

# Dreyfus BASIC U.S. Mortgage Securities Fund

Seeks to maximize total return consisting of capital appreciation  
and current income by investing in mortgage-related securities

**PROSPECTUS** May 1, 2005



YOU, YOUR ADVISOR AND

**Dreyfus**

A MELLON FINANCIAL COMPANY™

As with all mutual funds, the Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved  
or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus.  
Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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*See back cover.*

# The Fund



## GOAL/APPROACH

The fund seeks to maximize total return consisting of capital appreciation and current income. To pursue this goal, the fund normally invests at least 80% of its assets in mortgage-related securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities. The fund invests at least 65% of its assets in GNMA certificates (popularly called “Ginnie Maes”), which are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by the Government National Mortgage Association.

The fund’s investments may include privately issued commercial and residential pass-through securities, and other mortgage-related securities, including those issued by government-related organizations such as the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs) and stripped mortgage-backed securities. In addition, the fund may purchase other securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or its agencies and its instrumentalities, asset-backed securities, and may enter into repurchase agreements collateralized by such securities. The fund also may invest in inflation-indexed bonds.

The fund may, but is not required to, use derivatives, such as futures and options, as a substitute for taking a position in an underlying asset, to increase returns, or as part of a hedging strategy. To enhance current income, the fund also may engage in forward roll transactions in which the fund sells a mortgage-related security to a financial institution and simultaneously agrees to purchase a similar security from the institution at a later date at an agreed-upon price. The fund also may engage in short-selling, typically for hedging purposes, such as to limit exposure to a possible market decline in the value of its portfolio securities.

## Concepts to understand

**Mortgage pass-through securities:** pools of residential or commercial mortgages whose cash flows are “passed through” to the holders of the securities via monthly payments of interest and principal.

**Ginnie Maes:** securities backed by a pool of residential mortgages, which pass through to investors the interest and principal payments of homeowners. The Government National Mortgage Association guarantees that investors will receive timely principal and interest payments even if homeowners do not make mortgage payments on time.

**CMOs (collateralized mortgage obligation):** a security that pools together mortgages and separates them into short-, medium-, and long-term positions (called tranches). Tranches pay different rates of interest depending on their maturity and cash flow predictability.

**Stripped mortgage-backed securities:** the separate income or principal component of a mortgage pass-through security or CMO. CMOs may be partially stripped so that each investor receives some interest and some principal, or fully stripped into interest-only and principal-only components.



## MAIN RISKS

The fund's principal risks are discussed below. The value of your investment in the fund will fluctuate, which means you could lose money.

- *Interest rate risk.* Prices of certain mortgage-related and other debt securities tend to move inversely with changes in interest rates. Typically, a rise in rates will adversely affect the prices of these securities and, accordingly, the fund's share price. Ginnie Maes carry additional risks and may be more volatile than other types of debt securities due to unexpected changes in interest rates. The longer the fund's effective maturity and duration, the more its share price is likely to react to interest rates.
- *Prepayment and extension risk.* When interest rates fall, the principal on certain mortgage-backed and certain asset-backed securities may be pre-paid. The loss of higher-yielding, underlying mortgages and the reinvestment of proceeds at lower interest rates can reduce the fund's potential price gain in response to falling interest rates, reduce the fund's yield, or cause the fund's share price to fall. When interest rates rise, the effective duration of certain mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities may lengthen due to a drop in prepayments of the underlying mortgages or assets. This is known as extension risk and would increase the fund's sensitivity to rising rates and its potential for price declines.
- *Market and credit risk.* Ginnie Maes and other securities backed by the full faith and credit of the United States are guaranteed only as to the timely payment of interest and principal when held to maturity. The market prices for such securities are not guaranteed and will fluctuate. Privately issued mortgage-related securities also are subject to credit risks associated with the underlying mortgage properties. These securities may be more volatile and less liquid than more traditional, government-backed debt securities.
- *Derivatives risk.* The fund may invest in derivative instruments, such as options and futures (including those relating to interest rates), CMOs and stripped mortgage-backed securities. A small investment in derivatives could have a potentially large impact on the fund's performance. The use of derivatives involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in the underlying assets. Derivatives can be highly volatile, illiquid and difficult to value, and there is the risk that changes in the value of a derivative held by the fund will not correlate with the fund's other investments.

- *Leveraging risk.* The use of leverage, such as borrowing money to purchase securities, engaging in reverse repurchase agreements, lending portfolio securities and engaging in forward commitment and forward roll transactions, will magnify the fund's gains or losses.
- *Liquidity risk.* When there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities, it can become more difficult to sell the securities at or near their perceived value. In such a market, the value of such securities and the fund's share price may fall dramatically.
- *Inflation-indexed bond risk.* Interest payments on inflation-indexed bonds can be unpredictable and will vary as the principal and/or interest is periodically adjusted based on the rate of inflation. If the index measuring inflation falls, the interest payable on these securities will be reduced. The U.S. Treasury has guaranteed that in the event of a drop in prices, it would repay the par amount at issuance of its inflation-indexed bonds. Inflation-indexed bonds issued by corporations generally do not guarantee repayment of principal. Any increase in the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond will be considered taxable ordinary income, even though investors do not receive their principal until maturity.

## Other potential risks

Under adverse market conditions, the fund could invest some or all of its assets in U.S. Treasury securities and money market securities. Although the fund would do this for temporary defensive purposes, it could reduce the benefit from any upswing in the market. During such periods, the fund may not achieve its investment objective.

The fund may lend its portfolio securities to brokers, dealers and other financial institutions. In connection with such loans, the fund will receive collateral from the borrower equal to at least 100% of the value of the loaned 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.

The fund may engage in short-term trading, which could produce higher transaction costs and taxable distributions, and lower the fund's after-tax performance. The fund's forward roll transactions will increase its portfolio turnover rate.



## PAST PERFORMANCE

The bar chart and table shown illustrate the risks of investing in the fund. The bar chart shows the changes in the fund's performance from year to year. The table compares the fund's average annual total returns to those of the Lehman Brothers GNMA Index, an unmanaged Ginnie Mae performance benchmark. All returns assume reinvestment of dividends and distributions. Of course, past performance is no guarantee of future results.

After-tax returns are calculated using the historical highest individual federal marginal income tax rates, and do not reflect the impact of state and local taxes. Actual after-tax returns depend on the investor's tax situation and may differ from those shown, and the after-tax returns shown are not relevant to investors who hold their shares through tax-deferred arrangements such as 401(k) plans or individual retirement accounts.



### Average annual total returns as of 12/31/04

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
<b>Fund</b> <i>returns before taxes</i>	<b>2.81%</b>	<b>6.74%</b>	<b>7.16%</b>
<b>Fund</b> <i>returns after taxes on distributions</i>	<b>0.80%</b>	<b>4.51%</b>	<b>4.60%</b>
<b>Fund</b> <i>returns after taxes on distributions and sale of fund shares</i>	<b>1.81%</b>	<b>4.41%</b>	<b>4.54%</b>
<b>Lehman Brothers GNMA Index</b> <i>reflects no deduction for fees, expenses or taxes</i>	<b>4.35%</b>	<b>7.00%</b>	<b>7.54%</b>

### What this fund is – and isn't

This fund is a mutual fund: a pooled investment that is professionally managed and gives you the opportunity to participate in financial markets. It strives to reach its stated goal, although as with all mutual funds, it cannot offer guaranteed results.

An investment in this fund is not a bank deposit. It is not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC or any other government agency. It is not a complete investment program. You could lose money in this fund, but you also have the potential to make money.



## EXPENSES

As an investor, you pay certain fees and expenses in connection with the fund, which are described in the table below. Shareholder transaction fees are paid from your account. Annual fund operating expenses are paid out of fund assets, so their effect is included in the share price. The fund has no sales charge (load) or Rule 12b-1 distribution fees.

### Fee table

#### Shareholder transaction fees

*charged if your account balance is less than \$50,000*

Exchange fee	\$5.00
Account closeout fee	\$5.00
Wire and Dreyfus TeleTransfer redemption fee	\$5.00
Checkwriting charge	\$2.00

#### Annual fund operating expenses

*% of average daily net assets*

Management fees	0.60%
Shareholder services fee	0.04%
Other expenses	0.17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.81%</b>

### Expense example

1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
<b>\$83</b>	<b>\$259</b>	<b>\$450</b>	<b>\$1,002</b>

This example shows what you could pay in expenses over time. It uses the same hypothetical conditions other funds use in their prospectuses: \$10,000 initial investment, 5% total return each year and no changes in expenses. The figures shown would be the same whether you sold your shares at the end of a period or kept them. Because actual returns and expenses will be different, the example is for comparison only.

## Concepts to understand

**Management fee:** the fee paid to Dreyfus for managing the fund's portfolio and assisting in all aspects of the fund's operations.

During 2004, Dreyfus waived a portion of its fee so that the effective management fee paid by the fund was 0.45%, reducing total expenses to 0.66%. This waiver reflects an undertaking by Dreyfus to limit fund expenses (exclusive of taxes, brokerage, interest on borrowings and extraordinary expenses) to 0.65%. This undertaking may be terminated upon 90 days' notice to shareholders.

**Shareholder services fee:** a fee of up to 0.25% paid to the fund's distributor for shareholder account service and maintenance.

**Other expenses:** fees paid by the fund for miscellaneous items such as interest expense, transfer agency, custody, professional and registration fees. The fund also makes payments to certain financial intermediaries, including affiliates, who provide sub-administration, recordkeeping and/or sub-transfer agency services to beneficial owners of the fund.



## MANAGEMENT

### Investment adviser

The investment adviser for the fund is The Dreyfus Corporation (Dreyfus), 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10166. Founded in 1947, Dreyfus manages approximately \$161 billion in approximately 200 mutual fund portfolios. For the past fiscal year, the fund paid Dreyfus a monthly management fee at an effective annual rate of 0.45% of the fund's average daily net assets. Dreyfus is the primary mutual fund business of Mellon Financial Corporation (Mellon Financial), a global financial services company with approximately \$4.0 trillion of assets under management, administration or custody, including approximately \$729 billion under management. Mellon Financial provides financial services for institutions, corporations and individuals, offering institutional asset management, mutual funds, private wealth management, asset servicing, human resources services and treasury services. Mellon Financial is headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The Dreyfus asset management philosophy is based on the belief that discipline and consistency are important to investment success. For each fund, Dreyfus seeks to establish clear guidelines for portfolio management and to be systematic in making decisions. This approach is designed to provide each fund with a distinct, stable identity.

