

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALLAN L. SHAW JOINS SYNDAX PHARMACEUTICALS AS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

WALTHAM, Mass., January 20, 2016 – Syndax Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing entinostat in multiple cancer indications, announced today that the Company has appointed Allan L. Shaw as Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary. Mr. Shaw joins Syndax with more than 20 years of experience as a chief financial officer, industry executive and independent board member of public companies.

"We are very pleased to welcome Allan to the Syndax senior management team during an exciting period for the company. His breadth of experience, including corporate finance, capital markets and strategic transactions, will be critical in financing and supporting our business initiatives as we continue to develop our lead candidate entinostat in multiple cancer indications and expand our clinical pipeline," said Briggs W. Morrison, M.D., Chief Executive Officer of Syndax.

"Allan further strengthens our management team, as he brings more than two decades of public company financial, operational and strategic global business leadership to the company," said Michael A. Metzger, President and Chief Operating Officer of Syndax. "In this role, he will be instrumental in working with the investment community to help build the broadest awareness of Syndax and support the growth of our organization."

Mr. Shaw is a three-time public company Chief Financial Officer with proven skills across multiple finance disciplines and he has a broad base of expertise in corporate governance and risk management. Most recently, Mr. Shaw served as a Managing Director of Alvarez & Marsal, a global professional services firm, and led their biopharmaceutical consulting practice. He currently serves on the boards of directors of two public companies, Vivus Inc., and Akari Therapeutics, Plc. Mr. Shaw's previous experience includes serving as the Chief Financial Officer of Serono S.A., NewLead Holdings Ltd. and Viatel, Inc. Mr. Shaw was also the founder and senior managing director of Shaw Strategic Capital LLC, an international financial advisory firm focused on providing strategic financial counsel on a wide variety of issues such as general corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, capital structuring, licensing and capital markets. Mr. Shaw received a B.S. from the State University of New York at Oswego, and is a certified public accountant in the State of New York.

Mr. Shaw added, "Syndax is an exciting, innovative company with tremendous potential and I share its vision to advance effective and safe medicines that address the unmet medical needs of cancer patients. I am looking forward to working closely with the other members of this very talented management team to help maximize entinostat's vast potential and expand our oncology drug pipeline."

About Syndax Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Syndax is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company developing entinostat as a combination therapy in multiple cancer indications with an initial focus on tumors that have shown sensitivity to immunotherapy, including lung cancer, melanoma, ovarian cancer and triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC). Entinostat is an oral, small molecule drug candidate that has direct effects on both cancer cells and immune regulatory cells, potentially enhancing the body's immune response to tumors. Entinostat is being evaluated as a combination therapeutic in Phase 1b/2 clinical trials with Merck & Co., Inc. for non-small cell lung cancer and melanoma, with Genentech, Inc. for TNBC, and with Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and Pfizer Inc. in ovarian cancer. Syndax is also developing entinostat as a combination therapeutic in a Phase 3 clinical trial that is being conducted with ECOG-ACRIN for advanced hormone receptor positive breast cancer. For more information on Syndax please visit www.syndax.com.

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