

## **PSC FINANCIAL L. L. C.**

*a Registered Investment Adviser*

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of PSC Financial L. L. C. (hereinafter “PSC Financial” or the “Firm”). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact the Firm at this telephone number listed above. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or by any state securities authority. Additional information about the Firm is available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). The Firm is a registered investment adviser. Registration does not imply any level of skill or training.

## Item 2. Material Changes

In this Item, PSC Financial is required to discuss any material changes that have been made to the brochure since the last annual amendment. The Firm has the following material changes to disclose:

### **State Registration**

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PSC Financial is required to obtain state-level investment adviser registration and withdraw its current registration with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). This switch to state registration means that PSC Financial will be primarily regulated by various state securities regulators, rather than the SEC. This change in registration status will have little, if any, impact on the investment advisory services that PSC Financial provides to its clients. PSC Financial will, however, now provide clients with duplicate fee invoices describing the amounts debited for payment of the firm's management fees, in accordance with applicable state laws, rules and regulations.

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## Item 4. Advisory Business

PSC Financial seeks to combine unparalleled business and financial acumen with a dedication to best-in-class client care. To accomplish this goal we aim to understand and validate your expectations; deploy strategies that seek to accomplish your unique objectives; and exceed your expectations throughout the relationship.

PSC Financial offers a variety of advisory services, which include financial planning, consulting, and investment management services. Prior to PSC Financial rendering any of the foregoing advisory services, clients are required to enter into one or more written agreements with PSC Financial setting forth the relevant terms and conditions of the advisory relationship (the “Advisory Agreement”).

PSC Financial was formed in March 2014 and is wholly owned by Howard Pakola. As of January 30, 2015, PSC Financial has \$60,000,000 of assets under management, all of which is managed on a discretionary basis.

While this brochure generally describes the business of PSC Financial, certain sections also discuss the activities of its Supervised Persons, which refer to the Firm’s officers, partners, directors (or other persons occupying a similar status or performing similar functions), employees or any other person who provides investment advice on PSC Financial’s behalf and is subject to the Firm’s supervision or control.

### Financial Planning and Consulting Services

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PSC Financial offers clients a broad range of financial planning and consulting services, which may include any or all of the following functions:

- Business Planning
- Cash Flow Forecasting
- Trust and Estate Planning
- Financial Reporting
- Insurance Planning
- Retirement Planning
- Charitable Giving
- Death and Disability Planning
- Tax Planning
- Manager Due Diligence

While each of these services is available on a stand-alone basis, certain of them may also be rendered in conjunction with investment portfolio management as part of a comprehensive wealth management engagement (described in more detail below).

In performing these services, PSC Financial is not required to verify any information received from the client or from the client’s other professionals (e.g., attorneys, accountants, etc.) and is expressly authorized to rely on such information. PSC Financial may recommend clients engage the Firm for additional related services, its Supervised Persons in their individual capacities as insurance agents or

registered representatives of a broker-dealer and/or other professionals to implement its recommendations. Clients are advised that a conflict of interest exists if clients engage PSC Financial or its affiliates to provide additional services for compensation. Clients retain absolute discretion over all decisions regarding implementation and are under no obligation to act upon any of the recommendations made by PSC Financial under a financial planning or consulting engagement. Clients are advised that it remains their responsibility to promptly notify the Firm of any change in their financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing, evaluating or revising PSC Financial's recommendations and/or services.

### **Investment and Wealth Management Services**

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PSC Financial manages client investment portfolios on a discretionary basis. In addition, PSC Financial may provide clients with wealth management services which generally include a broad range of comprehensive financial planning and consulting services as well as management of investment portfolios.

PSC Financial primarily allocates client assets among various mutual funds, exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), individual debt and equity securities, real estate investment trusts, business development companies and independent investment managers ("Independent Managers") in accordance with their stated investment objectives. In addition, PSC Financial may also recommend that certain eligible clients invest in variable annuities, privately placed securities, which may include debt, equity and/or interests in pooled investment vehicles (e.g., hedge funds).