Marc Seidner and Robert Bayston have been portfolio managers of the fund since January 2005. Mr. Seidner is the primary portfolio manager of the fund and has been employed by Dreyfus since January 2005. Mr. Seidner also is the director of active core strategies, responsible for the development, implementation and execution of investment strategy for all core fixed-income portfolios, with Standish Mellon Asset Management, LLC (Standish Mellon), a subsidiary of Mellon Financial and an affiliate of Dreyfus. Mr. Seidner joined Standish Mellon in 1995 as a fixed-income derivatives trader and strategist.

Mr. Bayston is a portfolio manager of the fund. He has been employed by Dreyfus since September 2001. Mr. Bayston also is a portfolio manager

responsible for TIPS and derivatives strategies with Standish Mellon. Mr. Bayston joined Standish Mellon in 1991.

The Statement of Additional Information provides additional information about the portfolio managers' compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio managers, and the portfolio managers' ownership of fund shares.

In early 2004, two purported class and derivative actions were filed against Mellon Financial, Mellon Bank, N.A., Dreyfus, Founders Asset Management LLC, and certain directors of the Dreyfus Funds and the Dreyfus Founders Funds (together, the Funds). In September 2004, plaintiffs served a Consolidated Amended Complaint (the Amended Complaint) on behalf of a purported class of all persons who acquired interests in any of the Funds between January 30, 1999 and November 17, 2003, and derivatively on behalf of the Funds. The Amended Complaint in the newly styled *In re Dreyfus Mutual Funds Fee Litigation* also named Dreyfus Service Corporation, Premier Mutual Fund Services, Inc. and two additional Fund directors as defendants and alleges violations of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the Pennsylvania Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law and common-law claims. Plaintiffs seek to recover allegedly improper and excessive Rule 12b-1 and advisory fees allegedly charged to the Funds for marketing and distribution services. More specifically, plaintiffs claim, among other things, that 12b-1 fees and directed brokerage were improperly used to pay brokers to recommend the Funds over other funds, and that such payments were not disclosed to investors. In addition, plaintiffs assert that economies of scale and soft-dollar benefits were not passed on to the Funds. Plaintiffs further allege that 12b-1 fees were improperly charged to certain of the Funds that were closed to new investors. The Amended Complaint seeks compensatory and punitive damages, rescission of the advisory contracts, and an accounting and restitution of any unlawful fees, as well as an award of attorneys' fees and litigation



expenses. As noted, some of the claims in this litigation are asserted derivatively on behalf of the Funds that have been named as nominal defendants. With respect to such derivative claims, no relief is sought against the Funds. Dreyfus believes the allegations to be totally without merit and intends to defend the action vigorously. Defendants filed motions to dismiss the Amended Complaint on November 12, 2004, and those motions are pending.

Additional lawsuits arising out of these circumstances and presenting similar allegations and requests for relief may be filed against the defendants in the future. Neither Dreyfus nor the Funds believe that any of the pending actions will have a material adverse effect on the Funds or Dreyfus' ability to perform its contract with the Funds.

#### **Distributor**

The fund's distributor is Dreyfus Service Corporation (DSC), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dreyfus. Dreyfus or DSC 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, 12b-1 fees and/or shareholder services fees or other expenses paid by the fund. These additional payments may be made to intermediaries, including affiliates, that provide shareholder servicing, sub-administration, recordkeeping and/or sub-transfer agency services, marketing support and/or access to sales meetings, sales representatives and management representatives of the financial intermediary. Cash compensation also may be paid to intermediaries 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 financial intermediary or its employees to recommend or sell shares of the fund to you. Please contact your financial representative for details about any payments they or their firm may receive in connection with the sale of fund shares or the provision of services to the fund.

From time to time, Dreyfus or DSC also may provide cash or non-cash compensation to financial intermediaries or their representatives in the form of occasional gifts; occasional meals, tickets or other entertainment; support for due diligence trips; educational conference sponsorship; support for recognition programs; and other forms of cash or non-cash compensation permissible under broker-dealer regulations, as periodically amended.

#### **Code of ethics**

The fund, Dreyfus and DSC have each adopted a code of ethics that permits its personnel, subject to such code, to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the fund. The Dreyfus code of ethics restricts the personal securities transactions of its employees, and requires portfolio managers and other investment personnel to comply with the code's preclearance and disclosure procedures. The primary purpose of the code is to ensure that personal trading by Dreyfus employees does not disadvantage any Dreyfus-managed fund.



## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

This table describes the fund's performance for the fiscal periods indicated. "Total return" shows how much your investment in the fund would have increased (or decreased) during each period, assuming you had reinvested all dividends and distributions.

These figures have been independently audited by Ernst & Young LLP, whose report, along with the fund's financial statements, is included in the annual report, which is available upon request.

	2004	Year Ended December 31,			
		2003	2002	2001 <sup>1</sup>	2000
<b>Per-Share Data (\$):</b>					
Net asset value, beginning of period	15.47	15.62	15.25	14.97	14.39
Investment operations:					
Investment income – net	.64 <sup>2</sup>	.53 <sup>2</sup>	.63 <sup>2</sup>	.85 <sup>2</sup>	.92
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(.22)	.01	.70	.30	.57
Total from investment operations	.42	.54	1.33	1.15	1.49
Distributions:					
Dividends from investment income – net	(.71)	(.60)	(.68)	(.87)	(.91)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(.15)	(.09)	(.28)	–	–
Total distributions	(.86)	(.69)	(.96)	(.87)	(.91)
Net asset value, end of period	15.03	15.47	15.62	15.25	14.97
Total Return (%)	2.81	3.54	8.87	7.70	11.01
<b>Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):</b>					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.81	.84	.82	.87	.99
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.66	.68	.65	.65	.66
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	4.20	3.40	4.06	5.62	6.31
Portfolio turnover rate	538.15 <sup>3</sup>	558.50 <sup>3</sup>	557.74	568.70	666.82
Net assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	232,020	259,262	272,455	160,347	121,654

<sup>1</sup> As required, effective January 1, 2001, the fund has adopted the provisions of the AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide for Investment Companies and began amortizing discount or premium on fixed-income securities on a scientific basis. The effect of this change for the period ended December 31, 2001 was to decrease net investment income per share and increase net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments per share by less than \$.01 and decrease the ratio of net investment income to average net assets from 5.66% to 5.62%. Per-share data and ratios/supplemental data for periods prior to January 1, 2001 have not been restated to reflect this change in presentation.

<sup>2</sup> Based on average shares outstanding at each month end.

<sup>3</sup> The portfolio turnover rates excluding mortgage dollar roll transactions for the years ended December 31, 2004 and December 31, 2003 were 254.55% and 136.96%, respectively.

# Your Investment



## ACCOUNT POLICIES

### Buying shares

You pay no sales charges to invest in this fund. Your price for fund shares is the fund's net asset value per share (NAV), which is generally calculated as of the close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (usually 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on days the exchange is open for regular business. Your order will be priced at the next NAV calculated after your order is accepted by the fund's transfer agent or other authorized entity. The fund's investments generally are valued by one or more independent pricing services approved by the fund's board or on the basis of market quotations. The pricing service's procedures are reviewed under the general supervision of the board. If prices from a pricing service or market quotations are not readily available, or are determined not to reflect accurately fair value, the fund may value those investments at fair value as determined in accordance with the procedures approved by the fund's 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 under the circumstances. Using fair value to price investments may result in a value that is different from a security's most recent price and from prices used by other mutual funds to calculate their net asset values.

### Third-party investments

If you invest through a third party (rather than directly with Dreyfus), the policies, limitations and fees may be different than those described herein. Banks, brokers, 401(k) plans, financial advisers and financial supermarkets may charge transaction fees and may set different minimum investments or limitations on buying or selling shares.

### Minimum investments

	Initial	Additional
<b>Regular accounts</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b> <i>\$1,000 for Dreyfus TeleTransfer investments</i>
<b>Traditional IRAs</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Spousal IRAs</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Roth IRAs</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Education Savings Accounts</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>no minimum</b> <i>after the first year</i>

All investments must be in U.S. dollars. Third-party checks cannot be accepted. You may be charged a fee for any check that does not clear. Maximum Dreyfus TeleTransfer purchase is \$150,000 per day.

### Concepts to understand

**Net asset value (NAV):** a mutual fund's share price on a given day. A fund's NAV is calculated by dividing the value of its net assets by the number of existing shares.

When calculating its NAV, the fund's investments are generally valued by using available market quotations or at fair value, which may be determined by one or more pricing services approved by the fund's board.

Selling shares

You may sell (redeem) shares at any time. Your shares will be sold at the next NAV calculated after your order is accepted by the fund’s transfer agent or other authorized entity. Any certificates representing fund shares being sold must be returned with your redemption request. Your order will be processed promptly and you will generally receive the proceeds within a week.

Before selling or writing a check against shares recently purchased by check, Dreyfus TeleTransfer or Automatic Asset Builder, please note that:

- if you send a written request to sell such shares, the fund may delay sending the proceeds for up to eight business days following the purchase of those shares
- the fund will not honor redemption checks, or process wire, telephone, online or Dreyfus TeleTransfer redemption requests, for up to eight business days following the purchase of those shares

Limitations on selling shares by phone or online through Dreyfus.com		
Proceeds sent by	Minimum phone/online	Maximum phone/online
Check*	no minimum	\$250,000 per day
Wire	\$5,000	\$500,000 for joint accounts every 30 days/ \$20,000 per day
Dreyfus TeleTransfer	\$1,000	\$500,000 for joint accounts every 30 days/ \$20,000 per day
<b>Shareholder transaction fees</b> <i>charged if your account balance is less than \$50,000</i>		
Exchange fee		\$5.00
Account closeout fee		\$5.00
Wire and Dreyfus TeleTransfer redemption fee		\$5.00
Checkwriting charge		\$2.00

\* Not available online on accounts whose address has been changed within the last 30 days.

Written sell orders

Some circumstances require written sell orders along with signature guarantees. These include:

- amounts of \$10,000 or more on accounts whose address has been changed within the last 30 days
- requests to send the proceeds to a different payee or address

Written sell orders of \$100,000 or more must also be signature guaranteed.

**A signature guarantee** helps protect against fraud. You can obtain one from most banks or securities dealers, but not from a notary public. For joint accounts, each signature must be guaranteed. Please call us to ensure that your signature guarantee will be processed correctly.

