



THE PITTSBURGH
FOUNDATION

From LAPD police officer to husband, father and leading financial management advisor

PITTSBURGH, Pa., February 15, 2012 – Neil Alexander’s childhood dream was to follow in the footsteps of his Irish grandfather, Leo McGeary, who served as a Pittsburgh police officer for 40 years.

He achieved his ambition after completing his BA in history at Fordham University in New York when he moved to Los Angeles to embark on a distinguished career with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD).

After graduating third in his class from the LAPD Academy, he requested and was assigned to patrol one of the most dangerous sections of the city, and was quickly appointed to the Gang Task Force, an elite unit responsible for monitoring and responding to gang activities in South Central Los Angeles.

During the following five years, Neil rose through the ranks and was the first in his Academy class to be promoted to the senior position of Police Officer III. He was assigned to the office of the Chief of Police, which included responsibility for working closely with city-wide law enforcement agencies and LAPD leadership. Neil served as an emergency operations coordinator during major events, including two civil riots, and several earthquakes, floods and major sporting events.

Following a three-year courtship, Neil married California girl, Suzanne in 1992, who at the time was working as a management consultant to the former accountancy group, Arthur Anderson. The couple then conducted a two-year study of the best place in the United States to raise a family – and chose Pittsburgh.

For Neil it was a return to his roots. His mother, Lora Lee McGeary and father, Richard Owen Alexander, were both born and raised in Pittsburgh, but moved to Columbus, Ohio when Neil – the youngest of four children – was just one year old.

Both Neil and Suzanne returned to graduate school in Pittsburgh, Neil completing his law degree at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1997 and Suzanne her MBA, also at the University of Pittsburgh.

In 1999 Neil joined Hefren-Tillotsen, Inc., one of Pittsburgh's oldest and largest financial planning and investment management firms. He served as Director of Financial Planning and Chief Operating Officer, and in 2004 he launched a specialized corporate consulting division, HT Corporate Services. Neil is recognized as one of the leading 401(k) experts in Western Pennsylvania.

Neil – a life-long Pittsburgh Pirates fan, devotee of Neil Diamond, competitive swimmer and American history buff – and Suzanne have two children, Abby (10) and Patrick (8) and two Boston Terriers, Libby and Ben.

*For further information contact:
John Ellis, Vice President Communications
The Pittsburgh Foundation
412-394-2647
ellisj@pghfdn.org*