

**Item 1: Cover Page**

**BROCHURE ON FORM ADV-II**

**February 29, 2012**

**H.S. Dreher Capital Management, LLC**

**275 SE Broad St**

**Southern Pines, NC 28387**

**910-692-4330**

**[www.interestoninterest.com](http://www.interestoninterest.com)**

*Thank you for reading our brochure, which provides information about the qualifications and business practices of H.S. Dreher Capital Management, LLC. Should you have questions or want to know more about the contents of this document, we encourage you to visit our website, write or call us at the above number. Additional information about H.S. Dreher Capital Management, LLC also is available on the SEC's website at*

*[www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).*

*Sincerely, Thomas E Velevis, CFP, Managing Principal; Henry S Dreher, Chief Compliance Officer.*

***Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission or state securities authorities have approved or verified the following information.***

**Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training.**

**Item 2: Summary of Material Changes**

The firm is no longer required to register with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission because it has less than \$100,000,000 under management. Accordingly, the firm is registered, registering or filing the appropriate notices, with the State of North Carolina, its domicile, and other regulatory authorities.

This Brochure has been amended to conform with regulatory standards.

**Item 3: Table of Contents**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Table of Contents</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Form ADV-Part 2A-Firm Brochure</b></p>
--

	Page
<b>Item 1: Cover Page.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Item 2: Material Changes.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Item 3: Table of Contents.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Item 4: Advisory Business.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Item 5: Fees and Compensation.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Item 6: Performance Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Item 7: Types of Clients.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Item 9: Disciplinary Information.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Item 12: Brokerage Practices.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Item 13: Review of Accounts.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Item 15: Custody.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Item 16: Investment Discretion.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Item 17: Voting Client Securities.....</b>	<b>22</b>

<b>Table of Contents (continued):</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Item 18: Financial Information.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Item 19: Requirements for State Registered Advisers.....</b>	<b>23</b>

## **Item 4: Advisory Business**

### Description of Advisory Firm

H.S. Dreher Capital Management, LLC designs, builds and manages investment portfolios for retirees and individuals planning for retirement. Services are offered on a fee-only basis, meaning the firm does not receive commissions or other remuneration from the investments it buys for its clients. (See **Item 5: Fees and Compensation.**) The firm is located in Southern Pines, NC.

### Number of Years in Business

The firm was founded in September 1994 by Henry S Dreher.

### Principal Owner

The firm is owned by Thomas E Velevis, CFP®.

Descriptions of the educational backgrounds and employment histories for Mr Dreher and Mr Velevis appear in **Item 19: Requirements for State Registered Advisers**. Additional information is contained in this Brochure's **Supplements** for Mr Dreher and Mr Velevis.

### Description of Advisory Services Offered

#### Portfolio Management:

- Written Investment Strategies are developed for each client. These strategies attempt to identify the client's needs and develop an investment allocation system that corresponds to these needs.

Designing an Investment Strategy involves developing a financial profile based on information obtained from clients, such as spending, income, and taxes on income. Income items might include pension, part-time work, annuities and Social Security. Often there is a negative difference between spending and income after taxes. This gap may represent the amount of funds that clients need to withdraw from their investments each year. This process helps to identify this figure, and the firm utilizes its knowledge of financial markets to determine if clients have enough capital to generate this amount of investment return without taking risks that are not appropriate. This financial profile assists clients in making spending decisions and plans for their retirement.

The next step in developing an Investment Strategy is to transfer this financial profile into a risk profile, which is an attempt to balance client needs with the investment risk necessary to supply the needs.

- Execution of Client Investment Strategies involves the purchase and sale of stocks, bonds and No-Load mutual funds. These transactions are performed mainly on a discretionary basis by the firm. (The firm does not vote proxies.)

