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**PRESS RELEASE**



## Brammer Bio Formed Through Merger of Brammer Biopharmaceuticals and Florida Biologix

### Merger Creates Leading Cell and Gene Therapy CDMO *Manufacturing Personalized™*

Lexington, MA and Alachua, FL (USA) – **March 31, 2016** – Brammer Biopharmaceuticals today announces its merger with Florida Biologix to create the best-in-class cell and gene therapy biologics contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO). The merged company, Brammer Bio, will combine deep technical expertise in process development and clinical manufacturing with demonstrated capabilities, operating approaches and the quality standards required for commercial manufacturing. Ampersand Capital Partners, the majority shareholder of Florida Biologix, made an additional investment in the combined company and is the only institutional investor in Brammer Bio.

Brammer Bio is focused on providing clinical and commercial supply of autologous and allogeneic cell therapies, and viral vector products for *in vivo* and *ex vivo* therapeutic applications, along with process and analytical development, and regulatory support enabling large pharma and biotech clients to accelerate the delivery of novel medicines and improve patient health.

Brammer Bio occupies 45,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of process development and phase I/II clinical manufacturing space in Alachua, FL, and is developing a 50,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility in Lexington, MA, with plans to build-out large-scale, phase III/commercial ready viral vector manufacturing suites, segregated cell and gene therapy suites, and QC and analytical laboratories for clinical and commercial launch services.

The management team is led by Mark Bamforth, President and CEO, and Steven Kasok, CFO, who were previously co-founders of Gallus Biopharmaceuticals, and Dr. Richard Snyder, CSO, the founder of Florida Biologix, which was spun out of the University of Florida in 2015.

*“There is a rich pipeline of over 500 cell and gene therapies in the clinic, and many of the large and specialist biotech companies pursuing these promising treatments want to leverage the expertise of a reliable, high-quality CDMO to supply their products for clinical through to commercial use. Brammer has the necessary laboratory and production capabilities and a highly skilled team of scientists with the development, manufacturing, and analytical expertise required to tackle the challenges posed by these novel technologies and help accelerate their transition from the clinic to patients in need. We are Manufacturing Personalized™”* Mark Bamforth, President and CEO, commented.

Brammer Bio, in combination with Florida Biologix, has a 10-year track record of providing development, clinical-phase manufacturing, and testing services, supporting clients with advanced therapeutic products and processes. Brammer intends to double the process development and early-clinical capacity at its Florida location, building on its robust clientele base. Existing and future clients taking their gene and cell therapy projects to phase III and beyond will be supported at the Lexington, MA facility.

*"We recently began exploring options for gaining access to larger-scale manufacturing capabilities. With the deep manufacturing and commercial expertise, knowledge of facility design, and implementation of commercial quality and regulatory systems that Mark and Steven bring to the table, the marriage of Florida Biologix's early client pipeline with Brammer Biopharmaceuticals is a perfect fit."* says Richard O. Snyder, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer for Brammer Bio.

David Anderson, Partner at Ampersand Capital Partners, said, *"Having recently led the spin-out of Florida Biologix from the University of Florida, we are delighted to support this merger with Brammer Bio to create the leading company in its field with the expertise to support clients as their products advance into phase III and towards licensure. The combination of Mark Bamforth and Steven Kasok with Richard Snyder creates a powerful team which will accelerate the growth of the business and expand the capacity to serve clients"*

## **ABOUT BRAMMER BIO, LLC**

Brammer Biopharmaceuticals LLC was founded early in 2015 to create a best-in-class cell and gene therapy contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) to enable large pharma and biotech clients to accelerate the delivery of novel medicines to improve patient health. With the in-depth biologics manufacturing knowledge and expertise of founders Mark Bamforth (CEO) and Steven Kasok (CFO), previously cofounders of Gallus Biopharmaceuticals, now as Brammer Bio, the company is positioned to accelerate the development of these important emerging technologies. The company is building-out a facility in Lexington, MA, to meet the development and manufacturing needs of the cell and gene therapy market. Visit [www.brammerbio.com](http://www.brammerbio.com)

## **ABOUT FLORIDA BIOLOGIX**

Florida Biologix offers a wide range of cGMP-compliant biopharmaceutical development, manufacturing, and analytical testing services. As a CDMO, Florida Biologix has developed a solid track record of manufacturing complex biological drug products for pre-clinical studies and early human clinical trials. Additional information about Florida Biologix is available at [www.floridabiologix.com](http://www.floridabiologix.com)

## **ABOUT AMPERSAND CAPITAL PARTNERS**

Ampersand is a middle market private equity firm with a focus on growth equity investments in the healthcare sector. Over the past two decades, Ampersand has managed more than \$1 billion in private equity partnerships. Ampersand leverages its unique blend of private equity and operating experience to build value and drive superior long-term performance alongside its portfolio company management teams. Additional information about Ampersand is available at [www.ampersandcapital.com](http://www.ampersandcapital.com)

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