

Creative Planning Acquires The Johnston Group

Creative Planning Enters the Acquisition Market

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OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS, February 25, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Creative Planning LLC. ("Creative Planning"), one of the nation's largest Registered Investment Advisers (RIA), today announced the acquisition of The Johnston Group ("TJG"), a RIA firm located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. TJG provides financial planning and investment management services to investors nationwide with concentration in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

TJG has more than \$500 million of Assets Under Management (AUM) and is owned and operated by Brad Johnston.

Peter Mallouk, President of Creative Planning, said, "We are excited to be joining forces with Brad and The Johnston Group team. Their comprehensive approach to financial planning, coupled with a long-term investment focus, fits in perfectly with our overall offering."

"We are thrilled to become part of this first-class organization and look forward to this exciting transition," said Brad Johnston, principal of TJG. "In looking for a platform to expand our client services, nothing was more important to me than finding a firm that shared our overall values and intimate, comprehensive approach to client service. Creative Planning's fiduciary commitment to clients perfectly aligns with our firm's service model and this transition only enhances our ability to deliver exceptional client service. We believe Creative Planning offers the most unique financial planning platform in the country and their firm continues to set the bar for excellence in the financial services industry."

Peter Mallouk, President of Creative Planning, said, "In the past we have grown organically. The Johnston Group has an excellent offering, and has also shown us that we have built a firm that has the opportunity, with the right partners, to set the standard for independent wealth management across the country. It's clear there are like-minded firms that can fit right into our model as we continue bringing fiduciary advice to Americans from coast to coast."

About Creative Planning

Established in 1983, Creative Planning is an independent wealth management firm that provides a financial planning led investment management approach, retirement planning, estate planning, trust services, tax advice and family office services for individuals as well as 401(k) and institutional money management. Creative Planning manages approximately 38 billion in assets for individuals and families in all 50 states.

Data as of February 25th, 2019.

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