

Kevin Mahoney Named to 2018 Financial Times 401 Top Retirement Advisers

September 27, 2018 – *The Mahoney Group of Raymond James* is pleased to announce that Kevin Mahoney has been named to the 2018 edition of the Financial Times 401 Top Retirement Advisers. The list recognizes the top financial advisers who specialize in serving defined contribution (DC) retirement plans, such as 401(k) and 403(b) plans, across the US.

This is the fourth annual FT 401 list, produced independently by the *Financial Times* in collaboration with Ignites Research, a subsidiary of the FT that provides business intelligence on the asset management industry.

Financial advisers from across the US applied for consideration, having met a set minimum of requirements. The applicants were then graded on seven criteria: DC assets under management; DC plan growth rate; specialization in DC plans; years of experience; advanced industry credentials; participation rate at client DC plans; and compliance record. There are no fees or other considerations required of advisers who apply for the FT 401.

The final FT 401 represents an impressive cohort of elite advisers: the "average" adviser in this year's FT 401 has 20 years of experience advising DC plans and advises \$1.26 billion in DC plan assets. The FT 401 advisers hail from 38 states and Washington, D.C., and DC plans on average account for 81% of their practices' total assets.

The FT 401 is one in a series of rankings of top advisers developed by the FT in partnership with Ignites Research, including the FT 300 (independent RIA firms) and the FT 400 (broker-dealer advisers).

The Financial Times 401 Top Retirement Advisors is an independent listing produced annually by the *Financial Times* (September 2018). The FT 401 is based on data gathered from advisors, regulatory disclosures, and the FT's research. The listing reflects each advisor's status in six primary areas: DC plan assets under management, DC plan growth rate, specialization in DC plans, years of experience, advanced industry credentials, and compliance record. This honor is not indicative of the advisor's future performance. Neither the advisors nor their parent firms pay a fee to the *Financial Times* in exchange for inclusion in the FT 401.

The Mahoney Group of Raymond James

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The Financial Times FT 401 Top Retirement Advisers award had 401 of the 550 advisor applicants being recognized as a Top Retirement Advisor. The FT asked large U.S. brokerages, independent advisors, and other wealth managers to identify qualified Direct Contribution (DC) plan advisor applicants. They partnered in research with Broadridge Financial Solutions who provided data from its proprietary databases that helped identify advisors who specialize in serving DC plans, including 401K, pensions and other DC accounts. Advisor applicants must have 20% or more of their total client assets in DC plans. Qualifying advisors filled out an online application and questionnaire that gave the FT more information about their practices. The FT augmented that information with their own research on the candidates, including data from regulatory filings. The FT generated an internal score for each applicant based on seven broad factors: DC plan assets under management, DC plan AUM growth rate, DC plan growth rate, experience advising DC plans, the advisor's industry certifications (CFP, etc.), compliance record, degree to which advisor specializes in the DC business, and estimated participation rate at client DC plans. Roughly 80 to 85 percent of the final score is based on DC plan AUM and growth in the DC plan business (measured by plan numbers and plan assets). Additionally, to provide a diversity of advisors, the FT places a cap on the number of advisors from any one state that's roughly correlated to the distribution of millionaires across the U.S. Neither the firms nor their employees pay a fee to The Financial Times in exchange for inclusion in the FT 401 list. Inclusion of the FT 401 Top Retirement Adviser list is no guarantee as to future investment success. The award is not representative of any one client's experience, and is not an endorsement, and is not indicative of advisor's future performance. Raymond James is not affiliated with the Financial Times.