



News Release

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Keller Williams Named One of 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security

The Principal Financial Group and *Inc.* magazine recognize Austin-based real estate franchise

AUSTIN, TEXAS (October 1, 2014) — Keller Williams Realty’s outstanding commitment to their employees’ financial and physical wellness has earned them the distinction of being one of the best. An independent judging panel of employee benefit experts named Keller Williams as one of the 2014 winners of The Principal® 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security.

Judges selected Keller Williams because of the company’s commitment to employee financial security through outstanding employee benefits. Keller Williams, which employs 220 people at its international headquarters in Austin, will also be featured in the October issue of *Inc.* magazine for this achievement.

“Keller Williams and other Principal 10 Best winners are committed to their employees’ long-term financial well-being,” said Luke Vandermillen, vice president at the Principal Financial Group®.

“They understand that the people and culture can really make a difference in an organization. When companies like these invest so much in benefits that support their employees, people notice.”

The Principal® sponsors the national program. It honors growing companies for their commitment to their employees’ financial security.

“We are honored to have been named to the Principal 10 Best list,” said Keller Williams CEO Mark Willis. “As a profit-sharing company, we are committed to investing in our people and helping them self-optimize their financial well-being.”

As part of their best practices, Keller Williams works with an Employee Leadership Council comprised of KW associates to help make choices that support employees' financial future. Another key best practice is recognizing that benefit programs play a critical role in employee engagement, retention, and productivity.

"Employee engagement generates powerful returns for our company, keeping projects on track so we can deliver industry-leading innovation that gives our agents a competitive edge," Keller Williams President Mary Tennant said.

Along with the award recognition, The Principal awards a donation to a charity selected by each winning company. Keller Williams chose KW Cares -- a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that supports Keller Williams associates and their family members who are enduring unexpected hardships – to receive the \$2,500 donation.

Learn more about The Principal 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security at www.principal.com/10best.

About Keller Williams Realty:

Keller Williams Realty, Inc. is the largest real estate franchise company in North America, with 700 offices and 107,000 associates in more than a dozen countries around the world. In 2014, Keller Williams was named the No. 1 training organization in real estate and No. 2 training organization across all industries in the world by *Training* magazine. The company has grown exponentially since the opening of the first Keller Williams Realty office in 1983, and continues to cultivate an agent-centric, education-based, technology-driven culture that rewards associates as stakeholders. The company also provides specialized agents in luxury homes and commercial real estate properties. For more information or to search for homes for sale visit Keller Williams Realty online at (www.kw.com). For more information about KWWorldwide, please visit kwworldwide.com.

About the Principal Financial Group:

The Principal Financial Group® (The Principal®)¹ is a global investment management leader offering retirement services, insurance solutions and asset management. The Principal offers businesses, individuals and institutional clients a wide range of financial products and services, including retirement, asset management and insurance through its diverse family of financial services companies. Founded in 1879 and a member of the FORTUNE 500®, the Principal Financial Group has \$517.9 billion in assets under management² and serves some 19.4 million customers worldwide from offices in Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America and the United States. Principal Financial Group, Inc. is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol PFG. For more information, visit www.principal.com.

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² As of June 30, 2014.