

**ITEM 1  
COVER PAGE**

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**Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure**



LevinEasterly

LEVIN EASTERLY PARTNERS LLC

October 15, 2019

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This brochure (this “Brochure”) provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Levin Easterly Partners LLC (also doing business as “Levin Easterly”). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact Levin Easterly at (212) 259-0800 and/or [ecolandrea@levinetaserly.com](mailto:ecolandrea@levinetaserly.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) or by any state securities authority.

*Levin Easterly is registered as an investment adviser with the SEC. Registration with the SEC or with any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.*

*Additional information about Levin Easterly also is available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).*

## **ITEM 2**

### **MATERIAL CHANGES**

Since the last update of this Brochure, dated April 8, 2019, Eric Colandrea has been named the Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”) of Levin Easterly Partners LLC (“Levin Easterly”). Mr. Colandrea also serves as the General Counsel of Levin Easterly and Easterly Partners Group LLC (“Easterly Partners”), and the Chief Compliance Officer of Levin Capital Strategies, L.P. (“Levin Capital”). Easterly Partners has a services agreement with Levin Easterly, and as previously disclosed in the Brochure dated March 2019, Levin Easterly and Levin Capital have entered into a services agreement whereby Levin Easterly provides services to Levin Capital, including the support of its back-office, compliance and business operations.

Also, since the previous update of this Brochure, the management of the Levin Capital Model Portfolio has been transferred to Levin Easterly, and as such Levin Easterly now manages eight (8) accounts on a non-discretionary basis, which is reflected in Item 4.

**ITEM 3**  
**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ITEM 1 COVER PAGE.....	i
ITEM 2 MATERIAL CHANGES .....	ii
ITEM 3 TABLE OF CONTENTS .....	iii
ITEM 4 ADVISORY BUSINESS .....	1
ITEM 5 FEES AND COMPENSATION .....	4
ITEM 6 PERFORMANCE-BASED FEES AND SIDE-BY-SIDE MANAGEMENT .....	7
ITEM 7 TYPES OF CLIENTS .....	8
ITEM 8 METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES, AND RISK OF LOSS ..	9
ITEM 9 DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION .....	15
ITEM 10 OTHER FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS .....	16
ITEM 11 CODE OF ETHICS, PARTICIPATION OR INTEREST IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS AND PERSONAL TRADING.....	17
ITEM 12 BROKERAGE PRACTICES.....	19
ITEM 13 REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS.....	26
ITEM 14 CLIENT REFERRALS AND OTHER COMPENSATION.....	27
ITEM 15 CUSTODY .....	28
ITEM 16 INVESTMENT DISCRETION .....	29
ITEM 17 VOTING CLIENT SECURITIES.....	30
ITEM 18 FINANCIAL INFORMATION .....	31

## ITEM 4 ADVISORY BUSINESS

### General Description of Advisory Firm

Levin Easterly provides discretionary or non-discretionary investment advice and/or management services according to the stated investment objectives, restrictions, and policies of each Levin Easterly investment advisory client. Levin Easterly's clients consist of separately managed accounts ("Separately Managed Accounts"), model portfolios ("Model Portfolios"), an Undertaking For The Collective Investment of Transferrable Securities (the "UCITS Fund") that is sponsored by another manager, a mutual fund (the "Mutual Fund") that is a registered investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Investment Company Act"), and sub-advisory accounts with funds sponsored by other managers (together with the UCITS Fund, "Sub-Advised Funds"), including funds that are registered investment companies under the Investment Company Act (collectively with the "Mutual Fund," the "Registered Funds") (each, a "Client" of Levin Easterly and together, "Clients" of Levin Easterly). Levin Easterly enters into a written investment management agreement with each of its Clients. Levin Easterly maintains full-power and authority to supervise and may make investment decisions on behalf of each Separately Managed Account, Sub-Advised Fund and Registered Fund (each sometimes also referred to as a "Managed Account" or collectively as, "Managed Accounts") with and without prior consultation with the Client.

Levin Easterly generally follows "bottom-up" value investment strategies and Levin Easterly invests Client assets primarily in "large-cap" (defined as an issuer's market capitalization is greater than \$10 billion), "mid-cap" and "all-cap" equity securities of both domestic and foreign issuers traded on a U.S. exchange. Similarly, Levin Easterly's investment decisions and advice with respect to the Managed Accounts are made in accordance with the applicable Client's investment objectives and guidelines, as well as any written or verbal instructions or restrictions provided by the Client to Levin Easterly and the information provided in the Client's investment management agreement.

Levin Easterly for its Separately Managed Accounts, Model Portfolios, and Sub-Advised Funds following "long-only" strategies primarily invests in equity securities, ADRs/ADSs (including large foreign issuers whose ADRs/ADSs trade "over-the-counter"), foreign equity securities traded on a recognized U.S. exchange, warrants and convertible securities. Levin Easterly also manages Model Portfolios of securities for other registered investment advisers. Levin Easterly does not execute security transactions for any Model Portfolio, nor is Levin Easterly aware of when actual transactions occur, if at all. Other strategies may also trade U.S. Treasury obligations, corporate debt, exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), foreign equity securities traded on a foreign exchange, options, futures contracts, and SWAPS (Contracts for Differences or Equity SWAPS).

Levin Easterly also manages on a sub-advisory basis open-end Registered Funds and foreign investment advisory relationships.

Levin Easterly also manages the accounts of certain family members and employees of Levin Easterly personnel on a discretionary basis.

In connection with providing investment management services for each of the above described Clients, Levin Easterly has been granted discretionary trading authorization (other than Model Portfolios) and also may be granted proxy voting authorization.

*This Brochure generally includes information about Levin Easterly and its relationships with its Clients*

*and affiliates. While much of this Brochure applies to all such Clients and affiliates, certain information included herein applies to specific Clients or affiliates only.*

### *Brief History*

Levin Easterly, a Delaware limited liability company, was formed in October 2018 to engage in the transaction (the “Transaction”) pursuant to an asset purchase agreement under which Levin Easterly acquired certain assets and assumed certain liabilities from Levin Capital. The Transaction closed on March 29, 2019, and Levin Easterly acquired Levin Capital’s institutional asset management business and related operations, including, the investment advisory accounts serviced by that business and associated assets, liabilities and employees. The strategies and accounts transferred to Levin Easterly are the “long-only” strategies directly managed by Jack Murphy and an Event Driven strategy managed by Sam Hendel. In connection with this transfer, analysts that support these strategies moved with Mr. Murphy to Levin Easterly. In addition to the up-front consideration, John Levin is entitled to a portion of the revenues generated by Levin Easterly. The participation is allocated through a specific LLC interest in Levin Easterly.

Levin Easterly is wholly owned by LE Partners Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, which is principally owned and controlled indirectly by Darrell Crate and Avshalom Kalichstein.

Levin Easterly primarily offers four (4) “long-only” value biased investment strategies that focus on U.S. traded securities:

- Large-Cap
- Mid-Cap
- All-Cap
- Financial Sector - primarily focused on large-cap and mid-cap equities

Most of the above strategies can have various degrees of concentration and/or diversification through the number of portfolio holdings and sectors. These strategies may be managed on a taxable and non-taxable basis. Upon a Client’s or prospective Client’s request, Levin Easterly could provide other investment strategies provided that Levin Easterly believes such investment strategy could be implemented.

The “long-only” investment strategies may have variations of investment styles based on the Client’s investment strategy, criteria, investment restrictions, portfolio concentration, tax status, time horizon and risk tolerances. These types of strategies may be a concentrated style having fewer holdings with higher or lower capital weightings than those Clients following a more diversified strategy. A concentrated strategy may have additional risks including higher volatility and increased loss of capital than a more diversified strategy, and a diversified strategy may result in higher or lower returns than a concentrated portfolio. Non-taxable accounts may trade more frequently and may hold different portfolio securities from taxable accounts as taxable considerations may weigh into the investment decision process. The research teams’ knowledge is leveraged across Levin Easterly’s strategies that are based on the same value orientated, bottom-up fundamental research and feature a commitment to capital preservation, downside protection, and controlled volatility.

