

## **ESB Wealth Management, LLC**

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<http://www.esbwealth.com/>

### **FORM ADV PART 2A BROCHURE**

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of ESB Wealth Management, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (419) 525-3961 or via e-mail at [prestonb@ESBwealth.com](mailto:prestonb@ESBwealth.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 ESB Wealth Management, LLC is also available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). The searchable IARD/CRD number for ESB Wealth Management, LLC is 154889.

ESB Wealth Management, LLC is a registered investment adviser. Registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

## Item 2 Summary of Material Changes

Form ADV Part 2 requires registered investment advisers to amend their brochure when information becomes materially inaccurate. If there are any material changes to an adviser's disclosure brochure, the adviser is required to notify you and provide you with a description of the material changes.

Since our last annual updating amendment dated September 11, 2015 there are no material changes to report.

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## Item 4 Advisory Business

### Description of Services and Fees

ESB Wealth Management, LLC is a registered investment adviser primarily based in Mansfield, Ohio with an office location in Seattle, Washington. We are organized as a limited liability company under the laws of the State of Ohio, and we have been providing investment advisory services since 2011. Neo Venture Capital, Inc. is the owner of our firm. Adam M. Beveridge, an investment adviser representative of our firm, is majority shareholder of Neo Venture Capital, Inc.

The following paragraphs describe our services and fees. Please refer to the description of each investment advisory service listed below for information on how we tailor our advisory services to your individual needs. As used in this brochure, the words "we", "our" and "us" refer to ESB Wealth Management, LLC, and the words "you", "your" and "client" refer to you as either a client or prospective client of our firm. Also, you may see the term Associated Person throughout this brochure. As used in this brochure, our Associated Persons are our firm's officers, employees, and all individuals providing investment advice on behalf of our firm. ESB Wealth Management, LLC offers investment advice with the assistance of its Investment Adviser Representatives (IARs).

### Portfolio Management Services

Our firm offers portfolio management services that are tailored to each client's individual financial needs and investment objectives. Portfolio management services consist of ongoing advice along with discretionary or non-discretionary portfolio management services. These services include an initial consultation along with follow up consultations, as may be agreed, to discuss your unique investment objectives, time horizon, risk tolerance, tax circumstances, and various other financial factors. We will ask that you complete certain investor questionnaires, onboarding forms, and other documents (such as, for example, a client profiling and risk questionnaire) to assist us in gathering information about your financial needs and circumstances.

Based on our evaluation of the foregoing factors, we will use the information we gather to develop a strategy that enables our firm to give you continuous and focused investment advice and/or to make investments on your behalf. As part of our portfolio management services, we will customize an investment portfolio for you in accordance with your risk tolerance and investing objectives. Once we construct an investment portfolio for you, we will monitor your portfolio's performance on an ongoing basis, and will periodically rebalance the portfolio as required by, among other things, changes in market conditions and in your financial circumstances.

If you engage our firm for discretionary management services, we require you to grant our firm discretionary authority to manage your account. Discretionary authorization will allow us to determine the specific securities, and the amount of securities, to be purchased or sold for your account without your approval prior to each transaction. If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we must obtain your approval prior to executing any transactions on behalf of your account. Please see Item 16 (Investment Discretion) of this Disclosure Brochure for more information on the different types of management authority we offer under our wealth management services.

### Pension Consulting Services

We offer pension consulting services to employee benefit plans and their fiduciaries based upon the needs of the plan and the services requested by the plan sponsor or named fiduciary. In general, these services may include an existing plan review and analysis, plan-level advice regarding fund selection and investment options, education services to plan participants, investment performance monitoring, and/or ongoing consulting. We may also assist with participant enrollment meetings and provide

investment-related educational seminars to plan participants on such topics as: Diversification; Asset allocation; Risk tolerance; and, Time horizon. Our educational seminars may include other investment-related topics specific to the particular plan.

### **Types of Investments**

Our firm and/or our firm's IARs may advise you on any type of investment that is deemed appropriate based on your stated goals and objectives. We do not necessarily recommend one particular type of security over another since each client has different needs and different tolerance for risk. We may also provide advice on any type of investment held in your portfolio at the inception of our advisory relationship. You may request, in writing, that we refrain from investing in particular securities or certain types of securities.

### **Assets Under Management**

As of September 8, 2015, we manage approximately \$122,455,734 in client assets on a non-discretionary basis.

