

Lance J. Smith
Ernst & Young, LLP

Lance is a 1984 graduate of Northern Illinois University with a BS in accountancy. He has spent his entire career in public accounting, and has been with Ernst & Young since 1990, becoming an assurance partner in 1999. Lance's client base consists of public and private real estate companies and includes REIT's, private equity funds and independent operators. He is also a member of NAREIT, AICPA and Illinois CPA Society.

Lance is responsible for Ernst Young's recruiting effort at NIU and has been a frequent guest speaker in accounting classes and for campus accounting associations. He is a charter member of the NIU Accountancy Executive Advisory Council. Lance is the recipient of the 2002 NIU Department of Accountancy Outstanding Young Alumni Award and the 2009 NIU Department of Accountancy Outstanding Alumni Award.

Lance, his wife Laura (NIU class of 1984), and their daughter Jamie live in the western suburbs of Chicago.

Lance has various outside interests including golf, being a supportive "Horse Husband/Father," and participating in various mission projects (local and trips to the Mississippi Gulf Coast and Mexico).