



## PENTEGRA RETIREMENT SERVICES' ALLIANCE BENEFIT GROUP- PENTEGRA CERTIFIED BY CENTRE FOR FIDUCIARY EXCELLENCE FOR INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES

**WHITE PLAINS, NY, FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – CEFEX, Centre for Fiduciary Excellence, LLC, has certified Pentegra Retirement Services' Alliance Benefit Group-Pentegra, of Charlotte, NC and Greenville, SC as adhering to the American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA) Standard of Practice for Retirement Plan Service Providers. Alliance Benefit Group-Pentegra joins an elite group of firms in the U.S., by successfully completing the independent certification process for service providers.

According to John Pinto, President and CEO, Pentegra Retirement Services, "We are very pleased to have been awarded this prestigious designation. It demonstrates our commitment to service excellence and to retirement industry best practices."

The ASPPA Standard of Practice describes how a service provider of any size or type can help plan sponsors fulfill their fiduciary obligations. CEFEX uses 2 classifications: 1. in-house recordkeeping services and 2. administration services (i.e. third party administration). The Standard includes best practices for governance, organization, human resources, operations, planning, systems, and disclosure, as defined by a cross-industry task force established in 2007. The Standard is modeled after the "Prudent Practices for Investment Stewards" published by fi360, Inc. of Pittsburgh, PA.

Alliance Benefit Group-Pentegra provides third party administration services. According to the Managing Director of the Centre for Fiduciary Excellence, Carlos Panksep, "The CEFEX certification provides assurance to fiduciaries and their stakeholders that Alliance Benefit Group-Pentegra has demonstrated adherence to the best practices in the recordkeeping and administration industry. The successful completion of the independent assessment is an extraordinary indication of a firm's accountability to its clients."

The annual certification process involves a detailed assessment of operational data and procedures, followed by on-site interviews with key personnel. Alliance Benefit Group-Pentegra is registered at <http://www.cefex.org/registeredCompanies.aspx> where its certificate can also be viewed. A summary of the Standard can be viewed by clicking on the certificate.

For information on the certification program and CEFEX please go to [www.cefex.org](http://www.cefex.org), where a full copy of the Standard of Practice is available. For information about ASPPA, please go to [www.asppa.org](http://www.asppa.org). For information on Alliance Benefit Group-Pentegra visit [www.pentegra.com](http://www.pentegra.com).

[Pentegra Retirement Services](http://www.pentegra.com) is a leading provider of retirement plan solutions to organizations nationwide. Founded by the Federal Home Loan Bank System in 1943, Pentegra offers a full range of retirement programs, including 401(k) plans, Defined Benefit Pension plans, Cash Balance plans, 412(e)(3) Fully Insured Defined Benefit plans, Split Funded Defined Benefit plans, KSOPs, ESOPs, Profit Sharing plans, Age-Weighted plans, New Comparability plans, 457(b) and 457(f) plans, 403(b) plans, 401(a) plans, Section 79 plans, Non-qualified Executive Benefit and

Director plans, benefits financing solutions using BOLI and a broad array of TPA services. For more information, go to [www.pentegra.com](http://www.pentegra.com)

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