## General policies

Unless you decline teleservice privileges on your application, the fund's transfer agent is authorized to act on telephone or online instructions from any person representing himself or herself to be you and reasonably believed by the transfer agent to be genuine. You may be responsible for any fraudulent telephone or online order as long as the fund's transfer agent takes reasonable measures to confirm that instructions are genuine.

**The fund is designed for long-term investors.** Frequent purchases, redemptions and exchanges may disrupt portfolio management strategies and harm fund performance by diluting the value of fund shares and increasing brokerage and administrative costs. As a result, Dreyfus and the fund's board have adopted a policy of discouraging excessive trading, short-term market timing and other abusive trading practices (frequent trading) that could adversely affect the fund or its operations. Dreyfus and the fund will not enter into arrangements with any person or group to permit frequent trading.

### **The fund reserves the right to:**

- change or discontinue its exchange privilege, or temporarily suspend the privilege during unusual market conditions
- change its minimum or maximum investment amounts
- delay sending out redemption proceeds for up to seven days (generally applies only during unusual market conditions or in cases of very large redemptions or excessive trading)
- "redeem in kind," or make payments in securities rather than cash, if the amount redeemed is large enough to affect fund operations (for example, if it exceeds 1% of the fund's assets)
- refuse any purchase or exchange request, including those from any individual or group who, in Dreyfus' view, is likely to engage in frequent trading

More than four roundtrips within a rolling 12-month period generally is considered to be frequent trading. A roundtrip consists of an investment that is substantially liquidated within 60 days. Based on the facts and circumstances of the trades, the fund may also view as frequent trading a pattern of investments that are partially liquidated within 60 days.

Dreyfus monitors selected transactions to identify frequent trading. When its surveillance systems identify multiple roundtrips, Dreyfus evaluates trading activity in the account for evidence of frequent trading. Dreyfus considers the investor's trading history in other accounts under common ownership or control, in other Dreyfus, Dreyfus/Founders and Mellon Funds Trust funds, and if known, in non-affiliated mutual funds and accounts under common control. These evaluations involve judgments that are inherently subjective. In all instances, Dreyfus seeks to make these judgments to the best of its abilities in a manner that it believes is consistent with shareholder interests. If Dreyfus concludes the account is likely to engage in frequent trading, Dreyfus may cancel or revoke the purchase or exchange on the following business day. Dreyfus may also temporarily or permanently bar such investor's future purchases into the fund in lieu of, or in addition to, canceling or revoking the trade. At its discretion, Dreyfus may apply these restrictions across all accounts under common ownership, control or perceived affiliation.

Dreyfus' ability to monitor the trading activity of investors whose shares are held in omnibus accounts is limited. However, the selling agreements between the distributor and financial intermediaries include obligations to comply with all applicable federal and state securities laws and rules, regulations, requirements and conditions of all applicable regulatory and self-regulatory agencies or authorities. Moreover, the intermediaries agree that the fund's procedures relating to all orders and the handling thereof will be subject to the terms of the prospectus and the distributor's written instructions. In order to seek assurances that such intermediaries comply with rules and regulations, all intermediaries, including those whose trades occur through omnibus accounts, have been sent written reminders of their obligations under the selling agreements, specifically highlighting rules relating to late trading. Further, all intermediaries have been requested in writing to notify the distributor immediately if, for any reason, they cannot meet their commitment to make fund shares available in accordance with the terms of the prospectus and relevant rules and regulations.

Although these policies and procedures are designed to discourage market timing and excessive trading, none of these tools alone, nor all of them together, completely eliminates the potential for frequent trading.

Transactions made through Automatic Investment Plans, Automatic Withdrawal Plans, Dreyfus Auto-Exchange Privileges and automatic non-discretionary rebalancing programs approved in writing by Dreyfus generally are not considered to be frequent trading.

#### Small account policies

To offset the relatively higher costs of servicing smaller accounts, the fund charges regular accounts with balances below \$2,000 an annual fee of \$12. The fee will be imposed during the fourth quarter of each calendar year.

The fee will be waived for: any investor whose aggregate Dreyfus mutual fund investments total at least \$25,000; IRA accounts; Education Savings Accounts; accounts participating in automatic investment programs; and accounts opened through a financial institution.

If your account falls below \$5,000\*, the fund may ask you to increase your balance. If it is still below \$5,000\* after 30 days, the fund may close your account and send you the proceeds.

*\*Below \$500 if you were a fund shareholder since October 31, 1995.*



## DISTRIBUTIONS AND TAXES

The fund earns dividends, interest and other income from its investments, and distributes this income (less expenses) to shareholders as dividends. The fund also realizes capital gains from its investments, and distributes these gains (less any losses) to shareholders as capital gain distributions. The fund normally pays dividends once a month and distributes capital gains annually. Fund dividends and capital gain distributions will be reinvested in the fund unless you instruct the fund otherwise. There are no fees or sales charges on reinvestments.

**Distributions paid by the fund** are subject to federal income tax, and may also be subject to state or local taxes (unless you are investing through a tax-advantaged retirement account). For federal tax purposes, in general, certain fund distributions, including interest income and distributions of short-term capital gains, are taxable to you as ordinary income. Other fund distributions, including dividends from U.S. companies and certain foreign companies and distributions of long-term capital gains, generally are taxable to you as qualified dividends and capital gains.

**High portfolio turnover** and more volatile markets can result in significant taxable distributions to shareholders, regardless of whether their shares have increased in value. The tax status of any distribution generally is the same regardless of how long you have been in the fund and whether you reinvest your distributions or take them in cash.

If you buy shares of a fund when the fund has realized but not yet distributed income or capital gains, you will be “buying a dividend” by paying the full price for the shares and then receiving a portion back in the form of a taxable distribution.

Your sale of shares, including exchanges into other funds, may result in a capital gain or loss for tax purposes. A capital gain or loss on your investment in the fund generally is the difference between the cost of your shares and the amount you receive when you sell them.

The tax status of your distributions will be detailed in your annual tax statement from the fund. Because everyone’s tax situation is unique, please consult your tax advisor before investing.



## SERVICES FOR FUND INVESTORS

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### **Dreyfus Dividend Sweep**

For automatically reinvesting the dividends and distributions from one Dreyfus fund into another, use Dreyfus Dividend Sweep (not available for IRAs). You can set up this service with your application or by calling 1-800-645-6561.

### **Retirement plans**

Dreyfus offers a variety of retirement plans, including traditional and Roth IRAs, and Education Savings Accounts. Here's where you call for information:

- for traditional, rollover and Roth IRAs, and Education Savings Accounts, call 1-800-645-6561
- for SEP-IRAs, Keogh accounts, 401(k) and 403(b) accounts, call 1-800-358-0910

### **Checkwriting privilege**

You may write redemption checks against your account in amounts of \$1,000 or more. There is a \$2.00 charge for each check written. An additional fee will be charged if you request a stop payment or if the transfer agent cannot honor a redemption check due to insufficient funds or another valid reason. Please do not postdate your checks or use them to close your account.

### **Exchange privilege**

You can exchange shares worth \$1,000 or more from one Dreyfus fund into another. You can request your exchange in writing, by phone or online. Be sure to read the current prospectus for any fund into which you are exchanging before investing. Any new account established through an exchange will have the same privileges as your original account (as long as they are available). There is a \$5.00 exchange fee, and you may be charged a sales load when exchanging into any fund that has one.

### **Dreyfus TeleTransfer privilege**

To move money between your bank account and your Dreyfus fund account with a phone call or online, use the Dreyfus TeleTransfer privilege. You can set up Dreyfus TeleTransfer on your account by providing bank account information and following the instructions on your application. For accounts with a balance below \$50,000, there is a \$5.00 fee for TeleTransfer redemptions.

### **Dreyfus Express®**

#### **voice-activated account access**

You can easily manage your Dreyfus accounts, check your account balances, purchase fund shares, transfer money between your Dreyfus funds, get price and yield information and much more — when it's convenient for you — by calling 1-800-645-6561. Certain requests may require the services of a representative.

### **Account statements**

Every Dreyfus investor automatically receives regular account statements. You'll also be sent a yearly statement detailing the tax characteristics of any dividends and distributions you have received.

### **Dreyfus Financial Centers**

Through a nationwide network of Dreyfus Financial Centers, Dreyfus offers a full array of investment services and products. This includes information on mutual funds, brokerage services, tax-advantaged products and retirement planning.

Experienced financial advisers can help you make informed choices and provide you with personalized attention in handling account transactions. The Financial Centers also offer informative seminars and events. To find the Financial Center nearest you, call 1-800-499-3327.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR **REGULAR ACCOUNTS**



TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT

In Writing

Complete the application.  
Mail your application and a check to:  
The Dreyfus Family of Funds  
P.O. Box 55299, Boston, MA 02205-8553



By Telephone

**Wire** Call us to request an account application and an account number. Have your bank send your investment to The Bank of New York, with these instructions:

- ABA# 021000018
- DDA# 8900119535
- the fund name
- your account number
- name(s) of investor(s)

Return your application with the account number on the application.

TO ADD TO AN ACCOUNT

Fill out an investment slip, and write your account number on your check.  
Mail the slip and the check to:  
The Dreyfus Family of Funds  
P.O. Box 105, Newark, NJ 07101-0105

**Wire** Have your bank send your investment to The Bank of New York, with these instructions:

- ABA# 021000018
- DDA# 8900119535
- the fund name
- your account number
- name(s) of investor(s)

**Electronic check** Same as wire, but insert "111" before your 14-digit account number.

**Dreyfus TeleTransfer** Request Dreyfus TeleTransfer on your application. Call us to request your transaction.

TO SELL SHARES

Write a redemption check **or** write a letter of instruction that includes:

- your name(s) and signature(s)
- your account number
- the fund name
- the dollar amount you want to sell
- how and where to send the proceeds

Obtain a signature guarantee or other documentation, if required (see "Account Policies – Selling Shares").

Mail your request to:  
The Dreyfus Family of Funds  
P.O. Box 55263, Boston, MA 02205-8501

**Wire** Be sure the fund has your bank account information on file. Call us to request your transaction. Proceeds will be wired to your bank.

**Dreyfus TeleTransfer** Be sure the fund has your bank account information on file. Call us to request your transaction. Proceeds will be sent to your bank by electronic check.

**Check** Call us to request your transaction. A check will be sent to the address of record.

Concepts to understand

**Wire transfer:** for transferring money from one financial institution to another. Wiring is the fastest way to move money, although your bank may charge a fee to send or receive wire transfers. Wire redemptions from the fund are subject to a \$5,000 minimum.

