

**Item 1: Cover Page for Part 2A Appendix 1 of Form ADV:  
Wrap Fee Program Brochure  
February 2015**

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This wrap fee program brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of The Phillips Group Advisors. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact by telephone at (818) 444-0280 or email at [larry@tpgadvisors.com](mailto:larry@tpgadvisors.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 The Phillips Group Advisors is also available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

Please note that the use of the term "registered investment adviser" and description of The Phillips Group Advisors and/or our associates as "registered" does not imply a certain level of skill or training. You are encouraged to review this Brochure and Brochure Supplements for our firm's associates who advise you for more information on the qualifications of our firm and its employees.

## **Item 2: Material Changes to Wrap Fee Program Brochure**

**The Phillips Group Advisors** is required to advise you of any material changes to our Wrap Fee Program Brochure ("Wrap Brochure") from our last annual update, identify those changes on the cover page of our Wrap Brochure or on the page immediately following the cover page, or in a separate communication accompanying our Wrap Brochure. We must state clearly that we are discussing only material changes since the last annual update of our Wrap Brochure, and we must provide the date of the last annual update of our Wrap Brochure.

We do not have to provide this information to a client or prospective client who has not received a previous version of our brochure. Since our last annual amendment filing on 02/08/2014, there have been no material changes.

### **Item 3: Table of Contents**

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#### **Item 4: Services, Fees & Compensation**

- A. Description of our services, including the types of portfolio management services, provided under each program. We must indicate the wrap fee charged for each program, or, if fees vary according to a schedule, provide such schedule. Further, we are required to indicate whether fees are negotiable and identify the portion of the total fee, or range of fees, paid to portfolio managers.

We offer wrap fee programs as described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. Our wrap fee accounts are managed on an individualized basis according to the client's investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc.

(i) Our Asset Management Wrap Fee Program:

We emphasize continuous and regular account supervision. As part of our asset management service, we generally create a portfolio, consisting of individual stocks or bonds, exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), options, mutual funds and other public and private securities or investments. The client's individual investment strategy is tailored to their specific needs and may include some or all of the previously mentioned securities. Each portfolio will be initially designed to meet a particular investment goal, which we determine to be suitable to the client's circumstances. Once the appropriate portfolio has been determined, we review the portfolio at least quarterly and if necessary, rebalance the portfolio based upon the client's individual needs, stated goals, and objectives.

Our annual fees for Asset Management Wrap Fee Program shall be based on the market value of the assets under management, and shall be calculated at up to 1.00%.

The first advisory fee is based on the value of the account on the first day that we manage your account and is payable upon execution of our investment advisory agreement. The first advisory fee will be assessed on a pro-rata basis taking into account the time for which the account was not managed by us and the time left in the quarter. From there, our firm's fees are billed quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter.

- B. Explanation that a wrap fee program may cost you more or less than purchasing such services separately and description of the factors that bear upon the relative cost of the program, such as the cost of the services if provided separately and the trading activity in your account(s).

A wrap fee programs allows our clients to pay a specified fee for investment advisory services and the execution of transactions. The fee is not based directly upon transactions in your account. Your fee is bundled with our costs for executing transactions in your account(s). This results in a higher advisory fee to you. We do not charge our clients higher advisory fees based on their trading activity, but you should be aware that we may have an incentive to limit our trading activities in your account(s) because we are charged for executed trades. By participating in a wrap fee program, you may end up paying more or less than you would through a non-wrap fee program where a lower advisory fee is charged, but trade execution costs are passed directly through to you by the executing broker.

- C. Description of any fees that you may pay in addition to a wrap fee, and description of the circumstances under which you may pay these fees, including, if applicable, mutual fund expenses and mark-ups, mark-downs, or spreads paid to market makers.

You may pay custodial fees, charges imposed directly by a mutual fund, index fund, or exchange traded fund which shall be disclosed in the fund's prospectus (i.e., fund management fees and other fund expenses), mark-ups and mark-downs, spreads paid to market makers, wire transfer fees and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. These fees are not included within the wrap-fee you are charged by our firm.

