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Scott Underwood Named Among Nation's Best by Barron's 6 Years in a Row

St. Louis, MO- March 21, 2024 – Northwestern Mutual is proud to celebrate Scott Underwood, Founder and CEO of Socium Advisors, for his ranking on the 2024 Barron's Top 1,200 Financial Advisors list, his sixth year named to this accolade. This recognition is a testament to both Scott's skill and dedication as well as the entire team at Socium Advisors to providing trusted expertise to their clients.

Scott leads a rapidly growing team that specializes in developing comprehensive financial plans for individuals, families, and businesses across the US. He has consistently demonstrated his unwavering commitment to delivering industry-leading services to his clients. Scott has been recognized for his dedicated efforts in navigating the complexity of each person's unique situation. While he has achieved numerous accomplishments throughout his career, the trust and partnership Scott has built with his team and clients stand out as his most significant achievements.

Socium Advisors is one of the largest investment management practices at Northwestern Mutual and manages more than \$1.5 billion* in assets with offices in St. Louis, MO, Fayetteville, AR, and Washington, D.C. The company's broad range of investment options, combined with its industry-leading risk protection solutions, gives clients the ability to achieve better long-term financial outcomes with a comprehensive plan in place.

This acknowledgement comes on the heels of tremendous growth for Socium Advisors.

** As of 3/31/2024. Figure refers to assets under management as advisors of Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company.*

About the Barron's Top 1,200 Financial Advisors List

The rankings are based on data provided by around 6,000 of the nation's most productive advisors. Factors included in the rankings: assets under management, revenue produced for the firm, regulatory record, quality of practice, and philanthropic work. Investment performance isn't an explicit component because not all advisors have audited results and because performance figures often are influenced more by clients' risk tolerance than by an advisor's investment-picking abilities. The rankings are meant as a starting point for clients looking for an advisor—a first-pass vetting that can help investors narrow a search. Every advisor will have his or her own approach to investing, financial planning, and other services. Clients are encouraged to approach a search for an advisor the way they would a search for a doctor—interviewing multiple professionals and getting opinions from multiple third parties. Barron's "Top 1,200 Financial Advisors" list is based upon data as of September 30th of the preceding year. Northwestern Mutual and its advisors do not pay for placement on third party rating or ranking lists, but instead pay marketing fees to these organizations to promote the rankings and rating(s). Rankings and ratings are no guarantee of future investment success.

About Socium Advisors

Advisors: Socium (n) – partner, ally At Socium, we derive our name from what we care about the most: building genuine partnership. To us, this extends far beyond meetings or business transactions. From outcome-based planning to sufficient risk protection, to long-term goal funding, we’re passionate about paving the way to prosperous futures for our clients and mutual accountability along the way. Together, our in-house team and network of national affiliates combine decades of industry experience with a diverse set of skills to ensure that the ways we serve our clients reflect their intentions, input, and needs. Our comprehensive approach focuses on seven interconnected components, all of which are vital to a complete financial blueprint. This approach allows our clients to have the best experience in every area from one cohesive source. Socium Advisors is recognized as an industry leader having been named Baron’s “Top 1200 Financial Advisors” in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

About Northwestern Mutual

Northwestern Mutual has been helping people and businesses achieve financial security for more than 166 years. Through a comprehensive planning approach, Northwestern Mutual combines the expertise of its financial professionals with a personalized digital experience and industry-leading products to help its clients plan for what’s most important. With more than \$558 billion of total assets being managed across the company’s institutional portfolio as well as retail investment client portfolios, nearly \$35 billion in revenues, and \$2.2 trillion worth of life insurance protection in force, Northwestern Mutual helps deliver financial security to more than five million people with life, disability income and long-term care insurance, annuities, and brokerage and advisory services. Northwestern Mutual ranked 111 on the 2023 FORTUNE 500.

Northwestern Mutual is the marketing name for The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company (NM), Milwaukee, WI (life and disability insurance, annuities, and life insurance with long-term care benefits) and its subsidiaries. Subsidiaries include **Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, LLC (NMIS)** (investment brokerage services), broker-dealer, registered investment adviser, member FINRA and SIPC; the Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company® (NMWMC) (investment advisory and services), federal savings bank; and Northwestern Long Term Care Insurance Company (NLTC) (long-term care insurance). **Not all Northwestern Mutual representatives are advisors. Only those representatives with "Advisor" in their title or who otherwise disclose their status as an advisor of NMWMC are credentialed as NMWMC representatives to provide investment advisory services.**

Scott Underwood utilizes Socium Advisors as a marketing name for doing business as a representative of Northwestern Mutual. Socium Advisors is not a registered investment adviser, broker-dealer, insurance agency or federal savings bank. Insurance agent of NM. Investment advisory services provided as an Advisor of NMWMC. Investment brokerages services provided as a Registered Representative of NMIS.

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