**Electronic check:** for transferring money out of a bank account. Your transaction is entered electronically, but may take up to eight business days to clear. Electronic checks usually are available without a fee at all Automated Clearing House (ACH) banks.

To reach Dreyfus, call toll free in the U.S.

**1-800-645-6561**

Outside the U.S. 516-794-5452

Make checks payable to:

**The Dreyfus Family of Funds**

You also can deliver requests to any Dreyfus Financial Center. Because processing time may vary, please ask the representative when your account will be credited or debited.

TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT



Online ([www.dreyfus.com](http://www.dreyfus.com))

TO ADD TO AN ACCOUNT

**Dreyfus TeleTransfer** Request Dreyfus TeleTransfer on your application. Visit [www.dreyfus.com](http://www.dreyfus.com) to request your transaction.

TO SELL SHARES

**Wire** Visit [www.dreyfus.com](http://www.dreyfus.com) to request your transaction. Be sure the fund has your bank account information on file. Proceeds will be wired to your bank.

**Dreyfus TeleTransfer** Visit [www.dreyfus.com](http://www.dreyfus.com) to request your transaction. Be sure the fund has your bank account information on file. Proceeds will be sent to your bank by electronic check.

**Check** Visit [www.dreyfus.com](http://www.dreyfus.com) to request your transaction. A check will be sent to the address of record.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR IRAS

### TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT



#### In Writing

Complete an IRA application, making sure to specify the fund name and to indicate the year the contribution is for.

Mail your application and a check to:  
The Dreyfus Trust Company, Custodian  
P.O. Box 55552, Boston, MA 02205-8568

### TO ADD TO AN ACCOUNT

Fill out an investment slip, and write your account number on your check. Indicate the year the contribution is for.

Mail in the slip and the check (see "To Open an Account" at left).

### TO SELL SHARES

Write a redemption check\* **or** write a letter of instruction that includes:

- your name and signature
- your account number
- the fund name
- the dollar amount you want to sell
- how and where to send the proceeds
- whether the distribution is qualified or premature
- whether the 10% TEFRA should be withheld

Obtain a signature guarantee or other documentation, if required.

Mail in your request (see "To Open an Account" at left).

\* A redemption check written for a qualified distribution is not subject to TEFRA.



#### By Telephone

**Wire** Have your bank send your investment to The Bank of New York, with these instructions:

- ABA# 021000018
- DDA# 8900119535
- the fund name
- your account number
- name of investor
- the contribution year

**Electronic check** Same as wire, but insert "111" before your 14-digit account number.

**Telephone Contribution** Call to request us to move money from a regular Dreyfus account to an IRA (both accounts must be held in the same shareholder name).

## Concepts to understand

**Wire transfer:** for transferring money from one financial institution to another. Wiring is the fastest way to move money, although your bank may charge a fee to send or receive wire transfers. Wire redemptions from the fund are subject to a \$5,000 minimum.

**Electronic check:** for transferring money out of a bank account. Your transaction is entered electronically, but may take up to eight business days to clear. Electronic checks usually are available without a fee at all Automated Clearing House (ACH) banks.

To reach Dreyfus, call toll free in the U.S.

**1-800-645-6561**

Outside the U.S. 516-794-5452

Make checks payable to:

**The Dreyfus Trust Company, Custodian**

You also can deliver requests to any Dreyfus Financial Center. Because processing time may vary, please ask the representative when your account will be credited or debited.

# For More Information

## **Dreyfus BASIC U.S. Mortgage Securities**

SEC file number: 811-5074

More information on this fund is available free upon request, including the following:

### **Annual/Semiannual Report**

Describes the fund's performance, lists portfolio holdings and contains a letter from the fund's manager discussing recent market conditions, economic trends and fund strategies that significantly affected the fund's performance during the last fiscal year. The fund's most recent annual and semi-annual reports are available at [www.dreyfus.com](http://www.dreyfus.com).

### **Statement of Additional Information (SAI)**

Provides more details about the fund and its policies. A current SAI is available at [www.dreyfus.com](http://www.dreyfus.com) and is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The SAI is incorporated by reference (is legally considered part of this prospectus).

### **Portfolio Holdings**

The fund will disclose its complete schedule of portfolio holdings, as reported on a month-end basis, at [www.dreyfus.com](http://www.dreyfus.com), under Mutual Fund Center – Dreyfus Mutual Funds – Mutual Fund Total Holdings. 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.

A complete description of the fund's policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of the fund's portfolio securities is available in the fund's SAI.

To obtain information:

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**By telephone**

Call 1-800-645-6561

**By mail** Write to:

The Dreyfus Family of Funds  
144 Glenn Curtiss Boulevard  
Uniondale, NY 11556-0144

**By E-mail** Send your request to [info@dreyfus.com](mailto:info@dreyfus.com)

**On the Internet** Text-only versions of certain fund documents can be viewed online or downloaded from:

**SEC** <http://www.sec.gov>

**Dreyfus** <http://www.dreyfus.com>

You can also obtain copies, after paying a duplicating fee, by visiting the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC (for information, call 1-202-942-8090) or by E-mail request to [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing to the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, DC 20549-0102.



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## DREYFUS BASIC U.S. MORTGAGE SECURITIES FUND

### STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MAY 1, 2005

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This Statement of Additional Information, which is not a prospectus, supplements and should be read in conjunction with the current Prospectus of Dreyfus BASIC U.S. Mortgage Securities Fund (the "Fund"), dated May 1, 2005, as it 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](http://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 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.

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## DESCRIPTION OF THE FUND

The Fund is a Massachusetts business trust that commenced operations on January 1, 1994. Effective May 1, 2002, the Fund changed its name from Dreyfus BASIC GNMA Fund to its current name. 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.

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.

Ginnie Maes. It is a fundamental policy of the Fund that it will invest at least 65% of the value of its net assets (except when maintaining a temporary defensive position) in Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA") Certificates (popularly called "Ginnie Maes"). The Fund will invest in Ginnie Maes only of the "fully modified pass-through" type which are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by the GNMA, a U.S. Government corporation. GNMA Certificates also may include other securities that in the future are guaranteed by the GNMA.

Ginnie Maes are created by an "issuer," which is a Federal Housing Administration ("FHA") approved mortgagee that also meets criteria imposed by the GNMA. The issuer assembles a pool of FHA, Farmers' Home Administration or Veterans' Administration ("VA") insured or guaranteed mortgages that are homogeneous as to interest rate, maturity and type of dwelling. Upon application by the issuer, and after approval by the GNMA of the pool, the GNMA provides its commitment to guarantee timely payment of principal and interest on the Ginnie Maes backed by the mortgages included in the pool. The Ginnie Maes, endorsed by the GNMA, then are sold by the issuer through securities dealers. Ginnie Maes bear a stated "coupon rate," which represents the effective FHA-VA mortgage rate at the time of issuance, less the GNMA's and issuer's fees.

The GNMA is authorized under the National Housing Act to guarantee timely payment of principal and interest on Ginnie Maes. This guarantee is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. The GNMA may borrow U.S. Treasury funds to the extent needed to make payments under its guarantee.

When mortgages in the pool underlying a Ginnie Mae are prepaid by mortgagors or by result of foreclosure, such principal payments are passed through to the certificate holders. Accordingly, the life of the Ginnie Mae is likely to be substantially shorter than the stated

maturity of the mortgages in the underlying pool. Because of such variation in prepayment rates, it is not possible to predict the life of a particular Ginnie Mae.

Payments to holders of Ginnie Maes consist of the monthly distributions of interest and principal less the GNMA's and issuer's fees. The actual yield to be earned by a holder of a Ginnie Mae is calculated by dividing interest payments by the purchase price paid for the Ginnie Mae (which may be at a premium or a discount from the face value of the certificate). Monthly distributions of interest, as contrasted to semi-annual distributions which are common for other fixed interest investments, have the effect of compounding and thereby raising the effective annual yield earned on Ginnie Maes.

Other Mortgage-Related Securities. The Fund also invests in other mortgage-related securities, including those issued by government-related organizations such as the Federal National Mortgage Association ("FNMA") and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("FHLMC"), private mortgage pass-through securities and collateralized mortgage obligations, including real estate mortgage investment conduits ("REMICs"). The mortgage-related securities in which the Fund may invest include those with fixed, floating and variable interest rates, those with interest rates that change based on multiples of changes in interest rates and those with interest rates that change inversely to changes in interest rates, as well as stripped mortgage-backed securities.

Government-Related Securities--Mortgage-related securities issued by the FNMA include FNMA Guaranteed Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates (also known as "Fannie Maes"), which are solely the obligations of the FNMA and are not backed by or entitled to the full faith and credit of the United States. The FNMA is a government-sponsored organization owned entirely by private stockholders. Fannie Maes are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by the FNMA.

Mortgage-related securities issued by the FHLMC include FHLMC Mortgage Participation Certificates (also known as "Freddie Macs" or "PCs"). The FHLMC is a corporate instrumentality of the United States, created pursuant to an Act of Congress, which is owned entirely by Federal Home Loan Banks. Freddie Macs are not guaranteed by the United States or by any Federal Home Loan Bank and do not constitute a debt or obligation of the United States or of any Federal Home Loan Bank. Freddie Macs entitle the holder to timely payment of interest, which is guaranteed by the FHLMC. The FHLMC guarantees either ultimate collection or timely payment of all principal payments on the underlying mortgage loans. While the FHLMC does not guarantee timely payment of principal, the FHLMC may remit the amount due on account of its guarantee of ultimate payment of principal at any time after default on an underlying mortgage, but in no event later than one year after it becomes payable.

Collateralized Mortgage Obligations--Collateralized mortgage obligations or "CMOs," which include those issued through REMICs, are debt securities that are structured to pay principal and interest based on payments received on a pool of mortgage-related securities pledged to secure the obligations. The issuers of CMOs typically do not have assets other than those pledged to secure separately the obligations. Holders of these obligations must rely principally on distributions on the underlying mortgage-related securities and other collateral securing the obligations for payments of principal and interest on the obligations. Typically,

CMOs are collateralized by Ginnie Mae, Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac Certificates, but also may be collateralized by whole loans or Private Pass-Throughs, described below (such collateral collectively hereinafter referred to as "Mortgage Assets"). Multi-class pass-through securities may be equity interests in a trust composed of Mortgage Assets. Unless the context indicates otherwise, all references herein to CMOs include multiclass pass-through securities. Payments of principal of and interest on the Mortgage Assets, and any reinvestment income thereon, provide the funds to pay debt service on the CMOs or make scheduled distributions on the multiclass pass-through securities. CMOs may be issued by agencies or instrumentalities of the U.S. Government, or by private originators of, or investors in, mortgage loans, including savings and loan associations, mortgage banks, commercial banks, investment banks and special purpose subsidiaries of the foregoing. The issuer of a series of CMOs may elect to be treated as a REMIC.

