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## **CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DISTRICTS SELECT VALIC AS 457 (b) PROVIDER**

*VALIC Extends Long-Standing 403(b) Relationships With Districts, Now Providing 457(b) Option to Employees*

HOUSTON, January 11, 2011 —VALIC, a leading retirement plan provider to K-12 schools, higher education, government and healthcare institutions, was selected to be a 457(b) provider for Visalia Unified School District's (VUSD) 2,500 employees and the Kings County Office of Education's (KCOE) 1,800 employees. VALIC has been a provider of 403(b) plans for both groups for 28 and 27 years, respectively.

"It is VALIC's goal to provide plan participants retirement options on their own terms," said Bruce Abrams, President and CEO of VALIC. "We are pleased to give Visalia Unified School District and Kings County Office of Education employees an additional option for customizable, successful retirement planning, and we look forward to providing the support they need in the coming years."

VUSD passed the motion to add VALIC as a 457(b) provider late last month after receiving support from both the administration and the Visalia Teachers Association. KCOE, whose contract goes into effect on January 11, 2011, selected VALIC as a plan provider due to the strength of its product offering and the local service and support VALIC provides its plan participants. VALIC will continue to provide access to professional financial advisors in the region who serve participants on-site and assist district employees with a wide range of retirement and financial planning issues.

Established in 1885, the Visalia Unified School District is the oldest school district in Tulare County, California. VUSD governs 24 elementary schools, a newcomer language center, four middle schools, four comprehensive high schools, a continuation high school, an adult school, a charter alternative academy, a charter independent study school, a K-8 charter home school, a charter technical education school and a school that serves orthopedic handicapped students, serving over 32,000 students district wide.

The Kings County Office of Education represents 13 school districts throughout Kings County, California. KCOE assists these districts with managing budgets, training teachers, and ensuring that school districts remain compliant with state and federal laws. Along with the schools within the district, which span from preschool to high school, KCOE educates groups of students not served by local school districts through the Juvenile Court and Community Schools, Special Education Program, Cyesis and Infant Programs.

For more than half a century, VALIC has served as a leading plan provider for higher education, K-12 schools, government, and healthcare institutions. As of third quarter 2010, VALIC has more than \$62 billion in assets and manages plans for nearly 25,000 groups, serving more than two million plan participants. VALIC represents The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company and its subsidiaries, VALIC Financial Advisors, Inc. and VALIC Retirement Services Company.

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