



## SUMMIT TRAIL ADVISORS, LLC

SEC FILE NUMBER: 801 – 99352

Disclosure Brochure  
Dated: March 31, 2019

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This Form ADV2A (“Disclosure Brochure”) provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Summit Trail Advisors, LLC (“Summit Trail” or the “Advisor”). If you have any questions about the contents of this Disclosure Brochure, please contact us at (212) 812-7010. The information in this Disclosure Brochure has not been approved or verified by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about Summit Trail Advisors, LLC and its Advisory Persons is also available on the SEC’s website at <http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov> by searching with our firm name or our firm CRD# 220519.

References herein to Summit Trail as a “registered investment advisor” or any reference to being “registered” does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

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## ITEM 2: MATERIAL CHANGES

Form ADV 2 is divided into two parts: Part 2A (the "Disclosure Brochure") and Part 2B (the "Brochure Supplement"). The Disclosure Brochure provides information about a variety of topics relating to an Advisor's business practices and conflicts of interest. The Brochure Supplement provides information about Advisory Persons of Summit Trail.

Summit Trail believes that communication and transparency are the foundation of its relationship with Clients and will continually strive to provide its Clients with complete and accurate information at all times. Summit Trail encourages all current and prospective Clients to read this Disclosure Brochure and discuss any questions you may have with us. And of course, we always welcome your feedback.

### Material Changes

The following material changes have been made to this Disclosure Brochure since the last filing and distribution to Clients:

- The Advisor has become licensed as an insurance company. Please see Item 10 for additional details.

### Future Changes

From time to time, we may amend this Disclosure Brochure to reflect changes in our business practices, changes in regulations and routine annual updates as required by the securities regulators. This complete Disclosure Brochure or a Summary of Material Changes shall be provided to each Client annually and if a material change occurs in the business practices of Summit Trail.

At any time, you may view the current Disclosure Brochure on-line at the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov) by searching with our firm name or our CRD# 220519. You may also request a copy of this Disclosure Brochure at any time, by contacting us at (212) 812-7010.



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## ITEM 4: ADVISORY BUSINESS

### A. Firm Information

Summit Trail Advisors, LLC (“Summit Trail” or the “Advisor”) is a limited liability company formed on July 6, 2015 in the state of Delaware. The Advisor became a registered Investment advisor with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) in June 2015.

**ANY QUESTIONS:** The Advisor’s Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”), Thomas Harms, remains available to address any questions that a Client or prospective client may have regarding this Disclosure Brochure.

### B. Advisory Services Offered

The Advisor offers investment advisory services and, to the extent specifically requested by a Client, financial planning and related consulting services to individuals, business entities, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, and pension and profit sharing plans (each a “Client”). In the event that the Client requires extraordinary planning and/or consultation services (to be determined in the sole discretion of the Advisor), the Advisor may determine to charge for such additional services, the dollar amount of which shall be set forth in a separate written agreement with the Client.

The Advisor serves as a fiduciary to Clients, as defined under applicable laws and regulations. As a fiduciary, the Advisor upholds a duty of loyalty, fairness and good faith towards each Client and seeks to mitigate potential conflicts of interest. Our fiduciary commitment is further described in our Code of Ethics. For more information regarding our Code of Ethics, please see Item 11 – Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading.

#### **Investment Advisory Services**

The Client can determine whether to engage the Advisor for investment advisory services on a discretionary and/or non-discretionary basis. Clients who choose to engage the Advisor on a non-discretionary basis must be willing to accept that the Advisor cannot execute any account transactions without obtaining prior consent to any such transaction(s) from the Client. Thus, in the event that the Advisor would like to make a transaction for a Client’s account, and Client is unavailable, the Advisor will be unable to execute the account transaction (as it would for its discretionary Clients) without first obtaining the Client’s consent.

Summit Trail has a fiduciary duty to provide services consistent with the Client’s best interest. As part of its investment advisory services, Summit Trail will review Client portfolios on an ongoing basis to determine if any changes are necessary based upon various factors, including, but not limited to, investment performance, fund manager tenure, style drift, account additions/withdrawals, and/or a change in the Client’s investment objective. Based upon these factors, there may be extended periods of time when Summit Trail determines that changes to a Client’s portfolio are neither necessary nor prudent. Of course, as indicated below, there can be



no assurance that investment decisions made by Summit Trail will be profitable or equal any specific performance level(s).

At any specific point in time, depending upon perceived or anticipated market conditions/events (there being no guarantee that such anticipated market conditions/events will occur), the Advisor may maintain cash positions for defensive purposes. All cash positions (money markets, etc.) shall be included as part of assets under management for purposes of calculating the Advisor's advisory fee. Please Note: When the account is holding cash positions, those cash positions will be subject to the same fee schedule as set forth below in Item 5.

Summit Trail selects, recommends and/or retains mutual funds on a fund-by-fund basis and seeks to use non-retail or institutional classes when possible. Due to specific custodial or mutual fund company constraints, material tax consideration, and/or systematic investment plans, Summit Trail may select, recommend or retain a mutual fund share class that has a higher expense ratio than an equivalent share class, as described in Item 5. Please Note: Summit Trail will seek to select the lowest cost share class available that are in the best interest of each Client and will ensure the selection aligns with the Client's financial objectives and state investment guideline.

**Use of Independent Managers** - For those Clients that require an enhanced and/or specialized level of investment management services, the Advisor may also recommend that certain Clients authorize the active discretionary management of a portion of their assets by and/or among certain independent investment manager(s) ("Independent Managers"). To the extent applicable, the Advisor shall recommend Independent Managers consistent with the Client's investment objectives. Factors which the Advisor shall consider in recommending Independent Managers include the Client's stated investment objective(s), management style, performance, reputation, financial strength, reporting, pricing, and research.

The Advisor shall continue to render advisory services to the Client relative to the ongoing monitoring and reviewing of account performance, for which the Advisor shall receive an annual advisory fee per Item 5 below which is based upon a percentage of the market value of the assets being managed by the designated Independent Managers.

Clients who choose to engage the Advisor and elect to utilize Independent Managers will incur costs in addition to the Advisor's advisory fee. Management fees charged by Independent Managers, together with the fees charged by the broker-dealer/custodian of the Client's assets, and any independent manager platform provider fee are exclusive of, and in addition to, Advisor's investment advisory fee.

Additionally, the Advisor may provide investment advisory services to executives and/or principals of certain unaffiliated Independent Managers, thereby creating a conflict of interest. To the extent that the Advisor believes that the utilization of these investment managers is appropriate for a Client, the Advisor shall disclose the conflict to the Client and give the Client the right to restrict, in writing, the Advisor's use of any such independent manager.



**Private Fund Investments** - The Advisor may provide investment advice regarding affiliated and unaffiliated private investment funds.

