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**FORMER ECKERD'S SENIOR EXECUTIVE HIRED TO LEAD
DOUGHERTY'S HOLDINGS, INC.**

March 15, 2005 – Dougherty's Holdings, Inc. announced today that it has hired Ernest H. Zost as its President & Chief Executive Officer. Having previously managed one of Eckerd Corporation's largest regions, Mr. Zost will focus his efforts on the three health-care companies under the Dougherty's Holdings umbrella: Dougherty's Pharmacy, Park Infusion Care and Medicine Man Pharmacies.

"We are fortunate to have attracted such a talented CEO such as Ernie Zost", remarked David E. Bowe, Chairman of Dougherty's Holdings, Inc. Mr. Bowe also said, "Ernie's significant expertise in store operations, customer service and acquisitions will be an invaluable asset to Dougherty's Holdings."

Mr. Zost received his Pharmacy degree from University of Houston in 1973 and then began a distinguished career with the Eckerd Corporation. For the next 31 years, he rose through the ranks to become Group Vice President over Florida, Georgia and Alabama, a position he held from 2001-2004 until Eckerd's was acquired by CVS Corporation. In his most recent position with Eckerd's, he was responsible for over 600 stores, in excess of \$3 billion in revenues and over 5,000 employees.

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Based in Dallas, Dougherty's Holdings, Inc. has annual revenues in excess of \$ 40 million, and operates Dougherty's Pharmacy in Preston Royal Village, Park Infusion Care in Dallas, San Antonio and Houston as well as three Medicine Man Pharmacy stores in the Houston area. Dougherty's Holdings, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ascendant Solutions, Inc., a publicly traded (OTC BB: ASDS.OB), diversified financial services company which has ownership positions in several manufacturing and service companies. It also conducts various real estate activities, performing real estate advisory services for corporate clients and purchasing real estate assets for investment purposes. For additional information, please visit www.ascendantsolutions.com.

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