



**BENJAMIN F. EDWARDS® & Co.**  
INVESTMENTS *for* GENERATIONS®

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

*September 28, 2017*

*This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. (BFE or BFEC). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (855) 825-6885 or e-mail to: [ADV@benjaminfedwards.com](mailto:ADV@benjaminfedwards.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 Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).*

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

### Material Changes to Investment Adviser Disclosure Brochure

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The following changes to Benjamin F. Edwards & Company's (BFE) investment adviser disclosure document were made since the annual update of the firm's ADV Part 2 and disclosure brochure dated March 30, 2016:

- **Provided clarification regarding 3rd party payments on page 21.**
- **Models offered by Benjamin F. Edwards within the ETF Portfolios program are now available.**
- **Updated sections describing the Separately Managed Portfolios programs to describe arrangements whereby the Covered or Non-Covered Manager, or Lockwood, LLC, as applicable, would exercise discretion over the management of the account.**
- **Updated the last tier of the advisory fee schedule for the BFE models in the ETF Portfolios program.**

BFE does not consider the above changes to be material to our existing Advisory clients.

A complete copy of the updated ADV Part 2A (disclosure brochure) is available on our website [www.benjaminfedwards.com](http://www.benjaminfedwards.com). To access online, click on "Important Disclosures" at the bottom of the page, and then select "Investment Advisory Program Disclosures." Alternatively, clients may obtain a complimentary copy by contacting their financial advisor, calling BFE's home office at (855) 825-6885 or requesting one by e-mail to [ADV@benjaminfedwards.com](mailto:ADV@benjaminfedwards.com). Additional information about Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

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*Section headings are keyed to SEC form ADV 2A. If particular sections of the form are not applicable, this document will so state.*

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

### Advisory Business

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Benjamin F. Edwards & Company (BFE) is a registered investment adviser and a broker-dealer. BFE became registered as a broker-dealer in March of 2009 and, until May 2010, conducted its investment advisory business through an affiliate, BFE Asset Management, LLC. In May 2010, all investment advisory operations and programs of BFE Asset Management transitioned to BFE, which at that time had become registered as an investment adviser subject to the jurisdiction of the Securities and Exchange Commission. BFE also operates an equity and fixed income trading desk. Transactions facilitated by the trading desk that involve investment advisory clients will generally only be done on an agency basis. In limited circumstances, BFE is permitted to engage in transactions involving an investment advisory account on a principal basis; however, any such transaction would require the client's prior express consent. Transactions facilitated by the trading desk that involve brokerage clients are done on an agency, principal or "riskless principal" basis. BFE also provides "mergers and acquisition" (M&A) advice to businesses. Such advice is not typically provided as part of the firm's investment advisory services, and would typically involve separately-negotiated compensation.

BFE's principal owner is its holding company, Benjamin Edwards, Inc., which owns 100% of BFE.

BFE's primary advisory service is investment programs that bundle or "wrap" services (i.e. investment advice, reporting, trade execution, custody, etc.) together and charges a single fee based on the value of assets under management. Additionally, BFE offers Financial Planning, Retirement Plan Consulting, Investment Management Consulting, and Plan Participant Consulting services. All of these programs are outlined in further detail below.

Please note there is an Investment Management Consulting (with Execution) program that is a wrap program because the cost of trade executions is included in the advisory fee. Additionally, there is an Investment Management Consulting non-wrap program for when trade execution costs are not included as part of the advisory fee. Which program a client is in is dependent on services and fee structure negotiated.

BFE does not currently provide portfolio management services other than in connection with its wrap fee programs.

BFE retains a portion of advisory fees paid, including wrap fees, as compensation for its services; the remainder is used to compensate third parties, such as Pershing LLC, Lockwood Advisors, and non-affiliated money managers or model providers for services they provide.

As of September 1, 2017 BFE has \$4,346,491,892 managed on a discretionary basis and \$1,474,384,834 managed on a non-discretionary basis. BFE sponsors one program in which clients grant partial discretion to the firm in order to facilitate certain routine, administrative transactions. Because clients in that program are ultimately responsible for the selection of securities, BFE has elected to categorize such assets as non-discretionary.

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#### Wrap Programs

BFE offers investment advisory services through the following programs:

- **Benjamin F. Edwards Mutual Fund Portfolios**
- **Russell Model Strategies**
- **Benjamin F. Edwards Exchange Traded Fund Portfolios**
- **Benjamin F. Edwards Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios**
- **Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios**
- **Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios**
- **Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered and Non-Covered)**
- **Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios**
- **Lockwood Investment Strategies**
- **Investment Management Consulting (with Execution)\***

BFE's wrap fee investment advisory accounts are not the same as transaction-oriented brokerage accounts.

In a brokerage account, the relationship between the client and the financial advisor is centered on transactions. Therefore, a client pays a separate commission for each transaction that covers the cost of executing the transaction, and certain related services and *incidental* advice. For example, if a client desires that a financial advisor make recommendations in connection with a brokerage account, the financial advisor will document, usually at account opening, certain suitability characteristics based on questions contained in the firm's new account form. Based on that information, the financial advisor, from time to time, provides incidental

recommendations or advice. Transaction commissions also compensate the firm for some non-transaction-related services such as delivery of account statements and required documents such as prospectuses and proxy mailings; and, if desired, custody services for securities owned by the client.

In an investment advisory account, on the other hand, the relationship between the client and the financial advisor is centered on advice. Therefore, in a wrap-fee based advisory account, a client pays a single fee based on the value of assets in the account, which compensates the firm for more-comprehensive initial client assessment, ongoing investment advice, ongoing monitoring of the account, the cost of any transactions that may be effected, and for certain responsibilities and risks that BFE assumes in connection with being a statutory fiduciary that is subject to a different regulatory scheme. For example, to better align the firm's interests with those of the client, the investment advisory regulatory scheme prevents BFE from engaging in some of the same types of transactions that it could if the account were a brokerage account, such as certain transactions where BFE is a counterparty to the transaction without the client's consent (as opposed to acting solely as agent for the client).

In addition, BFE will serve as a fiduciary as defined by the Department of Labor for certain qualified retirement accounts.

With that background, services provided as part of the wrap fee for wrap fee based advisory accounts include:

- Access to a BFE advisor for personal service and financial advice
- Review of suitability based on information provided in advisory agreement, new account form and client interview\*
- Portfolio management services\*
- Monthly account statements
- Performance reporting\*
- Fee billing\*
- Execution of transactions
- Custody and clearance of securities\*
- Delivery of required documents, such as mutual fund prospectuses and proxy mailings

Additional services may be provided based on the advisory program selected. In addition, some of the services above will vary in situations where any assets are held with the issuer or a custodian other than Pershing, LLC, as described further below.

Fees and additional services for each program, including additional information about the fees applicable to investment advisory accounts, are detailed in the following sections:

*\* These services may or may not be provided in the Investment Management Consulting (with Execution) program depending on the services negotiated and agreed upon. See the Investment Management Consulting (with Execution) section that follows for further detail.*

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## **Financial Planning**

BFE provides investment advisory financial planning services. Financial plans are individually-tailored analyses of a client's current portfolio and projected financial needs, together with a recommended approach to meeting those needs. Individual securities recommendations are not typically included as part of a financial plan. Depending on the client's individual situation, financial plans may include an overview of investment objectives, risk tolerance, time horizon, net worth, cash flow analysis, college cost and savings estimates, and asset allocation analyses. Part of the portfolio analysis may include in-depth assessment of the client's securities such as equity, bond or mutual fund holdings. The assessment may show historical return, yield, market value, sector breakout, bond rating, yield-to-maturity, and percentage that each category comprises of the total portfolio. It may also include an analysis of investments managed by third party money managers.

Retirement planning analyses may include a hypothetical wealth accumulation table that compares lifetime income needs to portfolio resources, together with an assessment of the probability of achieving the desired financial outcome based on those resources. Estate planning analyses may include an assessment of estate tax estimates, survivor income projections, long-term care coverage and estate planning strategies for consideration. A financial plan may include product analysis, such as an analysis of equity, fixed income, mutual funds and other financial products.

The financial planning relationship ends upon delivery of the agreed-upon financial plan. A client may choose to implement the plan with any financial services firm, including BFE or others, or not to implement the plan at all. If updates or reassessments of the financial plan are desired, they would generally be prepared pursuant to a new financial planning arrangement.

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**Retirement Plan Consulting**

The Retirement Plan Consulting Program is a service whereby BFE may, based on a negotiated scope of services, consult with retirement plan administrators, other fiduciaries to retirement plans, plan participants and other parties. BFE will not actually manage plan assets as part of the Retirement Plan Consulting Program.

Depending on the negotiated scope of services between the parties, BFE may participate in enrollment meetings, provide supplemental educational materials to the plan or plan participants, conduct education and provide investment materials for participant-directed plans, search and evaluate investment alternatives for the plan, review past performance of the plan's current investment options, provide one-time or ongoing performance monitoring reports for the plan's current investment options. Services provided to plan participants may be provided at a group level, or to individual plan participants. Unless otherwise specified in the agreement between BFE and the plan, any education and investment materials provided are intended to constitute "education" and not individualized "investment advice." BFE may also negotiate other services based on the needs of the plan.

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**Investment Management Consulting**

The Investment Management Consulting Program is a service whereby BFE may, based on a negotiated scope of services, consult with clients with respect to any or all of the services below, either on an ad-hoc or ongoing basis. BFE will not actually manage client assets as part of the Investment Management Consulting Program.

Depending on the negotiated scope of services between the parties, BFE may prepare, review and/or monitor an Investment Policy Statement (IPS), search and evaluate investment alternatives, perform ongoing monitoring and due diligence of investment managers, perform ongoing performance monitoring, review past performance of the client's investments, provide fee-billing services, custody assets through our clearing firm, provide performance monitoring reports, and participate in periodic meetings as needed. BFE may also negotiate other services based on the needs of the client.

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**Plan Participant Consulting Service**

The Plan Participant Consulting Services program is a consulting service whereby BFE will enter into an agreement with retirement plan participants to provide investment advice for ERISA or other types of participant-directed plans. Financial Advisors will review the investment options available to the plan participant within the employer-sponsored retirement plan. Financial Advisors will then work with clients to identify their needs, objectives and risk tolerance. From the information obtained, the Financial Advisor will provide a written security level asset allocation recommendation. This service may be performed for a one-time fee or an ongoing basis. If an ongoing service is the option selected in the agreement, the Financial Advisor will have subsequent meetings (at least annually) with the client to discuss whether changes to the initial recommendation may be appropriate. It is the sole responsibility of the client whether or not to implement the advice provided.

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**Tailoring of Advisory Programs and Reasonable Restrictions**

For all wrap advisory programs, BFE clients select the financial advisor with whom they wish to work. The financial advisor will assess the client's prior investment experience, financial goals, time horizon, risk tolerance, and investment objectives in order to determine the appropriate program for the client.

Clients may request reasonable restrictions on the management of their discretionary accounts. Such restrictions may include imposition of limitations or preferences concerning transactions in certain securities, frequency of rebalancing, tax-loss selling, frequency of distributions and similar matters.