*The descriptions set forth in this Brochure of specific advisory services that Levin Easterly offers to Clients, and investment strategies pursued and investments made by Levin Easterly on behalf of its Clients, should not be understood to limit in any way Levin Easterly’s investment activities. Levin Easterly may offer any advisory services, engage in any investment strategy and make any investment,*

*including any not described in this Brochure, that Levin Easterly considers appropriate, subject to each Client's investment objectives and guidelines. The investment strategies Levin Easterly pursues are speculative and entail substantial risks. Clients should be prepared to bear a substantial loss of capital. There can be no assurance that the investment objectives of any Client account(s) will be achieved.*

Levin Easterly's investment decisions and advice with respect to each Client are subject to each Client's investment objectives and guidelines, as set forth in the Client's investment management agreement, as well as any written or verbal instructions provided by the Client to Levin Easterly.

Management of Client Assets

Levin Easterly manages Client assets on a discretionary basis and makes recommendations for investments for Model Portfolios on a non-discretionary basis. The chart sets forth below the amount of net assets under management as of March 31, 2019:

	U.S. Dollar Amount	Total Number of Accounts
Discretionary Assets	\$5,262,894,000	59
Non-discretionary Assets	\$871,603,000	8
Total:	\$6,134,497,000	67

Updated information is available from Levin Easterly upon request.

## ITEM 5 FEES AND COMPENSATION

The fees applicable to each Client's Managed Account are set forth in detail in each Client's investment management agreement. A brief summary of such fees is provided below.

### *Separately Managed Accounts and Model Portfolios*

Levin Easterly generally charges each Separately Managed Account and each Model Portfolio a management fee of up to 1.0% per annum of assets under management, typically charged monthly or quarterly in arrears. Certain Clients are also charged an annual incentive fee of up to 20% of any realized and unrealized capital appreciation and in some cases over a specific benchmark(s). Subject to negotiation, certain large qualified Clients may obtain different fee schedules that may include a performance-based fee structure. Fees for Clients are subject to negotiation and established pursuant to each Client's investment management agreement.

Levin Easterly, at its option, may elect not to charge a Client a management fee on a portion of the Client's portfolio where, in Levin Easterly's opinion, the account has a "high cash" or "high cash equivalent" (money market securities) position that is in excess of 20% of the Client's portfolio. Fees are paid to Levin Easterly by a Client either directly by the Client or by a custodian deducting fees from a Client's account as authorized by the applicable Client.

Set forth in the chart below is the standard investment management fee structure for Managed Accounts following a "long-only" investment strategy, which is subject to negotiation:

<u>Net Asset Value</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Under \$5 Million	1.00% annually
\$5 million - \$15 million	0.75% annually on entire account
\$15,000,001 - \$99,999,999 million:	0.75% for the first \$15 million 0.50% for additional amounts
Over \$100 million	Negotiable

Levin Easterly, at its discretion, may adjust the management fees borne by the Client in the event of material additional capital contributions and withdrawals from the account. Generally, when a Client makes capital contributions or withdrawals that in the aggregate increase or decrease the net asset value of the Client's account by 10% or greater during a calendar quarter, the management fees will be prorated based on the actual number of days in such calendar quarter before and after the applicable contribution to, or withdrawal from, the account.

Generally, the investment management agreement between the Client and Levin Easterly is terminable upon receipt of written notice of termination by either Levin Easterly or the Client. Levin Easterly generally will bill Clients in arrears, however for a Client that elects to be billed in advance, the Client will be entitled to any unearned portion of the management fee upon termination.

Certain family members, employees, affiliates and affiliates of family members of Levin Easterly personnel may have a lower fee schedule than other Clients. Certain qualified and eligible Clients may negotiate a performance-based fee arrangement.

Any performance-based compensation will be charged or allocated, as applicable, in accordance with Section 205 of the U.S. Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Advisers Act"), and Rule

205-3 under the Advisers Act.

#### Sub-Advised Fund Clients

The Sub-Advised Funds bear management fees and/or incentive fees that are individually negotiated and vary depending upon the account. Generally, Levin Easterly is entitled to receive a management and/or incentive fee in its role as a sub-adviser. The management fee and/or incentive fee applicable to each Registered Fund and Sub-Advised Fund is set forth in detail in the respective funds' prospectus, statement of additional information, or private offering memorandum, which management fee and/or incentive includes the portion of any management fee and/or incentive fee that the Sub-Advised Fund's advisor pays to Levin Easterly. Payment of fees may vary depending on the investment management agreement and is subject to those terms and conditions. For the UCITS Fund, Levin Easterly will adhere to the investment restrictions as stated in the UCITS Fund's offering documents and other applicable tax or regulatory laws and any reasonable investment restriction imposed by the UCITS Fund's primary investment advisor. This restriction may include types of securities to be purchased or sold, holdings in specific industries or issuers (individual position, maximum percent holdings, etc.), various tax considerations, broker-dealers that can be used for a delivery versus payment ("DVP") Client, and the limitation of soft dollar usage.

#### Managed Account Expenses

Levin Easterly's management fee with respect to each Managed Account does not include (a) brokerage charges, which are paid on a transactional basis by the Managed Account, (b) dealer mark-ups or mark-downs on securities purchased or sold for an account through third-party dealers, (c) taxes or regulatory fees and (d) custodial and other miscellaneous fees. In addition, if the Managed Account holds a registered investment company (open-end, closed-end, ETFs or "money market" mutual fund shares) or a publicly traded partnership, the managers of such entities may charge management fees and expenses, which would be in addition to Levin Easterly's investment advisory fee. Each Managed Account may bear certain of the fees and expenses described above.

To the extent practicable, Levin Easterly seeks to fairly allocate shared research expenses among its Clients. While Levin Easterly will apply methodologies for specific items in a manner that is intended to allocate those items in a fair and reasonable manner, as a general matter, Client accounts are generally allocated a pro rata portion of any applicable expenses.

However, certain Client accounts are not and may not be assessed all or a portion of certain research expenses or similar expenses; this can be due to a variety of reasons. For example:

- A small number of Clients may be subject to the "unbundling" requirements of the legislative package known as a recast of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive ("MiFID II") and cannot pay commissions on a full-fee bundled (*i.e.*, research and execution) commission basis; these Clients may therefore effectively pay for execution only (and are not assessed any portion of research expenses).
- Other Clients suggest or require that Levin Easterly execute a portion of their trades through a particular broker according to a pre-negotiated commission schedule (*i.e.*, a "directed brokerage" arrangement) and, if that designated broker is not otherwise providing research that Levin Easterly would purchase, those commissions are, in essence, not supporting the acquisition of research that Levin Easterly acquires in the process of investing and trading for Client accounts and are, effectively, therefore not sharing in the allocation of research expenses.



- Other regulatory requirements that do not permit Levin Easterly to allocate certain research expenses, such as “soft dollars.”

As a result of these arrangements, certain Clients do not bear any research expenses and, accordingly, the remaining Client accounts bear an increased proportionate share of research expenses.

*Additional Compensation and Conflicts of Interest*

Neither Levin Easterly nor any of its supervised persons accepts compensation (*e.g.*, brokerage commissions) for the sale of securities or other investment products.

Levin Easterly is under common control with Easterly Securities LLC (“Easterly Securities”), which is registered as a broker-dealer with the SEC. As detailed further in Item 10 of this Brochure, Darrell Crate, Avshalom Kalichstein and Eric Colandrea are control persons of Easterly Securities. While these individuals are control persons of Levin Easterly, none of them will receive transaction-based compensation.

**ITEM 6**  
**PERFORMANCE-BASED FEES AND SIDE-BY-SIDE MANAGEMENT**

Clients may be charged a management fee only, a management fee and a performance fee, or a performance fee only. The variation of the incentive compensation structures among Clients may create an incentive for Levin Easterly to direct the best investment ideas to, or allocate or sequence trades in favor of, Clients that pay or allocate performance fee compensation to Levin Easterly.

To address this conflict, Levin Easterly has adopted policies and procedures reasonably designed to comply with its fiduciary obligations by seeking to allocate investment opportunities on a fair and equitable basis. Investment allocation determinations are based on several factors, including but not limited to investment strategy, risk tolerance (including with respect to initial public offerings or secondary offerings), investment objective, taxable status, suitability, time horizon and account guidelines and restrictions, if any. Client's Directed Brokerage Accounts held at different custodians or brokerage firms may realize different prices and commission rates. Levin Easterly also utilizes an allocation policy for each investment including special considerations for investments in initial public offerings and secondary offerings. Please refer to *Trade Allocation and Aggregation Policies and Procedures* under Item 12 *Brokerage Practices* below.

