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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CEFEX CERTIFIES KIDDER FOR SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

WEST DES MOINES, IOWA, February 15, 2018 – For the seventh year in a row, Kidder Benefits Consultants has been certified 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 renewal certification is for its Third Party Administration and 3(16) Plan Level Fiduciary services.

In making the announcement, Keith Gredys, CEO & President of Kidder said, "While we're widely recognized for creativity in plan design, our dedication to best practices is equally important. The CEFEX certification demonstrates our ongoing commitment to help plan sponsors achieve the highest levels of compliance and peace of mind, as they face significantly increased fiduciary responsibilities."

According to a CEFEX spokesperson, "The CEFEX certification provides assurance to fiduciaries and their stakeholders that Kidder has demonstrated adherence to the best practices in the retirement industry. The successful completion of the independent assessment is an extraordinary indication of a firm's accountability to its clients."

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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, Tucson, AZ and Gainesville, FL. For additional information, visit www.askkidder.com.

About CEFEX:

The Centre for Fiduciary Excellence, LLC. is an independent certification organization. CEFEX works closely with industry experts to provide comprehensive assessment programs to improve the fiduciary practices of investment stewards, advisors, recordkeepers, administrators and managers. CEFEX has offices in Toronto, Canada and Pittsburgh, PA.