

## **Your Relationship with Your Financial Professional: Feedback on the Relationship Summary**

We would like to know what you think about a proposed Relationship Summary that describes your relationship with your investment adviser or your broker-dealer (your firm) and your financial professionals. This document summarizes:

- the services the firm offers and the types of fees and costs associated with those services;
- the firm's obligations to you;
- certain conflicts of interest;
- how to find additional information about the firm and its financial professionals and research disciplinary history for the firm or its financial professionals;
- how to report a problem with your investments, investment account or a financial professional; and
- some questions to ask your financial professional to get more information.

It is important to us at the SEC to understand what you, the investor, think so that we can make it easier for you to choose the type of investment services relationship that is right for you. We prepared sample Relationship Summaries to illustrate what they may look like.

- [Sample Relationship Summary for a broker-dealer](#)
- [Sample Relationship Summary for an investment adviser](#)
- [Sample Relationship Summary for firms that are both an investment adviser and broker-dealer](#)

Please take a few minutes to review one or more of the samples and answer any or all of these questions. Please provide your comments by August 7, 2018 and thank you for your feedback!

If you are interested in background information on the proposed Relationship Summary, or want to provide feedback on additional questions, click [here](#).

**All required fields are marked with an asterisk \***

### **Contact Info**

\* First  
Name:

MARK

\* Last Name:

Shaffer

\* Email:

[REDACTED]

*Your email address will not be published on the web site)*

### **Questions**

1. Overall do you find the Relationship Summary useful? If not, how would you change it? If so, what topics and how can they be improved?

Useful; however Broker-Dealer recommendation (2nd bullet) and Investment Advisor "Non-discretionary" account seem very similar. I was asking: "what's the difference?"

2. How useful is each section of the Relationship Summary? Please consider explaining your responses in the comments

Subject to respond	Very Useful	Useful	Not Useful	Unsure	Comments
a. Type of Relationship and Service	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
b. Our Obligations to You	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
c. Fees and Costs	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Tell how much load in comparison to industry standard.
d. Comparison to different account types	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
e. Conflict of Interests	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Clarify differences
f. Additional Information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
g. Key Questions to Ask	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

3. Please answer the following questions. Please consider explaining your responses in the comments

Questions	Yes	No	Somewhat	Comments
a. Do you find the format of the Relationship Summary easy to follow?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	
b. Is the information in the appropriate order?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
c. Is the Relationship Summary easy to read?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
d. Should the Relationship Summary include additional information about different account types?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
e. Would you seek out additional information about a firm's disciplinary history as suggested in the Relationship Summary?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

4. Are there topics in the Relationship Summary that are too technical or that could be improved?

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5. Is there additional information that we should require in the Relationship Summary, such as more specific information about the firm or additional information about fees? Is that because you do not receive the information now, or because you would also like to see it presented in this summary document, or both? Is there any information that should be made more prominent?

6. Is the Relationship Summary an appropriate length? If not, should it be longer or shorter?

Try to get down to 1 page, front + back

7. Do you find the 'Key Questions to Ask' useful? Would the questions improve the quality of your discussion with your financial professional? If not, why not?

Yes. But how will the investor know the answers are truthful?

8. Do you have any additional suggestions to improve the Relationship Summary? Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

We will post your feedback on our website. Your submission will be posted without change; we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should only make submissions that you wish to make available publicly.

Thank You!

Press continue to submit...

Continue

### **Other Ways to Submit Your Feedback**

You also can send us feedback in the following ways (include the file number S7-08-18 in your response):

<a href="#">Print Your Responses</a> and Mail	Secretary Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, NE Washington, DC 20549-1090
<a href="#">Print a PDF of Your Responses</a> and Email	Use the printer friendly page and select a PDF printer to create a file you can email to: <a href="mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov">rule-comments@sec.gov</a>

Print a Blank Copy of this Flier, Fill it  
Out, and Mail

Secretary  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
100 F Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20549-1090

**File No. S7-08-18**