Where appropriate, the Firm may also provide advice about any type of legacy position or other investment held in client portfolios. Clients may engage PSC Financial to manage and/or advise on certain investment products that are not maintained at LPL Financial ("LPL"), such as variable life insurance and annuity contracts and assets held in employer sponsored retirement plans and qualified tuition plans (i.e., 529 plans). In these situations, PSC Financial directs or recommends the allocation of client assets among the various investment options available with the product. These assets are generally maintained at the underwriting insurance company or the LPL designated by the product's provider.

PSC Financial tailors its advisory services to meet the needs of its individual clients and seeks to ensure, on a continuous basis, that client portfolios are managed in a manner consistent with those needs and objectives. PSC Financial consults with clients on an initial and ongoing basis to assess their specific risk tolerance, time horizon, liquidity constraints and other related factors relevant to the management of their portfolios. Clients are advised to promptly notify PSC Financial if there are changes in their financial situation or if they wish to place any limitations on the management of their portfolios. Clients may impose reasonable restrictions or mandates on the management of their accounts if PSC Financial determines, in its sole discretion, the conditions would not materially impact the performance of a management strategy or prove overly burdensome to the Firm's management efforts.

### Retirement Plan Consulting Services

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PSC Financial provides various consulting services to qualified employee benefit plans and their fiduciaries. This suite of institutional services is designed to assist plan sponsors in structuring, managing and optimizing their corporate retirement plans. Each engagement is individually negotiated and customized, and may include any or all of the following services:

- Plan Design and Strategy
- Plan Review and Evaluation
- Executive Planning & Benefits
- Investment Policy Statement
- Investment Selection
- Plan Fee and Cost Analysis
- Plan Committee Consultation
- Fiduciary and Compliance
- Employee Communications
- Participant Education

As disclosed in the Advisory Agreement, certain of the foregoing services are provided by PSC Financial as a fiduciary under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”). In accordance with ERISA Section 408(b)(2), each plan sponsor is provided with a written description of PSC Financial’s fiduciary status, the specific services to be rendered and all direct and indirect compensation the Firm reasonably expects under the engagement.

### Use of Independent Managers

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As mentioned above, PSC Financial may select certain Independent Managers to actively manage a portion of its clients’ assets. The specific terms and conditions under which a client engages an Independent Manager may be set forth in a separate written agreement with the designated Independent Manager. In addition to this brochure, clients may also receive the written disclosure documents of the respective Independent Managers engaged to manage their assets.

PSC Financial evaluates a variety of information about Independent Managers, which may include the Independent Managers’ public disclosure documents, materials supplied by the Independent Managers themselves and other third-party analyses it believes are reputable. To the extent possible, the Firm seeks to assess the Independent Managers’ investment strategies, past performance and risk results in relation to its clients’ individual portfolio allocations and risk exposure. PSC Financial also takes into consideration each Independent Manager’s management style, returns, reputation, financial strength, reporting, pricing and research capabilities, among other factors.

PSC Financial continues to provide services relative to the discretionary selection of the Independent Managers. On an ongoing basis, the Firm monitors the performance of those accounts being managed by Independent Managers. PSC Financial seeks to ensure the Independent Managers’ strategies and target allocations remain aligned with its clients’ investment objectives and overall best interests.

## Item 5. Fees and Compensation

PSC Financial offers services on a fee basis, which may include fixed and/or hourly fees, as well as fees based upon assets under management or advisement. Additionally, certain of the Firm's Supervised Persons, in their individual capacities, may offer securities brokerage services and/or insurance products under a separate commission-based arrangement.

### Financial Planning and Consulting Fees

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PSC Financial generally charges a fixed and/or hourly fee for providing financial planning and consulting services under a stand-alone engagement. These fees are negotiable, but generally range from \$1,500 to \$5,000 on a fixed fee basis and/or from \$250 to \$500 on an hourly basis, depending upon the scope and complexity of the services and the professional rendering the financial planning and/or the consulting services. If the client engages the Firm for additional investment advisory services, PSC Financial may offset all or a portion of its fees for those services based upon the amount paid for the financial planning and/or consulting services.

