

**American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CHETNEY RECEIVES ASPPA 401(k) LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Orlando, Fla. – Feb. 11, 2008 – The American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA) announced that **William R. Chetney** is the recipient of the inaugural **ASPPA 401(k) Leadership Award** for 2008. Chetney is president and chief executive officer of National Retirement Partners, Inc. (NRP) in Capistrano Beach, Calif. The award was presented this week at a special general session of **The ASPPA 401(k) SUMMIT**.

“Bill Chetney was chosen for this award for his longtime commitment to helping investors plan wisely for their retirements,” said Brian Graff, ASPPA executive director and chief operating officer. “Most recently, in his role as head of NRP, he advised a network of retirement plan sponsors and their participants on affecting positive change in the industry,” Graff said. Chetney recently was called one of the few ‘rock stars’ of the 401(k) industry by one news media source, and yet another lists him as one of the true mentors of the select rising stars in the industry.

NRP is a nationwide organization dedicated to the retirement plan market place. Its member firms provide advisory services for more than 3,500 retirement plans with assets in excess of \$35 billion. NRP has more than 100 member firm locations comprised of independent advisors who provide plan consulting, fiduciary best practices, and investment due diligence to retirement plan sponsors and their participants.

The **ASPPA 401(k) Leadership Award** acknowledges a specific accomplishment or contribution by an individual or group of professionals working in the 401(k) industry. Sponsored by **Morningstar, Inc.**, a leading provider of independent investment research, the award recognizes leadership, innovation, and significant influence in the retirement industry. The recipient is selected for directly and positively influencing targeting sales, marketing, and the establishment of 401(k) plans with which Americans can build successful retirements, especially through employer plans.

Congratulations were extended to the two other finalists, **George Fraser**, senior vice president of Wealth Management at Smith Barney, in Phoenix, Ariz.; and **Brian Hubbell**, principal with Hubbell Consulting, LLC, of Charlotte, N.C. They were commended at the special session for their accomplishments.

[E-Photograph available on request.]

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ASPPA is a national organization of more than 6,400 retirement plan professionals who provide consulting and administrative services for qualified retirement plans covering millions of American workers. ASPPA members are retirement professionals of all disciplines including consultants, administrators, actuaries, accountants, and attorneys. The large and broad-based ASPPA membership gives it unusual insight into current practical problems with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and qualified retirement plans with a particular focus on the issues faced by small- to medium-sized employers. ASPPA membership is diverse and united by a common dedication to the private retirement plan system.

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