- D. If someone recommending a wrap fee program to you, receives compensation as a result of your participation in the program, we must disclose this fact. Further, we are required to explain, if applicable, that the amount of the compensation may be more than what the person would receive if you participated in our other wrap fee program or paid separately for investment advice, brokerage and other services. Finally, we must explain that someone recommending a wrap fee program may have a financial incentive to recommend the wrap fee program over other programs or services.

Our investment advisory representatives receive a portion of the advisory fee that you pay us, either directly as a percentage of your advisory fee or as their salary from our firm. In cases where our investment advisory representatives are paid a percentage of your advisory fee, this may create an incentive to recommend that you participate in a wrap fee program rather than a non-wrap fee program (where you would pay for trade execution costs) or brokerage account where commissions are charged. This is because, in some cases, we may stand to earn more compensation from advisory fees paid to us through a wrap fee program arrangement if your account is not actively traded. Additionally there could be a conflict of interest with Schwab acting as principal in the purchase and sale of securities where markups and markdown occur. Since these costs are carried over to the client, it is in Registrant's best interest to buy and sell at the least cost to the client in these cases. In any such instance, adviser, in its fiduciary duty will put the client's best interest first. Adviser shall perform a quarterly best execution review to ensure best execution of client transaction. We may occasionally calculate markups at the individual level for block trades instead of taking advantage of the sliding scale available for block trades and therefore your fees may be higher. Transactions with a markup may not be within the NFS fee schedule. Our firm will ensure that mark ups are applied consistently to avoid favoring one account over another.

When submitting PKS trades, in cases that it benefits the client, the advisory fee is offset against the commission. Such assets are then coded as non-billable assets going forward.

In certain instances we may determine that it would be in the client's best interest to direct the client's trades to PKS. When directing trades to PKS, a conflict of interest exists as we receive payouts on mark-ups and mark-downs for such trades.

### **Item 5: Account Requirements & Types of Clients**

We impose the following requirement(s) to open or maintain an account:

- We do not require a minimum account balance in order for you to become one of our wrap account clients.

Types of clients we typically manage wrap fee accounts on behalf of, include:

- Individuals;
- High Net Worth Individuals;
- Trusts, Estates or Charitable Organizations;
- Investment Companies;
- Pension and Profit Sharing Plans;
- Corporations, limited liability companies and/or other business types.

### **Item 6: Portfolio Manager Selection & Evaluation**

- A. Description of how our firm selects and reviews portfolio managers, our basis for recommending or selecting portfolio managers for particular clients, and our criteria for replacing or recommending the replacement of portfolio managers for the program and for particular clients.

Our firm does not utilize outside portfolio managers. All accounts are managed by our in-house professionals.

- 1) Standards we use to calculate portfolio manager performance, such as industry standards or standards used solely by our firm.

We do not calculate portfolio manager performance. Instead, we rely upon the performance figures based on client's monthly or quarterly statements or reports provided to us by third party portfolio managers.

- 2) Indication of whether we review, or whether any third-party reviews, performance information to determine or verify its accuracy or its compliance with presentation standards. If so, we must briefly describe the nature of the review and the name of any third party conducting the review.

We do not review performance information or hire third parties to do so, in order to determine or verify its accuracy or compliance with presentation standards.

- 3) If applicable, an explanation that neither our firm nor a third-party reviews portfolio manager performance information, and/or that performance information may not be calculated on a uniform and consistent basis.

Our firm does not review performance information from portfolio managers and we do not hire party firms to do so. As a result, performance information may not be calculated on a uniform and consistent basis.

- B. Disclosure of whether our firm or any related persons act as a portfolio manager for a wrap fee program described in the wrap fee program brochure. We must explain the conflicts of interest that we face because of this arrangement and describe how we address these conflicts of interest. Further, we must disclose whether related person portfolio managers are subject to the same selection and review as the other portfolio managers that participate in the wrap fee program. If they are not, we must describe how we select and review related person portfolio managers.

