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SDR Ventures Advises Vala Secure on Acquisition by Baymark Partners

SDR Ventures is pleased to announce that <u>Vala Secure</u> ("Vala" or "the Company") has been acquired by <u>Baymark Partners</u> ("Baymark"). SDR served as the exclusive <u>sell-side advisor</u> to Vala Secure throughout the transaction process.

Vala Secure was originally founded in 1981 by Henry Garland, who at the time was an IBM mainframe software developer. Over time, the Company transitioned its service offerings, and in 2003, became a cybersecurity and compliance consultancy firm focused on regulations, future threats, and the everchanging security environments. Since 2010, the company has been run by Brad Garland and has grown into the well-run operation it is today. Vala Secure now boasts 100+ clients across multiple states offering services from audits and security tests to Virtual Information Security and Compliance Advisory work. Vala has a strong focus on serving financial institutions (Banks & Credit Unions), but the Company also offers its security and compliance services to clients in the Healthcare, Education, Energy, Legal Services, and other industries.

"My family and I are very thankful for the dedication and professionalism that Mike and his team brought to the M&A process. The SDR team was instrumental in keeping the process on track and navigating our company through the difficulties that arise during a sell-side process. After vetting an array of buyers, Baymark ultimately emerged as the right fit to guide our company toward years of future success," added Brad Garland, CEO of Vala Secure. "As I transition into the next phase of my professional journey, I am confident that Vala, our employees, and our clients will be well positioned for continued growth under the guidance of Baymark."

"It was a pleasure to work with Brad to help him move onto the next chapter of his professional career. The evolution and growth of Vala has been a remarkable journey and I am confident that this next era alongside Baymark will be an exciting one," added Mike Grande, Managing Director at SDR Ventures. "Like any M&A process we faced challenges along the way, but ultimately we were able to find a great partner in Baymark and help Brad and Jenny achieve their transaction goals and enter into their next chapter of life."