## **Item 5 Fees and Compensation**

### **Portfolio Management Services**

Our fee for portfolio management services is based on a tiered fee structure and is set forth in the following fee schedule:

<i>Market Value of Account</i>	<i>Annualized Fee</i>
\$0 - \$250,000	2.00%
\$250,001 - \$1,000,000	1.50%
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	1.00%
Over \$5,000,000	0.50%

Our annual portfolio management fee is billed and payable quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter. If the portfolio management agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar quarter, our fees will apply on a pro rata basis, which means that the advisory fee is payable in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. Our advisory fee is negotiable, depending on individual client circumstances.

At our discretion, we may combine the account values of family members living in the same household to determine the applicable advisory fee. For example, we may combine account values for you and your minor children, joint accounts with your spouse, and other types of related accounts. Combining account values may increase the asset total, which may result in your paying a reduced advisory fee based on the available breakpoints in our fee schedule stated above.

We will deduct our fee directly from your account through the qualified custodian holding your funds and securities. We will deduct our advisory fee only when you have given our firm written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from your account. Further, the qualified custodian will deliver an account statement to you at least quarterly. These account statements will show all disbursements from your account. You should review all statements for accuracy. You may terminate the portfolio management agreement upon 30-days' written notice to our firm. If you have pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees.

### **Pension Consulting Services**

Our fee for pension plan administration services is based on a percentage of the assets we manage and is set forth in the following fee schedule:

<i>Market Value of Account</i>	<i>Annualized Fee</i>
\$0 - \$250,000	2.00%
\$250,001 - \$1,000,000	1.50%
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	1.00%
Over \$5,000,000	0.50%

Our fee is billed and payable quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter. If the agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar quarter, our fees will apply on a pro rata basis, which means that the advisory fee is payable in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. Our advisory fee is negotiable, depending on individual client circumstances.

We may also provide additional types of pension consulting services to plans on an individually negotiated basis. All services, whether discussed above or customized for the plan based upon requirements from the plan fiduciaries (which may include additional plan-level or participant-level services) shall be detailed in a written agreement and be consistent with the parameters set forth in the plan documents. Our advisory fees for these customized services will be negotiated with the plan sponsor or named fiduciary on a case-by-case basis. Either party to the pension consulting agreement may terminate the agreement upon 30 -days' written notice to the other party.

### **IRA Rollover Considerations**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may recommend that you withdraw the assets from your employer's retirement plan and roll the assets over to an individual retirement account ("IRA") that we will manage on your behalf. If you elect to roll the assets to an IRA that is subject to our management, we will charge you an asset based fee as set forth in the agreement you executed with our firm. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice on our behalf may have an incentive to recommend a rollover to you for the purpose of generating fee based compensation; however, it is our firm's strict policy to act in our client's best interest. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to complete the rollover. Moreover, if you do complete the rollover, you are under no obligation to have the assets in an IRA managed by our firm.

Many employers permit former employees to keep their retirement assets in their company plan. Also, current employees can sometimes move assets out of their company plan before they retire or change jobs. In determining whether to complete the rollover to an IRA, and to the extent the following options are available, you should consider the costs and benefits factors described below. An employee will typically have four options:

1. Leaving the funds in your employer's (former employer's) plan.
2. Moving the funds to a new employer's retirement plan.
3. Cashing out and taking a taxable distribution from the plan.
4. Rolling the funds into an IRA rollover account.

Each of these options has advantages and disadvantages and before making a change we encourage you to speak with your CPA and/or tax attorney. If you are considering rolling over your retirement funds to an IRA for us to manage here are a few points to consider before you do so:

1. Determine whether the investment options in your employer's retirement plan address your needs or whether you might want to consider other types of investments.
  - (a) Employer retirement plans generally have a more limited investment menu than IRAs.

2. Your current plan may have lower fees than our fees.  
(a) If you are interested in investing only in mutual funds, you should understand the cost structure of the share classes available in your employer's retirement plan and how the costs of those share classes compare with those available in an IRA; (b) You should understand the various products and services you might take advantage of at an IRA provider and the potential costs of those products and services.
3. Our strategy may have higher risk than the option(s) provided to you in your plan.
4. Your current plan may also offer financial advice.
5. If you keep your assets titled in a 401k or retirement account, you could potentially delay your required minimum distribution beyond age 70.5. Your 401k may offer more liability protection than a rollover IRA; each state may vary.
6. Generally, federal law protects assets in qualified plans from creditors. Since 2005, IRA assets have been generally protected from creditors in bankruptcies. However, there can be some exceptions to the general rules so you should consult with an attorney if you are concerned about protecting your retirement plan assets from creditors.
7. You may be able to take out a loan on your 401k, but not from an IRA.
8. IRA assets can be accessed any time; however, distributions are subject to ordinary income tax and may also be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty for withdrawals taken before age 59 1/2 unless they qualify for an exception.
9. If you own company stock in your plan, you may be able to liquidate those shares at a lower capital gains tax rate.
10. Your plan may allow you to hire us as the manager and keep the assets titled in the plan name.