With respect to security-specific restrictions in the Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios program, such restrictions are individually negotiated between the client and financial advisor. With respect to all other programs involving transactions in individual equity securities, clients may request security-specific restrictions on those equities or restrictions based on the following categories: Alcohol, Cosmetic, Defense/Military/ Weapons, Entertainment, Foreign Securities, Gambling, Finance, Trucking, Meat Products, Nuclear Power, Oil Stocks, Textiles, Drugs, Tobacco, Public Utilities, Paper/Forest Products, and Healthcare/Medical Industries. With respect to model based mutual fund and ETF wrap programs, BFE will consider requests for reasonable restrictions on the management of the account. Such restrictions may be placed on particular mutual funds or ETFs from the model selected, but cannot restrict the individual securities held within the mutual funds or ETFs. If such investment restrictions are implemented, the client will experience a different investment return than what will be realized by the model itself. Such performance may be better or worse than the model. For these reasons, if a client wishes to make a request concerning restrictions based on specific securities, it may be more appropriate for the client to participate in other BFE advisory programs that are not so uniquely positioned. It should be noted, any standardized reports of model performance will not reflect the performance of the model with restrictions applied. (Quarterly performance reports of the client's account will accurately reflect the client's actual account performance with restrictions).

With respect to Financial Planning, the financial advisor will prepare a tailored assessment and plan that is designed to meet the particular needs of the individual client.

With respect to Retirement Plan Consulting, the financial advisor will determine with the appropriate retirement plan administrator, fiduciary, or other authorized person, the specific consulting services that are needed. BFE will not provide individualized investment advice to particular plan participants.

With respect to Investment Management Consulting, the financial advisor will work with the client to determine the specific consulting services that are needed.

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**Legal and Tax Advice**

BFE Financial Advisors do not provide legal or tax advice. It is recommended that clients discuss their personal situation with a tax or legal advisor.

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## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure Fees and Compensation

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Fees and additional services for each program are as follows:

### **Benjamin F. Edwards Mutual Fund Portfolios**

Benjamin F. Edwards Mutual Fund Portfolios is a discretionary, mutual-fund-only portfolio advisory program. The asset allocation models include a variety of asset types that, together, offer appropriate style diversification (i.e. diversification among large-, mid- and small-cap funds, as well as value vs. growth strategies as well as models with exposure to alternative investments) to accommodate each investment objective. Additionally, models containing only alternative investments are available. Clients will work with their financial advisor to determine the asset allocation model most appropriate for their needs. The models developed and used by BFE are strategic in nature. Changes may occur from time to time to style (sub-category) allocations, but adjustments to the asset allocation (equity vs. fixed income) are expected to be infrequent. The models are designed to provide the investor with broad style diversification. Where appropriate, multiple funds are selected for a style to provide additional diversification.

*The annual fee for this advisory service is as follows:*

First \$250,000 in assets = 1.50%

Next \$250,000 in assets = 1.25%

Next \$500,000 in assets = 1.00%

Amounts greater than \$1,000,000 = 0.75%

*Additional Services:*

- BFE shall invest, reinvest, sell or retain assets in its sole discretion for this account
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research on the mutual funds offered in the Benjamin F. Edwards Mutual Fund Portfolios
- Maintenance and trade implementation of the mutual fund models
- Rebalancing of the funds to conform to the investment allocations per the frequency selected and as needed for deposits/withdrawals

### **Russell Model Strategies**

Russell Model Strategies is a discretionary advisory program. Russell offers three sets of models: mutual fund only, tax managed mutual fund only, and hybrid models that utilize exchange traded products and mutual funds. In these models, the mutual funds are Russell Investment's funds and the exchange trade products are not Russell product. Russell provides the models and the funds to use within each model. These models allow for well-balanced and diversified portfolios. Clients will work with their financial advisor to determine the asset allocation model most appropriate for their needs.

*The annual fee for this advisory service is as follows:*

First \$250,000 in assets = 1.50%

Next \$250,000 in assets = 1.25%

Next \$500,000 in assets = 1.00%

Amounts greater than \$1,000,000 = 0.75%

*Additional Services:*

- BFE shall invest, reinvest, sell or retain assets in its sole discretion for this account
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by BFE on the Russell Model Strategies
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by Russell Investments on the funds and allocations
- Maintenance and trade implementation of the mutual fund models on BFE's platform
- Rebalancing of the funds to conform to the investment allocations per the frequency selected and as needed for deposits/withdrawals

**Benjamin F. Edwards Exchange Traded Fund Portfolios**

Benjamin F. Edwards Exchange Traded Fund Portfolios is a discretionary advisory program that utilizes Exchange Traded Funds (ETF) or Exchange Traded Notes (ETN) as the portfolio's investment vehicles. BFE, Confluence Investment Management LLC (Confluence), Laffer Investments (Laffer), and Morningstar Investment Services, LLC (Morningstar) serve as the model providers for this program, and supply the models and recommendations for specific investments within each model. BFE may modify those recommendations when implementing the program. The Confluence models are style-diversified and cyclical in nature. Laffer provides a global equity strategy model and a U.S. inflation model. BFE and Morningstar Strategic Ibbotson models are style-diversified and strategic in nature. The Morningstar ETF Asset Allocation models are style-diversified and built through a value driven investment approach. We continue to support the Morningstar Contrarian models for existing clients that follow a contrarian strategy, but they are no longer open for new clients to purchase. Clients will work with their financial advisor to determine the asset allocation model most appropriate for their needs.

*The annual fee for this advisory service using the Confluence, Laffer, and Morningstar ETF Asset Allocation models is as follows:*

First \$250,000 in assets = 2.25%

Next \$250,000 in assets = 1.75%

Next \$500,000 in assets = 1.50%

Amounts greater than \$1,000,000 = 1.25%

*The annual fee for this advisory service using the Morningstar Strategic Ibbotson models is as follows:*

First \$250,000 in assets = 1.75%

Next \$250,000 in assets = 1.50%

Next \$500,000 in assets = 1.25%

Amounts greater than \$1,000,000 = 1.00%

*The annual fee for this advisory service using the BFE models is as follows:*

First \$100,000 in assets\* = 1.25%

Next \$250,000 in assets = 1.00%

Amounts Greater than \$350,000 = 0.75%

\* For these models, there is a minimum fee of \$125 per year.

*Additional Services:*

- BFE shall invest, reinvest, sell or retain assets in its sole discretion for this account
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by BFE, Confluence Investment Management LLC, Laffer Investments and Morningstar Investment Services.
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by BFE, Confluence Investment Management LLC, Laffer Investments and Morningstar Investment Services in connection with securities and allocations that they recommend
- Maintenance and trade implementation of the models
- Rebalancing of the securities to conform to the investment allocations and as needed for deposits/withdrawals



### **Benjamin F. Edwards Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios**

Benjamin F. Edwards Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios is a mutual-fund-only advisory program with limited discretion. The financial advisor and client will work together to identify an appropriate investment model. The client retains final decision making authority with respect to the mutual funds used and the percentage allocated to each fund in the model. Limited discretion is granted to the financial advisor to:

- Rebalance the account per the selected rebalancing frequency
- Invest cash deposits
- Sell and reinvest deposits of securities
- Sell funds for fees and requested withdrawals

The financial advisor will monitor the account to ensure it remains consistent with the strategy and make recommendations for changes as needed.

*The annual fee for this advisory service is as follows:*

First \$250,000 in assets = 1.50%

Next \$250,000 in assets = 1.25%

Next \$500,000 in assets = 1.00%

Amounts greater than \$1,000,000 = 0.75%

*Additional Services:*

- Recommendation of customized asset allocation
- Maintenance and trade implementation of the mutual fund model
- Rebalancing of the funds to conform to the investment allocations per the frequency selected and as needed for deposits/withdrawals
- Recommendations by the financial advisor to invest, reinvest, sell or retain mutual funds, if appropriate
- Ongoing monitoring of the account by the financial advisor

### **Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios**

Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios is an advisory program where portfolio management services are provided to the client on a non-discretionary basis for a wrap fee based on the value of the account. As a non-discretionary account the client retains final decision-making authority with respect to all transactions. The financial advisor and client will work together to identify an appropriate investment strategy. The financial advisor will monitor the account to ensure it remains consistent with the strategy and make recommendations as needed.

*The fee schedule is as follows:*

First \$250,000 = 2.00%

Next \$250,000 = 1.50%

Next \$500,000 = 1.25%

Next \$1,500,000 = 1.00%

Next \$2,500,000 = 0.75%

Amounts greater than \$5,000,000 = 0.65%

*Additional Services:*

- Recommendation of customized asset allocation
- Recommendations by the financial advisor to invest, reinvest, sell or retain assets, if appropriate
- Ongoing monitoring of the account by the financial advisor
- Advice by the financial advisor on the client's proposed unsolicited transactions

### **Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios**

Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios is an advisory program where portfolio management services are provided to the client on a discretionary basis for a wrap fee based on the value of the account. As a discretionary account,

the financial advisor is not required to contact the client prior to each transaction. The financial advisor and client will work together to develop an investment strategy. The financial advisor will monitor the account to ensure it remains consistent with the investment strategy and that the strategy remains appropriate.

*The fee schedule is as follows:*

First \$250,000	= 2.25%
Next \$250,000	= 1.75%
Next \$500,000	= 1.50%
Next \$1,500,000	= 1.25%
Next \$2,500,000	= 0.85%
Amounts greater than \$5,000,000	= 0.75%

*Additional Services:*

- Investing, reinvesting, selling or retaining assets at the financial advisor's sole discretion, based on client suitability profile
- Ongoing monitoring and security selection by the financial advisor
- Development of customized asset allocation
- Rebalancing of the securities as needed to conform to the investment allocations and/or for deposits/withdrawals
- Advice by the financial advisor on the client's proposed unsolicited transactions

#### **Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered)**

The Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered) advisory program provides the client with an opportunity to access strategies of select third-party money managers that are covered by BFE ("Covered Managers"), meaning that BFE conducts initial and ongoing research and due diligence on these managers. To be a Covered Manager, certain information must be readily available to support BFE's initial and ongoing due diligence of the money manager, the manager must meet BFE's qualitative due diligence requirements, and there must be sufficient economic efficiencies including the amount of fees charged by the money manager or the level of interest in the money manager on the part of BFE clients. BFE is the sponsor of the program with the money manager serving as the sub-advisor. Strategies may be implemented by the Covered Manager directly or by the Covered Manager providing models to Lockwood Advisors, Inc. (Lockwood), an affiliate of Pershing LLC and a Registered Investment Adviser, who will manage the account per the model provided. The client pays one wrap fee that includes the money manager fee. Periodic information regarding the manager and its strategy will be available to BFE's financial advisors to provide to clients upon request.

The annual fee for this advisory service varies based on the type of securities managed and is as follows:

	<b>Equity/Balanced</b>	<b>Fixed Income</b>
First \$500,000 in assets	2.75%	1.25%
Next \$500,000 in assets	2.25%	1.15%
Next \$1,500,000 in assets	1.75%	1.00%
Amounts greater than \$2,500,000	1.25%	0.85%

*Additional Services:*

- The Covered Manager or Lockwood, as applicable, shall invest, reinvest, sell or retain assets in its sole discretion for this account
- Ongoing monitoring and due diligence by BFE on the Covered Managers
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by the Covered Manager on the securities selected
- Proxy voting by the Covered Manager or Lockwood, as applicable, depending on election made on the client advisory agreement. If client elects the manager to vote the proxies, clients may contact their financial advisor to request information regarding how the proxies were voted.

### Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Non-Covered)

The Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Non-Covered) advisory program provides the client with an opportunity to utilize strategies of third-party money managers that are available on the platform but are not covered by BFE (“Non-Covered Managers”), meaning that BFE performs only minimal ongoing research and due diligence on these managers. A Non-Covered Manager may not be covered for a variety of reasons including: not meeting the due diligence standards required by BFE’s Covered Program; lack of ready availability or access to information necessary for BFE to perform required diligence; or for economic inefficiencies including the amount of fees charged by the money manager; or the level of interest in the money manager on the part of BFE clients. BFE is the sponsor of the program with the money manager serving as the sub-advisor. Strategies may be implemented by the Non-Covered Manager directly or by the Non-Covered Manager providing models to Lockwood Advisors, Inc. (Lockwood), an affiliate of Pershing LLC and a Registered Investment Adviser, who will manage the account per the model provided. The client pays a wrap fee that excludes the fee charged by the Non-Covered Manager, which is paid separately by the client. The total fee may be more or less than the wrap fee charged by BFE on Covered Managers depending on the fee charged by the third-party money manager. However, the advisory fee charged by BFE is less, due to the lower degree of due diligence performed. Unlike the Covered Program, periodic information regarding the manager and its strategy will only be provided if the information is readily available and accessible to BFE.

The annual fee for this advisory service, excluding the separate money manager’s fee which differs among managers, varies based on the type of securities managed and is as follows:

	<b>Equity/Balanced</b>	<b>Fixed Income</b>
First \$500,000 in assets	2.00%	0.75%
Next \$500,000 in assets	1.50%	0.65%
Next \$1,500,000 in assets	1.00%	0.60%
Amounts greater than \$2,500,000	0.75%	0.60%

#### *Additional Services:*

- The Non-Covered Manager or Lockwood, as applicable, shall invest, reinvest, sell or retain assets in its sole discretion for this account
- Limited ongoing monitoring and due diligence by BFE on the Non-Covered Managers
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by Non-Covered Managers on the securities selected
- Proxy voting by the Non-Covered Manager or Lockwood, as applicable, depending on election made on the client advisory agreement. If client elects the manager to vote the proxies, clients may contact their financial advisor to request information regarding how the proxies were voted.

### Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios (LAAP)

LAAP is a discretionary, multi-discipline managed portfolio product. BFE is the sponsor of LAAP, and Lockwood Advisors, Inc. (Lockwood), an affiliate of Pershing LLC., serves as the portfolio manager. As portfolio manager, Lockwood determines the asset allocation strategy and selects investment vehicles for each investment style component of LAAP based on proprietary models. These models may consist of open- and closed-end mutual funds, exchange traded funds and other securities, as determined by Lockwood, at its sole discretion.

The annual fee for this advisory service is as follows:

- First \$500,000 in assets = 1.50%
- Next \$500,000 in assets = 1.25%
- Next \$1,500,000 in assets = 1.00%
- Amounts greater than \$2,500,000 = 0.75%

#### *Additional Services:*

- Lockwood shall invest, reinvest, sell or retain assets in its sole discretion for this account
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by BFE on Lockwood
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by Lockwood on the securities and allocations
- Maintenance and trade implementation of the models

- As needed, rebalancing of the securities to conform to the investment allocations and for deposits/withdrawals
- Proxy voting by portfolio manager, depending on election made on the client advisory agreement. If client elects the manager to vote the proxies, clients may contact their financial advisor to request information regarding how the proxies were voted.

### **Lockwood Investment Strategies (LIS)**

LIS is a discretionary, multi-discipline managed account product housed in a single account with five core models. The five (5) core models span the risk/return spectrum from a current income model to a growth model within the context of a diversified portfolio. If appropriate, a client may also choose from four (4) additional models which include exposure to non-traditional asset classes. BFE is the sponsor of LIS, and Lockwood Advisors, Inc. (Lockwood), an affiliate of Pershing LLC., serves as the portfolio manager. As portfolio manager, Lockwood determines the asset allocation strategy and selects both sub-managers and specific investment vehicles for each investment style component of LIS based on proprietary modeling strategies, as well as its macroeconomic outlook and investment discipline. These models may consist of stocks, bonds, open- and closed-end mutual funds, exchange traded funds and other securities as determined by Lockwood at its sole discretion.

*The annual fee for this advisory service is as follows:*

First \$500,000 in assets = 2.50%

Next \$500,000 in assets = 2.00%

Next \$1,500,000 in assets = 1.50%

Next \$2,500,000 in assets = 1.00%

Amounts greater than \$5,000,000 = 0.75%

*Additional Services:*

- Lockwood shall invest, reinvest, sell or retain assets in its sole discretion for this account
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by BFE on Lockwood
- Ongoing monitoring, due diligence and research by Lockwood on the securities and allocations
- Maintenance and implementation of the models
- As needed, rebalancing of the securities to conform to the investment allocations and for deposits/withdrawals
- Proxy voting by third-party manager depending on election made on the client advisory agreement. If client elects the manager to vote the proxies, clients may contact their financial advisor to request information regarding how the proxies were voted.

### **Investment Management Consulting (with Execution)**

The Investment Management Consulting (with Execution) Program is a service whereby BFE may, based on a negotiated scope of services, consult with clients with respect to any or all of the services below, either on an ad-hoc or ongoing basis. BFE will not actually manage client assets as part of the Investment Management Consulting Wrap Program. As a wrap program, the cost of execution of transactions will be included in the advisory fee.

The advisory fee for this service will be a negotiated fixed or asset based amount based on negotiated services to be provided.

*Additional Services may include:*

- Investment Policy Statement (IPS) Preparation
- Investment Policy Statement (IPS) Review
- Investment Policy Statement Monitoring
- Search and evaluation of investment alternatives
- Ongoing monitoring and due diligence by BFE of investment manager(s)
- Ongoing performance monitoring
- Past performance review

- Fee Billing
- Execution of transactions
- Custody of assets
- Performance Monitoring Reports
- Participate in Periodic Meeting

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**Additional Information  
Regarding Fees for  
Wrap Programs**

The fees stated above for each program are negotiable. See “Compensation” section below for information regarding compensation to portfolio managers/financial advisors.

Clients have the option to purchase investment products that BFE recommends through other brokers or agents that are not affiliated with BFE. Participating in wrap fee programs or other advisory programs may cost the client more or less than if the client were to implement his or her selected program separately from BFE, such as by using a different program sponsor, pursuing the strategy through a brokerage account, or investing directly with the mutual fund family. Some factors that might impact the total cost to a client who implements a program separately from BFE include the frequency of trading activity; whether a client might be successful in negotiating a lower fee with a sub-advisor; rate of commissions, markups or other transaction-related compensation; or whether account fees, transaction fees or similar charges would be incurred.

Several BFE advisory programs are primarily oriented to mutual fund models. All of these are wrap fee programs. As a result, BFE recommends transactions in no-load or load-waived share classes.

Because the wrap fee and other incidental fees that a client pays for maintaining an investment advisory account may cost more (or less) than the transaction based commissions that would be paid for simply engaging in transactions in a brokerage account, a client should keep in mind the totality of what he or she is paying for, and his or her desire for those services.

Asset-based advisory fees are designed to better align a financial advisor’s interests with those of his or her client. Thus, if the market value of the advisory account’s assets increases, so will the financial advisor’s asset-based compensation. Conversely, if the market value of the advisory account’s assets decreases, so will the financial advisor’s asset-based compensation. In addition, asset-based fees also can reduce or eliminate the financial incentive that a financial advisor’s might have in a commission-based brokerage account to recommend transactions solely or primarily for the purpose of generating commissions for the financial advisor’s own benefit. Instead, the wrap fee is a way for a client who wishes to receive the benefits of ongoing portfolio monitoring and advice to compensate his or her financial advisor who may believe that less frequent, or even no, trading is appropriate for an extended period of time.

But there are situations where a client must recognize that a brokerage account might be economically advantageous, as long as the client is willing to forego the ongoing benefits of an advisory relationship. For example, if a client is solely interested in obtaining low-cost transactions, and anticipates engaging in comparatively fewer transactions (e.g., buy and hold strategies); or anticipates engaging primarily in unsolicited (i.e., self-initiated) transactions; or anticipates holding positions in assets that a client might not wish to sell for an extended period of time (such as positions that are maintained primarily for sentimental value; assets that have limited liquidity; or substantial positions in cash, money market funds or bank deposit products that are not expected to be invested for an extended time) then it may be in the client’s financial interest to maintain those assets in a brokerage account instead, and forego the ongoing advice and monitoring that is available in an advisory account. Clients should assess for themselves the value of services obtained in a wrap fee advisory account versus the more limited relationship and services provided with a brokerage account.

The advisory fees discussed above do not include certain expenses charged by products such as mutual funds, exchange traded funds, or exchange traded notes. Please refer to the product’s prospectus, which will have been delivered at the time of purchase. Some of these expenses, such as investment management fees, are retained by product issuers or their affiliates. Some mutual fund fees, such as fees related to marketing and distribution of the funds (sometimes referred to as “Rule 12b-1 fees”), service fees related to personal services for investors and/or the maintenance of shareholder accounts, and other shareholder servicing fees, are shared with Pershing and/or BFE. Such fees are typically charged as a percentage of the asset value under management. Nor does the fee discussed above include surrender charges, short term redemption fees, contingent deferred sales charges, or other charges associated with the liquidation or redemption of certain securities such as B share mutual funds, which were transferred into the program and sold.

Further, the wrap fee does not include separate external fees that may be charged by a product sponsor or trustee, such as would be the case if the assets of a donor advised fund are managed within an advisory account,

or if an advisory account is owned by a trust with a corporate trustee or other party who may receive separate compensation from account assets. Such additional external fees would typically be charged separately by the donor advised fund or the trustee and paid by BFE from the account assets.

Additionally, the wrap fee does not include, and the account will be charged separately for, fees for ancillary services such as, without limitation, fees relating to: specific types of product or asset transfers, processing, maintenance or safekeeping; checking or debit card services; and account termination or transfer. The complete ancillary fee schedule is available on our public website ([www.benjaminfedwards.com](http://www.benjaminfedwards.com)) in the Important Disclosures section entitled “Client Fees”, and is incorporated by reference; or a hardcopy is available upon request to your Financial Advisor. Most of these fees are passed directly to Pershing; however, BFE retains a portion of selected fees, which creates a conflict of interest as BFE has an incentive to recommend the additional services.

Pershing may reimburse BFE for certain documented account transfer fees if BFE credits a client account for fees charged by a client’s prior firm at the time the account transferred to BFE.

Portfolio managers generally require that accounts be initially funded with cash or eligible securities (i.e., securities that are permitted by the portfolio manager to be held in the particular account or program). In the event a client deposits securities to initially fund an advisory account that are ineligible, the securities will be promptly sold or, at the client’s direction, may be held in a brokerage account so an advisory fee will not be charged for the position. While prompt liquidation of ineligible securities is required in order to immediately begin participating in the advisory program, clients should understand that, in the case of securities that are relatively less liquid (including most fixed income positions and certain equity positions), prompt liquidation may not necessarily generate the greatest possible proceeds contrasted with actively managing the sale over time. Clients who do not wish to make this trade-off should consider funding their advisory account with only eligible securities or cash.