The firm uses the asset allocation plans established in client Investment Strategies as its road map to buy and sell stocks, bonds and No-load mutual funds for clients. This service is performed on a discretionary basis, meaning the firm communicates directly with the client's broker-custodian to execute its buy and sell decisions. (See **Item 16: Investment Discretion.**) Because of the firm's remuneration structure, it is advantageous for both the client and the firm to have its buy and sell decisions executed on a cost effective basis. As a result, the firm may help clients select a brokerage-custodian to hold the client's financial assets and effect securities transactions using discounted commissions. (See **Item 5: Fees and Compensation.**)

(Recommending and selecting brokerage-custodians involves conflicts of interest. Only a limited number of brokerages offer discount commissions in conjunction with the trading and accounting platforms that enable the firm to convey its services in a cost effective manner. These platforms, and other services provided by the brokers that the firm may use and recommend to clients, are provided with the intention of influencing the firm's choice of brokerage-custodians for its clients. These conflicts of interest are described more fully in this filing. (See **Item 12: Brokerage Practices.**)

- Reviews of Client Accounts, including performance, are offered on an annual basis. These reviews include consolidated statements prepared by the firm; clients receive monthly statements directly from independent, third-party custodians who hold their assets and effect securities transactions.

Account reviews are designed to examine the efficacy of client investment activity. Consolidated statements are provided that help clients determine if their Investment Strategies are being followed. Advisory personnel also compare client returns with the returns on a benchmark of similarly constructed investment portfolios for comparable periods. Clients can thereby see not only if their Investment Strategy is being followed; they can judge if the Investment Strategy is working.

Annual reviews also provide a format for evaluating a client's financial profile. Income and spending projections can be adjusted and refined, so the firm's client records are kept up to date. For the convenience of the firm and clients, annual reviews can be conducted either in person or by phone, and reviews can take place more frequently than annually depending on circumstances and concerns. Reviews are conducted by Thomas E Velevis, CFP, Managing Principal and Henry S Dreher, Founder. (See **Item 13: Review of Accounts.**)

### Financial Planning Services:

As described above, designing, building and managing investment portfolios for clients cannot be done in a vacuum. During each of these processes—design, build, manage—the firm may be required to consider special estate requests, income tax issues and liability protection, such as property and casualty insurance, life insurance and long-term care insurance. Advisor representatives of the firm attempt to incorporate the recommendations of other professionals in these areas when giving financial advice to and managing investments for clients. The firm does not offer estate planning or income tax services, nor is it licensed to sell any insurance products.

The time required to perform these services varies based on the complexity and timing of the issues. Important events for clients involving the firm may require a large portion of the firm's attention and resources for a period of a few days or a week, or intermittently over a longer period; while routine portfolio management may involve only minimal communication. Examples of such events range from buying a new car or repairing a roof to taking an extended cruise to moving into a retirement community. Advisor representatives offer to determine the possible costs associated with these decisions to assist clients make an informed judgment about the issues.

This activity may involve gathering cost information (such as a down payment, if applicable, monthly fees, excluded benefits, etc when examining retirement communities). Displaying these costs in a cash-flow analysis, including projections, helps clients make more informed decisions. Often, organizing the information into this format facilitates a discussion with the client's children, or other family members who want to be involved in the decision. It would not be uncommon for the firm to participate in a meeting between client and family at this time.

The firm believes it must be available for projects of this nature, when they occur, in order to provide appropriate investment portfolio advice. There is no additional charge for this service (see **Item 5: Fees and Compensation**). All clients are offered these comprehensive services without limitation based on minimum amount of net worth.

### Proprietary Research and Analysis:

Using information that is provided by financial publications, filed with regulatory authorities and otherwise provided by economic research organizations, the firm conducts research on individual companies and economic vectors such as interest rates, inflation and economic growth. This information assists the firm to choose investments for clients that include individual bonds and equities for select accounts, as well as portfolios comprised solely of mutual funds and those containing both direct investments and mutual funds. Articles and essays deriving from this activity are shared with clients via the firm's Quarterly Report to

Clients. Some of these appear in publications (see **Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss**).

