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ZEDRA expands professional independent pension trustee services offering in the UK with acquisition of Clear Pen Solutions Ltd

- **Deal follows the acquisitions of Inside Pensions Ltd, PTL Governance Limited and Caledonian Trustees Limited, as well as the launch of ZEDRA's Pensions & Incentives offering**
- **Announcement follows the appointment of Kim Nash as Managing Director of ZEDRA Governance (formerly PTL) from 1st November**

London, UK – ZEDRA, the fast-growing global specialist in Corporate and Global Expansion, Active Wealth, Pensions and Incentives, as well as Fund solutions today announces the acquisition of Clear Pen Solutions Ltd, a specialist provider of professional independent trustee services to UK corporate pension schemes. This acquisition, which follows those of Inside Pensions Ltd and PTL Governance Limited in 2021, and Caledonian Trustees Limited earlier this year, continues to enhance ZEDRA's presence in the UK pension services space with additional services and solid growth of its client base.

The CEO and owner of Clear Pen Solutions, Stephen Yandle, is a professional trustee who will bring with him two decades of experience across pensions, financial and professional services. All Clear Pen Solutions clients, which range in size from £250m to £6bn in assets, will join ZEDRA Governance.

Ivo Hemelraad, Chief Executive Officer, ZEDRA, said: "As the UK regulatory system has become increasingly complex over recent years, so too has the challenge of running a pension scheme. It is no surprise that the number of pension schemes requiring additional support continues to grow. We recognised this some time ago and, over the last few years, have planned our expansion to ensure we were well equipped to support schemes in meeting these challenges head on.

"This deal further cements our offering and capabilities and is in line with the strategic approach we are adopting in the UK market, and the independent pensions trustee and governance sector specifically.

“As the demands and pressures on pension schemes grow, ZEDRA stands out as an attractive option for businesses like Clear Pen Solutions that need to manage the increasingly complex pensions landscape in order to satisfy their commitments to scheme members and the Regulator. I’m looking forward to working with Stephen, and our door is always open for similar businesses who share our commitment to collaborative working, diversity of thought and service excellence. We have a strong proposition, with a strong team of outstanding industry experts which will, shortly, sit under a strong unified brand.”

Kim Nash at Zedra Governance Limited, said: “Our sustained organic growth, combined with recent acquisitions, has enabled us to establish a team with the breadth and expertise to meet the evolving needs of pension schemes. This is a further great acquisition for the team and we welcome Stephen and his clients to ZEDRA Governance. We will benefit greatly from his contribution and our team will be on hand to broaden and further strengthen the professional trustee services which his clients have come to rely on.”

Stephen Yandle, Clear Pen Solutions Ltd, added: “Having successfully grown Clear Pen Solutions over the last decade, I am delighted our clients will now benefit from the wider resources, greater resilience and deeper expertise that is on offer as we become part of ZEDRA. It’s been important to find a business with the right values and ethics to safeguard and develop our existing client relationships. ZEDRA not only shares my passion for client service, but also plays an active role in developing our profession and advocating high standards across the industry. I have great respect for the team and I am very excited to work with them as we help pension schemes respond to the constantly-changing pensions landscape and challenges ahead.”

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About ZEDRA

ZEDRA is a global provider of Corporate and Global Expansion, Active Wealth and Fund services as well as Pension and Incentive solutions.

The firm's highly experienced teams deliver tailored high-quality solutions to clients who include high net worth individuals and their families seeking diversified active wealth solutions, as well as, medium to large sized companies, pension funds and trustees, asset managers and their investors.

The firm prides itself on getting to know its clients so that it can anticipate their continually evolving needs and allow them to focus on their core business and broader interests. ZEDRA's global footprint enables it to deliver bespoke solutions that meet the local and international requirements of the increasingly demanding regulatory environment.

ZEDRA inherited a wealth of knowledge and experience following its acquisition of trust businesses of a renowned bank in 2016. This solid foundation combined with innovative thinking has allowed ZEDRA to grow rapidly in a competitive marketplace to a team of over 800 industry experts across 16 countries spanning Asia, Oceania, the Americas and Europe.

www.zedra.com

ZEDRA recently reached an agreement to receive a strategic minority investment* from British Columbia Investment Management Corporation ("BCI"), one of Canada's largest institutional investors, investing in trustworthy businesses for a long-term horizon. www.zedra.com

* The transaction is subject to customary regulatory approvals.