Clients may elect to leave eligible securities that they do not wish to sell, or that are not readily liquid, in an advisory account in order to receive comprehensive portfolio-based advice. Because a fee is typically charged on the market value of all assets held in an advisory account, including cash, money market funds and bank deposit products, clients should take this into consideration and discuss the client’s personal situation with the financial advisor when making such a decision. Clients should keep in mind that holding substantial positions in assets such as cash, money market funds and bank deposit products that are not intended to have substantial price fluctuations, or that offer only limited return potential, might well be part of a financial advisor’s portfolio-based investment strategy as a technique to cushion the effect of a downward market or to have assets available while waiting for investment opportunities in times of volatile or uncertain markets or governmental economic behavior.

Also portfolio managers providing services to the Advisory Portfolios programs may pay transaction charges including commissions, mark-ups, mark-downs, or spreads which may increase the underlying expenses associated with client transactions, and thus affect the performance of the account.

Money managers associated with three investment advisory programs (Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered); Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Non-Covered); and Lockwood Investment Strategies) have the option of executing transactions away from Pershing if they believe it is in the client’s best interests to do so. In such cases, the costs associated with execution of the transactions will be included within the net price paid or received by the customer for the securities that are purchased or sold.

The annual fee for advisory wrap accounts, with the exception of Investment Management Consulting (with Execution) accounts, is charged quarterly in advance (at the rate of one-fourth of the annual fee detailed above). The fee is calculated based upon the market value of all assets under management in the account, including all balances in cash, money market funds, and bank deposit programs, at the close of business on the last business day of the previous quarter as determined by the Managed Investments division of Pershing (“Managed Investments”), an affiliate of the custodian and a service provider to BFE with respect to a variety of back office services in support our advisory programs. The fee will be deducted from the client’s advisory account(s) (or another designated Benjamin F. Edwards brokerage account of the client) with the permission from the client. Adjustments to fees are made quarterly (for the prior quarter) for net flows of \$2500 or more. The adjustment will be prorated based on the dates the contribution(s) and/or withdrawal(s) occur. Under certain circumstances, BFE permits advisory program assets to be held with a custodian other than Pershing, LLC. This may occur, for example, in connection with positions in alternative investments that must be held with the issuer of the securities. In such situations, BFE will invoice the client separately on a quarterly basis for the appropriate amount of the advisory fee attributable to the position. The amount of the fee will be determined by BFE based on information reasonably believed to reflect the value of the asset where it is held. The client will be asked to sign a Letter of Authorization to permit BFE to deduct the fee from the client’s account separately from the fee that is deducted by Managed Investments. At the time the fee is deducted from the account, BFE will send a separate notification



to the client reflecting the amount of the fee. The client should verify the fee using information the client receives from the party that holds the asset and, if there are questions, present them to his or her financial advisor.

Clients who join the program mid-quarter will be assessed a prorated fee for the quarter in which they joined. New accounts will be billed from the date the account is opened through the end of the current quarter. The initial fee will be charged at the account opening, paying fees in advance thru the end of the quarter.

In the event the account is terminated mid-quarter, BFE will refund the prorated portion of the client's prepaid fees upon termination of the client advisory agreement; however, if an advisory wrap account is terminated within the first 12 months, BFE reserves the right to refund the client's prepaid fees to BFE less any reasonable expenses associated with opening, positioning, maintaining and terminating the account.

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***Financial  
Planning Fees***

The method by which BFE will be compensated for preparing a financial plan varies based on the needs of the client and the nature of planning activity that is contemplated, and may be based on a flat fee or hourly rate. For a typical financial plan, individual financial advisors may charge a flat fee as agreed upon by the financial advisor and the client, or an hourly rate of \$300. The flat fee and hourly rate are fully negotiable, taking into consideration a variety of factors, including the anticipated complexity (or simplicity) of the plan; other holdings and accounts maintained by the client; prospective future business anticipated with BFE; the totality of other relationships with the client (e.g., family members, business accounts, etc.); or other factors that may be pertinent in given cases. For any fee agreement that is in excess of \$10,000 (whether by flat fee or hourly rate), the financial advisor must receive approval for such fee by the Manager of Wealth Planning Strategies. The Manager of Wealth Planning Strategies shall review the fee proposal, the overall client situation and the contemplated deliverable plan to assess the reasonableness of the proposed fee.

If a flat fee is to be paid, the client will be charged in full in advance. If an hourly rate is to be paid, the financial advisor will estimate the number of hours to complete the plan and the client will be charged 50% of the estimated fee in advance. Upon completion and delivery of the plan, the remaining balance will be charged. Payment may be made by writing a check payable to Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. or by authorizing a deduction from a BFE account.

If a client elects to terminate the financial planning relationship prior to completion of the plan, the client will receive a refund of the amount paid, less any time expended by BFE at an hourly rate of \$300.

Financial plans are considered final when delivered, and the formal financial planning relationship is concluded at that time. If a client wishes for an update or reassessment of the plan to be prepared, BFE and the client would generally enter into a new financial planning arrangement.

The BFE financial planning program does not cover the implementation of any financial plan recommendations. A client who wishes to implement the recommendations made in a financial plan may do so through BFE or with other brokers, agents or investment advisers that are not affiliated with us. Should a client desire to implement the financial plan through BFE, the client will pay any applicable charges, including commissions and/or fees, depending on the nature of the account, and as described elsewhere in this document.

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***Retirement Planning  
and Investment  
Management  
Consulting Services***

Fees for Retirement Planning Consulting and, Investment Management Consulting services, are generally charged quarterly, in advance, based on a percentage of assets under management as valued at the end of the calendar quarter. The value of assets under management will ordinarily be determined by reference to the custodian's valuation. If the services agreement is terminated on a date other than the last day of the calendar quarter, BFE will normally be entitled to a pro rata share of fees based on the actual number of days of the then-current calendar quarter ending on the termination date divided by the total number of days in the calendar quarter. The fee is non-standardized, fully negotiable, and will depend on the number, types, frequency and duration of services provided. Payment terms are also fully negotiable. If limited, one-time services are desired, BFE is willing to negotiate a fixed fee based on the scope of services to be provided.

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***Plan Participant  
Consulting Services***

For one-time Plan Participant Consulting Services, Client will be charged a one-time fee, subject to a minimum dollar charge of \$200. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the fee shall not exceed 1% of the Client's Plan value. This fee will be based on the value stated on the Client's most current statement. The fee is due at the time of the agreement. Services will not be provided until payment is made. The agreement will terminate upon completion of the agreed-upon services.

For ongoing Plan Participant Consulting Services, Client will be charged an annual flat fee or an annual fee based on the total value of the Client's Plan, subject to a minimum dollar charge of \$200. Notwithstanding

the foregoing, the fee shall not exceed 1% of the Client's Plan value. This initial fee will be based on the value stated on the Client's most current statement. The initial fee is due at the time of the agreement and will be pro-rated for the remainder of the calendar year. Services will not be provided until initial payment is made. For subsequent years, the annual fee will be based off of year-end statements to be provided by the client each year. Client will be charged annually in January for services to be provided in that calendar year. Services will cease if payment not received. If account is terminated mid-year, the consideration of a rebate of fees will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis based on the services already provided in that year.

## Compensation

The following details the portion of the fee that is paid to the portfolio manager of each program:

**Benjamin F. Edwards Mutual Fund Portfolios** Portfolio manager is not paid a portion of the advisory fee, but instead are salaried employees of BFE.

**Russell Model Strategies** Russell Investments does not receive a portion of the advisory fees, but instead is compensated via the internal expenses of the mutual funds held.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Exchange Traded Fund Portfolios** Confluence Investment Management is paid 0.25% of assets managed (built into the advisory fee), Laffer is paid 0.30%, Morningstar is paid 0.25% for the ETF Asset Allocation and Contrarian models and 0.20% for the Strategic Ibbotson models. For the BFE ETF Portfolios, the portfolio manager is not paid a portion of the advisory fee, but instead are salaried employees of BFE.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios** The financial advisor is paid as described in the following paragraph.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios** The financial advisor is paid as described in following paragraph.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios** The financial advisor is paid as described in following paragraph.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered)** Manager fees vary, but range from 0.25% of assets managed (built into the advisory fee) to 0.65% of assets managed (built into the advisory fee).

**Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Non-Covered)** Manager fees vary, but range from 0.14% to 1.25% of assets under management and are paid in addition to the advisory fee.

**Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios** Lockwood is paid a percentage of assets under management per the following fee schedule (built into the advisory fee):

<b>First \$500,000</b> .....	0.40%
<b>Next \$500,000</b> .....	0.35%
<b>Next \$4,000,000</b> .....	0.30%
<b>Next \$5,000,000</b> .....	0.25%
<b>Over \$10,000,000</b> .....	0.20%

**Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios** Lockwood is paid a percentage of assets under management per the following fee schedule (built into the advisory fee):

<b>First \$500,000</b> .....	0.75%
<b>Next \$500,000</b> .....	0.55%
<b>Next \$4,000,000</b> .....	0.40%
<b>Next \$5,000,000</b> .....	0.35%
<b>Over \$10,000,000</b> .....	0.30%

In most cases, financial advisors of BFE will receive a maximum of 50% of the wrap fees paid by advisory clients to compensate them for services which may include solicitation, shareholder support, advice, order placement and execution, and other services. However, some new financial advisors who transfer to BFE from another `securities firm may temporarily receive a higher payout percentage, typically 80% but, in isolated cases, potentially up to 100%, to compensate them for income disruptions that they may experience during the first year following their transition to BFE. Financial advisors may be eligible for cash and non-cash compensation including bonuses, recognition trips, and other benefits. Some of these programs may be financed in whole or in part by unaffiliated third parties, including representatives of mutual funds or distributors, which may influence some representatives to favor those funds. The compensation received for a particular advisory portfolio program may be more than what the financial advisor would receive if the client participated in other BFE advisory portfolio programs or paid separately for investment advice, brokerage, and other services, and hence, may influence the recommendation of



a particular advisory portfolio program over other programs or services.

Please see the “Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations” section below for information concerning receipt of compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products.

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

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

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Not applicable; none of BFE’s supervised persons accept performance-based fees.

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

### Types of Clients

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BFE provides advice to a wide variety of clients including but not limited to:

- Individuals
- Pension and profit sharing plans
- Trusts, estates and charitable organizations
- Corporations and other business entities
- Public entities and other governmental organizations
- Educational institutions
- Investment clubs
- Foundations and other charitable or fraternal organizations

The minimum account size for each wrap fee program is as follows:

**Benjamin F. Edwards Mutual Fund Portfolios** \$50,000

**Russell Model Strategies** \$50,000

**Benjamin F. Edwards Exchange Traded Fund Portfolios** \$50,000 for Confluence, Laffer and Morningstar models. \$5,000 for BFE models.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios** \$50,000

**Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios** \$50,000

**Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios** \$50,000

**Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered and Non-Covered)** Varies by manager but most commonly is \$100,000

**Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios** \$50,000

**Lockwood Investment Strategies** \$250,000

**Investment Management Consulting (with Execution)** \$100,000

Please note that with respect to “minimum account size” BFE may, under appropriate circumstances, consider permitting accounts having asset values lower than the indicated minimum account size to participate in the programs. Such circumstances might include, but are not limited to, whether the account is a transfer account, the totality of the relationship with other client accounts, effects of market activity, and anticipated future business.