The terms and conditions of the financial planning and/or consulting engagement are set forth in the Advisory Agreement and PSC Financial generally requires one-half of the fee (estimated hourly or fixed) payable upon execution of the Advisory Agreement. The outstanding balance is generally due upon delivery of the financial plan or completion of the agreed upon services. The Firm does not, however, take receipt of \$1,200 or more in prepaid fees in excess of six months in advance of services rendered.

### Investment Management Fees

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PSC Financial offers investment management services for an annual fee based on the amount of assets under the Firm's management. This management fee generally varies between 85 and 100 basis points (0.85% – 1.00%), depending upon the size and composition of a client's portfolio and the type of services rendered.

The annual fee is prorated and charged quarterly, in advance, based upon the market value of the assets being managed by PSC Financial on the last day of the previous billing period.

If assets are deposited into or withdrawn from an account after the inception of a billing period, the fee payable with respect to such assets is adjusted to reflect the interim change in portfolio value. For the initial period of an engagement, the fee is calculated on a *pro rata* basis. In the event the advisory agreement is terminated, the fee for the final billing period is prorated through the effective date of the termination and the outstanding or unearned portion of the fee is charged or refunded to the client, as appropriate.

Additionally, for asset management services the Firm provides with respect to certain client holdings (e.g., held-away assets, accommodation accounts, alternative investments, etc.), PSC Financial may negotiate a fee rate that differs from the range set forth above.

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**Retirement Plan Consulting Fees**

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PSC Financial generally charges as fixed project-based fee to provide clients with retirement plan consulting services. Each engagement is individually negotiated and tailored to accommodate the needs of the individual plan sponsor, as memorialized in the Agreement. These fees vary, based on the scope of the services to be rendered. In those situations where PSC Financial has agreed to manage a plan's assets, the Firm may also charge an annual asset-based fee between 15 and 50 basis points (0.15% – 0.50#%), depending upon the amount of assets to be managed.

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**Fee Discretion**

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PSC Financial may, in its sole discretion, negotiate to charge a lesser fee based upon certain criteria, such as anticipated future earning capacity, anticipated future additional assets, dollar amount of assets to be managed, related accounts, account composition, pre-existing/legacy client relationship, account retention and pro bono activities.

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**Additional Fees and Expenses**

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In addition to the advisory fees paid to PSC Financial, clients may also incur certain charges imposed by other third parties, such as broker-dealers, LPLs, trust companies, banks and other financial institutions (collectively "Financial Institutions"). These additional charges may include securities brokerage commissions, transaction fees, custodial fees, fees attributable to alternative assets, reporting charges, fees charged by the Independent Managers, charges imposed directly by a mutual fund or ETF in a client's account, as disclosed in the fund's prospectus (e.g., fund management fees and other fund expenses), deferred sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. The Firm's brokerage practices are described at length in Item 12, below.

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**Direct Fee Debit**

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Clients generally provide PSC Financial and/or certain Independent Managers with the authority to directly debit their accounts for payment of the investment advisory fees. The Financial Institutions that act as the qualified LPL for client accounts, from which the Firm retains the authority to directly deduct fees, have agreed to send statements to clients not less than quarterly detailing all account transactions, including any amounts paid to PSC Financial. Where required, PSC Financial also sends to clients a



written invoice itemizing the fee, including the formula used to calculate the fee, the time period covered by the fee and the amount of assets under management on which the fee was based. Alternatively, clients may elect to have PSC Financial send a separate invoice for direct payment.

### **Account Additions and Withdrawals**

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Clients may make additions to and withdrawals from their account at any time, subject to PSC Financial's right to terminate an account. Additions may be in cash or securities provided that the Firm reserves the right to liquidate any transferred securities or declines to accept particular securities into a client's account. Clients may withdraw account assets on notice to PSC Financial, subject to the usual and customary securities settlement procedures. However, the Firm generally designs its portfolios as long-term investments and the withdrawal of assets may impair the achievement of a client's investment objectives. PSC Financial may consult with its clients about the options and implications of transferring securities. Clients are advised that when transferred securities are liquidated, they may be subject to transaction fees, short-term redemption fees, fees assessed at the mutual fund level (e.g., contingent deferred sales charges) and/or tax ramifications.