Private Mortgage Pass-Through Securities--Private mortgage pass-through securities ("Private Pass-Throughs") are structured similarly to the Ginnie Mae, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac mortgage pass-through securities and are issued by originators of, or investors in, mortgage loans, including savings and loan associations, mortgage banks, commercial banks, investment banks and special purpose subsidiaries of the foregoing. Private Pass-Throughs usually are backed by a pool of conventional fixed rate or adjustable rate mortgage loans. Since Private Pass-Throughs typically are not guaranteed by an entity having the credit status of GNMA, FNMA or FHLMC, such securities generally are structured with one or more types of credit enhancement.

Stripped Mortgage-Backed Securities--Stripped mortgage-backed securities ("SMBSs") are derivative multiclass mortgage securities. SMBSs may be issued by agencies or instrumentalities of the U.S. Government, or by private originators of, or investors in, mortgage loans, including savings and loan associations, mortgage banks, commercial banks, investment banks and special purpose subsidiaries of the foregoing.

SMBSs usually are structured with two classes that receive different proportions of the interest and principal distributions on a pool of Mortgage Assets. A common type of SMBS will have one class receiving some of the interest and most of the principal from the Mortgage Assets, while the other class will receive most of the interest and the remainder of the principal. In the most extreme case, one class will receive all of the interest (the interest-only or "IO" class), while the other class will receive all of the principal (the principal-only or "PO" class). The yield to maturity on an IO class is extremely sensitive to the rate of principal payments (including prepayments) on the related underlying Mortgage Assets, and a rapid rate of principal payments may have a material adverse effect on the Fund's yield to maturity. If the underlying Mortgage Assets experience greater than anticipated prepayments of principal, the Fund may fail to fully recoup its initial investment in these securities even if the securities are rated in the highest rating category by any nationally recognized statistical rating organization. In addition, no assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the market for certain SMBSs. Determination as to the liquidity of such securities will be made in accordance with guidelines established by the Fund's Board. In accordance with such guidelines, the Manager will monitor the Fund's investments in such securities with particular regard to trading activity, availability of reliable price information and other relevant information. The Fund will not invest more than 15% of the value of its net assets in securities that are illiquid.



Repurchase Agreements. The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements. In a repurchase agreement, the Fund buys, and the seller agrees to repurchase, a security at a mutually agreed upon time and price (usually within seven days). The repurchase agreement thereby determines the yield during the purchaser's holding period, while the seller's obligation to repurchase is secured by the value of the underlying security. The Fund's custodian or sub-custodian will have custody of, and will hold in a segregated account, securities acquired by the Fund under a repurchase agreement. Repurchase agreements are considered by the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") to be loans by the Fund. Repurchase agreements could involve risks in the event of a default or insolvency of the other party to the agreement, including possible delays or restrictions upon the Fund's ability to dispose of the underlying securities. In an attempt to reduce the risk of incurring a loss on a repurchase agreement, the Fund will enter into repurchase agreements only with domestic banks with total assets in excess of \$1 billion, or primary government securities dealers reporting to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, with respect to securities of the type in which the Fund may invest, and will require that additional securities be deposited with it if the value of the securities purchased should decrease below resale price.

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."

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 objective. These 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 after notice, certain mortgage-backed securities, 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 that the Fund deems representative of their value, the value of the Fund's net assets could be adversely affected.

### Investment Techniques

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

Leverage. Leveraging (that is, buying securities using borrowed money) exaggerates the effect on net asset value of any increase or decrease in the market value of the Fund's portfolio. These borrowings will be subject to interest costs which may or may not be recovered by appreciation of the securities purchased; in certain cases, interest costs may exceed the return received on the securities purchased. For borrowings for investment purposes, the 1940 Act requires the Fund to maintain continuous asset coverage (total assets including borrowings, less liabilities exclusive of borrowings) of 300% of the amount borrowed. If the required coverage should decline as a result of market fluctuations or other reasons, the Fund may be required to sell some of its portfolio holdings within three days to reduce the amount of its borrowings and restore the 300% asset coverage, even though it may be disadvantageous from an investment standpoint to sell securities at that time. The Fund also may be required to maintain minimum average balances in connection with such borrowing or pay a commitment or other fee to maintain a line of credit; either of these requirements would increase the cost of borrowing over the stated interest rate.

The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements with banks, brokers or dealers. This form of borrowing involves the transfer by the Fund of an underlying debt instrument in return for cash proceeds based on a percentage of the value of the security. The Fund retains the right to receive interest and principal payments on the security. At an agreed upon future date, the Fund repurchases the security at principal plus accrued interest. Except for these transactions, the Fund's borrowings generally will be unsecured.

Short-Selling. In these transactions, the Fund sells a security it does not own in anticipation of a decline in the market value of the security. To complete the transaction, the Fund must borrow the security to make delivery to the buyer. The Fund is obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing it subsequently at the market price at the time of replacement. The price at such time may be more or less than the price at which the security was sold by the Fund, which would result in a loss or gain, respectively.

The Fund will not sell securities short if, after giving effect to such short sale, the total market value of all securities sold short would exceed 25% of the value of the Fund's net assets. The Fund may not make a short sale which results in the Fund having sold short in the aggregate more than 5% of the outstanding securities of any class of an issuer.

The Fund also may make short sales "against the box," in which the Fund enters into a short sale of a security it owns. At no time will more than 15% of the value of the Fund's net assets be in deposits on short sales against the box.

Until the Fund closes its short position or replaces the borrowed security, the Fund will: (a) segregate permissible liquid assets, in an amount that, together with the amount provided as collateral, always equals the current value of the security sold short; or (b) otherwise cover its short position.

Derivatives. In addition to mortgage-backed securities, the Fund may invest in, or enter into, other derivatives for a variety of reasons, including to hedge certain market or interest rate risks, to manage the interest rate sensitivity (sometimes called duration) of fixed-income securities, 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 that the Fund may invest in include options contracts, futures contracts and options on futures contracts. A portfolio manager 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.

Derivatives may be purchased on established exchanges or through privately negotiated transactions referred to as over-the-counter derivatives. Exchange-traded derivatives generally are guaranteed by the clearing agency which is the issuer or counterparty to such derivatives. This guarantee usually is supported by a daily variation margin system operated by the clearing agency in order to reduce overall credit risk. As a result, unless the clearing agency defaults, there is relatively little counterparty credit risk associated with derivatives purchased on an exchange. By contrast, no clearing agency guarantees over-the-counter derivatives. Therefore, each party to an over-the-counter derivative bears the risk that the counterparty will default. Accordingly, the Manager will consider the creditworthiness of counterparties to over-the-counter derivatives in the same manner as it would review the credit quality of a security to be purchased by the Fund. Over-the-counter derivatives are less liquid than exchange-traded derivatives since the other party to the transaction may be the only investor with sufficient understanding of the derivative to be interested in bidding for it.

The Fund will not be a commodity pool. In addition, as a registered investment company, the Fund has filed notice with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and National Futures Association of its eligibility for an exclusion from the definition of commodity pool operator and, therefore, the Fund is not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the Commodity Exchange Act.

Futures Transactions. A futures contract is an agreement between two parties to buy and sell a security for a set price on a future date. These contracts are traded on exchanges, so that, in most

cases, either party can close out its position on the exchange for cash, without delivering the security. An option on a futures contract gives the holder of the option the right to buy from or sell to the writer of the option a position in a futures contract at a specified price on or before a specified expiration date.

Although some futures contracts call for making or taking delivery of the underlying securities, generally these obligations are closed out before delivery of offsetting purchases or sales of matching futures contracts (same exchange, underlying security or index, and delivery month). Closing out a futures contract sale is effected by purchasing a futures contract for the same aggregate amount of the specific type of financial instrument with the same delivery date. If an offsetting purchase price is less than the original sale price, the Fund realizes a capital gain, or if it is more, the Fund realizes a capital loss. Conversely, if an offsetting sale price is more than the original purchase price, the Fund realizes a capital gain, or if it is less, the Fund realizes a capital loss. Transaction costs also are included in these calculations.

The Fund may enter into futures contracts in U.S. domestic markets. Engaging in these transactions involves risk of loss to the Fund which could adversely affect the value of the Fund's net assets. Although the Fund intends to purchase or sell futures contracts only if there is an active market for such contracts, no assurance can be given that a liquid market will exist for any particular contract at any particular time. Many futures exchanges and boards of trade limit the amount of fluctuation permitted in futures contract prices during a single trading day. Once the daily limit has been reached in a particular contract, no trades may be made that day at a price beyond that limit or trading may be suspended for specified periods during the trading day. Futures contract prices could move to the limit for several consecutive trading days with little or no trading, thereby preventing prompt liquidation of futures positions and potentially subjecting the Fund to substantial losses.

Successful use of futures and options on futures by the Fund also is subject to the Manager's ability to predict correctly movements in the direction of the relevant market and, to the extent the transaction is entered into for hedging purposes, to ascertain the appropriate correlation between the transaction being hedged and the price movements of the futures contract. For example, if the Fund uses futures to hedge against the possibility of a decline in the market value of securities held in its portfolio and the prices of such securities instead increase, the Fund will lose part or all of the benefit of the increased value of securities which it has hedged because it will have offsetting losses in its futures positions. Furthermore, if in such circumstances the Fund has insufficient cash, it may have to sell securities to meet daily variation margin requirements. The Fund may have to sell such securities at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so.

Pursuant to regulations and/or published positions of the SEC, the Fund may be required to segregate permissible liquid assets to cover its obligations relating to its transactions in derivatives. To maintain this required cover, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities at disadvantageous prices or times since it may not be possible to liquidate a derivative position at a reasonable price. In addition, the segregation of such assets will have the effect of limiting the Fund's ability otherwise to invest those assets.

The Fund may purchase and sell interest rate futures contracts. An interest rate future obligates the Fund to purchase or sell an amount of a specific debt security at a future date at a specific price.

Options. The Fund may invest up to 5% of its assets, represented by the premium paid, in the purchase of call and put options. The Fund may write (i.e., sell) covered call and put 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 or securities at the exercise price at any time during the option period, or at a specific date. Conversely, a put option gives the purchaser of the option the right to sell, and obligates the writer to buy, the underlying security or securities at the exercise price at any time during the option period, or at a specific date.

