

# Cobalt Private Wealth LLC

## Firm Brochure - Form ADV Part 2A

*This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Cobalt Private Wealth LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (720) 999-2732 or by email at: [dmkbrownsfan@gmail.com](mailto:dmkbrownsfan@gmail.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.*

*Additional information about Cobalt Private Wealth LLC is also available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). Cobalt Private Wealth LLC's CRD number is: 168453.*

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

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## **Item 2: Material Changes**

Cobalt Private Wealth LLC has not yet filed an annual updating amendment using the Form ADV Part 2A. Therefore there are no material changes to report.

### Item 3: Table of Contents

Item 1: Cover Page	
Item 2: Material Changes.....	i
Item 3: Table of Contents.....	ii
Item 4: Advisory Business .....	3
Item 5: Fees and Compensation.....	5
Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management .....	5
Item 7: Types of Clients .....	5
Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies, and Risk of Investment Loss.....	6
Item 9: Disciplinary Information .....	8
Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations.....	9
Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading.....	9
Item 12: Brokerage Practices .....	10
Item 13: Reviews of Accounts .....	11
Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation.....	11
Item 15: Custody .....	12
Item 16: Investment Discretion.....	12
Item 17: Voting Client Securities (Proxy Voting) .....	12
Item 18: Financial Information.....	13
Item 19: Requirements For State Registered Advisers .....	13

## **Item 4: Advisory Business**

Cobalt Private Wealth LLC (hereinafter “Cobalt”) is a Limited Liability Company organized in the State of Colorado. The firm was formed in June 2013, and the principal ultimate owners are David McColloch Kuhn and Daniel Korleski.

Cobalt offers ongoing portfolio management services based on the individual goals, objectives, time horizon, and risk tolerance of each client. Cobalt creates an Investment Policy Statement for each client, which outlines the client’s current situation (income, tax levels, and risk tolerance levels).

Portfolio management services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Investment strategy
- Personal investment policy
- Asset allocation
- Asset selection
- Risk tolerance
- Regular portfolio monitoring

Cobalt evaluates the current investments of each client with respect to their risk tolerance levels and time horizon. Cobalt will request discretionary authority from clients in order to select securities and execute transactions without permission from the client prior to each transaction. Risk tolerance levels are documented in the Investment Policy Statement, which is given to each client.

Cobalt seeks to provide that investment decisions are made in accordance with the fiduciary duties owed to its accounts and without consideration of Cobalt’s economic, investment or other financial interests. To meet its fiduciary obligations, Cobalt attempts to avoid, among other things, investment or trading practices that systematically advantage or disadvantage certain client portfolios, and, accordingly, Cobalt’s policy is to seek fair and equitable allocation of investment opportunities/transactions among its clients to avoid favoring one client over another over time. It is Cobalt’s policy to allocate investment opportunities and transactions it identifies as being appropriate and prudent, including initial public offerings (“IPOs”) and other investment opportunities that might have a limited supply, among its clients on a fair and equitable basis over time.

Cobalt generally limits its investment advice to mutual funds, equities, fixed income securities, ETFs (including ETFs in the gold and precious metal sectors), real estate funds (including REITs), non-U.S. securities, hedge funds, and private placements. Cobalt may use other securities as well to help diversify a portfolio when applicable.

Cobalt offers the same suite of services to all of its clients. However, specific client investment strategies and their implementation are dependent upon the client Investment Policy Statement which outlines each client’s current situation (income, tax levels, and risk tolerance levels). Clients may impose restrictions in investing in certain securities or types of securities in accordance with their values or beliefs. However, if the restrictions prevent Cobalt from

properly servicing the client account, or if the restrictions would require Cobalt to deviate from its standard suite of services, Cobalt reserves the right to end the relationship.

A wrap fee program is an investment program where the investor pays one stated fee that includes management fees, transaction costs, fund expenses, and any other administrative fees. Cobalt does not participate in any wrap fee programs.

Cobalt has the following assets under management:

Discretionary Amounts:	Non-discretionary Amounts:	Date Calculated:
\$10,000,000	\$0	12/31/13

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

Cobalt charges a fee of 1.50% of assets under management. These fees are generally negotiable and the final fee schedule is attached as Exhibit II of the Investment Advisory Contract.

