

## **Item 1. Cover Page**

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### **PART 2A OF FORM ADV**

#### **FIRM BROCHURE**

**March 7, 2022**

#### **TEVIS INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LLC**

**5700 West Plano Parkway, Suite 3800**

**Plano, TX 75093**

**Phone: (972) 971-2169**

**Fax: (972) 767-3501**

**[www.tevisinvest.com](http://www.tevisinvest.com)**

**Firm Contact: Ryan Tevis, President & Chief Compliance Officer**

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Tevis Investment Management LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact Ryan Tevis, Chief Compliance Officer, by telephone at (972) 971-2169 or by email at [ryan@tevisinvest.com](mailto:ryan@tevisinvest.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any State Securities Authority.

Additional information about Tevis Investment Management LLC also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov) by searching CRD#: 167750.

Please note that the use of the term "registered investment adviser" and description of Tevis Investment Management LLC and/or our associates as "registered" does not imply a certain level of skill or training. You are encouraged to review this Brochure and Brochure Supplements for our firm's associates who advise you for more information on the qualifications of our firm and our employees.

## **Item 2. Material Changes**

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Since our last amendment filing dated April 2, 2021, we have we have not made any material changes to this brochure.

We will provide you with a new Brochure as necessary based on changes or new information, at any time, without charge. Our Brochure may be requested by contacting us at our main number above. Additional information about Tevis is also available via the SEC's web site [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). The SEC's website provides information about any persons affiliated with Tevis who are registered, or are required to be registered, as investment adviser representatives of Tevis.

### Item 3. Table of Contents

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## Item 4. Advisory Business

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A. Description of our advisory firm, including how long we have been in business and our principal owner(s).

Tevis Investment Management LLC is dedicated to providing our clients with a wide array of investment advisory services. We specialize in comprehensive portfolio management and financial planning and consulting. Our firm is a limited liability company formed in the State of Texas. I have been in business since 2000 and registered as an investment adviser since 2012. The firm is owned by William Ryan Tevis, President.

B. Description of the types of advisory services we offer.

(i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Our Comprehensive Portfolio Management service encompasses asset management as well as providing financial planning/financial consulting to clients. It is designed to assist clients in meeting their financial goals through the use of financial investments. We conduct at least one, but sometimes more than one meeting (in person if possible, otherwise via telephone conference) with clients in order to understand their current financial situation, existing resources, financial goals, and tolerance for risk. Based on what we learn, we propose an investment approach to the client. We may propose an investment portfolio, consisting of exchange traded funds, mutual funds, individual stocks or bonds, or other securities. Upon the client's agreement to the proposed investment plan, we work with the client to establish or transfer investment accounts so that we can manage the client's portfolio. Once the relevant accounts are under our management, we review such accounts on a regular basis and at least quarterly. We may periodically rebalance or adjust client accounts under our management. If the client experiences any significant changes to his/her financial or personal circumstances, the client must notify us so that we can consider such information in managing the client's investments.

We may utilize Independent Money Managers, where we may design an investment portfolio and provide ongoing corresponding comprehensive Portfolio Management services on a fee-only basis for a percentage of assets in conjunction with another investment advisory firm. This compensation is typically equal to a percentage of the overall investment advisory fee charged by our firm. The advisory fee paid to Independent Managers shall be negotiable in certain circumstances, but shall never exceed the overall amount in our published fee statement. We usually pay 25 basis points to 75 basis points of the overall advisory fee to Independent Managers for their services. Before selecting other advisers, we make sure that the other advisers are properly licensed or registered.