## **ITEM 7**

### **TYPES OF CLIENTS**

As previously noted, Levin Easterly generally provides investment advice to (i) Separately Managed Accounts, Registered Funds and Sub-Advised Funds on a discretionary basis and (ii) Model Portfolios on a non-discretionary basis. Levin Easterly's Separately Managed Accounts include corporations, pension plans (both U.S. and foreign), large institutional accounts, endowments, foundations, high net worth individuals and trusts.

Levin Easterly generally requires a minimum account size of \$1 million in order to establish a Separately Managed Account, although Levin Easterly may, in its sole discretion, require a larger amount or accept a smaller amount of initial assets from a potential Client.

## ITEM 8

### METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES, AND RISK OF LOSS

*The descriptions set forth in this Brochure of specific advisory services that Levin Easterly offers to Clients, investment strategies it pursues and investments made by Levin Easterly on behalf of its Clients, should not be understood to limit in any way Levin Easterly's investment activities. Levin Easterly may offer any advisory services, engage in any investment strategy and make any investment, including any not described in this Brochure, that Levin Easterly considers appropriate, subject to each Client's investment objectives and guidelines. The investment strategies that Levin Easterly pursues are speculative and entail substantial risks. Clients should be prepared to bear a substantial loss of capital. There can be no assurance that the investment objectives of any Client will be achieved.*

To construct a Managed Account's portfolio, Levin Easterly generally utilizes a fundamental, bottom-up methodology that seeks to identify situations where, in Levin Easterly's opinion, there are (i) significant gaps between market perceptions and economic realities and (ii) identifiable catalysts that could close such gaps.

Levin Easterly believes that the fundamental approach to select attractive "long" equity positions is the key to achieving sustained and substantial appreciation. In evaluating potential investments, Levin Easterly will typically engage in a detailed, bottom-up analysis of potential investments.

Select Clients may pursue an event-driven, long/short strategy that primarily invests in U.S. publicly traded securities. This strategy may invest in (i) merger arbitrage and event-driven arbitrage transactions, including "special situations" investments, (ii) corporate restructuring and other event-driven situations, (iii) convertible securities on an outright and hedged basis, (iv) subordinated debt, debt claims, bank debt and other loans that are potentially volatile, including securities in undervalued, vulnerable, distressed and bankrupt entities, and (v) other securities or instruments in which such Managed Account may realize value based on fundamentals.

Select Managed Accounts may utilize leverage to take advantage of perceived market opportunities. The use of leverage entails certain risks (including, without limitation, the potential of increased losses and performance volatility) and expenses.

#### **Allocation of Initial Public Offering Securities**

Levin Easterly may be given the opportunity to participate in initial public offerings from time to time that have limited participation opportunities. All initial public offerings will be for the benefit of all eligible client accounts, except that initial public offerings are not allocated to directed brokerage accounts. Levin Easterly will generally allocate initial public offering shares received for an opportunity among its eligible participating client accounts on a rotating basis if they cannot be proportionally allocated, in accordance with the Levin Easterly's allocation policies and procedures.

#### **Principal Risks**

*The following risk factors do not purport to be a complete list or explanation of the risks involved in an investment for a Managed Account, and the following risk factors may not be applicable to all Clients. An investment by a Client is speculative and involves a substantial degree of risk, including the risk that an investor could lose some or all of its investment. Prospective investors should carefully consider the risks of investing, which include, without limitation, those set forth below which are more fully described in the applicable private investment fund's offering documents. These risk factors include only those risks Levin Easterly believes to be material, significant or unusual and relate to particular significant investment*

*strategies or methods of analysis employed by Levin Easterly and do not purport to be a complete list or explanation of the risks involved in an investment in the Clients advised by Levin Easterly.*

**Equity Securities:** Levin Easterly generally follows a “large-cap” value “bottom-up” approach towards managing Client assets. Levin Easterly may also follow an “all-cap” and/or “mid-cap” “bottom-up” approach for certain Clients. Levin Easterly defines “large-cap” issuers as issuers having market capitalization greater than U.S.\$7 billion. Levin Easterly primarily invests in equity securities trading in the United States, however certain Managed Accounts may also invest in foreign traded securities which are perceived to have a greater risk. The value of these financial instruments generally will vary with the performance of the issuer and movements in the equity markets. As a result, a Managed Account may suffer losses if Levin Easterly invests in equity instruments of issuers whose performance diverges from Levin Easterly’s expectations or if equity markets generally move in a single direction. Managed Accounts following an alternative investment strategy may be hedged. A Managed Account may also be exposed to risks that issuers will not fulfill contractual obligations such as, in the case of convertible securities, delivering marketable common stock upon conversions of convertible securities or registering restricted securities for public resale.

**Convertible Securities:** Convertible securities are bonds, debentures, notes, preferred stocks or other securities that may be converted into, or exchanged for, a specified amount of common stock of the same or different issuer within a particular time period at a specified price or formula. A convertible security entitles the holder to receive interest that is generally paid or accrued on debt or a dividend that is paid or accrued on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted, or exchanged. Convertible securities have unique investment characteristics in that they generally (i) have higher yields than common stocks, but lower yields than comparable non-convertible securities, (ii) are less subject to fluctuation in value than the underlying common stock due to their fixed-income characteristics, and (iii) provide the potential for capital appreciation if the market price of the underlying common stock increases.

The value of a convertible security is a function of its “investment value” (determined by its yield in comparison with the yields of other securities of comparable maturity and quality that do not have a conversion privilege) and its “conversion value” (the security’s worth, at market value, if converted into the underlying common stock). The investment value of a convertible security is influenced by changes in interest rates, with investment value declining as interest rates increase and increasing as interest rates decline. The credit standing of the issuer and other factors may also have an effect on the convertible security’s investment value. The conversion value of a convertible security is determined by the market price of the underlying common stock. If the conversion value is low relative to the investment value, the price of the convertible security is governed principally by its investment value. To the extent the market price of the underlying common stock approaches or exceeds the conversion price, the price of the convertible security will be increasingly influenced by its conversion value. A convertible security generally will sell at a premium over its conversion value by the extent to which investors place value on the right to acquire the underlying common stock while holding fixed-income security. Generally, the amount of the premium decreases as the convertible security approaches maturity.

A convertible security may be subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a price established in the convertible security’s governing instrument. If a convertible security held by a Managed Account is called for redemption, such Managed Account will be required to permit the issuer to redeem the security, convert it into the underlying common stock, or sell it to a third party. Any of these actions could have an adverse effect on such Managed Account’s ability to achieve its investment objective.

**Market Risk:** Prices of securities (and stocks in particular) have historically fluctuated. Managed Accounts returns and principal value will fluctuate, and the original investment may be worth more or less than the

original cost.

*Competition; Availability of Investments:* Certain markets in which Levin Easterly may invest on behalf of Managed Accounts are extremely competitive for attractive investment opportunities and, as a result, there may be reduced expected investment returns. There can be no assurance that Levin Easterly will be able to identify or successfully pursue attractive investment opportunities in such environments. Among other factors, competition for suitable investments from other pooled investment vehicles, the public equity markets, and other investors may reduce the availability of investment opportunities. There has been significant growth in the number of firms organized to make such investments, which may result in increased competition for Levin Easterly in obtaining suitable investments.

*Investments in Undervalued Securities:* Levin Easterly may invest in undervalued securities. The identification of investment opportunities in undervalued securities is a difficult task, and there is no assurance that such opportunities will be successfully recognized or acquired. While investments in undervalued securities may offer the opportunity for above-average capital appreciation, these investments involve a high degree of financial risk and can result in substantial losses.

Levin Easterly may make certain speculative investments in securities which are believed to be undervalued; *however*, there are no assurances that the securities purchased will, in fact, be undervalued. In addition, a Client may be required to hold such securities for a substantial time period before realizing their anticipated value providing such value is ever realized. During this period, a portion of a Client's assets would be committed to the securities purchased, thus possibly preventing such Client from investing in other opportunities. In addition, a Client may finance such purchases with borrowed funds and thus will have to pay interest on such funds during such holding period.

*Risk of Purchasing Securities of Initial Public Offerings:* Levin Easterly may purchase securities of companies in initial public offerings or shortly thereafter on behalf of our clients. Special risks associated with these securities may include a limited number of shares available for trading, unseasoned trading, lack of investor knowledge of the company and limited operating history. These factors may contribute to substantial price volatility for the shares of these companies. The limited number of shares available for trading in some initial public offerings may make it more difficult for Levin Easterly to buy or sell significant amounts of shares without an unfavorable impact on prevailing market prices. In addition, some companies in initial public offerings are involved in relatively new industries or lines of business, which may not be widely understood by investors. Others may be emerging growth companies about which limited information is available for analysis. Some of these companies may be undercapitalized or regarded as developmental stage companies, without revenues or operating income, or the near-term prospects of achieving them.