- **Unaffiliated Funds-** The Advisor's role relative to the private investment funds shall be limited to its initial and ongoing due diligence and investment monitoring services. If a Client determines to become a private fund investor, the amount of assets invested in the fund(s) shall be included as part of "assets under management" for purposes of the Advisor calculating its investment advisory fee per Item 5 below (unless the Client purchases the fund on a commission basis from the Advisor's affiliated broker-dealer-**see** disclosure at Item 10 below). The Advisor's Clients are under no obligation to consider or make an investment in a private investment fund(s).
- **Affiliated Funds-** The Adviser is the General Partner of two private investment funds, Ascent Emerging Markets Fund, LP and Ascent Private Investment Fund II, LP. Additionally, Summit Trail is the Investment Advisor to the Ascent Event Driven Fund (the Fund[s]). If a Client determines to become a Fund, the amount of assets invested in the Fund(s) shall be included as part of "assets under management" for purposes of the Advisor calculating its investment advisory fee per Item 5 below. The Advisor's Clients are under no obligation to consider or make an investment in the Funds. **See** Additional Funds' Costs at Item 5 below.

The Advisor may also introduce Clients to private investment funds for which it serves as an Investment Advisor. The Advisor does not receive a separate advisory fee for its Investment Advisory services to the fund, nor any other type of compensation from the fund. Rather, the Advisor's only compensation is the advisory fee that it receives from the.

### **Financial Planning and Consulting Services**

Clients may engage the Advisor for stand-alone financial planning services and related consulting services regarding non-investment related matters, including, but not limited to, estate planning, tax planning and insurance needs. Prior to engaging the Advisor to provide stand-alone financial planning or consulting services, Clients are generally required to enter into a *Financial Planning and Consulting Agreement* with Advisor setting forth the terms and conditions of the engagement (including termination), describing the scope of the services to be provided, and the portion of the fee that is due from the Client prior to Advisor commencing services.

If requested by the Client, the Advisor may recommend the services of other professionals for implementation purposes (i.e., attorneys, accountants, brokers, insurance agents, etc.). The Client is under no obligation to engage the services of any such recommended professional. The Client retains absolute discretion over all such implementation decisions and is free to accept or reject any recommendation from the Advisor or its Advisory Persons.

If the Client engages any such unaffiliated recommended professional, and a dispute arises thereafter relative to such engagement, the Client agrees to seek recourse exclusively from and against the engaged professional. At all times, the engaged licensed professional[s] (i.e. attorney,



accountant, insurance agent, etc.), and not the Advisor, shall be responsible for the quality and competency of the services provided.

Additionally, it remains the Client's responsibility to promptly notify the Advisor if there is ever any change in their financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing, evaluating or revising Advisor's previous recommendations and/or services.

If the Advisor has been engaged to provide non-discretionary consulting services relative to the Client's other unaffiliated investment professionals, including investment assets for which the Advisor does not maintain any trading authority (the "Excluded Assets"), the Client and/or the Client's other investment professionals/advisors that maintain trading authority, and not the Advisor, shall be, and remain, exclusively responsible for the investment performance of the Excluded Assets. The Advisor shall not be responsible for the actions and/or omissions of the Client's other investment professionals/advisors. The Client is under absolutely no obligation to accept any of Advisor's advice or recommendations relative to the Excluded Assets. In the event the Client desires that the Advisor provide investment management services for the Excluded Assets, the Client may engage the Advisor to do so pursuant to the terms and conditions of the *Investment Advisory Agreement* between the Advisor and the Client.

The Advisor, in conjunction with the services provided by third-party services, may also provide periodic reporting services which can incorporate all of the Client's investment assets, including Excluded Assets. Unless otherwise specifically agreed to, in writing, Advisor's service relative to the Excluded Assets is limited to reporting only. The sole exception to the above shall be if the Advisor is specifically engaged to monitor and/or allocate the assets within the Client's 401(k) account maintained away at the custodian directed by the Client's employer. As such, except with respect to the Client's 401(k) account (if applicable), Advisor does not maintain any trading authority for the Excluded Assets. Rather, the Client and/or the Client's designated other investment professional(s) maintain supervision, monitoring and trading authority for the Excluded Assets. In the event the Client desires that Advisor provide investment management services for the Excluded Assets, the Client must engage the Advisor to do so pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Investment Advisory Agreement between Advisor and the Client.

### **Miscellaneous**

**Retirement Plan Rollovers – No Obligation / Conflict of Interest:** A Client or prospective Client leaving an employer typically has four options regarding an existing retirement plan (and may engage in a combination of these options): (i) leave the assets in the former employer's retirement plan, if permitted, (ii) rollover the assets to the new employer's retirement plan, if one is available and rollovers are permitted, (iii) rollover to an individual retirement account ("IRA"), or (iv) cash out the account value (which could, depending upon the Client's age, result in adverse tax consequences). If the Advisor recommends that a Client roll over their retirement plan assets into an account to be managed by the Advisor, such a recommendation presents a conflict of interest if the Advisor will earn new (or increase its current) compensation as a result of the rollover. **No Client is under any obligation to rollover retirement plan assets to an account managed by the Advisor.**



## C. Client Account Management

The Advisor shall provide investment advisory services specific to the needs of each Client. Prior to providing investment advisory services, an Advisory Person will ascertain each Client's investment objective(s). Thereafter, the Advisor shall allocate and/or recommend that the Client allocate investment assets consistent with the designated investment objective(s). The Client may, at any time, impose reasonable restrictions, in writing, on the Advisor's services.

## D. Wrap Fee Program

The Advisor no longer offers a Wrap Fee Program to new Clients, however, the Advisor has certain legacy Clients where securities transaction fees are combined with investment advisory fees. Including these fees into a single asset-based fee is considered a "Wrap Fee Program". The Advisor sponsors the Summit Trail Wrap Fee Program solely as a supplemental disclosure regarding the combination of fees. Depending on the level of trading required for the Client's account[s] in a particular year, the Client may pay more or less in total fees than if the Client paid its own transaction fees. Please see Appendix 1 – Wrap Fee Program Brochure, which is a supplement to this Disclosure Brochure.

## E. Assets Under Management

As of December 31, 2018, the Advisor managed \$2,210,507,582 in discretionary and \$2,831,947,539 in non-discretionary assets, totaling \$5,042,455,121 in assets under management.

## ITEM 5: FEES AND COMPENSATION

### A. Fees for Advisory Services

#### Investment Advisory Services

The Advisor's annual fee for investment advisory services shall generally be based upon a percentage (%) of the market value and type of assets placed under the Advisor's management (typically negotiable up to 1.50%) to be charged quarterly in advance.

<u>Assets Under Management</u>	<u>Annualized Fee</u>
Less than \$5,000,000	1.50%
\$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000	1.25%
\$10,000,000 to \$25,000,000	1.10%
\$25,000,000 to \$50,000,000	0.90%
\$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000	0.75%
More than \$100,000,000	Negotiable

Alternatively, the Advisor may offer its investment advisory services on a flat fee basis. To the extent offered, the Advisor's flat fee will be based upon various subjective and objective factors and will not exceed the above schedule.





The Advisor's annual fee is billed and payable on a pro-rata basis, quarterly in advance, based upon the market value of the assets being managed by Summit Trail on the last day of the previous quarter. Reconciliations are performed on a quarterly basis to capture the difference in the market value of the assets on the last day of the previous quarter and the average daily balance of the assets for the quarter. An adjustment will be made in the form of a credit or debit to reflect the difference. In the event the portfolio management agreement is terminated, the fee for the final billing period will be prorated through the effective date of termination, and the outstanding or unearned portion of the fee will be charged or refunded to you, as appropriate. Summit Trail management fee is negotiable, depending on individual client circumstances.