(ii) Financial Planning and Consulting:

We provide a variety of financial planning and consulting services to individuals, families and other clients regarding the management of their financial resources based upon an analysis

of the client's current situation, goals, and objectives. Generally, such financial planning services will involve preparing a financial plan or rendering a financial consultation for clients based on the client's financial goals and objectives. This planning or consulting may encompass one or more of the following areas: Investment Planning, Retirement Planning, Estate Planning, Charitable Planning, Education Planning, Corporate and Personal Tax Planning, Cost Segregation Study, Corporate Structure, Real Estate Analysis, Mortgage/Debt Analysis, Insurance Analysis, Lines of Credit Evaluation, Business and Personal Financial Planning. Implementation of the recommendations will be at the discretion of the client.

C. Explanation of whether (and, if so, how) we tailor our advisory services to the individual needs of clients, whether clients may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities.

(i) Individual Tailoring of Advice to Clients:

We offer individualized investment advice to clients utilizing our firm's Comprehensive Portfolio Management services. Additionally, we offer general investment advice to clients utilizing our Financial Planning and consulting service.

(ii) Ability of Clients to Impose Restrictions on Investing in Certain Securities or Types of Securities:

Each client has the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments to be held in the portfolio. Restrictions on investments in certain securities or types of securities may not be possible due to the level of difficulty this would entail in managing the account.

D. Participation in wrap fee programs.

We offer wrap fee programs as further described in Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the "Wrap Fee Program Brochure") of our Brochure. Our wrap fee and non-wrap fee accounts are managed on an individualized basis according to the client's investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc. We do not manage wrap fee accounts in a different fashion than non-wrap fee accounts. As further described in our Wrap Fee Program Brochure, we receive a portion of the wrap fee for our services.

E. Disclosure of the amount of client assets we manage on a discretionary basis and the amount of client assets we manage on a non-discretionary basis.

As of December 31, 2021, discretionary assets under management were \$153,195,899 and nondiscretionary assets under management were \$6,472,719.

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

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We are required to describe our brokerage, custody, fees, and fund expenses so you will know how much you are charged and by whom for our advisory services provided to you. Our fees are generally negotiable.

A. Description of how we are compensated for our advisory services provided to you.

(i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Maximum Fee Schedule:

<u>Assets under management</u>	<u>Annual Percentage of assets charge:</u>
\$0 to \$250,000	2.25%
\$250,001 to \$500,000	2.10%
\$500,001 to \$1,000,000	2.00%
\$1,000,001 to \$3,000,000	1.75%
\$3,000,001 to \$10,000,000	1.70%
Over \$10,000,001	Negotiable

Our firm's fees are billed on a pro-rata annualized basis quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter.

(ii) Financial Planning and Consulting:

Financial Planning and Consulting services are included in the advisory fees listed above for Comprehensive Portfolio Management.

B. Description of whether we deduct fees from clients' assets or bill clients for fees incurred.

(i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Our firm's fees are billed on a pro-rata annualized basis quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter. Fees will be automatically deducted from your managed account. In rare cases, we will agree to direct bill clients. The initial fee is due on the first of the calendar quarter following the day the account is funded and is prorated according to the number of days remaining in the calendar quarter.

Thereafter, the quarterly fee is based on the account asset value on the last day of the respective calendar quarter. Fees are calculated by first calculating the annual fee and then pro-rating by the number of days in the quarter (actual/365).

As part of this process, you understand and acknowledge the following:

- a) Your independent custodian sends statements at least quarterly to you showing all disbursements for your account, including the amount of the advisory fees paid to us;
- b) You provide authorization permitting us to be directly paid by these terms;
- c) Our invoice includes a legend that urges the client to compare information provided in their statements with those from the qualified custodian in account opening notices and subsequent statements sent to the client for whom the adviser opens custodial accounts with the qualified custodian.

C. Description of any other types of fees or expenses clients may pay in connection with our advisory services, such as custodian fees or mutual fund expenses.

Clients may incur transaction charges for trades executed in their accounts. These transaction fees are separate from our fees and will be disclosed by the firm that the trades are executed through. These charges may be offset for some clients enrolled in the firm's Wrap Fee Program. For more information, please refer to our Form ADV, Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the "Wrap Fee Program Brochure").

