



News

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Transamerica Retirement Services Announces Availability of ERISA Section 3(21) Fiduciary Service for Retirement Plans

Fiduciary service from Mesirow Financial Investment Management, Inc. helps mitigate fiduciary risk

LOS ANGELES – October 24, 2011 – Transamerica Retirement Services has introduced the availability of a new ERISA Section 3(21) fiduciary service to help retirement plan advisors and sponsors mitigate investment fiduciary risk.

With this fiduciary service, the Investment Strategies group at Mesirow Financial provides plan-level investment advice related to the selection and monitoring of the plan's investment line-up. Mesirow Financial acts as an investment fiduciary to the plan along with the sponsor, who maintains ultimate control over the plan's investment menu.

"This is a flexible, fiduciary solution for plan sponsors who want to reduce their fiduciary risk, and for advisors who do not currently offer fiduciary services," said Stig Nybo, president of Transamerica Retirement Services. "Transamerica is offering small- to mid-market retirement plans and their advisors additional, professional tools to assist in managing the plan's investment menu."

With this fiduciary service, Mesirow Financial independently analyzes Transamerica's investment platform, creating an "Elite List" of approved investments for sponsors seeking ERISA Section 3(21) fiduciary coverage. Sponsors must choose at least one Elite List investment in each of five designated, core asset classes in order to maintain coverage. Alternatively, the sponsor may use one of Mesirow Financial's suggested, sample investment line-ups based on the plan's demographics.

"Our Fiduciary Partnership service provides enhanced investment due diligence to financial advisors and their retirement plan clients. Our independent, expert advice supports the plan's decision makers regarding the plan's investment menu," said Michael Annin, senior managing director of the Investment Strategies group at Mesirow Financial.

For more information, financial advisors and plan sponsors can call Transamerica at (888) 401-5826, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

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About Transamerica Retirement Services Corporation

Transamerica Retirement Services Corporation (“Transamerica” or “Transamerica Retirement Services”), which is headquartered in Los Angeles, CA, designs customized retirement plan solutions to meet the unique needs of small- to mid-sized businesses. Transamerica and its affiliates have more than 15,500¹ retirement plans totaling more than \$19.5 billion¹ in assets. For more information about Transamerica, please refer to www.TA-Retirement.com.

About Mesirow Financial

Mesirow Financial is a diversified financial services firm headquartered in Chicago. Founded in 1937, Mesirow Financial is an independent, primarily employee-owned firm with locations across the globe. With expertise in investment management, global markets, insurance services and consulting, Mesirow Financial strives to meet the financial needs of institutions, public sector entities, corporations and individuals. The Investment Strategies group at Mesirow Financial is an independent, third-party investment consultant that provides robust asset allocation strategies and investment selection to defined contribution providers, insurance companies, broker/dealers and mutual fund companies. For more information about Mesirow Financial, please refer to www.MesirowFinancial.com.

Transamerica is not affiliated with Mesirow Financial Investment Management, Inc.

¹As of December 31, 2010.