<Reference> For immediate release



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Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.

Crescent Communities, a Sumitomo Forestry Group company, Named "Multifamily Development Firm of the Year" award at the NAHB Multifamily Pillars of the Industry Awards

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. (President and Representative Director: Akira Ichikawa; Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; hereinafter Sumitomo Forestry) announced that <u>Crescent Communities, LLC</u> (hereinafter Crescent) has been named Multifamily Development Firm of the Year award at the Multifamily Pillars of the Industry Awards organized by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). Crescent is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Forestry engaged in the development of multi-family and commercial communities in the U.S.

With a history stretching back over 70 years since its founding in the 1940s, NAHB, the organizer of these annual awards, is the largest housing construction industry body in the U.S., representing more than 140,000 members.

The Multifamily Pillars of the Industry Awards give public recognition to enterprises and projects in the multi-family housing industry, appraising creative development concepts, innovative financing strategies, and superior design and marketing in the development of multi-family housing. Crescent was honored as the Multifamily Development Firm of the Year, as the top multi-family housing developer in the U.S. and NOVEL South Capitol—a multi-family housing project in Washington, D.C. in which Crescent has been involved in development—was named the Best Overall Leasing or Sales Campaign for a Multifamily Community.



Exterior view of NOVEL South Capitol

In addition, NOVEL Bishop Arts, a multi-family housing project in Dallas,

Texas, was a finalist in Best Interior Merchandising of a Common Area; and NOVEL Rio, a multi-family housing project in Phoenix, Arizona, was a finalist in Best Low-Rise Apartment Community.

Crescent Chief Operating Officer Brian Natwick described the joy of winning the award, "We are honored to receive this prestigious award from the National Association of Home Builders. This achievement is a direct result of the extraordinary leadership of our team at Crescent Communities who are committed to innovation, curiosity, integrity and excellence. These values guide everything we do, and we are humbled to be recognized for our work during this past year."

Headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina along the southern East Coast, Crescent is engaged in the real estate development businesses in many of the fastest growing markets in the United States. Crescent has the functions necessary for real estate development, such as land acquisition, fund raising, supervision of construction works, and management of leased properties, and develops high-quality communities value-added real estate, for which it has earned a high degree of trust from its stakeholders.

Crescent has a track record of more than 60 multi-family housing projects under the brand NOVEL by Crescent Communities. It is also focusing on eco-friendly multi-family housing, for instance, by pursuing NGBS certification. ^{*4}

^{*}4. National Green Building Standard (NGBS) certification: the only certification recognized by the American National Standards



Institute (ANSI) for rating environmentally friendly single-family homes and multi-family apartment buildings.

The Sumitomo Forestry Group will continue striving to realize a prosperous society through all types of housing-related services both in Japan and overseas.