
DREYFUS APPRECIATION FUND, INC.
STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
MAY 1, 2005

This Statement of Additional Information, which is not a prospectus, supplements and should be read in conjunction with the current Prospectus of Dreyfus Appreciation Fund, Inc. (the “Fund”), dated May 1, 2005, as the Prospectus may be revised from time to time. To obtain a copy of the Fund’s Prospectus, please write to the Fund at 144 Glenn Curtiss Boulevard, Uniondale, New York 11556-0144, visit www.dreyfus.com, or call one of the following numbers:

Call Toll Free 1-800-645-6561
In New York City – Call 1-718-895-1206
Outside the U.S. – Call 516-794-5452

The Fund’s most recent Annual Report and Semi-Annual Report to Shareholders are separate documents supplied with this Statement of Additional Information, and the financial statements, accompanying notes and report of the independent registered public accounting firm appearing in the Annual Report are incorporated by reference into this Statement of Additional Information.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Description of the Fund	B-2
Management of the Fund	B-10
Management Arrangements	B-16
How to Buy Shares	B-23
Shareholder Services Plan	B-24
How to Redeem Shares	B-25
Shareholder Services	B-27
Determination of Net Asset Value	B-31
Dividends, Distributions and Taxes	B-32
Portfolio Transactions	B-34
Summary of Proxy Voting Policy, Procedures and Guidelines of The Dreyfus Family of Funds	B-39
Information About the Fund	B-40
Counsel and Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	B-41

DESCRIPTION OF THE FUND

The Fund is a Maryland corporation formed on July 30, 1980. The Fund is an open-end management investment company, known as a mutual fund. The Fund is a diversified fund, which means that, with respect to 75% of its total assets, the Fund will not invest more than 5% of its assets in the securities of any single issuer nor hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any single issuer (other than, in each case, securities of other investment companies, and securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities).

The Dreyfus Corporation (the "Manager" or "Dreyfus") serves as the Fund's investment adviser. Fayez Sarofim & Co. ("Sarofim & Co.") serves as the Fund's sub-investment adviser. Sarofim & Co. provides day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio, subject to the supervision of the Manager. The Manager and Sarofim & Co. are referred to collectively as the "Advisers."

Dreyfus Service Corporation (the "Distributor") is the distributor of the Fund's shares.

Certain Portfolio Securities

The following information supplements and should be read in conjunction with the Fund's Prospectus.

Common Stock. Stock represents shares of ownership in a company. After other claims are satisfied, common stockholders participate in company profits on a pro-rata basis; profits may be paid out in dividends or reinvested in the company to help it grow. Increases and decrease in earnings are usually reflected in a company's stock price, so common stocks generally have the greatest appreciation and depreciation potential of all corporate securities.

Preferred Stock. The Fund may purchase preferred stock, which is a class of capital stock that typically pays dividends at a specified rate. Preferred stock is generally senior to common stock, but subordinate to debt securities, with respect to the payment of dividends and on liquidation of the issuer. In general, the market value of preferred stock is its "investment value," or its value as a fixed-income security. Accordingly, the market value of preferred stock generally increases when interest rates decline and decreases when interest rates rise, but, as with debt securities, is also affected by the issuer's ability to make payments on the preferred stock. While most preferred stocks pay a dividend, the Fund may purchase preferred stock where the issuer has omitted, or is in danger of omitting, payment of its dividend. Such investments would be made primarily for their capital appreciation potential.

Convertible Securities. The Fund may purchase convertible securities. Convertible securities may be converted at either a stated price or stated rate into underlying shares of common stock. Convertible securities have characteristics similar to both fixed-income and equity securities. Convertible securities generally are subordinated to other similar but non-convertible securities of the same issuer, although convertible bonds, as corporate debt obligations, enjoy seniority in right of payment to all equity securities, and convertible

preferred stock is senior to common stock, of the same issuer. Because of the subordination feature, however, convertible securities typically have lower ratings than similar non-convertible securities.

Although to a lesser extent than with fixed-income securities, the market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, tends to increase as interest rates decline. In addition, because of the conversion feature, the market value of convertible securities tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying common stock. A unique feature of convertible securities is that as the market price of the underlying common stock declines, convertible securities tend to trade increasingly on a yield basis, and so may not experience market value declines to the same extent as the underlying common stock. When the market price of the underlying common stock increases, the prices of the convertible securities tend to rise as a reflection of the value of the underlying common stock. While no securities investments are without risk, investments in convertible securities generally entail less risk than investments in common stock of the same issuer.

Convertible securities provide for a stable stream of income with generally higher yields than common stocks, but there can be no assurance of current income because the issuers of the convertible securities may default on their obligations. A convertible security, in addition to providing fixed income, offers the potential for capital appreciation through the conversion feature, which enables the holder to benefit from increases in the market price of the underlying common stock. There can be no assurance of capital appreciation, however, because securities prices fluctuate. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality because of the potential for capital appreciation.

Warrants. A warrant is a form of derivative that gives the holder the right to subscribe to a specified amount of the issuing corporation's capital stock at a set price for a specified period of time. The Fund may invest up to 2% of its net assets in warrants, except that this limitation does not apply to warrants purchased by the Fund that are sold in units with, or attached to, other securities.

American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") and New York Shares. The Fund may invest in U.S. dollar-denominated ADRs and New York Shares. ADRs typically are issued by an American bank or trust company and evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by foreign companies. New York Shares are securities of foreign companies that are issued for trading in the United States. ADRs and New York Shares are traded in the United States on national securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter market. Investment in securities of foreign issuers presents certain risks, including those resulting from adverse political and economic developments and the imposition of foreign governmental laws or restrictions. See "Foreign Securities."

Foreign Government Obligations; Securities of Supranational Entities. The Fund may invest in obligations issued or guaranteed by one or more foreign governments or any of their

political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities that are determined by the Advisers to be of comparable quality to the other obligations in which the Fund may invest. Such securities also include debt obligations of supranational entities. Supranational entities include international organizations designated or supported by governmental entities to promote economic reconstruction or development and international banking institutions and related government agencies. Examples include the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank), the European Coal and Steel Community, the Asian Development Bank and the InterAmerican Development Bank.

Illiquid Securities. The Fund may invest up to 15% of the value of its net assets in securities as to which a liquid trading market does not exist, provided such investments are consistent with the Fund's investment objectives. Such securities may include securities that are not readily marketable, such as securities that are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale, repurchase agreements providing for settlement in more than seven days notice, and certain privately negotiated, non-exchange traded options and securities used to cover such options. As to these securities, the Fund is subject to a risk that should the Fund desire to sell them when a ready buyer is not available at a price the Fund deems representative of their value, the value of the Fund's net assets could be adversely affected.

Investment Companies. The Fund may invest in securities issued by other investment companies. Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), the Fund's investment in such securities, subject to certain exceptions, currently is limited to (i) 3% of the total voting stock of any one investment company, (ii) 5% of the Fund's total assets with respect to any one investment company and (iii) 10% of the Fund's total assets in the aggregate. As a shareholder of another investment company, the Fund would bear, along with other shareholders, its pro rata portion of the other investment company's expenses, including advisory fees. These expenses would be in addition to the advisory fees and other expenses that the Fund bears directly in connection with its own operations. The Fund also may invest its uninvested cash reserves or cash it receives as collateral from borrowers of its portfolio securities in connection with the Fund's securities lending program in shares of one or more money market funds advised by the Manager. Such investments will not be subject to the limitations described above, except that the Fund's aggregate investment of uninvested cash reserves in such money market funds may not exceed 25% of its total assets. See "Lending Portfolio Securities."

Money Market Instruments. When the Advisers determine that adverse market conditions exist, the Fund may adopt a temporary defensive position and invest some or all of its assets in money market instruments, including U.S. Government securities, repurchase agreements, bank obligations and commercial paper. The Fund also may purchase money market instruments when it has cash reserves or in anticipation of taking a market position.

Investment Techniques

The following information supplements and should be read in conjunction with the Fund's Prospectus.

Derivatives. The Fund may invest in, or enter into, certain derivatives for a variety of reasons, including to hedge certain market or interest rate risks, to provide a substitute for purchasing or selling particular securities or to increase potential income gain. Generally, derivatives are financial contracts whose value depends upon, or is derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or index, and may relate to stocks, bonds, interest rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, commodities and related indexes. Derivatives may provide a cheaper, quicker or more specifically focused way for the Fund to invest than “traditional” securities would. Examples of derivative instruments the Fund may enter into include options contracts. The Fund’s portfolio managers may decide not to employ any of these strategies and there is no assurance that any derivatives strategy used by the Fund will succeed.

Derivatives can be volatile and involve various types and degrees of risk, depending upon the characteristics of the particular derivative and the portfolio as a whole. Derivatives permit the Fund to increase or decrease the level of risk, or change the character of the risk, to which its portfolio is exposed in much the same way as the Fund can increase or decrease the level of risk, or change the character of the risk, of its portfolio by making investments in specific securities. However, derivatives may entail investment exposures that are greater than their cost would suggest, meaning that a small investment in derivatives could have a large potential impact on the Fund’s performance.

If the Fund invests in derivatives at inopportune times or judges market conditions incorrectly, such investments may lower the Fund’s return or result in a loss. The Fund also could experience losses if its derivatives were poorly correlated with its other investments, or if the Fund were unable to liquidate its position because of an illiquid secondary market. The market for many derivatives is, or suddenly can become, illiquid. Changes in liquidity may result in significant, rapid and unpredictable changes in the prices for derivatives.

Options – In General. The Fund may write (i.e., sell) covered call option contracts to the extent of 20% of the value of its net assets at the time such option contracts are written. A call option gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and obligates the writer to sell, the underlying security at the exercise price at any time during the option period, or at a specific date. A covered call option sold by the Fund, which is a call option with respect to which the Fund owns the underlying security, exposes the Fund during the term of the option to possible loss of opportunity to realize appreciation in the market price of the underlying security or to possible continued holding of a security which might otherwise have been sold to protect against depreciation in the market price of the security.

There is no assurance that sufficient trading interest to create a liquid secondary market on a securities exchange will exist for any particular option or at any particular time, and for some options no such secondary market may exist. A liquid secondary market in an option may cease to exist for a variety of reasons. In the past, for example, higher than anticipated trading activity or order flow, or other unforeseen events, at times have rendered certain of the clearing facilities inadequate and resulted in the institution of special procedures, such as trading rotations, restrictions on certain types of orders or trading halts or suspensions in one or more options. There can be no assurance that similar events, or events that may otherwise interfere

with the timely execution of customers' orders, will not recur. In such event, it might not be possible to effect closing transactions in particular options.

Successful use by the Fund of options will be subject to Sarofim & Co.'s ability to predict correctly movements in the prices of individual stocks or the stock market generally. To the extent Sarofim's predictions are incorrect, the Fund may incur losses.

Foreign Currency Transactions. Foreign currency transactions may be entered into for a variety of purposes, including: to fix in U.S. dollars, between trade and settlement date, the value of a security the Fund has agreed to buy or sell; or to hedge the U.S. dollar value of securities the Fund already owns, particularly if it expects a decrease in the value of the currency in which the foreign security is denominated.

Foreign currency transactions may involve, for example, the Fund's purchase of short positions in foreign currencies. A short position would involve the Fund agreeing to exchange an amount of a currency it did not currently own for another currency at a future date in anticipation of a decline in the value of the currency sold relative to the currency the Fund contracted to receive. The Fund's success in these transactions will depend principally on Sarofim & Co.'s ability to predict accurately the future exchange rates between foreign currencies and the U.S. dollar.

Currency exchange rates may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time. They generally are determined by the forces of supply and demand in the foreign exchange markets and the relative merits of investments in different countries, actual or perceived changes in interest rates and other complex factors, as seen from an international perspective. Currency exchange rates also can be affected unpredictably by intervention by U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad.