It is important that you understand the differences between these types of accounts and to decide whether a rollover is best for you. Prior to proceeding, if you have questions contact your investment adviser representative, or call our main number as listed on the cover page of this brochure.

### **Additional Fees and Expenses**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may invest, or recommend that you invest, in mutual funds and exchange traded funds. The fees that you pay to our firm for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange traded funds (described in each fund's prospectus) to their shareholders. These fees will generally include a management fee and other fund expenses. You will also incur transaction charges and/or brokerage fees when purchasing or selling securities. These charges and fees are typically imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian through whom your account transactions are executed. We do not share in any portion of the brokerage fees/transaction charges imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian. Where suitable, we will recommend "no load" mutual funds to clients. To fully understand the total cost you will incur, you should review all the fees charged by mutual funds, exchange traded funds, our firm, and others. For information on our brokerage practices, please refer to the "Brokerage Practices" section of this brochure.

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

We do not accept performance-based fees or participate in side-by-side management. Our fees are calculated as described in the *Fees and Compensation* section above, and are not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon, or capital appreciation of, the funds in your advisory account.

## Item 7 Types of Clients

We generally offer investment advisory services to individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, corporations, and other business entities.

In general, we require a minimum of \$25,000 to open and maintain an advisory account. At our discretion, we may waive this minimum account size. For example, we may waive the minimum if you appear to have significant potential for increasing your assets under our management. We may also combine account values for you and your minor children, joint accounts with your spouse, and other types of related accounts to meet the stated minimum.

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

### Our Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies

We may use one or more of the following methods of analysis or investment strategies when providing investment advice to you:

Technical Analysis - involves studying past price patterns, trends, and interrelationships in the financial markets to assess risk-adjusted performance and predict the direction of both the overall market and specific securities.

*Risk:* The risk of market timing based on technical analysis is that our analysis may not accurately detect anomalies or predict future price movements. Current prices of securities may reflect all information known about the security and day-to-day changes in market prices of securities may follow random patterns and may not be predictable with any reliable degree of accuracy.

Fundamental Analysis - involves analyzing individual companies and their industry groups, such as a company's financial statements, details regarding the company's product line, the experience and expertise of the company's management, and the outlook for the company and its industry. The resulting data is used to measure the true value of the company's stock compared to the current market value.

*Risk:* The risk of fundamental analysis is that information obtained may be incorrect and the analysis may not provide an accurate estimate of earnings, which may be the basis for a stock's value. If securities prices adjust rapidly to new information, utilizing fundamental analysis may not result in favorable performance.

Charting Analysis - involves the gathering and processing of price and volume pattern information for a particular security, sector, broad index, or commodity. This price and volume pattern information is analyzed. The resulting pattern and correlation data is used to detect departures from expected performance and diversification and predict future price movements and trends.



*Risk:* Our charting analysis may not accurately detect anomalies or predict future price movements. Current prices of securities may reflect all information known about the security and day-to-day changes in market prices of securities may follow random patterns and may not be predictable with any reliable degree of accuracy.

Long-Term Purchases - securities purchased with the expectation that the value of those securities will grow over a relatively long period of time, generally greater than one year.

*Risk:* Using a long-term purchase strategy generally assumes the financial markets will go up in the long-term which may not be the case. There is also the risk that the segment of the market that you are invested in or perhaps just your particular investment will go down over time even if the overall financial markets advance. Purchasing investments long-term may create an opportunity cost - "locking-up" assets that may be better utilized in the short-term in other investments.

Short-Term Purchases - securities purchased with the expectation that they will be sold within a relatively short period of time, generally less than one year, to take advantage of the securities' short-term price fluctuations.

*Risk:* Using a short-term purchase strategy generally assumes that we can predict how financial markets will perform in the short-term which may be very difficult and will incur a disproportionately higher amount of transaction costs compared to long-term trading. There are many factors that can affect financial market performance in the short-term (such as short-term interest rate changes, cyclical earnings announcements, etc.) but may have a smaller impact over longer periods of times.

