

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



### **NAMAD and EFG Companies Announce First Annual Northwood University Scholarship Recipient**

*- Northwood Sophomore, Javante Dilworth Selected Based on Scholastic Merit, Leadership & Fortitude -*

**DALLAS, TX (June 22, 2015) EFG Companies, the innovator behind the award-winning Hyundai Assurance program, together with the National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers (NAMAD), selected Javante Dilworth as the recipient for their Northwood University private donor scholarship.**

The annual NAMAD scholarship will fund the remainder of Dilworth's four-year tuition while he attends the Automotive Management Program at Northwood University, representing an investment of up to \$100,000 from EFG. Dilworth is currently enrolled at Northwood pursuing a bachelor's degree in Automotive Marketing and Management, and will be entering his sophomore year this fall.

"When I first found out that I was the recipient of the NAMAD Scholarship I was amazed and overfilled with joy," said Javante Dilworth, sophomore, Automotive Marketing & Finance, Northwood University. This is really important to me because it opens up opportunities that are not always available. It is truly a great blessing."

Dilworth was raised by his mother in Detroit, Michigan, and was accepted to Northwood based upon academic merit, without family or dealership connections. During his first year of matriculation, his mother was tragically taken from him. This thrust Dilworth into a very adult situation in which he quickly learned how to provide for himself. Throughout the year, he sought out various projects, volunteer opportunities and jobs on campus, including Northwood's 2014 phone-a-thon, where he consistently demonstrated maturity for his age and strong leadership. Despite the challenge of losing his mother and having to support himself, Dilworth maintained a 3.0 GPA.

"The high caliber of the NAMAD scholarship applicants made the selection process very difficult," said Damon Lester, NAMAD President. "However, as his video presentation and letters of recommendation very clearly articulated, Javante embodies what we seek in NAMAD Scholars. He maintained a GPA of 3.0 during his freshman year while supporting himself, he consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic and seeks leadership opportunities, and he clearly can persevere in the face of extreme adversity. All qualities that are necessary for a dealer in today's environment to possess."

"Last year, we brought together NAMAD and Northwood to join us in affecting meaningful progress in one of the most critical industries in America," said John Pappanastos, President and CEO, EFG Companies. "Through the selection and endowment of scholars, such as Javante, we plan to bring diverse ideas and the brightest minds to the table so the industry may achieve maximum potential."

"Javante has been a very positive force on campus, and has served as an excellent role model to his student peers. He has made it clear that he knows how to not only set goals, but to figure out all possible paths to succeed in achieving them," said Keith

Pretty, President and CEO, Northwood University. "We fully expect him to leverage this scholarship as he sets ambitious goals to excel in his future career path."

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### **About The National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers**

The National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers' (NAMAD) objective is to pursue the meaningful presence and participation of minority businesses and diverse employees across all aspects of the automotive economic sector, including:

- Increasing the number of minority-owned dealerships in communities across America.
- Advocating workplace and supplier diversity in the automotive manufacturing environment.
- Supporting minority engagement in the automotive retail sales and service sectors.

We are committed to developing strategic relationships and advocating for the advancement of business policies and practices that ensure diversity and economic parity remain a priority in all aspects of the American automotive industry.

NAMAD is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization headquartered in the Washington, D.C. area. <http://www.namad.org/>

### **About EFG Companies**

With close to 40 years of experience serving as an industry innovator of consumer and vehicle protection programs, EFG Companies is a world-class financial services product administrator committed to the continuous development of innovative products and services with go-to-market strategies and execution support across a multitude of channels. [www.efgcompanies.com](http://www.efgcompanies.com)

### **About Northwood University**

Northwood University is committed to the most personal attention to prepare students for success in their careers and in their communities; it promotes critical thinking skills, personal effectiveness, and the importance of ethics, individual freedom and responsibility.

Private, nonprofit, and accredited, Northwood University specializes in managerial and entrepreneurial education at its full-service, residential campus located in mid-Michigan. Adult Degree Programs are available in six states with many course delivery options including online. The DeVos Graduate School offers accelerated, evening and weekend programming in Michigan and Texas. The Alden B. Dow Center for Creativity and Enterprise provides system-wide expertise in family enterprise, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and new business development. International education is

offered through study abroad and in Program Centers in Switzerland, China (Changchun and Wuxi), Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

<http://www.northwood.edu/>