

#### The Mark of Mastery

FOR FINANCIAL ADVISORS

#### By Financial Advisor Mark McKenna Little

## Reset





#### The Mark of Mastery<sup>TM</sup>

- **Resolve:** What <u>standard</u> of client service do you REALLY want?
- ✓ Execute: Implement your standard w/ systems & people.
  - Leadership: Hold everyone accountable to your <u>standard</u>.

## Resolve



### 1. Resolve to set the Standard: **Consistently Exceed Expectations?**





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#### Are you really committed to serving your **Ideal Clients at the** highest level?



### OR



#### Are you really really really really committed to serving **your Ideal Clients at the** highest level?



#### Which do you want?

# The Minimum Required Or The Maximum Achieved



#### These Are 2 Completely **Different** Business Models



Achieve Maximum Service Level



What's The Minimum Required?



# So, Resolve which client service level you want?

Different efforts are required



#### Clients wonder what differentiates you from other Advisors





Positively Outrageous Customer Service Model

Great inventory, convenient hours, reactive service model



#### Clients wonder what differentiates you from other Advisors





**RADICALLY different** & better

**NOT** perceived as different



#### My Advice Your survival depends on being different & better

# Execute The Standard



### 2. Be Indispensable: This decision is HARD to execute!



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### My Decision: Unsolicited client referrals





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### Systems & Processes **Put your money** where your mouth is





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### **EXAMPLES** of Systems, Processes & People designed to exceed expectations



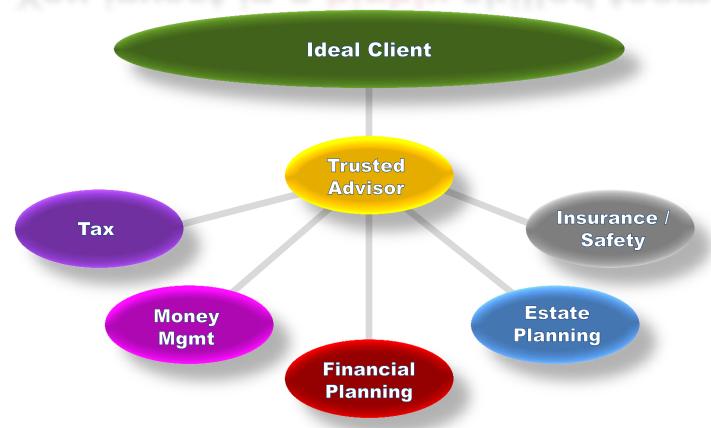
#### A Strict Ideal **Client Profile Establishing firm standards** differentiates you

## You Develop a Deep Internal Bench

You have an outstanding team of extraordinary professionals



#### You invest in a highly skilled team



## You Orchestrate Everything

Your role is to make sure everything gets done ....not to create the plan or manage the money









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## Proactive not reactive

A client meeting cycle designed to stay ahead of issues.



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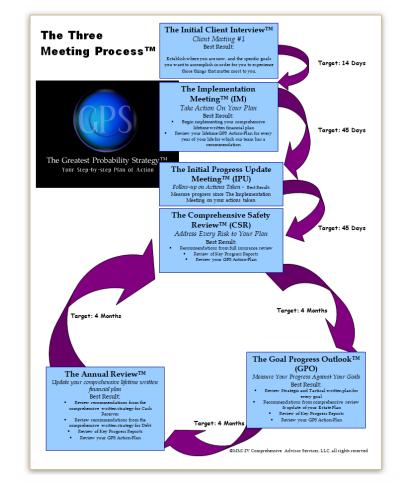
## Proactive not reactive

A client meeting cycle designed to stay ahead of issues. Designed to impress.



#### What Impresses Ideal Clients...

- ✓ At least 3 meetings per year
- ✓ Every meeting you confirm that all goals are "on track"
- ✓ Meetings for the next12-months are on the calendar at all times
- ✓ Organized agendas cycling through all the issues you've promised on an annual basis.
- ✓ Your team is invited to present their own Action Items to ICs





### Truly Comprehensive Financial Services<sup>TM</sup>

## Leadership



### 3. Leadership: **Protect the standard!** Stand up for your Vision.



## 4 Examples of team Accountability

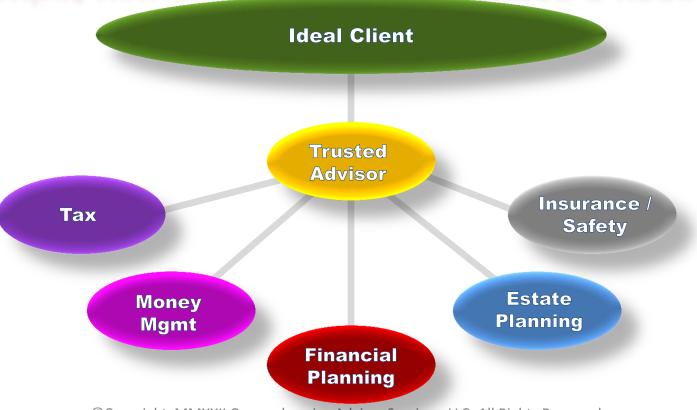
Leadership so that everyone on the team is clear about what's expected

