NEWS RELEASE

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Cetera Financial Group Expands Retirement Plan Solutions Team with Addition of Industry Veterans Adeline Wong and Drew Russell

Newly-Added Executives to Support Delivery of Enhanced Fiduciary Solutions to Retirement Plan-Focused Advisors

Los Angeles, CA – Cetera Financial Group® ("Cetera")* - a leading network of independent firms supporting the delivery of professional financial advice to individuals, families and company retirement plans - today announced the hiring of industry veterans Adeline Wong as Vice President, Retirement Plan Fiduciary Programs and Drew Russell as Program Manager in the Cetera Retirement Plan Solutions group within Cetera. The Cetera Retirement Plan Solutions group specializes in supporting retirement plan-focused financial advisors, and the addition of these two executives is part of a strategy to develop and launch enhanced fiduciary solutions that enable the delivery of an advice-centric experience for retirement plan advisors, plan sponsors and plan participants.

In her new role with Cetera Retirement Plan Solutions, Adeline Wong will focus on managing and expanding Cetera's plan-focused fiduciary programs, in order to accommodate a significant anticipated increase in demand for such programs among retirement plan advisors following initial implementation of the US Department of Labor (DOL) Fiduciary Rule. Previously, Ms. Wong, who has 25 years of experience in the retirement plan industry, served in a number of management roles at LPL Financial. Most recently, she served as Vice President at LPL Financial Retirement Partners, with oversight for all retirement plan business, including fee-based consulting and broker of record plans. As part of this position, Ms. Wong supported the creation and execution of DOL preparedness efforts for LPL Financial Retirement Partners.

Within the Cetera Retirement Plan Solutions group, Drew Russell will oversee the execution of retirement plan DOL policies, as well as the design and management of participant engagement strategies. Prior to joining Cetera, Mr. Russell served in a number of roles at The Standard, including a leadership position with the company's new client conversions group. Previously, Mr. Russell worked with MetLife's Northwest Financial Planning Division.

Commenting on the new additions, Jon Anderson, Director of the Cetera Retirement Plan Solutions group, said, "We're delighted to welcome Adeline Wong and Drew Russell to our team as we mobilize Cetera's breakthrough technologies and industry-leading resources to create an advice-centric approach to retirement plan support in this new fiduciary era. These are two seasoned leaders with a track record of success in supporting the ability of retirement plan advisors to grow their businesses by providing exceptional service to plan sponsors and plan participants. The Retirement Plan Solutions group is excited to work closely with Adeline and Drew as we continue to position our team as the leading support platform for the retirement plan advice space."

About Cetera Financial Group®

Cetera Financial Group ("Cetera") is a leading network of independent firms empowering the delivery of professional financial advice to individuals, families and company retirement plans across the country through trusted financial advisors and financial institutions. Cetera is the second-largest independent financial advisor network in the nation by number of advisors, as well as a leading provider of retail services to the investment programs of banks and credit unions.

Through its multiple distinct firms, Cetera offers independent and institutions-based advisors the benefits of a large, established broker-dealer and registered investment adviser, while serving advisors and institutions in a way that is customized to their needs and aspirations. Advisor support resources offered through Cetera include award-winning wealth management and advisory platforms, comprehensive broker-dealer and registered investment adviser services, practice management support and innovative technology. For more information, visit cetera.com.

* "Cetera Financial Group" refers to the network of independent retail firms encompassing, among others, Cetera Advisors, Cetera Advisor Networks, Cetera Investment Services (marketed as Cetera Financial Institutions), Cetera Financial Specialists, First Allied Securities, Girard Securities, and Summit Brokerage Services. All firms are members FINRA/SIPC.

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