Our investment strategies and advice may vary depending upon each client's specific financial situation. As such, we determine investments and allocations based upon your predefined objectives, risk tolerance, time horizon, financial horizon, financial information, liquidity needs, and other various suitability factors. Your restrictions and guidelines may affect the composition of your portfolio.

#### Tax Considerations

Our strategies and investments may have unique and significant tax implications. However, unless we specifically agree otherwise, and in writing, tax efficiency is not our primary consideration in the management of your assets. Rather, tax efficiency is one of several considerations that we will balance in connection with the management of your assets. Regardless of your account size or any other factors, we strongly recommend that you continuously consult with a tax professional prior to and throughout the investing of your assets.

Moreover, as a result of revised IRS regulations, custodians and broker-dealers recently began reporting the cost basis of equities and mutual funds acquired in client accounts. Your custodian will default to the FIFO (First-In First-Out) accounting method for calculating the cost basis of your investments. You are responsible for contacting your tax advisor to determine if this accounting method is the right choice for you. If your tax advisor believes another accounting method is more advantageous, please provide written notice to our firm immediately, and we will alert your account custodian of your individually selected accounting method. Please note that decisions about cost basis accounting methods will need to be made before trades settle, as the cost basis method cannot be changed after settlement.

## **Risk of Loss**

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that you should be prepared to bear. We do not represent or guarantee that our services or methods of analysis can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate clients from losses due to market corrections or declines. We cannot offer any guarantees or promises that your financial goals and objectives will be met. Past performance is in no way an indication of future performance.

## **Recommendation of Particular Types of Securities**

As disclosed under the *Advisory Business* section in this Disclosure Brochure, we may recommend different types of securities and we do not necessarily recommend one particular type of security over another since each client has different needs and different tolerance for risk. Each type of security has its own unique set of risks associated with it and it would not be possible to list here all of the specific risks of every type of investment. Even within the same type of investment, risks can vary widely. However, in very general terms, the higher the anticipated return of an investment, the higher the risk of loss associated with it.

## **Item 9 Disciplinary Information**

ESB Wealth Management, LLC, has been registered and providing investment advisory services since 2011. Neither our firm nor any of our associated persons has any reportable disciplinary information.

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

We do not have any financial industry activities, affiliations or relationships that are material to our advisory business or to our advisory clients except as listed below.

Our firm is affiliated under common control and ownership with ProTPA, Inc., a firm providing record keeping and third party administration services to retirement plans and their participants. If an advisory client requires such services, we typically recommend that clients use the services of our affiliate, ProTPA. Although our advisory services and fees are separate and distinct from the compensation paid to ProTPA, this referral arrangement presents a conflict of interest because our firm generally has a financial incentive to recommend the services of our affiliate, ProTPA. In efforts to mitigate this conflict of interest, it is our firm's strict policy to act in our client's best interest. Clients should be aware that any compensation paid to ProTPA may be higher than fees charged by other firms providing the same or similar services. Clients are under no obligation to use our affiliate's services and may obtain comparable services and/or lower fees through other firms.

Any material conflicts of interest between you and our firm, or our employees are disclosed in this Disclosure Brochure. If at any time, additional material conflicts of interest develop, we will provide you with written notification of the material conflicts of interest or an updated Disclosure Brochure.

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

### **Code of Ethics**

We strive to comply with applicable laws and regulations governing our practices. Therefore, our Code of Ethics includes guidelines for professional standards of conduct for persons associated with our firm. Our goal is to protect your interests at all times and to demonstrate our commitment to our fiduciary duties of honesty, good faith, and fair dealing with you. All persons associated with our firm

are expected to adhere strictly to these guidelines. Persons associated with our firm are also required to report any violations of our Code of Ethics. Additionally, we maintain and enforce written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse or dissemination of material, non-public information about you or your account holdings by persons associated with our firm. Clients or prospective clients may obtain a copy of our Code of Ethics by contacting us at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure.

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

Neither our firm nor any persons associated with our firm has any material financial interest in client transactions beyond the provision of investment advisory services as disclosed in this brochure.

### **Personal Trading Practices**

Our firm or persons associated with our firm may buy or sell the same securities that we recommend to you or securities in which you are already invested. A conflict of interest exists in such cases because we may have the ability to trade ahead of you and potentially receive more favorable prices than you will receive. To mitigate this conflict of interest, it is our *strict* policy that neither our firm nor persons associated with our firm shall have priority over your account in the purchase or sale of securities or investment products.

