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[21234001]

Ronald B. Koenig , 55 years old , was named a senior managing director of the Gruntal & Co. brokerage subsidiary of this insurance and financial-services firm .

[21234002]

Mr. Koenig will build the corporate-finance and investment-banking business of Gruntal , which has primarily been a retail-based firm .

[21234003]

He was chairman and co-chief executive officer of Ladenburg , Thalmann & Co. until July , when he was named co-chairman of the investment-banking firm along with Howard L. Blum Jr. , who then became the sole chief executive .

[21234004]

Yesterday , Mr. Blum , 41 , said he was n't aware of plans at Ladenburg to name a co-chairman to succeed Mr. Koenig and said the board would need to approve any appointments or title changes .

[21234005]

Mr. Blum added he was n't surprised Mr. Koenig resigned , but his departure was " nothing that we desired or worked for . "

[21234006]

Mr. Koenig said : " I just got a tremendous offer from Gruntal .