#### Client Imposed Restrictions

The Investment Strategy also may address special investment considerations and client preferences: these might include but are not limited to low-price stocks, the requirement to notify clients before transactions are made in certain positions or income tax related matters. (See **Item 16: Investment Discretion**.)

#### Wrap Fee Programs

The firm does not participate in or sponsor any wrap fee programs.

#### Client Assets Under Management

As of December 31, 2011, the firm managed \$44,912,601.

## **Item 5: Fees and Compensation**

### Means of Compensation

Fees are based on the amount of assets managed by the firm (Assets Under Management), subject to the firm's minimum annual fee of \$2,500.

### Annual Fee Schedule

\$0-\$250,000.....1.0% or \$2,500, whichever is greater, plus  
0.8% of the amount between \$250,000 and \$750,000, plus  
0.5% of the amount over \$750,000

### Negotiation of Fees

Through negotiation, the firm may deviate from this schedule based on special circumstances including but not limited to the following:

- Clients may plan to increase their assets under management, in which case the firm may charge a lower minimum on a temporary basis.
- Depending on client circumstances, advisor representatives may develop an Investment Strategy that does not utilize the firm's full range of investment expertise. As an example, given today's low interest rate environment, a client hiring the firm to construct an intermediate ladder of government bonds could pay more in management fees than the interest received on some short-term bonds. In this example, it would be advisable to negotiate a lower fee, as the firm does not believe that management fees should become a structural impediment to investment returns.
- Some client investments are located in high-fee structures, such as company-sponsored retirement plans that may charge fees for custody, mortality, investment management and administration. As well, investment selections in these programs may be limited. In such instances the firm's advice may be valuable, but a lower fee is negotiated so as not to unnecessarily increase fees that are already being paid.

### Payment of Fees

Fees are invoiced and deducted from client accounts or remitted directly by the client, depending on client preference.

### Billing Frequency

Fees are deducted or billed quarterly in arrears, meaning after the service is performed.

### Additional Fees Charged

Fees paid to the firm are separate and distinct from fees and expenses charged by third-party providers. Based on the firm's fee structure, clients pay their own commissions. And to the extent the firm purchases mutual funds for clients, they pay investment management fees on top of the fees charged by the firm. As a result, the firm encourages clients to use discount brokerage companies for their custodians, and the firm attempts to select mutual funds whose investment results justify the investment management fees they charge (although the firm cannot guarantee that its selections will meet these expectations). (See **Item 12: Brokerage Practices.**)

### Prepayment of Fees

The firm does not accept prepayment of fees; fees are billed in arrears after service is performed.

### Refunds of Prepaid Fees and Account Termination

The firm bills in arrears. In the event of termination of services, the firm will bill its clients on a pro-rata basis for services it has already performed. In practice, the firm does not deduct fees for a partial billing period (quarter) under these circumstances, even if that is the arrangement agreed to in the Investment Management Agreement. Instead, the firm will send an invoice asking for remittance, and the client can decide if the fees are fair and the payment is deserved.

Clients have the right to terminate their Investment Management Agreement without penalty within five (5) business days after entering into the agreement.

### External Compensation for The Sale of Securities to Clients

The firm does not sell securities. It is compensated only by its clients (see **Item 4: Advisory Business**)

## **Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management**

### Performance-Based Fees

Qualified clients may negotiate performance-based fees. “Qualified Client” pursuant to SEC Section 205-3 means:

- (i) A natural person who or a company that immediately after entering into the contract has at least \$1,000,000 under the management of the investment adviser.
- (ii) A natural person who or a company that the investment adviser entering into the contract (and any person acting on his behalf) reasonably believes, immediately prior to entering into the contract, either;
  - (A) Has a net worth (together, in the case of a natural person, with assets held jointly with a spouse) of more than \$2,000,000, at the time the contract is entered into; or
  - (B) Is a qualified purchaser as defined in section 2(a)(51)(AA) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15U.S.C. 80a-2(51)(A) ) at the time the contract is entered into; or
- (iii) A natural person who immediately prior to entering into the contract is:
  - (A) An executive officer, director, trustee, general partner or person serving in similar capacity, of the investment adviser; or
  - (B) An employee of the investment adviser (other than an employee performing solely clerical, secretarial or administrative functions with regard to the investment adviser) who, in connection with his or her regular functions or duties, participates in the investment activities of such investment adviser, provided that such employee has been performing such functions and duties for or on behalf of the investment adviser, or substantially similar functions or duties for or on behalf of another company for at least 12 months.

