

## Haber Investment Counsel

*a Registered Investment Adviser*

3455 Peachtree Rd, NE  
Pinnacle Building, Suite 500  
Atlanta, GA 30326

(404) 474-7006

[www.haberinvestment.com](http://www.haberinvestment.com)

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Haber Investment Counsel. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact the Firm at the telephone number listed above. For compliance specific request, please call (971) 371-3444. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or by any state securities authority. Additional information about the Firm is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). The Firm is a registered investment adviser. Registration does not imply any level of skill or training.

**Item 2. Material Changes**

In this Item, tru Independence Asset Management, conducting business as Haber Investment Counsel is required to discuss any material changes that have been made to the brochure since the last annual amendment. Haber Investment Counsel is a new business model and thus this is the initial brochure.

**Item 3. Table of Contents**

Item 2. Material Changes .....	2
Item 3. Table of Contents .....	3
Item 4. Advisory Business .....	4
Item 5. Fees and Compensation.....	5
Item 6. Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management.....	7
Item 7. Types of Clients .....	7
Item 8. Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss .....	7
Item 9. Disciplinary Information .....	8
Item 10. Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations .....	8
Item 11. Code of Ethics .....	8
Item 12. Brokerage Practices .....	9
Item 13. Review of Accounts .....	11
Item 14. Client Referrals and Other Compensation.....	12
Item 15. Custody.....	12
Item 16. Investment Discretion.....	13
Item 17. Voting Client Securities.....	13
Item 18. Financial Information.....	13

## Item 4. Advisory Business

tru Independence Asset Management provides investment advice under the name of Haber Investment Counsel. Hereafter, Haber Investment Counsel may also be referred to as (the “Firm”) with any descriptions of services, investment processes, fees and other similar items being specific to Haber Investment Counsel unless otherwise noted.

The Firm offers discretionary investment management and investment advisory services. Prior to the Firm rendering any of the foregoing advisory services, clients are required to enter into one or more written agreements with the Firm setting forth the relevant terms and conditions of the advisory relationship (the “Advisory Agreement”).

tru Independence Asset Management has been registered as an investment adviser since 2014 and is owned by tru Independence, LLC, which is owned by Craig Stuvland and Tami Martin. As of the date of this filing, tru Independence Asset Management, LLC manages approximately \$605,414,379 in assets for approximately 505 clients. The Haber Investment Counsel business model does not yet have any assets under management to report. All assets are managed on a discretionary basis.

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

### Investment Management Services

---

Haber Investment Counsel generally provides clients with investment management services to include the discretionary and/or non-discretionary management of investment portfolios.

Under an investment management engagement, Haber Investment Counsel primarily allocates client assets among various individual equity and debt securities, fixed income, and exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) in accordance with their stated investment objectives. On a more limited basis, the Firm may utilize mutual funds or other securities to meet a client’s investment needs.

Where appropriate, Haber Investment Counsel may also provide advice about any type of legacy position or other investment held in client portfolios. Clients may engage Haber Investment Counsel to manage and/or advise on certain investment products that are not maintained at their primary custodian, such as variable life insurance and annuity contracts and assets held in employer sponsored retirement plans. In these situations, Haber Investment Counsel directs or recommends the allocation of client assets among the various investment options available with the product. These assets are generally maintained at the underwriting insurance company or the custodian designated by the product’s provider.

In performing these services, the Firm is not required to verify any information received from the client or from the client's other professionals (e.g. attorneys, accounts, etc.) and is expressly authorized to rely on such information. The Firm may recommend clients engage the Firm for additional related services, its Supervised Persons in their individual capacities as insurance agents or register representatives of a broker-dealer and/or other professionals to implement its recommendations. Clients are advised that a conflict of interest exists if client engages Firm or its affiliates to provide additional services for compensation. Clients retain absolute discretion over all decisions regarding implementation and are under no obligation to act upon any of the recommendations made by the Firm under a financial planning or consulting engagement. Clients are advised that it remains their responsibility to promptly notify the Firm of any change in their financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing, evaluating or revising the Firm's recommendations and/or services.