**Use of Independent Managers -** For Client account[s] implemented through an Independent Manager, the Client's overall fees may include Summit Trail's investment advisory fee (as noted above) plus advisory fees and/or platform fees charged by the Independent Manager[s], as applicable. The Independent Manager may assume responsibility for calculating the Client's fees and deducting all fees from the Client's account[s]. In such instances, Summit Trail will not charge its fee separately on those assets.

Turnkey asset management programs ("TAMP") related charges are not included in the investment management fee you pay to Summit Trail. You will be charged, separate from and in addition to your investment management fee, any applicable TAMP fees as well as applicable Independent Manager fees. Summit Trail does not receive any portion of the fees paid directly to Dynasty or the service providers made available through the TAMP, including the Independent Managers.

TAMP and Independent Manager fees are determined by the particular TAMP and Independent Manager[s] with which Client assets are invested, and are calculated based upon a percentage of assets under management, as applicable. The program fee generally ranges up to 0.45% annually.

Clients should note the total fees reflected on custodial statements represent the aggregate of Summit Trail's investment management fee, TAMP fee and Independent Manager fee, accordingly. Clients are urged to review such statements to determine the total amount of fees associated with assets placed with Independent Managers. Client should also review the investment management agreement with Summit Trail to determine the investment management fee paid to the Advisor.

### **Financial Planning and Consulting Services**

The Advisor may provide financial planning and/or consulting services (including investment and non-investment related matters, including estate planning, insurance planning, etc.) on a stand-alone separate fee basis. Advisor's planning and consulting fees are negotiable, but generally range from \$5,000 to \$75,000 on a fixed fee basis, and from \$500 to \$1,000 on an hourly basis, depending upon the level and scope of the service(s) required and the professional(s) rendering the service(s).



## B. Fee Billing

### **Investment Advisory Services**

Clients may elect to have investment advisory fees deducted from their account(s) at the custodian. Both the Advisor's *Investment Advisory Agreement* and the custodial/clearing agreement may authorize the custodian to debit each account for the amount of the Advisor's investment advisory fee and to directly remit that management fee to the Advisor in compliance with regulatory procedures. In the limited event that the Advisor bills the Client directly, payment is due upon receipt of the Advisor's invoice. The Advisor shall deduct fees and/or bill Clients quarterly in advance, based upon the market value of the Client's assets on the last day of the previous billing period ("Billing Period") as valued by the custodian of the assets. No increase in the annual fee percentage shall be effective without prior written notification.

Clients may make additions to and withdrawals from their account(s) at any time. However, reconciliations are performed on a quarterly basis to capture the difference in the market value of the assets on the last day of the previous quarter and the average daily balance of the assets for the quarter. An adjustment will be made in the form of a credit or debit to reflect the difference. For the initial period of an engagement, the fee is calculated on a pro rata basis through the end of the quarter. 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 unearned portion is refunded to the Client, as appropriate.

*Use of Independent Managers* - Client account[s] implemented through Independent Manager[s] will be billed in accordance to the separate agreement[s] with the respective parties. These parties will typically add Summit Trail's investment advisory fee and deduct the overall fee from the Client's account[s].

*Private Fund Investments* - The Advisor may also provide investment advisory services with respect to unaffiliated and affiliated non-custodial partnership/private fund investments, which are not held at the Primary Custodian. In such instances, the Client shall be required to complete the applicable private placement and/or account opening documents to establish these investments. The Advisor will debit its fee for providing investment advisory services with respect to these relationships directly from a brokerage account designated by the Client held at the Primary Custodian. For certain non-custodial partnership/private fund investments, the Advisor may not receive quarter-end investment valuations prior to its fee billing calculation. In such instances, the Advisor will use the most recent month-end or quarter-end valuation available for the calculation of investment advisory fees. The Advisor will recalculate its fee upon receipt of final valuations. Adjustments are reflected in the fee calculations for the next quarterly period.

### **Financial Planning and Consulting Services**

Financial planning and consulting fees may be invoiced up to fifty percent (50%) of the expected total fee upon execution of the financial planning agreement. The balance shall be invoiced upon completion of the agreed upon deliverable[s].

## C. Other Fees and Expenses



Clients may incur certain fees or charges imposed by third parties in connection with investments made on behalf of the Client's account[s]. The Advisor may include securities transactions costs as part of its overall investment advisory fee through the Advisor's Wrap Fee Program. Securities transaction fees for Client-directed trades may be charged back to the Client. Please see Appendix 1 – Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

In addition, all fees paid to the Advisor for investment advisory services or part of the Advisor's Wrap Fee Program are separate and distinct from the expenses charged by mutual funds and ETFs to their shareholders, if applicable. These fees and expenses are described in each fund's prospectus. Summit Trail can provide or direct you to a copy of the prospectus for any fund that we recommend to you. These fees and expenses will generally be used to pay management fees for the funds, other fund expenses, account administration (e.g., custody, brokerage and account reporting), and a possible distribution fee. A Client may be able to invest in these products directly, without the services of the Advisor, but would not receive the services provided by the Advisor which are designed, among other things, to assist the Client in determining which products or services are most appropriate for each Client's financial situation and objectives. Accordingly, the Client should review both the fees charged by the fund[s] and the fees charged by the Advisor to fully understand the total fees to be paid. Please refer to Item 12 – Brokerage Practices for additional information.

**Trade away/Prime Broker Fees** - Relative to its discretionary investment advisory services, when beneficial to the Client, individual fixed income transactions may be effected through broker-dealers other than the account custodian, in which event, the Client generally will incur both the fee (commission, mark-up/mark-down) charged by the executing broker-dealer and a separate "trade away" and/or prime broker fee charged by the account Custodian. Clients who engage the Advisor on a wrap fee basis will not incur trade away and/or prime broker fees.

#### **D. Advance Payment of Fees and Termination**

##### **Investment Advisory Services**

The Advisor is compensated for its services at the beginning of the quarter before investment advisory services are rendered. Either party may request to terminate the investment advisory agreement with the Advisor, at any time, by providing advance written notice to the other party. The Advisor will refund any unearned, prepaid investment advisory fees from the effective date of termination to the end of the quarter. The Client's investment advisory agreement with the Advisor is non-transferable without the Client's prior consent.

**Use of Independent Managers** - In the event that a Client should wish to terminate their relationship with an Independent Manager, the terms for termination will be set forth in the respective agreements between the Client and those third parties. Summit Trail will assist the Client with the termination and transition as appropriate.



### **Financial Planning and Consulting Services**

The Advisor may require an advance deposit as described above. Either party may terminate the financial planning and consulting agreement by providing advance written notice to the other party. Upon termination, the Client shall be billed for actual hours logged on the planning project times the contractual hourly rate or in the case of a fixed fee engage, the percentage of the engagement scope completed by the Advisor. The Advisor will refund any unearned, prepaid planning fees from the effective date of termination. The Client's financial planning and consulting agreement with the Advisor is non-transferable without the Client's prior consent.

