

Press Release

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Donald A. Sherman Named President and Chief Operating Officer of Delphi Financial Group

Wilmington, Delaware, April 19, 2006 -- Delphi Financial Group, Inc. (NYSE: DFG) announced today that Donald A. Sherman has been named President and Chief Operating Officer, a newly-created position. Mr. Sherman takes over the position of President from Robert Rosenkranz, who remains as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Sherman has served as a director of Delphi since 2002 and will remain on the Company's board.

Mr. Sherman, 55, served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Waterfield Mortgage Company, Inc. since 1999 and as President of Waterfield from 1989 to 1999. Under Mr. Sherman's leadership, Waterfield, a Ft. Wayne, Indiana-based financial institution whose various businesses are currently being sold, grew to become the largest private bank in Indiana and the largest private mortgage origination and servicing businesses in the U.S. Prior to his service at Waterfield, Mr. Sherman served as President of Hyponex Corporation and was previously a partner in the public accounting firm of Coopers and Lybrand.

Robert Rosenkranz, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, said, "Don Sherman has built and managed a highly successful financial institution for the past 17 years and has tremendous overall business experience including capital management, regulatory issues, rating agencies and staffing. He oversaw Waterfield's successful expansion into commercial lending, home equity loans and residential construction lending, all asset classes that may offer considerable potential to enhance Delphi's portfolio yields. As a member of Delphi's board for more than three years, Don has immersed himself in the financial, operational and managerial aspects of our business and has been consistently helpful to our senior management team."

Donald A. Sherman, President and Chief Operating Officer, said, "As a director of Delphi, I have gained valuable insight into our businesses and a tremendous respect for the accomplishments and future potential of the Company. I have known and admired Bob Rosenkranz for over 25 years and am excited to join him and contribute to the future success of Delphi."

Mr. Rosenkranz added, "Delphi has grown rapidly over the past five years, surpassing \$5 billion in assets and \$1 billion in revenues and shareholders' equity. The addition of Don to our management team will help Delphi continue our strong growth. By separating the chief executive officer and chief operating officer roles, we feel we can bring increased focus to both our insurance operations and investments, as well as to larger scale strategic initiatives."

Delphi Financial Group, Inc. is an integrated employee benefit services company. Delphi is a leader in managing all aspects of employee absence to enhance the productivity of its clients and provides the related insurance coverages: group life, long-term and short-term disability, excess workers' compensation for self-insured employers, travel accident and dental. Delphi's asset accumulation business emphasizes individual fixed annuity products. Delphi's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DFG and its corporate website address is www.delphifin.com.

In connection with, and because it desires to take advantage of, the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Delphi cautions readers regarding certain forward-looking statements in the foregoing discussion and in any other statements made by, or on behalf of, Delphi, whether in future filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission or otherwise. Forward-looking statements are statements not based on historical information and which relate to future operations, strategies, financial results, prospects, outlooks or other developments. Some forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of terms such as "expects," "believes," "anticipates," "intends," "judgment," "outlook" or other similar expressions. Forward-looking statements are necessarily based upon estimates and assumptions that are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive and other uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond Delphi's control and many of which, with respect to future business decisions, are subject to change. Examples of such uncertainties and contingencies include, among other important factors, those affecting the insurance industry generally, such as the economic and interest rate environment, federal and state legislative and regulatory developments, including but not limited to changes in financial services, employee benefit and tax laws and regulations, market pricing and competitive trends relating to insurance products and services, acts of terrorism or war, and the availability and cost of reinsurance, and those relating specifically to Delphi's business, such as the level of its insurance premiums and fee income, the claims experience, persistency and other factors affecting the profitability of its insurance products, the performance of its investment portfolio and changes in Delphi's investment strategy, acquisitions of companies or blocks of business, and ratings by major rating organizations of Delphi and its insurance subsidiaries. These uncertainties and contingencies can affect actual results and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by, or on behalf of, Delphi. Delphi disclaims any obligation to update forward-looking information.

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