- \*Forbes: The Forbes ranking of Best-In-State Wealth Advisors, developed by SHOOK Research, is based on an algorithm of qualitative criteria, mostly gained through telephone and in-person due diligence interviews, and quantitative data. Those advisors that are considered have a minimum of seven years of experience, and the algorithm weighs factors like revenue trends, assets under management, compliance records, industry experience and those that encompass best practices in their practices and approach to working with clients. Portfolio performance is not a criterion due to varying client objectives and lack of audited data. Out of approximately 34,925 nominations, more than 6,500 advisors received the award. This ranking is not indicative of an advisor's future performance, is not an endorsement, and may not be representative of individual clients' experience. Neither Stephens Wealth Management nor any of its Financial Advisors or RIA firms pay a fee in exchange for this award/rating. Stephens Wealth Management Group is not affiliated with Forbes or Shook Research, LLC. Please visit https://www.forbes.com/best-in-state-wealth-advisors for more info.
- \*\* Forbes: The Forbes ranking of America's Top Women Wealth Advisors, developed by SHOOK Research, is based on an algorithm of qualitative data, learned through surveys and interviews conducting in-person, by telephone and virtually to evaluate best practices, level of service, investing models and compliance records as well as quantitative data, such as revenue trends and assets under management. All advisors have a minimum of seven years of experience. Portfolio performance is not a criteria due to varying client objectives and lack of audited data. Research Summary (as of February 2022): 34,500 nominations were received based on thresholds (9,850 women) and 1,377 won. This ranking is not indicative of advisor's future performance, is not an endorsement, and may not be representative of individual clients' experience. Neither Forbes nor SHOOK receive a fee in exchange for rankings. Stephens Wealth Management Group is not affiliated with Forbes or Shook Research, LLC. Please visit https://www.forbes.com/top-women-advisors for more information. These rankings may not be representative of any one client's experience, are not an endorsement, and are not indicative of advisor's future performance. Portfolio performance is not a criteria due to varying client objectives and lack of audited data. No fees are paid in exchange for these awards/ratings. Stephens Wealth Management Group is not affiliated with Forbes, Shook Research, or Barron's.
- \*\*\* Forbes: The ranking, developed by our partner Shook Research, is based on in-person and telephone due-diligence meetings and a ranking algorithm for advisors who have a minimum of seven years of experience. We consider client retention, industry experience, compliance records and firm nominations as well as quantitative criteria such as assets under management and revenue generated for their firms. For the full list and more, see <a href="https://www.forbes.com/top-wealth-advisors">www.forbes.com/top-wealth-advisors</a>.
- 1 Advisors are judged on individual contribution, but total team assets are shown; in some cases significant, noncustodied assets are not included because of verification difficulties.
- 2 Minimum account sizes are general, since they can vary depending on a range of circumstances.
- \*\*\*\* Financial Times 400 list: like the previous four, is aimed at investors such as FT readers who use financial advisers. The FT, therefore, assesses financial advisers based on what investors care about. The methodology is quantifiable and objective. In autumn 2016, the FT contacted the largest US brokerages to ask for practice information and data for their top advisers across the US.

In doing so, we could obtain verified data on assets under management instead of relying on selfreporting by the advisers themselves. We asked for information on advisers with more than 10 years' experience and that had more than \$300m in assets under management. Such minimum criteria filtered out most advisers. The FT then invited qualifying advisers out of this group — a list which totaled roughly 800 — to complete a short questionnaire that gave us more information about their practices. We added that information to our own research on the candidates, including data from regulatory filings. The formula the FT uses to grade advisers is based on six broad factors and calculates a numeric score for each adviser: 1. Assets under management can signal experience managing money and client trust. 2. AUM growth rate (we look at both one-year and two-year growth rates) can be taken as a proxy for performance, asset retention and ability to generate new business. 3. Years of experience indicates experience managing assets in different economic and interest-rate environments. 4. Compliance record provides evidence of past client disputes. A string of complaints could signal problems. 5. Industry certifications (CFA, CFP, etc.) demonstrate technical and industry knowledge and obtaining these designations shows a professional commitment to investment skills. 6. Online accessibility illustrates commitment to providing investors with easy access and transparent contact information. Assets under management accounted for an average of 66 per cent of each adviser's score. Additionally, the FT places a cap on the number of advisers from any one state that roughly corresponds to the distribution of millionaires across the US. We present the FT 400 as an elite group, not a competitive ranking. We acknowledge that ranking the industry's top advisers from 1 to 400 would be a futile exercise, since each takes different approaches to their practice and has different specializations. The research was conducted on behalf of the Financial Times by Ignites Research, a Financial Times sister publication.

\*\*\*\*\* Barron's: "Top 100 Women Financial Advisors," 2016, 2017. Barron's is a registered trademark of Dow Jones & Company, L.P. All rights reserved. The rankings are based on data provided by over 4,000 individual advisors and their firms and include qualitative and quantitative criteria. Data points that relate to quality of practice include professionals with a minimum of 7 years financial services experience, acceptable compliance records (no criminal U4 issues), client retention reports, charitable and philanthropic work, quality of practice, designations held, offering services beyond investments offered including estates and trusts, and more. Financial Advisors are quantitatively rated based on varying types of revenues produced and assets under management by the financial professional, with weightings associated for each. Investment performance is not an explicit component because not all advisors have audited results and because performance figures often are influenced more by clients' risk tolerance than by an advisor's investment picking abilities. The ranking may not be representative of any one client's experience, is not an endorsement, and is not indicative of advisor's future performance. Neither Stephens Wealth Management Group nor any of its Financial Advisors pay a fee in exchange for this award/ rating. Barron'sis not affiliated with Stephens Wealth Management Group.