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Failure to repeal Obamacare may doom tax relief, boost gold President's inability to consolidate Republican party, ongoing FBI probe cause for concern

NEW ORLEANS (march 29, 2017) – After a post-election equities march to record highs dubbed by some as "the Trump rally," the new president's failure to deliver on Obamacare repeal and replacement may spell similar doom for his tax reform initiative, says the CEO of America's largest precious metals investment firm, and gold is poised for significant gains if that happens.

"President Trump's tax reform plan has been largely predicated on the savings the federal government would have seen had Congress been able to repeal and replace Obamacare," says Blanchard and Company President and CEO David Beahm. "The stock market rally above 21,000 was largely driven by Wall Street's expectation that corporate tax cuts were a given, but I think those prospects are looking much less certain today."

As the equities markets begin to shed some of the gains they've seen since Trump's election victory, and as political analysts begin to advance the comparison between Watergate in the early 1970s and the FBI's ongoing investigation into the ties between associates with the Trump campaign and Russian hacking into the U.S. election, a new geopolitical uncertainty begins to take shape that will impact the markets even more.

"One of the big historic drivers for the price of gold is risk and global geopolitical uncertainty, and over the last 25 years dating to the first Gulf War, the Middle East has been the hotbed for a lot of that uncertainty," Beahm said. "Now that we have a sitting President in the middle of a growing FBI investigation placing the world's top superpower into a potential storm of geopolitical uncertainty, this could certainly unhinge equities markets and drive gold much higher."

Until there's some clarity that an investigation into the president and his team has concluded and found no wrong doings, the markets are likely to be volatile and risky, but gold should see increased investor demand to hedge stock risk, and the precious metals complex could see strong growth as a result, Beahm said.

About Blanchard and Company

Blanchard and Company, Inc. is the largest and most respected retailer of precious metals and American rare coins in the United States, serving more than 425,000 people with expert consultation and

assistance in the acquisition of numismatic rarities and gold, silver and platinum bullion. Since 2005, Blanchard has had sales of \$2.5 billion. Blanchard and its predecessor companies have called the New Orleans area home for more than 35 years. For more information about the company, visit <u>BlanchardGold.com</u> or call the company toll free at 1-800-880-4653. Follow Blanchard on Twitter at <u>@BlanchardGold</u>.

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