Tevis Investment Management's fees are exclusive of brokerage commissions, transaction fees, 12b-1 fees and other related costs and expenses which shall be incurred by the client. Clients may incur certain charges imposed by custodians, brokers, third party investment and other third parties such as fees charged by managers, custodial fees, deferred sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer fees, transfer taxes, lost certificate fees, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, postage and handling for paper delivery of statement and trade confirmations, margin and pre-payment fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. Mutual funds and exchange traded funds also charge internal management fees, which are disclosed in a fund's prospectus. Such charges, fees and commissions are exclusive of and in addition to our fee, and Tevis Investment Management or its Investment Advisor Representatives shall not receive any portion of these commissions, fees, and costs. Please see Item 12 for more information regarding brokerage practices.

Some mutual funds pay 12(b)-1 service fees (normally 0.25% per year) to the Custodian. The mutual funds the Firm could purchase or recommend offer a variety of share classes, including some that do not charge 12(b)-1 fees and are, therefore, less expensive. These fee arrangements will be disclosed upon request of a client and are available in the applicable fund's prospectus.

Typically, we do not recommend mutual funds that charge 12(b)-1 fees when other share classes are available. However, there are instances in which we would recommend a mutual fund that carries a 12(b)-1 fee, even when a lower-cost share class is available for the same fund. For example, a lower-cost class share may not be available to Tevis Investment Management's due to investment minimums. In other cases, mutual funds charging 12(b)-1 fees are transferred into Tevis Investment Management. In which case the Firm may recommend the client holds the existing share class, instead of selling the fund and buying a lower-cost share, which could result in a tax liability. In addition, mutual funds charging 12(b)-1 fees will be recommended when the overall cost is seen as a benefit to the client if the anticipated transaction fees exceed the anticipated 12(b)-1 fees. When recommending a particular mutual fund share classes, the different available share classes are compared and reviewed along with the anticipated investment timeframe, potential tax consequences, future anticipated transactions and other costs to determine the best selection for the client at that time. Tevis Investment Management does not receive any part of the fees charged by Mutual Funds.

- D. We must disclose if client's advisory fees are due quarterly in advance. Explain how a client may obtain a refund of a pre-paid fee if the advisory contract is terminated before the end of the billing period. Explain how you will determine the amount of the refund.

We charge our advisory fees quarterly in advance. In the event that you wish to terminate our services, we will refund the unearned portion of our advisory fee to you. You need to contact us in writing and state that you wish to terminate our services. Upon receipt of your letter of termination, we will proceed to close out your account and process a pro-rata refund of unearned advisory fees.

E. Commissionable securities sales.

We do not sell securities for a commission. In order to sell securities for a commission, we would need to have our associated persons registered with a broker-dealer. We have chosen not to do so.

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

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We do not charge performance fees to our clients.

## **Item 7. Types of Clients**

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We have the following types of clients:

- Individuals;
- High Net Worth Individuals;
- Pension and Profit Sharing Plans;
- Corporations, limited liability companies and/or other business types.

We do not have requirements for opening and maintaining accounts or otherwise engaging us.

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

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A. Description of the methods of analysis and investment strategies we use in formulating investment advice or managing assets.

**Methods of Analysis:**

***Charting.*** In this type of technical analysis, we review charts of market and security activity in an attempt to identify when the market is moving up or down and to predict when how long the trend may last and when that trend might reverse.

***Fundamental Analysis.*** We attempt to measure the intrinsic value of a security by looking at economic and financial factors (including the overall economy, industry conditions, and the financial condition and management of the company itself) to determine if the company is



underpriced (indicating it may be a good time to buy) or overpriced (indicating it may be time to sell). Fundamental analysis does not attempt to anticipate market movements. This presents a potential risk, as the price of a security can move up or down along with the overall market regardless of the economic and financial factors considered in evaluating the stock.