## **Item 5. Fees and Compensation**

The Firm offers services on a fee basis, which may include fixed and/or hourly fees, as well as fees based upon assets under management or advisement.

### **Investment Management Fees**

---

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

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

If assets in excess of \$10,000 are deposited into or withdrawn from an account after the inception of a billing period, the fee payable with respect to such assets is adjusted to reflect the interim change in portfolio value. For the initial period of an engagement, the fee is calculated on a pro rata basis. In the event the advisory agreement is terminated, the fee for the final billing period is prorated through the effective date of the termination and the outstanding or unearned portion of the fee is charged or refunded to the client, as appropriate.

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

## **Fee Discretion**

---

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

## **Additional Fees and Expenses**

---

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

## **Direct Fee Debit**

---

Clients generally provide the Firm with the authority to directly debit their accounts for payment of the investment advisory fees. The Financial Institutions that act as the qualified custodian for client accounts, from which the Firm retains the authority to directly deduct fees, have agreed to send statements to clients not less than quarterly detailing all account transactions, including any amounts paid to the Firm.

## **Account Additions and Withdrawals**

---

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

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

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

**Item 7. Types of Clients**

Haber Investment Counsel offers investment advice to individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, corporations and other business entities.

**Minimum Account Requirements**

---

The Firm does not impose a stated minimum fee or minimum portfolio value for starting and maintaining an investment management relationship.

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

---

Haber Investment Counsel may utilize several methods of analysis when structuring client portfolios including fundamental analysis and technical analysis.

Fundamental analysis involves the fundamental financial condition and competitive position of a company. Haber Investment Counsel may analyze the financial condition, capabilities of management, earnings, new products and services, as well as the company's markets and position amongst its competitors in order to determine the recommendations made to clients. The primary risk in using fundamental analysis is that while the overall health and position of a company may be good, market conditions may negatively impact the security.

Technical analysis involves the analysis of past market data rather than specific company data in determining the recommendations made to clients. Technical analysis may involve the use of charts to identify market patterns and trends which may be based on investor sentiment rather than the fundamentals of the company. The primary risk in using technical analysis is that spotting historical trends may not help to predict such trends in the future. Even if the trend will eventually reoccur, there is no guarantee that Haber Investment Counsel will be able to accurately predict such a reoccurrence.

To implement its recommendations, the Firm primarily allocates client assets among various individual equity and debt securities, fixed income, and exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") in accordance with their stated investment objectives. On a more limited basis, the Firm may utilize mutual funds or other securities to meet a client's investment needs.

**Risk of Loss**

---

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

**Item 9. Disciplinary Information**

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

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

This item requires investment advisers to disclose certain financial industry activities and affiliations. The Supervised Persons providing services through Haber Investment Counsel do not have any other activities or affiliations to disclose.

**Item 11. Code of Ethics**

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

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

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

- the transaction has been completed;



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

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

Clients and prospective clients may contact the Firm to request a copy of its Code of Ethics.

## **Item 12. Brokerage Practices**

### **Recommendation of Broker/Dealers for Client Transactions**

The Firm generally recommends that clients utilize the custody, brokerage and clearing services of Schwab (the "Custodian") for investment management accounts.

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

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

Transactions may be cleared through other broker-dealers with whom the Firm and its custodians have entered into agreements for prime brokerage clearing services. Should an account make use of prime brokerage, the client may be required to sign an additional agreement and additional fees are likely to be charged.

Consistent with obtaining best execution, brokerage transactions may be directed to certain broker/dealers in return for investment research products and/or services which assist the Firm in its investment decision-making process. Such research generally will be used to service all of the Firm's clients, but brokerage

commissions paid by one client may be used to pay for research that is not used in managing that client's portfolio. The receipt of investment research products and/or services as well as the allocation of the benefit of such investment research products and/or services poses a conflict of interest because the Firm does not have to produce or pay for the products or services.