## **Item 12 Brokerage Practices**

### **Brokerage Recommendations**

For clients engaging our firm for portfolio management services, we require clients to open one or more custodian accounts in their own name at an independent custodian. We consider several factors in recommending a broker-dealer/custodian to a client. Factors that we consider when recommending a broker-dealer/custodian may include ease of use, reputation, service execution, pricing and financial strength. We may also take into consideration the availability of the research and/or services received or offered by the broker-dealer/custodian.

While you are free to choose any broker-dealer/custodian or other service provider, we recommend that you establish an account with a brokerage firm with which we have an existing relationship. For clients in need of brokerage or custodial services, we recommend the use of TD Ameritrade Institutional, a division of TD Ameritrade, Inc. ("TD Ameritrade"), member FINRA/SIPC, an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealer. TD Ameritrade offers independent investment advisers services that include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. We believe that TD Ameritrade provides quality execution services for our clients at competitive prices.

We participate in TD Ameritrade's institutional customer program and we may recommend TD Ameritrade to clients for custodial and brokerage services. There is no direct link between our participation in the program and the investment advice we give to its clients. These benefits include the following products and services (provided without cost or at a discount): receipt of duplicate client statements and confirmations; research related products and tools; access to a trading desk serving adviser participants; access to block trading (which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions for execution and then allocate the appropriate shares to client accounts); the ability to have advisory fees deducted directly from client accounts; access to an electronic communications network for client order entry and account information; access to mutual funds with no transaction fees and to certain institutional money managers; and discounts on compliance, marketing, research, technology, and practice management products or services provided to us by third party vendors. TD Ameritrade may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by our Associated Persons. Some of the products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the program may benefit our firm but may not benefit our client accounts. These products or services may assist us in managing and administering client accounts, including accounts not maintained at TD

Ameritrade. Other services made available by TD Ameritrade are intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. The benefits received by our firm or our Associated Persons personnel through participation in the program do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to TD Ameritrade. As part of our fiduciary duties to clients, we endeavor at all times to put the interests of our clients first. You should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by our firm or our Associated Persons in and of itself creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence our choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services.

### **Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits**

As a registered investment adviser, we may have access to research products and services from your account custodian and/or other brokerage firm. These products may include financial publications, information about particular companies and industries, research software, and other products or services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities. Such research products and services are provided to all investment advisers that utilize the service platforms of these firms and are considered a benefit to our firm, and are *not* considered to have been paid with soft dollars. To the extent our firm receives any research products and/or services from your acting custodian/broker-dealer, a conflict of interest arises in that such research and/or services might not directly benefit client accounts. In effort to mitigate this conflict of interest it is our firm's policy to use such research or services to assist in making investment decisions on behalf of client accounts or to assist with our overall responsibility for servicing client accounts, respectively. Clients should also be aware that the commissions charged by a particular broker-dealer for a particular transaction or set of transactions may be greater than the amounts another broker who did not provide research services or products might charge. As a registered investment adviser our firm and representatives of our firm have a fiduciary duty to act in our client's best interest.

### **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

We do not receive client referrals from broker-dealers in exchange for cash or other compensation, such as brokerage services or research.

### **Block Trades**

We do not combine multiple orders for shares of the same securities purchased for advisory accounts we manage (the practice of combining multiple orders for shares of the same securities is commonly referred to as "block trading"). Accordingly, you may pay different prices for the same securities transactions than other clients pay. Furthermore, we may not be able to buy and sell the same quantities of securities for you and you may pay higher commissions, fees, and/or transaction costs than other clients.

### **Trade Errors**

In the event a trading error occurs in your account, our policy is to restore your account to the position it should have been in had the trading error not occurred. Depending on the circumstances, corrective actions may include canceling the trade, adjusting an allocation, and/or reimbursing the account.

## **Item 13 Review of Accounts**

### **Portfolio Management Services**

The Investment Adviser Representative assigned to your account will monitor your accounts on an on-going basis and will conduct account reviews at least quarterly to ensure that the portfolio mix is consistent with your stated investment needs and objectives. Additional reviews may be conducted based on various circumstances, including, but not limited to: contributions and withdrawals, year-end tax planning, market moving events, security specific events, and/or, changes in your risk/return

objectives. We will provide you with additional or regular written reports in conjunction with account reviews. In addition, you will receive trade confirmations and monthly or quarterly statements from the acting account custodian.