*Style Risk:* Levin Easterly identifies opportunities in various securities/companies sectors that appear to be temporarily depressed or in Levin Easterly's opinion may be undervalued. The prices of securities with these types of characteristics may tend to go down more than others in their sector. Levin Easterly utilizes a disciplined and deliberate investing approach, and there may be times when Clients have a significant cash position. A substantial cash position can adversely impact a Managed Account's performance in certain market conditions and may make it more difficult for a Client to achieve its investment objective, subject to Client guidelines and restrictions.

*Focus and Non-Diversification Risk:* Certain Managed Account's portfolios may be non-diversified and follow a more concentrated investment strategy. This means that a Managed Account may have investments in fewer issuers, can be more volatile, and may increase or decrease in value and realize greater potential gains and losses than that of a more diversified Managed Account of comparable size.

*Concentration of Investments:* Some Managed Accounts will not have fixed quantitative guidelines for diversification and may for any given time period be concentrated in particular positions. As a consequence, such Managed Account's returns as a whole may be adversely affected by the unfavorable performance of even a single investment or strategy by a portfolio.

*Interest Rate Risk:* In general, the value of bonds and other debt securities falls when interest rates rise. Longer term obligations are usually more sensitive to interest rate changes than shorter-term obligations. While bonds and other debt securities normally fluctuate less in price than common stocks, there have been extended periods of increases in interest rates that have caused significant declines in bond prices.

*Credit Risk:* The issuers of the bonds and other debt securities held in Managed Accounts may not be able to make interest or principal payments. Even if these issuers are able to make interest or principal payments, they may suffer adverse changes in financial condition that would lower the credit quality of the security, leading to greater volatility in the price of the security.

*Investment and Trading Risks in General:* Clients should be aware that they may lose all or part of their investment. No guarantee or representation is made an investment program will be successful. An investment program may utilize such investment techniques as concentrating its portfolios in the securities of particular companies or industries or limited diversification, which practices can, in certain circumstances, maximize the impact of adverse market moves to which such a Client may be subject.

*Systemic Risk:* Credit risk may also arise through default by one of several large institutions that are dependent on one another to meet their liquidity or operational needs so that a default by one institution causes a series of defaults by the other institutions. This is sometimes referred to as a "systemic risk" and may adversely affect financial intermediaries, such as clearing agencies, clearing houses, banks, securities firms, and exchanges, with which the Client may interact on a frequent basis.

In addition, certain Managed Accounts that follow an alternative investment strategy may be subject to these additional risks:

*Alternative Investment Strategies:* In addition to risks disclosed above in *Investment and Trading Risks in General*, Clients should be aware that an alternative investment strategy may utilize investment techniques such as engaging in short sales, option transactions, swap or contracts for differences or margin transactions, which practices can also, in certain circumstances, maximize the impact of adverse market moves to which such a Client may be subject.

*Use of Leverage:* While leverage presents opportunities for increasing a Managed Account's total return, it has the effect of potentially increasing losses as well. Accordingly, any event which adversely affects the value of an investment of a Managed Account would be magnified to the extent the investment is leveraged. The cumulative effect of the use of leverage by a Managed Account in a market that moves adversely to such Managed Account's investments could result in a substantial loss to such Managed Account which would be greater than if such account was not leveraged.

In general, a Managed Account's anticipated use of short-term margin borrowings results in certain additional risks to the Client. For example, should the securities pledged to brokers to secure a Managed Account's margin accounts decline in value, the Managed Account could be subject to a "margin call," pursuant to which the Client must either deposit additional funds or securities with the broker, or suffer mandatory liquidation of the pledged securities to compensate for the decline in value. In the event of a sudden drop in the value of such Managed Account's assets, such Managed Account might not be able to liquidate assets quickly enough to satisfy its margin requirements.

*Trading is Leveraged:* The banks and broker-dealers that provide financing to a Managed Account can apply essentially discretionary margin, haircut, financing, and collateral valuation policies. Changes by banks and dealers in any of the foregoing may result in large margin calls, loss of financing and forced liquidations of positions at disadvantageous prices. In addition, money borrowed by a Managed Account will be subject to interest costs, which will be an expense of the Managed Account, and, to the extent not covered by income attributable to the investments acquired, will adversely affect the operating results of the Managed Account. Irrespective of the risk control objectives of a Managed Account, the use of leverage necessarily entails some degree of risk.

*Currency:* A Managed Account may invest a portion of its assets in instruments denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, the price of which is determined with reference to currencies other than the U.S. dollar. Each Managed Account will, however, value its securities and other assets in U.S. dollars. To the extent unhedged, the value of a Managed Account's assets will fluctuate with U.S. dollar exchange rates as well as the price changes of such Client account's investments in the various local markets and currencies. Thus, an increase in the value of the U.S. dollar compared to the other currencies in which a Managed Account makes its investments will reduce, all other economic factors being constant, the effect of increases and magnify the effect of decreases in the prices of the Client account's securities in their local markets. Conversely, a decrease in the value of the U.S. dollar will have the opposite effect on the Managed Account's non-U.S. dollar securities.

*Foreign Securities/Non-U.S. Investments:* The success of a Managed Account's activities will be affected by general economic and market conditions, such as interest rates, availability of credit, inflation rates, economic uncertainty, changes in laws (including laws relating to taxation of a Client's investments), trade barriers, currency exchange controls, and national and international political circumstances. These factors may affect the level and volatility of securities prices and the liquidity of a Client's investments. Volatility or illiquidity could impair such Client's profitability or result in losses.

The economies of non-U.S. countries may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of the gross domestic product, the rate of inflation, currency depreciation, asset reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments position. Further, certain non-U.S. economies are heavily dependent upon international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be adversely affected by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. The economies of certain non-U.S. countries may be based, predominantly, on only a few industries and may be vulnerable to changes in trade conditions and may have higher levels of debt or inflation.

With respect to certain countries, there is a possibility of expropriation, confiscatory taxation, and imposition of withholding or other taxes on dividends, interest, gains, gross sale or disposition proceeds or other income, limitations on the removal of funds or other assets of a Client, political or social instability or diplomatic developments that could affect investments in those countries. An issuer of securities may be domiciled in a country other than the country in whose currency the instrument is denominated. The values and relative yields of investments in the securities markets of different countries, and their associated risks are expected to change independently of each other.

*Derivative Instruments:* Certain Managed Accounts may invest in swaps, options and other derivative instruments that may be subject to various types of risks, including market risk, credit risk, liquidity risk, legal risk and operations risk. A Managed Account's use of derivatives could reduce returns, may not be liquid, and may not correlate precisely to the underlying securities or index. Derivative securities are subject to market risk, which could be significant for those derivatives that have a leveraging effect that could increase the volatility of such Managed Accounts. Derivatives are also subject to the risk of material and prolonged deviations between the theoretical and realizable value of a derivative (e.g., due to



non-conformance to anticipated or historical correlation patterns). Derivatives are also subject to credit risks related to the counterparty's ability to perform, and any deterioration in the counterparty's creditworthiness could adversely affect the instrument. A risk of using derivatives for hedging purposes is that Levin Easterly might imperfectly judge the market's direction, which could render a hedging strategy ineffective or have an adverse effect on the value of the derivative. Furthermore, many derivatives, particularly those that are not traded in transparent markets, may be subject to significant price risk. Prices in these markets are privately negotiated and there is a risk that the negotiated price may deviate materially from fair value. This deviation may be particularly acute where there is no active market available from which to derive benchmark prices. The price of a given derivative may demonstrate material differences over time between its theoretical value and the value that may actually be realized by a Managed Account (*e.g.*, due to non-conformance to anticipated or historical correlation patterns). Many over-the-counter derivatives are priced by the dealer; however, the price at which a dealer values a particular derivative may not comport with the price at which a Managed Account seeks to buy or sell the position. In many instances, a Managed Account will have little ability to contest the dealer's valuation. Derivatives, particularly to the extent they are transacted on an over-the-counter or bilateral basis or are highly customized, may also be highly illiquid, making it difficult, or in some cases impossible, for a Managed Account to exit a position at what Levin Easterly considers a reasonable price.