# Expectations Meetings

Trusted Advisor conducts every 4-months without fail (effective performance reviews)



#### It's Important to remind team members what you expect at least 3 times a year



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## Your Expectations Conversation Agenda

- ✓ List your expectations
- ✓ Assess the previous 4-months
  - ✓ Areas they exceed expectations
  - ✓ Areas that need improvement
- ✓ They provide evidence for how they've contributed to The Team Goal over the previous 4-months
- ✓ List their expectations (remove any obstacles/excuses)



#### ✓ I expect \_\_\_\_ from you

- ✓ What do you need to get this done?
- √ \_\_\_\_ is not acceptable here.
  - Your job is to consistently exceed every client's expectations.

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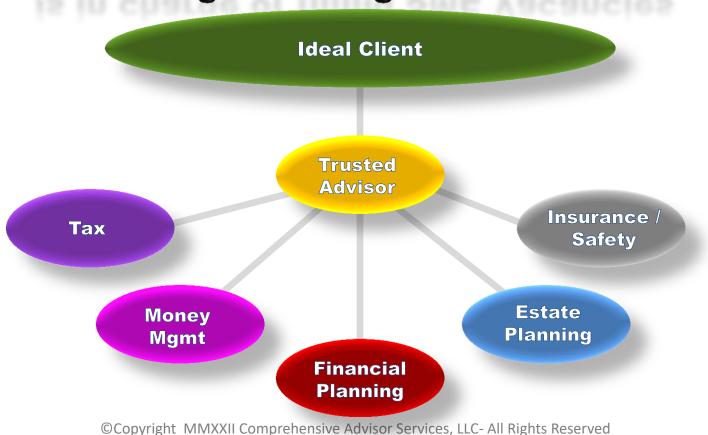


# Fill Team Vacancies in less than 60-Days

This means having an effective & strong Administrative Manager following "the process"



### Your Administrative Manager is in charge of filling SME Vacancies





#### Interim SMEs **Recruit 5 INTERIM Subject Matter Experts within the** next 2-weeks



## Fill Permanent SME Vacancies One new SME every 30-60 days

## **Key Performance** Measures Clear KPM/KPIs for all **Deliverables Team Members**



#### Your Administrative Manager's Key Performance Measures

- ✓ The Three Meeting Process™ scheduled 12-months out.
- ✓ The Dry-Run Prep Meeting™ always 10 days prior to every client progress meeting.
- √ Fill every SME vacancy in less than 60-days



## Your Subject Matter Experts' Key Performance Measures

- 3-5 Impressive Action Items & recommendations prior to EVERY client progress meeting
- ✓ Routine, cookie cutter recommendations don't count
- ✓ Impressive means your Ideal Client thinks, "wow, that's a great idea"



**1** 2 :

#### 15–25 Impressive **New Ideas** at every client progress meeting, 3X/year



## Delegate 100% of the client service to SMEs

This is the <u>only</u> sustainable business model and will also increase your enterprise value

### Your 5 Subject Matter Experts each agree to exceed Ideal Clients' expectations





#### The Mark of Mastery<sup>TM</sup>

- ✓ Resolve: Set the desired client service standard & level
- ✓ Execute: Implement your standard extremely well
- ✓ Leadership: Hold everyone accountable to your <u>standard</u>



## Unfortunately we can't cover everything today

#### Items Promised At Bill Bachrach's April 2022 Dojo

#### www. The Mark Of Mastery.com/bill-bachrach-dojo

Or just go to the blog & search "Dojo"



#### SHORTCUT:

http://advisorpact.me/dojo

As promised, here are the 6 items that Financial Advisors asked me to provide when I spoke live at Bill Bachrach's recent Client Acquisition Mastery Dojo Workshop:

- 1. The 3 Most Important Client Acquisition Skills... [click here]
- 2. Here's the free Course I promised you which outlines the 10 critical success skills for effective client service: The Only Game In Town, 10 Game-Changing Strategies For Financial Advisors.
- 3. My Ideal Client Profile. Here's the Ideal Client Profile I use to filter potential client leads. Feel free to use any or all of the language I'm providing you here... [click here]
- My strongest recommendation is to begin calculating The Annual Referral Rate™ (TARR) every month.
  - Your TARR is the number of referrals provided by your Ideal Clients over the past 12



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