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Sterling Capital Equity Portfolio Management Updates

CHARLOTTE, N.C., February 28, 2025 – Today Sterling Capital Management LLC (Sterling Capital) announced upcoming changes to the firm's equity business:

- The firm has made the difficult decision to close the Mid Cap Fundamental Value investment strategy.
- The investment professionals who supported that strategy will be pursuing other opportunities.
- As previously announced, Patrick Rau, CFA[®], will retire from Sterling Capital effective April 1, 2025.
- In the coming months, all Mid Cap Fundamental Value accounts will be transitioned to the Mid Cap Relative Value strategy managed by Andy DiZio, CFA[®], with the transition to be completed by mid-May 2025.
- To ensure a smooth transition, Andy DiZio has been added as a Portfolio Manager on all Mid Cap Fundamental Value accounts, effective immediately

Last fall, Sterling Capital announced the combination of the firm's Relative Value and Fundamental Equity investment teams to form the new Insight Equity Group (IEG), effective October 1, 2024, a decision made in support of our belief that the outlook for small- to mid-cap value investing remains favorable, a view shared by our parent company, Guardian Capital Group Limited. The remaining IEG team members, including Portfolio Managers Jerry Van Horn, CFA® and Andy DiZio, CFA®, supported by Equity Analyst Mike Kypreos, CFA®, CAIA®, remain in place and will continue to manage the other existing IEG investment strategies.

Last fall we also announced the intention to add two new equity analysts to the team. Given the other changes outlined above, we plan to hire one analyst instead of two. Once the onboarding of the new analyst is complete, IEG will have a total of four investment professionals in 2H2025. Sterling Capital believes this base of resources can sufficiently support the investment strategies tied to the team, which include:

- Small Cap Value, led by Portfolio Manager Jerry Van Horn, CFA®
- Real Estate, led by Portfolio Manager Andy DiZio, CFA®
- Mid Cap Relative Value, led by Portfolio Manager Andy DiZio, CFA®

No change to investment philosophy or process is planned for the three remaining strategies supported by the IEG.

About Sterling Capital

Sterling Capital Management LLC, founded in 1970, is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Guardian Capital Group Limited. Headquartered in Charlotte, Sterling Capital provides investment advisory services through mutual funds, separately managed accounts, model portfolios, and other commingled vehicles offered through a variety of intermediary and managed account platforms. Sterling Capital's five distinct investment teams provide a full complement of fixed income, concentrated active equity, and multi-asset solutions. Learn more at **sterlingcapital.com**.

Important Information & Disclosures

Investment advisory services are available through Sterling Capital Management LLC (SCM), an investment adviser registered with the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Guardian Capital Group Limited. SCM manages customized investment portfolios, provides asset allocation analysis and offers other investment-related services to affluent individuals and businesses.

This press release contains forward-looking statements with respect to SCM and its products and services, including its business operations and strategy and financial performance and condition. Although management believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, such statements involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from expectations include, among other things, general economic and market factors, including interest rates, business competition, changes in government regulations or in tax laws, and other factors discussed in materials filed with applicable securities regulatory authorities from time to time.

Any forward-looking statements included in this press release are provided as of the date of this press release and should not be relied upon as representing SCM's views as of any date subsequent to the date of this press release. SCM undertakes no obligation, except as required by applicable law, to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

The **Chartered Financial Analyst**® (CFA®) charter is a graduate-level investment credential awarded by the CFA Institute — the largest global association of investment professionals. To earn the CFA charter, candidates must: 1) pass three sequential, six-hour examinations; 2) have at least four years of qualified professional investment experience; 3) join CFA Institute as members; and 4) commit to abide by, and annually reaffirm, their adherence to the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.

The Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst® (CAIA) charter is a graduate-level alternative investment credential awarded by the CAIA Association, a global provider of Alternative Investment education. To earn the CAIA, candidates must: 1) pass two sequential examinations.