Lending Portfolio Securities. The Fund may lend securities from its portfolio to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions needing to borrow securities to complete certain transactions. In connection with such loans, the Fund remains the owner of the loaned securities and continues to be entitled to payments in amounts equal to the interest, dividends or other distributions payable on the loaned securities. The Fund also has the right to terminate a loan at any time. The Fund may call the loan to vote proxies if a material issue affecting the Fund's investment is to be voted upon. Loans of portfolio securities may not exceed 33-1/3% of the value of the Fund's total assets (including the value of all assets received as collateral for the loan). The Fund will receive collateral consisting of cash, U.S. Government securities or irrevocable letters of credit which will be maintained at all times in an amount equal to at least 100% of the current market value of the loaned securities. If the collateral consists of a letter of credit or securities, the borrower will pay the Fund a loan premium fee. If the collateral consists of cash, the Fund will reinvest the cash and pay the borrower a pre-negotiated fee or "rebate" from any return earned on the investment. The Fund may participate in a securities lending program operated by Mellon Bank, N.A., as lending agent (the "Lending Agent"). The Lending Agent will receive a percentage of the total earnings of the Fund derived from lending its portfolio securities. Should the borrower of the securities fail financially, the Fund may

experience delays in recovering the loaned securities or exercising its rights in the collateral. Loans are made only to borrowers that are deemed by the Manager to be of good financial standing. In a loan transaction, the Fund will also bear the risk of any decline in value of securities acquired with cash collateral. The Fund will minimize this risk by limiting the investment of cash collateral to money market funds advised by the Manager, repurchase agreements or other high quality instruments with short maturities.

Borrowing Money. The Fund is permitted to borrow to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, which permits an investment company to borrow in an amount up to 33-1/3% of the value of its total assets. The Fund currently intends to borrow money only for temporary or emergency (not leveraging) purposes, in an amount up to 15% of the value of its total assets (including the amount borrowed) valued at the lesser of cost or market, less liabilities (not including the amount borrowed) at the time the borrowing is made. While such borrowings exceed 5% of the Fund's total assets, the Fund will not make any additional investments.

Certain Investment Considerations and Risks

Equity Securities. Equity securities, including common stock, preferred stock, convertible securities and warrants, fluctuate in value, often based on factors unrelated to the value of the issuer of the securities, and such fluctuations can be pronounced. Changes in the value of the Fund's investments will result in changes in the value of its shares and thus the Fund's total return to investors.

The Fund may invest in securities issued by companies in the technology sector, which has been among the most volatile sectors of the stock market. Technology companies involve greater risk because their revenues and earnings tend to be less predictable (and some companies may be experiencing significant losses) and their share prices tend to be more volatile. Certain technology companies may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources, or may depend on a limited management group. In addition, these companies are strongly affected by worldwide technological developments, and their products and services may not be economically successful or may quickly become outdated. Investor perception may play a greater role in determining the day-to-day value of technology stocks than it does in other sectors. Fund investments made in anticipation of future products and services may decline dramatically in value if the anticipated products or services are delayed or canceled.

The Fund may purchase securities of companies in initial public offerings ("IPOs") or shortly thereafter. An IPO is a corporation's first offering of stock to the public. Shares are given a market value reflecting expectations for the corporation's future growth. Special rules of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") apply to the distribution of IPOs. Corporations offering stock in IPOs generally have limited operating histories and may involve greater investment risk. The prices of these companies' securities may be very volatile, rising and falling rapidly, sometimes based solely on investor perceptions rather than economic reasons.

Foreign Securities. The Fund may invest up to 10% of the value of its assets in securities of foreign governments and foreign companies which are not publicly traded in the United

States. Foreign securities markets generally are not as developed or efficient as those in the United States. Securities of some foreign issuers are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. issuers. Similarly, volume and liquidity in most foreign securities markets are less than in the United States and, at times, volatility of price can be greater than in the United States.

Because evidences of ownership of such securities usually are held outside the United States, a Fund will be subject to additional risks which include possible adverse political and economic developments, seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits and adoption of governmental restrictions which might adversely affect or restrict the payment of principal and interest on the foreign securities to investors located outside the country of the issuer, whether from currency blockage or otherwise. Moreover, foreign securities held by the Fund may trade on days when the Fund does not calculate its net asset value and thus may affect the Fund's net assets value on days when investors have no access to the Fund.

Simultaneous Investments. Investment decisions for the Fund are made independently from those of the other investment companies advised by the Advisers. The Manager has adopted written trade allocation procedures for its equity and fixed income trading desks. Under the procedures, portfolio managers or the trading desks will ordinarily seek to aggregate (or "bunch") orders that are placed or received concurrently for more than one investment company or account. In some cases, this procedure may adversely affect the size of the position obtained for or disposed of by the Fund or the price paid or received by the Fund. The Fund, together with other investment companies or accounts advised by the Manager or Sarofim & Co. or their affiliates, may own significant positions in portfolio companies which, depending on market conditions, may affect adversely the Fund's ability to dispose of some or all of its positions should it desire to do so.

Investment Restrictions

The Fund's investment objective is a fundamental policy, which cannot be changed without approval by the holders of a majority (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund's outstanding voting shares. In addition, the Fund has adopted investment restrictions numbered 1 through 10 as fundamental policies. Investment restrictions numbered 11 through 17 are not fundamental policies and may be changed by a vote of a majority of the Fund's Board members at any time. The Fund may not:

1. Invest more than 5% of its assets in the obligations of any single issuer, except that up to 25% of the value of the Fund's total assets may be invested, and securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, or its agencies or instrumentalities may be purchased, without regard to any such limitation.
2. Hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any single issuer. This Investment Restriction applies only with respect to 75% of the Fund's total assets.
3. Concentrate its investments in any particular industry or industries, except that the Fund may invest up to 25% of the value of its total assets in a single industry, provided that,

when the Fund has adopted a defensive posture, there shall be no limitation on the purchase of obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities, time deposits and certificates of deposit (including those issued by foreign branches of domestic banks), and bankers' acceptances.

4. Invest in commodities, except that the Fund may purchase and sell options, forward contracts, futures contracts, including those relating to indices, and options on futures contracts or indices.

5. Purchase, hold or deal in real estate, or oil, gas or other mineral leases or exploration or development programs, but the Fund may purchase and sell securities that are secured by real estate or issued by companies that invest or deal in real estate.

6. Borrow money, except to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act (which currently limits borrowing to no more than 33-1/3% of the value of the Fund's total assets). For purposes of this investment restriction, the entry into options, forward contracts, futures contracts, including those relating to indices, and options on futures contracts or indices shall not constitute borrowing.

7. Make loans to others, except through the purchase of debt obligations and the entry into repurchase agreements. However, the Fund may lend its portfolio securities in an amount not to exceed 33-1/3% of the value of its total assets. Any loans of portfolio securities will be made according to guidelines established by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Fund's Board.

8. Act as an underwriter of securities of other issuers, except to the extent the Fund may be deemed an underwriter under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, by virtue of disposing of portfolio securities.

9. Issue any senior security (as such term is defined in Section 18(f) of the 1940 Act), except to the extent the activities permitted in Investment Restriction Nos. 5, 6 and 13 may be deemed to give rise to a senior security.

10. Purchase securities on margin, but the Fund may make margin deposits in connection with transactions in options, forward contracts, futures contracts, including those relating to indices, and options on futures contracts or indices.

11. Purchase securities of any company having less than three years' continuous operations (including operations of any predecessor) if such purchase would cause the value of the Fund's investments in all such companies to exceed 5% of the value of its total assets.

12. Invest in the securities of a company for the purpose of exercising management or control, but the Fund will vote the securities it owns in its portfolio as a shareholder in accordance with its views.

13. Pledge, mortgage or hypothecate its assets, except to the extent necessary to secure permitted borrowings and to the extent related to the deposit of assets in escrow in connection with writing covered put and call options and the purchase of securities on a when-issued or forward commitment basis and collateral and initial or variation margin arrangements with respect to options, forward contracts, futures contracts, including those relating to indices, and options on futures contracts or indices.

14. Purchase, sell or write puts, calls or combinations thereof, except as described in the Fund's Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information.

15. Enter into repurchase agreements providing for settlement in more than seven days after notice or purchase securities which are illiquid, if, in the aggregate, more than 15% of the value of the Fund's net assets would be so invested.

16. Invest in securities of other investment companies, except to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act.

17. Purchase or retain the securities of any issuer if the officers or Board members of the Fund or the Advisers who own beneficially more than 1/2 of 1% of the securities of such issuer together own beneficially more than 5% of the securities of such issuers.

As a fundamental policy, the Fund may invest, notwithstanding any other investment restriction (whether or not fundamental), all of the Fund's assets in the securities of a single open-end management investment company with substantially the same investment objectives, fundamental policies and restrictions as the Fund.

If a percentage restriction is adhered to at the time of investment, a later change in percentage resulting from a change in values or assets will not constitute a violation of such restriction. With respect to Investment Restriction No. 6, however, if borrowings exceed 33-1/3% of the value of the Fund's total assets as a result of a change in values or assets, the Fund must take steps to reduce such borrowings at least to the extent of such excess.

The Fund and the Manager have received an exemptive order from the Securities and Exchange Commission which, among other things, permits the Fund to use cash collateral received in connection with lending the Fund's securities and other uninvested cash to purchase shares of one or more registered money market funds advised by the Manager in excess of the limitations imposed by the 1940 Act.

MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

The Fund's Board is responsible for the management and supervision of the Fund and approves all significant agreements with those companies that furnish services to the Fund. These companies are as follows:

The Dreyfus Corporation	Investment Adviser
Fayez Sarofim & Co.	Sub-Investment Adviser

Dreyfus Service Corporation.Distributor
Dreyfus Transfer, Inc.Transfer Agent
Mellon Bank, N.A.Custodian

Board members of the Fund, together with information as to their positions with the Fund, principal occupations and other board memberships and affiliations, are shown below.

Board Members of the Fund¹

<u>Name (Age)</u> <u>Position with the Fund (Since)</u>	<u>Principal Occupation</u> <u>During Past 5 Years</u>	<u>Other Board Memberships and Affiliations</u>
Joseph S. DiMartino (61) Chairman of the Board (1995)	Corporate Director and Trustee	The Muscular Dystrophy Association, <i>Director</i> Levcor International, Inc., an apparel fabric processor, <i>Director</i> Century Business Services, Inc., a provider of outsourcing functions for small and medium size companies, <i>Director</i> The Newark Group, a provider of a national market of paper recovery facilities, paperboard mills and paperboard converting plants, <i>Director</i> Azimuth Trust, an institutional asset management firm, <i>Member of Board of Managers and</i> <i>Advisory Board</i>
Clifford L. Alexander, Jr. (71) Board Member (1981)	President of Alexander & Associates, Inc., a management consulting firm (January 1981 – present) Chairman of the Board of Moody's Corporation (October 2000 – October 2003) Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of The Dun and Bradstreet Corporation (October 1999 – September 2000)	Wyeth (formerly, American Home Products Corporation), a global leader in pharmaceuticals, consumer healthcare products and animal health products, <i>Director</i> Mutual of America Life Insurance Company, <i>Director</i>
Peggy C. Davis (62) Board Member (1990)	Shad Professor of Law, New York University School of Law (1983 – present) Writer and teacher in the fields of evidence, constitutional theory, family law, social sciences and the law, legal process and professional methodology and training	None

¹ None of the Board members are “interested persons” of the Fund, as defined in the 1940 Act.

