## **NEWS RELEASE**

## StoneStreet Equity Earns 2011 DALBAR Certified ERISA 3(21) Adviser Award

(White Plains, NY, February 2012) StoneStreet Equity, LLC has been certified by DALBAR, Inc. to be qualified as an ERISA 3(21) Adviser. This certification grants StoneStreet Equity the rights to use the designation of DALBAR Certified ERISA 3(21) Adviser and to disclose the accompanying credentials to the public and in particular to plan fiduciaries who are obligated to prudently select and monitor their advisers.

"The Dalbar Certification permits StoneStreet Equity to advertise our client ratings and simplifies the duties of a plan sponsor who engages us," said Heidi Sidley, managing director, adding "It is a real advantage to show potential clients the trust, financial performance, quality of service and advice provided to our existing clients."

To earn the certification, StoneStreet Equity underwent a due diligence process, consisting of a verification of qualifications and detailed disclosures, an extensive background check, an in-depth evaluation by clients and an assessment of the alignment of contract terms with services offered. This due diligence is consistent with the guidelines provided by the United States Department of Labor for advisers operating under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended [ERISA] Section 3(21) and associated regulations.

The documentation produced from the due diligence process provides plan fiduciaries with the basis for selecting and monitoring StoneStreet Equity as required by ERISA.

## **About StoneStreet Equity, LLC**

At StoneStreet Equity, retirement plans are our entire business. We strive to be a trusted, respected advisor to plan sponsors, focusing on successful participant outcomes and enabling plan committees to understand all aspects of their duties. Our team averages 20 years in this business, and more than 90% have advanced degrees or industry certifications relevant to retirement plan consulting. We were named PLANSPONSOR magazine's "Retirement Plan Adviser Team of the Year" in 2008 and were inducted into the Plan Adviser Hall of Fame in 2011. We have a degree of expertise and insight that generalist advisors simply cannot match. StoneStreet Equity is an independent firm affiliated with LPL Financial, one of the nation's largest independent broker/dealers. LPL Financial helps us serve our clients better, providing access to cutting edge resources in technology, client services, reporting and financial research. Through LPL Financial, we access actionable, unbiased investment research that supports our clients' goals.

## **About DALBAR, Inc.**

DALBAR has a 30-year history and is recognized by industry and government as an independent third-party expert in providing evaluations, ratings and due diligence. DALBAR certifications are recognized as mark of excellence in the financial community for advice services, communications, electronic and telephone services. DALBAR's experience and expertise includes retirement plans, broker/dealers, insurance companies, investment advisers and investment companies.