

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 30, 2010

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ASPPA & Morningstar Accepting Nominations for 401(k) Advisor Award *Award Signifies Excellence in the 401(k) Marketplace*

ARLINGTON, VA, (September 30, 2010) – The American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA) today announced the opening of the nomination window for the [401\(k\) Advisor Leadership Award](#). The award recognizes leadership, innovation, and influence by a leading financial advisor in the 401(k) marketplace.

Sponsored by [Morningstar, Inc.](#), a leading provider of independent investment research, and [ASPPA](#), the leader in retirement education and advocacy— the award reflects the multi-faceted efforts of advisors to serve their clients (plan sponsors and participants), act as a mentor, maintain high ethical standards, and consistently improve their practices and services in the retirement industry.

In its fourth year, the 401(k) Advisor Leadership Award continues to recognize leadership, innovation and contributions to the retirement plan industry regarding the sales, marketing and establishment of 401(k) plans. [Award Recipients](#) are known for going “above and beyond” to exemplify a key pursuit of ASPPA—to directly impact the ability for Americans to build a successful retirement, especially through employer based plans.

Nominations will be accepted until November 15, 2010. Any individual or group of individuals (*Broker Dealer Registered Reps, Registered Investment Advisors, Plan Administrators (TPAs) and Product and Service Professionals*) who are active as financial advisors of 401(k) plans are eligible for nomination. ASPPA membership is not a requirement.

Three finalists will be named in January 2011, and one of these finalists will receive the 401(k) Advisor Leadership Award during a special general session of the tenth annual [ASPPA 401\(k\) SUMMIT](#) in March 2011.

For more information on the [terms and conditions](#) or to submit a [nomination](#)—visit the ASPPA website [here](#).

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The American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA) is a national organization of more than 7,300 retirement plan and benefits professionals that serves as the educator, voice, and advocate for the employer-based retirement system. ASPPA members are administrators, actuaries, advisors, attorneys, accountants, and other financial services professionals who provide consulting and administrative services for qualified retirement plans. www.asppa.org

Morningstar, Inc. is a leading provider of independent investment research in North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. The company offers an extensive line of Internet, software, and print-based products and services for individuals, financial advisors, and institutions. Morningstar provides data on more than 325,000 investment offerings, including stocks, mutual funds, and similar vehicles, along with real-time global market data on more than 4 million equities, indexes, futures, options, commodities, and precious metals, in addition to foreign exchange and Treasury markets. The company has operations in 20 countries and minority ownership positions in companies based in two other countries. www.morningstar.com

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