merger, consolidation, reorganization or otherwise.

#### Section 2. Registration Rights.

- (a) The Company shall use its best efforts to prepare and file a Registration Statement on or before March 31, 2001, providing for the sale of the Registrable Shares by the Sellers pursuant to Rule 415 of the Securities Act or any similar rule that may be adopted by the SEC; however, none of the Sellers shall sell, transfer, pledge or otherwise dispose of any Registrable Shares: (i) before the date on which financial results covering at least thirty (30) days of post-Closing Date (as defined in the Stock Purchase Agreement) combined operations of the Company and WMH, Inc., a Georgia corporation, have been published by the Company except as otherwise permitted by the Stock Purchase Agreement; (ii) if such sale, transfer, pledge or disposition would prevent the stock purchase pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement from being accounted for as a pooling-of-interests, as more fully described in Section 6.6 of the Stock Purchase Agreement); or (iii) while such Registration Statement remains effective, during a period beginning fifteen (15) days before the end of each of the Company's fiscal quarters and ending on the second (2nd) business day following the next release by the Company to the public of quarterly or annual earnings. The Registration Statement may include other securities of the Company designated by the Company and may include securities of the Company being sold for the account of the Company or others.
- (b) The provisions of this **Section 2** will be subject to the following conditions:
- (i) If at any time after the Company files a Registration Statement hereunder the Company decides to make a public offering of securities through one or more underwriters, and an underwriter selected by the Company to manage such proposed underwriting advises the Company that it believes that such underwritten offering could be adversely affected by the concurrent registered offering of Registrable Shares pursuant hereto, then the Company may delay or suspend the filing or effectiveness of such Registration Statement for no more than ninety (90) days and during such period none of the Sellers shall sell, transfer, pledge or otherwise dispose of any Registrable Shares.
- Section 3. *Expenses*. The Company will pay all Registration Expenses in connection with the registration pursuant to **Section 2** of this Addendum, whether or not such registration becomes effective under the Securities Act. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Sellers shall pay all underwriting discounts and commissions, fees and expenses of counsel to the Sellers, and transfer taxes incurred in connection with any registration pursuant to **Section 2**.

Section 4. Registration Procedures.

- (a) With respect to a registration pursuant to Section 2 of this Addendum, the Company, subject to subsection 2(b) above, will use reasonable efforts to promptly effect the registration of the Registrable Shares, and in connection therewith, the Company shall do the following:
- (i) prepare and file with the SEC a Registration Statement and use reasonable efforts to cause such Registration Statement to become effective;
- (ii) prepare and file with the SEC such amendments and post-effective amendments and supplements to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus used in connection therewith as may be necessary to keep such Registration Statement continually effective for a period expiring on the earlier of (A) the date there are no longer shares of Common Stock outstanding that constitute Registrable Shares or (B) one (1) year from the Closing Date (as defined in the Stock Purchase Agreement);
- (iii) promptly notify Sellers, at any time when a Prospectus relating to Sellers' Registrable Shares covered by the Registration Statement is required to be delivered under the Securities Act, of the occurrence of any event as a result of which the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or any document incorporated therein contains any untrue statement of a material fact, or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein in light of the circumstances under which they were made not misleading, and the Company shall promptly prepare and file with the SEC and furnish to Sellers a supplement or amendment to such Prospectus so that, as thereafter delivered to the purchasers of the Sellers' Registrable Shares, such Prospectus shall not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;
- (iv) use reasonable efforts to register or qualify the Registrable Shares covered by the Registration Statement for offer and sale under the securities or "blue sky" laws of each state and other U.S. jurisdiction as Sellers reasonably request in writing; however, the Company will not be required to (A) qualify generally to do business in any jurisdiction where it would not otherwise be required to so qualify, (B) take any action that would subject it to general service of process in any jurisdiction where it would not otherwise be subject to such general service of process, or (C) subject itself to general taxation in any jurisdiction where it would not otherwise be subject; and
- (v) use reasonable efforts to cause all Registrable Shares included in such Registration Statement to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange (or any other market on which the Common Stock is then listed).
- (b) Sellers, upon receipt of any notice from the Company of the occurrence of any event of the kind described in clause (iii) of subsection 4(a) above, will forthwith discontinue disposition of the Sellers' Registrable Shares pursuant to the Registration Statement covering such Sellers' Registrable Shares until Seller's receipt of the copies of the supplemented or amended Prospectus contemplated by such subsection 4(a) and, if so directed by the Company, Sellers will deliver to the Company all copies, other than permanent file copies then in Sellers' possession, of the most recent Prospectus covering such Sellers' Registrable Shares at the

time of receipt of such notice. Seller, upon receipt of any notice from the Company of the issuance of any stop order or blue sky order will forthwith, in the case of any stop order, discontinue disposition of the Sellers' Registrable Shares pursuant to the Registration Statement covering such Sellers' Registrable Shares or, in the case of any blue sky order, discontinue disposition of the Sellers' Registrable Shares in the applicable jurisdiction, until advised in writing of the lifting or withdrawal of such order.

#### Section 5. Indemnification.

- (a) Indemnification by the Company. The Company shall indemnify and hold harmless Sellers, against any and all losses, claims, damages or liabilities, joint or several, and expenses to which any of them may become subject under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act or other federal or state law or regulation, at common law or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) or expenses arise out of or are based upon (i) any materially untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in any Registration Statement or Prospectus, or (ii) any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; however, the Company will not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage, liability or expense (x) arises out of or is based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission made in the Registration Statement or Prospectus in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by or on behalf of Sellers specifically for use in the Registration Statement or Prospectus, or (y) results from the fact that a Seller sold Registrable Shares to a Person to whom there was not sent or given, at or before the written confirmation of such sale, a copy of the Prospectus, if the Company had previously made available to such Seller copies thereof and such Prospectus, as then amended or supplemented, corrected such misstatement or omission, or (z) results from a Seller breaching one or more of its obligations hereunder.
- (b) Indemnification by Sellers. Each Seller will severally, but not jointly, indemnify and hold harmless (in the same manner and to the same extent as set forth in subsection 5(a), including, without limitation, clauses (y) and (z) of the proviso set forth therein) the Company and its directors, officers and controlling persons, each other party registering securities under a Registration Statement and each underwriter, dealer manager or similar securities industry professional participating in the distribution of Seller's Registrable Shares and such securities industry professional's respective directors, officers, partners and controlling persons and any other party offering securities under such Registration Statement, (i) with respect to any materially untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of material fact, or any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact with respect to such Registration Statement or Prospectus if such statement or alleged statement or omission or alleged omission was made in reliance upon information furnished to the Company by or on behalf of such Seller for use in such Registration Statement or Prospectus, (ii) results from the fact that such Seller sold Registrable Shares to a Person to whom there was not sent or given, at or prior to the written confirmation of such sale, a copy of the Prospectus if the Company had previously furnished copies thereof to Sellers and such Prospectus, as then amended or supplemented, corrected such misstatements or omission, or (iii) results from such Seller breaching one or more of its obligations hereunder. Each Seller will reimburse the indemnified parties for any legal or other costs or expenses incurred in connection with defending any such loss, claim, damage, liability, action or proceeding resulting from the actions of such Seller; provided, however, that in no event shall any Seller's individual indemnification obligations under this Addendum exceed the aggregate proceeds such Seller has received from the sale of such Seller's
- (c) Notice of Claims, etc. Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party under subsection 5(a) or (b) of notice of any claim or the commencement of any action or proceeding subject to indemnification thereunder, the indemnified party shall, if a claim in respect thereof is to be made against the indemnifying party under either of such subsections, promptly notify the indemnifying party in writing of the claim or the commencement of the action or proceeding; provided that the failure to so notify the indemnifying party shall not relieve the indemnifying party from any liability that it may have to an indemnified party under subsection 5(a) or (b) or otherwise, except to the extent the indemnifying party shall have been materially prejudiced by such failure to give notice. If any such claim, action or proceeding shall be brought against an indemnified party, and it shall timely notify the indemnifying party, the indemnifying party shall be entitled to participate in, and, to the extent that it wishes, jointly with any other similarly notified indemnifying party, to assume the defense thereof with counsel reasonably satisfactory to the indemnified party. After notice from the indemnifying party to the indemnified party of its election to assume the defense of such claim, action or proceeding, the indemnifying party shall not be liable to the indemnified party under, subsection 5(a) or (b) for any legal or other expenses subsequently incurred by the indemnified party in connection with the defense thereof other than reasonable costs of investigation; however, such indemnified party shall have the right to employ separate counsel in any such action and to participate in the defense thereof, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be the expense of such indemnified party unless (i) the indemnifying party has agreed to pay such fees and expenses, (ii) the indemnifying party shall have failed to assume the defense of such claim, action or proceeding or has failed to employ counsel reasonably satisfactory to such indemnified party in any such claim, action or proceeding, or (iii) the named parties to any such action or proceeding (including any impleaded parties) include both such indemnified party and the indemnifying party, and such indemnified party shall have been advised by counsel that there may be one or more legal defenses available to such indemnified party that are inconsistent or in conflict with those available to the indemnifying party (in which case, if such indemnified party notifies the indemnifying party in writing that it elects to employ separate counsel at the expense of the indemnifying party, the indemnifying party shall not have the right to assume the defense of such action or proceeding on behalf of such indemnified party), it being understood, however, that the indemnifying party shall not, in connection with any one such action or proceeding or separate but substantially similar or related actions or proceedings in the same jurisdiction arising out of the same general allegations or circumstances, be liable for the reasonable fees and expenses of more than one separate firm of attorneys at any time for such indemnified party and any other indemnified parties similarly situated, which firm shall be designated in writing by such indemnified parties. The indemnifying party shall not be liable for any settlement of any such action or proceeding effected without its written consent (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld), but if settled with its written consent, or if there be a final judgment for the plaintiff in any such action or proceeding, the indemnifying party agrees to indemnify and hold harmless such indemnified parties from and against any loss or liability by reason of such settlement or judgment.
- (d) Contribution. If the indemnification provided for in subsection 5(a) or (b) is unavailable or insufficient to hold harmless an indemnified party, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such indemnified party as a result of the losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) or expenses referred to in subsection 5(a) or (b), (i) in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and Sellers on other hand from the sale of the Sellers' Registrable Shares, or (ii) if the allocation provided by clause (i) above is not permitted by applicable law, in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only the relative benefits referred to in clause (i) above but also the relative fault of the Company on the one hand and Sellers on the other hand in connection with statements or omissions that resulted in such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) or expenses, as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and Sellers on the other hand shall be deemed to be in the same proportion as the total net proceeds from the issuance and sale of such Registrable Shares (before deducting expenses) received by the Company bear to the total compensation or profit (before deducting expenses) received or realized by Sellers of Sellers' Registrable Shares from the resale of such Registrable Shares. The relative fault shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information supplied by the Company or Sellers of Sellers' Registrable Shares and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such untrue statement or omission. The Company and Sellers agree that it would not be just and equitable if contributions pursuant to this subsection 5(d) were to be determined by pro rata allocation or by any other method of allocation that does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to in the first sentence of this subsection 5(d). The amount paid by an indemnified party as a result of the losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) or expenses referred to in the first sentence of this subsection 5(d) shall be deemed to include any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such indemnified party in connection with investigating or defending any claim, action or proceeding (which shall be limited as provided in subsection 5(c) above if

the indemnifying party has assumed the defense of any such action in accordance with the provisions thereof) that is the subject of this subsection 5(d). No Person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any Person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party of notice of the commencement of any action or proceeding against such party in respect of which a claim for contribution may be made against an indemnifying party under this subsection 5(d), such indemnified party shall notify the indemnifying party in writing of the commencement thereof if the notice specified in subsection 5(c) above has not been given with respect to such action or proceeding; but the omission so to notify the indemnifying party shall not relieve it from any liability that it may have to any indemnified party under this subsection 5(d) or otherwise, except to the extent the indemnifying party shall have been materially prejudiced by such failure to give notice.

