Northwestern Mutual Returns as a Premier Sponsor of National Black MBA Association Conference and Expo

Company is dedicated to fostering professional success among African Americans

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 26, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Northwestern Mutual is committed to paving the way for success for African Americans through professional and financial development opportunities. In support of this, the company will sponsor the 2017 National Black MBA Association, Inc. (NBMBAA) Conference and Expo, which kicks off today through Sept. 30 in Philadelphia.

The 2017 conference, titled *Power of Performance: Leadership at the Next Level*, convenes some of the world's most sought-after African American thought leaders to guide attendees through a week of exploration in education, leadership, career opportunities and networking connections that enable professional development.

"Our goal is to help create a strong financial and professional foundation for African Americans through career opportunities," said Raymone Jackson, director of diversity and inclusion for Northwestern Mutual. "We believe increased diversity will strengthen our industry with a contribution of valuable perspective and new ideas."

The company is sponsor of the conference's *Meet the Experts* session whose featured speaker is actress **Tia Mowry**, who gained fame in the hit comedy *Sister Sister* and currently stars in her own cooking show, *Tia Mowry at Home*. Other featured speakers include: **Kevin Blackistone,** sports journalist and professor at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; **Tamron Hall**, award-winning broadcast journalist; and **Demetria D'Oyley**, award-winning writer and journalist.

A long-time sponsor of NBMBAA, Northwestern Mutual has also partnered with *ESSENCE* and supports the National Association of Black Accountants and other professional organizations to provide career growth, networking and educational opportunities for African Americans. The company recruits at diverse colleges across the nation, seeking talented and diverse job candidates for its corporate office and national network of financial advisors and representatives.

About NBMBAA
The idea for the National Black MBA Association, Inc. (NBMBAA) was conceived in 1970 and for early members – in many cases Blacks coming into the corporate sector, largely for the first time – it was a way to share experiences and insights to help make a difficult journey easier. By nurturing these early professionals, the organization helped early members navigate and, ultimately, succeed in an unfamiliar and frequently hostile environment. And it has been those professionals who have risen up and reached back to bring up the next generation of Black business professionals, not just mentoring them but also growing the ranks. This has carried through the decades as the members who have followed found the same sense of connection and camaraderie among their colleagues, and have continued to reach back and uplift new generations.

About Northwestern Mutual
Northwestern Mutual has been helping families and businesses achieve financial security for 160 years. Through a distinctive, whole-picture planning approach including both insurance and investments, we empower people to be financially confident so they can live life differently. We combine the expertise of our financial professionals with a personalized digital experience to help our clients navigate their financial lives every day. With $250.4 billion in assets, $28.2 billion in revenues, and more than $1.6 trillion worth of life insurance protection in force, Northwestern Mutual delivers financial security to more than 4.4 million people who rely on us for life, disability income and long-term care insurance, annuities, brokerage and advisory services, trust services, and discretionary portfolio management solutions. The company holds more than $100 billion of client assets as a part of its wealth management company and investment services. Northwestern Mutual ranks 97 on the 2017 FORTUNE 500 and is recognized by FORTUNE® as one of the "World's Most Admired" life insurance companies in 2017.

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. 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) (securities), broker-dealer, registered investment adviser, member FINRA and SIPC; the Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company® (NMWMC) (fiduciary and fee-based financial planning services), federal savings bank; and Northwestern Long Term Care Insurance Company (NLTC) (long-term care insurance).

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