**Technical Analysis.** We analyze past market movements and apply that analysis to the present in an attempt to recognize recurring patterns of investor behavior and potentially predict future price movement. Technical analysis does not consider the underlying financial condition of a company. This presents a risk in that a poorly-managed or financially unsound company may underperform regardless of market movement.

**Cyclical Analysis.** In this type of technical analysis, we measure the movements of a particular stock against the overall market in an attempt to predict the price movement of the security.

### **Investment Strategies we use:**

**Long-term purchases.** When utilizing this strategy, we may purchase securities with the idea of holding them for a relatively long time (typically held for at least a year). A risk in a long-term purchase strategy is that by holding the security for this length of time, we may not take advantages of short-term gains that could be profitable to a client. Moreover, if our predictions are incorrect, a security may decline sharply in value before we make the decision to sell.

**Short-term purchases.** When utilizing this strategy, we may also purchase securities with the idea of selling them within a relatively short time (typically a year or less). We do this in an attempt to take advantage of conditions that we believe will soon result in a price swing in the securities we purchase.

**Trading.** We purchase securities with the idea of selling them very quickly (typically within 30 days or less). We do this in an attempt to take advantage of our predictions of brief price swings.

**Short sales.** We borrow shares of a stock for your portfolio from someone who owns the stock on a promise to replace the shares on a future date at a certain price. Those borrowed shares are then sold. On the agreed-upon future date, we buy the same stock and return the shares to the original owner. We engage in short selling based on our determination that the stock will go down in price after we have borrowed the shares. If we are correct and the stock price has gone down since the shares were purchased from the original owner, the client account realizes the profit.

**Margin transactions.** When you purchase securities, you may pay for the securities in full or you may borrow part of the purchase price from your brokerage firm. If you choose to borrow funds through a margin account, securities purchased are the firm's collateral for the loan to you. If the securities in your account decline in value, so does the value of the collateral supporting your loan, and, as a result, the firm can take action, such as issue a margin call and/or sell securities or other assets in any of your accounts held with the member, in order to maintain the required equity in the account. Investing with margin is characterized by unique risks including amplified losses due to increased leverage; margin calls; forced liquidations; and additional fees including

margin interest charges. In order to manage margin risk, we recommend leveraging responsibly (borrowing less than the amount available); keeping a diversified portfolio; and monitoring the account and evaluating risk regularly. Before investing on margin, be sure to read the Margin Disclosure Statement provided by your custodian.

**Risk of Loss:**

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. While the stock market may increase and your account(s) could enjoy a gain, it is also possible that the stock market may decrease and your account(s) could suffer a loss. It is important that you understand the risks associated with investing in the stock market, are appropriately diversified in your investments, and ask us any questions you may have.

- B. Our practices regarding cash balances in client accounts, including whether we invest cash balances for temporary purposes and, if so, how.

We generally invest client's cash balances in money market funds, FDIC Insured Certificates of Deposit, high-grade commercial paper and/or government backed debt instruments. Ultimately, we try to achieve the highest return on our client's cash balances through relatively low-risk conservative investments. In most cases, at least a partial cash balance will be maintained in a money market account so that our firm may debit advisory fees for our services related to comprehensive portfolio management.

## **Item 9. Disciplinary Information**

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Neither the Adviser nor any management persons have any disciplinary information to disclose.

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

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- A. Our firm or our management persons are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer. The details are as follows:

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

- B. Description of any relationship or arrangement that is material to our advisory business or to our clients, that we or any of our management persons have with any related person listed below. We are required to identify the related person and if the relationship or arrangement creates a material conflict of interest with clients, describe the nature of the conflict and how we address it.

Associated persons may be licensed insurance agents and may recommend insurance products, and receive commissions and other compensation if products are purchased. Thus, a potential conflict of interest exists between the interests of associated persons and those of the advisory clients. However, clients are under no obligation to act upon any recommendations of the associated persons.

