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**CONTACT:**

Mark McAuliffe  
Chief Executive Officer  
mmcauliffe@apothecarybydesign.com  
207-899-0663

**Apothecary By Design's Retail Business to Continue Growth**

**As Coastal Pharmacy & Wellness**

PORTLAND, Maine, Feb. 8, 2016 — Apothecary By Design, founded as Maine's only independent, integrated pharmacy in 2008, will soon take the next step in its growth by focusing its business on specialty medications and compounding, while selling current retail operations to a local partnership that includes two ABD employees.

Renamed as Coastal Pharmacy & Wellness, the retail business at 84 Marginal Way will be owned and operated by Joe Lorello, a compounding pharmacist and co-founder of ABD; Cassi Brooks, currently the operations manager for ABD's retail and compounding pharmacy; and Stephen Drapeau, who has practiced as a pharmacist for 20 years, most recently in South Portland.

Coastal will continue serving the Portland area as a community retail and compounding pharmacy, nutraceutical provider and coffee shop. From its existing specialty pharmacy at 141 Preble St., ABD will continue providing services regionally and nationally to patients with chronic, complex diseases.

Terms of the sale are not being disclosed, but the transaction is expected to be complete by March.

The sale is also expected to create new opportunities for both businesses and allow each to more closely focus on its distinct markets.

“Selling the retail business to people who have been leading the business is an ideal next step in its evolution. At the same time, the launch of Coastal Pharmacy & Wellness allows ABD to focus resources on new opportunities in the specialty pharmacy market,” said ABD Chief Executive Officer Mark McAuliffe.

“This is an exciting change for all of us, and also ensures that our patients will continue to receive the same personalized care for which the retail and specialty pharmacies have always been known.”

Brooks added: “We welcome this opportunity to continue and build upon the same high-level service and offerings that customers have come to expect.”

A total of more than 100 employees now work at the Marginal Way and Preble Street pharmacies, and McAuliffe said this staffing is expected to remain the same or to increase after Coastal begins operation.

In November 2015, ABD was named the fastest-growing large company in Maine by *Mainebiz* magazine. ABD also has been named for the past two years to the prestigious Inc. 500/5000 list of the country’s fastest-growing private companies, and recently received the Maine Governor’s Award for Business Excellence and the Business at Work for Maine Award from the Finance Authority of Maine.

### **About Apothecary By Design**

Apothecary By Design, a BelHealth Investment Partners portfolio company, is a rapidly growing specialty pharmacy with a high-touch service model and a focus on advocating for patients with chronic diseases. Headquartered in Portland, Maine, ABD provides intensive case management services regionally and nationally to patients who have complex medical conditions, such as infertility, HIV, hepatitis C and multiple sclerosis. With specialty medications typically costing \$3,000 per patient per month, ABD’s staff also assists with insurance authorization and patient benefits, in order to optimize treatment at the lowest possible cost. Through support, education and advocacy, ABD puts patients on a path toward better health and quality of life.

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