

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**For More Information, Contact:**

Miranda Meyer  
Director of Marketing and Communication  
M.J. Smith and Associates  
5613 DTC Parkway, Suite 650  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111  
Ph. 303-768-0007, ext. 300  
Email: miranda.meyer@raymondjames.com

**FINANCIAL TIMES NAMES MARK J. SMITH TO FT 400 TOP FINANCIAL ADVISERS**

***-- Smith One of Seven Colorado Advisors Named to the List --***

**GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO, April 30, 2017** – The *Financial Times*, one of the world’s leading business news and information organizations, named Mark J. Smith, CFP®, CPA/PFS, CIMA®, president and branch manager of M.J. Smith & Associates, to the 2017 edition of the [Financial Times 400 Top Financial Advisers](#). The list recognizes top advisors at national, independent, regional and bank broker-dealers from across the U.S. This is the fifth annual FT 400 list, produced independently by the *Financial Times* in collaboration with Ignites Research, a subsidiary of the FT that provides business intelligence on asset management.

“I’m pleased and honored to be recognized by the *Financial Times*,” said Smith, who also was recently named to the *Barron’s* list of Top 1,000 Financial Advisors for the tenth consecutive year. “I’m blessed to be supported by an excellent team, and together, we are committed to providing our clients with the highest standard of care, which includes placing their best interests first.”

Financial advisors from across the broker-dealer channel applied for consideration by the *Financial Times*, having met a set of minimum requirements. The applicants were then graded on six criteria: assets under management (AUM); AUM growth rate; experience; advanced industry credentials; online accessibility; and compliance records. There are no fees or other considerations required of advisers who apply for the FT 400.

*-- more --*

According to the *Financial Times*, the “average” advisor on this year’s FT 400 has 27 years of experience and manages \$1.7 billion in assets. The FT 400 advisors hail from 38 states and Washington, D.C.

A boutique-style independent advisory firm registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, M.J. Smith & Associates offers fee-based financial advice based on a fiduciary standard of care with a holistic approach that includes tax planning, investment planning, wealth management, risk management, retirement planning, estate planning and financial management. Smith, a native of Iowa who founded the firm in 1983, leads the firm’s philanthropic efforts and has served on the boards of both the Kempe Foundation for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect and the Salvation Army’s Intermountain Division. In addition, Smith is a member of the Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants (COCPA), where he participated as a board member in 2014-15. With a personal commitment to education, Smith has also funded scholarships at his alma mater, the University of Iowa, as well as at Metropolitan State University, Arapahoe Community College, and Universidad Del Sagrado Corazón in Puerto Rico, where M.J. Smith & Associates maintains a satellite office.

#### **About M.J. Smith and Associates**

With offices in Greenwood Village, Colo., and Dorado, Puerto Rico, M.J. Smith and Associates, an independent Registered Investment Adviser, offers an extensive array of financial services, including investment planning, retirement planning, estate planning and tax planning, as well as insurance and risk management. Founded in 1983 by Mark J. Smith, the firm has more than \$850 million in assets under management and is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. M.J. Smith and Associates offers securities through Raymond James Financial Services Inc., Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through M.J. Smith and Associates. M.J. Smith Associates is not a registered broker/dealer and is independent of Raymond James Financial Services. For more information, visit <http://www.mj-smith.com/>.

###

**Financial Times Top 400 Financial Advisers**

The FT 400 was developed in collaboration with Ignites Research, a subsidiary of the FT that provides specialized content on asset management. To qualify for the list, advisers had to have 10 years of experience and at least \$300 million in assets under management (AUM). The FT then invited a list of just under 1,000 advisers to complete a survey used to obtain more information on the advisers' practices. 400 qualified advisers were then scored on six attributes: AUM, AUM growth rate, compliance record, experience, industry certifications and online accessibility. AUM is the top factor, accounting for roughly 60-70 percent of the applicant's score. Additionally, to provide a diversity of advisers, the FT placed a cap on the number of advisers from any one state that's roughly correlated to the distribution of millionaires across the U.S. The ranking may not be representative of any one client's experience, is not an endorsement, and is not indicative of future performance. Neither Raymond James nor any of its financial advisers pays a fee in exchange for this award/rating. The FT is not affiliated with Raymond James.

**Barron's Top 1,000 Financial Advisers**

Barron's annual ranking of the nation's "Top 1,000 Financial Advisers" (changed to 1200 Advisers in 2014). Winner's Circle, a Barron's research organization, produced the rankings based on data provided by over 4,000 of the nation's most productive advisers. Among the factors considered for the rankings are assets under management, revenue produced for the firm, quality of practice, and philanthropic work. Investment performance is not an explicit component because not all advisers have audited results and because performance figures often are influenced more by clients' risk tolerance than by an advisor's investment picking abilities. The ranking may not be representative of any one client's experience, is not an endorsement, and is not indicative of future performance. Neither Raymond James nor any of its financial advisers pays a fee in exchange for this award/rating. Barron's is not affiliated with Raymond James. Rankings are comprised of wirehouses, independent and RIA advisers; individual advisers not required to be individually registered in FINRA.