- D. If you recommend or select other investment advisers for your clients and you receive compensation directly or indirectly from those advisers that creates a material conflict of interest, or if you have other business relationships with those advisers that create a material conflict of interest, describe these practices and discuss the material conflicts of interest these practices create and how you address them.

Our firm does from time to time recommend the use of other investment advisers. We are not compensated directly or indirectly by these advisers. There is no conflict of interest.

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

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- A. Brief description of our Code of Ethics adopted and offer to provide a copy of our Code of Ethics to any client or prospective client upon request.

We recognize that the personal investment transactions of members and employees of our firm demand the application of a high Code of Ethics and require that all such transactions be carried out in a way that does not endanger the interest of any client. At the same time, we believe that if investment goals are similar for clients and for members and employees of our firm, it is logical and even desirable that there be common ownership of some securities.

Therefore, in order to prevent conflicts of interest, we have in place a set of procedures (including a pre-clearing procedure) with respect to transactions effected by our members, officers and employees for their personal accounts. In order to monitor compliance with our personal trading policy, we have a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our associates.

Furthermore, our firm has established a Code of Ethics which applies to all of our associated persons. An investment adviser is considered a fiduciary. As a fiduciary, it is an investment adviser's responsibility to provide fair and full disclosure of all material facts and to act solely in the best interest of each of our clients at all times. We have a fiduciary duty to all clients. Our fiduciary duty is considered the core underlying principle for our Code of Ethics which also includes Insider Trading and Personal Securities Transactions Policies and Procedures. We require all of our supervised persons to conduct business with the highest level of ethical standards and to comply with all federal and state securities laws at all times. Upon employment or affiliation and at least annually thereafter, all supervised persons will sign an acknowledgement that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with our Code of Ethics. Our firm and supervised persons must conduct business in an honest, ethical, and fair manner and avoid all circumstances that might negatively affect or appear to affect our duty of complete loyalty to all clients. This disclosure is provided to give all clients a summary of our Code of Ethics. However, if a client or a potential client wishes to review our Code of Ethics in its entirety, a copy will be provided promptly upon request.

- B. If our firm or a related person recommends to clients, or buys or sells for client accounts, securities in which the firm or a related person has a material financial interest, we are required to describe our proactive and discuss the conflicts of interest that may arise.

See Item 11A of this Brochure. It is the firm policy to not recommend securities in which the firm or a related person has a material financial interest.

- C. If our firm or a related person invests in the same securities (or related securities, e.g., warrants, options or futures) that our firm or a related person recommends to clients, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest this presents and generally how we address the conflicts that arise in connection with personal trading.

See Item 11A of this Brochure. Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities and other investments that are also recommended to clients. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request.

- D. If our firm or a related person recommends securities to clients, or buys or sells securities for client accounts, at or about the same time that you or a related person buys or sells the same securities for our firm's (or the related person's own) account, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. We are also required to describe generally how we address conflicts that arise.

See Item 11A of this brochure. Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities for themselves at or about the same time they buy or sell the same securities for client accounts. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request.

## **Item 12. Brokerage Practices**

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- A. Description of the factors that we consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for client transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (e.g., commissions).

Our Firm does not allow client directed brokerage services. Our firm recommends that clients open brokerage accounts at TD Ameritrade, Inc.

In certain circumstances, our Firm will allow clients to select the broker-dealer to execute transactions. In this case, each client selects a broker-dealer based on factors important to them. Clients will negotiate the terms and arrangements with their broker-dealer of choice, and transactions are directed to the specified broker-dealer. We will not be in a position to seek better execution services or prices from other broker-dealers. By directing brokerage, we may not be able to achieve the most favorable execution of client transactions and this practice may cost clients more money.