#### Section 6. Miscellaneous.

- (a) *Amendments and Waivers*. No waiver, amendment, modification or supplement of any provision of this Addendum, including this **subsection 6(a)**, shall be valid unless it is approved in writing by the Company and the Sellers' Representative.
- (b) Assignment. Sellers shall not be entitled to assign or transfer any or all of their rights under this Addendum, whether by operation of law or otherwise.
- (c) Termination. The provisions of this Addendum will terminate with respect to a Seller's Registrable Shares, other than the provisions of Section 5 hereof, which will survive any such termination, as to a Seller when he/she ceases to own Registrable Shares.

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#### **EXHIBIT 10.2**

# STOCK PURCHASE AGREEMENT

This **STOCK PURCHASE AGREEMENT**, dated as of December 14, 2000 (this "<u>Agreement</u>"), is made and entered into by and among **BROWN & Brown, Inc.**, a Florida corporation ("<u>Buyer</u>"); and **W.M. HUFFMAN, SR.**, a resident of the State of Georgia ("<u>Huffman, Jr.</u>"), **JOHN N. THACKER**, a resident of the State of Georgia ("<u>Thacker</u>"), and **E. RHETT BUTLER, JR.**, a resident of the State of Georgia ("<u>Butler</u>"; and collectively with Huffman, Sr., Huffman, Jr., and Thacker, the "<u>Shareholders</u>").

#### **Background**

The Shareholders own all of the outstanding capital stock of Huffman & Associates, Inc., a Georgia corporation (the "Company"). The Company is engaged primarily in the insurance agency business in Rome, Georgia and Canton, Georgia. The Shareholders wish to sell all of the outstanding shares of the Company to Buyer, and Buyer desires to acquire such shares, upon the terms and conditions expressed in this Agreement. It is the intent of the parties hereto that the transactions contemplated in this Agreement be treated as a pooling-of-interests transaction for accounting purposes and as a tax-free reorganization as described in Section 368(a) (1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

**THEREFORE**, in consideration of the respective representations, warranties, covenants and agreements set forth herein, the parties agree as follow:

#### Article 1

# The Acquisition

Section 1.1 *Purchase and Sale of Shares*. On and subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Buyer agrees to purchase 1,000 shares of common stock of the Company, par value \$1.00 per share (the "Company Shares"), from the Shareholders and the Shareholders agree to sell all of the Company Shares to Buyer, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances. The Company Shares constitute all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of the Company. The Company Shares shall be sold to Buyer for the consideration specified in **Section 1.2**.

- Section 1.2 *Consideration*. The consideration for the Company Shares shall be the issuance of 6,350 shares of common stock of Buyer (the "<u>Buyer Shares</u>") to the Shareholders, calculated as follows:
- (a) The average closing price for a share of common stock of Buyer, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange, in the twenty (20) day period ending at the close of business on the third (3rd) business day in advance of the Closing Date (as defined in **Section 2.1** hereof) (the "Average Price"), is determined to be \$31.771875.
- (b) Because the Closing Date is occurring before December 31, 2000, and the Average Price is greater than \$31.00, the number of Buyer Shares to be issued to the Shareholders is equal to (i) \$170,000.00, <u>divided by</u> (ii) \$26.771875, which equals the sum of (A) \$26.00 <u>plus</u> (B) \$.771875, the amount by which the Average Price exceeds \$31.00.
- Section 1.3 *Delivery of Buyer Shares*. The Buyer Shares shall be issued to the Shareholders as follows:
- (a) ten percent (10%) of the Buyer Shares shall be pledged to Buyer as partial security for the indemnification obligations of the Shareholders under **Article 8** hereof (the "<u>Pledged Shares</u>"). Such Pledged Shares shall be pledged by the Shareholders pro-rata, based upon their respective percentages of ownership in the Company as set forth in **Section 1.3(d)**. These Pledged Shares, subject to any reduction in number as may be necessary to satisfy the Shareholders' indemnification obligations, shall be delivered to the Shareholders within thirty (30) days after the Anniversary Date, in accordance with the terms of the Pledge Agreement attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1.3</u> (the "<u>Pledge Agreement</u>").
- (b) The remainder of the Buyer Shares shall be delivered to the Shareholders at the Closing.
- (c) The dollar value of each Buyer Share shall be the Closing Price for all purposes in determining (i) the number of Buyer Shares to be issued under **Section 1.2** hereof, or (ii) the number of Buyer Shares to be pledged under this **Section 1.3** (adjusted for any stock splits or stock dividends).
- (d) Of the total number of Buyer Shares to be issued to the Shareholders, 2,858 will be issued to Huffman, Jr., 1,588 to Huffman, Sr., 1,588 to Thacker, and 316 to Butler.
- Section 1.4 *Accounting and Tax Treatment*. The parties agree (a) to structure this transaction as a tax-free exchange, and (b), as more fully described in **Section 6.6** of this Agreement, to treat this transaction for accounting purposes as a pooling-of-interests transaction and to take all actions necessary to characterize the transaction as such.
- Section 1.5 *Registration of Buyer Shares.* The Shareholders shall have the rights and obligations set forth in the Registration Rights Addendum attached hereto with respect to the registration of the Buyer Shares for sale and other matters addressed therein.

#### Article 2

#### Closing, Items to be Delivered,

#### **Further Assurances, and Effective Date**

Section 2.1 *Closing.* The consummation of the purchase and sale under this Agreement (the "Closing") will take place at 9 a.m., local time, on December 13, 2000 (the "Closing Date"), at the offices of Brinson, Askew, Berry, Seigler, Richardson & Davis, LLP, located at The Omberg House, 615 West First Street, Rome, Georgia, unless another date or place is agreed to in writing by the parties hereto.

Section 2.2 *Conveyance and Delivery by the Shareholders*. On the Closing Date, the Shareholders will surrender and deliver possession of the certificates representing the Company Shares to Buyer, properly endorsed for transfer or with executed stock powers attached. The Shareholders shall take such steps as may be required to put Buyer in actual possession and operating control of the Company, and in addition shall deliver to Buyer such bills of sale and assignments and other good and sufficient instruments and documents of conveyance, in form reasonably satisfactory to Buyer, as shall be necessary and effective to transfer and assign to, and vest in, Buyer all of the Shareholders' right, title, and interests in and to the Company Shares free and clear of any lien, charge, pledge, security interest, restriction or encumbrance of any kind.

Section 2.3 *Delivery by Buyer*. On the Closing Date, Buyer will deliver to the Shareholders certificates representing the number of Buyer Shares to be issued to the Shareholders at the Closing pursuant to **Section 1.3(b)** hereof.

Section 2.4 *Mutual Performance*. At or prior to the Closing, the parties hereto shall also deliver to each other the agreements, certificates, and other documents and instruments referred to in Articles 6 and 7 hereof.

Section 2.5 *Third Party Consents*. To the extent that the Company Shares may not be transferred to Buyer hereunder without the consent of another person which has not been obtained, this Agreement shall not constitute an agreement to transfer the same if an attempted transfer would constitute a breach thereof or be unlawful, and the Shareholders, at their expense, shall use their best efforts to obtain any such required consent(s) as promptly as possible. If any such consent shall not be obtained or if any attempted transfer would be ineffective or would impair Buyer's rights so that Buyer would not in effect acquire the benefit of all such rights, the Shareholders, to the maximum extent permitted by law, shall act after the Closing as Buyer's agent in order to obtain for it the benefits thereunder and shall cooperate, to the maximum extent permitted by law, with Buyer in any other reasonable arrangement designed to provide such benefits to Buyer.

Section 2.6 *Further Assurances*. From time to time after the Closing, at Buyer's request, the Shareholders will execute, acknowledge and deliver to Buyer such other instruments of conveyance and transfer and will take such other actions and execute and deliver such other documents, certifications and further assurances as Buyer may reasonably request in order to vest more effectively in Buyer, or to put Buyer more fully in possession of, the Company Shares. Each of the parties hereto will cooperate with the others and execute and deliver to the other parties such other instruments and documents and take such other actions as may be reasonably requested from time to time by such other party as necessary to carry out, evidence and confirm the intended purposes of this Agreement.

Section 2.7 *Effective Date*. The Effective Date of the Agreement and all related instruments executed at the Closing shall be the Closing Date, unless otherwise specified.

#### Article 3

#### **Representations and Warranties of the Shareholders**

The Shareholders represent and warrant to Buyer as follows:

Section 3.1 *Organization*. The Company is a corporation organized and in good standing under the laws of Georgia and its status is active. The Company has all requisite corporate power and authority and all necessary governmental approvals to own, lease, and operate its properties and to carry on its business as now being conducted. The Company is duly qualified to do business and is in good standing as a foreign corporation in each jurisdiction where the conduct of its insurance agency business requires it to be so qualified.

Section 3.2 *Authority*. Each Shareholder represents as to himself and not as to any other Shareholder that (a) he has the requisite power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby, and (b) this Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by such Shareholder and constitutes his valid and binding obligation, enforceable against him in accordance with its terms, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, or similar laws from time to time in effect which offset creditors' rights generally, and general equitable principles.

Section 3.3 *Capitalization*. The Company Shares constitute all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of the Company. All of the Company Shares have been duly issued and are fully paid and nonassessable. All of the Company Shares are owned and held by the Shareholders, free and clear of all liens, encumbrances or other third-party rights of any kind whatsoever.

There are no outstanding agreements, options, rights or privileges, whether preemptive or contractual, to acquire shares of capital stock or other securities of the Company.

Section 3.4 *Corporate Records*. The Shareholders have delivered to Buyer correct and complete copies of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Company, each as amended to date. The minute books containing the records of meetings of the shareholders, board of directors, and any committees of the board of directors, the stock certificate books, and the stock record books of the Company are correct and complete and have been made available for inspection by Buyer. The Company is not in default under or in violation of any provision of its Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws.

Section 3.5 *Consents and Approvals; No Violations.* Except as set forth in Schedule 3.5, neither the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement by the Shareholders nor the consummation by them of the transactions contemplated hereby nor compliance by them with any of the provisions hereof will (a) conflict with or result in any breach of any provision of the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of the Company, (b) require any filing with, or permit, authorization, consent, or approval of, any court, arbitral tribunal, administrative agency or commission, or other governmental or regulatory authority or agency (each a "Governmental Entity") by the Company or any Shareholder, (c) result in a violation or breach of, or constitute a default (or give rise to any right of termination, amendment, cancellation, or acceleration) under, any of the terms, conditions, or provisions of any note, bond, mortgage, lease, license, agreement, or other instrument or obligation to which any of the Shareholders or the Company is a party or by which any of the Shareholders or the Company or any of their respective properties or assets may be bound, or (d) violate any order, writ, injunction, decree, statute, rule or regulation applicable to the Shareholders or the Company, or any of their respective properties or assets, except in the case of (c) or (d) above for violations, breaches or defaults that would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on the Company or Buyer's ownership of the Company Shares.

Section 3.6 *No Third Party Options*. There are no existing agreements, options, commitments, or rights with, of or to any person to acquire any of the Company's securities, assets, properties or rights, or any interests therein, other than as listed on <u>Schedule 3.6</u>.