### **Commissions and Sales Charges for Recommendations of Securities**

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Clients can engage certain persons associated with PSC Financial (but not the Firm directly) to render securities brokerage services under a separate commission-based arrangement. Clients are under no obligation to engage such persons and may choose brokers or agents not affiliated with PSC Financial.

Under this arrangement, the Firm's Supervised Persons, in their individual capacities as registered representatives of LPL, may provide securities brokerage services and implement securities transactions under a separate commission based arrangement. Supervised Persons may be entitled to a portion of the brokerage commissions paid to LPL, as well as a share of any ongoing distribution or service (trail) fees from the sale of mutual funds. PSC Financial may also recommend no-load or load-waived funds, where no sales charges are assessed. Prior to effecting any transactions, clients are required to enter into a separate account agreement with LPL.

A conflict of interest exists to the extent that PSC Financial recommends the purchase or sale of securities where its Supervised Persons receive commissions or other additional compensation as a result of the Firm's recommendation. The Firm has procedures in place to ensure that any recommendations made by such Supervised Persons are in the best interest of clients. For certain accounts covered by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA") and such others that PSC Financial, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate, PSC Financial may provide its investment advisory services on a fee-offset basis. In this scenario, PSC Financial may offset its fees by an amount equal to the aggregate commissions and 12b-1 fees earned by the Firm's Supervised Persons in their individual capacities as registered representatives of LPL.

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

PSC Financial does not provide any services for a performance-based fee (i.e., a fee based on a share of capital gains or capital appreciation of a client's assets).

## **Item 7. Types of Clients**

PSC Financial offers services to individuals, high net worth individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, corporations and business entities.

### **Minimum Account Requirements**

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PSC Financial does not impose a stated minimum fee or minimum portfolio value for starting and maintaining an investment management relationship. Certain Independent Managers may, however, impose more restrictive account requirements and billing practices from the Firm. In these instances, PSC Financial may alter its corresponding account requirements and/or billing practices to accommodate those of the Independent Managers.

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

### **Methods of Analysis**

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PSC Financial utilizes a combination of fundamental and technical methods of analysis.

Fundamental analysis involves an evaluation of the fundamental financial condition and competitive position of a particular fund or issuer. For PSC Financial, this process typically involves an analysis of an issuer's management team, investment strategies, style drift, past performance, reputation and financial strength in relation to the asset class concentrations and risk exposures of the Firm's model asset allocations. A substantial risk in relying upon fundamental analysis is that while the overall health and position of a company may be good, evolving market conditions may negatively impact the security.

Technical analysis involves the examination of past market data rather than specific issuer information in determining the recommendations made to clients. Technical analysis may involve the use of mathematical based indicators and charts, such as moving averages and price correlations, to identify

market patterns and trends which may be based on investor sentiment rather than the fundamentals of the company. A substantial risk in relying upon technical analysis is that spotting historical trends may not help to predict such trends in the future. Even if the trend will eventually reoccur, there is no guarantee that PSC Financial will be able to accurately predict such a reoccurrence.

## **Investment Strategies**

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### *Long-term Purchases*

The Firm purchases securities with the idea of holding them in the client's account for a year or longer. Typically PSC Financial employs this strategy when securities are believed to be undervalued or the Firm is seeking exposure to a particular asset class over time, regardless of the current projection for the class of security. A risk of long-term purchase strategy is that by holding the security for this length of time, PSC Financial may not be able to take advantages of short-term gains that could prove profitable to a client. Moreover, if the predications are incorrect, a security may decline sharply in value before being sold.

### *Short-term Purchases*

When utilizing this strategy, PSC Financial purchases securities with the idea of selling them within a relatively short timeframe (typically a year or less). The Firm does this in order to take advantage of conditions that PSC Financial believes will soon result in a price swing in the securities purchased. A risk of a short-term purchase strategy is that when selling a security with a holding period of less than one year, it may generate a short-term capital gains tax.

## **Risk of Loss**

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### *Market Risks*

Investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal, and all investors should be guided accordingly. The profitability of a significant portion of PSC Financial's recommendations and/or investment decisions may depend to a great extent upon correctly assessing the future course of price movements of stocks, bonds and other asset classes. There can be no assurance that PSC Financial will be able to predict those price movements accurately or capitalize on any such assumptions.