Our firm participates in the TD Ameritrade Institutional program. TD Ameritrade Institutional is a division of TD Ameritrade, Inc. ("TD Ameritrade") member FINRA/SIPC/NFA. TD Ameritrade is an independent [and unaffiliated] SEC-registered broker-dealer. TD Ameritrade offers to independent investment Advisors services which include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. We receive some benefits from TD Ameritrade through our participation in the program.

As disclosed above, Advisor participates in TD Ameritrade's institutional customer program and Advisor may recommend TD Ameritrade to Clients for custody and brokerage services. There is no direct link between Advisor's participation in the program and the investment advice it gives to its Clients, although Advisor receives economic benefits through its participation in the program that are typically not available to TD Ameritrade retail investors. These benefits include the following products and services (provided without cost or at a discount): receipt of duplicate Client statements and confirmations; research related products and tools; consulting services; access to a trading desk serving Advisor participants; access to block trading (which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions for execution and then allocate the appropriate shares to Client accounts); the ability to have advisory fees deducted directly from Client accounts; access to an electronic communications network for Client order entry and account information; access to mutual funds with no transaction fees and to certain institutional money managers; and discounts on compliance, marketing, research, technology, and practice management products or services provided to Advisor by third party vendors. TD Ameritrade may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by Advisor's related persons. Some of the products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the program may benefit Advisor but may not benefit its Client accounts. These products or services may assist Advisor in managing and administering Client accounts, including accounts not maintained at TD Ameritrade. Other services made available by TD Ameritrade are intended to help Advisor manage and further develop its business enterprise. The benefits received by Advisor or its personnel through participation in the program do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to TD Ameritrade. As part of its fiduciary duties to clients, Advisor endeavors at all times to put the interests of its clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by Advisor or its related persons in and of itself creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence the Advisor's choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services. Commission rates/fees charged by TD Ameritrade may be higher or lower than those charged by other broker-dealers.

- B. Discussion of whether, and under what conditions, we aggregate the purchase or sale of securities for various client accounts in quantities sufficient to obtain reduced transaction costs (known as bunching). If we do not bunch orders when we have the opportunity to do so, we are required to explain our practice and describe the costs to clients of not bunching.

We do not aggregate the trades of clients since trading decisions are based on the particular needs of each client. The decision not to aggregate trades means that clients cannot benefit from reduced transactions fees on aggregated trades.

### **Item 13. Review of Accounts or Financial Plans**

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- A. Review of client accounts or financial plans, along with a description of the frequency and nature of our review, and the titles of our employees who conduct the review.

We review accounts on at least a quarterly basis for our clients subscribing to Comprehensive Portfolio Management. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether clients' accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and investment policies, if applicable. Only our Financial Advisors or Portfolio Managers will conduct reviews.

Financial planning clients do not receive reviews of their written plans unless they take action to schedule a financial consultation with us. We do not provide ongoing services to financial planning clients, but are willing to meet with such clients upon their request to discuss updates to their plans, changes in their circumstances, etc.

- B. Review of client accounts on other than a periodic basis, along with a description of the factors that trigger a review.

We may review client accounts more frequently than described above. Among the factors which may trigger an off-cycle review are major market or economic events, the client's life events, requests by the client, etc.

- C. Description of the content and indication of the frequency of written or verbal regular reports we provide to clients regarding their accounts.

We do not provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Verbal reports to clients take place on at least an annual basis when we contact clients who subscribe to Comprehensive Portfolio Management.

As also mentioned in Item 13A of this Brochure, financial planning clients do not receive written or verbal updated reports regarding their financial plans unless they separately contract with us for a post-financial plan meeting or update to their initial written financial plan.

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

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- A. If someone who is not a client provides an economic benefit to our firm for providing investment advice or other advisory services to our clients, we must generally describe the arrangement. For purposes of this Item, economic benefits include any sales awards or other prizes.

We do not receive compensation other than the soft dollar benefits described in Item 12 of this Firm Brochure.