<u>Name (Age)</u> <u>Position with the Fund (Since)</u>	<u>Principal Occupation</u> <u>During Past 5 Years</u>	<u>Other Board Memberships and Affiliations</u>
Ernest Kafka (72) Board Member (1981)	Physician engaged in private practice specializing in the psychoanalysis of adults and adolescents (1962-present) Instructor, The New York Psychoanalytic Institute (1981 – present) Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Cornell Medical School (1987 – 2002)	None
Ernest Kafka (continued)		
Nathan Leventhal (62) Board Member (1989)	A management consultant for various non-profit organizations (May 2004 – present) Chairman of the Avery-Fisher Artist Program (November 1997 – present) President of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. (March 1984 – December 2000)	Movado Group, Inc., <i>Director</i>

Board members are elected to serve for an indefinite term. Each Fund has standing audit, governance/nominating and compensation committees, each comprised of its Board members who are not "interested persons" of the Fund, as defined in the 1940 Act. The function of the audit committee is (i) to oversee the Fund's accounting and financial reporting processes and the audits of the Fund's financial statements and (ii) to assist in the Board's oversight of the integrity of the Fund's financial statements, the Fund's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements and the independent auditors' qualifications, independence and performance. Each Fund's governance/nominating committee is responsible for selecting and nominating all persons as members of the Board for election or appointment by the Board and for election by shareholders. In evaluating potential nominees, including any nominees recommended by shareholders, the committee takes into consideration various factors listed in the governance/nominating committee charter, including character and integrity, business and professional experience, and whether the committee believes the person has the ability to apply sound and independent business judgment and would act in the interest of the Fund and its shareholders. The governance/nominating committee will consider recommendations for nominees from shareholders submitted to the Secretary of the Fund, c/o The Dreyfus Corporation Legal Department, 200 Park Avenue, 8th Floor West, New York, New York 10166, which includes information regarding the recommended nominee as specified in the governance/nominating committee charter. The function of the compensation committee is to establish the appropriate compensation for serving on the Board. Each Fund also has a standing pricing committee comprised of any one Board member. The function of the pricing committee is to assist in valuing the Fund's investments. The audit committee met four times and the

governance/nominating committee and compensation committee each met once during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004. The pricing committee had no meetings during the last fiscal year.

The table below indicates the dollar range of each Board member's ownership of Fund shares and shares of other funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds for which he or she is a Board member, in each case as of December 31, 2004.

<u>Name of Board Member</u>	<u>Fund</u>	Aggregate Holding of Funds in the
		Dreyfus Family of Funds for which Responsible as a Board Member
Joseph S. DiMartino	None	Over \$100,000
Clifford L. Alexander, Jr.	None	Over \$100,000
Peggy C. Davis	None	None
Ernest Kafka	Over \$100,000	Over \$100,000
Nathan Leventhal	\$10,001 - \$50,000	\$10,001 - \$50,000

As of December 31, 2004, none of the Board members or their immediate family members owned securities of the Manager, Sarofim & Co., the Distributor or any person (other than a registered investment company) directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by or under common control with the Manager, Sarofim & Co. or the Distributor.

The Fund typically pays its Board members its allocated portion of an annual retainer of \$50,000 and a fee of \$6,500 per meeting (with a minimum of \$500 per meeting and per telephone meeting) attended for the Fund and 11 other funds (comprised of 23 portfolios) in the Dreyfus Family Funds, and reimburses them for their expenses. The Chairman of the Board receives an additional 25% of such compensation. Emeritus Board members are entitled to receive an annual retainer and per meeting attended fee of one-half the amount paid to Board members. The aggregate amount of compensation paid to each Board member by the Fund and by all funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds for which such person is a Board member (the number of portfolios of such funds is set forth in parenthesis next to each Board member's total compensation) for the year ended December 31, 2004 are set forth below:

<u>Name of Board Member</u>	<u>Aggregate Compensation From the Fund*</u>	<u>Total Compensation From the Fund and Fund Complex Paid to Board Member(**)</u>
Joseph S. DiMartino	\$27,323	\$874,125 (193)
Clifford L. Alexander, Jr.	\$21,856	\$218,500 (66)
Peggy C. Davis	\$23,807	\$92,500 (26)
Ernest Kafka	\$21,856	\$89,500 (26)
Saul B. Klamann***	\$ 2,752	\$35,802 (26)
Nathan Leventhal	\$21,856	\$89,500 (26)

- * Amount does not include reimbursed expenses for attending Board meetings, which amounted to \$29,616 for all Board members as a group.
- ** Represents the number of separate portfolios comprising the investment companies in the Fund Complex, including the Fund, for which the Board members serves.
- *** Emeritus Board member as of January 18, 2000.

Officers of the Fund

STEPHEN E. CANTER, President since March 2000. Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer of the Manager, and an officer of 90 investment companies (comprised of 185 portfolios) managed by the Manager. Mr. Canter also is a Board member and, where applicable, an Executive Committee Member of the other investment management subsidiaries of Mellon Financial Corporation, each of which is an affiliate of the Manager. He is 59 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since May 1995.

STEPHEN R. BYERS, Executive Vice President since November 2003. Chief Investment Officer, Vice Chairman and a director of the Manager, and an officer of 90 investment companies (comprised of 185 portfolios) managed by the Manager. Mr. Byers also is an Officer, Director or an Executive Committee Member of certain other investment management subsidiaries of Mellon Financial Corporation, each of which is an affiliate of the Manager. He is 51 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since January 2000.

MARK N. JACOBS, Vice President since March 2000. Executive Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel of the Manager, and an officer of 91 investment companies (comprised of 201 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 59 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since June 1977.

JAMES WINDELS, Treasurer since November 2001. Director Mutual Fund Accounting of the Manager, and an officer of 91 investment companies (comprised of 201 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 46 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since April 1985.

STEVEN F. NEWMAN, Secretary since March 2000. Associate General Counsel and Assistant Secretary of the Manager, and an officer of 91 investment companies (comprised of 201 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 55 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since July 1980.

MICHAEL A. ROSENBERG, Assistant Secretary since March 2000. Associate General Counsel of the Manager, and an officer of 88 investment companies (comprised of 194 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 45 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since October 1991.

JANETTE E. FARRAGHER, Assistant Secretary since March 2000. Associate General Counsel of the Manager, and an officer of 12 investment companies (comprised of 23 portfolios)

managed by the Manager. She is 42 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since February 1984.

RICHARD CASSARO, Assistant Treasurer since August 2003. Senior Accounting Manager – Equity Funds of the Manager, and an officer of 26 investment companies (comprised of 104 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 46 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since September 1982.

KENNETH J. SANDGREN, Assistant Treasurer since November 2001. Mutual Funds Tax Director of the Manager, and an officer of 91 investment companies (comprised of 201 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 50 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since June 1993.

ROBERT J. SVAGNA, Assistant Treasurer since December 2003. Senior Accounting Manager - Equity Funds of the Manager, and an officer of 27 investment companies (comprised of 109 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 38 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since November 1990.

WILLIAM GERMENIS, Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer since September 2003. Vice President and Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer of the Distributor, and the Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer of 88 investment companies (comprised of 198 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 34 years old and has been an employee of the Distributor since October 1998.

JOSEPH W. CONNOLLY, Chief Compliance Officer since October 2004. Chief Compliance Officer of the Manager and The Dreyfus Family of Funds (91 investment companies, comprising 201 portfolios). From November 2001 through March 2004, Mr. Connolly was first Vice-President, Mutual Fund Servicing for Mellon Global Securities Services. In that capacity, Mr. Connolly was responsible for managing Mellon's Custody, Fund Accounting and Fund Administration services to third-party mutual fund clients. He is 47 years old and has served in various capacities with the Manager since 1980, including manager of the firm's Fund Accounting Department from 1997 through October 2001.

The address of each Board member and officer of the Fund is 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10166.

The Fund's Board members and officers, as a group, owned less than 1% of the Fund's outstanding shares on April 11, 2005.

The following shareholders owned of record 5% or more of the Fund's shares outstanding as of April 11, 2005: National Financial Services, 82 Devonshire Street, Boston, MA 02109-3605 – 21.75%; and Charles Schwab & Co., Reinvest Account, 101 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104-4122 – 11.22%. A shareholder who beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, more than 25% of the Fund's voting securities may be deemed a "control person" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund.

MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Investment Advisory Agreement. The Manager is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mellon Financial Corporation (“Mellon”). Mellon is a global financial holding company incorporated under Pennsylvania law in 1971 and registered under the Federal Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended. Mellon provides a comprehensive range of financial products and services in domestic and selected international markets.

The Manager provides management services pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement (the “Advisory Agreement”) between the Manager and the Fund. The Advisory Agreement is subject to annual approval by (i) the Fund’s Board or (ii) vote of a majority (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund, provided that in either event the continuance also is approved by a majority of the Board members who are not “interested persons” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund or the Manager, by vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Advisory Agreement is terminable without penalty, on not more than 60 days’ notice, by the Fund’s Board or by vote of the holders of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting shares, or, upon not less than 90 days’ notice, by the Manager. The Advisory Agreement will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

The following persons are officers and/or directors of the Manager: Stephen E. Canter, Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer; Thomas F. Eggers, President and a director; Stephen R. Byers, Chief Investment Officer, Vice Chairman and a director; J. Charles Cardona, Vice Chairman and a director; J. David Officer, Vice Chairman and a director; Ronald P. O’Hanley III, Vice Chairman and a director; Diane P. Durnin, Executive Vice President; Mark N. Jacobs, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary; Patrice M. Kozlowski, Senior Vice President-Corporate Communications; Lisa A. Fox, Vice President-Human Resources; Anthony Mayo, Vice President-Information Systems; Theodore A. Schachar, Vice President-Tax; Alex G. Sculli, Vice President; Wendy H. Strutt, Vice President; William H. Maresca, Controller; Joseph W. Connolly, Chief Compliance Officer; James Bitetto, Assistant Secretary; Steven F. Newman, Assistant Secretary; and Steven G. Elliott, David F. Lamere, Martin G. McGuinn and Richard W. Sabo, directors.

The Manager maintains office facilities on behalf of the Fund, and furnishes statistical and research data, clerical help, accounting, data processing, bookkeeping and internal auditing and certain other required services to the Fund. The Manager also may make such advertising and promotional expenditures, using its own resources, as it from time to time deems appropriate. Sarofim & Co., using its own assets, including past profits, but not including the sub-investment advisory fee paid by the Fund, reimburses the Manager for a portion of any advertising and promotional expenditures made from the Manager’s own resources.

Mellon and its affiliates may have deposit, loan and commercial banking or other relationships with the issuers of securities purchased by the Fund. The Manager has informed the Fund that in making its investment decisions it does not obtain or use material inside information that Mellon or its affiliates may possess with respect to such issuers.

Under the Advisory Agreement, the Fund has agreed to pay the Manager a monthly fee at the annual rate set forth below:

<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>Annual Fee as a Percentage of Average Daily Net Assets</u>
0 to \$25 million .....	.44 of 1%
\$25 million to \$75 million .....	.37 of 1%
\$75 million to \$200 million .....	.33 of 1%
\$200 million to \$300 million .....	.29 of 1%
\$300 million or more .....	.275 of 1%

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, the Fund paid the Manager a monthly advisory fee at the effective annual rate of 0.28% of the value of the Fund's average daily net assets. The advisory fees paid by the Fund to the Manager for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004 amounted to \$9,270,657, \$9,541,708 and \$11,777,252, respectively.