A covered call option written by the Fund is a call option with respect to which the Fund owns the underlying security or otherwise covers the transaction by segregating permissible liquid assets. A put option written by the Fund is covered when, among other things, the Fund segregates permissible liquid assets having a value equal to or greater than the exercise price of the option to fulfill the obligation undertaken. The principal reason for writing covered call and put options is to realize, through the receipt of premiums, a greater return than would be realized on the underlying securities alone. The Fund receives a premium from writing covered call or put options which it retains whether or not the option is exercised.

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 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. If, as a covered call option writer, the Fund is unable to effect a closing purchase transaction in a secondary market, it will not be able to sell the underlying security until the option expires or it delivers the underlying security upon exercise or it otherwise covers its position.

Successful use by the Fund of options will be subject to the Manager's ability to predict correctly movements in interest rates and prices of securities underlying options. To the extent the Manager's predictions are correct, the Fund may incur losses.

Asset-Backed Securities. Asset-backed securities are a form of derivative. The securitization techniques used for asset-backed securities are similar to those used for mortgage-related securities. These securities include debt securities and securities with debt-like characteristics. The collateral for these securities has included home equity loans, automobile and credit card receivables, boat loans, computer leases, airplane leases, mobile home loans, recreational vehicle loans and hospital account receivables. The Fund may invest in these and other types of asset-backed securities that may be developed in the future.

Asset-backed securities present certain risks that are not presented by mortgage-backed securities. Primarily, these securities may provide the Fund with a less effective security interest in the related collateral than do mortgage-backed securities. Therefore, there is the possibility that recoveries on the underlying collateral may not, in some cases, be available to support payments on these securities.

The asset-backed securities in which the Fund may invest are securities issued by special purpose entities whose primary assets consist of a pool of mortgages, loans, receivables or other assets. Payment of principal and interest may depend largely on the cash flows generated by the assets backing the securities and in certain cases, supported by letters of credit, surety bonds or other forms of credit or liquidity enhancements. The value of these asset-backed securities also may be affected by the creditworthiness of the servicing agent for the pool of assets, the originator of the loans or receivables or the financial institution providing the credit support.

Future Developments. The Fund may take advantage of opportunities in options and futures contracts and options on futures contracts and any other derivatives which are not presently contemplated for use by the Fund or which are not currently available but which may be developed, to the extent such opportunities are both consistent with the Fund's investment objective and legally permissible for the Fund. Before entering into such transactions or making any such investment, the Fund will provide appropriate disclosure in its Prospectus or Statement of Additional Information.

Forward Commitments. The Fund may purchase or sell Ginnie Maes and other mortgage-related securities on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis, which means delivery and payment take place a number of days after the date of the commitment to purchase or sell the securities at a predetermined price and/or yield. Typically, no interest accrues to the purchaser until the security is delivered. When purchasing a security on a forward commitment basis, the Fund assumes the rights and risks of ownership of the security, including the risk of price and yield fluctuations, and takes such fluctuations into account when determining its net asset value. Because the Fund is not required to pay for these securities until the delivery date, these risks are in addition to the risks associated with the Fund's other investments. If the Fund is fully or almost fully invested when forward commitment purchases are outstanding, such purchases may result in a form of leverage. The Fund intends to engage in forward commitments to increase its portfolio's financial exposure to the types of securities in which it invests. Leveraging the portfolio in this manner will increase the Fund's exposure to changes in interest rates and will increase the volatility of its returns. The Fund will segregate permissible liquid assets at least equal at all times to the amount of the Fund's purchase commitments. At no time will the Fund have more than 33-1/3% of its assets committed to purchase securities on a forward commitment basis.

Securities purchased on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis are subject to changes in value (generally changing in the same way, i.e., appreciating when interest rates decline and depreciating when interest rates rise) based upon the public's perception of the creditworthiness of the issuer and changes, real or anticipated, in the level of interest rates. Securities purchased on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis may expose the Fund to risks because they may experience such fluctuations prior to their actual delivery. Purchasing securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis can involve the

additional risk that the yield available in the market when the delivery takes place actually may be higher than that obtained in the transaction itself. Purchasing securities on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis when the Fund is fully or almost fully invested may result in greater potential fluctuation in the value of the Fund's net assets and its net asset value per share.

Forward Roll Transactions. To enhance current income, the Fund may enter into forward roll transactions with respect to mortgage-related securities. In a forward roll transaction, the Fund sells a mortgage-related security to a financial institution, such as a bank or broker-dealer, and simultaneously agrees to repurchase a similar security from the institution at a later date at an agreed upon price. The securities that are repurchased will bear the same interest rate as those sold, but generally will be collateralized by different pools of mortgages with different prepayment histories than those sold. During the period between the sale and repurchase, the Fund will not be entitled to receive interest and principal payments on the securities sold. Proceeds of the sale will be invested in short-term instruments, particularly repurchase agreements, and the income from these investments, together with any additional fee income received on the sale, will generate income for the Fund exceeding the yield on the securities sold. Forward roll transactions involve the risk that the market value of the securities sold by the Fund may decline below the purchase price of those securities. The Fund will segregate permissible liquid assets at least equal to the amount of the repurchase price (including accrued interest).

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. Mellon Bank, N.A. 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.

## Certain Investment Considerations and Risks

General. The Fund's net asset value per share should be expected to fluctuate. You should consider the Fund as a supplement to an overall investment program and should invest only if you are willing to undertake the risks involved. The Fund is designed to benefit investors who do not engage in frequent redemptions or exchanges of Fund shares. Because charges may apply to redemptions and exchanges of Fund shares, the Fund may not be an appropriate investment for an investor who intends to engage frequently in such transactions.

Mortgage-Related Securities. Mortgage-related securities are complex derivative instruments, subject to both credit and prepayment risk, and may be more volatile and less liquid, and more difficult to price accurately, than more traditional debt securities. Although certain mortgage-related securities are guaranteed by a third party (such as a U.S. Government agency or instrumentality with respect to government-related mortgage-backed securities) or otherwise similarly secured, the market value of the security, which may fluctuate, is not secured.

Mortgage-related securities generally are subject to credit risks associated with the performance of the underlying mortgage properties and to prepayment risk. In certain instances, the credit risk associated with mortgage-related securities can be reduced by third party guarantees or other forms of credit support. Improved credit risk does not reduce prepayment risk which is unrelated to the rating assigned to the mortgage-related security. Prepayment risk can lead to fluctuations in value of the mortgage-related security which may be pronounced. If a mortgage-related security is purchased at a premium, all or part of the premium may be lost if there is a decline in the market value of the security, whether resulting from changes in interest rates or prepayments on the underlying mortgage collateral. As with other interest-bearing securities, the prices of certain mortgage-related securities are inversely affected by changes in interest rates. However, although the value of a mortgage-related security may decline when interest rates rise, the converse is not necessarily true, since in periods of declining interest rates the mortgages underlying the security are more likely to be prepaid. For this and other reasons, a mortgage-related security's stated maturity may be shortened by unscheduled prepayments on the underlying mortgages, and, therefore, it is not possible to predict accurately the security's return to the Fund. Moreover, with respect to certain stripped mortgage-backed securities, if the underlying mortgage securities experience greater than anticipated prepayments of principal, the Fund may fail to fully recoup its initial investment even if the securities are rated in the highest rating category by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. During periods of rapidly rising interest rates, prepayments of mortgage-related securities may occur at slower than expected rates. Slower prepayments effectively may lengthen a mortgage-related security's expected maturity which generally would cause the value of such security to fluctuate more widely in response to changes in interest rates. Were the prepayments on the Fund's mortgage-related securities to decrease broadly, the Fund's effective duration, and thus sensitivity to interest rate fluctuations, would increase.

Simultaneous Investments. Investment decisions for the Fund are made independently from those of the other investment companies advised by the Manager. 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 its 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

Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests at least 80% of its net assets, plus any borrowings for investment purposes, in mortgage-related securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities (or other investments with similar economic characteristics). The Fund has adopted a policy to provide its shareholders with at least 60 days' prior notice of any change in its policy to so invest its assets. 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 8 as fundamental policies. Investment restrictions numbered 9 through 13 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 25% of the value of its total assets in the securities of issuers in any single industry, provided that there shall be no limitation on the purchase of Ginnie Maes or other securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities.
2. Invest in commodities, except that the Fund may purchase and sell options, forward contracts, futures contracts, including those relating indices, and options on futures contracts or indices.
3. Purchase, hold or deal in real estate, or oil, gas or other mineral leases or exploration or development programs, provided that the Fund may purchase Ginnie Maes without limitation and purchase and sell securities that are secured by real estate or issued by companies that invest or deal in real estate, real estate investment trust securities and mortgage-backed securities.
4. 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.
5. Make loans to others, except through the purchase of debt obligations or 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 SEC and the Fund's Trustees.
6. Act as an underwriter of securities of other issuers.

7. 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. 2, 4 and 10 may be deemed to give rise to a senior security.

8. 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.

9. Invest in the securities of a company for the purpose of exercising management or control.

10. Pledge, hypothecate, mortgage or otherwise encumber 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 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.

11. 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.

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

13. Purchase common stocks, preferred stocks, warrants or other equity securities, or purchase corporate bonds or debentures, state bonds, municipal bonds or industrial bonds.