Section 3.7 *Financial Statements.* The Shareholders have delivered to Buyer true and complete copies of (a) the Company's balance sheet as of December 31, 1999 and the related statement of income for the twelve (12) months then ended, and (b) the Company's balance sheet at November 30, 2000 (the "Balance Sheet Date"), and the related statement of income for the eleven (11) months then ended, all of which have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, consistently applied throughout the periods involved. Such balance sheets fairly present the financial position, assets and liabilities (whether accrued, absolute, contingent or otherwise) of the Company at the dates indicated and such statements of income fairly present the results of operations for the periods then ended. The Company's financial books and records are accurate and complete in all material respects.

Section 3.8 **Absence of Certain Changes.** Since the Balance Sheet Date, there have been no events or changes having a material adverse effect on the assets, liabilities, financial condition or operations of the Company or, to the Shareholders' Knowledge, on the future prospects of the Company. Since the Balance Sheet Date, the Company has not made any distributions or payments to shareholders (other than normal compensation that may have been paid to the Shareholders in their capacity as bona fide employees and normal recurring Subchapter S corporation shareholder distributions) and has not entered into any agreements other than in the ordinary course of business, except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.8</u> hereto. Since the Balance Sheet Date, the Company has carried on business in the usual, regular and ordinary course in substantially the same manner as heretofore conducted and has not taken any unusual actions in contemplation of this transaction except to the extent that Buyer has given its prior specific consent.

Section 3.9 *Assets.* (a) Except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-1</u>, the Company owns and holds, free and clear of any lien, charge, pledge, security interest, restriction, encumbrance or third-party interests of any kind whatsoever (including insurance company payables), sole and exclusive right, title, and interests in and to the customer expiration records for those customers listed in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-2</u>, together with the exclusive right to use such records and all customer accounts, copies of insurance policies and contracts in force, and all files, invoices and records pertaining to the customers, their contracts and insurance policies, and all related information. All customer accounts listed in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-2</u> represent current customers of the Company and none of such accounts has been cancelled or transferred as of the date hereof. None of the accounts shown in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-2</u> represents business that has been brokered through a third party, other than those accounts set forth in <u>Schedule 3.9(a)-3</u>.

- (b) The name "Huffman & Associates" is the only trade name used by the Company within the past three (3) years. No party has filed a claim during the past three (3) years against the Company alleging that it has violated, infringed on or otherwise improperly used the intellectual property rights of such party, or, if so, the claim has been settled with no existing liability to the Company and, to the Shareholders' Knowledge, the Company has not violated or infringed any trademark, trade name, service mark, service name, patent, copy-right or trade secret held by others.
- (c) The computer software of the Company performs in accordance with the documentation and other written material used in connection therewith, is substantially free of defects in programming and operation. The Shareholders have delivered to Buyer complete and correct copies of all user and technical documentation related to such software.
- (d) The Company owns or leases all tangible assets necessary for the conduct of its business as presently operated. All equipment, inventory, furniture and other assets owned or used by the Company in its business are, to the Shareholders' Knowledge, in a state of good repair and maintenance, having regard for the purposes of which they are used, and the purposes for which such assets are used and for which they are held by the Company are not in violation of any statute, regulation, covenant or restriction.
- (e) Except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.9(e)</u>, all notes and accounts receivables of the Company are reflected properly on its books and records, are valid receivables subject to no set-offs or counterclaims either asserted to date or of which the Shareholders have

Knowledge, and are presently current and collectible. All of the Company's accounts payable, including accounts payable to insurance carriers, are current and reflected properly on its books and records.

Section 3.10 *Undisclosed Liabilities*. Except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.10</u>, the Company has no liabilities, and there is no basis for any present or future charge, complaint, action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, claim or demand against the Company giving rise to any liability, except (a) those liabilities reflected in the November 30, 2000 balance sheet of the Company, and (b) liabilities which have arisen after November 30, 2000 in the ordinary course of business (none of which relates to any breach of contract, breach of warranty, tort, infringement, or violation of law, or arose from any charge, complaint, action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, claim or demand). The Company has not guaranteed the obligations of any third party, including, without limitation, guarantees relating to premium financing on behalf of its customers.

Section 3.11 *Litigation and Claims*. Except as disclosed in <u>Schedule 3.11</u>, there is no suit, claim, action, proceeding or investigation pending or threatened against the Company, and there is no basis for such a suit, claim, action, proceeding or investigation. The Company is not subject to any outstanding order, writ, injunction or decree which, insofar as can be reasonably foreseen, individually or in the aggregate, in the future would have an adverse effect on the Company or would prevent the Shareholders from consummating the transactions contemplated hereby. No voluntary or involuntary petition in bankruptcy, receivership, insolvency, or reorganization with respect to the Shareholders or the Company has been filed by or, to the Knowledge of the Shareholders, against the Shareholders or the Company. Each of the Shareholders represents for himself only and not for any other Shareholder, that he is solvent on the date hereof and will be solvent on the Closing Date, and that he will not file a petition prior to the Closing Date or for one hundred (100) days thereafter, and if such petition if filed by others, the same will be promptly discharged. Neither the Shareholders nor the Company has, and at the Closing Date will not have, made any assignment for the benefit of creditors, or admitted in writing insolvency or that its property at fair valuation will not be sufficient to pay its debts, nor will the Shareholders permit any judgment, execution, attachment, or levy against them or their properties to remain outstanding or unsatisfied for more than ten (10) days.

Section 3.12 *Compliance with Applicable Law.* To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, the Company holds all permits, licenses, variances, exemptions, orders, and approvals of all Governmental Entities necessary for the lawful conduct of its business (collectively, the "Permits"). To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, the Company is in compliance with the terms of the Permits, except where the failure to comply would not have an adverse effect. To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, the Company is not conducting business in violation of any law, ordinance or regulation of any Governmental Entity, except for possible violations that individually or in the aggregate do not, and, insofar as reasonably can be foreseen, in the future will not, have an adverse effect on its business. As of the date of this Agreement, no investigation or review by any Governmental Entity with respect to the Company is pending or, to the Knowledge of the Shareholders, threatened, nor has any Governmental Entity indicated an intention to conduct the same.

Section 3.13 *Tax Returns and Audits*. The Company has timely filed all federal, state, local and foreign tax returns required to be filed by it or has paid or made provision for the payment of any penalty or interests arising from the late filing of any such return, has correctly reflected all taxes required to be shown thereon, and has fully paid or made adequate provision for the payment of all taxes that have been incurred or are due and payable pursuant to such returns or pursuant to any assessment with respect to taxes in such jurisdictions, whether or not in connection with such returns. To the best of the Shareholders' Knowledge, there are no circumstances or pending questions relating to potential tax liabilities nor claims asserted for taxes or assessments of the Company that, if adversely determined, could result in a tax liability for any period prior to, including, or beginning after the Closing Date or on the Company's practices in computing or reporting taxes. No federal income tax or information return for the Company is currently the subject of an audit by the Internal Revenue Service. The Company has not executed an extension or waiver of any statute of limitations on the assessment or collection of any tax due that is currently in effect.

- Section 3.14 *Contracts.* (a) <u>Schedule 3.14</u> lists all material contracts, agreements and other written arrangements to which the Company is a party, including, without limitation, the following:
- (i) any written arrangement (or group of written arrangements) for the furnishing or receipt of services that calls for performance over a period of more than one (1) year;
- (ii) any written arrangement concerning a partnership or joint venture;
- (iii) any written arrangement (or group of written arrangements) under which the Company has created, incurred or assumed or may create, incur or assume indebtedness (including capitalized lease obligations) involving more than \$10,000 or under which it has imposed (or may impose) a security interest on any of its assets, tangible or intangible;
- (iv) any employment agreement;
- (v) any written arrangement concerning confidentiality or non-competition;
- (vi) any written arrangement involving the Company and its present or former affiliates, officers, directors or shareholders;
- (vii) any written arrangement under which the consequences of a default or termination could have a material adverse effect on the assets, liabilities, business, financial condition, operations or future prospects of the Company; or
- (viii) any other written arrangement (or group of related arrangements) either involving more than \$10,000 or not entered into in the ordinary course of business.

- (b) The Company is not a party to any verbal contract, agreement or other arrangement which, if reduced to written form, would be required to be listed in <u>Schedule 3.14</u>. The Shareholders have delivered to Buyer a correct and complete copy of each written arrangement, as amended to date, listed in <u>Schedule 3.14</u>. Each such contract, agreement and written arrangement is valid and enforceable in accordance with its terms, and, to the best of the Shareholders' Knowledge, no party is in default under any provision thereof.
- Section 3.15 *Non-Solicitation Covenants*. The Company is not a party to any agreement that restricts its ability to compete in the insurance agency industry or solicit specific insurance accounts.
- Section 3.16 *Insurance Policies*. Schedule 3.16 sets forth a complete and correct list of all insurance policies held by the Company with respect to its business, and true and complete copies of such policies have been delivered to Buyer. The Company has complied with all the provisions of such policies and the policies are in full force and effect.
- Section 3.17 *Errors and Omissions*. The Company has not incurred any liability or taken or failed to take any action that may reasonably be expected to result in a liability for errors or omissions in the conduct of its insurance business, except such liabilities as are fully covered by insurance. All errors and omissions lawsuits and claims currently pending or threatened against the Company are set forth in <u>Schedule 3.11</u>. The Company has errors and omissions (E&O) insurance coverage in force, with minimum liability limits of \$1 million per occurrence and \$3 million aggregate, with a deductible of \$10,000.00, and the Shareholders will provide to Buyer a certificate of insurance evidencing such coverage prior to or on the Closing Date. The Company has had the same or higher levels of coverage continuously in effect for at least the past five (5) years.
- Section 3.18 *Employees*. Except as disclosed in <u>Schedule 3.14</u>, all employees of the Company are employees at will, and the Company is not a party to any written contract of employment.
- Section 3.19 *Environmental and Public Safety Compliance*. To the Shareholders' Knowledge, the Company and its predecessors and affiliates have complied with all laws (including rules and regulations thereunder) of federal, state and local government (and all agencies thereof) concerning the environment, public health and safety, and employee health and safety. No charge, complaint, action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, claim, demand or notice has been filed or commenced against the Company or its predecessors or affiliates alleging any failure to comply with any such law, rule or regulation. Neither the Company nor any of its affiliates has received any notification from any governmental authority that it allegedly was a contributor to or a potentially responsible party in connection with, any place at which hazardous material was stored, treated, released or disposed.
- Section 3.20 *Employee Benefit Plans*. Schedule 3.20 lists each Employee Benefit Plan (as defined below) that the Company or any trade or business, whether or not incorporated, that together with the Company would be deemed a "single employer" within the meaning of Section 4001 of ERISA (as defined below) (a "Company ERISA Affiliate") maintains or to which the Company or any Company ERISA Affiliate contributes.
- (a) To Shareholders' Knowledge each such Employee Benefit Plan (and each related trust, insurance contract, or fund) complies in form and in operation in all respects with the applicable requirements of ERISA, the Code, and other applicable laws. No such Employee Benefit Plan is under audit by the Internal Revenue Service or the Department of Labor.
- (b) Except as set forth in <u>Schedule 3.20(b)</u>, all required reports and descriptions (including Form 5500 Annual Reports, Summary Annual Reports, and summary plan descriptions) have been filed or distributed appropriately with respect to each such Employee Benefit Plan. The requirements of Part 6 of Subtitle B of Title I of ERISA and of Code Section 4980B have been met with respect to each such Employee Benefit Plan that is an "<u>Employee Welfare Benefit Plan</u>" as such term is defined in ERISA Section 3(1).
- (c) All contributions (including all employer contributions and employee salary reduction contributions) that are due have been paid to each such Employee Benefit Plan that is an "Employee Pension Benefit Plan" as such term is defined in ERISA Section 3(2), and all contributions for any period ending on or before the Closing Date that are not yet due have been paid to each such Employee Pension Benefit Plan or accrued in accordance with the past custom and practice of the Company. All premiums or other payments for all periods ending on or before the Closing Date have been paid with respect to each such Employee Benefit Plan that is an Employee Welfare Benefit Plan.
- (d) Each such Employee Benefit Plan that is an Employee Pension Benefit Plan meets the requirements of a "qualified plan" under Code Section 401(a).
- (e) The Company does not maintain currently and has never maintained, and is not currently and has never been required to contribute to or otherwise participate in, any plan or program subject to Title IV of ERISA or any "Multiemployer Plan" (as such term is defined in ERISA Section 3(37)).
- (f) The Company will deliver (no later than thirty (30) days after the Closing Date) to Buyer correct and complete copies of the plan documents and summary plan descriptions, the most recent Form 5500 Annual Report, and all related trust agreements, insurance contracts, and other funding agreements that implement each such Employee Benefit Plan.
- (g) With respect to each Employee Benefit Plan that the Company or any Company ERISA Affiliate maintains or ever has maintained or to which it contributes, ever has contributed, or ever has been required to contribute:
- (i) To Shareholders' Knowledge there have been no "Prohibited Transactions" as defined in ERISA Section 406 and Code Section 4975 with respect to any such Employee Benefit Plan. No "Fiduciary" as defined in ERISA Section 3(21) has any liability for