***The foregoing list of risk factors does not purport to be a complete enumeration or explanation of the risks involved in an investment in a Managed Account. Levin Easterly encourages its Clients and prospective Clients to consider all risk factors Levin Easterly has explained in this Brochure.***

**ITEM 9**  
**DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION**

There are no legal or disciplinary events that are material to a Client's or prospective Client's evaluation of Levin Easterly's advisory business or the integrity of Levin Easterly's expected management.

**ITEM 10**  
**OTHER FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS**

**Broker-Dealer Affiliation**

Easterly Securities LLC (“Easterly Securities”) is a SEC and Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”) registered broker-dealer, and Darrell Crate, Avshalom Kalichstein and Eric Colandrea are control persons of Easterly Securities.

Levin Easterly will not engage Easterly Securities to act as the broker-dealer in connection with Levin Easterly’s advisory services to Clients, and no Client transactions will be traded by or cleared through Easterly Securities.

**Services Provided by Levin Easterly to Levin Capital and by Levin Capital to Levin Easterly**

In connection with the Transaction, Levin Easterly and Levin Capital entered into a services agreement pursuant to which Levin Easterly provides services to Levin Capital and supports its back office, compliance and business operations. These services include, among other things, services of certain employees and personnel of Levin Easterly, access to research, office space and operational support. Levin Capital personnel will continue to have access to the Levin Easterly research team. Levin Easterly is reimbursed by Levin Capital for the costs to provide such services. In addition, Levin Easterly has adopted policies and procedures designed to ensure that the provision of such services to Levin Capital does not conflict with Levin Easterly’s duties to Client accounts.

**ITEM 11**  
**CODE OF ETHICS, PARTICIPATION OR INTEREST**  
**IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS AND PERSONAL TRADING**

*Investment Activities of Levin Easterly and its Personnel*

Levin Easterly, its member, and employees may from time to time make personal investments in securities or instruments in which Levin Easterly may also invest the Managed Accounts' assets. Subject to Levin Easterly's Code of Ethics, its personnel may buy, sell, or hold securities or other instruments for its own or their own accounts while entering into different investment decisions for one or more Managed Accounts. Personnel and their immediate family members who derive financial support from such personnel, are generally required to maintain their personal brokerage accounts (other than mutual funds, etc.) with a single financial institution for Levin Easterly compliance monitoring purposes, with certain exceptions, including (i) accounts managed by third-parties where employees do not have the ability to influence investment decisions, (ii) where a spouse of a Levin Easterly employee is employed at another broker-dealer and (iii) purchases, sales and maintenance of open-ended mutual funds, U.S. Treasury obligations, Exchange Traded Funds, certificates of deposit or municipal securities. It is expected that, if such investments are made, the size and nature of these investments will change over time. Neither Levin Easterly nor its personnel are required to keep any minimum investment in any Levin Easterly strategy or investment vehicle.

*Code of Ethics and Statement on Personal Trading*

From time to time, various potential and actual conflicts of interest may arise from the overall advisory, investment and other activities of Levin Easterly, Levin Capital, their affiliates and personnel (each, an "Advisory Affiliate"). Levin Easterly has established policies and procedures to monitor and resolve conflicts and endeavors to resolve conflicts with respect to investment opportunities in a manner it deems equitable to the extent possible under the prevailing facts and circumstances. Levin Capital and its personnel are subject to similar Personal Trading restrictions and Code of Ethics. The Advisory Affiliates may invest on behalf of themselves in securities and other instruments that would be appropriate for, held by, or may fall within the investment guidelines of Managed Accounts. The Advisory Affiliates may give advice or take action for their own accounts that may differ from, conflict with or be adverse to the advice given or action taken by Managed Accounts. These activities may adversely affect the prices and availability of other securities or instruments held by or potentially considered for one or more Managed Accounts.

Levin Easterly strives to adhere to the highest industry standards of conduct based on principles of professionalism, integrity, honesty, and trust. In seeking to meet these standards, Levin Easterly has adopted a Statement on Personal Trading and a Code of Ethics (collectively, the "Code"). The Code incorporates the following general principles that all employees are expected to uphold: employees must at all times place the interests of Client first and all personal securities transactions must be conducted in a manner consistent with the Code. Levin Easterly seeks to identify and mitigate any conflicts of interest, and employees are strictly prohibited from abusing their position of trust and confidence. Employees must not take any inappropriate advantage of their positions, and information concerning the identity of securities and financial circumstances of the Client must be kept confidential (unless otherwise permitted); and independence in the investment decision making process must be maintained at all times.

*Clients and investors in a Client may request a copy of the Code by contacting Levin Easterly Partners LLC, Attn: Compliance Department, 595 Madison Avenue, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10022 and/or [ecolandrea@levineasterly.com](mailto:ecolandrea@levineasterly.com).*

Levin Easterly also maintains Insider Trading policies and procedures (the “Insider Trading Policies”) that are designed to prevent the misuse of material, non-public information. Levin Easterly’s and Levin Capital’s personnel are required to certify their compliance with the Code and the Insider Trading Policies, on a periodic basis.

Levin Easterly has established policies and procedures to monitor and resolve conflicts concerning investment opportunities in a manner it deems fair and equitable, including the restrictions placed on personal trading in the Code, as described above. Regular monitoring will occur of employee and Levin Capital transactions and trading patterns for actual or perceived conflicts of interest, including those conflicts that may arise as a result of personal trades in the same or similar securities made at or about the same time as Client trades.

The Advisory Affiliates may also have ongoing relationships with companies whose securities are in or are being considered for Managed Accounts. From time to time, Levin Easterly may acquire securities or other financial instruments of an issuer for a Managed Account which are senior or junior to securities or financial instruments of the same issuer that are held by, or acquired for, another Managed Account (*e.g.*, one Managed Account may acquire senior debt while another Managed Account may acquire subordinated debt). Levin Easterly recognizes that conflicts may arise under such circumstances and has adopted policies and procedures reasonably designed to identify and mitigate such conflicts.

#### *Cross Trades and Principal Transactions*

Levin Easterly and its personnel do not purchase or sell any securities for their own accounts to or from Managed Accounts. However, under unusual circumstances, Levin Easterly may determine that it is in the best interest of the Managed Accounts to effect securities trades through crosses and/or internal crosses between or among the Managed Accounts, subject to each Managed Account’s investment guidelines and restrictions. This could occur, for example, in connection with a rebalancing transaction. In such cases, one Managed Account will purchase securities held by another Managed Account. If Levin Easterly decides to engage in a cross trade, Levin Easterly will determine that the trade is in the best interests of each Client involved in it and take steps to ensure that the transaction is consistent with the duty to obtain best execution for each of those Clients.

Levin Easterly generally does not execute cross trades; *however*, if it does so, it will generally do so with Client approval and with the assistance of a broker-dealer who executes and books the transaction at the close of the market on the day of the transaction. Alternatively, a cross trade between two Clients may occur as an “internal cross,” where Levin Easterly instructs the custodian for the Client to book the transaction at a price determined in accordance with Levin Easterly’s valuation policy. If Levin Easterly effects an internal cross, Levin Easterly will not receive any fee in connection with the completion of the transaction.

Levin Easterly would effectuate these transactions based on the then current market price and consistent with valuation and other procedures established by Levin Easterly. Neither Levin Easterly nor any related party will receive any compensation in connection with these cross-trading transactions.

## **ITEM 12 BROKERAGE PRACTICES**

As noted previously, Levin Easterly has full discretionary authority to manage the Managed Accounts, including authority to make decisions with respect to which securities are bought and sold with and without prior consultation with the Client, the amount and price of those securities, the brokers or dealers to be used for a particular transaction, and commissions or markups and markdowns paid. Levin Easterly's authority is limited by its own internal policies and procedures and each Managed Account's investment management agreement/guidelines. Levin Easterly has no discretionary authority or control over security transactions, if any, for any Model Portfolio. Therefore, Levin Easterly does not execute any transactions for the Model Portfolios, and the financial intermediary is under no obligation to follow Levin Easterly's recommendations.

Levin Easterly places its Managed Accounts in one of two trading groups based upon where a Client's assets are held or where the Client has directed that their securities transactions be executed (each individually, a "Levin Easterly Trading Group" and collectively, the "Levin Easterly Trading Groups"). Levin Capital will trade on behalf of Levin Easterly Clients for a limited time during the transition period. One of the Levin Easterly Trading Groups consists of Managed Accounts settled on a delivery versus payment ("DVP") basis. The second Levin Easterly Trading Group consists of a group of Managed Accounts for which Clients have directed that their securities transactions be executed at a specific broker-dealer (the "Directed Brokerage Group"). There is no assurance that Levin Easterly can accommodate any Managed Accounts' directed brokerage request(s). However, Levin Easterly shall make a good faith attempt to determine if such an arrangement is possible.

