

## Howard Safer

Chief Executive Officer, Argent Trust Company



Howard has more than four decades of financial service experience and has served as CEO of Argent Trust Company since 2012. He provides families with trust, investment, estate and family office services. Prior to joining Argent, he served as president of a \$900 million trust company, the managing partner for a 90-person CPA and consulting firm, CFO for a substantial private company, and controller for a NYSE public company.

*Research* magazine honored Howard as one of five advisors nationwide inducted in the 2012 Hall of Fame. The October 2007 issue of *Worth* magazine named Howard as one of "The Top 100 Wealth Advisors." JK Lasser's *New Rules for Estate and Tax Planning* recognized Howard as a "Top Professional Advisor" in 2002. Howard has been included in *Worth* magazine's "Best Financial Advisors" listing of "talented and trustworthy" advisors since 1996. In 1998, he was presented "The Outstanding CPA in Business and Industry Award" in recognition of his business achievements by the Tennessee Society of CPAs. They also presented Howard a leadership award for "Dedication to Excellence" in 2000.

In December 1999, *Ticker* magazine named Howard as one of the top five "Ace Advisors" in the nation. The magazine noted his work for his clients as being among the "Most Innovative Investment Professionals." In March 1998, Howard was featured in the *Dow Jones Investment Advisor* story "Top Billing" for his leadership in managing wealthy clients' estates.

Howard served as a member of the 1994 CFP National Advisory Council on Financial Planning, which provides broad-based advice on the development of financial planning to the CFP Board, a nonprofit professional regulatory organization. The 1994 Securities Industry Institute recognized him as an "Exceptional Speaker" for his presentation at the Wharton School.

In 1992, he was presented the "Outstanding Service Award" from the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) Personal Financial Planning (PFP) Division. He is one of six CPAs who served on the original AICPA PFP Committee, which achieved Senior Technical Committee status. He is a past chairman of the Tennessee Society of CPAs PFP Committee, and past president of the LINC-Society of CPA Financial Planners.

He lives in Nashville with his wife, Arlene, and is especially proud of their three daughters—Lori, Traci and Mindy—and seven grandchildren.

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