### **Pension Consulting Services**

The Investment Adviser Representative assigned to service the plan will conduct account reviews on behalf of the plan and provide performance reports at intervals established in the written agreement between our firm and the plan sponsor / trustee.

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

We may directly compensate individuals (Solicitors) for client referrals. In order to receive a cash referral fee from our firm, Solicitors must comply with the requirements of the jurisdictions in which they operate. If you were referred to our firm by a Solicitor, you should have received a copy of this brochure along with the Solicitor's disclosure statement at the time of the referral. If you become a client, the Solicitor that referred you to our firm will receive a percentage of the advisory fee you pay our firm for as long as you are a client with our firm, or until such time as our agreement with the Solicitor expires. You will not pay additional fees because of this referral arrangement. Referral fees paid to a Solicitor are contingent upon your entering into an advisory agreement with our firm. Therefore, a Solicitor has a financial incentive to recommend our firm to you for advisory services. This creates a conflict of interest; however, you are not obligated to retain our firm for advisory services. Comparable services and/or lower fees may be available through other firms.

## **Item 15 Custody**

We directly debit your account(s) for the payment of our advisory fees. This ability to deduct our advisory fees from your accounts causes our firm to exercise limited custody over your funds or securities. We do not have physical custody of any of your funds and/or securities. Your funds and securities will be held with an independent qualified custodian that will provide you with account statements at least quarterly. The account statements from will indicate the amount of our advisory fees deducted from your account(s) each billing period. You should carefully review account statements for accuracy.

If you have a question regarding your account statement or if you did not receive a statement, please contact Preston Boyd, Chief Compliance Officer, at (419) 525-3961.

## **Item 16 Investment Discretion**

If you engage us to perform discretionary management services, you must first sign our discretionary management agreement before we can buy or sell securities on your behalf. Discretionary authorization enables our firm to exercise discretion over the selection and amount of securities to be purchased or sold for your account(s) without obtaining your consent or approval prior to each transaction. You may specify investment objectives, guidelines, and/or impose certain conditions or investment parameters for your account(s). For example, you may specify that the investment in any particular stock or industry should not exceed specified percentages of the value of the portfolio and/or restrictions or prohibitions of transactions in the securities of a specific industry or security.

If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we will obtain your approval prior to the execution of any transactions for your account(s). You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

## **Item 17 Voting Client Securities**

### **Proxy Voting**

We will not vote proxies on behalf of your advisory accounts. Additionally, we do not offer advice regarding corporate actions and the exercise of your proxy voting rights. If you own shares of common stock or mutual funds, you are responsible for exercising your right to vote as a shareholder.

In most cases, you will receive proxy materials directly from the account custodian. However, in the event we were to receive any written or electronic proxy materials, we would forward them directly to you by mail, unless you have authorized our firm to contact you by electronic mail, in which case, we would forward any electronic solicitation to vote proxies.

## **Item 18 Financial Information**

Our firm does not have any financial condition or impairment that would prevent us from meeting our contractual commitments to you. We (i) do not take physical custody of client funds or securities; (ii) do not serve as trustee or signatory for client accounts; (iii) do not require the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees six or more months in advance; and (iv) have not filed a bankruptcy petition at any time in the past ten years. Therefore, we are not required to include a financial statement with this brochure.

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

We are an SEC registered investment adviser; therefore, this section is not applicable.

## **Item 20 Additional Information**

### **Your Privacy**

We view protecting your private information as a top priority. Pursuant to applicable privacy requirements, we have instituted policies and procedures to ensure that we keep your personal information private and secure.

We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about you to any nonaffiliated third parties, except as permitted by law. In the course of servicing your account, we may share some information with our service providers, such as transfer agents, custodians, broker-dealers, accountants, consultants, and attorneys.

We restrict internal access to nonpublic personal information about you to employees, who need that information in order to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical and procedural safeguards that comply with regulatory standards to guard your nonpublic personal information and to ensure our integrity and confidentiality. We will not sell information about you or your accounts to anyone. We do not share your information unless it is required to process a transaction, at your request, or required by law.

You will receive a copy of our privacy notice prior to or at the time you sign an advisory agreement with our firm. Thereafter, we will deliver a copy of the current privacy policy notice to you on an annual basis. Please contact Preston Boyd, Chief Compliance Officer, at (419) 525-3961.