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

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

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A variety of methods of analysis and investment strategies are utilized by affiliated and non-affiliated portfolio managers in the BFE sponsored advisory programs. BFE’s advisory programs employ several methods of analysis, including but not limited to charting, fundamental analysis of a company’s financials and technical analysis

of market activity. Within each method of analysis, portfolio managers may employ a variety of time-horizon outlooks, including long-term strategic, intermediate cyclical or short-term tactical.

Regardless of the method of analysis and investment strategy, the investment advisory programs involve investing in securities which contain a risk of loss of principal that the client should be prepared to bear. All securities are subject to risk, and there is no assurance that any investment program or strategy will be successful.

In addition to the risks associated with investing in securities, no method of analysis will always yield positive results. For example, while fundamental analysis might indicate that a particular company is “fairly valued,” market sentiment may nevertheless result in unexpected investment performance. Similarly, while technical analysis or charting might suggest that a particular company presents a good buying opportunity, its financial performance might cause investors to view the security differently. Depending on the portfolio manager, adherents to each method of analysis may look only to the information relevant to his or her method of analysis, to the exclusion of other information.

Investment strategies that employ diversified models may involve investing in multiple market sectors or asset classes. This diversified approach to investing has the potential to take advantage of the fact that different sectors or asset classes often perform in different ways at different times. This characteristic may yield either positive or negative results, depending on particular market conditions, or the overall breadth of the market’s impact on multiple asset classes or sectors.

In addition, some particular investment styles focus on particular market sectors or classes of securities and carry additional risks. Even models that are more broadly diversified in their exposure to particular market sectors or asset classes are exposed to the underlying risks associated with those sectors or classes. For example, investors should be aware of the following:

- Equity strategies, including investing in individual companies, equity mutual funds or ETFs, involve investments in common stocks and are subject to the volatility and individual risks associated with those stocks;
- Real estate investment trusts or funds are subject to risks of the specific commercial or housing market in which the assets are invested, as well as interest rate risk;
- Small Cap and Emerging Market securities tend to be more volatile relative to the overall market;
- Bonds may “guarantee” return of principal if held to maturity, but any guarantee remains subject to the credit worthiness of the guarantor and, prior to maturity, the bond remains subject to interest rate, inflation and credit risks;
- Bond funds of all types are subject to the various risks of the underlying fixed income instruments in the fund, and there is no fixed maturity date;
- High Yield bonds expose the investor to investments in lower credit quality securities, and hence, risk of default and higher volatility;
- Tax-Exempt bonds may or may not provide returns higher than the after-tax returns of taxable bonds, so investors should consider their tax bracket and state of residence;
- International/Global/Foreign securities expose the investor to currency risk and political, social and economic risks of the countries in which the securities are domiciled, in addition to the equity or debt nature of the securities involved.
- Options strategies introduce additional elements of complexity regarding timing of market decisions and liquidity of positions. Investors considering programs that involve the use of options should carefully review and understand the Options Disclosure Document (“Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options”) prepared by the Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE), which will be provided by BFE.
- The alternative investment asset class broadly includes vehicles such as derivatives, hedge funds, currencies, managed futures, commodities, private equity, multi-strategy funds, and strategies that seek to take advantage of interest rate movements, currency carry, merger arbitrage, convertible arbitrage, short-sales, use of leverage, and other techniques. Alternative investment vehicles and strategies may be used by certain investment company portfolio managers (including open- and closed-end funds, ETFs, and UITs). Those vehicles and strategies vary widely and can directly or indirectly subject investors to a variety of risks including, but not limited to, market risk, interest rate risk, credit and counterparty risk, liquidity risk, and foreign-currency exchange-rate risk among others, depending on the investment.
- Exchange Traded Funds and Notes (ETF/Ns) are typically designed to track the performance (and sometimes

the inverse) of a benchmark index or commodity, sometimes with leverage. ETF/Ns are subject to tracking error risk (meaning performance that varies in amount and possibly direction from the target benchmark index or commodity) and liquidity risk, in addition to the risks associated with the benchmarked products.

It is not possible to enumerate all possible risks associated with each of the asset classes and market sectors listed above. Clients should feel free to ask their financial advisor to discuss any of these in more detail. In addition, clients should refer to the investment advisory disclosure brochure prepared by specific third party money managers under consideration for a detailed explanation of the nature and risks of the program being evaluated, including the use of any of the asset classes and market sectors above.

Some models are based on use of mutual funds and/or Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). These financial instruments are securities that are sold by prospectus. While particular funds in the advisory programs may be selected by the portfolio manager, investors should read the prospectus, and summary prospectus if available, carefully to fully understand the various risks, investment objectives, charges/expenses and other information about the fund company associated with the investment.

Participants in BFE's wrap-fee advisory programs do not pay additional charges based on the frequency of trading in their account. However, it should be understood that higher-frequency trading strategies may increase the likelihood that tax consequences may be short-term in nature, and result in a higher tax cost and hence, lower net performance.

## **ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure Disciplinary Information**

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BFE does not have any legal or disciplinary events to report.

## **ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

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In addition to being a Registered Investment Adviser, BFE is engaged in a variety of investment-related business activities. BFE is registered as a broker-dealer and its management persons are registered representatives of the broker-dealer. In addition, BFE is also a member of the National Futures Association as a Guaranteed Introducing Broker (GIB) and some of its management persons are associated persons of the GIB. BFE is also licensed as an insurance agency and sells a wide variety of insurance products.

Implementation and execution of transactions in advisory programs are conducted by BFE as an introducing firm on a fully disclosed basis through its clearing firm, Pershing, LLC, although money managers associated with three investment advisory programs (Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered); Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Non-Covered); and Lockwood Investment Strategies) have the option of executing transactions away from Pershing if they believe it is in the client's best interests to do so.

As is the case with all of the firm's service providers, BFE pays its clearing firm, Pershing, LLC, for the various services they provide, including but not limited to execution, clearing, custody and other services based on a negotiated fee schedule. It should be noted that BFE previously has received cash incentive payments from its clearing firm, some of which were contingent upon BFE generating minimum levels of assets or revenue over mutually agreed upon time periods. Going forward, Pershing has agreed to reimburse BFE for some of the infrastructure and operational expenses associated with growing its brokerage and investment advisory asset base. The current arrangement is anticipated to continue at least through December 2022, although the agreement may be periodically revisited in the intervening time based on mutual agreement of the parties. These arrangements create an incentive for BFE to place clients in brokerage or investment advisory programs or to engage in other activity that may, by operation of the negotiated fee schedule, be more profitable to the firm.

The advisory fees do not include certain internal expenses charged by products such as mutual funds or other products. Some of these expenses, such as investment management fees, are retained by product issuers or their affiliates. Some of these fees, such as fees related to marketing and distribution of the products (sometimes referred to as "Rule 12b 1 fees"), service fees related to personal services for investors and/or the maintenance of

shareholder accounts, and other shareholder servicing fees, are shared with Pershing and/or BFE. Such fees are typically charged as a percentage of the asset value under management.

BFE receives payments related to the shared fees described above either directly from mutual fund companies, product vendors or related parties, or indirectly from multi-product platforms that receive payments directly from fund companies, product vendors or related parties. Currently, BFE receives this type of indirect payment through participation in the FundVest® platform of its clearing firm, Pershing LLC.

BFE uses the FundVest® platform for the significant operational efficiencies the platform provides to BFE's investment advisory programs. Funds carried on the FundVest® platform constitute the primary (though not exclusive) universe of mutual funds used in BFE's Mutual Fund Portfolios, Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios, Client Portfolios and Private Portfolios investment advisory programs. Additionally, BFE's investment advisory program includes model mutual fund portfolios developed by Russell Funds, which also participates in the FundVest® platform. Furthermore, research and product support from Pershing is available on some of the FundVest funds. The availability of supplemental research and product support can make it more desirable for BFE or its financial advisors to employ those products in investment advisory or other programs.

It is important to note, however, that BFE does not treat the universe of funds on the FundVest® platform as constituting a "preferred list" or "recommended list" in the sense that products carried on that platform are necessarily "better" than other products that might be available off-platform. Exceptions for use of non-FundVest® investments in BFE investment advisory accounts may be made.

BFE or its financial advisors will select product share classes for use in advisory programs based on a variety of factors, including the availability of a particular share class on the FundVest platform, the amount of internal expenses that are charged, minimum purchase requirements that may be imposed by the product sponsor, whether the product sponsor permits the product to be used in advisory accounts or to be sold at Net Asset Value, and other considerations. As a result, BFE will not always use a product's lowest cost share class within an advisory program.

BFE may receive marketing support payments (sometimes referred to as revenue sharing or by similar terms) from a fund's investment adviser or other fund affiliate, as well as from insurance company product vendors, third party money managers, and other product-, platform- or service-providers. Such payments are made for the purpose of compensating BFE for its marketing and educational efforts associated with sales of the product. Such payments are typically paid as a percentage of the product's assets under management and/or as a percentage of the amount of purchase with BFE or may be paid in lump sum amounts as reimbursement for expenses associated with particular events such as motivational, training or education symposia for financial advisors or clients, as well as other events presented by BFE. BFE does not receive such payments in connection with all funds, products, or providers. For any advisory account where the FA has discretion, specifically Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios and Private Portfolios accounts, 3rd party compensation will be eliminated beginning June 9, 2017. Any 3rd party compensation received for retirement accounts will be eliminated under BFEC's level fee fiduciary approach for all advisory programs beginning in January 2018. In the meantime, any payment received is subject to the Best interest Standard as defined by the DOL Fiduciary Rule.

BFE does not sell insurance products as part of its advisory wrap account programs.

BFE offers the Deutsche Bank Insured Deposit Program, a sweep option that is intended for the investment of available cash balances into interest bearing bank deposit accounts. BFE, Pershing, and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas earn fees based on the amount in the program, including client deposits. BFE may earn a higher fee if clients participate in the program than if they invest in other money market products, such as money market mutual funds. The "Insured Bank Deposits Disclosure Terms and Conditions" may be obtained from a BFE Financial Advisor for additional information on this program.

It should also be noted that some product vendors, money managers, or service providers may make nominal gifts or provide business entertainment, such as meals or tickets to theatrical, sporting or other events, to BFE or its employees.

To the extent BFE receives any of the payments described above, it may have an incentive to recommend or sell those products over products that do not make such payments, or which pay less than other products, rather than based on clients' needs. BFE financial advisors do not receive compensation in connection with such payments for advisory wrap accounts. The conflicts and potential conflicts of interest presented by the foregoing arrangements are disclosed in BFE's investment advisory disclosure documents, and also on the firm's public website ([www.benjaminfedwards.com](http://www.benjaminfedwards.com), see "Important Disclosures").

With respect to the Lockwood Investment Strategies and Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios programs,

Lockwood will pay BFE a sponsor fee from the amounts charged to the client for participation in such programs. Financial advisors do not receive payments in connection with such sponsor fee.