Sub-Investment Advisory Agreement. Sarofim & Co. provides investment advisory assistance and day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio pursuant to the Sub-Investment Advisory Agreement (the "Sub-Advisory Agreement") between Sarofim & Co. and the Fund. The Sub-Advisory Agreement is subject to annual approval by (i) the Fund's Board or (ii) vote of a majority (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund's outstanding voting securities, provided that in either event the continuance also is approved by a majority of the Fund's Board members who are not "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund or Sarofim & Co., by vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Sub-Advisory Agreement is terminable without penalty, on 60 days' notice by the Fund's Board or by vote of the holders of a majority of the Fund's shares, or, on not less than 90 days' notice, by Sarofim & Co.. The Sub-Advisory Agreement will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

Under the Sub-Advisory Agreement, the Fund has agreed to pay Sarofim & Co. a monthly fee at the annual rate set forth below:

<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>Annual Fee as a Percentage of Average Daily Net Assets</u>
0 to \$25 million .....	.11 of 1%
\$25 million to \$75 million .....	.18 of 1%
\$75 million to \$200 million .....	.22 of 1%
\$200 million to \$300 million .....	.26 to 1%
\$300 million or more .....	.275 of 1%

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, the Fund paid Sarofim & Co. a monthly sub-advisory fee at the effective annual rate of 0.27% of the Fund's average daily net assets. The sub-advisory fees paid by the Fund to Sarofim & Co. for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004 amounted to \$8,925,657, \$9,196,708 and \$11,432,252, respectively.

The following persons are officers and/or directors of Sarofim & Co.: Fayez S. Sarofim, Chairman of the Board and President; Raye G. White, Executive Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a director; Russell M. Frankel, William K. McGee, Jr., Charles E. Sheedy and Ralph B. Thomas, Senior Vice Presidents; and Satish K. Gupta, Alice M. Youngblood, Christopher B. Sarofim, Mary L. Porter, Catherine P. Crain, David L. Pesikoff, Reynaldo Reza, Elizabeth S. Robison, Manisha A. Thakor, William G. Lee, Jr., Vice Presidents; and Robert M. Hopson, Vice President and Assistant Secretary.

Fund Management. Sarofim & Co. provides day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio of investments in accordance with the stated policies of the Fund, subject to the supervision of the Manager and the approval of the Fund's Board. The Manager and Sarofim & Co. provide the Fund with portfolio managers who are authorized by the Board to execute purchases and sales of securities. The Fund's primary portfolio manager is Fayez S. Sarofim. Charles E. Sheedy, Christopher B. Sarofim and Catherine P. Crain also serve as the Fund's portfolio managers. The Manager and Sarofim & Co. also maintain research departments with professional staffs of portfolio managers and securities analysts who provide research services for the Fund and other funds advised by the Manager and Sarofim & Co..

In approving the current Management Agreement and Sub Advisory Agreement, the Board considered a number of factors, including the nature and quality of the services provided by the Manager and Sarofim & Co.; the investment philosophy and investment approach as applied to the Fund by the Manager and Sarofim & Co.; the investment management expertise of the Manager and Sarofim & Co. in respect of the Fund's investment strategies; the personnel, resources and experience of the Manager and Sarofim & Co.; the Fund's performance history and the management fees paid to the Manager and sub-investment advisory fees paid to Sarofim & Co., as applicable, relative to those of mutual funds with similar investment objectives, strategies and restrictions; the Manager's and Sarofim & Co.'s costs of providing services under the respective agreement; and ancillary benefits the Manager or Sarofim & Co. may receive from its relationship with the Fund.

The Fund, the Manager, Sarofim & Co. and the Distributor have each adopted a Code of Ethics that permits its personnel, subject to such respective Code of Ethics, to invest in securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund. The Manager's Code of Ethics subjects its employees' personal securities transactions to various restrictions to ensure that such trading does not disadvantage any fund advised by the Manager. In that regard, portfolio managers and other investment personnel of the Manager must preclear and report their personal securities transactions and holdings, which are reviewed for compliance with the Code of Ethics, and are also subject to the oversight of Mellon's Investment Ethics Committee (the "Committee"). Portfolio managers and other investment personnel of the Manager who comply with the preclearance and disclosure procedures of the Code of Ethics, and the requirements of the Committee, may be permitted to purchase, sell or hold securities which also may be or are held in fund(s) they manage or for which they otherwise provide investment advice.

Portfolio Manager Compensation. The portfolio managers are compensated through (i) payment of a fixed annual salary and discretionary annual bonuses and (ii) the possible issuance of stock options and incentive stock options. The fixed annual salary amounts and the

discretionary annual bonus amounts constitute the largest component of the portfolio manager's compensation, and these amounts are determined annually through a comprehensive review process pursuant to which executive officers and the members of Fayed Sarofim & Co.'s Board of Directors review and consider the accomplishments and development of each portfolio manager, especially with respect to those client accounts involving the portfolio manager. A lesser component of the portfolio manager's compensation results from the possible issuance of stock options and incentive stock options. Portfolio managers are sometimes granted stock options and incentive stock options to acquire shares of the capital stock of The Sarofim Group, Inc., the ultimate corporate parent of Fayed Sarofim & Co. The decisions as to whether to issue such options and to whom the options are to be issued are made in conjunction with the annual salary and bonus review process, and the options are issued pursuant to a stock option plan adopted by The Sarofim Group, Inc. The options are not based on the particular performance or asset value of any particular client account or of all client accounts as a group, but rather the performance and accomplishments of the individual to whom the option is to be granted. There are various aspects of the review process that are designed to provide objectivity, but, in the final analysis, the evaluation is a subjective one that is based upon a collective overall assessment. There are, however, no specified formulas or benchmarks tied to the particular performance or asset value of any particular client account or of all client accounts as a group.

Additional Information About Portfolio Managers. The following table lists the number and types of other accounts advised by the Fund's primary portfolio manager and assets under management in those accounts as of the end of the Fund's fiscal year:

<u>Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Registered Investment Company Accounts</u>	<u>Assets Managed</u>	<u>Pooled Accounts</u>	<u>Assets Managed</u>	<u>Other Accounts</u>	<u>Assets Managed</u>
Fayez S. Sarofim	5	\$6.5 billion	18	\$6.9 billion	688	\$26 billion

None of the funds or accounts are subject to a performance-based advisory fee.

The dollar range of Fund shares beneficially owned by the primary portfolio manager are as follows as of the end of the Fund's fiscal year:

<u>Portfolio Manager</u>	<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Dollar Range of Fund Shares Beneficially Owned</u>
Fayez S. Sarofim	Dreyfus Appreciation Fund, Inc.	Over \$1 million

Portfolio managers at Dreyfus may manage multiple accounts for a diverse client base, including mutual funds, separate accounts (assets managed on behalf of institutions such as pension funds, insurance companies and foundations), bank common trust accounts and wrap fee programs ("Other Accounts").

Potential conflicts of interest may arise because of Dreyfus' management of the Fund and Other Accounts. For example, conflicts of interest may arise with both the aggregation and allocation of securities transactions and allocation of limited investment opportunities, as Dreyfus may be perceived as causing accounts it manages to participate in an offering to increase Dreyfus' overall allocation of securities in that offering, or to increase Dreyfus' ability to participate in future offerings by the same underwriter or issuer. Allocations of bunched trades, particularly trade orders that were only partially filled due to limited availability, and allocation of investment opportunities generally, could raise a potential conflict of interest, as Dreyfus may have an incentive to allocate securities that are expected to increase in value to preferred accounts. Initial public offerings, in particular, are frequently of very limited availability. Additionally, portfolio managers may be perceived to have a conflict of interest if there are a large number of Other Accounts, in addition to the Fund, that they are managing on behalf of Dreyfus. Dreyfus periodically reviews each portfolio manager's overall responsibilities to ensure that he or she is able to allocate the necessary time and resources to effectively manage the Fund. In addition, Dreyfus could be viewed as having a conflict of interest to the extent that Dreyfus or its affiliates and/or portfolio managers have a materially larger investment in Other Accounts than their investment in the Fund.

Other Accounts may have investment objectives, strategies and risks that differ from those of the Fund. For these or other reasons, the portfolio manager may purchase different securities for the Fund and the Other Accounts, and the performance of securities purchased for the Fund may vary from the performance of securities purchased for Other Accounts. The

portfolio manager may place transactions on behalf of Other Accounts that are directly or indirectly contrary to investment decisions made for the Fund, which could have the potential to adversely impact the Fund, depending on market conditions.

A potential conflict of interest may be perceived to arise if transactions in one account closely follow related transactions in another account, such as when a purchase increases the value of securities previously purchase by the other account, or when a sale in one account lowers the sale price received in a sale by a second account.

Dreyfus' goal is to provide high quality investment services to all of its clients, while meeting Dreyfus' fiduciary obligation to treat all clients fairly. Dreyfus has adopted and implemented policies and procedures, including brokerage and trade allocation policies and procedures, that it believes address the conflicts associated with managing multiple accounts for multiple clients. In addition, Dreyfus monitors a variety of areas, including compliance with Fund guidelines, the allocation of IPOs, and compliance with the firm's Code of Ethics. Furthermore, senior investment and business personnel at Dreyfus periodically review the performance of the portfolio managers for Dreyfus-managed funds.

Expenses. All expenses incurred in the operation of the Fund are borne by the Fund, except to the extent specifically assumed by Advisers. The expenses borne by the Fund include: taxes, interest, loan commitment fees and distributions paid on securities sold short, brokerage fees and commissions, if any, fees of Board members who are not officers, directors, employees or holders of 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the Manager or Sarofim & Co. or their affiliates, Securities and Exchange Commission fees, state Blue Sky qualification fees, advisory fees, charges of custodians, transfer and dividend disbursing agents' fees, certain insurance premiums, industry association fees, outside auditing and legal expenses, costs of independent pricing services, costs of maintaining corporate existence, costs attributable to investor services (including, without limitation, telephone and personnel expenses), costs of shareholders' reports and corporate meetings, costs of preparing and printing prospectuses and statements of additional information for regulatory purposes and for distribution to existing shareholders, and any extraordinary expenses.

The Manager has agreed that if in any fiscal year the aggregate expenses of the Fund, exclusive of interest, taxes, brokerage fees and (with the prior written consent of the necessary state securities commissions) extraordinary expenses, but including the advisory fee, exceed the expense limitation of any state having jurisdiction over the Fund, the Fund may deduct from the payment to be made to the Manager under the Advisory Agreement, or the Manager will bear, such excess expense to the extent required by state law. Such deduction or payment, if any, will be estimated daily, and reconciled and effected or paid, as the case may be, on a monthly basis.

The Distributor. The Distributor, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Manager located at 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10166, serves as the Fund's distributor on a best efforts basis pursuant to an agreement with the Fund which is renewable annually.

The Distributor may pay certain financial institutions (which may include banks), securities dealers and other industry professionals, such as investment advisers, accountants and

estate planning firms (collectively, “Service Agents”) that have entered into agreements with the Distributor a fee based on the amount invested through such Service Agents in Fund shares by employees participating in qualified or non-qualified employee benefit plans, including pension, profit-sharing and other deferred compensation plans, whether established by corporations, partnerships, non-profit entities or state and local governments (“Retirement Plans”), or other programs. The term “Retirement Plans” does not include IRAs, IRA “Rollover Accounts” or IRAs set up under a Simplified Employee Pension Plan (“SEP-IRAs”). Generally, the Distributor may pay such Service Agents a fee of up to 1% of the amount invested through the Service Agents. The Distributor, however, may pay Service Agents a higher fee and reserves the right to cease paying these fees at any time. The Distributor will pay such fees from its own funds, other than amounts received from the Fund, including past profits or any other source available to it. Sponsors of such Retirement Plans or the participants therein should consult their Service Agent for more information regarding any such fee payable to the Service Agent.

The Manager or the Distributor may provide additional cash payments out of its own resources to financial intermediaries that sell shares of the Fund or provide other services. Such payments are in addition to any sales charges and/or shareholder services fees or other expenses paid by the Fund. These additional payments may be made to Service Agents, including affiliates, that provide shareholder servicing, sub-administration, record-keeping and/or sub-transfer agency services, marketing support and/or access to sales meetings, sales representatives and management representatives of the Service Agent. Cash compensation also may be paid to Service Agents for inclusion of the Fund on a sales list, including a preferred or select sales list or in other sales programs. These payments sometimes are referred to as “revenue sharing.” In some cases, these payments may create an incentive for a Service Agent to recommend or sell shares of the Fund to you. Please contact your Service Agent for details about any payments it may receive in connection with the sale of Fund shares or the provision of services to the Fund.

