# A. H. BELO CORPORATION

### A. H. Belo Corporation Announces First Quarter 2016 Net Income from Continuing Operations

**DALLAS** - A. H. Belo Corporation (NYSE: AHC) today reported first quarter operating income from continuing operations excluding certain items (adjusted operating income) of \$1.8 million, an increase of \$3.6 million, or 204 percent, over the first quarter of 2015.

In the first quarter of 2016, on a GAAP basis, the net loss attributable to A. H. Belo Corporation (the "Company") was \$ (0.6) million, or \$ (0.03) per share. For the same period in 2015, the Company reported net income attributable to A. H. Belo Corporation of \$0.4 million, or \$0.02 per fully diluted share.

Jim Moroney, chairman, president and Chief Executive Officer, said, "While core print revenues continue to decline, we were highly encouraged that the strong 2015 operating results we experienced continued through the first quarter of 2016. Our performance this quarter highlights our ongoing efforts to diversify our revenue sources, manage-out product lines that can't sustain profitability and closely scrutinize spending."

#### **First Quarter Results from Continuing Operations**

Total revenue was \$62.5 million in the first quarter of 2016, a decrease of \$3.0 million, or 4.5 percent, when compared to the prior year period.

Revenue from advertising and marketing services, including print and digital revenues, was \$35.2 million in the first quarter of 2016, down 4.3 percent from the \$36.8 million reported in the first quarter of 2015, resulting from the decrease in print advertising revenue mostly offset by the increase in digital and marketing services revenue.

Total digital and marketing services revenue increased 23.5 percent to \$11.5 million

primarily due to organic growth in marketing services revenue associated with Speakeasy and DMV Digital Holdings, Inc. ("DMV Holdings"), which was acquired on January 2, 2015. For the first quarter of 2016, total digital and marketing services revenue was 32.7 percent of total advertising and marketing services revenue, reflecting a 730 basis point increase when compared to the 25.4 percent reported in the first quarter of 2015. Total digital advertising and marketing services revenue is approximately 18.5 percent of total revenue, reflecting a 420 basis point increase when compared to the 14.3 percent reported in the first quarter of 2015.

Circulation revenue was \$20.4 million, a decrease of \$0.7 million or 3.3 percent, primarily due to lower home delivery and single copy volumes partially offset by an increase in home delivery subscription rates.

Printing, distribution and other revenue decreased 8.9 percent to \$6.9 million in the first quarter of 2016, primarily due to a decrease of \$0.2 million in commercial printing revenue and a decrease of \$0.4 million resulting from the timing of *Savor*, Dallas' four-day celebration of food, wine and spirits, which, in 2015, occurred in the first quarter. In 2016, the festival occurred in April.

Total consolidated operating expense in the first quarter was \$64.3 million, a decrease of \$6.3 million or 8.9 percent compared to the prior year period, primarily due to a decrease in newsprint, ink and other supplies of \$2.1 million, a decrease in operating expenses related to the 2015 DMV Holdings acquisition of \$0.7 million and a decrease in employee compensation and benefits of \$0.5 million.

The Company's newsprint expense in the first quarter was \$3.2 million, a decrease of 28.3 percent compared to the prior year period. Newsprint consumption declined 15.0 percent to approximately 6,589 metric tons. Compared to the same period in 2015, newsprint cost per metric ton decreased 13.6 percent and the average purchase price per metric ton for newsprint

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decreased 10.3 percent.

## Non-GAAP Financial Measures

A reconciliation of income from continuing operations to adjusted income from continuing operations are included as exhibits to this release.

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#### **Financial Results Conference Call**

A. H. Belo Corporation will conduct a conference call on Monday, May 2, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. CDT to discuss financial results. The conference call will be available via webcast by accessing the Company's website (*www.ahbelo.com/invest*) or by dialing 1-800-230-1074 (USA) or 612-234-9960 (International). A replay line will be available at 1-800-475-6701 (USA) or 320-365-3844 (International) from 11:00 a.m. CDT on May 2, 2016, until 11:59 p.m. CDT on May 9, 2016. The access code for the replay is 391207.

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#### About A. H. Belo Corporation

A. H. Belo Corporation (NYSE: AHC) is a leading local news and information publishing company with commercial printing, distribution and direct mail capabilities, as well as expertise in emerging media and digital marketing. With a continued focus on extending the Company's media platform, A. H. Belo Corporation is able to deliver news and information in innovative ways to a broad spectrum of audiences with diverse interests and lifestyles. For additional information, visit *ahbelo.com* or email

invest@ahbelo.com.