- B. If our firm or a related person directly or indirectly compensates any person who is not our employee for client referrals, we are required to describe the arrangement and the compensation.

We do not pay referral fees (non-commission based) to independent solicitors (non-registered representatives) for the referral of their clients to our firm.

## **Item 15. Custody**

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- A. If we have custody of client funds or securities and a qualified custodian as defined in state rules (for example, a broker-dealer or bank) and do not send account statements with respect to those funds or securities directly to our clients, we must disclose that we have custody and explain the risks that you will face because of this.

Our Firm does not maintain custody of client funds or securities. Custody is maintained with a qualified custodian. All of our clients receive at least quarterly account statements directly from their custodians. Upon opening an account with a qualified custodian on a client's behalf, we promptly notify the client in writing of the qualified custodian's contact information. In addition, we also send account statements to clients, such notice and account statements include a legend that recommends that the client compare the account statements received from the qualified custodian with those received from our firm.

- B. If we have custody of client funds or securities and a qualified custodian sends quarterly, or more frequent, account statements directly to our clients, we are required to explain that you will receive account statements from the broker-dealer, bank, or other qualified custodian and that you should carefully review those statements.

Our Firm does not maintain custody of client funds or securities. We encourage our clients to raise any questions with us about the custody, safety or security of their assets. The custodians we do business with will send you independent account statements listing your account balance(s), transaction history and any fee debits or other fees taken out of your account.

## **Item 16. Investment Discretion**

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If we accept discretionary authority to manage securities accounts on behalf of clients, we are required to disclose this fact and describe any limitations our clients may place on our authority. The following procedures are followed before we assume this authority:

We usually receive discretionary authority in writing from the client at the outset of an advisory relationship to select the identity and amount of securities to be bought or sold. When recommending third-party investment managers and acting in a discretionary capacity, we have the ability to evaluate managers and switch money managers or reallocate assets among managers without consulting the client. When acting in a non-discretionary capacity, we will make recommendations, but only the client has the authority to hire or switch managers, or reallocate assets.

In all cases, discretion is exercised in a manner consistent with the stated investment objectives for the particular client account. Clients must authorize such discretion in the advisory agreement. When selecting securities and determining amounts, we observe the investment policies, limitations and restrictions of the clients for which it advises. Investment guidelines and restrictions must be provided to us in writing.

## **Item 17. Voting Client Securities**

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If we have, or will accept, proxy authority to vote client securities, we must briefly describe our voting policies and procedures.

We do not and will not accept the proxy authority to vote client securities. Clients will receive proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian or a transfer agent. In the event that proxies are sent to our firm, we will forward them on to you and ask the party who sent them to mail them directly to you in the future. Clients may call, write or email us to discuss questions they may have about particular proxy votes or other solicitations. Third party money managers may vote proxies for clients. Therefore, except in the event a third party money manager votes proxies, clients maintain exclusive responsibility for: (1) directing the manner in which proxies solicited by issuers of securities beneficially owned by the client shall be voted, and (2) making all elections relative to any mergers, acquisitions, tender offers, bankruptcy proceedings or other type events pertaining to the client's investment assets. Therefore (except for proxies that may be voted by a third party money manager), our firm and/or you shall instruct your qualified custodian to forward to you copies of all proxies and shareholder communications relating to your investment assets.

## **Item 18. Financial Information**

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We are not required to provide financial information to our clients because:

- We do not require the prepayment of more than \$1200 in fees when services cannot be rendered within 6 (six) months.
- We do not take custody of client funds or securities.
- We do not have a financial condition or commitment that impairs its ability to meet contractual and fiduciary obligations to clients.

We have never been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.



## **Privacy Policy**

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

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

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

You will receive a copy of our privacy notice prior to or at the time you sign an advisory agreement with our firm. Thereafter, we will deliver a copy of the current privacy policy notice to you on an annual basis. Contact our main office at (972) 971-2169. if you have any questions regarding this policy.