### Side-by-Side Management

Because select client accounts compensate the firm based on investment performance, a conflict of interest exists between performance-based accounts and fee-based accounts. For example, a portfolio manager with a limited investment opportunity (a small offering of municipal bonds, perhaps, that he believes is undervalued) has an incentive to place the investment in the performance-based account. Firm policy would direct the account manager to place the investment in the account with the best fit (most relative cash, for instance), but this policy would not eliminate the conflict. In other words, although the firm has a policy to address this conflict of interest, it is not possible to guarantee that all transactions take place on a fair and equitable basis when viewed from the perspective of a performance-based account versus a fee-based account. (See **Item 12: Brokerage Practices.**)

### **Item 7: Types of Clients**

The firm manages investment accounts in many forms:

- Individual and Joint Accounts
- Trust Accounts
- IRAs
- Other Retirement Accounts
- Corporations and Business Entities

The firm does not require a minimum account size to establish and maintain its services. However, the firm's minimum investment management fee of \$2,500 may impair the firm's effectiveness in delivering adequate investment results for small accounts. (See **Item 5: Fees and Compensation.**)

## **Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss**

Primarily, the firm uses fundamental analysis to estimate the risks in financial assets. Fundamental analysis is supplemented by diversification, and the firm recognizes four basic investment categories that it believes require some exposure for its clients to achieve a complete investment experience. Diversification among these investment categories is determined to some degree by macro-economic analysis, which is an attempt to describe economic conditions, such as monetary and fiscal policies, that might influence interest rates, inflation and other important determinants of investment values. The percentage of client assets allocated to each category represents the final component of the client Investment Strategy.

Despite the firm's use of fundamental analysis, diversification and macro-economic analysis, all clients will have losses on individual investments from time to time, because investing in securities involves risk of loss. The firm's goal is to offset these losses with investments that deliver overall portfolio income and gains that meet reasonable expectations during retirement. The firm cannot guarantee that its efforts will attain this goal in the future, and to the extent it has been achieved in the past, it is important to remember that past performance does not guarantee future results.

### Level I: Conservative Income:

The firm recognizes three principal risks when buying fixed-income securities.

- One is fundamental risk, often referred to as "ability to pay." The firm uses major rating services (such as Moody's and Standard & Poor's) to measure this risk. It also uses a proprietary screening process with data gathered from investment publications and U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission filings. By using this information to select investments in this category, the firm attempts to eliminate losses that stem from business failures and defaults. These efforts notwithstanding, losses can occur; and when they do, the account's diversification will determine the damage to the client's overall investment portfolio.
- The second risk in fixed-income securities is "market risk," or "interest rate risk." This is the risk of lower security prices during the investor's holding period. Since bond prices decline during periods of rising interest rates, investors who sell before maturity may experience investment losses. The firm addresses interest rate risk with maturity selection and tax-loss selling, allowing clients to access a portion of their capital (bond maturities) and capitalize on higher interest rates.
- Reinvestment risk is number three. Reinvestment opportunities represent an important component of a fixed-income portfolio's total return. While yield-to-maturity (a stated rate of return assuming reinvestment of interest at the same rate) is used for price discovery to establish a bond position, higher interest rates that result in lower bond prices between purchase and maturity dates will result in an overall

return that is greater than yield-to-maturity. The opposite is also true: if interest rates decline and bond prices rise during the investor's holding period, her rate of return will be lower than the yield-to-maturity.