## **E. Compensation for Sales of Securities**

### **Broker-Dealer Affiliation**

In the event that the Client desires, the Client can engage certain Advisory Persons, in their individual capacities, as registered representatives of Summit Trail Securities, LLC ("*STS*"), an affiliated SEC registered and FINRA member broker-dealer, to implement investment recommendations on a commission basis. In the event the Client chooses to purchase investment products through *STS*, *STS* will charge brokerage commissions to effect securities transactions, a portion of which commissions *STS* shall pay to the representative, as applicable. The brokerage commissions charged by *STS* may be higher or lower than those charged by other broker-dealers. In addition, *STS*, as well as the Advisory Persons, relative to commission mutual fund purchases, may also receive additional ongoing 12b-1 trailing commission compensation directly from the mutual fund company during the period that the Client maintains the mutual fund investment.

1. **Conflict of Interest:** The recommendation that a Client purchase a commission product from *STS* presents a conflict of interest, as the receipt of commissions may provide an incentive to recommend investment products based on commissions to be received, rather than on a particular Client's need. No Client is under any obligation to purchase any commission products from an Advisor representative.
2. **Please Note:** Clients may purchase investment products recommended by Advisor through other, non-affiliated broker-dealers.
3. The Advisor does not receive more than 50% of its revenue from advisory Clients as a result of commissions or other compensation for the sale of investment products the Advisor recommends to its Clients.
4. When a representative sells an investment product on a commission basis, the Advisor does not charge an advisory fee in addition to the commissions paid by the Client for such product. When providing services on an advisory fee basis, the Advisory Person does not also receive commission compensation for such advisory services. (except for any ongoing 12b-1 trailing commission compensation that may be received as previously discussed). However, a Client may engage the Advisor to provide investment management services on an advisory fee basis and separate from such advisory services purchase an investment product from an Advisory Person on a separate commission



basis.

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

Neither the Advisor nor its Advisory Persons accept performance-based fees. However, the Advisor may recommend Investment Managers and investment funds, including Private Funds (including the Funds that STA is the Investment Manager to), which may assess a performance-based fee. Such a recommendation to invest with an Investment Manager or investment fund with a performance-based fee arrangement would be preceded by an assessment as to the suitability and appropriateness of such an investment, relative to other similar investments, if any, which do not have a performance-based fee arrangement.

#### **ITEM 7: TYPES OF CLIENTS**

The Advisor's Clients shall generally include individuals, high net worth individuals, business entities, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, and pension and profit sharing plans. The amount of each type of Client is available on the Advisor's Form ADV Part 1A. These amounts may change over time and are updated at least annually by the Advisor. The Advisor, in its sole discretion, may charge a lesser investment advisory fee, or a flat fee, based upon certain criteria (i.e. anticipated future earning capacity, anticipated future additional assets, dollar amount of assets to be managed, related accounts, account composition, competition, negotiations with Client, etc.). The Advisor generally does not impose a minimum relationship size for establishing a relationship. However, certain of the Advisor's strategies may require a minimum asset amount in order to achieve optimal returns based on the needs of the Client, which may be waived at the sole discretion of the Advisor. **Please Note:** As result of the above, similarly situated Clients could pay different fees. In addition, similar advisory services may be available from other investment advisers for similar or lower fees.

#### **ITEM 8: METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISK OF LOSS**

A. The Advisor's investment process encompasses three major areas: 1.) Asset Allocation, 2.) Investment Selection, and 3.) Portfolio Construction. The investment process is designed to be customized to each Client and their particular attributes.

1. Asset Allocation is the process for determining a long-term asset allocation that is appropriate for an investor, as well as considering how each asset class will fare in the intermediate-term in relation to its long-term expectations. The first step is to define which asset classes exist and how to categorize the world of investments. Asset classes must be unique, and investable for consideration. We believe there are roughly 15 asset classes that exist today for sophisticated investors.

It is also important to classify these asset classes more broadly into groups that investors can understand. We believe all asset classes serve one of three purposes: Growth, Preservation, or Inflation Protection. Any asset class can be classified in one of these categories. By using broad categories that establish a clear goal and objective, we believe investors can better



determine their proper allocation among the three groups, and therefore have portfolios that better fit their risk profile.

2. Investment selection is the process of determining how to invest in each asset class. We primarily utilize an open architecture, in that we do not generally select individual securities within our firm. Whenever possible, we build portfolios by selecting specialists in each asset class who focus their research process on a specific area of the investment marketplace. We typically utilize a combination of ETFs, Separate Accounts, Mutual Funds, and Limited Partnerships to invest our Client's portfolios.

In researching an active management organization, we utilize a research process built by the investment team at prior firms. We look at investment firms in four parts: Organization, Investment Process, Performance, and Operations. Our review of the organization is focused on determining whether the organization is likely to impede the investment process over the life of our investment. We seek to invest in firms that have positive attributes we prefer around ownership structure, compensation, product distribution, capacity management and numerous other items. In reviewing an investment process, we seek to understand the quality of the information the manager possesses, how they have utilized that information, and how they make portfolio decisions. This is a process that can review many individual investments over multiple years. We then will review performance, which is essentially the result of the investment process. Not all strong performance track records are the same, and we seek to understand in depth how manager has added value, and whether the nature of that added value is likely to continue. Finally, we review the firm's operational capabilities, in terms of their operational policies and documents. In the case of Limited Partnerships we conduct a review of the operations to ensure we are comfortable with the custodian, administrator, auditor, as well as other items.

Ongoing due diligence is a critical component of our recommended manager selection, and it is necessary to continue to review all four aspects of our active managers on a forward-looking basis. Please Note: While our ongoing due diligence includes Client's legacy managers, we may undergo a more thorough level of due diligence of our recommended managers. We continue to monitor the organization for any changes or signs of maturity or decline. We analyze data regarding the portfolios, and how the portfolios change over time. For marketable investments, we review performance monthly, and based on the type of investment will analyze performance drivers like attribution analysis on a quarterly basis. If there are changes to any of the key attributes of our managers we will make decisions about continuing to use a manager in Client portfolios, and could lead us to termination or redemption from an existing manager.

3. Portfolio construction is a process that marries the asset allocation and investment selection with the key attributes of the Client. Doing our review process with a Client, we will seek to understand their investment risk tolerance, engagement, belief in skill, tax status, income and spending needs, as well as numerous other factors. We will then create an investment policy on allocation to our three major asset class buckets: 1) Growth, 2) Preservation, or 3) Inflation Protection.



Portfolio construction for a Client will continue to be an ongoing process as well. Making sure that as their needs and goals change over time, our portfolios change as well.

The Advisor may utilize the following methods of security analysis:

- Fundamental - (analysis performed on historical and present data, with the goal of making financial forecasts)
- Technical – (analysis performed on historical and present data, focusing on price and trade volume, to forecast the direction of prices)

The Advisor may utilize the following investment strategies when implementing investment advice given to Clients:

- Long Term Purchases (securities held at least a year)
- Short Term Purchases (securities sold within a year)
- Margin Transactions (use of borrowed assets to purchase financial instruments)
- Options (contract for the purchase or sale of a security at a predetermined price during a specific period of time)

**Please Note: Investment Risk.** Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk, and it should not be assumed that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy (including the investments and/or investment strategies recommended or undertaken by the Advisor) will be profitable or equal any specific performance level(s).

- B. The Advisor's methods of analysis and investment strategies do not present any significant or unusual risks.