### *Mutual Funds and ETFs*

An investment in a mutual fund or ETF involves risk, including the loss of principal. Mutual fund and ETF shareholders are necessarily subject to the risks stemming from the individual issuers of the fund's underlying portfolio securities. Such shareholders are also liable for taxes on any fund-level capital gains,

as mutual funds and ETFs are required by law to distribute capital gains in the event they sell securities for a profit that cannot be offset by a corresponding loss.

Shares of mutual funds are generally distributed and redeemed on an ongoing basis by the fund itself or a broker acting on its behalf. The trading price at which a share is transacted is equal to a fund's stated daily per share net asset value ("NAV"), plus any shareholders fees (e.g., sales loads, purchase fees, redemption fees). The per share NAV of a mutual fund is calculated at the end of each business day, although the actual NAV fluctuates with intraday changes to the market value of the fund's holdings. The trading prices of a mutual fund's shares may differ significantly from the NAV during periods of market volatility, which may, among other factors, lead to the mutual fund's shares trading at a premium or discount to actual NAV.

Shares of ETFs are listed on securities exchanges and transacted at negotiated prices in the secondary market. Generally, ETF shares trade at or near their most recent NAV, which is generally calculated at least once daily for indexed based ETFs and potentially more frequently for actively managed ETFs. However, certain inefficiencies may cause the shares to trade at a premium or discount to their pro rata NAV. There is also no guarantee that an active secondary market for such shares will develop or continue to exist. Generally, an ETF only redeems shares when aggregated as creation units (usually 20,000 shares or more). Therefore, if a liquid secondary market ceases to exist for shares of a particular ETF, a shareholder may have no way to dispose of such shares.

#### *Use of Independent Managers*

As stated above, PSC Financial may select certain Independent Managers to manage a portion of its clients' assets. In these situations, PSC Financial continues to conduct ongoing due diligence of such managers, but such recommendations rely to a great extent on the Independent Managers' ability to successfully implement their investment strategies. In addition, PSC Financial generally may not have the ability to supervise the Independent Managers on a day-to-day basis.

#### *Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)*

PSC Financial may recommend an investment in, or allocate assets among, various real estate investment trusts ("REITs"), the shares of which exist in the form of either publicly traded or privately placed securities. REITs are collective investment vehicles with portfolios comprised primarily of real estate and mortgage related holdings. Many REITs hold heavy concentrations of investments tied to commercial and/or residential developments, which inherently subject REIT investors to the risks associated with a downturn in the real estate market. Investments linked to certain regions that experience greater volatility in the local real estate market may give rise to large fluctuations in the value of the vehicle's shares. Mortgage related holdings may give rise to additional concerns pertaining to interest rates, inflation, liquidity and counterparty risk.

*Exchange-Traded Notes (ETNs)*

PSC Financial may recommend an investment in, or allocate assets among, various exchange-traded notes (“ETNs”). ETNs are unsecured debt securities which are listed on securities exchanges and transacted at negotiated prices in the secondary market. ETNs are designed to track the performance of a corresponding benchmark. An ETN is essentially a contract between an issuer and the ETN holder, whereby the issuer, upon maturity, agrees to pay an amount relative to the returns of the underlying benchmark. In addition to the risks associated with the specific benchmark, ETN holders are also subject to various counterparty concerns. In this respect, the value of an ETN may be adversely impacted by a downgrade to the issuer’s credit rating and/or an unwillingness or inability of the issuer to perform its contractual obligations.

**Item 9. Disciplinary Information**

PSC Financial has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client’s evaluation of its advisory business or the integrity of its management.

**Item 10. Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations****Registered Representatives of a Broker/Dealer**

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Certain of the Firm’s Supervised Persons are registered representatives of LPL and may provide clients with securities brokerage services under a separate commission-based arrangement. This arrangement is described at length in Item 5.

**Licensed Insurance Agents**

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A number of the Firm’s Supervised Persons are licensed insurance agents and may offer certain insurance products on a fully-disclosed commissionable basis. A conflict of interest exists to the extent that PSC Financial recommends the purchase of insurance products where its Supervised Persons may be entitled to insurance commissions or other additional compensation. The Firm has procedures in place whereby it seeks to ensure that all recommendations are made in its clients’ best interest regardless of any such affiliations.

