

Media Contact: Rob Pasquinucci, 513.604.3556 rob.pasquinucci@intrinzicbrands.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 1, 2021

# JOHNSON INVESTMENT COUNSEL WINS REFINITIV LIPPER FUND AWARD



Johnson Equity Income Fund and Johnson
Institutional Intermediate Bond Fund are 2021 Winners

**CINCINNATI, OHIO** - Johnson Investment Counsel announced that two of its mutual funds received the 2021 Lipper Fund Award in recognition of consistently strong risk-adjusted performance relative to their peers. The Johnson Equity Income Fund is a 2021 winner of the Refinitiv Lipper Fund Award for "Best Fund over 5 Years" and a 2020 winner for "Best Fund over 3 Years" for Equity Income Funds. The Johnson Institutional Intermediate Bond Fund is also a 2021 winner of the Refinitiv Lipper Fund Award for "Best Fund over 3 Years" and "Best Fund over 5 Years" for Institutional Mutual Funds.

This honor is given to individual mutual funds that have outperformed peers based on risk-adjusted, consistent returns over three-, five-, and 10-years relative to their peers. Refinitiv Lipper designates award-winning funds in most individual classifications for the three-, five-, and 10-year periods.

### Johnson Equity Income Fund - 2021 "Best Fund over 5 Years"

"Our core objective is to enhance the spending power of capital through a focused discipline on quality and shareholder yield. We are flattered to receive this award in recognition of our consistent ability to provide long term results for our clients," said Charles Rinehart. Charles is the Director & Portfolio Manager for the Equity Income Fund and has been with the firm since 2010.

Johnson Equity Income Fund is an equity portfolio that aims to provide long term capital growth with above average dividend income. The Fund invests primarily in common stocks of larger-sized U.S. companies (those with a market capitalization above \$15 billion) with a focus on companies that are well positioned to navigate market and economic volatility. The portfolio management team invests through the lens of a full market cycle (peak-to-peak, trough-to-trough), seeking to outperform the index on a risk-adjusted basis. The team aims to accomplish this goal by reducing portfolio volatility and enhancing portfolio yield by investing exclusively in high quality companies with strong management teams that have a track record of building shareholder value. The team relies on a disciplined bottoms-up portfolio construction process that incorporates valuation and risk management in the context of portfolio volatility and bear market sensitivity.

Lipper Equity Income Funds Universe is composed of funds that, by prospectus language and portfolio practice, seek relatively high current income and growth of income by investing at least 65% of their portfolio in dividend-paying equity securities.

## Johnson Institutional Intermediate Bond Fund -2021 "Best Fund over 3 Years" and "Best Fund over 5 Years"

"We are very proud of the results that we have been able to achieve for our clients. We are grateful that our passion for fixed income investing combined with our consistent, disciplined approach has led to this recognition by Lipper," said Michael Leisring. Michael is the Director of Fixed Income & Portfolio Manager for the Institutional Intermediate Bond Fund and has been with the firm since 1999.

Johnson Institutional Intermediate Bond Fund aims to provide consistent returns above the Bloomberg Barclays US Intermediate Government/Credit benchmark both over time and through time. Since the fixed income portion of a portfolio also serves as a risk diversifier to volatility, the investment team believes it is essential to provide consistent returns each and every year. The team seeks a high batting average of success without incurring

unnecessary risks in the portfolio or making bets. Over time, the portfolio is design to deliver excess returns with comparable overall volatility to the market, and greater downside risk protection during difficult market periods.

The Core Bond fund is led by Johnson Asset Management's five-person Fixed Income Investment team. The objective of the funds is to outperform the market index with comparable volatility and greater downside risk protection. The team strives to deliver clients consistent and attractive long-term investment results using their proprietary Quality Yield approach.

## **About Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards**

For more than 30 years and in over 17 countries worldwide, the highly respected Refinitiv Lipper Awards have honored funds and fund management firms that have excelled in providing consistently strong risk-adjusted performance relative to their peers and focus the investment world on top-funds. The merit of the winners is based on entirely objective, quantitative criteria. This coupled with the unmatched depth of fund data, results in a unique level of prestige and ensures the award has lasting value. Renowned fund data and proprietary methodology is the foundation of this prestigious award qualification, recognizing excellence in fund management. Find out more at www.lipperfundawards.com.

#### **About Johnson Investment Counsel**

Johnson Investment Counsel serves clients in 49 states and manages more than \$15 billion in assets. Through Johnson Wealth Management, Johnson Family Office Services, Johnson Trust Company, and Johnson Asset Management, the firm serves individuals, corporations, retirement plans, foundations, and endowments. Johnson Investment Counsel is a 100 percent employee-owned company with 42 shareholders among 143 employees. Its professionals are dedicated to developing genuine relationships with clients and delivering exceptional service. Johnson Investment Counsel is committed to remaining an independent firm acting in the best interests of clients and employees.

Johnson Investment Counsel has six offices across Ohio and Michigan with two in Cincinnati, and one in each city Cleveland/Akron, Columbus, Dayton, and Metro Detroit. For more information on locations and services, visit http://www.johnsoninv.com.

Disclosure: The Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards, granted annually, highlight funds and fund companies that have excelled in delivering consistently strong risk-adjusted performance relative to their peers. The Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards are based on the Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards Methodology. Classification averages are calculated with all eligible share classes for each eligible classification. The calculation periods extend over 36, 60 and 120 months. The highest Lipper Leader\* for Consistent Return (Effective Return) value within each eligible classification determines the fund classification winner over three, five or 10 years. The Lipper leader for Consistent Return rating is a risk-adjusted performance measure based on the Effective Return computation. Lipper Ratings for Consistent Return are computed for all Lipper classifications with five or more distinct portfolios and span both equity and fixed-income funds (e.g., large cap core, General U.S. Treasury, etc.). The ratings are subject to change every month and are calculated for the following periods: three-year, five-year, 10-year, and overall. The overall calculation is based on an equal-weighted average of percentile rankings of the Consistent Return metrics over three-, five- and 10-year periods (if applicable). The highest 20% of funds in each classification are named Lipper Leaders for Consistent Return, the next 20% receive a rating of 4, the middle 20% are rated 3, the next 20% are rated 2 and the lowest 20% are rated 1. For more information, see lipperfundawards.com. Although Refinitiv Lipper makes reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the data contained herein, the accuracy is not guaranteed by Refinitiv Lipper. The award may not be representative of every client's experience. Johnson Investment Counsel has confirmed that the Johnson Equity Income Fund is a 2021 winner of the Refinitiv Lipper Award for "Best Fund over 5 Years" and a 2020 winner for "Best Fund over 3 Years" for Equity Income Funds. Johnson Investment Counsel has also confirmed that the Johnson Institutional Intermediate Bond Fund is a 2021 winner of the Refinitiv Lipper Award for "Best Fund over 3 Years" and "Best Fund over 5 Years" for Institutional Mutual Funds. However, Johnson Investment Counsel does not review or confirm the information provided to Refinitiv Lipper Awards, nor does Johnson confirm or review the accuracy of the Refinitiv Lipper Fund Awards' rankings of the Johnson Equity Index Fund and the Johnson Institutional Intermediate Bond Fund, respectively. These awards are not indicative of future performance and there is no guarantee of future investment success.

Before you invest, you may want to review the Fund's Prospectus and Statement of Additional information, which contains more information about the Fund and its risks. You can find the Fund's Prospectus and other information about the fund online at www.johnsonmutualfunds.com. You can also get this information at no additional cost by calling (800) 541-0170 or by sending an email request to prospectus@johnsonmutualfunds.com.



###