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APEX INITIATES ZEDRA ACQUISITION OF FITZGERALD AND LAW, LEADING GLOBAL EXPANSION SERVICES BUSINESS

In an acquisition originated by Apex, ZEDRA, the fast-growing global specialist in Corporate, Fund and Active Wealth Solutions has announced the acquisition of Fitzgerald & Law (F&L), London's leading firm of global expansion advisers.

In addition to offering a wide range of specialised expansion advice to companies setting up in the UK, F&L provides a full suite of award-winning tax, HR and financial compliance services that supports those companies as they grow. At the same time as this transaction, ZEDRA will acquire the Global Expansion Advisory Network operating in over 70 countries, of which F&L is a founding firm. F&L's continued membership of the GEA Network means that companies expanding into countries other than the UK can receive the same unparalleled support.

This acquisition marks a step change for ZEDRA's corporate services offering and will substantially enlarge the Group's reach to fast-growing US technology companies. F&L has a particular focus on helping US companies wishing to establish and grow a UK presence, and more broadly advises companies from all over the world on expanding their footprint in other territories globally. F&L has a strong track record in multi-territory HR consulting, international tax compliance, corporate compliance and accounting services.

The acquisition will bolster ZEDRA's presence in the all-important London market with F&L's London team of over 70 helping to double ZEDRA's workforce in the UK. ZEDRA also welcomes a team of 14 in Romania who provide vital support to the outsourcing services function. The F&L San Francisco office will continue to play a key role in business development and supporting clients on the US West Coast.

Ivo Hemelraad, ZEDRA Chief Executive Officer, commented,

"We are delighted to welcome the employees and clients of Fitzgerald & Law to ZEDRA and to extend our corporate services reach to the US West Coast where F&L has an enviable and growing reputation. Adding their knowledge and expertise to our Group will significantly extend the support we can offer to our international corporate clients and help them optimise their global expansion strategies."

Gabriel Parrish, Senior Partner at F&L added,

"Joining ZEDRA at this time with its global footprint of offices and international client base is a natural fit for F&L, and a logical step forward in our growth plans. Our clients will now have access to an additional range of services to support their business ambitions."



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Paul Warren, MD of Apex Corporate Finance commented:

"The acquisition of F&L by ZEDRA is a very significant step in growing and broadening ZEDRA's international expansion and corporate services business. ZEDRA and F&L are highly complementary in respect of service capabilities, geographical footprint, client base and culture".

Apex Corporate Finance

Apex Corporate Finance is a leading Independent Corporate Finance house specialising in Acquisition and Sale Initiation Services in the international expansion, corporate, fund, trust, fiduciary, private wealth, financial services, professional services and other sectors for FTSE 100, small and mid-cap plcs, private equity funds and portfolio companies and independent businesses.

There are significant drivers of consolidation in these markets and there remains a keen appetite for high quality acquisitions across a number of jurisdictions.

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