From time to time, the Manager or the Distributor also may provide cash or non-cash compensation to Service Agents in the form of: occasional gifts; occasional meals, tickets or other entertainment; support for recognition programs; and other forms of cash or non-cash compensation permissible under broker-dealer regulations, as periodically amended.

Transfer and Dividend Disbursing Agent and Custodian. Dreyfus Transfer, Inc. (the “Transfer Agent”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Manager, 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10166, is the Fund’s transfer and dividend disbursing agent. Under a transfer agency agreement with the Fund, the Transfer Agent arranges for the maintenance of shareholder account records for the Fund, the handling of certain communications between shareholders and the Fund and the payment of dividends and distributions payable by the Fund. For these services, the Transfer Agent receives a monthly fee computed on the basis of the number of shareholder accounts it maintains for the Fund during the month, and is reimbursed for certain out-of-pocket expenses.

Mellon Bank, N.A. (the “Custodian”), an affiliate of the Manager, One Mellon Bank Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15258, acts as custodian of the Fund’s investments. Under a custody agreement with the Fund, the Custodian holds the Fund’s securities and keeps all necessary accounts and records. For its custody services, the Custodian receives a monthly fee

based on the market value of the Fund's domestic assets held in custody and receives certain securities transactions charges.

HOW TO BUY SHARES

General. Fund shares may be purchased through the Distributor or Service Agents that have entered into service agreements with the Distributor. Stock certificates are issued only upon your written request. No certificates are issued for fractional shares. The Fund reserves the right to reject any purchase order.

As discussed under "Management Arrangements – Distributor," Service Agents may receive revenue sharing payments from the Manager or the Distributor. The receipt of such payments could create an incentive for a Service Agent to recommend or sell shares of the Fund instead of other mutual funds where such payments are not received. Please contact your Service Agent for details about any payments it may receive in connection with the sale of Fund shares or the provision of services to the Fund.

The minimum initial investment is \$2,500, or \$1,000 if you are a client of a Service Agent, which maintains an omnibus account in the Fund and has made an aggregate minimum initial purchase for its customers of \$2,500. Subsequent investments must be at least \$100. However, the minimum initial investment is \$750 for Dreyfus-sponsored Keogh Plans, IRAs (including regular IRAs, spousal IRAs for a non-working spouse, Roth IRAs, SEP-IRAs and rollover IRAs) and 403(b)(7) Plans with only one participant and \$500 for Dreyfus-sponsored Education Savings Accounts, with no minimum for subsequent purchases. The initial investment must be accompanied by the Account Application. For full-time or part-time employees of the Manager or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries, directors of the Manager, Board members of a fund advised by the Manager, including members of the Fund's Board, or the spouse or minor child of any of the foregoing, the minimum initial investment is \$1,000. For full-time or part-time employees of the Manager or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries who elect to have a portion of their pay directly deposited into their Fund accounts, the minimum initial investment is \$50. Fund shares are offered without regard to the minimum initial investment requirements to Board members of a fund advised by the Manager, including members of the Fund's Board, who elect to have all or a portion of their compensation for serving in that capacity automatically invested in the Fund. The Fund reserves the right to offer Fund shares without regard to minimum purchase requirements to employees participating in certain Retirement Plans or other programs where contributions or account information can be transmitted in a manner and form acceptable to the Fund. The Fund reserves the right to vary further the initial and subsequent investment minimum requirements at any time.

Fund shares also are offered without regard to the minimum initial investment requirements through Dreyfus-Automatic Asset Builder®, Dreyfus Government Direct Deposit Privilege or Dreyfus Payroll Savings Plan pursuant to the Dreyfus Step Program described under "Shareholder Services." These services enable you to make regularly scheduled investments and may provide you with a convenient way to invest for long-term financial goals. You should be

aware, however, that periodic investment plans do not guarantee a profit and will not protect an investor against loss in a declining market.

Shares are sold on a continuous basis at the net asset value per share next determined after an order in proper form is received by the Transfer Agent or other authorized entity. Net asset value per share is determined as of the close of trading on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (usually 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) on each day the New York Stock Exchange is open for regular business. For purposes of computing net asset value per share, certain options may be valued 15 minutes after the close of trading on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Net asset value per share is computed by dividing the value of the Fund's net assets (i.e., the value of its assets less liabilities) by the total number of shares outstanding. For information regarding the methods employed in valuing the Fund's investments, see "Determination of Net Asset Value."

Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege. You may purchase shares by telephone or online if you have checked the appropriate box and supplied the necessary information on the Account Application or have filed a Shareholder Services Form with the Transfer Agent. The proceeds will be transferred between the bank account designated in one of these documents and your Fund account. Only a bank account maintained in a domestic financial institution which is an Automated Clearing House ("ACH") member may be so designated.

Dreyfus TeleTransfer purchase orders may be made at any time. If purchase orders are received by 4:00 p.m., Eastern time, on any day that the Transfer Agent and the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") are open for regular business, Fund shares will be purchased at the share price determined on that day. If purchase orders are made after 4:00 p.m., Eastern time, on any day the Transfer Agent and the NYSE are open for regular business, or made on Saturday, Sunday or any Fund holiday (e.g., when the NYSE is not open for business), Fund shares will be purchased at the share price determined on the next business day following such purchase order. To qualify to use the Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege, the initial payment for purchase of Fund shares must be drawn on, and redemption proceeds paid to, the same bank and account as are designated on the Account Application or Shareholder Services Form on file. If the proceeds of a particular redemption are to be sent to an account at any other bank, the request must be in writing and signature-guaranteed. See "How to Redeem Shares--Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege."

Reopening an Account. You may reopen an account with a minimum investment of \$100 without filing a new Account Application during the calendar year the account is closed or during the following calendar year, provided the information on the old Account Application is still applicable.

SHAREHOLDER SERVICES PLAN

The Fund has adopted a Shareholder Services Plan pursuant to which the Fund pays the Distributor for the provision of certain services to shareholders of the Fund a fee at the annual

rate of 0.25% of the value of the Fund's average daily net assets. The services provided may include personal services relating to shareholder accounts, such as answering shareholder inquiries regarding the Fund and providing reports and other information, and services related to the maintenance of shareholder accounts. Under the Shareholder Services Plan, the Distributor may make payments to certain Service Agents in respect of these services. The Distributor determines the amounts to be paid to Service Agents. If a Fund shareholder ceases to be a client of a Service Agent, but continues to hold Fund shares, the Distributor or its affiliates will be permitted to act as a Service Agent in respect of such Fund shareholder and receive payments under the Shareholder Services Plan.

A quarterly report of the amounts expended under the Shareholder Services Plan, and the purposes for which such expenditures were incurred, must be made to the Fund's Board for its review. In addition, the Shareholder Services Plan provides that material amendments of the Plan must be approved by the Fund's Board and by the Board members who are not "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Fund and have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the Shareholder Services Plan or in any agreements entered into in connection with the Shareholder Services Plan, by vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of considering such amendments. The Shareholder Services Plan is subject to annual approval by such vote of the Board members cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on the Plan. The Shareholder Services Plan is terminable at any time by vote of a majority of the Board members who are not "interested persons" and have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the Shareholder Services Plan or in any agreements entered into in connection with the Shareholder Services Plan.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, the Fund paid \$10,549,775 under the Shareholder Services Plan.

HOW TO REDEEM SHARES

General. The Fund ordinarily will make payment for all shares redeemed within seven days after receipt by the Transfer Agent of a redemption request in proper form, except as provided by the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. However, if you have purchased Fund shares by check, by Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege or through Dreyfus-Automatic Asset Builder® and subsequently submit a written redemption request to the Transfer Agent, the Fund may delay sending the redemption proceeds for a period of up to eight business days after the purchase of such shares. In addition, the Fund will reject requests to redeem shares by wire or telephone, online or pursuant to the Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege for a period of up to eight business days after receipt by the Transfer Agent of the purchase check, the Dreyfus TeleTransfer purchase or the Dreyfus-Automatic Asset Builder® order against which such redemption is requested. These procedures will not apply if your shares were purchased by wire payment, or if you otherwise have a sufficient collected balance in your account to cover the redemption request. Fund shares may not be redeemed until the Transfer Agent has received your Account Application.

Wire Redemption Privilege. By using this Privilege, you authorize the Transfer Agent to act on telephone, letter or online redemption instructions from any person representing himself or herself to be you and reasonably believed by the Transfer Agent to be genuine. Ordinarily, the Fund will initiate payment for shares redeemed pursuant to this Privilege on the next business day after receipt by the Transfer Agent of a redemption request in proper form. Redemption proceeds (\$1,000 minimum) will be transferred by Federal Reserve wire only to the commercial bank account specified by you on the Account Application or Shareholder Services Form, or to a correspondent bank if your bank is not a member of the Federal Reserve System. Fees ordinarily are imposed by such bank and borne by you. Immediate notification by the correspondent bank to your bank is necessary to avoid a delay in crediting the funds to your bank account.

To change the commercial bank or account designated to receive redemption proceeds, a written request must be sent to the Transfer Agent. This request must be signed by each shareholder, with each signature guaranteed as described below under “Stock Certificates; Signatures.”

Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege. You may request by telephone or online that redemption proceeds (minimum \$500 per day) be transferred between your Fund account and your bank account. Only a bank account maintained in a domestic financial institution which is an ACH member may be designated. Redemption proceeds will be on deposit in your account at an ACH member bank ordinarily two days after receipt of the redemption request. You should be aware that if you have selected the Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege, any request for a Dreyfus Teletransfer transaction will be effected through the ACH system unless more prompt transmittal specifically is requested. Redemption proceeds will be on deposit in your account at an ACH member bank ordinarily two business days after receipt of the redemption request. See “How to Buy Shares–Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege.”

Stock Certificates; Signatures. Any certificates representing Fund shares to be redeemed must be submitted with the redemption request. Written redemption requests must be signed by each shareholder, including each holder of a joint account, and each signature must be guaranteed. Signatures on endorsed certificates submitted for redemption also must be guaranteed. The Transfer Agent has adopted standards and procedures pursuant to which signature-guarantees in proper form generally will be accepted from domestic banks, brokers, dealers, credit unions, national securities exchanges, registered securities associations, clearing agencies and savings associations, as well as from participants in the New York Stock Exchange Medallion Signature Program, the Securities Transfer Agents Medallion Program (“STAMP”) and the Stock Exchanges Medallion Program. Guarantees must be signed by an authorized signatory of the guarantor, and “Signature-Guaranteed” must appear with the signature. The Transfer Agent may request additional documentation from corporations, executors, administrators, trustees or guardians, and may accept other suitable verification arrangements from foreign investors, such as consular verification. For more information with respect to signature-guarantees, please call one of the telephone numbers listed on the cover.

Redemption Commitment. The Fund has committed itself to pay in cash all redemption requests by any shareholder of record, limited in amount during any 90-day period to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of the value of the Fund's net assets at the beginning of such period. Such commitment is irrevocable without the prior approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission. In the case of requests for redemption in excess of such amount, the Board reserves the right to make payments in whole or in part in securities or other assets of the Fund in case of an emergency or any time a cash distribution would impair the liquidity of the Fund to the detriment of the existing shareholders. In such event, the securities would be valued in the same manner as the Fund's portfolio is valued. If the recipient sold such securities, brokerage charges would be incurred.

Suspension of Redemptions. The right of redemption may be suspended or the date of payment postponed (a) during any period when the New York Stock Exchange is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings), (b) when trading in the markets the Fund ordinarily utilizes is restricted, or when an emergency exists as determined by the Securities and Exchange Commission so that disposal of the Fund's investments or determination of its net asset value is not reasonably practicable, or (c) for such other periods as the Securities and Exchange Commission by order may permit to protect the Fund's shareholders.