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

#### **Software and Support Provided by Financial Institutions**

The Firm may receive without cost from Schwab computer software and related systems support, which allow the Firm to better monitor client accounts maintained at Schwab. The Firm may receive the software and related support without cost because the Firm renders investment management services to clients that maintain assets at Schwab. The software and support is not provided in connection with securities transactions of clients (i.e., not "soft dollars"). The software and related systems support may benefit the Firm, but not its clients directly. In fulfilling its duties to its clients, the Firm endeavors at all times to put the interests of its clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the Firm's receipt of economic benefits from a broker/dealer creates a conflict of interest since these benefits may influence the Firm's choice of broker/dealer over another that does not furnish similar software, systems support or services.

Specifically, the Firm may receive the following benefits from Schwab:

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

#### **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

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

#### **Directed Brokerage**

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

#### **Trade Aggregation**

It is the Firm's practice that transactions for each client generally will be effected independently.

## Item 13. Review of Accounts

### Account Reviews

---

The Firm monitors client portfolios on a continuous and ongoing basis while regular account reviews are conducted on at least an annual basis. Such reviews are conducted by the Firm's Investment Committee and/or investment adviser representatives and are intended to fulfil the Firm's fiduciary obligations to their advisory clients. All advisory clients are encouraged to discuss their needs, goals and objectives with Haber Investment Counsel and to keep the Firm informed of any changes thereto. Haber Investment Counsel contacts ongoing investment advisory clients at least annually to review its previous services and/or recommendations and quarterly to discuss the impact resulting from any changes in the client's financial and/or investment objectives.

### Account Statements and Reports

---

Clients are provided with transaction confirmation notices and regular summary account statements directly from the Financial Institutions where their assets are custodied. From time-to-time or as otherwise requested, clients may also receive written or electronic reports from the Firm and/or an outside service provider, which contain certain account and/or market-related information, such as an inventory of account holdings or account performance. Clients should compare the account statements they receive from their custodian with any documents or reports they receive from the Firm or an outside service provider.

## Item 14. Client Referrals and Other Compensation

### Client Referrals

---

The Firm may provide compensation to third-party solicitors for client referrals. In the event a client is introduced to the Firm by either an unaffiliated or an affiliated solicitor, the Firm may pay that solicitor a referral fee in accordance with applicable state securities laws. Unless otherwise disclosed, any such referral fee is paid solely from the Firm's investment management fee and does not result in any additional charge to the client. If the client is introduced to the Firm by an unaffiliated solicitor, the solicitor is required to provide the client with the Firm's written brochure(s) and a copy of a solicitor's disclosure statement containing the terms and conditions of the solicitation arrangement. Any affiliated solicitor of the Firm is required to disclose the nature of his or her relationship to prospective clients at the time of the solicitation and will provide all prospective clients with a copy of the Firm's written brochure(s) at the time of the solicitation.

**Item 15. Custody**

The Advisory Agreement and/or the separate agreement with any Financial Institution generally authorize the Firm to debit client accounts for payment of the Firm's fees and to directly remit that those funds to the Firm in accordance with applicable custody rules. The Financial Institutions that act as the qualified custodian for client accounts, from which the Firm retains the authority to directly deduct fees, have agreed to send statements to clients not less than quarterly detailing all account transactions, including any amounts paid to the Firm.

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

**Item 16. Investment Discretion**

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

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

**Item 17. Voting Client Securities****Declination of Proxy Voting Authority**

---

Haber Investment Counsel does not vote proxies on behalf of its clients.

**Item 18. Financial Information**

The Firm is not required to disclose any financial information due to the following:

- The Firm does not require or solicit the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees six months or more in advance of services rendered;

- The Firm does not have a financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet contractual commitments to clients; and
- The Firm has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years.