With respect to Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered), the client will pay a single fee that covers charges from Lockwood, its clearing agents and the third-party money manager. Third-party money managers may have provisions in their agreements with BFE pursuant to which the amount that is billed to BFE is reduced based on the accumulation of all of its clients' assets under management with the firm. If a third-party money manager reduces its fee under such circumstances, the client will continue to pay the original fee, and BFE will retain the difference.

BFE may have a separate brokerage relationship with persons who are also investment advisory clients of BFE. As an investment adviser, BFE owes a heightened standard of fiduciary care when providing investment advice to the client than when acting as a broker-dealer. During the course of a brokerage relationship, the broker-dealer may act as principal or agent when effecting transactions with clients and may receive compensation in connection with such transactions. Brokerage and investment advisory accounts are not commingled; transactions in both brokerage and advisory accounts are disclosed or reported to the client.

A conflict of interest arises where BFE would receive both commissions and fees in situations where brokerage and advisory services are provided. It is BFE's policy, subject to certain exceptions, to refund commissions on transactions executed within a brokerage account that may have been more appropriately completed in an advisory account where no commission would be charged. In the case of securities sold by prospectus, BFE will reduce the amount of the advisory fee to account for the sales charge previously paid.

As a client of Benjamin F. Edwards & Co., you may choose to obtain a non-purpose loan from Pershing LLC which requires the opening of a Loan Advance Account, a brokerage account. You may choose to use the assets in either an existing Benjamin F. Edwards brokerage or advisory account(s) as collateral for that loan.

Unlike a traditional margin account, these borrowed funds cannot be used to purchase additional securities. If you decide to enter into loan arrangement with Pershing, you should carefully consider the following:

- You are borrowing money that will have to be repaid to Pershing.
- Pledge arrangements are only available for non-qualified accounts.
- You, as the borrower, are using the cash and securities that you own in the account as collateral.
- You will be charged an interest rate that is subject to change.
- Pershing can force the sale of securities or other assets in the pledged account at any time and without notice to cover any deficiency in the value of the securities pledged for the loan. Pershing, or the portfolio manager, in the case of an advisory account, can decide which securities to sell without consulting you.
- BFE has a conflict of interest when you obtain a loan from Pershing. This conflict occurs because BFE will receive a portion of the interest charged on the loan. BFE reduces this conflict by reviewing the borrower's accounts to determine whether or not the Loan Advance is appropriate and in line with the borrower's goals and objectives.
- Pershing is responsible for reviewing the loan application and any other documents that Pershing may require to obtain the loan. Pershing, in its sole discretion, will determine the credit worthiness of the applicant, including the amount of the loan.
- Prior to establishing a loan with Pershing, you should carefully review the Interest Rate Acknowledgement and Control Stock Disclosure provided by Pershing, the BFE Interest Rate Disclosure Addendum which will contain details regarding the interest charged and the portion of the interest that BFE receives, the loan application, and any other forms required by Pershing in order to process your loan.

BFE employees, including access persons, may participate in any of the advisory programs offered by BFE and may thus own the same securities owned by advisory clients. In addition, BFE employees, including financial advisors who are advising clients in the Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios Program and the Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios Program, may engage in transactions alongside clients, including purchasing securities that they are advising clients to sell, and selling securities that they are advising clients to purchase. In most cases, such "contrary" transactions are limited to special circumstances, such as to pay for educational, medical or unanticipated significant expenses; however, the firm may permit other transactions.

A sales representative of Anchor Capital Advisors, one of the third-party money managers that is available for clients to select in the Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered) program, has made a private investment in the equity securities of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., the holding company of BFE. This individual is not an employee



of, and will have no managerial or decision-making role with, BFE or its affiliates. As part of her professional responsibilities, however, it is anticipated that she will meet with employees of BFE to promote the services and benefits available by placing investment assets under the management of Anchor Capital Advisors. This individual receives compensation from Anchor Capital Advisors that is based, at least in part, on money management fees paid to Anchor Capital Advisors arising from investments that occur within her sales region through firms such as BFE. Because of this individual's ownership interest in, and her professional duties involving sales services to, BFE, a conflict of interest could potentially arise particularly if both firms were to negotiate asset management fees payable to Anchor Capital Advisors that are more favorable than what might otherwise be paid by firms similarly situated with BFE, or if BFE were to determine to include or retain Anchor Capital Advisors on the firm's Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered) program under circumstances wherein other money management firms would not be permitted to be included or to remain.

This individual will have no role in negotiating asset management fees payable by BFE to Anchor Capital Advisors. Further, BFE and its representatives will not receive any additional or different sales compensation in connection with recommendations to clients concerning Anchor Capital Advisors versus any other money manager under comparable circumstances. In addition, Anchor Capital Advisors and its sales representative will not receive any additional or different compensation in connection with client investments placed with Anchor Capital Advisors through BFE versus those of any other investment firm similarly situated.

An individual who is the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer for Confluence Investment Management LLC, who offers various investment company products that can be purchased through BFE, is one of the third-party money managers that is available for clients to select in the Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered & Non-Covered) program and a model provider for the Exchange Traded Fund Portfolios program, is a member of the board of directors and has made a private investment in the equity securities of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., the holding company of BFE.

This individual is not an employee of, and will have no day to day managerial or decision-making role with BFE or its affiliates; however, as a member of the board of directors, he will be involved in the development of strategy, policy and other important matters affecting Benjamin Edwards, Inc., including its affiliates. As part of his professional responsibilities with Confluence Investment Management LLC, he is involved in making investment decisions concerning portfolios of individual clients. BFE and its representatives do not receive any additional or different sales compensation in connection with recommendations to clients concerning Confluence Investment Management LLC versus any other money manager under comparable circumstances. In addition, Confluence Investment Management LLC and its CEO/CIO do not receive any additional or different compensation in connection with client investments placed with Confluence Investment Management LLC through BFE versus those of any other investment firm similarly situated. However, the CEO/CIO is compensated for his service as a board member of Benjamin Edwards, Inc. on the same terms as other board members.

In addition, a portfolio manager for Confluence Investment Management LLC is a beneficial owner of a trust that owns equity securities of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., the holding company of BFE. This individual is not an employee of, and will have no managerial or decision-making role with, BFE or its affiliates. As part of his professional responsibilities, however, he is involved in making investment decisions concerning portfolios of individual clients.

BFE and its representatives do not receive any additional or different sales compensation in connection with recommendations to clients concerning Confluence Investment Management LLC versus any other money manager under comparable circumstances. In addition, Confluence Investment Management LLC and its portfolio manager do not receive any additional or different compensation in connection with client investments placed with Confluence Investment Management LLC through BFE versus those of any other investment firm similarly situated.

A portfolio manager at Franklin Templeton, one of the mutual fund families utilized in the Mutual Funds Portfolios program, and one of the third-party money managers that is available for clients to select in the Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered) program, has made a private investment in the equity securities of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., the holding company of BFE. This individual is not an employee of, and will have no managerial or decision-making role with, BFE or its affiliates. As part of his professional responsibilities, however, he is involved in making investment decisions within a mutual fund that is available to and may be held by advisory clients.

This individual is a trustee and the chairman of a number of Franklin Templeton funds in which participants in certain BFE advisory programs invest from time to time. He will have no role in negotiating asset management fees payable by BFE to Franklin Templeton, and has no direct sales responsibilities with respect to BFE or its

affiliates. Further, BFE and its representatives will not receive any additional or different sales compensation in connection with recommendations to clients concerning Franklin Templeton versus any other fund company or money manager under comparable circumstances. It should be noted however that BFE will receive marketing support payments based on a percentage of assets under management see above for more information concerning such payments.

Any potential conflict regarding Franklin Templeton's status on the Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered) program or in the Mutual Fund Portfolios will be resolved by following the same evaluation, criteria and investment committee process used to evaluate other mutual funds and money managers.

A Regional Director of Russell Investments, the mutual fund family utilized in the Russell Model Strategies program and an investment that is available in other BFE advisory programs, has made a private investment in the equity securities of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., the holding company of BFE. This individual is not an employee of, and will have no managerial or decision-making role with, BFE or its affiliates. As part of his professional responsibilities, however, it is anticipated that he will meet with employees of BFE to promote the services and benefits available by investing in Russell Investments' funds. This individual receives compensation from Russell Investments that is based, at least in part, on money management fees paid to Russell Investments arising from investments that occur within his sales region through firms such as BFE.

Because of this individual's ownership interest in, and his professional duties involving sales services to, BFE, a conflict of interest could potentially arise particularly if his investment were to influence the negotiation or payment of revenue sharing or similar compensation arrangements between Russell Investments and BFE, or if BFE were to determine to retain the Russell Model Strategies program under circumstances when it might otherwise not be permitted to continue.

This individual has had no role in negotiating revenue sharing or similar compensation arrangements nor had any substantive role in BFE's decision to develop and continue the Russell Model Strategies program. Further, BFE and its representatives will not receive any additional or different sales compensation in connection with programs that engage in transactions in Russell funds versus programs that do not. In addition, Russell Investments and its sales representative will not receive any additional or different compensation in connection with client investments placed through BFE versus those of any other investment firm similarly situated.

Both the President and the Chairman of TowerHill Wealth Management have made a private investment in the equity securities of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., the holding company of BFE. These individuals are not employees of, and will have no managerial or decision-making role with, BFE or its affiliates. As part of their professional responsibilities, however, it is anticipated that they will meet with employees of BFE to promote the services and benefits available by placing investment assets under the management of TowerHill. These individuals are not directly compensated based on sales at BFE; however sales at BFE will affect the profitability of TowerHill and hence will benefit them. It is possible that the TowerHill Long/Short Equity Fund will be purchased in accounts that participate in the Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios and Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios programs. The Generation Series of TowerHill Long/Short Equity Fund is made available to Benjamin F. Edwards clients exclusively and these individuals are responsible in part for setting the fees of the fund.

The Manager of Advisory Services and the Director of Sales & Marketing receive compensation as Investment Adviser Representatives for some clients.

The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer (CEO/CIO) of ACR Alpine Capital Research, LLC ("ACR"), and one of the third-party money managers that is available for clients to select in the Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered) program, controls Alpine Partners Management, LLC, the General Partner of a pooled investment fund which has made a private investment in the equity securities of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., the holding company of BFE. The fund that invested in the securities is not currently offered to BFE's clients. Additionally, ACR offers open end mutual funds which may be utilized in some of our advisory programs.

The CEO/CIO is not an employee of, and will have no managerial or decision-making role with, BFE or its affiliates. As part of his professional responsibilities, however, it is anticipated that he will meet with employees of BFE to promote the services and benefits available by placing investment assets under the management of ACR through the Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered) program.

The CEO/CIO receives compensation from ACR that is based, at least in part, on money management fees, which he helps to negotiate and that are paid to ACR arising from investments through firms such as BFE. Because of his indirect interest in, and because his professional duties involving the management of assets in which BFE's clients invest, a conflict of interest could potentially arise particularly if both firms were to negotiate asset management fees payable to ACR that are more favorable than what might otherwise be paid by firms similarly

situated with BFE, or if BFE were to determine to include or retain ACR on the firm's Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered) program under circumstances wherein other money management firms would not be permitted to be included or to remain.