Cobalt uses an average of the daily balance in the client's account throughout the billing period, after taking into account deposits and withdrawals, for purposes of determining the market value of the assets upon which the advisory fee is based.

Portfolio management fees are invoiced and billed directly to the client.

Clients are responsible for the payment of all third party fees (i.e. custodian fees, brokerage fees, mutual fund fees, transaction fees, etc.). Those fees are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by Cobalt. Please see Item 12 of this brochure regarding broker/custodian.

Cobalt collects its fees in arrears. It does not collect fees in advance.

Clients may terminate the agreement without penalty, for full refund of the adviser's fees, within five business days of signing the Investment Advisory Contract. Thereafter, clients may terminate the Investment Advisory Contract with ten days' written notice.

Neither Cobalt nor its supervised persons accept any compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products, including asset-based sales charges or service fees from the sale of mutual funds.

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

Cobalt does not accept performance-based fees or other fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client.

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

Cobalt generally provides advisory services to the following types of clients:

- ❖ Individuals
- ❖ High-Net-Worth Individuals
- ❖ Charitable Organizations

There is no account minimum.

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

### **Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies**

Cobalt's methods of analysis include fundamental analysis, technical analysis.

*Fundamental analysis* involves the analysis of financial statements, the general financial health of companies, and/or the analysis of management or competitive advantages.

*Technical analysis* involves the analysis of past market data; primarily price and volume.

Cobalt uses primarily long term trading, short-term purchases, and options trading (including covered options, uncovered options, or spreading strategies).

**Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.**

### **Material Risks Involved**

#### **Methods of Analysis**

**Fundamental analysis** concentrates on factors that determine a company's value and expected future earnings. This strategy would normally encourage equity purchases in stocks that are undervalued or priced below their perceived value. The risk assumed is that the market will fail to reach expectations of perceived value.

**Technical analysis** attempts to predict a future stock price or direction based on market trends. The assumption is that the market follows discernible patterns and if these patterns can be identified then a prediction can be made. The risk is that markets do not always follow patterns and relying solely on this method may not work long term.

#### **Investment Strategies**

The use of options trading will generally involve greater risk and clients should be aware that there is a material risk of loss using any of those strategies.

**Long term trading** is designed to capture market rates of both return and risk. Due to its nature, the long-term investment strategy can expose clients to various types of risk that will typically surface at various intervals during the time the client owns the investments. These risks include but are not limited to inflation (purchasing power) risk, interest rate risk, economic risk, market risk, and political/regulatory risk.

**Options** writing or trading involves a contract to purchase a security at a given price, not necessarily at market value, depending on the market. This strategy includes the risk that an option may expire out of the money resulting in minimal or

no value and the possibility of leveraged loss of trading capital due to the leveraged nature of stock options.

**Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.**

### **Risks of Specific Securities Utilized**

Cobalt's use of and options trading will generally involve greater risk of capital loss. Clients should be aware that there is a material risk of loss using any investment strategy. The investment types listed below (leaving aside Treasury Inflation Protected/Inflation Linked Bonds) are not guaranteed or insured by the FDIC or any other government agency.

**Mutual Funds:** Investing in mutual funds carries the risk of capital loss and thus you may lose money investing in mutual funds. All mutual funds have costs that lower investment returns. They can be of bond "fixed income" nature (lower risk) or stock "equity" nature (mentioned below).

**Equity** investment generally refers to buying shares of stocks in return for receiving a future payment of dividends and capital gains if the value of the stock increases. The value of equity securities may fluctuate in response to specific situations for each company, industry market conditions and general economic environments.