SHAREHOLDER SERVICES

Fund Exchanges. You may purchase, in exchange for shares of the Fund, shares of certain other funds managed or administered by the Manager, or shares of certain funds advised by Founders Asset Management LLC ("Founders"), an indirect subsidiary of the Manager, to the extent such shares are offered for sale in your state of residence. Shares of other funds purchased by exchange will be purchased on the basis of relative net asset value per share as follows:

A. Exchanges for shares of funds offered without a sales load will be made without a sales load.

B. Shares of funds purchased without a sales load may be exchanged for shares of other funds sold with a sales load, and the applicable sales load will be deducted.

C. Shares of funds purchased with a sales load may be exchanged without a sales load for shares of other funds sold without a sales load.

D. Shares of funds purchased with a sales load, shares of funds acquired by a previous exchange from shares purchased with a sales load and additional shares acquired through reinvestment of dividends or distributions of any such funds (collectively referred to herein as "Purchased Shares") may be exchanged for shares of other funds sold with a sales load (referred to herein as "Offered Shares"), but if the sales load applicable to the Offered Shares exceeds the maximum sales load that could have been imposed in connection with the Purchased Shares (at the time the Purchased Shares were acquired), without giving effect to any reduced loads, the difference may be deducted.

To accomplish an exchange under item D above, you must notify the Transfer Agent of your prior ownership of fund shares and your account number.

To request an exchange, you must give exchange instructions to the Transfer Agent in writing, by telephone or online. The ability to issue exchange instructions by telephone or online is given to all Fund shareholders automatically, unless you check the applicable “No” box on the Account Application, indicating that you specifically refuse this privilege. By using this privilege, you authorize the Transfer Agent to act on telephonic and online instructions (including over the Dreyfus Express® voice response telephone system) from any person representing himself or herself to be you and reasonably believed by the Transfer Agent to be genuine. Exchanges may be subject to limitations as to the amount involved or the number of exchanges permitted. Shares issued in certificate form are not eligible for telephone or online exchange. No fees currently are charged shareholders directly in connection with exchanges, although the Fund reserves the right, upon not less than 60 days’ written notice, to charge shareholders a nominal administrative fee in accordance with rules promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

To establish a personal retirement plan by exchange, shares of the fund being exchanged must have a value of at least the minimum initial investment required for the fund into which the exchange is being made.

During times of drastic economic or market conditions, the Fund may suspend Fund Exchanges temporarily without notice and treat exchange requests based on their separate components -- redemption orders with a simultaneous request to purchase the other fund’s shares. In such a case, the redemption request would be processed at the Fund’s next determined net asset value but the purchase order would be effective only at the net asset value next determined after the fund being purchased receives the proceeds of the redemption, which may result in the purchase being delayed.

Dreyfus Auto-Exchange Privilege. Dreyfus Auto-Exchange Privilege permits you to purchase (on a semi-monthly, monthly, quarterly or annual basis), in exchange for shares of the Fund, shares of another fund in the Dreyfus Family of Funds or shares of a fund advised by Founders, of which you are a shareholder. This Privilege is available only for existing accounts. Shares will be exchanged on the basis of relative net asset value as described above under “Fund Exchanges.” Enrollment in or modification or cancellation of this Privilege is effective three business days following notification by the investor. You will be notified if your account falls below the amount designated to be exchanged under this Privilege. In this case, your account will fall to zero unless additional investments are made in excess of the designated amount prior to the next Auto-Exchange transaction. Shares held under IRA and other retirement plans are eligible for this Privilege. Exchanges of IRA shares may be made between IRA accounts from regular accounts to IRA accounts, but not from IRA accounts to regular accounts. With respect to all other retirement accounts, exchanges may be made only among those accounts.

Fund Exchanges and the Dreyfus Auto-Exchange Privilege are available to shareholders resident in any state in which shares of the fund being acquired may legally be sold. Shares may be exchanged only between accounts having certain identical identifying designations.

Shareholder Services Forms and prospectuses of the other funds may be obtained by calling 1-800-645-6561, or visiting www.dreyfus.com. The Fund reserves the right to reject any exchange request in whole or in part. The Fund Exchanges service or the Dreyfus Auto-Exchange Privilege may be modified or terminated at any time upon notice to shareholders.

Dreyfus-Automatic Asset Builder®. Dreyfus-Automatic Asset Builder permits you to purchase Fund shares (minimum of \$100 and maximum of \$150,000 per transaction) at regular intervals selected by you. Fund shares are purchased by transferring funds from the bank account designated by you.

Dreyfus Government Direct Deposit Privilege. Dreyfus Government Direct Deposit Privilege enables you to purchase Fund shares (minimum of \$100 and maximum of \$50,000 per transaction) by having Federal salary, Social Security, or certain veterans', military or other payments from the U.S. Government automatically deposited into your fund account.

Dreyfus Payroll Savings Plan. Dreyfus Payroll Savings Plan permits you to purchase Fund shares (minimum of \$100 per transaction) automatically on a regular basis. Depending upon your employer's direct deposit program, you may have part or all of your paycheck transferred to your existing Dreyfus account electronically through the Automated Clearing House system at each pay period. To establish a Dreyfus Payroll Savings Plan account, you must file an authorization form with your employer's payroll department. It is the sole responsibility of your employer to arrange for transactions under the Dreyfus Payroll Savings Plan.

Dreyfus Step Program. The Dreyfus Step Program enables you to purchase Fund shares without regard to the Fund's minimum initial investment requirements through Dreyfus-Automatic Asset Builder®, Dreyfus Government Direct Deposit Privilege or Dreyfus Payroll Savings Plan. To establish a Dreyfus Step Program account, you must supply the necessary information on the Account Application and file the required authorization form(s) with the Transfer Agent. For more information concerning this Program, or to request the necessary authorization form(s), please call toll free 1-800-782-6620. You may terminate your participation in this Program at any time by discontinuing your participation in Dreyfus-Automatic Asset Builder, Dreyfus Government Direct Deposit Privilege or Dreyfus Payroll Savings Plan, as the case may be, as provided under the terms of such Privilege(s). The Fund may modify or terminate this Program at any time.

Dreyfus Dividend Options. Dreyfus Dividend Sweep allows you to invest automatically your dividends or dividends and capital gain distributions, if any, from the Fund in shares of another fund in the Dreyfus Family of Funds or shares of a fund advised by Founders, of which you are a shareholder. Shares of other funds purchased pursuant to this privilege will be purchased on the basis of relative net asset value per share as follows:

A. Dividends and distributions paid by a fund may be invested without a sales load in shares of other funds offered without a sales load.

B. Dividends and distributions paid by a fund that does not charge a sales load may be invested in shares of other funds sold with a sales load, and the applicable sales load will be deducted.

C. Dividends and distributions paid by a fund that charges a sales load may be invested in shares of other funds sold with a sales load (referred to herein as “Offered Shares”), but if the sales load applicable to the Offered Shares exceeds the maximum sales load charged by the fund from which dividends or distributions are being swept (without giving effect to any reduced loads), the difference may be deducted.

D. Dividends and distributions paid by a fund may be invested in shares of other funds that impose a contingent deferred sales charge (“CDSC”) and the applicable CDSC, if any, will be imposed upon redemption of such shares.

Dreyfus Dividend ACH permits you to transfer electronically dividends or dividends and capital gain distributions, if any, from the Fund to a designated bank account. Only an account maintained at a domestic financial institution which is an Automated Clearing House member may be so designated. Banks may charge a fee for this service.

Automatic Withdrawal Plan. The Automatic Withdrawal Plan permits you to request withdrawal of a specified dollar amount (minimum of \$50) on either a monthly or quarterly basis if you have a \$5,000 minimum account. Withdrawal payments are the proceeds from sales of Fund shares, not the yield on the shares. If withdrawal payments exceed reinvested dividends and distributions, your shares will be reduced and eventually may be depleted. Automatic Withdrawal may be terminated at any time by you, the Fund or the Transfer Agent. Shares for which certificates have been issued may not be redeemed through the Automatic Withdrawal Plan.

Corporate Pension/Profit-Sharing and Retirement Plans. The Fund makes available to corporations a variety of prototype pension and profit-sharing plans, including a 401(k) Salary Reduction Plan. In addition, the Fund makes available Keogh Plans, IRAs (including regular IRAs, spousal IRAs for a non-working spouse, Roth IRAs, SEP IRAs and Rollover IRAs), Education Savings Accounts, 401(k) Salary Reduction Plans and 403(b)(7) Plans. Plan support services also are available.

Investors who wish to purchase Fund shares in conjunction with a Keogh Plan, a 403(b)(7) Plan, an IRA, including a SEP-IRA, or an Education Savings Account, may request from the Distributor forms for adoption of such plans.

The entity acting as custodian for Keogh Plans, 403(b)(7) Plans, IRAs or Education Savings Accounts may charge a fee, payment of which could require the liquidation of shares. All fees charged are described in the appropriate form.

Shares may be purchased in connection with these plans only by direct remittance to the entity acting as custodian. Purchases for these plans may not be made in advance of receipt of funds.

Each investor should read the prototype retirement plan and the appropriate form of custodial agreement for further details on eligibility, service fees and tax implications, and should consult a tax adviser.

DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

Valuation of Portfolio Securities. The Fund's investments are valued on the basis of market quotation or official closing prices. The Fund's portfolio securities, including covered call options written by the Fund, are valued at the last sale price on the securities exchange or national securities market on which such securities primarily are traded. Securities traded on Nasdaq will be valued at the Nasdaq Official Closing Price. Securities not listed on an exchange or national securities market, or securities in which there were no transactions, are valued at the average of the most recent bid and asked prices, except in the case of open short positions where the asked price is used for valuation purposes. Bid price is used when no asked price is available. Any assets or liabilities initially expressed in terms of foreign currency will be translated into dollars at the midpoint of the New York interbank market spot exchange rate as quoted on the day of such translation by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or if no such rate is quoted on such date, at the exchange rate previously quoted by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or at such other quoted market exchange rate as may be determined to be appropriate by the Manager. Forward currency contracts will be valued at the current cost of offsetting the contract. Because of the need to obtain prices as of the close of trading on various exchanges throughout the world, the calculation of net asset value may not take place contemporaneously with the determination of prices of certain portfolio securities. Short-term investments may be carried at amortized cost, which approximates value. Expenses and fees, including the advisory and sub-advisory fees, and fees pursuant to the Shareholder Services Plan, are accrued daily and taken into account for the purpose of determining the net asset value of Fund shares.

Restricted securities, as well as securities or other assets for which recent market quotations or official closing prices are not readily available, are not valued by a pricing service approved by the Board, or are determined by the Fund not to reflect accurately fair value (such as when the value of a security has been materially affected by events occurring after the close of the exchange or market on which the security is principally traded (for example, a foreign exchange or market) but before the company calculates its NAV), are valued at fair value as determined in good faith based on procedures approved by the Board. Fair value of investments may be determined by the Fund's Board, its pricing committee or its valuation committee in good faith using such information as it deems appropriate. The factors that may be considered when fair valuing a security include fundamental analytical data, the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition, an evaluation of the forces that influence the market in which the securities are purchased or sold, and public trading in similar securities of the issuer or comparable issuers. Fair value of foreign equity securities may be determined with the

assistance of pricing service using correlations between the movement of prices of foreign securities and indices of domestic securities and other appropriate indicators, such as closing market prices of relevant ADRs and futures contracts. The valuation of a security based on fair value procedures may differ from the security's most recent closing price, and from the prices used by other mutual funds to calculate their net asset values. Foreign securities held by the Fund may trade on days that the Fund is not open for business, thus affecting the value of the Fund's asset on days when Fund investors have no access to the Fund. Restricted securities which are, or are convertible into, securities of the same class of other securities for which a public market exists usually will be valued at market value less the same percentage discount at which the restricted securities were purchased. This discount will be revised periodically by the Board if the Board members believe that it no longer reflects the value of the restricted securities. Restricted securities not of the same class as securities for which a public market exists usually will be valued initially at cost. Any subsequent adjustment from cost will be based upon considerations deemed relevant by the Fund's Board.