BFE and its representatives will not receive any additional or different sales compensation in connection with recommendations to clients concerning ACR versus any other money manager under comparable circumstances. In addition, ACR and the investment fund manager will not receive any additional or different compensation in connection with client investments placed with ACR through BFE versus those of any other investment firm similarly situated.

A Sr. Regional Marketing Director of Putnam Investments, a mutual fund family utilized in the Mutual Fund Portfolios program and an investment that is available in other BFE advisory programs, has made a private investment in the equity securities of Benjamin Edwards, Inc., the holding company of BFE. This individual is not an employee of, and will have no managerial or decision-making role with, BFE or its affiliates. As part of his professional responsibilities, however, it is anticipated that he will meet with employees of BFE to promote the services and benefits available by investing in Putnam Investments' funds. This individual receives compensation from Putnam Investments that is based, at least in part, on money management fees paid to Putnam Investments arising from investments that occur within his sales region through firms such as BFE.

Because of this individual's ownership interest in, and his professional duties involving sales services to, BFE, a conflict of interest could potentially arise particularly if his investment were to influence the negotiation or payment of revenue sharing or similar compensation arrangements between Putnam Investments and BFE, or if BFE were to determine to retain the Putnam funds in the Mutual Fund Portfolios program under circumstances when it might otherwise not be permitted to continue.

This individual has had no role in negotiating revenue sharing or similar compensation arrangements nor had any substantive role in BFE's decision to utilize Putnam funds in the Mutual Fund Portfolios program. Further, BFE and its representatives will not receive any additional or different sales compensation in connection with programs that engage in transactions in Putnam funds versus programs that do not. In addition, Putnam Investments and its sales representative will not receive any additional or different compensation in connection with client investments placed through BFE versus those of any other investment firm similarly situated.

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

**Code of Ethics** BFE has adopted an ethics policy that applies to all supervised persons of BFE with the exception of items specifically identified as being applicable only to access persons. All employees, officers and directors of BFE (or any person performing similar functions) are subject to BFE's supervision and control and are considered Supervised Persons. This includes registered and non-registered persons, but does not include independent contractors. Certain categories of associated persons are considered under the policy to be "access persons" within the meaning of Rule 204A-1 of the Investment Adviser's Act of 1940.

The policy requires all supervised persons of BFE to conduct themselves according to the highest ethical standards, in accordance with the firm's culture and in accordance with the standard of care that we owe to our clients. The policy further requires all supervised persons of the firm to adhere to applicable securities laws, regulations and rules. The policy further requires all supervised persons to be vigilant with respect to any actual or potential conflict of interest that could affect one's judgment or decision-making.

All supervised persons are required to maintain their securities accounts at BFE, unless an exception is specifically approved in writing. In addition, no access person is permitted to invest in any private placement or initial public offering (IPO) unless an exception is specifically approved in writing in advance. Access persons also are required to periodically disclose all securities accounts and holdings other than with respect to accounts held at BFE. Access persons are further required to periodically disclose all securities transactions other than with respect to accounts held at BFE. Access persons are further required to provide a consolidated annual holdings report of all securities accounts, including those held at BFE. Supervised persons are permitted to participate in the same advisory programs that are offered to public clients on the same terms.

It should be noted that access persons servicing clients who are participating in the Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios program or the Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios program may engage in equity or fixed income transactions contrary to those of their clients on the same trading day (e.g., may sell a stock that is being purchased for clients). In such situations, a conflict of interest could arise if a financial advisor engages in transactions on behalf of clients that would benefit the financial advisor, such as when he or she might purchase a large quantity of securities for clients, potentially causing the price of those securities to increase, and then sells his or her own securities. BFE addresses this situation by limiting such transactions to situations involving unanticipated extraordinary expenses, transactions necessary to fund large purchases (such as a car or home), or



purchase transactions contrary to unsolicited client sell orders. In appropriate circumstances, the firm may approve other contrary transactions upon individual review.

In addition, a financial advisor servicing clients who are participating in the Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios program or the Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios program may engage in equity or fixed income transactions that they simultaneously or subsequently recommend to clients (i.e., may purchase or sell a stock at the same time a client is purchasing or selling). In such situations, the larger quantity of securities being purchased or sold could impact on the price clients receive. Depending on market conditions, this could have either a positive or negative impact. BFE addresses this situation by generally requiring a financial advisor to not receive a better price than any solicited client trades on the same trading day. In appropriate circumstances, BFE may approve exceptions upon individual review.

**Review and Oversight of Securities Holdings** and Transactions Accounts, holdings and transactions are required to be supervised by the access persons' immediate supervisory principal. Oversight of such reviews is to be conducted by Compliance.

**Requirement to Report Violations of Ethics Policy** All supervised persons are required to report violations of the ethics policy to their immediate supervisor or the Compliance Department. If a report is made to an immediate supervisor or Compliance Department personnel other than the Chief Compliance Officer, the person receiving the report must ensure the violation is brought to the attention of the Chief Compliance Officer.

**Provision of Policy to Supervised Persons; Requirement to Certify Receipt of Ethics Policy:** The ethics policy, as well as any amendments or updates, must be provided to all supervised persons, who must attest having received it. Periodic re-certification may be required by the Compliance Department with respect to receiving any amendments of the policy.

A copy of BFE's Code of Ethics will be provided to the client or prospective client upon request.

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure Brokerage Practices

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As noted previously above, Benjamin F. Edwards & Company (BFE) is a registered investment adviser and a broker-dealer. BFE introduces all of its equity orders to its clearing firm, Pershing LLC, subject to Pershing's duty of best execution; however, money managers associated with three investment advisory programs (Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered); Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Non-Covered); and Lockwood Investment Strategies) have the option of executing transactions away from Pershing if they believe it is in the client's best interests to do so. BFE may execute fixed income transactions directly with firms other than Pershing, although Pershing will clear, settle and report those trades, as applicable, on BFE's behalf.

BFE receives no soft-dollar compensation, and all transaction costs are included as part of the client's wrap fee.

No client referrals are received as a result of selecting or recommending a broker-dealer.

Under normal circumstances, purchase or sale orders of the same security being traded at the same time for more than one discretionary account will be combined by the portfolio manager for the accounts involved. Orders will normally not be combined for transactions involving nondiscretionary accounts.

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure Review of Accounts

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At account opening, client documents are reviewed for consistency, suitability criteria and model selection. Supported by the Home Office, approval of account openings are performed by the Branch Office Manager or an appropriately designated sales principal.

At least annually, the Branch Office Manager, or the Branch Manager Review Administrator in the case where the Branch Manager is the financial advisor, will ensure that the financial advisor conducts a review of the client's overall progress with respect to the account. During these reviews, the client's general financial circumstances and

desire for any reasonable investment restrictions will be assessed, and recommendations as to adjustments to the client's investment strategy will be made as necessary.

The frequency and depth of additional reviews depend upon the program; details for each program are as follows:

**Benjamin F. Edwards Mutual Fund Portfolios** Rebalancing will be implemented by the Managed Investments division of Pershing ("Managed Investments") in accordance with a servicing agreement with BFE. The account will be rebalanced to more closely align with the model's target asset and fund allocation percentages on a periodic basis selected by the client in the advisory agreement. The default will be semi-annually, but annually is also an option. In addition, the account will be rebalanced when deposits and withdrawals occur. Trades will be done if the trade amount of the security is not less than five basis points times the size of the account.

Quarterly, the performance of the mutual funds used in the models will be reviewed by BFE's Manager of Advisory Services or delegate to ensure continued adherence to BFE's qualitative standards. In addition, a review will be conducted as needed by BFE based on potentially significant developments that may affect the operations or management of the fund (e.g., change of fund manager, corporate reorganizations, etc.). Adjustments will be made as needed to individual accounts based on the outcomes of the reviews.

**Russell Model Strategies** Rebalancing will be implemented by Managed Investments in accordance with a servicing agreement with BFE. The account will be rebalanced to more closely align with the model's target asset and fund allocation percentages on a periodic basis selected by the client in the advisory agreement. The default will be semi-annually, but annually is also an option. In addition, the account will be rebalanced when deposits and withdrawals occur. Trades will be done if the trade amount of the security is not less than five basis points times the size of the account.

The models for the Russell Model Strategies are implemented per the recommendations of Russell Investments. Quarterly, the performance of the Russell Model Strategies will be reviewed by BFE's Manager of Advisory Services or delegate to ensure continued adherence to BFE's qualitative standards.

Russell will monitor the allocations and funds used in the models. BFE will be notified of any changes to the model strategies. Adjustments will be made as needed to individual accounts based on the changes to the models.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Exchange Traded Fund Portfolios** The BFE ETF Portfolios are managed internally by BFE employees. An annual review of the strategic asset allocation and the securities used in the models will be performed. The accounts will be rebalanced annually in accordance with this review. The other models in this program are provided by Laffer, Confluence and Morningstar. Quarterly, the performance of Laffer, Confluence and Morningstar will be reviewed by BFE's Manager of Advisory Services or delegate to ensure continued adherence to BFE's qualitative standards.

Confluence will review the allocations and ETFs used in their models on a quarterly basis. Laffer reviews the allocations and ETFs used in their models on an ongoing basis. Morningstar will review the allocations and ETFs used in the Strategic Ibbotson and Contrarian models on an annual basis and the Morningstar ETF Asset Allocation models on an ongoing basis. BFE will be notified of any changes to the model strategies. Rebalancing may occur as needed to individual accounts based on the changes to and the strategy for the models, taking into account advice received from the model providers. Rebalancing will be implemented by Managed Investments in accordance with a servicing agreement with BFE. In addition, the account will automatically be rebalanced when deposits and withdrawals occur. Trades will be done if the trade amount of the security is not less than five basis points times the size of the account.

Confluence, Laffer and Morningstar are engaged in a business in which they provide models to firms such as BFE, as well as manage accounts independently of BFE on a fiduciary basis.

With respect to the ETF models provided by Confluence, Confluence will not provide BFE with changes to its models until after such changes are first implemented in its own clients' accounts. As a result, changes to Confluence's models that are implemented in BFE client accounts will take place after the changes in Confluence's accounts, and the performance in BFE's accounts will differ from those managed directly by Confluence. It is possible that Confluence's prior transactions could increase the price of ETFs that BFE's clients might have to pay for purchases, or reduce the proceeds that might be obtained in connection with sales.

With respect to the ETF models provided by Laffer, Laffer will provide BFE with changes to its models before implementing the changes in their own clients' accounts. As a result, changes to BFE accounts may take place prior to, after or simultaneously with the changes in Laffer's accounts. As a result, the performance results of the BFE accounts will differ from those managed by Laffer.

With respect to the ETF models provided by Morningstar, they will provide BFE with changes to its models along with a date the changes should be implemented. The suggested implementation date will be the same day that Morningstar will trade their discretionary accounts.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios** Rebalancing will be implemented by BFE. The account will be rebalanced to more closely align with the account's target asset and fund allocation percentages on a periodic basis selected by the client. The default will be semi-annually, but annually is also an option. It is possible that other rebalancing options may be approved after consultation between the client and BFE. In addition, the account will be rebalanced when deposits and withdrawals occur unless, in the judgment of BFE, the amount involved would not have a meaningful impact on the strategy.