Our firm and its related persons act as portfolio manager(s) for the wrap fee program(s) previously described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. This may create a conflict of interest in that other investment advisory firms may charge the same or lower fees than our firm for similar services. Our related person portfolio managers are not subject to the same selection and review as outside portfolio managers that participate in the wrap fee program. This is because we have chosen not to utilize outside portfolio managers.

- C. If our firm, or any of our supervised persons covered under or investment adviser registration, act as a portfolio manager for a wrap fee program described in the wrap fee program brochure, we must respond to Items 4.B, 4.C, 4.D (Advisory Business), 6 (Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management), 8.A (Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss) and 17 (Voting Client Securities) of Part 2A of Form ADV (Firm Brochure).

Our firm and supervised persons do act as portfolio manager(s) for a wrap fee program described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

(1) Advisory Business:

See Item 4 of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure for information about our wrap fee advisory programs.

(2) Individual Tailoring of Advice to Clients:

We offer individualized investment advice to clients utilizing the following services offered by our firm: Asset Management.

(3) Ability of Clients to Impose Restrictions on Investing in Certain Securities or Types of Securities:

We usually do not allow clients to impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities due to the level of difficulty this would entail in managing their account. In the rare instance that we would allow restrictions, it would be limited to the following services: Asset Management.

(4) Participation in Wrap Fee Programs.

Our wrap fee and non-wrap fee accounts are managed on an individualized basis according to the client's investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc. We do not manage wrap fee accounts in a different fashion than non-wrap fee accounts.

(5) Performance-Based Fees & Side-By-Side Management.

We do not charge performance fees to our clients.

(6) Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies & Risk of Loss

Description of the Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies We Use In Formulating Investment Advice or Managing Assets

Methods of Analysis:

- Charting;
- Fundamental;
- Technical;
- Cyclical.

Investment Strategies We Use:

- Long term purchases (securities held at least a year);
- Short term purchases (securities sold within a year);
- Trading (securities sold within 30 days);
- Short sales;
- Margin transactions;
- Option writing, including covered options, uncovered options or spreading strategies.

**Please Note:**

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. While the stock market may increase and your account(s) could enjoy a gain, it is also possible that the stock market may decrease and your account(s) could suffer a loss. It is important that you understand the risks associated with investing in the stock market, are appropriately diversified in your investments, and ask us any questions you may have.

(7) Voting Client Securities

We do not and will not accept the proxy authority to vote client securities. Clients will receive proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian or a transfer agent. In the event that proxies are sent to our firm, we will forward them on to you and ask the party who sent them to mail them directly to you in the future. Clients may call, write or email us to discuss questions they may have about particular proxy votes or other solicitations.

**Item 7: Client Information Provided to Portfolio Manager(s)**

We are required to describe the information about you that we communicate to your portfolio manager(s), and how often or under what circumstances we provide updated information. Our firm communicates with your portfolio manager(s) on a regular basis as needed (daily, weekly, monthly, etc) to ensure your most current investment goals and objectives are understood by your portfolio manager(s). In most cases, we will communicate such information as part of our regular investment management duties. Nevertheless, we will also communicate information to your portfolio manager(s) when you ask us to, when market or economic conditions make it prudent to do so, etc.



### **Item 8: Client Contact with Portfolio Manager(s)**

Clients are always free to directly contact their portfolio manager(s) with any questions or concerns they have about their portfolios or other matters.

### **Item 9: Additional Information**

A. We are required to respond to: 1. Item 9 (Disciplinary Information); and 2. Item 10 (Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations) of Part 2A of Form ADV.

1. We have determined that our firm and management have no disciplinary information to disclose.

The State of Illinois found that Mr. Larry Phillips was disqualified under Section 8.E(1)(J) based on a NASD order. The action was initiated on August 30, 2006 and was finalized on October 13, 2006. The State fined Mr. Phillips \$1,000 for this incident, and Mr. Phillips was not able to serve in the capacity of designated principal for the offer of sale of securities in Illinois until October 31, 2008.