However, every method of analysis has its own inherent risks. To perform an accurate market analysis the Advisor must have access to current/new market information. The Advisor has no control over the dissemination rate of market information; therefore, unbeknownst to the Advisor, certain analyses may be compiled with stale information, severely limiting the value of the Advisor's analysis. Furthermore, an accurate market analysis can only produce a forecast of the direction of market values. There can be no assurances that a forecasted change in market value will materialize into actionable and/or profitable investment opportunities.

The Advisor's primary investment strategies - Long Term Purchase and Short Term Purchases - are fundamental investment strategies. However, every investment strategy has its own inherent risks and limitations. For example, longer term investment strategies require a longer investment time period to allow for the strategy to potentially develop. Shorter term investment strategies require a shorter investment time period to potentially develop but, as a result of more frequent trading, may incur higher transactional costs when compared to a longer term investment strategy.

In addition to the fundamental investment strategies discussed above, the Advisor may also implement and/or recommend the use of margin and options transactions. The Advisor may also



recommend the investment into certain private fund investments. These strategies have a high level of inherent risk.

Margin is an investment strategy with a high level of inherent risk. A margin transaction occurs when an investor uses borrowed assets to purchase financial instruments. The investor generally obtains the borrowed assets by using other securities as collateral for the borrowed sum. The effect of purchasing a security using margin is to magnify any gains or losses sustained by the purchase of the financial instruments on margin. **Please note:** To the extent that a Client authorizes the use of margin, and margin is thereafter employed by the Advisor in the management of the Client's investment portfolio, the market value of the Client's account(s) and corresponding fee payable by the Client to the Advisor may be increased. As a result, in addition to understanding and assuming the additional principal risks associated with the use of margin, Clients authorizing margin are advised of the conflict of interest whereby the Client's decision to employ margin *may* correspondingly increase the management fee payable to the Advisor. Accordingly, the decision as to whether to employ margin is left totally to the discretion of Client.

The use of options transactions as an investment strategy involves a high level of inherent risk. Option transactions establish a contract between two parties concerning the buying or selling of an asset at a predetermined price during a specific period of time. During the term of the option contract, the buyer of the option gains the right to demand fulfillment by the seller. Fulfillment may take the form of either selling or purchasing a security depending upon the nature of the option contract. Generally, the purchase or the recommendation to purchase an option contract by the Advisor shall be with the intent of offsetting/hedging a potential market risk in a Client's portfolio. **Please Note:** Although the intent of the options-related transactions that may be implemented by the Advisor is to hedge against principal risk, certain of the options-related strategies (i.e. straddles, short positions, etc.), may, in and of themselves, produce principal volatility and/or risk. Thus, a Client must be willing to accept these enhanced volatility and principal risks associated with such strategies. In light of these enhanced risks, Client may direct the Advisor, in writing, not to employ any or all such strategies for their accounts.

Private investment funds generally involve various risk factors, including, but not limited to, potential for complete loss of principal, liquidity constraints and lack of transparency. A complete discussion of these risks are set forth in each fund's respective offering documents, which will be provided to each Client for review and consideration. Unlike liquid investments that a Client may maintain, private investment funds do not provide daily liquidity or pricing.

- C. Currently, the Advisor primarily allocates Client investment assets among various individual equity and fixed income securities, mutual funds and/or ETFs, Independent Managers, and separately managed accounts on a discretionary and non-discretionary basis in accordance with the Client's designated investment objective(s).

From time to time, and only in those cases where the Client is eligible to do so, the Advisor may recommend participating in initial and secondary public offerings ("IPOs"). In addition to the risks set forth above, given the nature of such offerings they may have more volatility in price than existing equities that are currently traded and have a trading history. Accordingly, the





decision as to whether to participate in initial or secondary offerings is left totally to the discretion of Client.

## **ITEM 9: DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION**

The Advisor has not been the subject of any disciplinary actions.

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

Neither the Advisor, nor its Advisory Persons, are registered or have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, a commodity trading advisor, or a representative of the foregoing.

### **Broker-Dealer Affiliation**

As disclosed above in Item 5.E, certain Advisory Persons of the Advisor are also registered representatives of STS. Clients can choose to engage an Advisory Person, and/or other related persons of STS in their individual capacities as registered representatives of STS, to implement securities brokerage transactions on a commissionable basis, i.e. placement agent services for private investment funds for which the Advisor is the named Investment Advisor.

The recommendation by an Advisory Person that a Client purchase a securities commission product presents a conflict of interest, as the receipt of commissions may provide an incentive to recommend investment products based on commissions received, rather than based on a particular Client's need. No Client is under any obligation to purchase any commission products from an Advisory Person in his/her capacity as a registered representative of STS. Clients are reminded that they may purchase securities products recommended by the Advisor through other, non-affiliated registered representatives and through other non-affiliated broker-dealers.

### **Dynasty Financial Partners, LLC Affiliation**

The Advisor maintains a business relationship with Dynasty, which provides the Advisor with operational and back office support including access to a network of service providers. Through the Dynasty network of service providers, the Advisor has access to discounts on trading technology, reporting, custody, brokerage, compliance and other related services. While the Advisor believes this open architecture structure for operational services best serves the interests of its advisory Clients, this relationship may present certain conflicts of interest due to the fact that Dynasty retains a portion of the platform or other third party fees paid by the Advisor or Clients for the services referenced above. In light of the foregoing, the Advisor seeks at all times to ensure that any material conflicts are addressed on a fully-disclosed basis and handled in a manner that is aligned with its Clients' best interests. The Advisor does not receive any portion of the fees paid directly to Dynasty, its affiliates or the service providers made available through Dynasty's platform. In addition, the Advisor reviews all such relationships, including the service providers engaged through Dynasty, on an ongoing basis in an effort to ensure Clients are receiving competitive rates in relation to the quality and scope of the services provided.



Dynasty's subsidiary, Dynasty Wealth Management, LLC ("DWM"), a registered investment advisor, also provides access to a range of investment services, including separately managed accounts ("SMAs"), mutual fund and exchange-traded fund ("ETF") asset allocation strategies and unified managed accounts ("UMAs") managed by external third party managers (collectively the "Investment Programs"). The Advisor may receive more advantageous pricing as assets increase, which poses a conflict of interest with the Client.

In light of the foregoing, the Advisor seeks at all times to ensure that any such conflicts are addressed on a fully-disclosed basis and investment decisions are handled in a manner that is aligned with its Clients' best interests. Summit Trail does not receive any portion of the fees paid directly to Dynasty or the service providers made available through its platform, and the Summit Trail reviews all such relationships on an ongoing basis in an effort to ensure Clients are receiving competitive rates in light of the services they receive.

The Advisor has obtained financing for their business through Dynasty Advisors Financing Services, LLC ("DAFS"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dynasty Financial Partners, LLC (and affiliate of Dynasty Wealth Management, LLC). DAFS, in partnership with various independent banks, has provided the Advisor with a lending facility to assist with business transition expenses and other costs associated with launching the Advisor. The Advisor is not obligated to utilize the DAFS lending facility in order to obtain other services from Dynasty. All lending is subject to standard underwriting requirements. A portion of this loan may be furnished directly from Dynasty as a co-lender. In such situations, the Advisor will be subject to the same lending facility criteria and requirements as applied by the independent bank.

The fee for these services is included in the fees paid by the Client (See Item 5. Fees and Compensation).