Since these principles may seem counterintuitive, an easy way to think of reinvestment risk (or opportunity) is to assume interest payments are reinvested in a money market fund. The higher the rate paid during the holding period, the more money the investor will have at the end of the holding period, when the bond matures. And vice versa. Although reinvestment rate risk is to a large extent an exogenous factor the firm cannot control, nevertheless advisor representatives look for reinvestment opportunities for the income generated by all of the firm's investment categories.

*Level II: Aggressive Income:*

The firm uses equities with high dividends as a portion of its income category. Because the return of principal is not provided by contract, as it is with fixed-income investments, Aggressive Income investments contain more volatility and fundamental risk than Level I, or Conservative Income investments. The fundamental methods used to analyze growth investments, described below, also are the most important factors in selecting investments for this category. Diversification between categories and within the Level II category supplements this analysis, but despite these safeguards investment losses can occur. This category also includes high-yield debt obligations whose ability to pay is weaker by definition.

*Levels III and IV: Conservative and Aggressive Growth:*

Growth investments, as defined by the firm, rely more on capital appreciation than income for investment return. Selection of investments for growth involves fundamental analysis wherein the firm estimates the value of a stock at present and in the future. If a stock price is below these estimates, it may represent a growth opportunity. Once purchased, any appreciation in price is compared to the stock's estimated future value. Given no change in estimated future value, a certain amount of appreciation will reduce expected future return and the position will be sold. In an ideal world, rising sales, cash flow, earnings and other metrics will increase the estimated future value, the stock price will appreciate accordingly and the position will not be sold.

In the real world, in the firm's opinion, investing in the stock market for growth has only one guarantee: at least some positions will result in loss. Forecasts are either too optimistic or not optimistic enough, and stock prices rise or fall by amounts the firm believes are out of proportion with the company's prospects. Thus, while the firm would prefer to be long-term holders of selected growth investments, it recognizes that mistakes as well as opportunities happen that behoove it to make transactions. Therefore, the objective of the firm's fundamental analysis and sell disciplines is to deliver a positive investment experience that corresponds to client objectives over time. Whether this goal can be achieved cannot be guaranteed, nor can any success the firm and its advisers may have experienced in the past.

General Comments on Fundamental Analysis and Risk of Loss:

In the firm's experience, fundamental analysis has certain shortcomings that require recognition by those who practice it.

- Given the same information, assuming it is correct, all market participants will not necessarily come to the same conclusion. Thus, even though one has the correct data, he cannot be certain that his investment choices will deliver gain or loss.
- All information is not correct. When primary and derived data is not accurate, for whatever reason, false conclusions can result in investment losses.
- Given correct information, and accurate forecasts based on the information, investors are not guaranteed any specific investment result. The amount investors will pay for certain results in the future, and when they will pay it, cannot be known ahead of time.

General Comments on Diversification and Risk of Loss:

Also in the firm's opinion, diversification has shortcomings.

- Investors who rely on diversification need to remember that, a priori, diversification means one doesn't know where to put the money. The firm believes this precept is inconsistent with relying completely on diversification, which is an attempt to prepare for the unknown (and in some cases the unknowable).
- History has taught that during market crisis, high correlation among many investment categories can greatly reduce the efficacy of diversification.
- Following the logic expressed above, it is possible that investors would benefit from the analysis of what they already know, such as their living expenses in current dollars and the mathematical relationships between bond prices, maturity dates and reinvestment rates. (Not to be confused with the complicated—unknowable, as it turned out—equations associated with derivative investments.)
- Counter-intuitively, therefore, it is possible that concentration into what is known may at times yield superior investment results than strategies with more diversification in preparation for what is not known.

General Comments on Macro Analysis and Risk of Loss:

The firm believes it is important to understand the conditions of markets it uses for investments. The firm allocates considerable resources toward this goal, including but not limited to subscriptions to publications, review of expert opinions and attendance of economic forums (see **Item 4: Advisory Business**). The firm believes it is important for investors to be on the look out for extreme economic conditions. Such conditions can represent danger as well as opportunity.