breach of fiduciary duty or any other failure to act or comply in connection with the administration or investment of the assets of any such Employee Benefit Plan. No action, suit, proceeding, hearing, or investigation with respect to the administration or the investment of the assets of any such Employee Benefit Plan (other than routine claims for benefits) is pending or, to the Knowledge of the Shareholders, threatened. None of the Shareholders has any Knowledge of any basis for any such action, suit, proceeding, hearing, or investigation.

(ii) Other than respect to the Company's Flex Plan, neither the Company nor any Company ERISA Affiliate maintains or contributes, nor has ever maintained or contributed, or has ever been required to contribute to any Employee Welfare Benefit Plan providing medical, health, or life insurance or other welfare-type benefits for current or future retired or terminated employees, their spouses, or their dependents (other than in accordance with Code Section 4980B).

As used in this Agreement, the term "Employee Benefit Plan" means any (a) nonqualified deferred compensation or retirement plan or arrangement that is an Employee Pension Benefit Plan, (b) qualified defined contribution retirement plan or arrangement that is an Employee Pension Benefit Plan, (c) qualified defined benefit retirement plan or arrangement that is an Employee Pension Benefit Plan (including any Multiemployer Plan), or (d) Employee Welfare Benefit Plan or material fringe benefit plan or program.

## Section 3.21 *Intellectual Property*.

- (a) The Company owns or has the right to use pursuant to license, sublicense, agreement, or permission all Intellectual Property (as defined below) necessary or desirable for the operation of the businesses of the Company as presently conducted and as presently proposed to be conducted. Each item of Intellectual Property owned or used by The Company immediately prior to the Closing hereunder shall be owned or available for use by Buyer on identical terms and conditions immediately subsequent to the Closing hereunder. The Company has taken all necessary and desirable action to maintain and protect each item of Intellectual Property that it owns or uses.
- (b) The Company has not interfered with, infringed upon, misappropriated, or otherwise come into conflict with any Intellectual Property rights of third parties, and none of the Shareholders and the directors and officers (and employees with responsibility for Intellectual Property matters) of the Company has ever received any charge, complaint, claim, demand, or notice alleging any such interference, infringement, misappropriation, or violation (including any claim that the Company must license or refrain from using any Intellectual Property rights of any third party). To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, no third party has interfered with, infringed upon, misappropriated, or otherwise come into conflict with any Intellectual Property rights of the Company.
- (c) The Company has no patents issued in its name, or patent applications filed or pending. Schedule 3.21(c) identifies each license, agreement, or other permission that the Company has granted to any third party with respect to any of its Intellectual Property (together with any exceptions). The Company has delivered to Buyer correct and complete copies of all such registrations, applications, licenses, agreements, and permissions (as amended to date) and has made available to Buyer correct and complete copies of all other written documentation evidencing ownership and prosecution (if applicable) of each such item. Schedule 3.21(c) also identifies each trade name and registered or unregistered trademark or service mark used by the Company. With respect to each item of Intellectual Property required to be identified in Schedule 3.21(c):
- (i) The Company possesses all right, title, and interest in and to the item, free and clear of any security interest, license, or other restriction;
- (ii) the item is not subject to any outstanding injunction, judgment, order, decree, ruling, or charge;
- (iii) no action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, charge, complaint, claim, or demand is pending or is threatened that challenges the legality, validity, enforceability, use, or ownership of the item; and
- (iv) The Company has never agreed to indemnify any person or entity for or against any interference, infringement, misappropriation, or other conflict with respect to the item.
- (d) <u>Schedule 3.21(d)</u> identifies each item of Intellectual Property that any third party owns and that the Company uses pursuant to license, sublicense, agreement, or permission. The Company has delivered to Buyer correct and complete copies of all such licenses, sublicenses, agreements, and permissions (as amended to date). With respect to each item of Intellectual Property required to be identified in <u>Schedule 3.21(d)</u>:
- (i) the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission covering the item is legal, valid, binding, enforceable, and in full force and effect;
- (ii) the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission shall continue to be legal, valid, binding, enforceable, and in full force and effect on identical terms following the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby (including the assignments and assumptions referred to in **Article 2** above);
- (iii) no party to the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission is in breach or default, and no event has occurred that with notice or default or permit termination, modification, or acceleration thereunder;
- (iv) no party to the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission has repudiated any provision thereof;

- (v) with respect to each sublicense, the representations and warranties set forth in clauses (i) through (iv) above are true and correct with respect to the underlying license;
- (vi) the underlying item of Intellectual Property is not subject to any outstanding injunction, judgment, order, decree, ruling, or charge;
- (vii) no action, suit, proceeding, hearing, investigation, charge, complaint, claim, or demand is pending or, to the Knowledge of the Shareholders, is threatened that challenges the legality, validity, or enforceability of the underlying item of Intellectual Property; and
- (viii) The Company has not granted any sublicense or similar right with respect to the license, sublicense, agreement, or permission.
- (e) To the Knowledge of the Shareholders, the Company shall not interfere with, infringe upon, misappropriate, or otherwise come into conflict with, any Intellectual Property rights of third parties as a result of the continued operation of its businesses as presently conducted and as presently proposed to be conducted.

As used in this Agreement the term "Intellectual Property" means (A) all inventions (whether patentable or unpatentable and whether or not reduced to practice), all improvements thereto, and all patents, patent applications, and patent disclosures, together with all reissuances, continuations, continuations-in-part, revisions, extensions, and reexaminations thereof, (B) all trademarks, service marks, trade dress, logos, together with all translations, adaptations, derivations, and combinations thereof and including all goodwill associated therewith, and all applications, registrations, and renewals in connection therewith, (C) all copyrightable works, all copyrights, and all applications, registrations, and renewals in connection therewith, (D) all mask works and all applications, registrations, and renewals in connection therewith, (E) all trade secrets and confidential business information (including ideas, research and development, know-how, formulas, compositions, manufacturing and production processes and techniques, technical data, designs, drawings, specifications, customer and supplier lists, pricing and cost information, and business and marketing plans and proposals), (F) all computer software (including data and related documentation), (G) all other proprietary rights, and (H) all copies and tangible embodiments thereof (in whatever form or medium).

- Section 3.22 *Accounting Matters*. To the Knowledge of any of the Shareholders, no "Affiliate" (as defined below) of any Acquired Company has, during a period of thirty (30) days prior to the date of this Agreement, sold, pledged, hypothecated, or otherwise transferred or encumbered any capital stock of the Company held by such Affiliate. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "Affiliate" means any officer, director, or owner of ten percent (10%) or more of the voting capital stock of the Company.
- Section 3.23 *Securities Law Representations*. (a) The Shareholders were granted access to the business premises, offices, properties, and business, corporate and financial books and records of Buyer. The Shareholders were permitted to examine the foregoing records, to question officers of Buyer, and to make such other investigations as they considered appropriate to determine or verify the business and financial condition of Buyer. Buyer furnished to the Shareholders all information regarding its business and affairs that the Shareholders requested, including, without limitation, (i) Buyer's Annual Report to Shareholders for the year ended December 31, 1999; (ii) Buyer's quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for the three (3) month-periods ended March 31, 2000, June 30, 2000 and September 30, 2000, respectively; and (iii) the Proxy Statement for Buyer's 2000 Annual Meeting of Shareholders.
- (b) Each Shareholder represents for himself, and not for any other Shareholder, that because of his considerable knowledge and experience in financial and business matters, such Shareholder is able to evaluate the merits, risks, and other factors bearing on the suitability of the Buyer Shares as an investment. Such Shareholder (either himself or through a purchaser representative) qualifies as an "accredited investor," as defined under Rule 501(a), promulgated by the SEC under the Securities Act.
- (c) Each Shareholder represents for himself, and not for any other Shareholder, that such Shareholder's annual income and net worth are such that he would not now be, and does not contemplate being, required to dispose of any investment in the Buyer Shares, including the risk of losing all or any part of his investment and the inability to sell, transfer, pledge, or otherwise dispose of any of the Buyer Shares for an indefinite period. Each Shareholder recognizes that the Buyer Shares will not be registered under the Securities Act and will therefore constitute "restricted securities," which means, among other things, that the Shareholders generally will not be able to sell the Buyer Shares for a period of at least one (1) year following the Closing Date.
- (d) Each Shareholder represents for himself, and not for any other Shareholder, that Shareholder's acquisition of the Buyer Shares will be solely for his own account, as principal, for investment, and not with a view to, or for resale in connection with, any underwriting or distribution.
- Section 3.22 *No Misrepresentations*. Each Shareholder represents for himself, and not for any other Shareholder, that none of the representations and warranties of the Shareholders set forth in this Agreement or in the attached Schedules, notwithstanding any investigation thereof by Buyer, contains any untrue statement of a material fact, or omits the statement of any material fact necessary to render the statements made not misleading.

## **Article 4**

## **Representations and Warranties of Buyer**

Buyer represents and warrants to the Shareholders as follows:

Section 4.1 *Organization*. Buyer is a corporation organized under the laws of Florida and its status is active. Buyer has all requisite corporate power and authority and all necessary governmental approvals to own, lease and operate its properties and to carry on its business as now being conducted. Buyer is duly qualified or licensed to do business and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which the property owned, leased, or operated by it or the nature of the business conducted by it makes such qualification or licensing necessary, except where the failure to be so duly qualified or licensed and be in good standing would not in the aggregate have a material adverse effect.

Section 4.2 *Authority.* Buyer has the requisite corporate power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement, and the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby, have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action on the part of Buyer and no other corporate proceeding on the part of Buyer is necessary to authorize this Agreement or to consummate the transactions so contemplated. This Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by Buyer and constitutes its valid and binding obligation, enforceable against Buyer in accordance with its terms, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or similar laws from time to time in effect which offset creditors' rights generally and general equitable principles.