### **Referral Engagements**

In certain instances, the Advisor may refer a client or prospective client to an unaffiliated asset manager. The Advisor may receive compensation for the referral, in accordance with the requirements of Rule 206(4)-3 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, and any corresponding state securities law requirements. The receipt of the referral fee is solely from the unaffiliated asset manager, where the Advisor will not charge any additional fees for the referred assets or engagement.

### **Insurance Company**

The Advisor is a licensed insurance agency, and as such, may offer insurance products on a commission basis. The Advisor shall generally introduce the client to an unaffiliated insurance agency to manage the insurance process. The Advisor shall receive a portion of the insurance commission earned by the unaffiliated insurance agency. No client shall be under any obligation to purchase any insurance products from the Advisor or such introduced insurance agency. The recommendation by an Advisory Person that a Client purchase an insurance product presents a conflict of interest, as the receipt of commissions may provide an incentive to recommend insurance products based on commissions to be received, rather than based on a particular



Client's need. Clients are reminded that they remain free to purchase insurance products through other insurance agencies.

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

- A. The Advisor maintains a Code of Ethics (the "Code") that is applicable to all individuals associated with the Advisor (our "Supervised Persons"). In addition, the Advisor maintains an investment policy relative to personal securities transactions for Supervised Persons with access to Client investment information (our "Access Persons"). This investment policy is part of the Advisor's overall Code, which serves to establish a standard of business conduct that is based upon fundamental principles of openness, integrity, honesty and trust, a copy of which is available upon request.

In accordance with Section 204A of the Advisers Act, the Advisor also maintains and enforces written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse of material non-public information by the Advisor or any Supervised Person.

As disclosed above, the Advisor may recommend participation in initial and secondary offerings to eligible Clients. In such cases, offerings may be available in limited quantities wherein the Advisor may need to allocate shares to Clients in a lesser proportion than as requested by the Client. These situations create a conflict of interest and in such cases the Advisor will manage such conflicts through applicable policies and procedures.

- B. Neither the Advisor nor its Supervised Persons recommends, buys, or sells for Client accounts, securities in which the Advisor or any of its Supervised Persons have a material financial interest.
- C. The Advisor and/or its Access Persons may buy or sell securities that are also recommended to Clients. This practice may create a situation where the Advisor and/or its Access Persons are in a position to materially benefit from the sale or purchase of those securities. Therefore, this situation creates a conflict of interest. Practices such as "scalping" (i.e., a practice whereby the owner of shares of a security recommends that security for investment and then immediately sells it at a profit upon the rise in the market price which follows the recommendation) could take place if the Advisor did not have adequate policies in place to detect such activities. In addition, this requirement can help detect insider trading, "front-running" (i.e., personal trades executed prior to those of the Advisor's Clients) and other potentially abusive practices.

The Advisor has a personal securities transaction policy in place to monitor the personal securities transactions and securities holdings of each of the Advisor's Access Persons. The Advisor's securities transaction policy requires that an Access Person of the Advisor must provide the CCO or delegate with a written report of their current securities holdings within ten (10) days after becoming an Access Person. Each quarter, Access Persons shall provide a summary of their personal transactions to the CCO or delegate. Each Access Person must also provide the CCO or delegate with a written report of the Access Person's current securities holdings at least once each twelve (12) month period thereafter on a date the Advisor selects.



- D. The Advisor and/or its Access Persons may buy or sell securities, at or around the same time as those securities are recommended to Clients. This practice creates a situation where the Advisor and/or its Access Persons are in a position to materially benefit from the sale or purchase of those securities. Therefore, this situation creates a conflict of interest. As indicated above in Item 11.C, the Advisor has a personal securities transaction policy in place to monitor the personal securities transaction and securities holdings of each of Advisor's Access Persons.

## **ITEM 12: BROKERAGE PRACTICES**

- A. In the event that the Client requests that the Advisor recommend a broker-dealer/custodian for custody and execution services (exclusive of those Clients that may direct the Advisor to use a specific broker-dealer/custodian). The Client will engage the broker-dealer/custodian (herein the "Custodian") to safeguard Client assets and authorize the Advisor to direct trades to this Custodian as agreed upon in the investment advisory agreement. The Client may also authorize the Advisor to trade securities away from the Custodian and arrange for delivery of these securities to the Client's account[s] at the Custodian or another custodian designated by the Client. For such "trade-away" arrangements, the Custodian will charge a separate trade-away fee in addition to the securities commissions. These trade-away fees are in addition to any commissions and other brokerage fees charged by the executing broker-dealer.

Where the Advisor does not exercise discretion over the selection of the Custodian, it may recommend the Custodian[s] to Clients for custody and execution services. Clients are not obligated to use the Custodian recommended by the Advisor and will not incur any extra fee or cost associated with using a broker-dealer/custodian not recommended by the Advisor. However, the Advisor may be limited in the services it can provide if the recommended Custodian is not engaged. The Advisor may recommend the Custodian based on criteria such as, but not limited to, reasonableness of commissions charged to the Client, services made available to the Client, its reputation, and/or the location of the Custodian's offices. The Advisor generally recommends that investment management accounts be maintained at Pershing LLC ("Pershing"), Fidelity Clearing & Custody Solutions, a related entity of Fidelity Investments, Inc. (collectively "Fidelity") and Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("Schwab") FINRA-registered broker-dealers and members SIPC. The Advisor maintains an institutional relationship with Pershing, Fidelity and Schwab, whereby the Advisor receives economic benefits from Pershing, Fidelity and Schwab. Please see Item 14 below.

### **1. Research and Additional Benefits**

Although not a material consideration when determining whether to recommend that a client utilize the services of Pershing, Fidelity or Schwab (or another broker-dealer/custodian, investment platform, unaffiliated investment manager, vendor, unaffiliated product/fund sponsor, or vendor), Advisor receives from Pershing, Fidelity or Schwab without cost (and/or at a discount) support services and/or products, certain of which assist Advisor to better monitor and service client accounts maintained at such institutions. Included within the support services that may be obtained by Advisor may be investment-related research, pricing information and market data, software and other technology that provide access to



client account data, compliance and/or practice management-related publications, discounted or gratis consulting services, discounted and/or gratis attendance at conferences, meetings, and other educational and/or social events, marketing support, computer hardware and/or software and/or other products used by Advisor in furtherance of its investment advisory business operations.

As indicated above, certain of the support services and/or products received may assist Advisor in managing and administering client accounts. Others do not directly provide such assistance, but rather assist Advisor to manage and further develop its business enterprise.

#### Additional Benefits

Advisor has received from Pershing and Fidelity, certain additional economic benefits, related to business development needs, ("Additional Benefits") that may or may not be offered to Advisor again in the future. Specifically, the Additional Benefits include partial payment for certain research and technology expenses for the benefit of the Advisor. Over the past two years, Pershing has made payments to third party vendors for technology and research related expenses. Pershing and Fidelity has made one off payments between \$1,000 and \$10,000 infrequently and irregularly to these third party service providers over the course of the last two years. Each payment is non-recurring and individually negotiated. The Advisor has no expectation that these Additional Benefits will be offered again; however, Advisor reserves the right to negotiate for these Additional Benefits in the future. Pershing and Fidelity provides the Additional Benefits to Advisor in its sole discretion and at its own expense, and neither the Advisor nor its clients pay any fees to Pershing for the Additional Benefits. The Advisor and Pershing and/or Fidelity has entered into any written agreement to govern the Additional Benefits.