**Fixed income** investments generally pay a return on a fixed schedule, though the amount of the payments can vary and include corporate and government debt securities, leveraged loans, high yield, and investment grade debt and structured products, such as mortgage and other asset-backed securities, although individual bonds may be the best known type of fixed income security. In general the fixed income market is volatile, and fixed income securities carry interest rate risk. (As interest rates rise, bond prices usually fall, and vice versa. This effect is usually more pronounced for longer-term securities.) Fixed income securities also carry inflation risk, liquidity risk, call risk and credit and default risks for both issuers and counterparties. The risk of default on treasury inflation protected/inflation linked bonds is dependent upon the U.S. Treasury defaulting (extremely unlikely); however, they carry a potential risk of losing share price value, albeit rather minimal. Risks of investing in foreign fixed income securities also include the general risk of non-U.S. investing described below.

**Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs):** Investing in ETFs carries the risk of capital loss (sometimes up to a 100% loss in the case of a stock holding bankruptcy). The price of Precious Metal ETFs (e.g., Gold, Silver, or Palladium Bullion backed "electronic shares" not physical metal) may be negatively impacted by several factors, among them (1) large sales by the official sector which own a significant portion of aggregate world holdings in gold and other precious metals, (2) a significant increase in hedging activities by producers of gold or other precious metals, (3) a significant change in the attitude of speculators and investors.



**Real Estate** funds (including REITs) face several kinds of risk that are inherent in the real estate sector, which historically has experienced significant fluctuations and cycles in performance. Revenues and cash flows may be adversely affected by: changes in local real estate market conditions due to changes in national or local economic conditions or changes in local property market characteristics; competition from other properties offering the same or similar services; changes in interest rates and in the state of the debt and equity credit markets; the ongoing need for capital improvements; changes in real estate tax rates and other operating expenses; adverse changes in governmental rules and fiscal policies; adverse changes in zoning laws; the impact of present or future environmental legislation and compliance with environmental laws.

**Hedge Funds** often engage in leveraging and other speculative investment practices that may increase the risk of investment loss; can be highly illiquid; are not required to provide periodic pricing or valuation information to investors; May involve complex tax structures and delays in distributing important tax information; are not subject to the same regulatory requirements as mutual funds; and often charge high fees. In addition, hedge funds may invest in risky securities and engage in risky strategies.

**Private placements** carry a substantial risk as they are subject to less regulation than publicly offered securities, the market to resell these assets under applicable securities laws may be illiquid, due to restrictions, and liquidation may be taken at a substantial discount to the underlying value or result in the entire loss of the value of such assets.

**Options** are contracts to purchase a security at a given price, risking that an option may expire out of the money resulting in minimal or no value. An uncovered option is a type of options contract that is not backed by an offsetting position that would help mitigate risk. The risk for a “naked” or uncovered put is not unlimited, whereas the potential loss for an uncovered call option is limitless. Spread option positions entail buying and selling multiple options on the same underlying security, but with different strike prices or expiration dates, which helps limit the risk of other option trading strategies. Option writing also involves risks including but not limited to economic risk, market risk, sector risk, idiosyncratic risk, political/regulatory risk, inflation (purchasing power) risk and interest rate risk.

**Non-U.S. securities** present certain risks such as currency fluctuation, political and economic change, social unrest, changes in government regulation, differences in accounting and the lesser degree of accurate public information available.

**Past performance is not indicative of future results. Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.**

## **Item 9: Disciplinary Information**

There are no criminal or civil actions to report.

There are no administrative proceedings to report.

There are no self-regulatory organization proceedings to report.

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

Neither Cobalt nor its representatives are registered as a broker/dealer or a representative of a broker/dealer.

Neither Cobalt nor its representatives are registered as or have pending applications to become either a Futures Commission Merchant, Commodity Pool Operator, or Commodity Trading Advisor or an associated person of the foregoing entities.

Neither Cobalt nor its representatives have any material relationships to this advisory business that would present a possible conflict of interest.

Cobalt does not utilize nor select third-party investment advisers. All assets are managed by Cobalt.

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

### **CODE OF ETHICS**

Cobalt has a written Code of Ethics that covers the following areas:

- Prohibited Purchases and Sales
- Insider Trading
- Personal Securities Transactions
- Exempted Transactions
- Prohibited Activities
- Conflicts of Interest
- Gifts and Entertainment
- Confidentiality
- Service on a Board of Directors
- Compliance Procedures
- Compliance with Laws and Regulations
- Procedures and Reporting
- Certification of Compliance
- Reporting Violations
- Compliance Officer Duties
- Training and Education
- Recordkeeping
- Annual Review
- Sanctions

Cobalt will always act in the best interest of the client. All conflicts of interest have been disclosed in this brochure document.

