BERNHARDT WEALTH MANAGEMENT

A Registered Investment Advisory Firm

NEWS

For Immediate Release

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Gordon Bernhardt named a 2012 Five Star Wealth Manager Award in D.C. Area

McLean, VA (January 11, 2012) – Gordon Bernhardt, CPA, PFS, CFP®, AIF®, founder and president of Bernhardt Wealth Management, has been named a 2012 Five Star Wealth Manager Award recipient in the Washington D.C. area, by Five Star Professional.

"The Bernhardt Wealth Management team and I are truly honored to be named among such a prominent list of well-respected wealth managers," said Gordon J. Bernhardt. "It is our commitment to building long-term relationships based on ethics, service and trust that has allowed us to continue helping a growing number of people make better decisions about their money and their lives."

Five Star Professional has named the Washington D.C. area recipients of the 2012 Five Star Wealth Manager award. The award winners, including Gordon Bernhardt, appear in a special section in the January issue of D.C. Modern Luxury Magazine.

Five Star Professional partnered with D.C. Modern Luxury Magazine to conduct research to identify a select group of wealth managers who are exceptional in both their ability and their commitment to overall satisfaction. The research team contacted FINRA registered reps, previous Five Star Award winners, broker-dealers, and investment advisor reps in the area and asked them to nominate a wealth manager that provides exceptional service to their clients.

In the final step of regulatory and complaint history review, 50,000 consumers are contacted. Each nominee is evaluated against 10 criteria. There are 17,100 licensed wealth managers in the area. A total of 449 wealth managers were nominated; only 101 were recognized after the evaluations, which is less than one percent of all wealth managers in the Washington D.C. area.

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About Gordon Bernhardt

President and founder of Bernhardt Wealth Management, Gordon Bernhardt is focused on providing high-quality service and independent financial advice to his clients. He specializes in addressing the unique needs of successful professionals, entrepreneurs and retirees, as well as women in transition.

Gordon recognizes that while fulfilling work is important, the greatest rewards come from living a well-rounded life. For that reason, he strives to relieve his clients of their financial anxieties, so that they can pursue their dreams.

Having grown up in a Nebraska farming community, Gordon left the Midwest in the early 80s for his first job as assistant to a U.S. House Representative in Washington, D.C., followed by a position for the U.S. Senate Finance Committee. On entering the financial industry, Gordon worked for Price Waterhouse (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) and then spent three years in the corporate accounting world. Next, he worked for Acacia and American Express Financial Advisors (now Ameriprise) before starting his firm in 1994.

Gordon holds a degree in commerce from the University of Virginia. He is a Certified Public Accountant and Personal Financial Specialist. Committed to a higher fiduciary standard of excellence, he has earned the professional designations of CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNERTM professional and Accredited Investment Fiduciary®.

About Bernhardt Wealth Management

Bernhardt Wealth Management was established in 1994 by Gordon J. Bernhardt, CPA, PFS, CFP®, AIF®. The firm provides financial planning and wealth management services to affluent individuals, families and business-owners throughout the Washington, DC area. The Bernhardt team is focused on providing high-quality service and independent financial advice to help clients make informed decisions about their money. For more information, visit <u>bernhardtwealth.com</u> or <u>gordon-bernhardt.blogspot.com</u>.

Disclosure:

Five Star Wealth Managers do not pay a fee to be included in the research or the final list of Five Star Wealth Managers.

Only wealth managers with more than five years of experience in the financial services industry are considered.

The overall evaluation score of a wealth manager reflects an average of all respondents and may not be representative of any one client's experience.

The Five Star award is not indicative of the wealth manager's future performance.

Wealth managers may or may not use discretion in their practice and therefore may not manage their client's assets.

The inclusion of a wealth manager on the Five Star Wealth Manager list should not be construed as an endorsement of the wealth manager by Five Star Professional.

Please keep in mind that working with a Five Star Wealth Manager is no guarantee as to the future investment success nor is there any guarantee that the selected wealth managers will be awarded this accomplishment in the future. For more information on the Five Star Award and the research/selection methodology, go to: fivestarprofessional.com.

<u>Disclosure Statement:</u> Past results are not indicative of future results. Bernhardt Wealth Management, Inc. (BWM) is a registered investment advisor with the Securities & Exchange Commission. BWM may only transact business or render personalized investment advice in those states and international jurisdictions where we are registered/filed notice or otherwise excluded or exempted from registration requirements. Any communications with prospective clients residing in states or international jurisdictions where BWM and its advisory affiliates are not registered or licensed shall be limited so as not to trigger registration or licensing requirements.

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