Section 4.3 *Consents and Approvals; No Violations.* Neither the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement by Buyer nor the consummation by Buyer of the transactions contemplated hereby nor compliance by Buyer with any of the provisions hereof will (a) conflict with or result in any breach of any provision of the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of Buyer, (b) require any filing with, or permit authorization, consent, or approval of, any Governmental Entity, except where the failure to obtain such permits, authorizations, consents, or approvals or to make such filings would not have a material adverse effect, (c) result in a violation or breach of, or constitute a default (or give rise to any right of termination, amendment, cancellation, or acceleration) under, any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any note, bond, mortgage, lease, license, agreement, or other instrument or obligation to which Buyer is a party or by which Buyer or its properties or assets may be bound, or (d) violate any order, writ, injunction, decree, statute, rule or regulation applicable to Buyer or any of its properties or assets, except in the case of (c) or (d) above for violations, breaches or defaults that would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect.

Section 4.4 **SEC Reports and Financial Statements**. Buyer has filed with the SEC, and has heretofore made available to the Shareholders true and complete copies of all forms, reports, schedules, statements and other documents required to be filed by it since December 31, 1999 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") or the Securities Act (as such documents have been amended since the time of their filing, collectively, the "Buyer SEC Documents"). The Buyer SEC Documents, including without limitation any financial statements and schedules included therein, (a) did not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, and (b) complied in all material respects with the applicable requirements of the Exchange Act and the Securities Act, as the case may be, and the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC thereunder. The financial statements of Buyer included in the Buyer SEC Documents comply as to form in all material respects with applicable accounting requirements and with the published rules and regulations of the SEC with respect thereto, have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis during the periods involved (except as may be indicated in the notes thereto or, in the case of the unaudited statements, as permitted by Form 10-Q of the SEC) and fairly present (subject, in the case of the unaudited statements, to normal, recurring audit adjustments) the consolidated financial position of Buyer and its consolidated subsidiaries as at the dates thereof and the consolidated results of their operations and cash flows for the periods then ended.

Section 4.5 *Absence of Certain Changes*. Except as disclosed in the Buyer SEC Documents, since December 31, 1999, there have been no events, changes or events having, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Buyer.

Section 4.6 *No Undisclosed Liabilities*. Except as and to the extent set forth in Buyer's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2000, as of December 31, 1999, Buyer had no liabilities or obligations, whether or not accrued, contingent or otherwise, that would be required by generally accepted accounting principles to be reflected on a consolidated balance sheet of Buyer and its subsidiaries. Since September 30, 2000, Buyer has not incurred any liabilities, whether or not accrued, contingent or otherwise, outside the ordinary course of business or that would have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on Buyer.

Section 4.7 *Litigation*. Except as disclosed in the Buyer SEC Documents filed prior to the date of this Agreement, there is no suit, claim, action, proceeding or investigation pending or, to the Knowledge of Buyer, threatened against Buyer or any of its subsidiaries before any Governmental Entity that, individually or in the aggregate, is reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on Buyer or would prevent Buyer from consummating the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. Except as disclosed in the Buyer SEC Documents, neither Buyer nor any of its subsidiaries is subject to any outstanding order, writ, injunction or decree that, insofar as can be reasonably foreseen, individually or in the aggregate, in the future would have a material adverse effect on Buyer or would prevent Buyer from consummating the transactions contemplated hereby.

Section 4.8 *Accounting Matters*. (a) To the Knowledge of Buyer, neither Buyer nor any of its affiliates has through the date of this Agreement taken or agreed to take any action that (without giving effect to any action taken or agreed to be taken by the Company or any of its affiliates) would prevent the parties from accounting for the transaction to be effected by this Agreement as a pooling of interests.

(b) Without limiting the generality of **Section 4.8(a)**, to the Knowledge of Buyer, no Affiliate of Buyer has, during a period of thirty (30) days prior to the date of this Agreement, sold, pledged, hypothecated, or otherwise transferred or encumbered any Buyer Shares held by such Affiliate.

Section 4.9 *Errors and Omissions*. Buyer has not incurred any material liability or taken or failed to take any action that may reasonably be expected to result in a material liability for errors or omissions in the conduct of its insurance business, except such liabilities as are fully covered by insurance and those disclosed in the Buyer SEC Documents. Buyer has errors and omission (E&O) insurance coverage in force, with minimum liability limits of \$35,000,000 per occurrence and \$35,000,000 aggregate, with a deductible of \$250,000.

- Section 4.10 *Securities Law Representations*. (a) Buyer was granted access to the business premises, offices, properties, and business, corporate and financial books and records of the Company. Buyer was permitted to examine the foregoing records, to question officers of the Company, and to make such other investigations as it considered appropriate to determine or verify the business and financial condition of the Company. The Shareholders furnished to Buyer all information regarding the business and affairs of the Company that Buyer requested.
- (b) Because of its considerable knowledge and experience in financial and business matters, Buyer is able to evaluate the merits, risks, and other factors bearing on the suitability of the Company Shares as an investment.
- (c) Buyer's annual income and net worth are such that it would not now be, and does not contemplate being, required to dispose of any investment in the Company Shares, including the risk of losing all or any part of its investment and the inability to sell, transfer, pledge, or otherwise dispose of any of the Company Shares for an indefinite period. Buyer recognizes that the Company Shares will not be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and will therefore constitute "restricted securities," which means, among other things, that Buyer generally will not be able to sell the Company Shares for a period of at least one (1) year following the Closing Date.
- (d) Buyer's acquisition of the Company Shares will be solely for its own account, as principal, for investment, and not with a view to, or for resale in connection with, any underwriting or distribution.

### Article 5

# [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

### Article 6

# **Additional Agreements**

- Section 6.1 *Access to Information*. Upon reasonable notice, the Shareholders shall cause the Company to afford to the officers, employees, accountants, counsel, and other authorized representatives of Buyer full access, during the period prior to the Closing Date, to all of the properties, books, contracts, commitments, records, and senior management of the Company. Unless otherwise required by law, Buyer will hold any such information that is nonpublic in confidence, will not use such information in its business if the transaction does not close, and will return such information if the transaction does not close.
- Section 6.2 *Expenses*. Whether or not the transaction is consummated, all costs and expenses incurred in connection with this Agreement and the transactions contemplated hereby shall be paid by the party incurring such expenses.
- Section 6.3 *Brokers or Finders*. Each of the parties represents, as to itself, its subsidiaries and its affiliates, that no agent, broker, investment banker, financial advisor, or other firm or person is or will be entitled to any broker's or finder's fee or any other commission or similar fee in connection with any of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, and each of the parties agrees to indemnify and hold the others harmless from and against any and all claims, liabilities, or obligations with respect to any fees, commissions, or expenses asserted by any person on the basis of any act or statement alleged to have been made by such party or its affiliate.
- Section 6.4 *Additional Agreements; Best Efforts.* Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, each of the parties agrees to use its best efforts to take, or cause to be taken, all actions and to do, or cause to be done, all things necessary, proper, or advisable under applicable laws and regulations to consummate and make effective the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, including cooperating fully with the other parties.
- Section 6.5 *Non-Competition Covenants*. Each of the Shareholders agrees that shall not, directly or indirectly, for a period of three (3) years beginning on the Closing Date, engage in, or be or become the owner of an equity interest in, or otherwise consult with, be employed by, or participate in the business of, any entity (other than Buyer or the Company) engaged in the insurance agency business within a thirty (30) mile radius of Rome, Georgia or Canton, Georgia. The Shareholders acknowledge that the confidentiality and non-solicitation covenants to be contained in any employment agreements they may enter into with Buyer will be in addition to, and will not supersede or be subordinate to, the non-competition covenants contained in this **Section 6.5**.
- Section 6.6 *Accounting Matters*. Each of the Shareholders agrees that they would each be deemed "Affiliates" of the Company (as such term is defined in **Section 3.22** of this Agreement) and that, in order to preserve the pooling-of-interests treatment of this transaction, such Shareholder shall not sell, pledge, hypothecate, or otherwise transfer or encumber any Buyer Shares issued to such Shareholder under this Agreement until the final results of at least thirty (30) days of post-Closing combined operations have been published by Buyer, via the issuance of a quarterly earnings report or other means at Buyer's sole discretion.
- Section 6.7 *Remedy for Breach of Covenants*. In the event of a breach of the provisions of **Section 6.5** or **6.6**, Buyer and the Company shall be entitled to injunctive relief as well as any other applicable remedies at law or in equity. Should a court of

competent jurisdiction declare the covenants set forth in **Section 6.5** or **6.6** unenforceable due to a unreasonable restriction, duration, geographical area or otherwise, the parties agree that such court shall be empowered and shall grant Buyer, the Company and their affiliates injunctive relief to the extent reasonably necessary to protect their respective interests. The Shareholders acknowledge that the covenants set forth in **Sections 6.5** and **6.6** represent an important element of the value of the Company Shares and were a material inducement for Buyer to enter into this Agreement.

Section 6.8 *Successor Rights*. The covenants contained in **Section 6.5** and **6.6** shall inure to the benefit of any successor in interests of Buyer by way of merger, consolidation, sale or other succession.

Section 6.9 *Errors and Omissions Tail Coverage*. On or prior to the Closing Date the Company shall purchase, at the Company's expense, a tail coverage extension on the Company's errors and omissions insurance policy. Such coverage shall extend for a period of at least three (3) years from the Closing Date, shall have the same coverages and deductibles currently in effect, and shall otherwise be in form reasonably acceptable to Buyer. A certificate of insurance evidencing such coverage shall be delivered to Buyer at or prior to Closing.

Section 6.10 *Pledge Agreement*. The parties agree on the Closing Date to enter into the Pledge Agreement.

Section 6.11 *Confidentiality.* The parties agree to maintain the existence of this transaction and the terms hereof in confidence, until the earliest of the following circumstances occurs: (a) the parties mutually agree to release such information to the public; (b) Buyer reasonably concludes that such disclosure is required by law; or (c) the Closing has occurred and ownership of the Company Shares has passed to Buyer.

Section 6.12 **Preparation of Tax Return.** The Shareholders recognize that a year-to-date income tax return must be prepared and filed for the Company as a result of this transaction and that the Shareholders are primarily responsible for preparing this return. The Shareholders therefore agree to prepare this return promptly after the Closing, at their expense, and deliver it to the Company to review and file. Buyer and the Company shall be solely responsible for any changes they make to the return prepared by the Shareholders, <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that no changes shall be made to such return without the prior written consent of the Shareholders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

### Article 7

#### **Conditions**

Section 7.1 *Conditions to Each Party's Obligation*. The respective obligations of each party to effect the transactions contemplated by this Agreement shall be subject to the satisfaction prior to or on the Closing Date of the following conditions:

- (a) *Approvals*. All authorizations, consents, orders, or approvals of, or declarations or filings with, or expirations of waiting periods imposed by, any Governmental Entity, the failure to obtain which would have a material adverse effect on the Company, shall have been filed, occurred, or been obtained.
- (b) *No Injunctions or Restraints*. No temporary restraining order, preliminary or permanent injunction, or other order issued by any court of competent jurisdiction or other legal restraint or prohibition preventing the consummation of the transaction shall be in effect.
- Section 7.2 *Conditions to Obligations of Buyer.* The obligation of Buyer to effect the transactions contemplated by this Agreement is subject to the satisfaction of the following conditions, unless waived by Buyer:
- (a) *Representations and Warranties*. The representations and warranties of the Shareholders set forth in this Agreement shall be true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date.
- (b) *Performance of Obligations by the Shareholders*. The Shareholders shall have performed all obligations required to be performed by them under this Agreement at or prior to the Closing Date.
- (c) *Non-Disclosure and Non-Piracy Agreements*. Each employee of the Company that Buyer intends to retain shall have executed and delivered to Buyer a copy of Buyer's standard employment agreement, which contains confidentiality and non-solicitation provisions.
- (d) *Due Diligence*. Buyer shall be satisfied, in its sole discretion, with the results of its due diligence investigation of the Company.
- (e) *Release*. The Shareholders shall have delivered to Buyer an executed Release dated as of the Closing Date in substantially the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 7.2(e)</u>.

