

【NEWS RELEASE】

January 16, 2024

 Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group
 Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

Jefferies and SMBC Expand and Strengthen Strategic Alliance,
Broadening Joint Business Efforts Across EMEA

NEW YORK and London – January 16th, 2024 – Jefferies Financial Group, Inc. (NYSE: JEF) (“Jefferies”) and Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc. (NYSE: SMFG) (“SMFG”) group companies including Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (“SMBC”) and others (collectively, “SMBC Group”) announced today that they have signed a memorandum of understanding to further expand their global strategic alliance to now include enhanced collaboration across Europe, the Middle East and Africa (“EMEA”) on future corporate and investment banking business opportunities.

In support of the initial strategic alliance in 2021, SMBC provided \$2.25 billion in financing to Jefferies and purchased approximately 4.5% of the issued and outstanding common shares of Jefferies. In April 2023 the alliance was further bolstered by SMBC announcing its intention to raise its economic ownership to up to 15% on an as converted and fully diluted basis, which if effected would result in SMBC becoming one of Jefferies’ most significant shareholders.

The Jefferies-SMBC strategic alliance commenced in 2021 in the U.S. and Japan and was significantly expanded in the U.S. in 2023, broadening the scope of collaboration in M&A advisory services, increasing collaboration across the firms’ equities and debt capital markets businesses, and launching a joint coverage model for designated investment grade clients. The alliance has now been further extended to formally cover EMEA in these business areas. Jefferies and SMBC have already been collaborating to deliver client solutions for over two years and this latest step enhances the alliance across EMEA. The extended arrangement will benefit clients through the collective global insights and capabilities delivered from the comprehensive corporate and investment banking product and advisory platform offered by the two firms.

Overview of Jefferies Financial Group Inc.

Company Name	Jefferies Financial Group Inc.(NYSE: JEF)
Headquarter	New York, United States
Year of Establishment	1968
Business	Full range of investment banking (advisory and capital markets), sales and trading, research, wealth management, asset management and merchant banking
Total assets (as of the end of Nov. 2023)	USD 57.9 billion
Net revenues (fiscal year ended Nov. 2023)	USD 4.7 billion
Net income (fiscal year ended Nov.2023)	USD 263 million

END