ALL PROSPECTIVE AND CURRENT CLIENTS HAVE A RIGHT TO SEE OUR CODE OF ETHICS. OUR CODE OF ETHICS IS AVAILABLE FREE UPON REQUEST TO ANY CLIENT OR PROSPECTIVE CLIENT. FOR A COPY OF THE CODE OF ETHICS, PLEASE ASK YOUR FINANCIAL ADVISOR AT ANY TIME.

Cobalt does not recommend that clients buy or sell any security in which a related person to Cobalt or Cobalt has a material financial interest.

From time to time, representatives of Cobalt may buy or sell securities for themselves that they also recommend to clients. This may provide an opportunity for representatives of Cobalt to buy or sell the same securities before or after recommending the same securities to clients resulting in representatives profiting off the recommendations they provide to clients. Such transactions may create a conflict of interest. Cobalt will always document any transactions that could be construed as conflicts of interest and will never engage in trading that operates to the client's disadvantage when similar securities are being bought or sold.

From time to time, representatives of Cobalt may buy or sell securities for themselves at or around the same time as clients. This may provide an opportunity for representatives of Cobalt to buy or sell securities before or after recommending securities to clients resulting in representatives profiting off the recommendations they provide to clients. Such transactions may create a conflict of interest; however, Cobalt will never engage in trading that operates to the client's disadvantage when similar securities are being bought or sold.

## **Item 12: Brokerage Practices**

Custodians/broker-dealers will be recommended based on Cobalt's duty to seek "best execution," which is the obligation to seek to execute securities transactions for a Client on terms that are the most favorable to the Client under the circumstances. The client will not necessarily pay the lowest commission or commission equivalent, and Cobalt may also consider the market expertise and research access provided by the payment of commissions, including but not limited to access to written research, oral communication with analysts, admittance to research conferences and other resources provided by the brokers to aid in the research efforts of Cobalt. Cobalt will never charge a premium or commission on transactions, beyond the actual cost imposed by the broker-dealer/custodian. Fidelity Institutional Wealth is recommended by Cobalt.

While Cobalt has no formal soft dollars program in which soft dollars are used to pay for third party services, Cobalt may receive research, products, or other services from its broker/dealer in connection with client securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits") consistent with (and not outside of) the safe harbor contained in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and may consider these benefits in recommending brokers. There can be no assurance that any particular client will benefit from any particular soft dollar research or other benefits. Cobalt benefits by not having to produce or pay for the research, products or services, and Cobalt will have an incentive to recommend a broker dealer based on receiving research or

services. Clients should be aware that Cobalt's acceptance of soft dollar benefits may result in higher commissions charged to the client.

Cobalt receives no referrals from a broker-dealer or third party in exchange for using that broker-dealer or third party.

Cobalt will generally require clients to use a specific broker-dealer to execute transactions, although Cobalt may waive this requirement in its sole discretion. Clients must refer to their advisory agreements for a complete understanding of how they may be permitted to direct brokerage. If a client directs brokerage, the client will be required to acknowledge in writing that the Client's direction with respect to the use of brokers supersedes any authority granted to Cobalt to select brokers; this direction may result in higher commissions, which may result in a disparity between free and directed accounts; the client may be unable to participate in block trades (unless Cobalt is able to engage in "step outs"); and trades for the client and other directed accounts may be executed after trades for free accounts, which may result in less favorable prices, particularly for illiquid securities or during volatile market conditions. Not all investment advisers allow their clients to direct brokerage.

