

# Disclosures: Awards and Recognitions Granted to The Colony Group and Its Professionals

Awards and recognitions by unaffiliated rating services, companies, and/or publications should not be construed by a client or prospective client as a guarantee that he/she will experience a certain level of results if The Colony Group ("Colony") is engaged, or continues to be engaged, to provide investment advisory services; nor should they be construed as a current or past endorsement of Colony or its representatives by any of its clients. Rankings published by magazines and others are generally based exclusively on information prepared and/or submitted by the recognized advisor. Moreover, with regard to all performance information contained herein, directly or indirectly, if any, users should note that past results are not indicative of future results. Please see below for a more detailed description of the criteria used with respect to the awards and recognitions granted to Colony and, as indicated below, its individual employees.

**Barron's criteria:** *The Barron's Top 100* list included Colony's CEO for 2007 and 2009-2017, and the President of Mintz Levin Financial Advisors (MLFA) for 2007-2011, who, after MLFA merged into Colony in 2012, was included in the list for 2013-2015 while serving as Colony's Vice-Chair. Colony's CEO was ranked first among Massachusetts-based advisors in 2009, 2013, and 2016. Advisor's assets under management, contribution to the firm's revenues and profits, and quality of service. Billboard's

**Billboard criteria:** Top Business Managers for 2021 are selected by Billboard's editors based on factors including, but not limited to, nominations by peers, colleagues and superiors. In addition to nominations, editors weigh the success of each executive's company or affiliated artists as measured by chart, sales, and streaming performance. Shane Glass was featured on the list.

**Crain's New York's "40 under 40" criteria:** Individuals must be no older than 39 years and are evaluated by Crain's editors and reporters on professional success, community service, participation in trade groups. The Crain's list included Colony's Managing Director of the NY Metro Offices in 1992, while an accountant at Ernst & Young.

**Financial Planning Association ("FPA") criteria:** Nomination by a FPA member, chapter leader, employee, associated professional, etc. of a financial professional who embodies FPA's core values of integrity, competence, dedication to relationship building, and stewardship. MLFA's President was one of the recipients of the award for 2011.

**Five Star Professional criteria:** Credentialed as an IAR, FINRA-registered rep, a CPA, or a licensed attorney; at least five years in the financial services industry; favorable regulatory and complaint history review; meeting firm's review standards; accepting new clients; one and five-year retention rates; assets administered; number of households served; and education and professional designations. Advisors awarded: nine Wealth Advisors for 2015; nineteen Wealth Advisors for 2016; twenty-two Wealth Advisors for 2017; and twenty-two Wealth Advisors for 2018, seventeen advisors in 2019, and twenty advisors in 2020.

**Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisors criteria:** Based on an algorithm of qualitative criteria, mostly gained through telephone and in-person due diligence interviews, and quantitative data, including years of experience, revenue trends, AUM, compliance records, client retention, best practices, and approach to working with clients. The following advisors received this recognition in 2020: Richard Steinberg, Ron Rubin, Craig Jones, Jeremy Kuhlen, and Max Haspel. Ron Rubin's 2018 recognition was based on information submitted by Bridgewater Wealth & Financial Management prior to its merger into The Colony Group on January 1, 2018.

**Invest in Others criteria:** Nominations are evaluated based on an advisor's leadership, dedication, contribution, inspiration and impact on a nonprofit and the community it serves.

**InvestmentNews criteria:** *Women to Watch* - Demonstrated success and leadership in the financial advisory industry; proven ability or power to effect change in the industry; exhibited willingness to share her expertise with others in the field, including by serving as a mentor or role model to other female professionals in the industry and speaking at industry events; and has given back to her community through activities such as sitting on boards, volunteering and donating time to help investors. *40 Under 40* - The men and women chosen as the 40 Under 40 honorees were selected from a pool of 1,000 nominees based on their level of accomplishment, contribution to the financial advice industry and leadership. They serve as role models for other young professionals.

**New York State Society of CPA's Outstanding CPA in Industry Award criteria:** Nomination by a society member of a CPA financial executive with a record of outstanding professional achievement in a private business or industry. Colony's Managing Director of the NY Metro Offices received the recognition in 2006, while serving as President of Prosper Advisors.

**Reuters AdvicePoint Top Advisers Under 40 criteria:** Colony's Managing Director of the Long Island Office received the recognition in 2008. Individual must be under 40 years and are evaluated by Reuters based on quantitative criteria including assets under management and client net worth.

**Super Lawyers criteria:** Candidates are evaluated on 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Selections are made on an annual, state-by-state basis. The list included Colony's CEO from 2004-2009.

**The Hollywood Reporter's Power Business Managers criteria:** The Power Business Managers are selected based on a variety of factors including recommendations from others in the entertainment industry and independent research. Shane Glass was featured on the list.

**Variety Business Managers Elite criteria:** Variety profiles business managers who work with individuals in the entertainment industry. The profiles are based on information submitted by the business managers, including information the manager chooses to share regarding its clients and the background of the manager's employees (name, title, number of years in the business, etc.). Shane Glass, Paul Glass, Pam Malek, and Amir Malek were featured on the lists from 2017 through 2020. Their recognition in 2017 and 2019 was based on information submitted by Glass Malek LLP prior to its merger into The Colony Group on October 1, 2019.

**Washington Business Journal criteria:** Bridgewater Wealth & Financial Management received the 2017 award prior to its merger into Colony. DC regional office was selected based on meeting the criteria for business location and size, and employee participation in a survey measured by Quantum Workplace. The survey evaluated things like team effectiveness, retention, employee alignment with company goals, trust in leadership, work engagement, and individual needs.

**Washingtonian Top Financial Advisers criteria:** A combination of surveys sent to recipients in the Washington, D.C.-area financial industry and the Washingtonian's own research. Award recipients were primarily chosen based on the strength of recommendations gathered from the surveys. Ron Rubin was recognized from 2016 to 2019, and Shellie Kurek Peters were recognized in 2019.

**Worth criteria:** Individual advisor's expertise, integrity, and dedication to the field of wealth management; portfolio management strategies; risk analysis; client service initiatives; and the educational and professional credentials of advisors. The Worth list included Colony's CEO for 2008, MLFA's President for 1999- 2003, and MLFA's Executive VP for 1999, 2001-2002, and 2008.