Leeward
FINANCIAL PARTNERS

Mike and Jim

sponsor spotlight


Jim Ridgeway

WHO WE ARE:
Leeward – lee.ward; the side sheltered or protected. Away from the wind.
Bespoke - be.spoke; custom-made or made-to-order.
Advisor – ad.vis.or; a mentor or guide with cross-functional and multidisciplinary expertise.
Fiduciary – fi.du.ci.ar.y; a person who acts in good faith and without conflicts of interest

WHAT WE DO:
Personalized – per.son.al.ized; designed to meet someone's individual requirements.
Team – team; come together to achieve a common goal.
Investment – in.vest.ment; the action or process of investing money for profit.
Goal – goal; an observable and measurable end-result.
Leeward Financial Partners – lee.ward fi.nan.cial part.ners; A unique wealth manager dedicated to sheltering and growing your financial assets to achieve your investment goals.

Why start this article with definitions? To share with you what we believe best describes our firm and our business ethos.

Leeward Financial Partners founders Jim Ridgeway and Mike Emery are investment industry veterans with deep roots in the area. Jim is a Bellevue native who graduated from Interlake High School and went to college at the University of Washington and Seattle University. Jim and his wife Tana, also a Bellevue native, have two grown sons and a daughter in high school. In his off time, you can find Jim golfing at Overlake Golf and Country Club or fishing for salmon in the San Juan's. Mike grew up in Southern California and then attended the University of Washington for his undergraduate work. Mike and his wife, Courtney, have three children and have lived in Seattle for almost 15 years.

Mike is an accomplished water polo player and still competes at the Masters' level. He is also an avid fly fisherman and enjoys traveling with his family.

Before founding Leeward Financial Partners, Jim and Mike were principals at the Seattle-based institutional asset manager, Rainier Investment Management. Jim held the roles of CEO, president, and Board member; and Mike as co-head of Domestic Equities, portfolio manager, and Board member. Rainier managed more than $20B at its peak. In 2016, Rainier was sold to an NYSE-listed asset manager giving Mike and Jim the opportunity to build a boutique firm with the horsepower and expertise to make a difference for individuals and families in the Pacific Northwest.


The Emery Family


Jim and Mike fishing

The investment landscape has changed dramatically over the last 10 years, becoming more difficult to understand and navigate. Electronic trading algorithms and artificial intelligence have made public equity markets more volatile. Private markets continue to produce opportunities; however, more dollars are chasing these investments, making them less attractive. Bond markets aren't much better and may provide a limited return in today's rising interest rate environment. Markets are complex and traditional financial service firms can't take advantage of today's technology and services.

Leeward is designed for today's markets. The firm is a fee-only wealth manager that centers their client relationships on the principles of transparent, unbiased asset selection and advice. "We believe investors are best served when their advisors can select the most efficient investments for their clients," says Mike Emery, Leeward's Chief Investment Officer. "Often we see clients come to us from large national firms that have their portfolios filled with fee heavy proprietary investments and multiple layers of cost. These firms make a significant amount of their earnings each year from their own products. This business model doesn't encourage advisors to keep their clients' interests as the priority."

Leeward helps individuals and families navigate this complex financial landscape. "Our experience shows us that human nature tends to embrace things that bring us joy and ignore or look past the difficult," says Jim Ridgeway, Leeward's CEO. "In volatile investment environments, investors often ignore their portfolios or make emotional decisions as a way to cope." Leeward's job is to take the emotion out of managing your assets and focus on the details that lead to success.

In wealth management, experience matters. Mike and Jim have each spent over 20+ years working with some of the largest institutional clients and consultants around the globe. This background uniquely positions them to leverage their professional networks, asset management experience, and professional relationships to create compelling investment solutions.

Jim and Mike are thankful to have the support of the Bellevue community. They know what a privilege it is to have the trust of the many clients that live in the area.

Please call Leeward at (206) 718-6644 to start a conversation and learn more.


The Ridgeway Family