If there any questions or concerns regarding this event, please contact Mr. Gregory Solberg with the State of Illinois at (312) 793-9643.

A SRO found that Mr. Phillips, acting on behalf of his member firm, had created and distributed written communications that failed to adequately disclose material facts regarding investment products and strategies, or made exaggerated, unwarranted or misleading statements or claims regarding those products, or both in violation of 2110, 2210(D)(1)(A), 2210(D)(1)(B). The SRO initiated this action on May 24, 2004 when Mr. Phillips was affiliated with First Union Securities, Inc. and Wachovia Securities, Inc. The action was finalized on April 13, 2005, where Mr. Phillips paid a \$20,000 monetary fine. Mr. Phillips was suspended for 10 business days from association with a member firm in any capacity.

B. We are required to respond to: 1. Items 11 (Code of Ethics or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading); 2. Item 13 (review of Accounts); 3. Item 14 (Client Referrals and Other Compensation); and 4. Item 18 (Financial Information) of Part 2A of Form ADV, as applicable to our wrap fee clients.

#### **1. Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions & Personal Trading.**

Brief description of our Code of Ethics adopted pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1 and offer to provide a copy of our Code of Ethics to any client or prospective client upon request.

We recognize that the personal investment transactions of members and employees of our firm demand the application of a high Code of Ethics and require that all such transactions be carried out in a way that does not endanger the interest of any client. At the same time, we believe that if investment goals are similar for clients and for members and employees of our firm, it is logical and even desirable that there be common ownership of some securities.

Therefore, in order to prevent conflicts of interest, we have in place a set of procedures (including a pre-clearing procedure) with respect to transactions effected by our members, officers and employees for their personal accounts<sup>1</sup>. In order to monitor compliance with our personal trading policy, we have a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our associates.

Furthermore, our firm has established a Code of Ethics which applies to all of our associated persons. An investment adviser is considered a fiduciary. As a fiduciary, it is an investment adviser's responsibility to provide fair and full disclosure of all material facts and to act solely in the best interest of each of our clients at all times. We have a fiduciary duty to all clients. Our fiduciary duty is considered the core underlying principle for our Code of Ethics which also includes Insider Trading and Personal Securities Transactions Policies and Procedures. We require all of our supervised persons to conduct business with the highest level of ethical standards and to comply with all federal and state securities laws at all times. Upon employment or affiliation and at least annually thereafter, all supervised persons will sign an acknowledgement that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with our Code of Ethics. Our firm and supervised persons must conduct business in an honest, ethical, and fair manner and avoid all circumstances that might negatively affect or appear to affect our duty of complete loyalty to all clients. This disclosure is provided to give all clients a summary of our Code of Ethics. However, if a client or a potential client wishes to review our Code of Ethics in its entirety, a copy will be provided promptly upon request.

b) If our firm or a related person invests in the same securities (or related securities, e.g., warrants, options or futures) that our firm or a related person recommends to clients, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest this presents and generally how we address the conflicts that arise in connection with personal trading.

See Item 9 Section B (1.) of our Code of Ethics description.

c) If our firm or a related person recommends securities to clients, or buys or sells securities for client accounts, at or about the same time that you or a related person buys or sells the same securities for our firm's (or the related person's own) account, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. We are also required to describe generally how we address conflicts that arise.

See Item 9 Section B (1.) of our Code of Ethics description.

## **2. Review of Accounts.**

a) Review of client accounts, along with a description of the frequency and nature of our review, and the titles of our employees who conduct the review

We review accounts on at least a quarterly basis for our Wrap Asset Portfolio Management clients. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether clients' accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and investment policies, if applicable. Only our Financial Advisors or Portfolio Managers will conduct reviews.