**Item 9: Disciplinary Information**

**Items 9.A, 9.B and 9.C** require the firm to disclose specific legal and disciplinary events that would be material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of the firm's advisory business or the integrity of its management. The firm has no disciplinary information to report.

**Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

The firm is not registered as a securities broker-dealer.

The firm is not registered as a futures commission merchant.

The firm does not have affiliates or other material relationships that result in conflicts of interest.

The firm recommends outside professionals to clients for expert advice in estate planning, income taxes, insurance and other areas. However, the firm is not affiliated with any of these professionals or their firms, and such recommendations are based on what the firm believes is the ability of the professional to give clients the best advice.

## **Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading**

### *Code of Ethics:*

H.S. Dreher Capital Management, LLC has a written Code of Ethics that describes the behavior the firm deems appropriate for its principals and employees. It specifically calls for client interests to be placed ahead of all other interests. In regard to the purchasing and selling of securities by the firm's personnel, the Code establishes procedures designed to assure that the objective of placing client interests first is achieved. Clients and prospective clients may obtain a copy of this Code of Ethics by contacting the firm by phone at 910-692-4330, or writing to H.S. Dreher Capital Management, LLC, 275 SE Broad St, Southern Pines, NC 28387.

### *Participation or Interest in Client Transactions:*

An employee of the firm owns an interest in an investment club whose portfolio is managed by the firm. A conflict of interest is present, therefore, when the firm makes a transaction for the investment club in securities being purchased, sold or owned by its other clients, or when the firm makes a transaction for other clients in securities being purchased, sold or owned by the investment club. The firm is careful to keep the investment club's transactions on an equal basis with other clients, and to date the firm is not aware of any evidence that this structural conflict has comprised the firm's clients.

### *Personal Trading:*

In managing their own investments, firm employees may buy or sell securities that are also bought and sold for clients. Due to different time horizons, investment objectives and other circumstances, advisor representatives may buy a security previously sold for clients, or sell a security that continues to be held for clients. Because this activity can result in a conflict of interest between client accounts and employee interests, it is policy to execute orders for clients first, and for firm personnel to conduct themselves so as to ensure that clients' interests are always ahead of their own. The firm's Code of Ethics is designed to monitor trades made on behalf of the firm and its employees to enforce this policy.

## Item 12: Brokerage Practices

### Recommended Brokerage Firms (Custodians)

#### Research and Other Soft Dollar Practices:

During its conduct of business, the firm receives valuable resources from the brokers it recommends to clients. These include but are not limited to investment research, special statements used by the firm to cross reference investments, direct computer access to client accounts, stock quotes, bond quotes, newsletters on various aspects of managing an investment advisory business, general market information, electronic trading and record keeping. Brokers provide these incentives to encourage the firm to recommend clients to the brokers.

These services do not benefit all clients equally, and the firm does not have a method of compensating clients who (in effect) pay for the services but do not utilize them. Thus, a conflict of interest is present. As an example, a broker may supply the firm with research on mutual funds; but some clients may not buy mutual funds, so they could be considered to be paying for research the firm uses for the clients who do use mutual funds.

Although this conflict exists, the firm is not aware of paying extra trading commissions, or other payments, for special services that benefit a limited number of clients.

#### Brokerage for Client Referrals:

The firm does not use client brokerage to compensate or otherwise reward brokers for client referrals.

#### Directed Brokerage:

As stated above, the firm recommends that clients use discount brokers to custody assets and effect transactions. (See **Item 4: Advisory Business**, Execution of Client Investment Strategies.) To the extent clients direct the firm to use full-service or other brokers, it is possible that clients will pay higher fees and commissions for similar services. Although the firm cannot guarantee that the brokers it recommends charge the lowest fees and commissions, it believes their rates are contemporary and do not impact the firm's investment advice.

#### Proper Registration:

When recommending broker custodians to clients, the firm will only refer clients to dealers registered in states where the clients reside.