If Cobalt buys or sells the same securities on behalf of more than one client, it might, but would be under no obligation to, aggregate or bunch, to the extent permitted by applicable law and regulations, the securities to be purchased or sold for multiple Clients in order to seek more favorable prices, lower brokerage commissions or more efficient execution. In such case, Cobalt would place an aggregate order with the broker on behalf of all such clients in order to ensure fairness for all clients; provided, however, that trades would be reviewed periodically to ensure that accounts are not systematically disadvantaged by this policy. Cobalt would determine the appropriate number of shares to place with brokers and will select the appropriate brokers consistent with the Adviser's duty to seek best execution, except for those accounts with specific brokerage direction (if any).

### **Item 13: Reviews of Accounts**

All client accounts are reviewed at least quarterly only by David McColloch Kuhn and/or Daniel Korleski, Managing Members, with regard to clients' respective investment policies and risk tolerance levels.

Reviews may be triggered by material market, economic or political events, or by changes in client's financial situations (such as retirement, termination of employment, physical move, or inheritance).

Each client will receive at least quarterly a written report that details the client's account including assets held and asset value, which report will come from Cobalt.

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

Cobalt does not receive any economic benefit, directly or indirectly from any third party for advice rendered to Cobalt clients.

Cobalt may enter into written arrangements with third parties to act as solicitors for the Adviser's investment management services. All compensation with respect to the foregoing will be fully disclosed to each Client consistent with applicable law. All such referral activities will be conducted in accordance with Rule 206(4)-3 under the Advisers Act, where applicable.

### **Item 15: Custody**

Cobalt does not take custody of client accounts at any time. Custody of client's accounts is held primarily at the client's custodian. Clients will receive account statements from the custodian and should carefully review those statements.

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

Cobalt provides discretionary and non-discretionary investment advisory services to clients. The Investment Advisory Contract established with each client outlines the discretionary authority for trading. Where investment discretion has been granted, Cobalt generally manages the client's account and makes investment decisions without consultation with the client as to what securities to buy or sell, when the securities are to be bought or sold for the account, the total amount of the securities to be bought/sold, the price per share. In some instances, Cobalt's discretionary authority in making these determinations may be limited by conditions imposed by a client (in investment guidelines or objectives, or client instructions otherwise provided to Cobalt).

### **Item 17: Voting Client Securities (Proxy Voting)**

Cobalt acknowledges its fiduciary obligation to vote proxies on behalf of those clients that have delegated to it, or for which it is deemed to have, proxy voting authority. Cobalt will vote proxies on behalf of a client solely in the best interest of the relevant client. Cobalt has established general guidelines for voting proxies. Cobalt may also abstain from voting if, based on factors such as expense or difficulty of exercise, it determines that a client's interests are better served by abstaining. Further, because proxy proposals and individual company facts and circumstances may vary, Cobalt may vote in a manner that is contrary to the general guidelines if it believes that it would be in a client's best interest to do so. If a proxy proposal presents a material conflict of interest between Cobalt and a client, Cobalt will determine how to vote that proxy and whether the conflict of interest will be disclosed to the client. Clients may obtain a complete copy of the proxy voting policies and procedures by contacting Cobalt in writing and requesting such information. Each client may also request, by contacting Cobalt in writing, information concerning the manner in which proxy votes have been cast with respect to portfolio securities held by the relevant client during the prior annual period. Clients can send written requests to the Chief Compliance Officer at [dmkbrownsfan@gmail.com](mailto:dmkbrownsfan@gmail.com).

## **Item 18: Financial Information**

Cobalt neither requires nor solicits prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per client, six months or more in advance and therefore does not need to include a balance sheet with this brochure.

Neither Cobalt nor its management has any financial condition that is likely to reasonably impair Cobalt's ability to meet contractual commitments to clients.

Cobalt has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition in the last ten years.  
issuers of securities.

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

Cobalt currently has the following management persons/executive officers: David McColloch Kuhn and Daniel Korleski. Education and business background can be found on the Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement for such individual.

David McColloch Kuhn's and Daniel Korleski's other business activities can be found on the individual's Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement.

Cobalt does not accept performance-based fees or other fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client.

Neither Cobalt nor any management person of Cobalt has been found liable in an arbitration claim or been found liable in a civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding that is material to the client's evaluation of the firm or its management.

Neither Cobalt, nor its management persons, has any relationship or arrangement with issuers of securities.