To minimize conflicts of interest among the Levin Easterly Trading Groups and to help avoid potentially volatile price movements caused by the entering of Client orders into the market simultaneously, Levin Easterly maintains a daily trading rotation whereby generally, its orders are executed sequentially for each Levin Easterly Trading Group and each Managed Account where available trading the same security receives the same prices by means of the aggregation of orders utilizing an average price account *except* for certain Directed Brokerage accounts. An expected recognized by-product of Levin Easterly's rotational process is that Clients across trading groups likely will receive different prices for their orders based on the time (and date, in cases where an order continues beyond a single trading day) that such orders are executed or an order may never be executed because of price sensitivity or lack of liquidity. Nevertheless, it is Levin Easterly's good faith and reasonable determination that over time no one Levin Easterly Trading Group (and Client within each Levin Easterly Trading Group) is regularly advantaged or disadvantaged by its rational approach to trade order rotation.

Levin Easterly generally will not be able to aggregate orders across all accounts in all circumstances because certain advisory accounts will be held with a specified broker-dealer as, for example, in the case of a Directed Brokerage Group or a Client that has directed their commissions to specific broker-dealers. Advisory Clients choose their custodian, bank, trust company, or brokerage firm where the Client assets will be held provided that Levin Easterly is able to operationally perform investment advisory services. Clients are not obligated to maintain a brokerage account with any broker-dealer nor obligated to purchase any investment products affiliated with Levin Easterly.

Clients with Managed Accounts may request or require Levin Easterly to use a specified broker-dealer to execute the Managed Account's securities transactions and may have made separate arrangements with such broker-dealers regarding the commissions to be paid with respect to such transactions. These Clients are sometimes referred to collectively in this Brochure as "Directed Brokerage Accounts" and individually as a "Directed Brokerage Account." As noted in Item 4 *Advisory Business* of this Brochure, Levin Easterly manages accounts of certain family members and employees of Levin Easterly, except that

Levin Easterly affiliated Client Accounts (accounts of family members, employees, affiliates and affiliates of family members of Levin Easterly personnel) are traded separately from other Client Accounts and always executed last.

For Directed Brokerage Accounts, where Levin Easterly does *not* have the discretion to select broker-dealers:

- Levin Easterly does not negotiate commission rates. Rather, the commission rates will be as negotiated by the Client with the broker-dealer, and this will not change as a result of Levin Easterly serving as an investment adviser. Levin Easterly will attempt to help minimize brokerage transaction costs, and the use of a directed broker request may result in transactions occurring at different times with different prices;
- Levin Easterly is not responsible for obtaining competitive bids on directed trades done on a net basis; and
- Levin Easterly may be unable to obtain a more favorable price based on transaction volume on transactions that cannot be aggregated with transactions of its other advisory Clients.

Portfolio transactions for each Client where Levin Easterly has the discretion to select broker-dealers for execution of orders (which excludes the Directed Brokerage Group) will be allocated to brokers-dealers on the basis of numerous factors and not necessarily lowest pricing. Brokers and dealers may provide other services that are beneficial to Levin Easterly and/or certain Clients, but not beneficial to all Clients. In selecting an appropriate broker-dealer to effect a Client trade, Levin Easterly seeks to obtain best execution, taking into consideration the price of a security offered by the broker-dealer, as well as a broker-dealer's full range and quality of their services including, among other things, their facilities, reliability and financial responsibility, execution capability, commission rates, responsiveness to Levin Easterly, brokerage and research services provided to Levin Easterly (*e.g.*, research ideas, analysis, and investment strategies), special execution and block positioning capabilities, clearance, market making capabilities (including participation in initial public offerings), and settlement, and potentially custodial services.

Accordingly, the commission rates (or dealer markups and markdowns) charged to Managed Accounts by brokers or dealers in the foregoing circumstances may be higher than those charged by other brokers or dealers who may not offer such services. Levin Easterly does not deem it practicable and in the best interest of its Clients to solicit competitive bids or commission rates on each transaction. However, consideration is given regularly to information concerning the prevailing level of commissions charged on comparable transactions by other qualified brokers and dealers. Generally, Levin Easterly does not separately compensate any broker or dealer for any of these other services.

If Levin Easterly decides, based on the factors set forth above, to execute OTC transactions on an agency basis through Electronic Communications Networks ("ECNs") or "Dark Pools," it will also consider the following factors when choosing to use one ECN over another: the ease of use, the flexibility of the ECN compared to other ECNs and the level of care and attention that will be given to smaller orders. Levin Easterly maintains policies and procedures to review the quality of executions, including periodic reviews by its investment professionals.

Levin Easterly does not submit or execute any Client related portfolio transaction with Easterly Securities, its affiliated broker-dealer, as Easterly Securities is not a clearing broker-dealer. Levin Easterly does not believe this impacts its ability to achieve best execution for portfolio related transactions.

### Soft Dollar Usage and Commission Sharing Arrangements

From time to time, Clients may incur broker-dealer commissions (or markups or markdowns with respect to certain types of riskless principal transaction) when Levin Easterly effects security transactions for their Managed Accounts in excess of that which another broker-dealer might have charged for effecting the transaction in recognition of the value of the brokerage and research services provided by the broker-dealer. Levin Easterly will effect such transactions, and receive such brokerage and research services, only to the extent that they fall within the safe harbor provided by Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), and subject to prevailing guidance provided by the SEC regarding Section 28(e) of the Exchange Act. Levin Easterly believes it is important to its investment decision-making processes to have access to independent research.

Generally, research services provided by broker-dealers may include information on the economy, industries, groups of securities, individual companies, statistical information, accounting and tax law interpretations, political developments, legal developments affecting portfolio securities, technical market action, pricing and appraisal services, credit analysis, risk measurement analysis, performance analysis, and analysis of corporate responsibility issues. Such research services are received primarily in the form of written reports, telephone contacts, and personal meetings with security analysts. In addition, such research services may be provided in the form of access to various computer-generated data, computer software, and meetings arranged with corporate and industry spokespersons, economists, academicians, and government representatives. In some cases, research services are generated by third parties but are provided to Levin Easterly by or through broker-dealers.

Also, consistent with Section 28(e) of the Exchange Act, research products or services obtained with “soft dollars” or commission sharing arrangements (herein used interchangeably) generated by one or more Managed Accounts may be used by Levin Easterly to service one or more other Managed Accounts, including Clients that may not have paid for the soft dollar benefits. Levin Easterly does not seek to allocate soft dollar benefits to Client accounts in proportion to the soft dollar credits the Client accounts generate. Where a product or service obtained with soft dollars provides both research and non-research assistance to Levin Easterly (e.g., a “mixed use” item), Levin Easterly will make a good faith allocation of the cost that may be paid for with soft dollars. In making good faith allocations of costs between administrative benefits and research and brokerage services, a conflict of interest may exist by reason of Levin Easterly’s allocation of the costs of such benefits and services between those that primarily benefit Levin Easterly and those that primarily benefit the Managed Accounts.

Levin Capital and its clients will also benefit from certain services obtained by Levin Easterly with soft dollars pursuant to the services agreement discussed in Item 10 *Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations – Services Provided by Levin Easterly to Levin Capital and by Levin Capital to Levin Easterly*, but any benefits obtained by Levin Easterly or Levin Capital using soft dollar services will be borne based on a fair and equitable allocation.

When Levin Easterly uses Client brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) to obtain research or other products or services, Levin Easterly will receive a benefit because it does not have to produce or pay for such products or services. Levin Easterly may have an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on Levin Easterly’s interest in receiving research or other products or services, rather than on its Client’s interest in receiving most favorable execution.

Levin Easterly or its related persons may acquire the following types of products and services with Client brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns): information on the economy, industries, groups of securities, legal developments affecting portfolio securities, political developments or individual



companies; statistical information; accounting, regulatory and tax law interpretations; pricing services; credit analysis risk measurement analysis; performance analysis; and analysis of corporate responsibility issues. Such research services are received primarily in the form of written reports, telephone contacts, and personal meetings with security analysts. In addition, such research services may be provided in the form of access to various computer-generated data, computer hardware and software, and meetings arranged with corporate and industry spokespersons, economists, academics, and government representatives. In some cases, research services will be generated by third parties but are provided to Levin Easterly by or through broker-dealers.

