



For Immediate Release

PR NEWSWIRE

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**MD JOHNSON, INC. ADVISES MARY BYRNE, MANAGER OF NISSAN OF FIFE, L.L.C. AND FIFE AUTOMOTIVE, L.L.C.,
ON THE SALE OF NISSAN OF FIFE TO LARSON MOTORS, INC.**

Fife, WA Sept 12th, MD Johnson, Inc. announces that Mary Byrne, Manager of Nissan of Fife, L.L.C. and Fife Automotive, L.L.C. (collectively, "Nissan of Fife" herein), has completed the sale of the Nissan of Fife automobile dealership to Larson Motors, Inc. and Robert and Jennifer Larson. Following closing of the transaction, the Fife dealership will retain and operate under the name "Nissan of Fife". MD Johnson, Inc. initiated, structured and executed the transaction on behalf of Nissan of Fife.

Mary Byrne is one of a small and select group of women who are automobile dealers in Washington State. Additionally, Mary is currently the First Vice President and is President Elect of the Washington State Automobile Dealers Association ("WSADA"). Byrne's appointment as President will make her the first woman appointed President of WSADA since it was founded. Following closing of the Fife dealership transaction, Mary expects to continue to maintain a dealership and ownership relationship with Advantage Nissan. Byrne started her career in the automobile business at South Tacoma Jeep in 1990 and worked her way through the various dealership departments before purchasing Nissan of Fife in 1998. Mark Topping, Northwest VP of MD Johnson, Inc. and transaction manager for the Nissan of Fife transaction was the owner of South Tacoma Jeep and Mary's employer and tutor for nine years. Topping commented that "I feel fortunate to be able to assist Mary as she transitions out of Nissan of Fife and into the next stage of her life." As Manager of Nissan of Fife, Byrne initiated the 1998 purchase of the Nissan of Fife dealership from Brad Topping, brother of Mark Topping. Byrne commented that "Mark has been a good friend and mentor, and I am grateful we could work on this project together."

The buyer of the Fife dealership, Larson Motors, Inc. has become a premier consolidator of automobile dealerships in Pierce County in Washington State. Larson Motors, Inc. currently owns and operates Toyota, Scion, Mercedes, Porsche, VW, Audi, Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Hyundai dealerships and now the Nissan of Fife dealership. Robert Larson, President of Larson Motors, Inc., started selling Dodge vehicles at his father's dealership in 1972 and operates Larson Motors, Inc. with sons Rob and Josh, along with his partner and wife, Jennifer. Larson commented that "the acquisition of Nissan of Fife, along with our recent acquisition of the Chrysler franchise in Puyallup, further solidifies our core operating assets in the Tacoma, Puyallup and Fife market." Larson also commented that "the Nissan dealership, which is front and center on Interstate 5, will soon undergo a major remodel, as will a number of our dealerships as we continue our commitment to providing a state-of-the-art retail experience for our customers."

Mark Johnson, President of MD Johnson Inc. stated that "we have been fortunate to have the opportunity where our staff and clients have long, pre-existing relationships and then look to us to assist in crafting exits or acquisitions on their behalf. We take the trust they put in us very seriously".

Laura Weselmann, attorney with Harlowe & Falk LLP in Tacoma, Washington, provided legal services to the seller, Nissan of Fife.

MD Johnson, Inc. provides financial and advisory services with regard to mergers and acquisitions, specializing in advisory services to automobile dealers, dealership management companies and dealership attorneys and CPAs. In addition to standard mergers and acquisitions services, the firm provides detailed valuation, consolidation, succession, strategic planning and transaction management services for its clients. The firm's clients include public and private groups and individual owners located throughout the United States. Previous press releases are archived at WWW.MDJOHNSONINC.COM