- (f) *Opinion of the Shareholders' Counsel*. The Shareholders shall have delivered to Buyer a written opinion of counsel dated as of the Closing Date in substantially the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 7.2(f)</u> with only such changes therein as shall be in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to Buyer.
- (g) *Employment Agreements*. Each Shareholder shall have executed and delivered an employment agreement with Buyer, in form and substance mutually agreeable to the parties thereto.
- (h) *Pledge Agreement*. Each Shareholder shall have executed and delivered to Buyer the Pledge Agreement.
- (i) *Adverse Changes*. There shall have been no material adverse change to the business or financial condition of the Company since the Balance Sheet Date.
- (j) *Board Approval*. Buyer's Board of Directors shall have approved this transaction and the issuance of the Buyer Shares to the Shareholders.
- (k) *Tangible Net Worth*. Buyer shall be satisfied that the Company has a tangible net worth, after purchasing an errors & omissions tail policy pursuant to **Section 6.8** and after all distributions to the Shareholders, of at least ten percent (10%) of the Company's Core Revenue for the twelve (12) month period ended as of the Closing Date.
- Section 7.3 *Conditions to Obligation of the Shareholders.* The obligations of the Shareholders to effect the transactions contemplated by this Agreement are subject to the satisfaction of the following conditions, unless waived by the Shareholders:
- (a) *Representations and Warranties*. The representations and warranties of Buyer set forth in this Agreement shall be true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date.
- (b) *Performance of Obligations by Buyer.* Buyer shall have performed in all material respects all obligations required to be performed by it under this Agreement at or prior to the Closing Date.
- (c) *Opinion of Buyer's Counsel*. Buyer's Assistant General Counsel shall have delivered to the Shareholders a written opinion dated as of the Closing Date in substantially the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 7.3(c)</u>, with only such changes therein as shall be in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Shareholders.
- (d) *Employment Agreements*. Buyer shall have executed and delivered an employment agreement with each of the Shareholders, in form and substance mutually agreeable to the parties thereto.
- (e) *Buyer's Guaranty of Company Liabilities*. Buyer shall have executed and delivered, in form and substance mutually agreeable to the parties, a Guaranty of all of the Company's liabilities set forth in <u>Schedule 7.3(e)</u> (the "<u>Guaranty</u>").

#### **Article 8**

### Indemnification

Section 8.1 *Survival of Representations, Warranties, Indemnities and Covenants.* The representations, warranties and indemnities set forth in this Agreement and any right to bring an action at law, in equity, or otherwise for any misrepresentation or breach of warranty under this Agreement shall survive for a period of one (1) year from the Closing Date. All post-closing covenants shall survive the Closing for the period specified in this Agreement or, if not specified, for a period of one (1) year following the Closing Date. The Guaranty specified in **Section 7.3(e)** hereof shall survive the Closing and shall expire only upon payment of the liabilities subject to such Guaranty.

## Section 8.2 Indemnification Provisions for the Benefit of Buyer.

- (a) Subject to the limitations set forth in **Section 8.4**, the Shareholders, jointly and severally, agree to indemnify and hold Buyer, the Company and their respective officers, directors and affiliates (collectively, the "<u>Buyer Indemnified Parties</u>") harmless from and against any and all Adverse Consequences (as defined below) any of such parties may suffer or incur resulting from, arising out of, relating to, or caused by (i) the breach of any of the Shareholders' representations, warranties, or, obligations contained herein, or (ii) the operation of the Company's insurance agency business or ownership of the Company Shares by the Shareholders on or prior to the Closing Date, including, without limitation, any claims or lawsuits based on conduct of the Company or the Shareholders occurring before the Closing. For purposes of this **Article 8**, the phrase "<u>Adverse Consequences</u>" means all charges, complaints, actions, suits, proceedings, hearings, investigations, claims, demands, judgments, orders, decrees, stipulations, injunctions, damages, dues, penalties, fines, costs, amounts paid in settlement, liabilities (whether known or unknown, whether absolute or contingent, whether liquidated or unliquidated, and whether due or to become due), obligations, taxes, liens, losses, expenses, and fees, including all attorneys' fees and court costs.
- (b) Each Shareholder shall, severally but not jointly, indemnify and hold the Buyer Indemnified Parties harmless from and against any and all Adverse Consequences any of such parties may suffer or incur resulting from, arising out of, relating to, or caused by such Shareholder's breach of his covenants set forth in **Sections 6.5** and **6.11**. The Shareholders' indemnification obligations under this **Section 8.2(b)** shall not be subject to the limitations set forth in **Section 8.4**; however, each Shareholder's obligations under this **Section 8.2(b)** shall be limited to the value of the Buyer Shares issued to such Shareholder, as of the Closing Date.

Section 8.3 *Indemnification Provisions for the Benefit of the Shareholders*. Buyer agrees to indemnify and hold the Shareholders harmless from and against any and all Adverse Consequences the Shareholders may suffer or incur resulting from, arising out of, relating to, or caused by (a) the breach of any of Buyer's representations, warranties, obligations or covenants contained herein, or (b) the operation of the insurance agency business of the Company or ownership of the Company Shares by Buyer after the Closing Date, including, without limitation, any claims or lawsuits based on conduct of Buyer or the Company occurring after the Closing, or the nonpayment by the Company of any liability set forth on the Adjusted Balance Sheet in Schedule 7.3(e).

Section 8.4 *Indemnification Limitations*. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary:

- (a) no party (the "Indemnified Party") shall be entitled to indemnification under **Section 8.2** until the aggregate amount otherwise payable under **Section 8.2** exceeds \$1,800.00 (the "Materiality Threshold Amount"), in which event the Indemnified Party shall be entitled to indemnification from the other party (the "Indemnifying Party") to the extent such aggregate amount exceeds the Materiality Threshold Amount;
- (b) in no event shall the liability for any party (the Shareholders collectively being considered one party for purposes of this **Section 8.4(b)**) in the aggregate exceed \$72,000.00 (the "Maximum Liability Amount");
- (c) the amount of the Purchase Price represented by the Pledged Shares reflects part of the Maximum Liability Amount of the Shareholders, and is not in addition thereto, and to the extent funds are realized from the Pledged Shares for the payment of indemnification liabilities of the Shareholders hereunder, the Shareholders' Maximum Liability Amount shall be decreased by the amount of such funds;
- (d) the indemnification obligations of each Shareholder hereunder shall be prorata to his respective ownership of the Company Shares as set forth in **Section 1.3(d)** hereof, and in the event of any indemnification claim by Buyer hereunder, Buyer's recourse shall first be against the Pledged Shares, prorata as to the percentage of the Pledged Shares issued to each Shareholder pursuant to **Section 1.3(d)**, and thereafter, any remaining indemnification obligations of the Shareholders shall be prorata based on each Shareholder's respective percentage of ownership of the Company Shares, but in no event shall the aggregate indemnification obligations of the Shareholders, including the amount represented by the Pledged Shares, exceed the Maximum Liability Amount; and
- (e) No party shall be entitled to indemnification under this **Article 8** based upon any alleged breach of any representation or warranty in this Agreement if such party, or any agent, representative, or beneficial owner thereof, knew at the time of Closing that such representation or warranty was not true.

#### **Article 9**

## [INTENTIONALLY OMITTED]

### Article 10

# Miscellaneous

Section 10.1 *Notices*. All notices and other communications hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed given if delivered personally, telecopied (if confirmed), or mailed by registered or certified mail (return receipt requested) to the parties at the following addresses or at such other address for a party as shall be specified by like notice:

(a) If to Buyer, to

Brown & Brown, Inc.

401 E. Jackson Street, Suite 1700

Tampa, Florida 33602

Telecopy No.: (813) 222-4464

Attn: Laurel L. Grammig, Esq.

(b) if to the Shareholders, to

Mr. William M. Huffman, Jr.

201 East First Street

Rome, Georgia 30161

Telecopy No.: (706) 232-3457

with a copy to

Brinson, Askew, Berry, Seigler, Richardson & Davis, LLP

The Omberg House 615 West First Street P.O. Box 5513 Rome, Georgia 30162-5513 Telecopy No.: (706) 234-3574

Attention: Joseph M. Seigler, Jr., Esq.

Section 10.2 *Counterparts.* This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement, and shall become effective when one or more counterparts have been signed by each of the parties and delivered to the other parties, it being understood that all parties need not sign the same counterpart.

Section 10.3 *Entire Agreement*. This Agreement (including the documents and instruments referred to herein) constitutes the entire agreement and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, among the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof.

Section 10.4 *Assignment.* Except as contemplated in **Section 6.8** hereof, neither this Agreement nor any of the rights, interests, or obligations hereunder shall be assigned by any of the parties hereto (whether by operation of law or otherwise) without the prior written consent of the other parties. This Agreement will be binding upon, inure to the benefit of, and be enforceable by the parties and their respective successors and assigns.

Section 10.5 *Amendment*. This Agreement may not be amended except by an instrument in writing signed on behalf of all the parties hereto.

Section 10.6 *Joint Efforts*. This Agreement is the result of the joint efforts and negotiations of the parties hereto, with each party being represented, or having the opportunity to be represented, by legal counsel of its own choice, and no singular party is the author or drafter of the provisions hereof. Each of the parties assumes joint responsibility for the form and composition of this Agreement and each party agrees that this Agreement shall be interpreted as though each of the parties participated equally in the composition of this Agreement and each and every provision and part hereof. The parties agree that the rule of judicial interpretation to the effect that any ambiguity or uncertainty contained in an agreement is to be construed against the party that drafted the agreement shall not be applied in the event of any disagreement or dispute arising out of this Agreement.

Section 10.7 *Headings*. All paragraph headings herein are inserted for convenience of reference only and shall not modify or affect the construction or interpretation of any provision of this Agreement.

Section 10.8 *Severability*. If any provision or covenant, or any part thereof, of this Agreement should be held by any court to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, either in whole or in part, such illegality, invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the legality, validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions or covenants, or any part thereof, all of which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 10.9 *Attorneys' Fees*. The prevailing party in any proceeding brought to enforce the provisions of this Agreement shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred at both the trial and appellate levels incurred in enforcing its rights hereunder.

Section 10.10 *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Georgia without regard to conflicts of laws principles, except that the provisions of **Section 6.5** hereof shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Florida without regard to conflicts of laws principles, but venue for any such actions shall be in Floyd County, Georgia.

Section 10.11 *Use of Term "Knowledge"*. With respect to the term "Knowledge" as used herein: (a) a Shareholder will be deemed to have "Knowledge" of a particular fact or other matter if such Shareholder, the accounting manager, or any officer of the Company, has actual knowledge, without inquiry, of such fact or other matter; and (b) Buyer will be deemed to have "Knowledge" of a particular fact or other matter if any individual who is serving, as of the Closing Date, as a senior corporate officer (<u>i.e.</u>, President, Chief Financial Officer, or any Vice President) for Buyer, has actual knowledge, without inquiry, of such fact or other matter.

Section 10.12 Waiver of Jury Trial; Consent to Jurisdiction; Service of Process.