## **2. Brokerage Referrals**

The Advisor does not receive referrals from broker-dealers.

## **3. Directed Brokerage**

The Advisor does not generally accept directed brokerage arrangements (when a Client requires that account transactions be effected through a specific broker-dealer). In such Client directed arrangements, the Client will negotiate terms and arrangements for their account(s) with that broker-dealer, and Advisor will not seek better execution services or prices from other broker-dealers or be able to "batch" the Client's transactions for execution through other broker-dealers with orders for other accounts managed by Advisor. As a result, Client may pay higher commissions or other transaction costs or greater spreads, or receive less favorable net prices, on transactions for the account(s) than would otherwise be the case.

In the event that the Client directs the Advisor to implement securities transactions for the Client's account(s) through a specific broker-dealer/custodian, the Client correspondingly acknowledges that such direction may cause the account(s) to incur higher commissions or transaction costs than the account(s) would otherwise incur had the Client determined to



effect account transactions through alternative clearing arrangements that may be available through Advisor. Higher transaction costs adversely impact account performance.

Transactions for directed accounts will generally be executed following the execution of portfolio transactions for non-directed accounts.

- B. To the extent that the Advisor provides investment advisory services to its Clients, the transactions for each Client account generally will be effected independently, unless the Advisor decides to purchase or sell the same securities for several Clients at approximately the same time. The Advisor may (but is not obligated to) combine or “batch” such orders to obtain best execution, to negotiate more favorable commission rates or to allocate equitably among the Advisor’s Clients differences in prices and commissions or other transaction costs that might have been obtained had such orders been placed independently. Under this procedure, transactions will be averaged as to price and will be allocated among Clients in proportion to the purchase and sale orders placed for each Client account on any given day. The Advisor shall not receive any additional compensation or remuneration as a result of such aggregation.

#### **ITEM 13: REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

- A. For those Clients to whom the Advisor provides investment supervisory services, account reviews are conducted on an ongoing basis by the Advisor's Principals and its Advisory Persons. All investment supervisory Clients are advised that it remains their responsibility to advise the Advisor of any changes in their investment objectives and/or financial situation. All Clients (in person or via telephone) are encouraged to review financial planning issues (to the extent applicable), investment objectives and account performance with the Advisor on an annual basis.
- B. The Advisor may conduct account reviews on an other-than-periodic basis upon the occurrence of a triggering event, such as a change in Client investment objectives and/or financial situation, market corrections and Client request. The Client is encouraged to notify the Advisor if changes occur in the Client’s personal financial situation that might adversely affect the Client’s investment plan. Additional reviews may be triggered by material market, economic or political events.
- C. Clients are provided, at least quarterly, with written transaction confirmation notices and regular written summary account statements directly from the broker-dealer/custodian and/or program sponsor for the Client accounts. The Advisor may also provide a written periodic report summarizing account activity and performance.

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

- A. As referenced in Item 12.A.1 above, the Advisor can receive economic benefits from *Pershing*, *Fidelity* and/or *Schwab*. The Advisor, without cost (and/or at a discount), may receive support services and/or products from these custodians.

Participation in Institutional Advisor Platform - Schwab



Schwab has established an institutional relationship with Schwab through its “Schwab Advisor Services” unit, a division of Schwab dedicated to serving independent advisory firms like Schwab. As a registered investment advisor participating on the Schwab Advisor Services platform, Schwab receives access to software and related support without cost because the Advisor renders investment management services to Clients that maintain assets at Schwab. Services provided by Schwab Advisor Services benefit the Advisor and many, but not all services provided by Schwab will benefit Clients. In fulfilling its duties to its Clients, the Advisor endeavors at all times to put the interests of its Clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits from a custodian creates a potential conflict of interest since these benefits may influence the Advisor's recommendation of this custodian over one that does not furnish similar software, systems support, or services.

*Services that Benefit the Client* – Schwab’s institutional brokerage services include access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of Client’s funds and securities. Through Schwab, the Advisor may be able to access certain investments and asset classes that the Client would not be able to obtain directly or through other sources. Further, the Advisor may be able to invest in certain mutual funds and other investments without having to adhere to investment minimums that might be required if the Client were to directly access the investments.

*Services that May Indirectly Benefit the Client* – Schwab provides participating advisors with access to technology, research, discounts and other services. In addition, the Advisor receives duplicate statements for Client accounts, the ability to deduct advisory fees, trading tools, and back office support services as part of its relationship with Schwab. These services are intended to assist the Advisor in effectively managing accounts for its Clients, but may not directly benefit all Clients.

*Services that May Only Benefit the Advisor* – Schwab also offers other services to Schwab that may not benefit the Client, including: educational conferences and events, financial start-up support, consulting services and discounts for various service providers. Access to these services creates a financial incentive for the Advisor to recommend Schwab, which results in a potential conflict of interest. Schwab believes, however, that the selection of Schwab as Custodian is in the best interests of its Clients.

#### Participation in Institutional Advisor Platform – Pershing and Fidelity

The Advisor has established institutional relationships with Fidelity and Pershing to assist the Advisor in managing Client account[s]. Access to the Fidelity and Pershing Institutional platforms is provided at no charge to the Advisor. The Advisor receives access to software and related support without cost because the Advisor renders investment management services to Clients that maintain assets at Fidelity and Pershing. The software and related systems support may benefit the Advisor, but not its Clients directly. In fulfilling its duties to its Clients, the Advisor endeavors at all times to put the interests of its Clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits from a custodian creates a potential conflict of interest since these benefits may influence the Advisor’s recommendation of this custodian over one that does not furnish similar software, systems support, or services.



Additionally, the Advisor may receive the following benefits from Fidelity and Pershing: receipt of duplicate Client confirmations and bundled duplicate statements; access to a trading desk that exclusively services its institutional participants; 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.

There is no corresponding commitment made by the Advisor to any such custodian, or any other entity, to invest any specific amount or percentage of Client assets in any specific mutual funds, securities or other investment products as a result of the above arrangement.

#### Insurance Company

As noted in Item 10, Summit Trail also serves as an insurance company, where the Advisor may recommend to Clients the purchase of certain insurance products. Summit Trail will benefit from any revenue generated from the sale of a recommended insurance product.

- B. **Referral Fees.** If a Client is introduced to Advisor by either an unaffiliated or an affiliated solicitor, Advisor may pay that solicitor a referral fee in accordance with the requirements of Rule 206(4)-3 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, and any corresponding state securities law requirements. Any such referral fee shall be paid solely from Advisor's investment management fee, and shall not result in any additional charge to the Client. If the Client is introduced to Advisor by an unaffiliated solicitor ("Solicitor"), the Solicitor, at the time of the solicitation, shall disclose the nature of their Solicitor relationship, and shall provide each prospective Client with a copy of Advisor's Disclosure Brochure with a copy of the Written Solicitor Disclosure Statement from the Solicitor to the Client disclosing the terms of the solicitation arrangement between Advisor and the Solicitor, including the compensation to be received by Solicitor from the Advisor.