**Item 11. Code of Ethics**

PSC Financial has adopted a code of ethics in compliance with applicable securities laws (“Code of Ethics”) that sets forth the standards of conduct expected of its Supervised Persons. PSC Financial’s Code of Ethics contains written policies reasonably designed to prevent certain unlawful practices such as the use of material non-public information by the Firm or any of its Supervised Persons and the trading by the same of securities ahead of clients in order to take advantage of pending orders.

The Code of Ethics also requires certain of PSC Financial’s personnel to report their personal securities holdings and transactions and obtain pre-approval of certain investments (e.g., initial public offerings, limited offerings). However, the Firm’s Supervised Persons are permitted to buy or sell securities that it also recommends to clients if done in a fair and equitable manner that is consistent with the Firm’s policies and procedures. This Code of Ethics has been established recognizing that some securities trade in sufficiently broad markets to permit transactions by certain personnel to be completed without any appreciable impact on the markets of such securities. Therefore, under limited circumstances, exceptions may be made to the policies stated below.

When the Firm is engaging in or considering a transaction in any security on behalf of a client, no Supervised Person will access to this information may knowingly effect for themselves or for their immediate family (i.e., spouse, minor children and adults living in the same household) a transaction in that security unless:

- the transaction has been completed;
- the transaction for the Supervised Person is completed as part of a batch trade with clients; or
- a decision has been made not to engage in the transaction for the client.

These requirements are not applicable to: (i) direct obligations of the Government of the United States; (ii) money market instruments, bankers’ acceptances, bank certificates of deposit, commercial paper, repurchase agreements and other high quality short-term debt instruments, including repurchase agreements; (iii) shares issued by mutual funds or money market funds; and (iv) shares issued by unit investment trusts that are invested exclusively in one or more mutual funds.

Clients and prospective clients may contact PSC Financial to request a copy of its Code of Ethics.

## Item 12. Brokerage Practices

### Recommendation of Broker/Dealers for Client Transactions

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PSC Financial generally recommends that clients utilize the custody, brokerage and clearing services of LPL Financial LLC (“LPL”) for investment management accounts.

Factors which PSC Financial considers in recommending LPL or any other broker-dealer to clients include their respective financial strength, reputation, execution, pricing, research and service. LPL may enable the Firm to obtain many mutual funds without transaction charges and other securities at nominal transaction charges. The commissions and/or transaction fees charged by LPL may be higher or lower than those charged by other Financial Institutions.

The commissions paid by PSC Financial’s clients to LPL comply with the Firm’s duty to obtain “best execution.” Clients may pay commissions that are higher than another qualified Financial Institution might charge to effect the same transaction where PSC Financial determines that the commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services received. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible cost, but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a Financial Institution’s services, including among others, the value of research provided, execution capability, commission rates and responsiveness. PSC Financial seeks competitive rates but may not necessarily obtain the lowest possible commission rates for client transactions.

Consistent with obtaining best execution, brokerage transactions may be directed to certain broker/dealers in return for investment research products and/or services which assist PSC Financial in its investment decision-making process. Such research generally will be used to service all of the Firm’s clients, but brokerage commissions paid by one client may be used to pay for research that is not used in managing that client’s portfolio. The receipt of investment research products and/or services as well as the allocation of the benefit of such investment research products and/or services poses a conflict of interest because PSC Financial does not have to produce or pay for the products or services.

PSC Financial periodically and systematically reviews its policies and procedures regarding its recommendation of Financial Institutions in light of its duty to obtain best execution.

### Software and Support Provided by Financial Institutions

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PSC Financial may receive without cost from LPL computer software and related systems support, which allow PSC Financial to better monitor client accounts maintained at LPL. PSC Financial may receive the software and related support without cost because the Firm renders investment management services to clients that maintain assets at LPL. The software and support is not provided in connection with

securities transactions of clients (i.e., not “soft dollars”). The software and related systems support may benefit PSC Financial, but not its clients directly. In fulfilling its duties to its clients, PSC Financial endeavors at all times to put the interests of its clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that PSC Financial’s receipt of economic benefits from a broker/dealer creates a conflict of interest since these benefits may influence the Firm’s choice of broker/dealer over another that does not furnish similar software, systems support or services.