- (a) The parties hereby knowingly, voluntarily and intentionally waive any right either may have to a trial by jury with respect to any litigation related to or arising out of, under or in conjunction with this Agreement, or any of the transactions contemplated hereunder.
- (b) Each of the parties hereby irrevocably submits to the jurisdiction of the state courts located in Floyd County, Georgia and the federal court located in Floyd County, Georgia, in connection with any suit, action or other proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement or any transactions contemplated herein, and hereby agrees not to assert, by way of motion, as a defense, or otherwise in any such suit, action or proceeding that the suits, action or proceeding is brought in an inconvenient forum, that the

venue of the suit, action or proceeding is improper, or that this Agreement or the subject matter hereof may not be enforced by such courts.

Section 10.13 *Public Announcement.* At all times at or before the Closing, none of the parties hereto shall issue or make any statements or releases to the public with respect to this Agreement or the transactions contemplated hereby without the consent of the other parties hereto, except for such public disclosure as may be necessary, in Buyer's sole discretion, not to be in violation of or in default under any applicable federal or state securities laws, any rule or regulation of any national securities exchange, or any other agreement to which Buyer is a party, copies of which shall be provided to the Shareholders prior to such distribution. Buyer shall also obtain the Shareholders' prior approval (which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed) of any press release Buyer desires to issue following the Closing announcing the consummation of the transactions contemplated in this Agreement.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have signed or caused this Agreement to be signed by their respective officers thereunto duly authorized as of the date first written above.

**BUYER:** 

**BROWN & BROWN, INC.** 

By: /S/ THOMAS M. DONEGAN, JR.

Name: Thomas M. Donegan, Jr.

Title: Vice President

**SHAREHOLDERS:** 

/S/ W. M. HUFFMAN, SR.

W. M. Huffman, Sr., Individually

/S/ W. M. HUFFMAN, JR.

W. M. Huffman, Jr., individually

/S/ JOHN N. THACKER

John N. Thacker

/S/ E. RHETT BUTLER, JR.

E. Rhett Butler, Jr., individually

**SCHEDULES AND EXHIBITS** 

Schedule 3.6: Third Party Options

Schedule 3.8: Shareholder Distributions; Agreements Outside the Ordinary Course of Business

Schedule 3.9(a)-1: Liens and Encumbrances on Book of Business

Schedule 3.9(a)-2: Book of Business

Schedule 3.9(a)-3: Third-Party Brokered Accounts

Schedule 3.9(e): Exceptions Regarding Receivables

Schedule 3.10: Undisclosed Liabilities

Schedule 3.11: Litigation and Claims

Schedule 3.14: Material Contracts

Schedule 3.16: Insurance Policies

Schedule 3.20: Employee Benefit Plans

Schedule 3.21(c): Owned Intellectual Property

Schedule 3.21(d): Licensed Intellectual Property

Schedule 7.3(e): Company Liabilities Guaranteed by Buyer

Exhibit 1.3: Pledge Agreement

Exhibit 7.2(e): Release

Exhibit 7.2(f): Opinion of the Shareholders' Counsel

Exhibit 7.3(c): Opinion of Buyer's Counsel

## REGISTRATION RIGHTS ADDENDUM

[SEE ATTACHED]

 $G: \label{lem:condition} G: \label{lem:condition} G: \label{lem:condition} Id A YES \label{lem:condition} G: \label{lem:condition} A YES \la$ 

## ADDENDUM TO STOCK PURCHASE AGREEMENT

#### REGISTRATION RIGHTS PROVISIONS

## (HUFFMAN & ASSOCIATES, INC.)

Section 1. *Definitions*. As used in this Addendum, the following terms have the meanings specified below and include the plural as well as the singular:

"Common Stock" means the Company's common stock, par value \$0.10 per share.

"Company" means Brown & Brown, Inc., a Florida corporation.

"Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

"Governmental Authority" means any nation or government, any state or other political subdivision thereof and any court, panel, judge, board, bureau, commission, agency or other entity, body or other Person exercising executive, legislative, judicial, regulatory or administrative functions of or pertaining to government.

"NASD" means the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.

"Person" means an individual, a partnership, a corporation, an association, a joint stock company, a trust, a joint venture, an unincorporated organization, or a governmental entity (or any department, agency, or political subdivision thereof).

"Prospectus" means the prospectus included in any Registration Statement at the time the same becomes effective, as amended or supplemented by any prospectus supplement, including post-effective amendments and all material incorporated by reference in the prospectus.

"Registrable Shares" means the Sellers' Registrable Shares. All such securities shall cease to be Registrable Shares when they (i) have been distributed to the public pursuant to an offering registered under the Securities Act, (ii) become eligible to be sold to the public through a broker, dealer or market maker in compliance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act (or any similar rule then in force), or (iii) are sold by Sellers.

"Registration Expenses" means all expenses incident to the Company's performance of or compliance with this Addendum, including, without limitation, all SEC and stock exchange or NASD registration and filing fees and expenses, fees and expenses of compliance with securities or blue sky laws (including, without limitation, reasonable fees and disbursements of counsel in connection with blue sky qualifications of the Registrable Shares), printing expenses, messenger and delivery expenses, the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the listing of the securities to be registered on each securities exchange or national market system on which similar securities issued by the Company are then listed, fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company and all independent certified public accountants (including the expenses of any annual audit, special audit, if necessary, and "cold comfort" letters required by or incident to such performance and compliance and the fees and expenses of any special experts retained by the Company); however, the Company shall not be responsible for any underwriting discounts or commissions, fees and expenses of counsel to Sellers or transfer taxes, if any, attributable to the sale of Sellers' Registrable Shares.

"Registration Statement" means any registration statement of the Company that covers any of the Registrable Shares pursuant to the provisions of this Addendum, including all pre-effective amendments and post-effective amendments thereto, the Prospectus and supplements thereto, all exhibits, and all materials incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

"SEC" means the Securities and Exchange Commission or any successor thereof.

"Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

"Seller Representative" means William M. Huffman, Jr., or any other person designated in a writing signed by the Sellers and delivered to the Company in accordance with the notice provisions of the Stock Purchase Agreement, to act as their representative under this Addendum.

"Sellers" means the parties identified as "Shareholders" in the Stock Purchase Agreement.

"Stock Purchase Agreement" means the stock purchase agreement to which this Addendum is attached.

"Sellers' Registrable Shares" means all Common Stock issued to Sellers pursuant to the terms of the Stock Purchase Agreement and all Common Stock issued with respect to such Common Stock by way of a stock dividend or stock split or in connection with a combination of shares, recapitalization, merger, consolidation, reorganization or otherwise.

## Section 2. Registration Rights.

- (a) The Company shall use its best efforts to prepare and file a Registration Statement on or before March 31, 2001, providing for the sale of the Registrable Shares by the Sellers pursuant to Rule 415 of the Securities Act or any similar rule that may be adopted by the SEC; however, none of the Sellers shall sell, transfer, pledge or otherwise dispose of any Registrable Shares: (i) before the date on which financial results covering at least thirty (30) days of post-Closing Date (as defined in the Stock Purchase Agreement) combined operations of the Company and Huffman & Associates, Inc., a Georgia corporation, have been published by the Company except as otherwise permitted by the Stock Purchase Agreement; (ii) if such sale, transfer, pledge or disposition would prevent the stock purchase pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement from being accounted for as a pooling-of-interests, as more fully described in Section 6.6 of the Stock Purchase Agreement); or (iii) while such Registration Statement remains effective, during a period beginning fifteen (15) days before the end of each of the Company's fiscal quarters and ending on the second (2nd) business day following the next release by the Company to the public of quarterly or annual earnings. The Registration Statement may include other securities of the Company designated by the Company and may include securities of the Company being sold for the account of the Company or others.
- (b) The provisions of this **Section 2** will be subject to the following conditions:
- (i) If at any time after the Company files a Registration Statement hereunder the Company decides to make a public offering of securities through one or more underwriters, and an underwriter selected by the Company to manage such proposed underwriting advises the Company that it believes that such underwritten offering could be adversely affected by the concurrent registered offering of Registrable Shares pursuant hereto, then the Company may delay or suspend the filing or effectiveness of such Registration Statement for no more than ninety (90) days and during such period none of the Sellers shall sell, transfer, pledge or otherwise dispose of any Registrable Shares.

Section 3. *Expenses*. The Company will pay all Registration Expenses in connection with the registration pursuant to **Section 2** of this Addendum, whether or not such registration becomes effective under the Securities Act. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Sellers shall pay all underwriting discounts and commissions, fees and expenses of counsel to the Sellers, and transfer taxes incurred in connection with any registration pursuant to **Section 2**.

Section 4. Registration Procedures.

- (a) With respect to a registration pursuant to Section 2 of this Addendum, the Company, subject to subsection 2(b) above, will use reasonable efforts to promptly effect the registration of the Registrable Shares, and in connection therewith, the Company shall do the following:
- (i) prepare and file with the SEC a Registration Statement and use reasonable efforts to cause such Registration Statement to become effective;
- (ii) prepare and file with the SEC such amendments and post-effective amendments and supplements to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus used in connection therewith as may be necessary to keep such Registration Statement continually effective for a period expiring on the earlier of (A) the date there are no longer shares of Common Stock outstanding that constitute Registrable Shares or (B) one (1) year from the Closing Date (as defined in the Stock Purchase Agreement);
- (iii) promptly notify Sellers, at any time when a Prospectus relating to Sellers' Registrable Shares covered by the Registration Statement is required to be delivered under the Securities Act, of the occurrence of any event as a result of which the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or any document incorporated therein contains any untrue statement of a material fact, or omits to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein in light of the circumstances under which they were made not misleading, and the Company shall promptly prepare and file with the SEC and furnish to Sellers a supplement or amendment to such Prospectus so that, as thereafter delivered to the purchasers of the Sellers' Registrable Shares, such Prospectus shall not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;

- (iv) use reasonable efforts to register or qualify the Registrable Shares covered by the Registration Statement for offer and sale under the securities or "blue sky" laws of each state and other U.S. jurisdiction as Sellers reasonably request in writing; however, the Company will not be required to (A) qualify generally to do business in any jurisdiction where it would not otherwise be required to so qualify, (B) take any action that would subject it to general service of process in any jurisdiction where it would not otherwise be subject to such general service of process, or (C) subject itself to general taxation in any jurisdiction where it would not otherwise be subject; and
- (v) use reasonable efforts to cause all Registrable Shares included in such Registration Statement to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange (or any other market on which the Common Stock is then listed).
- (b) Sellers, upon receipt of any notice from the Company of the occurrence of any event of the kind described in clause (iii) of subsection 4(a) above, will forthwith discontinue disposition of the Sellers' Registrable Shares pursuant to the Registration Statement covering such Sellers' Registrable Shares until Seller's receipt of the copies of the supplemented or amended Prospectus contemplated by such subsection 4(a) and, if so directed by the Company, Sellers will deliver to the Company all copies, other than permanent file copies then in Sellers' possession, of the most recent Prospectus covering such Sellers' Registrable Shares at the time of receipt of such notice. Seller, upon receipt of any notice from the Company of the issuance of any stop order or blue sky order will forthwith, in the case of any stop order, discontinue disposition of the Sellers' Registrable Shares pursuant to the Registration Statement covering such Sellers' Registrable Shares or, in the case of any blue sky order, discontinue disposition of the Sellers' Registrable Shares in the applicable jurisdiction, until advised in writing of the lifting or withdrawal of such order.

