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## **MURRAY SMITH NAMED DIRECTOR OF ADVANCED PLANNING**

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA (March 2, 2020) – Murray Smith, CFP®, has joined Ashton Thomas as Director of Advanced Planning. Prior to joining Ashton Thomas, Mr. Smith was a cross-border financial planner with Keats Connelly & Associates of Phoenix, Arizona.

Mr. Smith obtained his Canadian Certified Financial Planner™ (CFP®) designation through FP Canada. He also earned his Certified Financial Planner™ (CFP®) designation in the US, having achieved the marks through the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards' certification process.

He holds a BA in economics from the University of Calgary and a MA in economics from the University of Alberta. Murray began his career as an analyst for the Alberta Treasury's Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund. Prior to entering the financial services industry in Canada, Mr. Smith held various marketing and management positions in the beverage and telecommunications industries.

Mr. Smith is currently a board member and president of the Financial Planning Association® (FPA®) of Greater Phoenix. With 86 chapters nationwide, the FPA® is the association for the financial planning professional in the US.

"Education is the core of sound financial planning," says Murray. "You can't tell anyone what to do. Give people well-thought-out, relevant options so they can make informed decisions."

"We are genuinely delighted about the addition of Murray to the capable team serving our advisors and clients," says firm COO, Pat Foley. "Murray has a wealth of knowledge and experience and brings a sharp eye and keen mind to the advanced planning effort. We're excited to see how the firm's financial planning capabilities grow and expand under his leadership."

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### **About Ashton Thomas Private Wealth**

Ashton Thomas Private Wealth is a diversified financial advisory firm committed to a culture of excellence, integrity and respect in every aspect of its business. Its advisors serve foundations, business entities and affluent individuals and families through fee-based financial planning and investment portfolio management, retirement plan consulting and related financial education programs. The firm also strives to remain at the forefront of technological innovation and thought leadership within the financial services industry.

In late 2019, Ashton Thomas Private Wealth was named one of Citywire RIA's "Future 50" firms. According to Citywire, the list reveals the 50 registered investment advisor firms that best represent their vision of the future of the wealth management community.

Ashton Thomas currently has offices in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Nevada and Utah. The firm has expansion plans for additional markets in 2020.