New York Stock Exchange Closings. The holidays (as observed) on which the New York Stock Exchange is closed currently are: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

DIVIDENDS, DISTRIBUTIONS AND TAXES

Management believes that the Fund has qualified for treatment as a "regulated investment company" under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004. The Fund intends to continue to so qualify if such qualification is in the best interests of its shareholders. Such qualification relieves the Fund of any liability for Federal income tax to the extent its earnings are distributed to shareholders in accordance with applicable provisions of the Code. To qualify as a regulated investment company, the Fund must pay out to its shareholders at least 90% of its net income (consisting of net investment income from tax exempt obligations and taxable obligations, if any, and net short-term capital gains), and must meet certain asset diversification and other requirements. If the Fund does not qualify as a regulated investment company, it will be treated for tax purposes as an ordinary corporation subject to Federal income tax. The term "regulated investment company" does not imply the supervision of management or investment practices or policies by any government agency.

If you elect to receive dividends and distributions in cash, and your dividend or distribution check is returned to the Fund as undeliverable or remains uncashed for six months, the Fund reserves the right to reinvest such dividend or distribution and all future dividends and distributions payable to you in additional Fund shares at net asset value. No interest will accrue on amounts represented by uncashed distribution or redemption checks.

Any dividend or distribution paid shortly after an investor's purchase may have the effect of reducing the net asset value of his shares below the cost of his investment. Such a dividend or distribution would be a return on investment in an economic sense although taxable as stated in the Prospectus. In addition, the Code provides that if a shareholder has not held his Fund shares

for more than six months and has received a capital gain distribution with respect to such shares, any loss incurred on the sale of such shares will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of the capital gain distribution received.

In general, dividends (other than capital gain dividends) paid by the Fund to U.S. individual shareholders may be eligible for the 15% preferential maximum tax rate to the extent that the Fund's income consists of dividends paid by U.S. corporations and certain foreign corporations on shares that have been held by the Fund for at least 61 days during the 121-day period commencing 60 days before the shares become ex-dividend. In order to be eligible for the preferential rate, the shareholder must have held his or her shares in the Fund for at least 61 days during the 121-day period commencing 60 days before the Fund shares become ex-dividend. Additional restrictions on an individual shareholder's qualification for the preferential rate may apply.

In general, dividends (other than capital gain dividends) paid by the Fund to U.S. corporate shareholders may be eligible for the dividends received deduction to the extent that the Fund's income consists of dividends paid by U.S. corporations on shares that have been held by the Fund for at least 46 days during the 91-day period commencing 45 days before the shares become ex-dividend. In order to claim the dividends received deduction, the investor in the Fund must have held its shares in the Fund for at least 46 days during the 91-day period commencing 45 days before the Fund shares become ex-dividend. Additional restrictions on an investor's ability to claim the dividends received deduction may apply.

Ordinarily, gains and losses realized from portfolio transactions will be treated as capital gains or losses. However, a portion of any gain or loss realized from the disposition of certain non-U.S. dollar denominated securities (including debt instruments, certain forward contracts and option transactions and certain preferred stock) may be treated as ordinary income or loss. In addition, all or a portion of any gain realized from the sale or other disposition of certain market discount bonds will be treated as ordinary income. Finally, all or a portion of any gain realized from engaging in "conversion transactions" (generally including certain transactions designed to convert ordinary income into capital gain) may be treated as ordinary income.

Gain or loss, if any, realized by the Fund from certain forward contracts and options transactions ("Section 1256 Contracts") will be treated as 60% long-term capital gain or loss and 40% short-term capital gain or loss. Gain or loss will arise upon exercise or lapse of such Section 1256 contracts as well as from closing transactions. In addition, any such Section 1256 Contracts remaining unexercised at the end of the Fund's taxable year will be treated as sold for their then fair market value, resulting in additional gain or loss to the Fund characterized as described above.

Offsetting positions held by the Fund involving certain foreign currency forward contracts and options may constitute "straddles." "Straddles" are defined to include "offsetting positions" in actively traded personal property. To the extent straddle rules apply to positions established by the Fund, losses realized by the Fund may be deferred to the extent of unrealized gain in the offsetting position. In addition, short-term capital loss on straddle positions may be recharacterized as long-term capital loss, and long-term capital gains on straddle positions may

be treated as short-term capital gains or ordinary income. Certain of the straddle positions held by the Fund may constitute “mixed straddles.” The Fund may make one or more elections with respect to the treatment of “mixed straddles,” resulting in different tax consequences. In certain circumstances, the provisions governing the tax treatment of straddles override or modify certain of the provisions discussed above.

Under the provisions of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (the “2004 Tax Act”), dividends paid by the Fund to foreign shareholders that are derived from short-term capital gains and qualifying net interest income (including income from original issue discount and market discount), and that are properly designated by the Fund as “interest-related dividends” or “short-term capital gain dividends,” will generally not be subject to U.S. withholding tax, provided that the income would not be subject to U.S. Federal income tax if earned directly by the foreign shareholder. In addition, the 2004 Tax Act provides that distributions of the Fund attributable to gains from sales or exchanges of “U.S. real property interests,” as defined in the Code and Treasury regulations (including gains on the sale or exchange of shares in certain “U.S. real property holding corporations,” which may include certain REITs and certain REIT capital gain dividends) will generally cause the foreign shareholder to be treated as recognizing such gain as income effectively connected to a trade or business within the United States, generally subject to the rules described in the next paragraph below. Such distributions may be subject to U.S. withholding tax and may give rise to an obligation on the part of the foreign shareholder to file a U.S. federal income tax return. These provisions generally would apply to distributions with respect to taxable years of the Fund beginning after December 31, 2004 and before January 1, 2008.

Investment by the Fund in securities issued at a discount or providing for deferred interest or for payment of interest in the form of additional obligations could, under special tax rules, affect the amount, timing and character of distributions to shareholders. For example, the Fund could be required to take into account annually a portion of the discount (or deemed discount) at which such securities were issued and to distribute such portion in order to maintain its qualification as a regulated investment company. In such case, the Fund may have to dispose of securities which it might otherwise have continued to hold in order to generate cash to satisfy these distribution requirements.

Federal regulations require that you provide a certified taxpayer identification number (“TIN”) upon opening or reopening an account. See the Account Application for further information concerning this requirement. Failure to furnish a certified TIN to the Fund could subject you to a \$50 penalty imposed by the Internal Revenue Service.

PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

General. The Manager assumes general supervision over the placement of securities buy and sell orders on behalf of the funds it manages. In choosing brokers, the Manager evaluates the ability of the broker to execute the particular transaction (taking into account the market for the stock and the size of the order) at the best combination of price and quality of execution. In selecting brokers no factor is necessarily determinative, and seeking to obtain best execution for

all trades takes precedence over all other considerations. Brokers are selected after a review of relevant criteria, which may include: the actual price to be paid for the shares; the broker's knowledge of the market for the particular stock; the broker's reliability; the broker's integrity or ability to maintain confidentiality; the broker's research capability; commission rates; the broker's ability to ensure that the shares will be delivered on settlement date; the broker's ability to handle specific orders of various size and complexity; the broker's financial condition; the broker's willingness to commit capital; and the broker's infrastructure and operational capabilities. At various times and for various reasons, certain factors will be more important than others in determining which broker to use.

The Manager has adopted written trade allocation procedures for its equity trading desks. Under the procedures, portfolio managers and the trading desks ordinarily will seek to aggregate (or "bunch") orders that are placed or received concurrently for more than one account. In some cases, this policy may adversely affect the price paid or received by an account, or the size of the position obtained or liquidated. Generally, bunched trades will be allocated among the participating accounts based on the number of shares designated for each account on the trade order. If securities available are insufficient to satisfy the requirements of the participating accounts, available securities generally are allocated among accounts pro rata, based on order sizes. In the case of debt securities, the pro rata allocation is based on the accounts' asset sizes. In allocating trades made on a combined basis, the trading desks seek to achieve the same net unit price of the securities for each participating account. Because a pro rata allocation may not always adequately accommodate all facts and circumstances, the trade allocation procedures allow the allocation of securities on a basis other than pro rata. For example, adjustments may be made to eliminate de minimis positions, to give priority to accounts with specialized investment policies and objectives or to consider the unique characteristics of certain accounts (e.g., available cash, industry or issuer concentration, duration, credit exposure).

The Manager or Sarofim & Co. may deem it appropriate for one of their accounts to sell a security while another of their accounts is purchasing the same security. Under such circumstances, they may arrange to have the purchase and sale transaction effected directly between their accounts ("cross transactions"). Although Sarofim & Co. currently has a policy of not engaging directly in cross transactions, the Fund does have the ability to effect such transactions. Any cross transactions by the Fund will be effected pursuant to procedures adopted under Rule 17a-7 under the 1940 Act.

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004, the Fund paid brokerage commissions of \$699,413, \$745,856 and \$1,011,948, respectively, none of which was paid to the Distributor. For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004, the Fund did not pay any concessions related to such transactions.

The Fund contemplates that, consistent with the policy of obtaining the most favorable net price, brokerage transactions may be conducted through the Manager or its affiliates. The Fund's Board has adopted procedures in conformity with Rule 17e-1 under the 1940 Act to ensure that all brokerage commissions paid to the Manager or its affiliates are reasonable and fair. During the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004, the Fund paid brokerage

commissions of \$0, \$6,000 and \$0, respectively, to an affiliate of the Manager. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, this amount represented approximately 1% of the aggregate brokerage commissions paid by the Fund for transactions involving approximately 3% of the aggregate dollar value of transactions for which the Fund paid brokerage commissions.

IPO Allocations. The Manager has adopted IPO procedures that require portfolio managers, including the Fund's portfolio managers whom are employed by Sarofim & Co., seeking to participate in an IPO to use reasonable efforts to indicate their interest in the IPO, in writing, to Dreyfus's Equity Trading Desk at least 24 hours before the pricing of the shares offered in the IPO. Generally, the number of shares requested by a portfolio manager must be limited to the number of IPO shares which, if received, would not exceed a position that is .50% greater than the fund's average equity position.

Portfolio managers may specify a minimum number of shares deemed to be an adequate allocation for a fund, and will not receive an allocation of less than the number of shares so specified. Portfolio managers must accept an allocation that is equal to or greater than the minimum number of shares requested, but are not required to accept shares in excess of the amount requested. Any de minimis adjustment may result in larger funds participating in IPOs to a lesser extent than smaller funds.

A portfolio manager who indicates an interest in participating in an IPO on behalf of less than all of the funds under his or her management must explain why shares are not being requested on behalf of each non-participating fund.

Based on the indications of interest, the Equity Trading Desk establishes an appropriate order size for each fund. In establishing the appropriate order sizes, the following factors may be considered: (i) the number of shares requested for each fund; (ii) the relative size of each fund; (iii) each fund's investment objectives, style and portfolio composition; and (iv) any other factors relevant to achieving a fair and equitable allocation among funds.

If there are insufficient securities to satisfy all orders, allocations are generally made among participating funds pro rata on the basis of each fund's order size. Allocations may deviate from a strict pro rata allocation if the Chief Investment Officer or his designee determines that it is fair and equitable to allocate on other than a pro rata basis.

Certain funds or groups of funds (each a "Rotational Group") may participate in IPOs on a rotational basis. Each Rotational Group participates in an IPO based on a pre-determined sequential order and only one Rotational Group may participate in a particular IPO. Shares allocated to a Rotational Group generally are re-allocated pro rata to the funds in the group based on the order size as determined by the Equity Trading Desk.

