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Deal will see it expands its reach across a key region



Mergers & Acquisitions

By Ryan Smith

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Sarasota, Fla.-based Purmort & Martin Insurance Agency, one of the area's oldest and largest locally-owned insurance agencies, has announced the acquisition of Tampa-based Lovinger Insurance.

Lovinger Insurance is a property and casualty insurance agency that primarily serves customers in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties.

It will continue to do business under its current name while operating under Purmort & Martin and will retain its employees, including owner Lynne Lovinger (pictured above left), who will stay on as manager of the brand.

"As Purmort & Martin looks to further expand our presence in southwest Florida, Lovinger Insurance was a natural fit for us with its tremendous reputation for excellent customer service in the market and its combination of personal and commercial lines of coverage," said Russ Bobbitt (pictured above right), president and CEO of Purmort & Martin Insurance Agency.

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Lynne Lovinger has more than 25 years of experience in the industry and has run her agency for 20 years.

"Property coverage in Florida, including homeowners' insurance, has been an issue for consumers for some time," Bobbitt said. "Policyholders need an agent and an advocate who has experience with difficult market cycles. Having Lovinger Insurance as a new partner will help position Purmort & Martin as a market leader throughout the Bay Area as we strive to offer a superior experience to clients with the expertise and longevity to guide people through this challenging period."

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