

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FOUR JOHN HANCOCK CLOSED-END FUNDS
DECLARE EARLY MONTHLY DISTRIBUTIONS**

BOSTON, MA (December 21, 2012) – The four John Hancock closed-end funds listed below declared their monthly distributions today as follows:

Declaration Date: December 21, 2012
Ex Date: December 27, 2012
Record Date: December 31, 2012
Payment Date: January 31, 2013

Ticker	Fund Name	Distribution Per Share	Change From Previous Distribution	Market Price as of 12/20/2012	Annualized Current Distribution Rate at Market
HPI	Preferred Income Fund	\$0.1400	-	\$21.85	7.69%
HPF	Preferred Income Fund II	\$0.1400	-	\$21.65	7.76%
HPS	Preferred Income Fund III	\$0.1222	-	\$18.96	7.73%
PDT	Premium Dividend Fund	\$0.0755	-	\$13.33	6.80%

The four Funds listed above have accelerated the declaration, ex-date, and record date of the regularly scheduled January distribution in order for the Funds to meet their 2012 distribution requirements for federal excise tax purposes. In February 2013, each of the above Funds expects to resume its regular monthly distribution and payment schedule.

A portion of a Fund's current distribution may include sources other than net investment income, including a return of capital. Investors should understand that a return of capital is not a distribution from income or gains of a Fund. As required under the Investment Company Act of 1940, a notice with the estimated components of the distribution will be sent to shareholders at the time of payment if it does not consist solely of net investment income. Such notice will also be posted to the Funds' website at www.jhfunds.com. The notice should not be used to prepare tax returns as the estimates indicated in the notice may differ from the ultimate federal income tax characterization of distributions. After the end of each calendar year, investors will be sent a Form 1099-DIV informing them how to report distributions received during that year for federal income tax purposes.

Statements in this press release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements as defined by the United States securities laws. You should exercise caution in interpreting and relying on forward-looking statements because they are subject to uncertainties and other factors

which are, in some cases, beyond the Fund's control and could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements.

An investor should consider a Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing.

About John Hancock Funds

The Boston-based mutual fund business unit of John Hancock Financial, John Hancock Funds, manages more than \$77.9 billion in open-end funds, closed-end funds, private accounts, retirement plans and related party assets for individual and institutional investors at September 30, 2012.

About John Hancock Financial and Manulife Financial Corporation

John Hancock Financial is a unit of Manulife Financial Corporation, a leading Canadian-based financial services group serving millions of customers in 22 countries and territories worldwide. Operating as Manulife Financial in Canada and in most of Asia, and primarily as John Hancock in the United States, Manulife Financial Corporation offers clients a diverse range of financial protection products and wealth management services through its extensive network of employees, agents and distribution partners. Funds under management by Manulife Financial and its subsidiaries were Cdn\$515 billion (US\$523 billion) at September 30, 2012.

Manulife Financial Corporation trades as 'MFC' on the TSX, NYSE and PSE, and under '945' on the SEHK. Manulife Financial can be found on the Internet at www.manulife.com.

The John Hancock unit, through its insurance companies, comprises one of the largest life insurers in the United States. John Hancock offers a broad range of financial products and services, including [life insurance](#), [annuities](#), [fixed products](#), [mutual funds](#), [401\(k\) plans](#), [long-term care insurance](#), [college savings](#), and other forms of business insurance. Additional information about John Hancock may be found at www.johnhancock.com.