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 that restriction. With respect to Investment Restriction No. 4 for the Fund, 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 SEC 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  
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 Fund<sup>1</sup>

<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>
Gordon J. Davis (63) Board Member (1993)	Partner of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae President, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc.	Consolidated Edison, Inc., a utility company, <i>Director</i> Phoenix Companies, Inc., a life insurance company, <i>Director</i> Board Member/Trustee for several not-for-profit groups
David P. Feldman (65) Board Member (1991)	Corporate Director and Trustee	BBH Mutual Funds Group (11 funds), <i>Director</i> The Jeffrey Company, a private investment company, <i>Director</i> QMED, a medical device company, <i>Director</i>
Lynn Martin (65) Board Member (1994)	Advisor to the international accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP Chairperson to its Council for the Advancement of Women President, The Martin Hall Group LLP	SBC Communications, Inc., <i>Director</i> Ryder System, Inc., a supply chain and transportation management company, <i>Director</i> The Proctor & Gamble Co., a consumer products company, <i>Director</i> Constellation Energy Group, <i>Director</i> Member of the Council of Foreign Relations

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<sup>1</sup> 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>
Daniel Rose (75) Board Member (1992)	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Rose Associates, Inc., a New York based real estate development and management firm	Baltic-American Enterprise Fund, <i>Director</i> Harlem Educational Activities Fund, Inc., <i>Chairman</i> Housing Committee of the Real Estate Board of New York, Inc., <i>Director</i>
Philip L. Toia (71), Board Member (1997)	Retired	None
Sander Vanocur (76) Board Member (1992)	President of Old Owl Communications	None
Anne Wexler (74) Board Member (1994)	Chairman of the Wexler and Walker Public Policy Associates, consultants specializing in government relations and public affairs	Wilshire Mutual Funds (5 funds), <i>Director</i> Methanex Corporation, a methanol producing company, <i>Director</i> Member of the Council of Foreign Relations Member of the National Park Foundation

Board members are elected to serve for an indefinite term. The 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 financial and 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 auditor’s qualifications, independence and performance. The Fund’s governance/nominating committee is responsible for selecting and nominating 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, 8<sup>th</sup> 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. The 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 Fund’s 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 did not meet 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>	<u>Aggregate Holding of Funds in the Dreyfus Family of Funds for which Responsible as a Board Member</u>
Joseph S. DiMartino	None	Over \$100,000
Gordon J. Davis	None	None
David P. Feldman	None	\$10,000 - \$50,000
Lynn Martin	None	None
Daniel Rose	None	None
Sander Vanocur	None	\$1-\$10,000
Philip L. Toia	None	\$1 – \$10,000
Anne Wexler	None	None

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

Typically, the Fund pays its Board members its allocated portion of an annual retainer of \$30,000 and a fee of \$4,000 per meeting (with a minimum \$500 per meeting and per telephone meeting) attended for the Fund and eight other funds (comprised of eleven portfolios) in the Dreyfus Family of 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 a per meeting attended fee of one-half the amount paid to them as 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 was a Board member (the number of portfolios of such funds is set forth in parenthesis next to each Board member's total compensation) during the year ended December 31, 2004, was as follows:

<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>
Gordon J. Davis	\$4,918	\$ 108,500 (26)

<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	\$6,637	\$874,125 (193)
David P. Feldman	\$5,370	\$185,000 (58)
Lynn Martin	\$4,518	\$ 46,000 (11)
Eugene McCarthy***	\$500	\$ 9,500 (11)
Daniel Rose	\$5,310	\$ 104,500 (22)
Philip L. Toia	\$5,310	\$ 54,500 (11)
Sander Vanocur	\$5,310	\$ 104,000 (22)
Anne Wexler	\$5,310	\$ 104,000 (36)

\* Amount does not include reimbursed expenses for attending Board meetings, which amounted to \$1,761 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 member serves.

\*\*\* Emeritus Board member since March 29, 1996.

#### 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 92 investment companies (comprised of 186 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 2002. Chief Investment Officer, Vice Chairman and a director of the Manager, and an officer of 91 investment companies (comprised of 186 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 92 investment companies (comprised

of 202 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 58 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 92 investment companies (comprised of 202 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 46 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since April 1985.

MICHAEL A. ROSENBERG, Secretary since March 2000. Associate General Counsel of the Manager, and an officer of 89 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.

STEVEN F. NEWMAN, Assistant Secretary since March 2000. Associate General Counsel and Assistant Secretary of the Manager, and an officer of 92 investment companies (comprised of 202 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 55 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since July 1980.

RICHARD CASSARO, Assistant Treasurer since August 2003. Senior Accounting Manager – Equity Funds of the Manager, and an officer of 25 investment companies (comprised of 102 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 45 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since September 1982.

KENNETH J. SANDGREN, Assistant Treasurer since March 2001. Mutual Funds Tax Director of the Manager, and an officer of 92 investment companies (comprised of 202 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 2002. Senior Accounting of the Manager – Equity Funds of the Manager and an officer of 27 investment companies (comprised of 107 portfolios) managed by the Manager. He is 37 years old and has been an employee of the Manager since November 1990.

WILLIAM GERMENIS, Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer since October 2002. 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 (92 investment companies, comprising 202 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 voting securities outstanding on April 15, 2005.

The following shareholder was known by the Fund to own of record 5% or more of the Fund's shares outstanding on April 15, 2005. 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.

<u>Name and Address</u>	<u>Percent of Total Shares Outstanding</u>
Valic Separate Account A Division 71 2929 Allen Parkway, Suite L7-01 Houston, TX 77019-7100	41.5443%

#### MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Investment Adviser. 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 a Management Agreement (the "Agreement") between the Fund and the Manager. The 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 such approval. The 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 outstanding securities, or, on 90 days' notice, by the Manager. The Agreement will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

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

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. Sciulli, 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'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. 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.

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 may pay the Distributor for shareholder services from the Manager's own assets, including past profits but not including the management fees paid by the Fund. The Distributor may use part or all of such payments to pay Service Agents (as defined below) in respect of these services. The Manager also may make such advertising or promotional expenditures, using its own resources, as it from time to time deems appropriate.

Expenses. All expenses incurred in the operation of the Fund are borne by the Fund, except to the extent specifically assumed by the Manager. The expenses borne by the Fund include: taxes, interest, loan commitment fees, interest 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, SEC 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 maintaining the Fund's existence, costs of independent pricing services, costs attributable to investor services (including, without limitation, telephone and personnel expenses), costs of shareholders' reports and 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.

As compensation for its services, the Fund has agreed to pay the Manager a monthly management fee at the annual rate of 0.45% of the value of the Fund's average daily net assets. All fees and expenses are accrued daily and deducted before declaration of dividends to

investors. The management fees payable for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004 amounted to \$1,296,079, \$1,655,323 and \$1,480,126, respectively, which amounts were reduced by \$367,245, \$440,870 and \$375,828, respectively, pursuant to undertakings by the Manager, resulting in a net fee of \$928,834 for 2002, \$1,214,453 for 2003 and \$1,104,298 for 2004.

The Manager has agreed that if in any fiscal year the aggregate expenses of the Fund, exclusive of taxes, brokerage, interest on borrowings and (with the prior written consent of the necessary state securities commissions) extraordinary expenses, but including the management 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 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 aggregate of the fees payable to the Manager is not subject to reduction as the value of the Fund's net assets increases.

Fund Management. The Manager manages the Fund's portfolio of investments in accordance with the stated policies of the Fund, subject to the approval of the Fund's Board. The Manager is responsible for investment decisions, and provides the Fund with portfolio managers who are authorized by the Board to execute purchases and sales of securities. The Fund's portfolio managers are Marc Seidner and Robert Bayston, each of whom is employed by Dreyfus and Standish Mellon Asset Management, LLC ("SMAM"), a subsidiary of Mellon and an affiliate of Dreyfus. The Manager also maintains a research department with a professional staff of portfolio managers and securities analysts who provide research services for the Fund as well as for other funds advised by the Manager.

Portfolio Manager Compensation. The portfolio managers' cash compensation is comprised primarily of a market-based salary and an incentive compensation plan (annual and long term incentive). The Fund's portfolio managers are compensated by Dreyfus or its affiliates and not by the Fund. Funding for the SMAM Annual Incentive Plan and Long Term Incentive Plan is through a pre-determined fixed percentage of overall company profitability. Therefore, all bonus awards are based initially on Company performance. The investment professionals are eligible to receive annual cash bonus awards from the incentive compensation plan. Annual awards are granted in March, for the prior calendar year. Individual awards for investment professionals are discretionary, based on product performance relative to both benchmarks and peer comparisons and goals established at the beginning of each calendar year. Goals are to a substantial degree based on investment performance, including performance for one and three year periods. Also considered in determining individual awards are team participation and general contributions to SMAM.

All portfolio managers are also eligible to participate in the SMAM Long Term Incentive Plan. This plan provides for an annual award, payable in deferred cash that cliff vests after 3 years, with an interest rate equal to the average year over year earnings growth of SMAM (capped at 20% per year). Management has discretion with respect to actual participation.

Portfolio managers whose compensation exceeds certain levels may elect to defer portions of their base salaries and/or incentive compensation pursuant to Mellon's elective deferred compensation plan.

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 February 28, 2005 are as follows:

<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>
Marc Seidner	6	\$1.9 billion	0	\$0	74	\$44.2 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>
Marc Seidner	Dreyfus Basic U.S. Mortgage Securities Fund	None

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 they are 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 purchased 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.

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 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, 12b-1 fees 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, recordkeeping 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 on the Fund 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 due diligence trips; educational conference sponsorship; 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. The Transfer Agent will receive the \$5.00 exchange fee, the \$5.00 account closeout fee, the \$5.00 wire and Dreyfus TeleTransfer redemption fee and the \$2.00 checkwriting charge, described below. A sufficient number of your shares will be redeemed automatically to pay these amounts. These payments will reduce the transfer agency fee otherwise payable by the Fund. By purchasing Fund shares, you are deemed to have consented to this procedure.

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 assets held in custody and receives certain securities transaction charges.

## HOW TO BUY SHARES

General. Fund shares are sold without a sales charge. Certain Service Agents effecting transactions in Fund shares may charge their clients direct fees in connection with such transactions. 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 the “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 \$10,000. Subsequent investments must be at least \$1,000. However, the minimum initial investment for Dreyfus-sponsored Education Savings Accounts, Keogh Plans, IRAs, IRAs set up under a Simplified Employee Pension Plan ("SEP-IRAs") and 403(b)(7) Plans with only one participant is \$5,000. Subsequent investments through such retirement plan accounts must be at least \$1,000. The initial investment must be accompanied by the Account Application. 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.

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 entity authorized to receive orders on behalf of the Fund. 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, certain options and futures contracts 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."

For certain institutions that have entered into agreements with the Distributor, payment for the purchase of shares may be transmitted, and must be received by the Transfer Agent, within three business days after the order is placed. If such payment is not received within three business days after the order is placed, the order may be canceled and the institution could be held liable for resulting fees and/or losses.

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 are open for regular business, Fund shares will be purchased at the public offering 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 New York Stock Exchange are open for regular business, or made on Saturday, Sunday or any Fund holiday (e.g., when the New York Stock Exchange is not open for business). Fund shares will be purchased at the public offering price

determined on the next bank business day following such purchase order. To qualify to use Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege, the initial payment for purchase of 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 \$10,000 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 reimburses the Distributor an amount not to exceed an annual rate of 0.25% of the value of the Fund's average daily net assets for certain allocated expenses of providing personal services and/or maintaining shareholder accounts. 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.

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 Board for its review. In addition, the Shareholder Services Plan provides that material amendments of the Shareholder Services 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 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 Shareholder Services 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.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, the Fund paid \$104,373 pursuant to the Shareholder Services Plan.

