

MFDF ANNOUNCES ADDITION OF ROBERT W. HELM TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Trustee of the Fidelity Fixed Income and Asset Allocation Funds, former Partner and
Deputy Chair with Dechert LLP brings decades of experience to MFDF Board*

Washington, D.C. (January 13, 2025) – MFDF (www.mfdf.org), the independent membership organization for fund independent directors, today announced that Robert W. Helm has been elected to MFDF's Board of Directors.

Mr. Helm brings a wealth of experience to MFDF's Board. He is currently a Trustee of the Fidelity Fixed Income and Asset Allocations Funds and was previously a Partner and Deputy Chairman of Dechert LLP. While with Dechert, he led the firm's financial services practice group for more than 20 years and represented some of the world's leading investment management firms, their funds and their respective boards of directors.

Mr. Helm is a past Chairman of the Asset Management and Investment Funds Committee of the International Bar Association and a former Trustee of the SEC Historical Society. He currently holds director roles with both the Fuel Fund of Maryland and the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Baltimore and is a trustee of the Baltimore Council on Foreign Affairs.

"I am very excited to welcome Rob to our Board and look forward to all of the insights and key context he will bring to our discussions," said Carolyn McPhillips, President of MFDF. "As we embark on our first full year under our new brand, our organization can only be helped and our mission furthered by someone of Rob's stature."

In the third quarter of 2024, MFDF unveiled a new name and look, changes designed to mark the ways in which the organization is continuing to grow and evolve much like the investment management industry itself. The range of investment strategies and the types of responsibilities under the purview of independent directors have never been greater, and MFDF is well positioned to be the voice for and nexus of the fund independent director community.

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MFDF is a trusted guide for independent directors of registered investment companies. MFDF helps independent directors navigate an evolving regulatory environment and steward shareholders' investments. MFDF provides tailored educational resources and facilitates peer-to-peer networking, with offerings that include webinars, white papers, and interactive conferences. As an independent association, MFDF's membership includes a wide range of fund boards and represents a diverse community of directors. For more information, please visit mfd.org.

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