At least annually, Levin Easterly will consider the amount and nature of the research and research services provided by broker-dealers, as well as the extent to which such services are relied upon, and attempts to allocate a portion of the brokerage business of its Client on the basis of that consideration. Broker-dealers sometimes suggest a level of business they would like to receive in return for the various products and services they provide. Actual brokerage business received by any broker-dealer may be less than the suggested allocation, but can (and often does) exceed the suggested level because total brokerage is allocated on the basis of all of the considerations described above. In no case will Levin Easterly make binding commitments as to the level of brokerage commissions it will allocate to a broker-dealer, nor will it commit to paying cash if any informal targets are not met. A broker-dealer is not excluded from receiving business because it has not been identified as providing research products or services.

### **Trade Allocation and Aggregation Policies and Procedures**

#### **Trade Allocation Policies and Procedures**

Levin Easterly may give advice or take action with respect to the investments of one or more Managed Accounts that may not be given or taken with respect to other Managed Accounts with similar investment programs, objectives, and strategies. Accordingly, Managed Accounts with similar strategies may not hold the same securities or instruments or achieve the same performance. Levin Easterly also may advise Managed Accounts with conflicting programs, objectives or strategies. These activities also may adversely affect the prices and availability of other securities or instruments held by or potentially considered for one or more Managed Accounts. Finally, Levin Easterly and its personnel may have conflicts in allocating their time and services among the Managed Accounts. Levin Easterly devotes as much time to each Managed Account as Levin Easterly deems appropriate to perform its duties in accordance with its management agreements.

Certain Clients may have investment programs that are similar to or overlap and may, therefore, participate with each other in investments. It is the policy of Levin Easterly to allocate investment opportunities for the Managed Accounts fairly and equitably, to the extent possible, over a period of time. Levin Easterly, however, has no obligation to purchase, sell or exchange any security or financial instrument for a Managed Account that Levin Easterly may purchase, sell or exchange for another Managed Account if Levin Easterly believes in good faith at the time the investment decision is made that such transaction or investment would be unsuitable, impractical or undesirable for a particular Managed Account.

Levin Easterly generally will make investment decisions among Managed Accounts depending on the particular investment strategy pursued by each Managed Account. Allocations among Managed Accounts within a particular strategy are then made generally on a pro rata basis in proportion to the relative value of each Managed Account's eligible net assets, or on a pro rata basis in proportion to the actual position size held by each Managed Account. However, Levin Easterly may take into consideration a number of additional factors, including, among others, the nature and size of the proportion of a securities issue likely to be available to Levin Easterly or the nature and size of the proposed transaction; the investment

objectives and/or investment strategy, tax consequences (if applicable), risk tolerances, time horizons and restrictions and guidelines of the Managed Accounts; the eligibility to invest in initial public offerings; the relative size and cash availability of the applicable strategy within a Managed Account; in limited circumstances, the ability to borrow and the cost of borrowed funds; legal restrictions, including those that may arise in foreign jurisdictions; the liquidity of the investment relative to the need of each Managed Account; the degree of specialization of a Managed Account relative to the investment offered; the relative historical participation of a Managed Account in the investment; the difficulty of liquidating an investment for more than one Client; the possibility that an allocation may result in a small or odd lot; new Client with a substantial amount of investable cash; and other factors that may be considered relevant.

Levin Easterly acts as the investment adviser to Model Portfolios where Levin Easterly does not exercise trading discretion. Investment opportunities considered by Levin Easterly to be appropriate for certain of the Separately Managed Accounts following similar investment strategies will generally over time be equitably allocated based on considerations such as relative capital, specific investment guidelines, the composition of the portfolios at the time of purchase and tax considerations. This may result in the Model Portfolios receiving an investment recommendation either at or about the same time as other accounts or afterward depending upon and subject to the model portfolio investment restrictions. Model Portfolios are not subject to the Levin Easterly trade rotation program as Levin Easterly does not execute any specific investment recommendation and there is no assurance the model portfolio investment recommendations will be implemented or that they will ultimately receive a purchase or sale price similar to other Managed Accounts.

Levin Easterly may combine purchase or sale orders with orders for other Managed Accounts and allocate the securities or other assets so purchased or sold, on an average price basis, among such accounts. Levin Easterly may enter into arrangements with broker-dealers to open such “average price” accounts wherein orders placed during a trading day are placed on behalf of the Managed Accounts and are allocated among such accounts using an average price.

Generally, Managed Accounts are traded together in a daily pre-determined trading rotation within a relevant or same investment strategy group, and investment decisions are made for that group following a similar or same investment strategy. However, because certain Client accounts such as the Directed Brokerage Accounts are directed or required to be held with a specified broker-dealer, Levin Easterly is not able to aggregate orders for those accounts with orders for other Levin Easterly Trading Groups. Moreover, Levin Easterly periodically reviews its trades for best execution. Levin Easterly’s trading desk follows protocol and procedures to ensure that all Managed Accounts are treated fairly over time.

Allocations will be made among client accounts eligible to participate in initial public offerings and secondary offerings on a pro rata basis, except when Levin Easterly may determine in its discretion that a pro rata allocation is not appropriate, which may be based on factors including, the investment strategy, a client’s investment guidelines explicitly prohibiting participation in initial public offerings or secondary offerings and/or a client’s status as a “restricted person” under applicable regulations

#### Aggregation Policies and Procedures

If Levin Easterly determines that the purchase or sale of the same security is in the best interest of more than one Managed Account (including Separately Managed Accounts in which Levin Easterly personnel have a direct or indirect ownership interest), Levin Easterly may, but is not obligated to, aggregate orders to reduce transaction costs to the extent permitted by applicable law. During the transition period, Levin Capital and Levin Easterly may jointly trade together for one Levin Capital advisory account where consent has not been received.

As noted above, because certain Managed Accounts are held with a specified broker-dealer, including accounts in which Levin Easterly personnel have a direct or indirect ownership interest, and certain Managed Accounts direct Levin Easterly to execute their securities transactions through a specified broker-dealer, Levin Easterly generally is not able to aggregate orders across all accounts in all circumstances. To address this situation, Levin Easterly typically will treat its Managed Accounts as falling within separate trading groups depending on where their accounts are held and generally aggregates appropriate trades across accounts within each trading group where possible or practicable. Directed accounts are generally not aggregated

In addition, to avoid placing competing trades for each separate trading group in the market simultaneously, Levin Easterly generally will place orders for different trading groups using a daily rotational method but may deviate from this approach where Levin Easterly believes that this approach will result in fundamental unfairness to Managed Accounts. This result may occur when trades in the same security for Managed Accounts in one separate trading group receive priority with respect to a purchase or sale of a particular security and also receive a different price, which may, and in some cases, be more favorable than the price received by Managed Accounts in another trading group. Levin Easterly monitors its trading rotation to determine that no Separately Managed Accounts are systematically disadvantaged by this approach to trade order priority. Levin Easterly may, depending upon market conditions, time of day, and difficulty/complexity of compiling investment advisory orders go out of its scheduled daily trading rotation if in the opinion of Levin Easterly the circumstances warrant such action to obtain best execution, take advantage of news announcements, or prevent potential harm to other investment advisory Clients.

When an aggregated order is filled through multiple trades at different prices on the same day, each participating Managed Account within a particular trading group, excluding directed accounts, will receive the average price with transaction costs allocated pro rata based on the size of each Managed Account's participation in the order (or allocation in the event of a partial fill) as determined by Levin Easterly. In the event of a partial fill, allocations generally will be made pro rata based on the initial order, but may be modified on the basis that Levin Easterly deems to be appropriate, including, for example, in order to avoid odd lot positions, *de minimis* allocations, or accounts subject to minimum ticket charges, Levin Easterly may use a random allocation. Smaller Managed Account(s) or accounts with small portfolio positions may or may not participate with other accounts where Levin Easterly deems the transactional costs prohibitive. This may result in either higher or lower portfolio returns than other Managed Accounts with similar investment objectives.

When orders are not aggregated, trades generally will be processed in the order that they are placed with the broker or counterparty selected by Levin Easterly. As a result, certain trades in the same security for one Client (including a Client in which Levin Easterly and its personnel may have a direct or indirect interest) may receive more or less favorable prices or terms than another Client, and orders placed later may not be filled entirely or at all, based on the prevailing market prices at the time of the order or trade. The use of derivative instruments for certain managed accounts may result in different effective net price(s) from other accounts.