During the life of the account, the Branch Office Manager and Home Office Principals will monitor accounts to ensure activity is suitable and that the account is properly administered. Various reviews will be performed on a daily, monthly, quarterly or annual basis. In addition, ad hoc reviews will be performed as needed.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios** During the life of the account, the Branch Office Manager and Home Office Principals will monitor accounts to ensure activity is suitable and that the account is properly administered. Various reviews will be performed on a daily, monthly, quarterly or annual basis. In addition, ad hoc reviews will be performed as needed.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios** During the life of the account, the Branch Office Manager and Home Office Principals will monitor accounts to ensure activity is suitable and that the account is properly administered. Various reviews will be performed on a daily, monthly, quarterly or annual basis. In addition, ad hoc reviews will be performed as needed.

**Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios** Quarterly, the third-party money managers in the Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios program will be reviewed by BFE's Manager of Advisory Services or delegate to ensure continued adherence to BFE's qualitative and performance standards. Both covered and non covered managers will be reviewed; however, a higher level of ongoing research and due diligence is applied to the covered managers.

In addition, a review will be conducted as needed by BFE's Manager of Advisory Services or delegate based on potentially significant developments that may affect the operations or management of the portfolios (e.g., change of Portfolio Manager, corporate reorganizations, etc.).

Adjustments will be made to the managers' status in the program as needed, and individual accounts will be addressed accordingly based on the outcomes of the reviews.

**Lockwood Investment Strategies and Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios** The accounts are rebalanced periodically to reflect market changes and to maintain compliance with Lockwood's strategy-specific guidelines. This may occur as a result of deposits, withdrawals or market movement. Rebalancing will be implemented by Lockwood.

The strategies for the Lockwood Investment Strategies and Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios are managed by Lockwood. Quarterly, the performance of Lockwood will be reviewed by BFE's Manager of Advisory Services or delegate to ensure continued adherence to BFE's qualitative standards.

Lockwood will review the allocations and securities used in their models on an ongoing basis. Adjustments will be made as needed to individual accounts based on the changes to the models.

**Financial Planning** The Financial Review and Investment Portfolio Review financial planning programs are designed by their nature to provide a one-time assessment of, and recommendations concerning, a client's financial situation. As such, it is not anticipated that there will be any ongoing or periodic review of individual financial plans following delivery of the plan to the client.

**Investment Management Consulting, Investment Management Consulting (with Execution), and Retirement Plan Consulting Program** The services to be provided to the client, including delivery of any oral or written investment performance and other reports (to the extent required by the individual contract) will be performed by the financial advisor. The services to be provided under each agreement are tailored to the specific needs of the client. The advisory services agreement will outline any specific reports, meetings or other deliverables to be provided by BFE. A tailored supervisory plan will be developed but, in general, will feature review by the Branch Office Manager, or an appropriately designated sales principal, of the key deliverables provided to the client.

**Plan Participant Consulting Service** If the service is performed for a one-time fee, then no ongoing or periodic review will be performed. If the fee and service is ongoing, then the Financial Advisor will review the recommendations with the client at least annually.

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## **Client Reports**

Clients who participate in wrap fee advisory accounts, with the exception of Investment Management Consulting (with Execution), will receive the following reports:

Written (or, if elected by the client, electronic) account statements will be provided to clients at least quarterly through the firm's asset custodian, Pershing, LLC, identifying the amount of funds of each security in the account at the end of the period and setting forth all transactions in the account during that period.

Written (or, if elected by the client, electronic) performance reports will be provided to clients on a quarterly basis through Managed Investments identifying since inception, year-to-date, and current quarter values and returns, and benchmark returns. The initial report will be delivered once an account has been open for a complete calendar quarter.

Under certain circumstances, BFE permits advisory program assets to be held with a custodian other than Pershing, LLC. This may occur, for example, in connection with positions in alternative investments that must be held with the issuer of the securities. In some cases, information about such an asset is linked with our custodian, and the asset will be included in Pershing's account statements and Managed Investments' performance reports. If information is not linked, the asset will not be included on statements or performance reports. If clients have concerns about this issue, they should discuss it with their financial advisor prior to purchasing or holding a non-linked asset in an advisory account.

Clients who participate in BFE's Financial Planning programs will receive a one-time written financial plan. Clients who participate in BFE's Financial Planning programs will not receive recurring updates or supplemental reports.

Clients participating in BFE's Plan Participant Consulting Service program will receive either a one time recommendation or ongoing recommendations, depending on service/fee selected.

Clients who participate in BFE's Retirement Plan Consulting Services, Investment Management Consulting, and Investment Management Consulting (with Execution) programs generally negotiate a tailored scope of services. Depending on the services that are desired, written reports may be prepared, customized or developed for the client to address their particular needs.

## **ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

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Financial advisors of BFE will receive a percentage of the advisory fees paid by advisory clients to compensate them for solicitation, shareholder support, advice, order placement and execution, and other services. In addition, financial advisors may be eligible for cash and non-cash compensation including bonuses, recognition trips and other benefits. Some of these programs may be financed in whole or in part by unaffiliated third parties, including representatives of mutual funds or distributors, which may influence some representatives to favor those funds. See the prior sections entitled "Fees and Compensation" and "Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations" for more details regarding compensation and conflicts of interests.

BFE does not currently compensate non-affiliated third parties for investment advisory client referrals.

## **ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure Custody**

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With the exception of the programs identified below or assets that are held with an issuer or an alternative custodian, as described above, BFE utilizes Pershing, LLC as its custodian; hence, Pershing will be the custodian for all wrap fee advisory accounts. Pershing is a qualified custodian and will provide clients with account statements at least quarterly. These statements identify the positions in the account at the end of the statement period, as well as all transactions in the account during the statement period. Clients should review these statements carefully. Clients will also receive quarterly performance reports for their account. These reports are produced by Managed Investments and distributed by a third-party vendor on behalf of BFE. These are not statements; however clients are encouraged to compare the information on these reports versus the information on their statements.

For Investment Management Consulting and Investment Management Consulting (with Execution), the client may elect as part of the advisory services agreement for custody services to be provided. In such instances BFE utilizes Pershing, LLC as its custodian. Pershing is a qualified custodian and will provide clients with account statements at least quarterly. These statements identify the positions in the account at the end of the statement period, as well as all transactions in the account during the statement period. Clients should review these statements carefully. In addition, the client may also elect for performance reporting services to be provided as part of the advisory services agreement. In such cases, performance reports will be prepared by the financial advisor. These are not statements; however clients are encouraged to compare the information on these reports versus the information on their statements.

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

### Investment Discretion

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BFE has discretionary authority with respect to the following advisory programs:

- Benjamin F. Edwards Mutual Fund Portfolios
- Russell Model Strategies
- Benjamin F. Edwards ETF Portfolios
- Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios

Such discretion applies to all aspects of account transactions, including the securities, quantity, price and timing of securities to be bought and sold.

With respect to Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered and Non-Covered), the Covered or Non-Covered money manager, or Lockwood, as applicable, has discretionary authority to determine securities and the amount of securities to be bought and sold.

Lockwood Advisors has discretion with respect to the Lockwood Investment Strategies and Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios programs. Such discretion applies to all aspects of account transactions, including the securities, quantity, price and timing of securities to be bought and sold.

Benjamin F. Edwards Custom Mutual Fund Portfolios is a mutual-fund-only advisory program with limited discretion. The financial advisor and client will work together to identify an appropriate investment model. The client retains final decision-making authority with respect to the mutual funds used and the percentage allocated to each fund in the model. Limited discretion is granted to the financial advisor to:

- Rebalance the account per the selected rebalancing frequency
- Invest cash deposits
- Sell and reinvest deposits of securities
- Sell funds for fees and requested withdrawals

Benjamin F. Edwards Client Portfolios is a non-discretionary advisory program.

In all of the discretionary programs above, the nature of the discretion is identified and granted by the client via the advisory agreement executed for each account.

Clients may request reasonable restrictions on the management of their discretionary accounts. Such restrictions may include imposition of limitations or preferences concerning transactions in certain securities, frequency of rebalancing, tax-loss selling, frequency of distributions and similar matters.

With respect to security-specific restrictions in the Benjamin F. Edwards Private Portfolios program, such restrictions are individually negotiated between the client and financial advisor. With respect to all other programs involving transactions in individual equity securities, clients may request security-specific restrictions on those equities or restrictions based on the following categories: Alcohol, Cosmetic, Defense/Military/ Weapons, Entertainment, Foreign Securities, Gambling, Finance, Trucking, Meat Products, Nuclear Power, Oil Stocks, Textiles, Drugs, Tobacco, Public Utilities, Paper/Forest Products, and Healthcare/Medical Industries.

With respect to model based mutual fund and ETF wrap programs, BFE will consider requests for reasonable restrictions on the management of the account. Such restrictions may be placed on particular mutual funds or ETFs from the model selected, but cannot restrict the individual securities held within the mutual funds or ETFs.

If such investment restrictions are implemented, the client will experience a different investment return than what will be realized by the model itself. Such performance may be better or worse than the model. For these reasons, if a client wishes to make a request concerning restrictions based on specific securities, it may be more appropriate for the client to participate in other BFE advisory programs that are not so uniquely positioned. It should be noted, any standardized reports of model performance will not reflect the performance of the model with restrictions applied. (Quarterly performance reports of the client's account will accurately reflect the client's actual account performance with restrictions).

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

### Voting Client Securities

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For most advisory programs, BFE will not normally vote on matters requiring shareholder voting in connection with the securities held in a client's account, or with respect to certain legal actions involving securities including, for example, voting of proxies, mergers, bankruptcies or restructuring, class actions, or similar matters. See specific advisory program descriptions above, as some outside managers will vote proxies on behalf of clients. Clients will receive proxy notices from the firm's custodian, Pershing LLC. In the limited circumstances where a client may hold securities directly with an issuer or an alternative custodian, proxy notices will be sent by the issuer or alternative custodian.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, upon request of the client, BFE may be able to provide limited advice regarding proxy voting, mergers, bankruptcies or restructuring, class actions, or similar matters, except under the following circumstances:

- No advice will be given if it is on behalf of any person soliciting proxies or on behalf of a participant in a matter relating to the election or removal of directors;
- No advice will be given if the firm holds, including in nominee name, 5% or more of the securities that are the subject of a proxy vote;
- No advice will be given with respect to matters involving foreign private issuers, including American Depositary Receipts (ADRs);
- No advice will be given if BFE does not have the resources upon which to form a reasonable basis for the advice to be given;
- No advice will be given if prohibited by law or regulation; and
- No advice will be given if BFE believes that a conflict of interest may exist that might materially affect the judgment required to properly render such advice, or if BFE believes in its judgment that other factors are present which do not make the rendering of such advice to be prudent.

With respect to Benjamin F. Edwards Separately Managed Portfolios (Covered and Non-Covered), Lockwood Asset Allocation Portfolios, and Lockwood Investment Strategies, clients may contact their financial advisor to request information regarding how managers in those programs voted their proxies.



## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

### Financial Information

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BFE does not foresee any financial condition that would impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to clients.

## ADV Part 2A Firm Brochure

### Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

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Not applicable; BFE is registered at the federal level with the SEC as an Investment Adviser, and has made appropriate notice filings to various states as required. Please note that references to BFE as being “registered” is not intended to reflect that the firm or its representatives have special skills or training; it is used only to reflect the status of the firm with respect to Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.