Specifically, PSC Financial may receive the following benefits from LPL:

- Receipt of duplicate client confirmations and bundled duplicate statements;
- Access to a trading desk that exclusively services its institutional traders;
- Access to block trading which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions and then allocate the appropriate shares to client accounts; and
- Access to an electronic communication network for client order entry and account information.

### **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

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PSC Financial does not consider, in selecting or recommending broker/dealers, whether the Firm receives client referrals from the Financial Institutions or other third party.

### **Directed Brokerage**

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The client may direct PSC Financial in writing to use a particular Financial Institution to execute some or all transactions for the client. In that case, the client will negotiate terms and arrangements for the account with that Financial Institution and the Firm will not seek better execution services or prices from other Financial Institutions or be able to “batch” client transactions for execution through other Financial Institutions with orders for other accounts managed by PSC Financial (as described above). As a result, the client may pay higher commissions or other transaction costs, greater spreads or may receive less favorable net prices, on transactions for the account than would otherwise be the case. Subject to its duty of best execution, PSC Financial may decline a client’s request to direct brokerage if, in the Firm’s sole discretion, such directed brokerage arrangements would result in additional operational difficulties or violate restrictions imposed by other broker-dealers (as further discussed below).

### **Commissions or Sales Charges for Recommendations of Securities**

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As discussed above, certain Supervised Persons in their respective individual capacities are registered representatives of LPL. These Supervised Persons are subject to FINRA Rule 3040 which restricts



registered representatives from conducting securities transactions away from their broker-dealer unless LPL provides written consent. Therefore, clients are advised that certain Supervised Persons may be restricted to conducting securities transactions through LPL if they have not secured written consent from LPL to execute securities transactions through a different broker-dealer. Absent such written consent or separation from LPL, these Supervised Persons are prohibited from executing securities transactions through any broker-dealer other than LPL under its internal supervisory policies. The Firm is cognizant of its duty to obtain best execution and has implemented policies and procedures reasonably designed in such pursuit.

### **Trade Aggregation**

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Transactions for each client generally will be effected independently, unless PSC Financial decides to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time. PSC Financial may (but is not obligated to) combine or “batch” such orders to obtain best execution, to negotiate more favorable commission rates or to allocate equitably among the Firm’s clients differences in prices and commissions or other transaction costs that might not have been obtained had such orders been placed independently. Under this procedure, transactions will generally be averaged as to price and allocated among PSC Financial’s clients pro rata to the purchase and sale orders placed for each client on any given day. To the extent that the Firm determines to aggregate client orders for the purchase or sale of securities, including securities in which PSC Financial’s Supervised Persons may invest, the Firm generally does so in accordance with applicable rules promulgated under the Advisers Act and no-action guidance provided by the staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. PSC Financial does not receive any additional compensation or remuneration as a result of the aggregation.

In the event that the Firm determines that a prorated allocation is not appropriate under the particular circumstances, the allocation will be made based upon other relevant factors, which may include: (i) when only a small percentage of the order is executed, shares may be allocated to the account with the smallest order or the smallest position or to an account that is out of line with respect to security or sector weightings relative to other portfolios, with similar mandates; (ii) allocations may be given to one account when one account has limitations in its investment guidelines which prohibit it from purchasing other securities which are expected to produce similar investment results and can be purchased by other accounts; (iii) if an account reaches an investment guideline limit and cannot participate in an allocation, shares may be reallocated to other accounts (this may be due to unforeseen changes in an account’s assets after an order is placed); (iv) with respect to sale allocations, allocations may be given to accounts low in cash; (v) in cases when a pro rata allocation of a potential execution would result in a de minimis allocation in one or more accounts, the Firm may exclude the account(s) from the allocation; the transactions may be executed on a pro rata basis among the remaining accounts; or (vi) in cases where a small proportion of an order is executed in all accounts, shares may be allocated to one or more accounts on a random basis.