Statements in this communication concerning A. H. Belo Corporation's (the "Company's") business outlook or future economic performance, anticipated profitability, revenues, expenses, dividends, capital expenditures, investments, dispositions, impairments, business initiatives, acquisitions, pension plan contributions and obligations, real estate sales, working capital, future financings and other financial and non-financial items that are not historical facts, are "forward-looking statements" as the term is defined under applicable federal securities laws. Forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those statements. Such risks, trends and uncertainties are, in most instances, beyond our control, and include changes in advertising demand and other economic conditions; consumers' tastes; newsprint prices; program costs; labor relations; technology obsolescence; as well as other risks described in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K and in the Company's other public disclosures and filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Forward-looking statements, which are as of the date of this filing, are not updated to reflect events or circumstances after the date of the statement.

#### A. H. Belo Corporation and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Operations

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
In thousands, except share and per share amounts (unaudited)	2016	2015		
Net Operating Revenue				
Advertising and marketing services	\$ 35,237	\$	36,831	
Circulation	20,352		21,038	
Printing, distribution and other	6,894		7,567	
Total net operating revenue	62,483		65,436	
Operating Costs and Expense				
Employee compensation and benefits	27,017		27,503	
Other production, distribution and operating costs	28,331		31,460	
Newsprint, ink and other supplies	6,058		8,166	
Depreciation	2,632		3,040	
Amortization	226		373	
Total operating costs and expense	64,264		70,542	
Operating loss	 (1,781)		(5,106	
Other Income (Expense), Net				
Loss on equity method investments, net			(414	
Other income, net	 79		109	
Total other income (expense), net	 79		(305	
Loss from Continuing Operations Before Income Taxes	 (1,702)		(5,411	
Income tax benefit	(1,109)		(5,730	
Income (Loss) from Continuing Operations	 (593)		319	
Loss related to the divestiture of discontinued operations, net	 		(12	
Loss from Discontinued Operations, Net	 		(12	
Net Income (Loss)	 (593)		307	
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests	39		(56	
Net Income (Loss) Attributable to A. H. Belo Corporation	\$ (632)	\$	363	
Per Share Basis				
Net income (loss) attributable to A. H. Belo Corporation				
Basic and diluted	\$ (0.03)	\$	0.02	
Weighted average shares outstanding				
Basic	21,514,133		21,770,698	
Diluted	21,514,133		21,845,197	

#### A. H. Belo Corporation and Subsidiaries Consolidated Balance Sheets

		March 31, 2016		December 31, 2015	
In thousands (unaudited)					
Assets					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	74,656	\$	78,380	
Accounts receivable, net		26,355		31,502	
Other current assets		17,069		13,467	
Total current assets		118,080		123,349	
Property, plant and equipment, net		50,822		51,358	
Intangible assets, net		5,552		5,778	
Goodwill		36,883		36,883	
Other assets		4,129		4,133	
Total assets	\$	215,466	\$	221,501	
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$	9,950	\$	12,736	
Accrued compensation and other current liabilities		9,733		11,812	
Advance subscription payments		15,564		14,424	
Total current liabilities		35,247		38,972	
Long-term pension liabilities		56,574		57,446	
Other liabilities		5,579		4,812	
Total liabilities		97,400		101,230	
Noncontrolling interest - redeemable		1,335		1,421	
Total shareholders' equity attributable to A. H. Belo Corporation		115,801		117,781	
Noncontrolling interests		930		1,069	
Total shareholders' equity		116,731		118,850	
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	215,466	\$	221,501	

#### A. H. Belo Corporation - Non-GAAP Financial Measures Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Adjusted Operating Income (Loss)

In thousands (unaudited) Total Net Operating Revenue	Three Months Ended March 31,			
		2016		
	\$	62,483	\$	65,436
Total Operating Costs and Expense		64,264		70,542
Operating Loss		(1,781)		(5,106)
Addback:				
Depreciation		2,632		3,040
Amortization		226		373
Severance expense		742		(55)
Adjusted Operating Income (Loss)	\$	1,819	\$	(1,748)

The Company evaluates adjusted operating income (loss) from continuing operations, calculated by adjusting operating loss for depreciation, amortization, severance expense and pension plan settlement ("Adjusted Operating Income (Loss)"). The Company believes that such expenses and charges are not indicative of normal, ongoing operations and their inclusion in the results makes for more difficult comparisons between years and with peer group companies.

Adjusted Operating Income (Loss) is not a measure of financial performance under generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). Management uses Adjusted Operating Income (Loss) and similar measures in internal analyses as supplemental measures of the Company's financial performance, and for performance comparisons against its peer group of companies. Management uses this non-GAAP financial measure for the purposes of evaluating consolidated company performance. The Company therefore believes that the non-GAAP measure presented provides useful information to investors by allowing them to view the Company's business through the eyes of management and the Board of Directors, facilitating comparison of results across historical periods and providing a focus on the underlying ongoing operating performance of its business. Adjusted Operating Income (Loss) should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for net income from continuing operations, cash flows provided by operating activities or other comparable measures prepared in accordance with GAAP. Additionally, this non-GAAP measure may not be comparable to similarly-titled measures of other companies.