### Section 5. Indemnification.

- (a) Indemnification by the Company. The Company shall indemnify and hold harmless Sellers, against any and all losses, claims, damages or liabilities, joint or several, and expenses to which any of them may become subject under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act or other federal or state law or regulation, at common law or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) or expenses arise out of or are based upon (i) any materially untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in any Registration Statement or Prospectus, or (ii) any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; however, the Company will not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage, liability or expense (x) arises out of or is based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission made in the Registration Statement or Prospectus in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by or on behalf of Sellers specifically for use in the Registration Statement or Prospectus, or (y) results from the fact that a Seller sold Registrable Shares to a Person to whom there was not sent or given, at or before the written confirmation of such sale, a copy of the Prospectus, if the Company had previously made available to such Seller copies thereof and such Prospectus, as then amended or supplemented, corrected such misstatement or omission, or (z) results from a Seller breaching one or more of its obligations hereunder.
- (b) Indemnification by Sellers. Each Seller will severally, but not jointly, indemnify and hold harmless (in the same manner and to the same extent as set forth in subsection 5(a), including, without limitation, clauses (y) and (z) of the proviso set forth therein) the Company and its directors, officers and controlling persons, each other party registering securities under a Registration Statement and each underwriter, dealer manager or similar securities industry professional participating in the distribution of Seller's Registrable Shares and such securities industry professional's respective directors, officers, partners and controlling persons and any other party offering securities under such Registration Statement, (i) with respect to any materially untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of material fact, or any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact with respect to such Registration Statement or Prospectus if such statement or alleged statement or omission or alleged omission was made in reliance upon information furnished to the Company by or on behalf of such Seller for use in such Registration Statement or Prospectus, (ii) results from the fact that such Seller sold Registrable Shares to a Person to whom there was not sent or given, at or prior to the written confirmation of such sale, a copy of the Prospectus if the Company had previously furnished copies thereof to Sellers and such Prospectus, as then amended or supplemented, corrected such misstatements or omission, or (iii) results from such Seller breaching one or more of its obligations hereunder. Each Seller will reimburse the indemnified parties for any legal or other costs or expenses incurred in connection with defending any such loss, claim, damage, liability, action or proceeding resulting from the actions of such Seller; provided, however, that in no event shall any Seller's individual indemnification obligations under this Addendum exceed the aggregate proceeds such Seller has received from the sale of such Seller's
- (c) Notice of Claims, etc. Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party under subsection 5(a) or (b) of notice of any claim or the commencement of any action or proceeding subject to indemnification thereunder, the indemnified party shall, if a claim in respect thereof is to be made against the indemnifying party under either of such subsections, promptly notify the indemnifying party in writing of the claim or the commencement of the action or proceeding; provided that the failure to so notify the indemnifying party shall not relieve the indemnifying party from any liability that it may have to an indemnified party under subsection 5(a) or (b) or otherwise, except to the extent the indemnifying party shall have been materially prejudiced by such failure to give notice. If any such claim, action or proceeding shall be brought against an indemnified party, and it shall timely notify the indemnifying party, the indemnifying party shall be entitled to participate in, and, to the extent that it wishes, jointly with any other similarly notified indemnifying party, to assume the defense thereof with counsel reasonably satisfactory to the indemnified party. After notice from the indemnifying party to the indemnified party of its election to assume the defense of such claim, action or proceeding, the indemnifying party shall not be liable to the indemnified party under, subsection 5(a) or (b) for any legal or other expenses subsequently incurred by the indemnified party in connection with the defense thereof other than reasonable costs of investigation; however, such indemnified party shall have the right to employ separate counsel in any such action and to participate in the defense thereof, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be the expense of such indemnified party unless (i) the indemnifying party has agreed to pay such fees and expenses, (ii) the indemnifying party shall have failed to assume the defense of such claim, action or proceeding or has failed to employ counsel reasonably satisfactory to such indemnified party in any such claim, action or proceeding, or (iii) the named parties to any such action or proceeding (including any impleaded parties) include both such indemnified party and the indemnifying party, and such indemnified party shall have been advised by counsel that there may be one or more legal defenses available to such indemnified party that are inconsistent or in conflict with those available to the indemnifying party (in which case, if such indemnified party notifies the indemnifying party in writing that it elects to employ separate counsel at the expense of the indemnifying party, the indemnifying party shall not have the right to assume the defense of such action or proceeding on behalf of such indemnified party), it being understood, however, that the indemnifying party shall not, in connection with any one such action or proceeding or separate but substantially similar or related actions or proceedings in the same jurisdiction arising out of the same general allegations or circumstances, be liable for the reasonable fees and expenses of more than one separate firm of attorneys at any time for such indemnified party and any other indemnified parties similarly situated, which firm shall be designated in writing by such indemnified parties. The indemnifying party shall not be liable for any settlement of any such action or proceeding effected without its written consent (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld), but if settled with its written consent, or if there be a final judgment for the plaintiff in any such action or proceeding, the indemnifying party agrees to indemnify and hold harmless such indemnified parties from and against any loss or liability by reason of such settlement or judgment.
- (d) Contribution. If the indemnification provided for in subsection 5(a) or (b) is unavailable or insufficient to hold harmless an indemnified party, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such indemnified party as a result of the losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) or expenses referred to in subsection 5(a) or (b), (i) in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and Sellers on other hand from the sale of the Sellers' Registrable Shares, or (ii) if the allocation provided by clause (i) above is not permitted by applicable law, in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only the relative benefits referred to in clause (i) above but also the relative fault of

the Company on the one hand and Sellers on the other hand in connection with statements or omissions that resulted in such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) or expenses, as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and Sellers on the other hand shall be deemed to be in the same proportion as the total net proceeds from the issuance and sale of such Registrable Shares (before deducting expenses) received by the Company bear to the total compensation or profit (before deducting expenses) received or realized by Sellers of Sellers' Registrable Shares from the resale of such Registrable Shares. The relative fault shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information supplied by the Company or Sellers of Sellers' Registrable Shares and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such untrue statement or omission. The Company and Sellers agree that it would not be just and equitable if contributions pursuant to this subsection 5(d) were to be determined by pro rata allocation or by any other method of allocation that does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to in the first sentence of this subsection 5(d). The amount paid by an indemnified party as a result of the losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) or expenses referred to in the first sentence of this subsection 5(d) shall be deemed to include any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such indemnified party in connection with investigating or defending any claim, action or proceeding (which shall be limited as provided in subsection 5(c) above if the indemnifying party has assumed the defense of any such action in accordance with the provisions thereof) that is the subject of this subsection 5(d). No Person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any Person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party of notice of the commencement of any action or proceeding against such party in respect of which a claim for contribution may be made against an indemnifying party under this subsection 5(d), such indemnified party shall notify the indemnifying party in writing of the commencement thereof if the notice specified in subsection 5(c) above has not been given with respect to such action or proceeding; but the omission so to notify the indemnifying party shall not relieve it from any liability that it may have to any indemnified party under this subsection 5(d) or otherwise, except to the extent the indemnifying party shall have been materially prejudiced by such failure to give notice.

#### Section 6. Miscellaneous.

- (a) *Amendments and Waivers*. No waiver, amendment, modification or supplement of any provision of this Addendum, including this **subsection 6(a)**, shall be valid unless it is approved in writing by the Company and the Sellers' Representative.
- (b) Assignment. Sellers shall not be entitled to assign or transfer any or all of their rights under this Addendum, whether by operation of law or otherwise.
- (c) Termination. The provisions of this Addendum will terminate with respect to a Seller's Registrable Shares, other than the provisions of Section 5 hereof, which will survive any such termination, as to a Seller when he/she ceases to own Registrable Shares.

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## Exhibit 23.1

# **Consent of Independent Certified Public Accountants**

As independent certified public accountants, we hereby consent to the incorporation by reference of our report dated January 19, 2001 on the consolidated financial statements of Brown & Brown, Inc. (the "Company") as of December 31, 2000 and 1999 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2000, incorporated by reference into the Company's Form 10-K and 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2000, into the Company's Form S-3 dated March 30, 2001 for the registration of 180,830 shares of common stock.

/S/ ARTHUR ANDERSEN LLP

Orlando, Florida,

March 27, 2001.

## **EXHIBIT 23.2**

The Board of Directors

Riedman Corporation

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this registration statement on Form S-3 of Brown & Brown, Inc., relative to their registration of 180,830 shares of common stock, of our report dated February 23, 2001, with respect to the balance sheet of Riedman Insurance (a division of Riedman Corporation) as of December 31, 2000, and the related statements of income, stockholders' equity and cash flows for the year then ended, which report appears in the Form 8-K/A of Brown & Brown, Inc. dated March 23, 2001, as amended, and to the reference to our firm under the heading "Experts" in the prospectus.

/S/ KPMG LLP

March 28, 2001

Rochester, New York

### **EXHIBIT 24.1**

### **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

# /S/ SAMUEL P. BELL III

Samuel P. Bell, III

Dated: March 26, 2001

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

### /S/ J. HYATT BROWN

J. Hyatt Brown

Dated: March 26, 2001

### **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

## /S/ BRADLEY CURREY, JR.

Bradley Currey, Jr.

Dated: March 27, 2001

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

### /S/ JIM W. HENDERSON

Jim W. Henderson

Dated: March 26, 2001

## **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

## /S/ THEODORE J. HOEPNER

Theodore J. Hoepner

Dated: March 26, 2001

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

# /S/ DAVID H. HUGHES

David H. Hughes

Dated: March 27, 2001

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for her and in her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as she might or could in

person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

### /S/ TONI JENNINGS

Toni Jennings

Dated: March 28, 2001

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

## /S/ JOHN R. RIEDMAN

John R. Riedman

Dated: March 26, 2001

### **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

## /S/ JAN E. SMITH

Jan E. Smith

Dated: March 27, 2001

## **POWER OF ATTORNEY**

The undersigned constitutes and appoints Laurel L. Grammig and Thomas M. Donegan, Jr., or either of them, as his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign and file a registration statement on Form S-3, and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments), for purposes of registering for re-sale those shares of the common stock of Brown & Brown, Inc. issued in connection with the stock acquisition of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation, which registration statement is to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and

thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

# /S/ CORY T. WALKER

Cory T. Walker

Dated: March 26, 2001

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### CERTIFIED RESOLUTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The undersigned, Laurel L. Grammig, hereby certifies that she is the duly elected, qualified and acting Secretary of Brown & Brown, Inc., a Florida corporation (the "Company"), and that the following resolutions were adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company by unanimous written consent dated as of March 26, 2001:

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has reviewed a draft copy of a registration statement on Form S-3 (the "Registration Statement") for the registration for re-sale of certain shares of the Company's common stock issued pursuant to the Company's acquisition of the outstanding capital stock of WMH, Inc. and Huffman & Associates, Inc., each a Georgia corporation (collectively, the "Acquisition"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that it is in the Company's best interests to sign and file the Registration Statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission, in accordance with the stock purchase agreements effectuating the Acquisition;

THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the March 26, 2001 draft of the Registration Statement submitted to the Directors is hereby approved in form and substance, subject to any revisions, additions, deletions or insertions deemed necessary or appropriate by Laurel L. Grammig, the Company's Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel, and that the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, or either of them, are hereby authorized to sign the Registration Statement and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments) on behalf of the Company, either personally or through a power of attorney, and to cause the Registration Statement and any amendments thereto (including any post-effective amendments) to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appropriate officers of the Company are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions they deem necessary or appropriate, including the payment of any necessary filing fees, to carry out the intent of the foregoing resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Secretary of the Company has executed this Certificate this 30th of March, 2001.

### /S/ LAUREL L. GRAMMIG

Laurel L. Grammig

Secretary

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