## **Item 13. Review of Accounts**

### **Account Reviews**

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PSC Financial monitors client portfolios on a continuous and ongoing basis while regular account reviews are conducted on at least a quarterly basis. Such reviews are conducted by the Firm's Principal. All investment advisory clients are encouraged to discuss their needs, goals and objectives with PSC Financial and to keep the Firm informed of any changes thereto. The Firm contacts ongoing investment advisory clients at least annually to review its previous services and/or recommendations and quarterly to discuss the impact resulting from any changes in the client's financial situation and/or investment objectives.

### **Account Statements and Reports**

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Clients are provided with transaction confirmation notices and regular summary account statements directly from the Financial Institutions where their assets are custodied. From time-to-time or as otherwise requested, clients may also receive written or electronic reports from PSC Financial and/or an outside service provider, which contain certain account and/or market-related information, such as an inventory of account holdings or account performance. In accordance with several states' securities laws, the Firm also sends certain clients duplicate fee statements, as discussed in Item 2. Clients should compare the account statements they receive from their LPL with any documents or reports they receive from PSC Financial or an outside service provider.

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

### **Client Referrals**

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The Firm does not currently provide compensation to any third-party solicitors for client referrals.

## **Item 15. Custody**

The Advisory Agreement and/or the separate agreement with any Financial Institution generally authorize PSC Financial and/or the Independent Managers to debit client accounts for payment of the Firm's fees

and to directly remit that those funds to the Firm in accordance with applicable custody rules. The Financial Institutions that act as the qualified LPL for client accounts, from which the Firm retains the authority to directly deduct fees, have agreed to send statements to clients not less than quarterly detailing all account transactions, including any amounts paid to PSC Financial. Where required, PSC Financial also sends to clients a written invoice itemizing the fee, including the formula used to calculate the fee, the time period covered by the fee and the amount of assets under management on which the fee was based.

In addition, as discussed in Item 13, PSC Financial may also send periodic supplemental reports to clients. Clients should carefully review the statements sent directly by the Financial Institutions and compare them to those received from PSC Financial.

## **Item 16. Investment Discretion**

PSC Financial may be given the authority to exercise discretion on behalf of clients. PSC Financial is considered to exercise investment discretion over a client's account if it can effect and/or direct transactions in client accounts without first seeking their consent. PSC Financial is given this authority through a power-of-attorney included in the agreement between PSC Financial and the client. Clients may request a limitation on this authority (such as certain securities not to be bought or sold). PSC Financial takes discretion over the following activities:

- The securities to be purchased or sold;
- The amount of securities to be purchased or sold;
- When transactions are made; and
- The Independent Managers to be hired or fired.

## **Item 17. Voting Client Securities**

### **Declination of Proxy Voting Authority**

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PSC Financial generally does not accept the authority to vote a client's securities (i.e., proxies) on their behalf. Clients receive proxies directly from the Financial Institutions where their assets are custodied and may contact the Firm at the contact information on the cover of this brochure with questions about any such issuer solicitations.



**Item 18. Financial Information**

PSC Financial is not required to disclose any financial information due to the following:

- The Firm does not require or solicit the prepayment of more than \$500 in fees six months or more in advance of services rendered;
- The Firm does not have a financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet contractual commitments to clients; and
- The Firm has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years.

**Item 19. Requirement for State Registered Advisers****Principal Executive Officer and Management Person**

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**HOWARD PAKOLA**

Born 1952

**Post-Secondary Education**

Wm. Mitchell College of Law | JD | 1979

University of Minnesota | B.A., Accounting | 1975

**Recent Business Background**

PSC Financial | Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer | August 2014 – Present

LPL Financial | Registered Representative | June 1995 – Present

Pakola, Steichen & Company LLP | Founding Partner | June 1995 – August 2014

**Additional Information**

Neither the Firm nor its Supervised Persons are compensated for advisory services with performance-based fees. Neither the Firm nor its Supervised Persons have been the subject of the type of disciplinary event that warrants disclosure pursuant to this Item. Neither the Firm nor its Supervised Persons have a material relationship or arrangement with any issuers of securities.