

# NEWS



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## EMPOWER Receives 'Deal of the Year' Award

Second largest retirement services provider in the U.S. honored at industry event

**GREENWOOD VILLAGE, Colo., March 27, 2015** — Empower Retirement, the second-largest retirement services provider in the U.S. market with 7.3 million defined contribution participants and \$435 billion in plan assets, received the Deal of the Year award at the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Mutual Fund Industry Awards, held in New York City last night. Empower was formed last year through Great-West Financial's acquisition of the J.P. Morgan Retirement Plan Services large-market recordkeeping business, which closed late August, and the integration of the retirement business of Putnam Investments. In October, the combined organization was named Empower, under the leadership of Edmund F. Murphy, III.

"We are honored that Empower has been chosen for Deal of the Year," said Robert L. Reynolds, president and chief executive officer of Great-West Financial. "The combination of J.P. Morgan Retirement Plan Services and the retirement business of Putnam Investments with that of Great-West Financial, brings together the best-of-breed characteristics of each of the predecessor businesses – and creates a unique, results-oriented approach with deep, broad-based resources, designed to ultimately help raise the level of retirement preparedness in the United States."

In discussing the formation of the organization, Murphy, President of Empower, indicated that "by incorporating the various — and complementary — market strengths of each of its legacy firms, Empower has assumed a leadership position in serving clients across the full spectrum of the retirement services landscape, including every segment of the employer-sponsored retirement plan market: small, midsize, and large corporate 401(k) clients; government 457 plans and non-profit 403(b) entities; as well as private label recordkeeping clients.

Murphy further explained that the transformative moves have created a high-impact retirement organization that is poised to help the marketplace tackle the retirement savings challenge in earnest by providing an unusual depth of organizational expertise, strong commitment to innovative thought and process, and a unique mixture of capabilities designed to "empower" plan sponsors and their participants, as well as advisors and consultants.

### About Empower

Headquartered in metro Denver, Empower Retirement administers \$435 billion in assets for 7.3 million participants. It is the nation's second-largest retirement plan record keeper by total participants (*Pensions & Investments*, March 2015). Empower, the retirement business of Great-West Financial, serves all segments of the employer-sponsored retirement plan market: small, midsize, and large corporate 401(k) clients, government 457 plans, non-profit 403(b) entities and private-label recordkeeping clients. For more information, please visit [www.Empower-retirement.com](http://www.Empower-retirement.com).

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**Learn More**

To learn more about how we're empowering plan sponsors and their participants to be more engaged in their retirement plans than ever before, call us at 800-719-9914.

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*Empower Retirement refers to the products and services offered in the retirement markets by Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company (GWL&A), Corporate Headquarters: Greenwood Village, CO; Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company of New York, Home Office: White Plains, NY; and their subsidiaries. The trademarks, logos, service marks, and design elements used are owned by GWL&A.*