### **ITEM 15: CUSTODY**

The Advisor shall have the ability to have its investment advisory fee for each Client debited by the custodian on a quarterly basis. Clients are provided, at least quarterly, with written transaction confirmation notices and regular written summary account statements directly from the broker-dealer/custodian and/or program sponsor for the Client accounts. The Advisor may also provide a written periodic report summarizing account activity and performance. To the extent that the Advisor provides Clients with periodic account statements or reports, the Client is urged to compare any statement or report provided by the Advisor with the account statements received from the account custodian. The custodian does not verify the accuracy of the Advisor's advisory fee calculation.

Additionally, if the Client gives the Advisor authority to move money from one account to another account, the Advisor may have custody of those assets. In order to avoid additional regulatory requirements in these cases, the Custodian and the Advisor have adopted safeguards to ensure that the money movements are completed in accordance with the Client's instructions.

**Custody Situations:** Please note, the Advisor does engage in other practices and/or services on behalf of its Clients that require disclosure at ADV Part 1, Item 9, which practices and/or services are





subject to an annual surprise CPA examination in accordance with the requirements of Rule 206(4)-2 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

#### **ITEM 16: INVESTMENT DISCRETION**

The Client can determine to engage the Advisor to provide investment advisory services on a discretionary basis. Prior to the Advisor assuming discretionary authority over a Client's account(s), the Client shall be required to execute an investment advisory agreement, naming the Advisor as the Client's attorney and agent in fact, granting the Advisor full authority to buy, sell, or otherwise effect investment transactions involving the assets in the Client's name found in the discretionary account(s).

Clients who engage the Advisor on a discretionary basis may, at any time, impose restrictions, in writing, on the Advisor's discretionary authority (i.e. limit the types/amounts of particular securities purchased for their account(s), exclude the ability to purchase securities with an inverse relationship to the market, limit or proscribe the Advisor's use of margin, etc.).

#### **ITEM 17: VOTING CLIENT SECURITIES**

Unless the Client directs otherwise in writing, the Advisor is responsible for voting Client proxies. However, assets allocated to Independent Managers shall be voted by the Independent Manager. The Client shall maintain exclusive responsibility for all legal proceedings or other type events pertaining to the account assets, including, but not limited to, class action lawsuits.

The Advisor understands its duty to vote Client proxies and to do so in the best interest of its Clients. Furthermore, it is understood that any material conflicts between the Advisor's interests and those of our Clients with regard to proxy voting must be resolved before proxies are voted. Our firm subscribes to a proxy monitor and voting agent service offered by Broadridge ProxyEdge ("Broadridge"). Clients may request a copy of our written policies and procedures regarding proxy voting and/or information on how particular proxies were voted by contacting our CCO.

#### **ITEM 18: FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

- A. The Advisor does not solicit fees of more than \$1,200, per Client, six months or more in advance.
- B. The Advisor is unaware of any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet its contractual commitments relating to its discretionary authority over certain Client accounts.
- C. The Advisor has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.



## **SUMMIT TRAIL ADVISORS, LLC**

**PRIVACY POLICY  
DATED: MARCH XX, 2019**



## Our Commitment to You

Summit Trail Advisors LLC (“Summit Trail” or the “Advisor”) is committed to safeguarding the use of personal information of our Clients (also referred to as “you” and “your”) that we obtain as your Investment Advisor, as described here in our Privacy Policy (“Policy”).

Our relationship with you is our most important asset. We understand that you have entrusted us with your private information, and we do everything that we can to maintain that trust. Summit Trail (also referred to as “we”, “our” and “us”) protects the security and confidentiality of the personal information we have and implements controls to ensure that such information is used for proper business purposes in connection with the management or servicing of our relationship with you.

Summit Trail does not sell your non-public personal information to anyone. Nor do we provide such information to others except for discrete and reasonable business purposes in connection with the servicing and management of our relationship with you, as discussed below.

Details of our approach to privacy and how your personal non-public information is collected and used are set forth in this Policy.

## Why you need to know?

Registered Investment Advisors (“RIAs”) must share some of your personal information in the course of servicing your account(s). Federal and State laws give you the right to limit some of this sharing and require RIAs to disclose how we collect, share, and protect your personal information.

## What information do we collect from you?

Social security or taxpayer identification number	Assets and liabilities
Name, address and phone number(s)	Income and expenses
E-mail address(es)	Investment activity
Account information (including other institutions)	Investment experience and goals

## What Information do we collect from other sources?

Custody, brokerage and advisory agreements	Account applications and forms
Other advisory agreements and legal documents	Investment questionnaires and suitability documents
Transactional information with us or others	Other information needed to service account(s)

## How do we protect your information?

To safeguard your personal information from unauthorized access and use we maintain physical, procedural and electronic security measures. These include such safeguards as secure passwords,



encrypted file storage and a secure office environment. Our technology vendors provide security and access control over personal information and have policies over the transmission of data. Our associates are trained on their responsibilities to protect Client's personal information.

We require third parties that assist in providing our services to you to protect the personal information they receive from us.

### How do we share your information?

An RIA shares Client personal information to effectively implement its services. In the section below, we list some reasons we may share your personal information.

Basis For Sharing	Do we share?	Can you limit?
<b>Servicing our Clients</b> We may share non-public personal information with non-affiliated third parties (such as administrators, brokers, custodians, regulators, credit agencies, other financial institutions) as necessary for us to provide agreed upon services to you, consistent with applicable law, including but not limited to: processing transactions; general account maintenance; responding to regulators or legal investigations; and credit reporting.	Yes	No
<b>Marketing Purposes</b> Summit Trail does not disclose, and does not intend to disclose, personal information with non-affiliated third parties to offer you services. Certain laws may give us the right to share your personal information with financial institutions where you are a customer and where Summit Trail or the Client has a formal agreement with the financial institution. <b>We will only share information for purposes of servicing your account(s), not for marketing purposes.</b>	No	Not Shared
<b>Authorized Users</b> Your non-public personal information may be disclosed to you and persons that we believe to be your authorized agent(s) or representative(s).	Yes	Yes
<b>Information About Former Clients</b> Summit Trail does not disclose and does not intend to disclose, non-public personal information to non-affiliated third parties with respect to persons who are no longer our Clients.	No	Not Shared



## State-specific Regulations

California	In response to a California law, to be conservative, we assume accounts with California addresses do not want us to disclose personal information about you to non-affiliated third parties, except as permitted by California law. We also limit the sharing of personal information about you with our affiliates to ensure compliance with California privacy laws.
Massachusetts	In response to a Massachusetts law, Clients must “opt-in” to share non-public personal information with non-affiliated third parties before any personal information is disclosed. We may disclose non-public personal information to other financial institutions with whom we have joint business arrangements for proper business purposes in connection with the management or servicing of your account(s).

## Changes to our Privacy Policy

We will send you a copy of this Policy annually for as long as you maintain an ongoing relationship with us.

Periodically we may revise this Policy, and will provide you with a revised policy if the changes materially alter the previous Privacy Policy. We will not, however, revise our Privacy Policy to permit the sharing of non-public personal information other than as described in this notice unless we first notify you and provide you with an opportunity to prevent the information sharing.

## Any Questions?

You may ask questions or voice any concerns, as well as obtain a copy of our current Privacy Policy by contacting us at (212) 812-7010.