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ASHTON THOMAS OPENS A THIRD MONTANA OFFICE, ADDS THREE TENURED ADVISORS FROM WELLS FARGO

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA (November 4, 2021) – Ashton Thomas Private Wealth has opened a third office in the state of Montana. Joining the firm's new Helena, Montana, office are:

- Scott Knutson, Managing Wealth Advisor
- Michael J. Wong, CFA®, CPA/PFS, CRSP®, Senior Wealth Advisor
- Martin J. Lewis, Senior Wealth Advisor

Mr. Knutson, Mr. Wong, and Mr. Lewis collectively managed upwards of $1 billion in client investments at their previous firm, Wells Fargo Advisors.

Mr. Knutson joined Wells Fargo predecessor Norwest in 1993 and remained within the Wells Fargo organization until joining Ashton Thomas. He is a graduate of Concordia College in Moorehead, Minnesota, and has been recognized by *Barron's* as one of *America's Top 1,200 Financial Advisors** for eleven consecutive years.

Similarly, Mr. Wong joined Norwest early in his career and remained with the Wells Fargo organization in various roles until joining Ashton Thomas. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Montana State University in 1989, has been a CPA since 1992, and became a Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA®) charterholder in 1999. Mr. Wong obtained his Personal Financial Specialist (PFS™) designation in 2011 through the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA). He is currently a member of the CFA Institute, the CFA Society of Spokane, the American Institute of CPAs, and the Montana Society of CPAs.

Mr. Lewis likewise joined Wells Fargo predecessor Norwest in the late 1980s and remained within the Wells Fargo organization for the duration of his career before joining Ashton Thomas. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Montana State University and obtained a Graduate Trust and Estate Administration Degree in 1997 through the American Bankers Association (ABA) Wealth and Trust Schools program at Northwestern University. Mr. Lewis has been active in numerous civic and professional organizations in the Helena area for much of his professional career.

Mr. Knutson, Mr. Wong, and Mr. Lewis are native Montanans.

Regarding their decision to join Ashton Thomas, Mr. Knutson states, "The firm exemplifies a client-first, service-first approach to this business. It is important that your organization, your culture, and your team are aligned in serving your clients."

“As a native Montanan, I am particularly excited to be opening our third office in the state,” says Ashton Thomas founder and CEO, Aaron Brodt. “The Helena office marks an important turning point in our firm’s growth. Not only are we honored to have these well-regarded, experienced financial professionals join the Ashton Thomas family, but Scott, Michael, and Martin represent the largest and most tenured group of advisors to join Ashton Thomas at one time. We are excited about what this means for the future of our firm as we strive for continued innovation and aim to exceed the expectations of our advisors and the clients they serve.”

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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. The firm is headquartered in Scottsdale, Arizona.

*https://www.barrons.com/advisor/report/top-financial-advisors/