



Calithera Biosciences Announces Appointment of Sumita Ray as General Counsel

October 3, 2017

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., Oct. 03, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Calithera Biosciences, Inc. (Nasdaq:CALA), a clinical-stage pharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing novel small molecule drugs directed against tumor metabolism and tumor immunology targets for the treatment of cancer, today announced that it has further strengthened its leadership team with the appointment of Sumita Ray as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer.

With more than 17 years of pharmaceutical and biotechnology experience, Ms. Ray brings a breadth of knowledge in FDA regulatory law, global health care law and compliance, brand support, product launches, collaborations and alliances. Prior to joining Calithera, she served as Chief Compliance Officer and Associate General Counsel, Head of Healthcare and Regulatory Law at Pharmacyclics, where she supported the company through the global approval and launch of Imbruvica in multiple indications. Previously, Ms. Ray served as Head of BioNeurology & Regulatory Law Group at Elan Pharmaceuticals, Corporate Counsel, Commercial Law Group at Genentech and Corporate Counsel at AstraZeneca. Ms. Ray started her career as a pharmaceutical and products liability litigator at Montgomery, McCracken, Walker and Rhoads LLP.

Ms. Ray holds a J.D. from Temple University School of Law and a B.S. in Microbiology from the University of Arizona.

About Calithera

Calithera Biosciences, Inc. is a clinical-stage pharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing novel small molecule drugs directed against tumor metabolism and tumor immunology targets for the treatment of cancer. Calithera's lead product candidate, CB-839, is a potent, selective, reversible and orally bioavailable inhibitor of glutaminase. CB-839 takes advantage of the pronounced dependency many cancers have on the nutrient glutamine for growth and survival. It is currently being evaluated in Phase 2 clinical trials in combination with standard of care agents. CB-1158 is a first-in-class immuno-oncology metabolic checkpoint inhibitor targeting arginase, a critical immunosuppressive enzyme responsible for T-cell suppression by myeloid-derived suppressor cells. Arginase depletes arginine, a nutrient that is critical for the activation, growth and survival of the body's cancer-fighting immune cells, known as cytotoxic T-cells. CB-1158 is being developed in collaboration with Incyte Corporation and is currently in a Phase 1 clinical trial. Calithera is headquartered in South San Francisco, California. For more information about Calithera, please visit www.calithera.com.

Forward Looking Statements

Statements contained in this press release regarding matters that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as "may," "will," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "intend," "poised" and similar expressions (as well as other words or expressions referencing future events, conditions, or circumstances) are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements include those related to the timing of Calithera's clinical trials, the clinical and commercial potential of its product candidates, Calithera's ability to fund its clinical programs, and Calithera's receipt of clinical data from its clinical trials. Because such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The potential product candidates that Calithera develops may not progress through clinical development or receive required regulatory approvals within expected timelines or at all. In addition, clinical trials may not confirm any safety, potency or other product characteristics described or assumed in this press release. Such product candidates may not be beneficial to patients or successfully commercialized. The failure to meet expectations with respect to any of the foregoing matters may have a negative effect on Calithera's stock price. Additional information concerning these and other risk factors affecting Calithera's business can be found in Calithera's periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission at www.sec.gov. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and speak only as of the date hereof, and, except as required by law, Calithera disclaims any obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect future events or circumstances.

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Source: Calithera Biosciences, Inc.