Soft Dollars. Subject to the policy of seeking the best combination of price and execution, the Fund may execute transactions with brokerage firms that provide, along with brokerage services, research services as defined in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Section 28(e) provides a "safe harbor" to investment managers who use commission dollars of their advised accounts to obtain investment research and brokerage services and

products. These arrangements are often called soft dollar arrangements. Research and brokerage services and products that provide lawful and appropriate assistance to the Manager in performing investment decision-making responsibilities fall within the safe harbor.

The services and products provided under these arrangements permit the Manager to supplement its own research and analysis activities, and provide it with information from individuals and research staffs of many securities firms.

Some of the research products or services received by the Manager may have both a research function and a non-research administrative function (a “mixed use”). If the Manager determines that any research product or service has a mixed use, the Manager will allocate in good faith the cost of such service or product accordingly. The portion of the product or service that is determined to assist in the investment decision-making process may be paid for in soft dollars. The non-research portion is paid for by the Manager in hard dollars. Any such allocation may create a conflict of interest for the Manager.

The Manager generally considers the amount and nature of research, execution and other services provided by brokerage firms, as well as the extent to which such services are relied on, and each attempts to allocate a portion of the brokerage business of its clients on the basis of that consideration. Neither the research services nor the amount of brokerage given to a particular brokerage firm are made pursuant to any agreement or commitment with any of the selected firms that would bind the Manager to compensate the selected brokerage firm for research provided. The Manager endeavors to direct sufficient commissions to broker/dealers that have provided them with research to ensure continued receipt of research they believe is useful. Actual brokerage commissions received by a broker/dealer may be more or less than the suggested allocations.

The Manager may receive a benefit from the research services and products that are not passed on to the Fund in the form of a direct monetary benefit. Further, research services and products may be useful to the Manager in providing investment advice to any of the funds or clients it advises. Likewise, information made available to the Manager from brokerage firms effecting securities transactions for the Fund may be utilized on behalf of another fund or client. Thus, there may be no correlation between the amount of brokerage commissions generated by the Fund and the indirect benefits received by the Fund.

The aggregate amount of transactions during the last fiscal year in securities effected on an agency basis through a broker in consideration of, among other things, research services provided was \$144,649,179 and the commissions and concessions related to such transactions were \$168,965.

Regular Broker-Dealers. The Fund may execute transactions with one or more of its “regular brokers or dealers,” as defined in Rule 10b-1 under the 1940 Act. Rule 10b-1 provides that a “regular broker or dealer” is one of the ten brokers or dealers that, during the Fund’s most recent fiscal year (i) received the greatest dollar amount of brokerage commissions from participating, either directly or indirectly, in the Fund’s portfolio transactions, (ii) engaged as principal in the largest dollar amount of the Fund’s portfolio transactions or (iii) sold the largest

dollar amount of the Fund's securities. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, the Fund acquired securities of its regular brokers or dealers. The following is a list of the issuers of the securities and the aggregate value per issuer, as of December 31, 2004, of such securities:

<u>Name of Regular Broker or Dealer</u>	<u>Aggregate Value Per Issuer</u>
Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.	\$173,464,000
Banc of America Securities LLC	\$91,631,000
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.	\$75,094,000
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.	\$62,579,000

Portfolio Turnover. Portfolio turnover may vary from year to year as well as within a year. The Fund's portfolio turnover rates for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004 was 1.77%, 4.73% and 8.23%, respectively. In periods in which extraordinary market conditions prevail, the Advisers will not be deterred from changing the Fund's investment strategy as rapidly as needed, in which case higher turnover rates can be anticipated, which would result in greater brokerage expenses. The overall reasonableness of brokerage commissions paid is evaluated by the Manager based upon its knowledge of available information as to the general level of commissions paid by other institutional investors for comparable services.

Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings. It is the policy of the Fund to protect the confidentiality of its portfolio holdings and prevent the selective disclosure of non-public information about such holdings. The Fund will publicly disclose its holdings in accordance with regulatory requirements, such as periodic portfolio disclosure in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Fund will publicly disclose its complete schedule of portfolio holdings, as reported on a month-end basis, at www.dreyfus.com. The information will be posted with a one-month lag and will remain accessible until the Fund files a report on Form N-Q or Form N-CSR for the period that includes the date as of which the information was current. In addition, fifteen days following the end of each calendar quarter, the Fund will publicly disclose on the website its complete schedule of portfolio holdings as of the end of such quarter.

If portfolio holdings are released pursuant to an ongoing arrangement with any party, the Fund must have a legitimate business purpose for doing so, and neither the Fund, nor Dreyfus or its affiliates, may receive any compensation in connection with an arrangement to make available information about the Fund's portfolio holdings. The Fund may distribute portfolio holdings to mutual fund evaluation services such as Standard & Poor's, Morningstar or Lipper Analytical Services; due diligence departments of broker-dealers and wirehouses that regularly analyze the portfolio holdings of mutual funds before their public disclosure; and broker-dealers that may be used by the Fund, for the purpose of efficient trading and receipt of relevant research, provided that: (a) the recipient does not distribute the portfolio holdings to persons who are likely to use the information for purposes of purchasing or selling Fund shares or Fund portfolio holdings before the portfolio holdings become public information; and (b) the recipient signs a written confidentiality agreement.

The Fund may also disclose any and all portfolio information to its service providers and others who generally need access to such information in the performance of their contractual duties and responsibilities and are subject to duties of confidentiality, including a duty not to trade on non-public information, imposed by law and/or contract. These service providers include the Fund's custodian, auditors, investment adviser, administrator, and each of their respective affiliates and advisers.

Disclosure of the Fund's portfolio holdings may be authorized only by the Chief Compliance Officer, and any exceptions to this policy are reported quarterly to the Fund's Board.

SUMMARY OF PROXY VOTING POLICY, PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE DREYFUS FAMILY OF FUNDS

The Board of each fund in the Dreyfus Family of Funds has delegated to the Manager the authority to vote proxies of companies held in the fund's portfolio. The Manager, through its participation on the Mellon Proxy Policy Committee (the "MPPC") applies Mellon's Proxy Voting Policy, related procedures, and voting guidelines when voting proxies on behalf of the funds.

The Manager recognizes that an investment adviser is a fiduciary that owes its clients, including funds it manages, a duty of utmost good faith and full and fair disclosure of all material facts. An investment adviser's duty of loyalty requires an adviser to vote proxies in a manner consistent with the best interest of its clients and precludes the adviser from subrogating the clients' interests to its own. In addition, an investment adviser voting proxies on behalf of a fund must do so in a manner consistent with the best interests of the fund and its shareholders. The Manager seeks to avoid material conflicts of interest by participating in the MPPC, which applies detailed, pre-determined written proxy voting guidelines (the "Voting Guidelines") in an objective and consistent manner across client accounts, based on internal and external research and recommendations provided by a third party vendor, and without consideration of any client relationship factors. Further, the MPPC engages a third party as an independent fiduciary to vote all proxies of funds managed by Mellon or its affiliates (including the Dreyfus Family of Funds), and may engage an independent fiduciary to vote proxies of other issuers at its discretion.

All proxies received by the funds are reviewed, categorized, analyzed and voted in accordance with the Voting Guidelines. The guidelines are reviewed periodically and updated as necessary to reflect new issues and any changes in Mellon's or the Manager's policies on specific issues. Items that can be categorized under the Voting Guidelines are voted in accordance with any applicable guidelines or referred to the MPPC, if the applicable guidelines so require. Proposals that cannot be categorized under the Voting Guidelines are referred to the MPPC for discussion and vote. Additionally, the MPPC reviews proposals where it has identified a particular company, industry or issue for special scrutiny. With regard to voting proxies of foreign companies, the MPPC weighs the cost of voting and potential inability to sell the securities (which may occur during the voting process) against the benefit of voting proxies

to determine whether or not to vote. With respect to securities lending transactions, the MPPC seeks to balance the economic benefits of continuing to participate in an open securities lending transaction against the inability to vote proxies.

When evaluating proposals, the MPPC recognizes that the management of a publicly held company may need protection from the market's frequent focus on short-term considerations, so as to be able to concentrate on such long-term goals as productivity and development of competitive products and services. In addition, the MPPC generally supports proposals designed to provide management with a short-term insulation from outside influences so as to enable them to bargain effectively with potential suitors to the extent such proposals are discrete and not bundled with other proposals. The MPPC believes that a shareholder's role in the governance of a publicly-held company is generally limited to monitoring the performance of the company and its management, and voting on matters, which properly come to a shareholder vote. However, the MPPC generally opposes proposals designed to insulate an issuer's management unnecessarily from the wishes of a majority of shareholders. Accordingly, the MPPC generally votes in accordance with management on issues that the MPPC believes neither unduly limit the rights and privileges of shareholders nor adversely affect the value of the investment.

On questions of social responsibility where economic performance does not appear to be an issue, the MPPC attempts to ensure that management reasonably responds to the social issues. Responsiveness will be measured by management's efforts to address the particular social issues, including, where appropriate, assessment of the implications of the proposal to the ongoing operations of the company. The MPPC will pay particular attention to repeat issues where management has failed in its commitment in the intervening period to take actions on issues.

In evaluating proposals regarding incentive plans and restricted stock plans, the MPPC typically employs a shareholder value transfer model. This model seeks to assess the amount of shareholder equity flowing out of the company to executives as options are exercised. After determining the cost of the plan, the MPPC evaluates whether the cost is reasonable based on a number of factors, including industry classification and historical performance information. The MPPC generally votes against proposals that permit or are silent on the repricing or replacement of stock options without shareholder approval.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND

Each Fund share has one vote and, when issued and paid for in accordance with the terms of the offering, is fully paid and non-assessable. Fund shares are of one class and have equal rights as to dividends and in liquidation. Shares have no preemptive, subscription or conversion rights and are freely transferable.

Unless otherwise required by the 1940 Act, ordinarily it will not be necessary for the Fund to hold annual meetings of shareholders. As a result, Fund shareholders may not consider each year the election of Board members or the appointment of auditors. However, the holders of at least 10% of the shares outstanding and entitled to vote may require the Fund to hold a special meeting of shareholders for purposes of removing a Board member from office. Fund shareholders may remove a Board member by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Fund's

outstanding voting shares. In addition, the Board will call a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of electing Board members if, at any time, less than a majority of the Board members then holding office have been elected by shareholders.

The Fund is intended to be a long-term investment vehicle and is not designed to provide investors with a means of speculating on short-term market movements. A pattern of frequent purchases and exchanges can be disruptive to efficient portfolio management and, consequently, can be detrimental to the Fund's performance and its shareholders. If Fund management determines that an investor is following an abusive investment strategy, it may reject any purchase request, or terminate the investor's exchange privilege, with or without prior notice. Such investors also may be barred from purchasing shares of other funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds. Accounts under common ownership or control may be considered as one account for purposes of determining a pattern of excessive or abusive trading. In addition, the Fund may refuse or restrict purchase or exchange requests for Fund shares by any person or group if, in the judgment of the Fund's management, the Fund would be unable to invest the money effectively in accordance with its investment objective and policies or could otherwise be adversely affected or if the Fund receives or anticipates receiving simultaneous orders that may significantly affect the Fund. If an exchange request is refused, the Fund will take no other action with respect to the Fund shares until it receives further instructions from the investor. While the Fund will take reasonable steps to prevent excessive short-term trading deemed to be harmful to the Fund, it may not be able to identify excessive trading conducted through certain financial intermediaries or omnibus accounts.

The Fund sends annual and semi-annual financial statements to all its shareholders.

COUNSEL AND INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP, 180 Maiden Lane, New York, New York 10038-4982, as counsel for the Fund, has rendered its opinion as to certain legal matters regarding the due authorization and valid issuance of the shares being sold pursuant to the Fund's Prospectus.

Ernst & Young LLP, 5 Times Square, New York, New York 10036, an independent registered public accounting firm, has been selected as independent auditors of the Fund.