In addition, some opportunities for reduced transaction costs and economies of scale may not be achieved.

### Trade Errors

Levin Easterly may on occasion experience errors with respect to trades executed on behalf of its Clients. Trade errors can result from a variety of situations, including, for example, when the wrong security is purchased or sold, or for the wrong account, or the wrong quantity is purchased or sold (*e.g.*, 1,000 shares instead of 10,000 shares are traded). Trade errors may result in losses or gains. Levin Easterly will endeavor to detect trade errors prior to settlement and correct and/or mitigate them in an expeditious

manner. To the extent an error is caused by counterparty, such as by a broker-dealer, Levin Easterly will strive to recover any losses associated with such error from the counterparty but is not responsible for such error. To the extent that Levin Easterly determines that it is responsible for a trade error, Levin Easterly intends to bear the loss caused by such trade errors, but may on a case-by-case basis and subject to Client disclosure and consent not to credit the Managed Account for gains resulting from a trade error. Levin Easterly may not be responsible for errors that arise in the investment management process, including those that do not result in transactions in a Managed Account (such as transactions that result in loss of an investment opportunity) and clerical mistakes not resulting in transactions in Client accounts.

### **ITEM 13**

#### **REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

Levin Easterly performs various daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and other periodic reviews of each Client's portfolio. Such reviews are conducted by Levin Easterly's portfolio managers, research associates and senior operations staff. A review of a Managed Account may be triggered by any unusual activity or various other circumstances.

Each beneficial owner and interested parties upon the Client's authorization with respect to its Managed Account typically receive a quarterly commentary letter from Levin Easterly, as well as monthly or quarterly account statements directly from their respective broker-dealer or custodian.

In addition, Levin Easterly's personnel may participate in periodic portfolio reviews with Clients at Levin Easterly's discretion, which are attended by the appropriate members of Levin Easterly's investment staff and senior marketing personnel.

**ITEM 14**  
**CLIENT REFERRALS AND OTHER COMPENSATION**

Levin Easterly and its affiliates may from time to time utilize third-party placement agents that receive compensation, which may be borne by Levin Easterly, including through sharing a portion of the fees (set forth in Item 5 above), for referring investors to Levin Easterly. Levin Easterly may enter into various arrangements pursuant to which unaffiliated third parties may be compensated for referring Clients to Levin Easterly. Compensation is typically a percentage of Levin Easterly's advisory fees (including incentive fees, if any) received from the referred Clients. Levin Easterly has engaged Easterly Securities, an affiliate of LEPH IV, to solicit and market Levin Easterly investment strategies and products to potential Clients. Easterly Securities will receive fees from Levin Easterly for Client referrals who become Levin Easterly Clients. Clients do not bear the placement fees charged for Client introductions or referrals.

In addition, Levin Easterly may from time to time maintain incentive compensation arrangements with certain of its employees in connection with referrals of Managed Accounts, which may be deemed to constitute indirect compensation in this regard. All such referrals shall conform to Rule 206(4)-3 under the Advisers Act.

**ITEM 15**  
**CUSTODY**

Levin Easterly does not hold Client funds or securities and, except with respect to one Separately Managed Account, does not have the authority to deduct advisory fees from a Client's account. Account statements related to these Clients are sent directly by the qualified custodians to the Client.

## **ITEM 16**

### **INVESTMENT DISCRETION**

Levin Easterly serves as discretionary investment adviser to a Client or Clients who open Separately Managed Accounts with full power and authority to supervise and make investment decisions on behalf of such Managed Accounts without prior consultation with the Client. Levin Easterly has the ability to determine the amount of securities to be purchased or sold, broker or dealer to be used unless (i) directed otherwise by the Client, and the commission rate paid for those accounts that settle transactions on a DVP/RVP basis or (ii) an account is directed by a Client and a commission rate and other fees, if applicable, have been negotiated by the Client. Clients may impose, in Levin Easterly's opinion, any reasonable guideline or restriction on Levin Easterly's ability to invest on their behalf without materially impacting its ability to invest on the Managed Accounts' behalf.

For sub-advisory SEC-registered investment companies, Levin Easterly adheres to the investment restrictions as stated in the Funds' prospectus, Statement of Additional Information, Investment Company Act, applicable Internal Revenue Service rules regarding investment companies, and any reasonable investment restriction imposed by the fund's primary investment advisor. This restriction may include types of securities to be purchased or sold, holdings in specific industries or issuers (individual position, maximum percent holdings, etc.), various tax considerations, broker-dealers that can be used for DVP Clients, and the limitation of soft dollar usage.

Similarly, Levin Easterly's investment decisions and advice with respect to each Client are subject to each Managed Account's investment objectives and guidelines, as set forth in the Client's investment management agreement or a Sub-Advised Fund's prospectus, as well as any written instructions provided by the Client to Levin Easterly.

Levin Easterly has entered into an investment management agreement, or similar agreement, with each Separately Managed Account, pursuant to which Levin Easterly was granted discretionary trading authority.

Levin Easterly also manages Model Portfolios of securities for other registered investment advisers.

Levin Easterly does not execute any security transactions for any Model Portfolios, nor is

Levin Easterly aware of when actual transactions occur, if at all.



## ITEM 17

### VOTING CLIENT SECURITIES

Levin Easterly will, if authorized by the Client, vote proxies on their behalf. Levin Easterly is responsible for voting such shares of Client's discretionary securities under management. However, in certain cases, in accordance with the agreement governing the account, the Client may expressly retain the authority to vote proxies or instruct Levin Easterly how to vote any given proxy. Such Client should receive their proxies or other shareholder notifications and solicitations directly from their custodian. Please note that in such cases, the proxy voting policies and procedures described below would not apply.

The SEC adopted Rule 206(4)-6 under the Advisers Act, which requires registered investment advisers that exercise voting authority over Client securities to implement proxy voting policies. In compliance with such rules, Levin Easterly has adopted proxy voting policies and procedures (the "Policies"). The general policy is to vote proxy proposals, amendments, consents or resolutions relating to Client securities, including interests in private investment funds, if any (collectively, "proxies"), in a manner that serves the best interests of the Managed Accounts, as determined by Levin Easterly in its discretion. Levin Easterly believes this alleviates potential conflicts of interests that may exist between Levin Easterly and the Client with respect to proxy voting. Generally, Levin Easterly utilizes the proxy voting guidelines set forth by Glass Lewis, Inc. ("GL") with respect to a wide range of matters. These guidelines address a range of issues, including corporate governance, executive compensation, capital structure proposals and social responsibility issues and are meant to be general voting parameters on issues that arise most frequently. If Levin Easterly determines that it may have, or is perceived to have, a conflict of interest when voting proxies, Levin Easterly will vote in accordance with the Policies. Levin Easterly may vote certain proxies on a case by case basis contrary to GL proxy voting guidelines if Levin Easterly believes that such vote would be in the best interest of the Client. If such action is undertaken by Levin Easterly, it will usually vote with management's recommendation. If GL does not have a recommendation or if Levin Easterly is not able to obtain a voting recommendation from GL for any reason, Levin Easterly will vote in favor of management's recommendation provided that there are no material conflicts of interests present. If management or GL has no recommendation, Levin Easterly may vote the Client's shares where Levin Easterly believes would best reflect management's ability to enhance shareholder value. This may result in Levin Easterly voting what may be perceived in management's favor. In limited circumstances and for non-United States proxy issuers, Levin Easterly may refrain from voting proxies where Levin Easterly believes that voting would be inappropriate taking into consideration the cost of voting the proxy, applicable proxy voting share-blocking requirements, disclosure of the Client's non-public information, and the anticipated benefit, potential costs or lost trading opportunity to the Clients.

*Levin Easterly shall maintain required records relating to votes cast, Client requests for information and Levin Easterly's proxy voting policies and procedures in accordance with applicable law.*

*A copy of Levin Easterly voting policies and the proxy voting records relating to a Client may be obtained by the Client by contacting Levin Easterly at 595 Madison Avenue, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10022 or by calling Levin Easterly at (212) 259-0800 and/or [ecolandrea@levineasterly.com](mailto:ecolandrea@levineasterly.com).*

**ITEM 18**  
**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Levin Easterly is not required to include a balance sheet for its most recent fiscal year, is not aware of any financial condition reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet contractual commitments to Clients, and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time since inception.