



W. Kenneth Butler Named Director of Aaron Rents, Inc

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ATLANTA, Aug. 7 /PRNewswire/ -- W. Kenneth Butler has been named to the Board of Directors of Aaron Rents, Inc. (NYSE: RNT), the nation's leader in the rental, rental purchase and specialty retailing of residential and office furniture, consumer electronics and home appliances. Mr. Butler, 47, is President of the Aaron's Rental Purchase division of Aaron Rents, Inc.

The appointment was announced by R. Charles Loudermilk, Sr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Aaron Rents. "We are very pleased to have Ken Butler join our Board," Mr. Loudermilk said. "He brings the specialized knowledge and insights gained in more than a quarter-century with the Company. Having advanced through the ranks, Ken knows the rental and rental purchase business from the bottom to the top, and we expect him to make important contributions to the Board."

Mr. Butler began his career with Aaron Rents in 1974 as a Store Manager. He advanced to Regional Manager, first in the Washington/Baltimore Region and then in the Western Region, as the Company was then organized. He was named National Merchandising and Sales Manager in 1983, serving until 1986 when he was moved up to Vice President of Aaron's Rental Purchase division. In February, 1995, he was promoted to the newly created position of President of the division.

Under Butler's leadership, Aaron's Rental Purchase has grown to currently more than 410 stores and has become the Company's growth leader. The division has received strong impetus from a franchising program introduced in 1992, and it consistently ranks among the top U.S. franchisers in national surveys.

Aaron Rents, Inc., based in Atlanta, currently has more than 510 Company- operated and franchised stores in 39 states for the rental and sale of residential and office furniture, accessories, consumer electronics and household appliances. The Company manufactures furniture, bedding and accessories at ten facilities in four states.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1993: Statements in this news release regarding Aaron Rents, Inc.'s business which are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal 1999, which discussion is incorporated herein by this reference. SOURCE Aaron Rents, Inc.

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