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Allegacy's Steve Franke Receives 2022 Top Investment Services Director Award

Winston-Salem, N.C, January 5, 2023 –Allegacy Federal Credit Union's Chief Financial Planning Officer, Steve Franke, earned high honors as one of five top directors in mid-sized investment firms from <u>Kehrer Bielan Research and Consulting</u> for his work with Allegacy Investment Group.

The recipients of the 2022 Kehrer Bielan top director awards were chosen based on a transparent, multi-faceted, data-driven process that evaluated the performance of the director's firm. In total, 557 banks and credit unions were assessed with Franke and Allegacy Investment Group landing in the top five.

"I'm honored and privileged to receive this recognition on behalf of the amazing work Allegacy Investment Group does for our members," said Franke. "This award is a well-earned recognition of their unending dedication to the team's work, and their compassionate care and genuine concern for our members."

Franke joined Allegacy in 2013 as program manager and was previously president of Franke Professional Services Inc. Franke earned his associate degree from Mount Aloysius College in Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in accounting from Shepherd University in West Virginia. He is a Certified Financial Planner™ with Series 6, 7, 65, and 24 securities licenses through Allegacy's broker-dealer, CUSO Financial Services, L.P.

"Steve's leadership style is focused on care and he instills qualities in us to serve and live out 'doing right' moments every day," said Program Manager, Merrill (Shaw) Stewart. Allegacy Investment Group consists of Franke, Stewart, Operations Manager, Sunni Weatherly, 11 financial advisors and six support staff. "This year, our team was there for our members in various ways," said Franke. "From engaging in honest and open conversations, to educating our members and helping them choose the best path, to listening and offering alternative ideas, 2022 turned out to be one of our best yet."

"This award is well-deserved by Steve and the Allegacy Investment Group team," said Allegacy's President and CEO, Cathy Pace. "Steve's leadership has led his team to the forefront of the financial planning industry and creates lasting positive experiences for our members."

Franke's past awards include program manager of the year in 2008 and honorable mention for program manager of the year in 2012 by Bank Investment Consultants Magazine. In 2016, he was ranked 42 by the same publication for his work with Allegacy. Franke is a member of the Financial Planning Association and serves on the Executive Advisory Council with CUSO Financial Services, L.P., and is a member of the board of directors for BISA.

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About Allegacy

For 55 years, Allegacy Federal Credit Union has helped its members, employees and the communities it serves be their best by helping people make smart financial choices. By doing right, Allegacy has become one of the largest credit unions in North Carolina serving over 172,000 members worldwide with \$2 billion in assets and over \$1.6 billion in assets under management in its financial planning group, Allegacy Investment Group. With roots in Winston-Salem, Allegacy has 18 locations and nine high school student-run credit unions. Allegacy offers personal and business financial services to help a broad membership base including the employees, retirees and families of over 1,800 companies throughout the country. To learn more, visit Allegacy.org.