



THE VIEW ACROSS THE SILOS

## The Retirement Income Industry Association Congratulates New Graduates Earning the Retirement Management Analyst<sup>SM</sup> Designation

Boston, MA (November 4, 2010) The Retirement Income Industry Association (RIIA) congratulates the graduates who recently received the new Retirement Management Analyst<sup>SM</sup> designation, also known as the RMA<sup>SM</sup> designation. This title represents achieving proficiency in advanced education curriculum in retirement income planning and management.

The graduating class of Fall 2010 are:

- Craig Adamson, President, Adamson Financial Planning
- Michael E. Callahan, SFPA, EA, CPC, President, Callahan Retirement Planning Services, Inc.
- Frederick R. Fadel, CFP, Managing Member, Willink Asset Management, LLC.
- Paul Fichera, Principal, F-Factor Financial
- Christopher Grande, Principal, Walnut Hill Advisors, LLC.
- Alex Kimura, Financial Planner, Financial Network
- Dan McGrath, Vice President-Institutional Business Development, Healthview Services
- Tom Mckenna, Vice President-Institutional Business Development, Healthview Services
- Ryan Parker, Director, Russell Investment Group
- Carl Robinson, Regional Vice President, FundQuest
- Stephen Thunen, Co-President, Life Sales, LLC.
- Douglas P. Woods, Bennington Asset Management, Inc.
- Steven Schwartz, President, Wealth Design Services

According to Francois Gadenne, RIIA's Executive Director and Chairman of the Board, the collapse of the economy and financial markets in 2008 made it clear that traditional investment planning was not working and was, in fact, putting millions of Americans' retirement security at risk. The RIIA leadership group saw right away that there was a compelling need for a more comprehensive approach to retirement income management which is how the RMA<sup>SM</sup> certification came into being. The RMA<sup>SM</sup> curriculum is not only challenging, but encompasses continuing education to address ongoing additions to the Retirement Income Body of Knowledge.

"The goal of this designation is to help financial advisors gain the specialized skills and knowledge they need to achieve the highest level of success in providing retirement income solutions to their clients," explains Stephen Mitchell, RIIA's Chief Operating Office and a key leader in developing the RMA<sup>SM</sup> program.

### **About the Retirement Management Analyst<sup>SM</sup> Designation**

To earn an RMA<sup>SM</sup> designation, a financial advisor or other professional must complete a rigorous educational and ethics training curriculum. The first two cohorts of RMA<sup>SM</sup>

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graduates who passed the exam participated in a RIIA-led book and online self-study program along with an instructor-driven review session. Starting on October 25, 2010, all new RMA<sup>SM</sup> certificate-holders must pass a RIIA Approved Education Program such as the [Retirement Management Program](#) at Boston University's Center for Professional Education as well as successfully past the written exam. The specialized RMA<sup>SM</sup> curriculum focuses on:

1. **Building the Retirement Plan to Mitigate Risks:** The objective is to learn to create complete plans for retirement income that first build an income “floor” for the client and provide appropriate exposure to upside potential, based on each client’s unique goals and circumstances.
2. **Mastering the Advisory Process:** Using a powerful yet easily explainable “hub and spoke” approach, the client household is at the center of the RMA<sup>SM</sup> Advisory Process. The process starts with the household balance sheet including a review of human capital, social capital and financial capital. It moves to the household annual budget, assesses risks over the household life-cycle, calculates the portion of financial capital that should go to creating the retirement income “floor”, allocates the portfolio among risk management techniques, and maps the results into matching appropriate product solutions.

For more information about the RMA<sup>SM</sup> designation, criteria, and requirements, please visit the RIIA website, [www.riia-usa.org](http://www.riia-usa.org).

### **About the Retirement Income Industry Association**

*The Retirement Income Industry Association (RIIA) was founded in 2006 by leading financial services companies, advisors and academics who wanted a focused approach to retirement income with a broad view across the financial services industry to address the major challenge facing an entire generation of Americans about how to create durable, inflation-adjusted retirement income that can last 30 years or more in retirement. A not-for-profit organization with national and international members, RIIA strives to address issues encompassing a dramatically changing and dynamic retirement income landscape. Its mission is to bring the retirement income industry (commercially, academically and through affiliated associations) together with a “View Across the Silos<sup>SM</sup>” to create a forum for sharing the freshest outlooks, the most modern thinking, the latest research and education, and the newest advances in product development within the realm of retirement income.*

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