

Mount & Nadler

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNITED CAPITAL FINANCIAL PARTNERS BUYS FOUR ADVISORY FIRMS

ACQUISITIONS BRING TOTAL CLIENT ASSETS TO OVER \$8 BILLION

Newport Beach, CA -- United Capital Financial Partners Inc., a national wealth management firm, announces the purchase of four advisory firms, bringing client assets to over \$8 billion in less than three years of operating history.

The four firms are:

- The PFE Group, based in suburban Boston and one of the country's preeminent corporate advisory firms, led by Wayne Bogosian.
- Spectrum Assets, Inc., an independent investment advisory firm of Boca Raton, FL, led by Clive Cholerton.
- Park Cities Financial Group, in Dallas, brokerage and investment advisory firm, led by Fred Deaton, III.
- Sapient Wealth Management, a high net worth practice in Stamford, CT, led by Thomas Garvey.

According to Joe Duran, United Capital's CEO, "Since we buy 100% of our partner firm's assets, the advisers are active participants in building a major national institution. They join us in creating the value at the local level and we all share in the equity of our national firm. Our advisers share a common client-first philosophy and a desire to create an exceptional workplace for our employees.

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“We are extremely selective buyers. All four firms are well respected in their communities and we are proud that they are now a part of United Capital. We enable them to focus on their core strength – client relationships and oversight - while we absorb Accounting, HR, Compliance and Technology functions centrally. We also significantly enhance investment management resources and help our advisers to provide *life-relevant* advice to their clients, which lets them know exactly where they stand independent of what the market is doing.”

With the addition of PFE Group, United Capital adds one of the nation’s preeminent 401(k) and pension advisory firms, including Fortune 500 clients. PFE’s Wayne Bogosian commented that, “The opportunity to become one of the newest partners in the United Capital group was appealing on several fronts. We recognized that United Capital is not simply accumulating assets, but rather significantly and meaningfully creating scale in the operating structures of its partner firms. Our institutional advisory experience combined with the national network of United Capital wealth advisers enhances what was already a dynamic company.”

“As the nation’s only transformational acquirer, if we do not feel that we can help to enhance the firms we buy then we will not partner with them.” Adds Duran, “We are creating a national firm with consistency throughout – we are not a roll-up firm. This is a unified national group of wealth management firms: one vision, one culture, one company.”

United Capital is comprised of 14 office locations around the country, with 96 employees.

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