## HOW TO REDEEM SHARES

General. The Fund ordinarily will make a 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 or by Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege and subsequently submit a written redemption request to the Transfer Agent, the Fund may delay sending the redemption proceeds for up to eight business days after the purchase of such shares. In addition, the Fund

will not honor redemption checks under the Checkwriting Privilege, and 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 or the Dreyfus TeleTransfer purchase 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.

Transaction Fees. If your account balance is less than \$50,000, you will be charged \$5.00 when you redeem all shares in your account or your account is otherwise closed out. The fee will be deducted from your redemption proceeds and paid to the Transfer Agent. The account closeout fee does not apply to exchanges out of the Fund or to wire or Dreyfus TeleTransfer redemptions, for each of which a \$5.00 fee applies if your account balance is less than \$50,000.

Checkwriting Privilege. The Fund provides redemption checks ("Checks") automatically upon opening an account unless you specifically refuse the Checkwriting Privilege by checking the applicable "No" box on the Account Application. The Checkwriting Privilege may be established for an existing account by a separate signed Shareholder Services Form. Checks will be sent only to the registered owner(s) of the account and only to the address of record. The Account Application or Shareholder Services Form must be manually signed by the registered owner(s). Checks are drawn on your Fund account and may be made payable to the order of any person in an amount of \$1,000 or more. When a Check is presented to the Transfer Agent for payment, the Transfer Agent, as your agent, will cause the Fund to redeem a sufficient number of shares in your account to cover the amount of the Check and the \$2.00 charge, if applicable. Dividends are earned until the Check clears. After clearance, a copy of the Check will be returned to you. You generally will be subject to the same rules and regulations that apply to checking accounts, although election of this Privilege creates only a shareholder-transfer agent relationship with the Transfer Agent.

You should date your Checks with the current date when you write them. Please do not postdate your Checks. If you do, the Transfer Agent will honor, upon presentment, even if presented before the date of the Check, all postdated Checks which are dated within six months of presentment for payment, if they are otherwise in good order.

The Transfer Agent will impose a fee for stopping payment of a Check upon your request or if the Transfer Agent cannot honor a Check due to insufficient funds or other valid reason. If the amount of the Check, plus any applicable charges, is greater than the value of the shares in your account, the Check will be returned marked "insufficient funds." Checks should not be used to close an account.

The Checkwriting Privilege will be terminated immediately, without notice, with respect to any account which is, or becomes, subject to backup withholding on redemptions. Any Check written on an account which has become subject to backup withholding on redemptions will not be honored by the Transfer Agent. If you hold shares in a Dreyfus-sponsored IRA account, you may be permitted to make withdrawals from your IRA account using checks furnished to you by The Dreyfus Trust Company.



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. You will be charged a \$5.00 fee for each wire redemption from the Fund, which will be deducted from your account and paid to the Transfer Agent, if your account balance is less than \$50,000. 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 (\$5,000 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 the investor. 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 "Share Certificates; Signatures."

Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege. You may request by telephone or online that redemption proceeds (minimum \$1,000 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. 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. You will be charged a \$5.00 fee for each redemption made pursuant to this Privilege, which will be deducted from your account and paid to the Transfer Agent, if your account balance is less than \$50,000. See "How to Buy Shares--Dreyfus TeleTransfer Privilege."

Share 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 investor, including each owner 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 further information with respect to signature-guarantees, investors may 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 investor 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 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 sells such securities, brokerage charges might 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<sup>(R)</sup> 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. You will be charged a \$5.00 fee for each exchange made out of the Fund, which will be deducted from your account and paid to the Transfer Agent, if your account balance is less than \$50,000. Exchanges out of the Fund pursuant to the Fund Exchanges service are limited to four per calendar year.

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.

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.

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 the Dreyfus.com website. The Fund reserves the right to reject any exchange request in whole or in part. The availability of the Fund Exchanges service may be modified or terminated at any time upon notice to shareholders.

Dreyfus Dividend Sweep Privilege. Dreyfus Dividend Sweep Privilege 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 certain funds 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.

## DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

Valuation of Portfolio Securities. The Fund's investments are valued each business day using available market quotations or at fair value. Substantially all of the Fund's investments (excluding short-term investments) are valued each business day by an independent pricing service (the "Service") approved by the Fund's Board. Securities valued by the Service for which quoted bid prices in the judgment of the Service are readily available and are representative of the bid side of the market are valued at the mean between the quoted bid prices (as obtained by the Service from dealers in such securities) and asked prices (as calculated by the Service based upon its evaluation of the market for such securities). The value of other debt securities valued by the Service is determined by the Service based on methods which include consideration of: yields or prices of securities of comparable quality, coupon, maturity and type; indications as to values from dealers; and general market conditions. Short-term investments are not valued by the Service and may be carried at amortized cost, which approximates value. Debt securities that are not valued by the Service are valued at the average of the most recent bid and asked prices in the market in which such investments are primarily traded, or at the last sales price for securities traded primarily on an exchange. In the absence of reported sales of investments traded primarily on an exchange, the average of the most recent bid and asked prices is used. Bid price is used when no asked price is available. Expenses and fees, including the management fee, are accrued daily and are taken into account for the purpose of determining the NAV of Fund shares.

Restricted securities, as well as securities or other assets for which recent market quotations are not readily available, or are determined by the Fund not to reflect accurately fair value, or are not valued by the Service, 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. 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. 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 such market value less the same percentage discount at which the restricted securities were purchased. This discount will be revised periodically by the Board if it believes that the discount 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 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. As a regulated investment company, the Fund pays no Federal income tax on net investment income and net realized capital gains to the extent that such income and gains are distributed to shareholders. 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 declared and paid shortly after your purchase may have the effect of reducing the aggregate net asset value of your shares below the cost of your investment. Such a 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 shares for more than six months and has received a capital gains dividend 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 received.

Ordinarily, gains and losses realized from portfolio transactions will be treated as capital gains and losses. 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 the 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 financial futures 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 the exercise or lapse of Section 1256 contracts and options as well as from closing transactions. In addition, any 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 in the manner described above.

Offsetting positions held by a Fund involving certain futures or forward contracts or options transactions with respect to actively traded personal property may be considered, for tax purposes, to constitute "straddles." To the extent the 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.

If the Fund either (1) holds an appreciated financial position with respect to stock, certain debt obligations, or partnership interests ("appreciated financial position") and then enters into a short sale, futures, forward, or offsetting notional principal contract (collectively, a "Contract") with respect to the same or substantially identical property or (2) holds an appreciated financial position that is a Contract and then acquires property that is the same as, or substantially identical to, the underlying property, the Fund generally will be taxed as if the appreciated financial position were sold at its fair market value on the date the Fund enters into the financial position or acquires the property, respectively.

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 cause the Fund to recognize income prior to the receipt of cash payments. For example, the Fund could be required to accrue as income each year a portion of the discount (or deemed discount) at which such securities were issued. A portion of such income would be allocable to an investor even though no corresponding distributions were made to the investor, thus causing the investor's income to exceed distributions to the investor.

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. Portfolio securities are purchased from and sold to parties acting as either principal or agent. Newly-issued securities ordinarily are purchased directly from the issuer or from an underwriter; other purchases and sales usually are placed with those dealers from whom

it appears that the best price or execution will be obtained. Usually no brokerage commissions, as such, are paid by the Fund for the purchase and sale of fund securities, although the price paid usually includes an undisclosed compensation to the dealer acting as agent. The prices paid to underwriters of newly-issued securities usually include a concession paid by the issuer to the underwriter, and purchases of after-market securities from dealers ordinarily are executed at a price between the bid and asked price. In connection with its futures transactions for the fiscal years ended 2002, 2003 and 2004, the Fund paid total brokerage commissions of \$32,104, \$27,301 and \$52,885, respectively, none of which was paid to the Distributor. There were no gross spreads and concessions on principal transactions for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

Portfolio turnover may vary from year to year, as well as within a year. High turnover rates are likely to result in comparatively 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.

Transactions are allocated to various dealers by the Fund's portfolio managers in their best judgment. The primary consideration is prompt and effective execution of orders at the most favorable price. Subject to that primary consideration, dealers may be selected for research, statistical or other services to enable the Manager to supplement its own research and analysis with the views and information of other securities firms.

Research services furnished by brokers through which the Fund effects securities transactions may be used by the Manager in advising other funds it advises and, conversely, research services furnished to the Manager by brokers in connection with other funds the Manager advises may be used by the Manager in advising the Fund. Although it is not possible to place a dollar value on these services, it is the opinion of the Manager that the receipt and study of such services from brokers should not reduce the overall expenses of its research department.

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. The following is a list of the Fund's regular brokers or dealers whose securities the Fund is deemed to have acquired during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004, and the aggregate value per issuer, as of December 31, 2004, of such securities:

Washington Mutual, Inc. – \$5,106,000  
Banc of America Securities LLC – \$4,265,000

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, [www.dreyfus.com](http://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 Fund's Chief Compliance Officer, and any exceptions to this policy are reported quarterly to the Fund's Board.

## 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.

The Fund is organized as an unincorporated business trust under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Under Massachusetts law, shareholders, under certain circumstances, could be held personally liable for the obligations of the Fund. However, the Fund's Agreement and Declaration of Trust ("Trust Agreement") disclaims shareholder liability for acts or obligations of the Fund and requires that notice of such disclaimer be given in each agreement, obligation or instrument entered into or executed by the Fund or a Trustee. The Trust



Agreement provides for indemnification from the Fund's property for all losses and expenses of any shareholder held personally liable for the obligations of the Fund. Thus, the risk of a shareholder's incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which the Fund itself would be unable to meet its obligations, a possibility which management believes is remote. Upon payment of any liability incurred by the Fund, the shareholder paying such liability will be entitled to reimbursement from the general assets of the Fund. The Fund intends to conduct its operations in such a way so as to avoid, as far as possible, ultimate liability of the shareholders for liabilities of the Fund.

Meetings of shareholders will not be held for the purpose of electing Board members unless and until such time as less than a majority of the Board members holding office have been elected by shareholders, at which time the Board members then in office will call a shareholders' meeting for the election of Board members. Under the 1940 Act, shareholders of record of not less than two-thirds of the outstanding shares of the Fund may remove a Board member through a declaration in writing or by vote cast in person or by proxy at a meeting called for that purpose. The Board members are required to call a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of voting upon the question of removal of any such Board member when requested in writing to do so by the shareholders of record of not less than 10% of the Fund's outstanding shares.

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.