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of the policy, our associate's personal account generally includes any account (a) in the name of our associate, his/her spouse, his/her minor children or other dependents residing in the same household, (b) for which our associate is a trustee or executor, or (c) which our associate controls, including our client accounts which our associate controls and/or a member of his/her household has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in.

- b) Review of client accounts on other than a periodic basis, along with a description of the factors that trigger a review.

We may review client accounts more frequently than described above. Among the factors which may trigger an off-cycle review are major market or economic events, the client's life events, requests by the client, etc.

- c) Description of the content and indication of the frequency of written or verbal regular reports we provide to clients regarding their accounts.

We do not provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Verbal reports to clients take place on at least an annual basis when we meet with our Wrap Asset Portfolio Management clients.

### **3. Client Referrals & Other Compensation.**

- a) If someone who is not a client provides an economic benefit to our firm for providing investment advice or other advisory services to our clients, we must generally describe the arrangement. For purposes of this Item, economic benefits include any sales awards or other prizes.

Schwab has provided a loan to assist us in our business operations, and the loan is guaranteed by Larry M. Phillips, principal of The Phillips Group Advisors. The terms of the loan require that management fees to our firm be paid to an account at Schwab for deduction of interest and principal payments pursuant to the loan before we may have access to that fee payment. The loan agreement contains various representations made by us, including that it will maintain **\$80 million in assets under management**, and various events of default, including that we will comply with all laws, contracts, licenses and permits. In the event of an unheeded default under the terms of the loan agreement, Schwab may terminate and/or accelerate the loan, which may have a material adverse effect on our ability to perform services for you.

Some of the products, services and other benefits provided by Schwab, including the Schwab Institutional Business Loan noted above, benefit us and may not benefit your account. Our recommendation/requirement that a client place assets in Schwab's custody may be based in part on the benefits Schwab provides to us, and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and execution services provided by Schwab.

Schwab also makes available to our firm other products and services that benefit us, but may not benefit your account. These benefits may include national, regional or our firm's specific educational events organized and/or sponsored by Schwab Institutional. Other potential benefits may include occasional business entertainment of personnel of our firm by Schwab Institutional personnel, including meals, invitations to sporting events, including golf tournaments, and other forms of entertainment, some of which may accompany educational opportunities. Other of these products and services assist us in managing and administering clients' accounts. These include software and other technology (and related technological training) that provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements), facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts), provide research, pricing information and other market data, facilitate payment of our fees from our clients' accounts, and assist with back-office training and support functions, recordkeeping and client reporting. Many

of these services generally may be used to service all or some substantial number of our client's accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab Institutional. Schwab Institutional also makes available other services intended to help us manage and further develop its business enterprise. These services may include professional compliance, legal and business consulting, publications and conferences on practice management, information technology, business succession, regulatory compliance, employee benefits providers, human capital consultants, insurance and marketing. In addition, Schwab may make available, arrange and/or pay vendors for these types of services rendered to us by independent third parties. Schwab Institutional may discount or waive fees it would otherwise charge for some of these services or pay all or a part of the fees of a third-party providing these services to us. While, as a fiduciary, we endeavor to act in your best interest, our recommendation/requirement that clients maintain their assets in accounts at Schwab may be based in part on the benefit to us of the availability of some of the foregoing products and services and other arrangements and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and brokerage services provided by Schwab, which may create a potential conflict of interest.

- b) If our firm or a related person directly or indirectly compensates any person who is not our employee for client referrals, we are required to describe the arrangement and the compensation.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

#### **4. Financial Information.**

- a) If we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance, we must include a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

We do not require nor do we solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance, therefore we have not included a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

- b) If we are an SEC-registered adviser and have discretionary authority or custody of client funds or securities, or we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance, we must disclose any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to clients.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

- c) If we have been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years, we must disclose this fact, the date the petition was first brought, and the current status.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

#### **Item 10: Requirements for State-Registered Advisers**

We are SEC-Registered, so this Item does not apply.