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News Release

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Scott Carlson to Serve as FLAG Executive Director

ST. PAUL, MINN. — The Board of Directors of the Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc. (FLAG) is delighted to announce the appointment of Scott Carlson as the new FLAG Executive Director. Scott brings a lifelong commitment to family farmers and exceptional legal and managerial credentials to the position. Scott's appointment will assure FLAG's continued success as it moves forward to meet the complex challenges facing family farmers today.

FLAG's search for an Executive Director produced applications from talented professionals across the country, a true indication of the national reputation for excellence that FLAG has earned in almost 30 years of advocacy and education. The Board is grateful to all those who applied and who expressed their support for FLAG's important mission.

Raised on a family farm, Scott brings a deep personal commitment to the job. He has extensive experience in state and federal farm policy, having worked for Sarah Vogel when she served as the North Dakota Commissioner of Agriculture and for U.S. Senator Kent Conrad, serving first as Legislative Assistant for Agriculture, and then as a member of the Senior Professional Staff of the U.S. Senate Budget Committee. Scott is an honors graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School, where he served as Managing Editor of the *Minnesota Law Review*. Scott's nationwide legal practice focused on antitrust, consumer fraud, and other complex litigation for more than 12 years.

The President of the FLAG Board of Directors, Thom Petersen, stated that Scott was selected for his "dedication to family farms, his understanding of the needs of minority farmers, and his vision for

FLAG going forward.” The Board was looking for someone who believed passionately in FLAG’s mission and who possessed the professional skills necessary to guide the organization into the future. “We wanted someone who would recognize the exceptional talent and experience of FLAG’s senior attorneys, someone who would support their work with steady leadership, while also bringing new ideas and new funding opportunities to the table. We are confident that Scott is right for the job.”

As Scott noted, “It has never been more important to preserve family farms and to ensure that farm families have strong advocates for legal, social and economic justice. I will be proud to lead FLAG as the premier organization providing the legal tools that family farmers need to succeed.”

Scott will begin his work with FLAG on May 2, 2016.

Farmers’ Legal Action Group, Inc., is a nonprofit law center dedicated to providing legal services and support to family farmers and their communities in order to help keep family farmers on the land.

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