



GRINKMEYER LEONARD FINANCIAL

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Trent Grinkmeyer and Valerie Leonard of Grinkmeyer Leonard Financial Honored in *Financial Times* 401 Top Retirement Advisers List

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA (September 27, 2018)—Grinkmeyer Leonard Financial, a financial advisory firm in Birmingham, today announces that its Co-founders, **Trent Grinkmeyer**, AIF®, CRPC®, and **Valerie Leonard**, AIF®, CPFA, have been named to the ***Financial Times* 401 Top Retirement Advisers** list for 2018. The fourth annual list, produced independently by the *Financial Times* in collaboration with Ignites Research, was recently published in a special section of the newspaper's U.S. edition, as well as on ft.com.

The *Financial Times* 401 Top Retirement Advisers is an independent listing produced annually by the *Financial Times*. The list is based on data gathered from advisors, regulatory disclosures, and *Financial Times* research. It reflects each advisor's status in seven primary areas: defined contribution (DC) plan assets under management, DC plan business growth rate, specialization in DC business, years of experience, advanced industry credentials, compliance record, and DC plan participation rate.*

"It's a privilege to be honored for helping empower Americans to save and invest for retirement in meaningful ways," said Valerie. "This recognition as a leading 401(k) advisory firm demonstrates our focus on offering best-in-class retirement investments, driving down plan costs, and protecting employers from fiduciary liability." Valerie's commitment as a leader in the financial industry and retirement community has spanned nearly fifteen years and has earned her numerous recognitions throughout the United States. Her mission is to help people be the best they can be and make the most of their financial resources by offering a better and easier way to manage their money and time.

With more than 20 years of experience in the financial industry, Trent works with retirement plan sponsors to improve the 401(k) experience for both the company and the participants. "It's an honor to be recognized as one of the leading 401(k) advisers by the *Financial Times*," said Trent. "Most importantly, this award represents the hard work by our team to help employees of the 401(k) plans that we work with make their retirement dreams a reality."

"Congratulations to Trent and Valerie on being honored on this list," said Wayne Bloom, CEO of Commonwealth Financial Network®, Grinkmeyer Leonard Financial's Registered Investment Adviser–broker/dealer. "To be selected and recognized by

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Trent Grinkmeyer, Valerie Leonard, Jamie Kertis, and Caleb Bagwell are Registered Representatives and Investment Adviser Representatives with/and offer securities and advisory services through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. Fixed insurance products and services offered through Grinkmeyer Leonard Financial, Grinkmeyer Leonard Benefits Group, or CES Insurance Agency. Grinkmeyer Leonard Benefits Group and their leadership consulting services are separate and unrelated to Commonwealth. This communication is not intended to replace the advice of a qualified tax advisor or attorney.

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the *Financial Times* speaks to both Valerie's and Trent's unwavering commitment to their clients' and retirement plan participants' goals, and their desire to continually improve and move the industry forward. We remain committed to providing dedicated one-on-one consulting to support the business objectives and continued growth of Grinkmeyer Leonard Financial."

About Grinkmeyer Leonard Financial

Grinkmeyer Leonard Financial has been providing individuals and organizations with financial guidance since 2007. Located at 1950 Stonegate Drive, Suite 275, Birmingham, AL 35242, and via phone at (205) 970.9088, the firm prides itself on crafting unique strategies for each client. For more information, please visit www.grinkmeyerleonard.com.

About Commonwealth Financial Network

Founded in 1979, Commonwealth Financial Network, member FINRA/SIPC, is the nation's largest privately held Registered Investment Adviser-independent broker/dealer, with headquarters in Waltham, Massachusetts, and San Diego, California. J.D. Power ranks Commonwealth "Highest in Independent Advisor Satisfaction Among Financial Investment Firms, Five Times in a Row." The firm supports approximately 1,800 independent financial advisors nationwide. For more information, please visit www.commonwealth.com.

Trent Grinkmeyer and Valerie Leonard are Registered Representatives and Investment Adviser Representatives with/and offers securities and advisory services through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. Fixed insurance products and services offered through Grinkmeyer Leonard Financial, Grinkmeyer Leonard Benefits Group, or CES Insurance Agency. Grinkmeyer Leonard Benefits Group and their leadership consulting services are separate and unrelated to Commonwealth.

Commonwealth received the highest score in the independent advisor segment of the J.D. Power 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2018 Financial Advisor Satisfaction Studies of customers' satisfaction among financial advisors. Visit jdpower.com/awards.

**670 qualified applicants were nominated, of which 401 were recognized (60 percent of candidates). This honor is not indicative of the advisor's future performance. Your experience may vary. Neither the advisors nor their parent firms pay a fee to the Financial Times in exchange for inclusion in the Financial Times 401. For the full methodology, visit ft.com.*

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