Northwestern Mutual Recognizes the United States Armed Forces During Military Appreciation Month, Offers Tips for a More Secure Financial Future

Company provides financial armor to servicemen and women for a stronger retirement

MILWAUKEE, May 18, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Northwestern Mutual, an American company with nearly 160 years of proud service to its clients, celebrates Military Appreciation Month in May by supporting the men and women who serve our country with insights and tips for a stronger financial future.

Research conducted by Northwestern Mutual* shows that military personnel are achievement-oriented and disciplined, with 82 percent of those surveyed saying they personally determine their own financial success. The findings also reveal 75 percent of the military community defines financial success as living debt-free in a comfortable retirement, a goal they believe is available to all those who are willing to earn it.

"The men and women of the armed forces deserve a great deal of respect and credit, not only for the sacrifices they've made for others, but also for the brave role they've played in shaping our country's future," said Ron Joelson, chief investment officer and executive sponsor of the Northwestern Mutual Military Veterans Employee Resource Group. "One of the ways we can show our appreciation is by taking steps to help advance the financial futures of our servicemen and women with tools, resources and access to financial planning so they can achieve a rich and vibrant financial future."

Northwestern Mutual has identified some initial steps military personnel can take today to position themselves for financial success down the road.

1. **Create a strategy, make a plan.**
   Only about one third of military personnel seek the help of a financial professional.* Meeting with a financial expert not only provides direction and yields your very own personalized financial plan designed to make your money work for you, but also includes ways to save, spend, grow and protect your income. Through a detailed discovery process, a financial expert will work to better understand your personal financial situation and help you reach your financial goals.
2. **Protect yourself, protect your future.**
   You're in the business of protecting others. Don't neglect to help protect yourself and your family with insurance. If you don't know much about these products, asking a financial expert can educate you about how insurance can benefit you and those back home, no matter where you are. Based on your personal financial situation, an expert might recommend permanent life insurance, disability insurance or other options. Understanding each will help you determine what's best for you.
3. **New chapter, new benefits and new opportunities.**
   If you're already planning for retirement, great—but retirement is not the end of the road. In fact, it's just the beginning of an exciting new stage in your life. Even if you started planning early, considering additional ways to help protect yourself and your loved ones can be of benefit. The first step is to ask a financial expert how each product can benefit you.

*** About the Research**
Harris Poll conducted over 4,300 interviews in June 2015. The interviews were completed among U.S. adults age 18+ and included members of the general population.

About Northwestern Mutual
Northwestern Mutual has been helping families and businesses achieve financial security for nearly 160 years. Our financial representatives build relationships with clients through a distinctive planning approach that integrates risk management with wealth accumulation, preservation and distribution. With $238.5 billion in assets, $27.9 billion in revenues and more than $1.6 trillion worth of life insurance protection in force, Northwestern Mutual delivers financial security to more than 4.3 million people who rely on us for insurance and investment solutions, including life, disability income and long-term care insurance; annuities; trust services; mutual funds; and investment advisory products and services. Northwestern Mutual is recognized by FORTUNE magazine as one of the "World's Most Admired" life insurance companies in 2016.

Northwestern Mutual is the marketing name for The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Milwaukee, WI, and its subsidiaries. Northwestern Mutual and its subsidiaries offer a comprehensive approach to financial security solutions including: life insurance, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance, annuities, life insurance with long-term care benefits, investment products, and advisory products and services. Subsidiaries include **Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, LLC** (NMIS), broker-dealer, registered investment adviser, member FINRA and SIPC; the Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company (NMWMC), federal savings bank; and Northwestern Long Term Care Insurance Company (NLTC).

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