### Trade Aggregation

In placing orders for clients, the firm may aggregate trades. This practice results in an average price, but it does not entitle clients, or the firm, to a transaction discount. Trade aggregation is mainly for the convenience of the firm.

### Other Considerations

#### *Allocation of Trades:*

Because the firm deals mainly in securities exhibiting high liquidity, conflicts of interests and discrepancies are rare. An example is referenced under **Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management**, wherein a limited-opportunity investment (such as a small quantity of municipal bonds) may be appropriate for more than one client account. The portfolio manager is instructed to use his judgment to select the account with the best fit; while this could be determined by the least invested account, or similar parameters, sooner or later the allocation process could be considered subjective. An analogous situation would be Initial Public Offerings, especially one considered “hot” with expected price appreciation. However, the firm generally does not participate in Initial Public Offerings.

In rare circumstances, the firm may enter an aggregated order on a limit basis (most orders are market orders). This creates the possibility of a partial fill. Because this is an infrequent occurrence, the firm does not have a structured process to allocate the trades under these conditions, and allocation in such circumstances may be inconsistent. For example, an order may be entered to sell 3,000 shares of Microsoft at \$26 per share for 10 client accounts. If 500 shares filled one day, under ordinary circumstances it would be impractical for the firm to allocate 50 shares to each account, or to allocate shares to each account in proportion to the account’s size. In such a case, the shares might be allocated in alphabetical or reverse alphabetical order.

If, however, the circumstances were not normal—trading in the stock was halted, for example, and it opened down \$2 following the trading halt—the firm would micro manage the allocation process to be as fair as possible. These efforts notwithstanding, it would not be possible to complete the process without subjectivity.

### **Item 13: Review of Accounts**

The firm offers clients account reviews on an annual basis. These are conducted either by Thomas E Velevis, CFP, Managing Principal, Henry S Dreher, Chief Compliance Officer and Portfolio Manager, or both managers acting together. The firm prepares a consolidated statement and performance report for the client's holdings; additionally, the firm may make financial projections based on new information of client circumstances or client concerns. This review provides the opportunity for the client to evaluate the effectiveness of her Investment Strategy, and it helps the firm learn about changes that might have occurred in the client's life during the year. Adjustments to client Investment Strategies may or may not be necessary depending on the outcome of these processes. For the convenience of clients and the firm, account reviews may be conducted via phone. (See **Item 4: Advisory Business**, *Reviews of Client Accounts*.)

More informally, the firm may be said to review client accounts on a continuous basis, since its principal work activity is to examine investments that could improve the investment returns clients are receiving. In addition, clients may notify the firm at any time if changing circumstances require an account or Investment Strategy review or change.

Throughout the year, the firm communicates with its clients electronically and in writing. Reports include quarterly performance reports, consolidated statements, descriptions of investment changes and a quarterly newsletter that discusses market conditions. The firm also publishes special reports on investment themes and conditions from time to time.

#### **Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

As stated previously, the firm operates on a fee-only basis; it does not receive commissions or other remuneration based on the investments it buys and sells for its clients. Only clients pay the firm. (See **Item 4: Advisory Business**, *Execution of Client Strategies*.)

The firm does not pay for client referrals.

#### **Item 15: Custody**

Third-party custodians, or brokerage companies, hold client assets. Generally, through a limited power of attorney, clients give the firm authority to initiate withdrawals from their accounts that go directly to clients at the clients' addresses of record, or to depository accounts with the same name. This withdrawal authority is for the convenience of clients. For example, a client may instruct the firm to transfer x amount of dollars to her local bank so she can purchase a car.

This limited power of attorney also allows the firm to debit client accounts to pay the firm's quarterly investment management fees, for which an invoice is provided that describes the amount of the fees and how they are calculated.

