

For more information, contact:  
Keith Gredys, CEO & President  
515-254-1178  
kgredys@askkidder.com



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **KIDDER ANNOUNCES COMPREHENSIVE SUITE OF ERISA 3(16) PLAN LEVEL FIDUCIARY SERVICES**

The firm becomes one of the few qualified plan providers to serve the discretionary fiduciary needs of retirement plan sponsors and administrators.

WEST DES MOINES, IOWA — Kidder Benefits Consultants has announced that it will provide ERISA Section 3(16) plan-level, discretionary fiduciary services to its clients, beginning immediately. The firm is one of only a few organizations, nationwide, to offer this comprehensive set of services, which are designed to help retirement plan sponsors and administrators satisfy many of their fiduciary responsibilities.

Recent changes in laws and ERISA regulations, combined with increased enforcement by the Department of Labor, have heightened awareness of the need for strong fiduciary governance. Yet many plan sponsors and advisors lack the expertise, systems and resources to adequately fulfill their responsibilities, which include plan qualification and operations, reporting and disclosure, coverage and testing, asset management and more. As a result, significant liabilities may arise.

“For the plan sponsor, due diligence and transparency are the order of the day,” noted Keith Gredys, CEO & President of Kidder, “and the risks for non-compliance can be significant. With our long and successful history in the qualified plan space, we’re uniquely positioned to provide fiduciary support beyond the scope of most other providers. We have the systems and experience necessary to help mitigate these risks on behalf of our clients.”

Kidder Benefits Consultants has earned multiple certifications for its adherence to the American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA) Standard of Practice for Retirement Plan Service Providers. In 2011, Kidder was among the nation’s first third-party administrators to complete the independent certification process conducted by the Centre for Fiduciary Excellence (CEFEX).

The ASPPA Standard describes how a service provider can help plan sponsors fulfill their fiduciary obligations. It includes best practices for governance, organization, human resources, operations, planning, systems and disclosure. Kidder’s certification is for its provision of Third Party Administration services.

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#### **About Kidder:**

Kidder Benefits Consultants is nationally recognized for its expertise in pension consulting and administration. The firm is experienced in all types of plans – including 401(k), Defined Benefit, Cash Balance and ESOPs – and provides IRS and Department of Labor resolution services and fiduciary governance on behalf of plan sponsors. Kidder currently serves nearly 1,000 qualified plans and 30,000 participants across the country from its headquarters in West Des Moines, Iowa, as well as regional offices in Omaha, NE, Albuquerque, NM, and Tucson, AZ. For additional information, visit [www.askkidder.com](http://www.askkidder.com).