Importantly, the monthly or quarterly statements sent to clients from third-party custodians represent an arm's-length method for clients to review their holdings and dealings they have with the firm. Clients should review these statements carefully. By comparing these custodial statements with the statements sent by the firm, clients can participate in a system to detect fraud, as well as to identify mistakes or questions that may occur. Client statements prepared by the firm that reference holdings and account values advise clients to make these comparisons.

#### **Item 16: Investment Discretion**

The firm performs its services on a discretionary basis, meaning it deals directly with client brokers, without consulting clients to obtain permission, to make securities transactions that implement client Investment Strategies. Generally, clients give the firm this authority via limited powers of attorney that are a component of brokerage account documents completed and signed by clients (usually with the firm's assistance).

As stated previously, special considerations in client Investment Strategies may limit discretionary authority in certain cases, such as a large position or low-cost, inherited investment, etc. Firm advisers attempt to spend as much time as required to develop Investment Strategies that represent client needs and circumstances before using the Strategy as the road map to make discretionary investment decisions. (See **Item 4: Advisory Business**, *Execution of Client Investment Strategies*.)

#### **Item 17: Voting Client Securities**

The firm does not vote client securities. Clients receive proxy statements from their custodians, and although they are welcome to contact the firm with questions regarding issues, the firm does not represent that it remains abreast of all election choices and other matters that may arise for voting. From time to time, the firm may send out special reports that call attention to proxy choices it believes are in the best interests of its clients.

#### **Item 18: Financial Information**

The firm bills in arrears for its services and does not solicit prepayments; nor does it have custody or discretion over client funds or securities.

The firm is not aware of any condition likely to impair its ability to meet contractual commitments to its clients.

The firm has not been involved in a bankruptcy petition during the past ten years.

## **Item 19: Requirements for State Registered Advisers**

### Executive Officers and Management Persons

The firm's executive officers are Thomas E Velevis, Managing Principal and Henry S Dreher, Founder. Information on each of these individuals, including formal education and business history, appears in **ADV-Part 2B, Supplements**.

### Other Business

Neither the firm nor its principal employees are engaged in any business other than investment counsel as described herein. (See **Item 4: Advisory Business.**)

### Performance-Based Fees

As stated, qualified clients may pay the firm based on performance of their assets under management. Specifically, these clients pay fees of up to two percent of assets under management given certain absolute and relative return thresholds, up to one percent given other parameters and one half of one percent in any event. These contracts are negotiated in accordance with client objectives. However, all of these arrangements require at least a one-year look-back period and the calculation of a High Water Mark. Clients must be qualified investors to negotiate performance-based fees (see **Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management**). Generally, the firm does not believe performance-based management benefits other than select accounts, and the firm is not promoting this form of management.

Clients paying the firm on a performance basis need to recognize that a structural incentive exists for the firm to select risky investments, because higher investment returns will translate into higher fee revenue. For the record, the firm believes this conflict is contained by its High Water Mark policy, wherein the firm cannot be paid more than one half of one percent of client assets under management unless and until client assets, plus withdrawals minus contributions, equal or exceed their previously recorded high levels. Based on this policy, the firm and its principal employees would rather attempt to earn higher fees by being conservative (losing less in down markets) than aggressive (outperforming in up markets). (See also **Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management.**)

### Disciplinary Information

No owners or managers of the firm have been found liable in an arbitration claim alleging damages in excess of \$2,500, involving any of the following:

- (a) an investment or an investment-related business or activity;
- (b) fraud, false statement(s), or omissions;
- (c) theft, embezzlement, or other wrongful taking of property;
- (d) bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or
- (e) dishonest, unfair, or unethical practices.

No owners or managers of the firm have been involved in an award or otherwise been found liable in a civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding involving any of the following:

- (a) an investment or an investment-related business or activity;
- (b) fraud, false statement(s), or omissions;
- (c) theft, embezzlement, or other wrongful taking of property;
- (d) bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or
- (e) dishonest, unfair, or unethical practices.

### Relationships with Issuers of Securities

Neither the firm nor any of its owners or management has relationships or arrangements with issuers of securities.