



**Form ADV Part 2A**  
Investment Advisor Brochure

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**Item 1: Cover Page**

Registered Investment Advisor: The Kocen Financial Group, Inc.  
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Date of Brochure: October 11, 2024

This Form ADV Part 2A (Investment Advisor Brochure) gives information about the investment advisor and its business for the use of clients and prospective clients. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us using one of the methods listed above. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") or by any state securities authority. Registration is mandatory for all persons meeting the definition of investment advisor and does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

Additional information about our firm is available on the SEC's website at: [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

**Item 2: Material Changes**

The purpose of this section is to discuss only material changes since the last annual update of The Kocen Financial Group, Inc.'s ("KFG") Investment Advisor Brochure. The date of the last annual update was March 15, 2024.

Summary of Material Changes

- Financial Goal Securities, Inc. is no longer operating so all references were removed.

Delivery

Within 120 days of our fiscal year end, we will deliver our annual Summary of Material Changes if there have been material changes since the last annual updating amendment.

### **Item 3: Table of Contents**

<b>Item 1: Cover Page.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Item 2: Material Changes.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Item 3: Table of Contents .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Item 4: Advisory Business.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Item 5: Fees and Compensation .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Item 7: Types of Clients and Account Minimums.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies, and Risk of Loss.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Item 9: Disciplinary Information .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions, and Personal Trading .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Item 12: Brokerage Practices.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Item 13: Review of Accounts and Reports on Accounts.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Item 14: Client Referrals &amp; Other Compensation .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Item 15: Custody.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Item 16: Investment Discretion.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Item 17: Voting Client Securities.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Item 18: Financial Information .....</b>	<b>13</b>

## Item 4: Advisory Business

### Advisory Firm

The Kocen Financial Group, Inc. ("KFG") has been providing investment advising services since 1991. Founded by Bryan and the late Gail Kocen, Bryan remains President of the firm. Bryan has an extensive background in banking, finance, business, and financial services since 1983.

### Advisory Services

**❶ Investment Advising:** KFG typically provides investment management services for portfolios comprised of mutual funds and ETF's. The mutual funds are invested in stocks, bonds, and alternative investments.

KFG also utilizes multiple third party money managers to manage individual securities (stock/bonds), mutual funds and ETF's.

As of December 31, 2023, KFG had \$140,269,114 of total Assets Under Management (AUM) all of which is under discretionary management.

Services are based on the individual needs of the client. An initial interview and data gathering questionnaire is undertaken to determine the client's financial situation and investment objectives, and to give the client the opportunity to impose reasonable restrictions on the management of the account. Clients have the ability to leave standing instructions with the IA Rep to refrain from investing in particular securities or types of securities, or invest in limited amounts of securities. On a quarterly basis, the IA Rep will notify the client in writing to contact the IA Rep if there have been any changes in the client's financial situation or investment objectives, or to impose or modify account restrictions. The IA Rep will contact or attempt to contact the client annually on these matters. It is the client's responsibility to notify the IA Rep any time there are changes. Clients may call in at any time during normal business hours to discuss directly with the IA Rep about the client's account, financial situation, or investment needs. Clients will receive from the custodian/brokerage firm timely confirmations and at least quarterly statements containing a description of all transactions and all account activity. The client will retain rights of ownership of all securities and funds in the account to the same extent as if the client held the securities and funds outside the program. In addition to custodial statements, KFG sends quarterly reports to the client.

**❷ Financial Plans:** As may be requested by the client, KFG provides Financial Plans consistent with the individual client's financial and tax status and risk/reward objectives. Financial Plans are comprehensive covering: Investments, Tax, Insurance, Retirement, and Estate Planning.

**❸ Seminars:** On occasion we hold seminars. These seminars may include presentations on various financial planning topics. There are no fees charged to those in attendance.

**❹ Sub-Advisory Investment Management:** KFG provides investment management services on a sub-advisory basis to other financial institutions. This may include management of stocks, bonds, and alternative investments.

## Item 5: Fees and Compensation

Fees for **Financial Plans** are charged at a negotiated flat rate and are based on the complexity of the plan. Plans generally range from \$3,000 – 5,000 for the first year plan. The payment in full is due upon the signing of the Advisory Agreement, unless otherwise negotiated as a staged payment. Generally annual updates are done when requested at no charge for active Investment Advising clients. An update fee may apply for special circumstances.

Fees for **Investment Advising** are computed on an annualized percentage of assets under management basis. The fee is generally negotiated at a rate between 0.8% to 1% annualized based on different factors. Most accounts are at the 1% rate. Accounts over \$2 million are subject to further negotiation. The fee is quoted for the whole portfolio. This includes mutual funds under KFG's management and for the portion of portfolios allocated to third party money managers. All billing by KFG is in addition to fees charged by the third party money managers.

Fees for **Alternative Investments**, including REITs, Business Development Companies, and Private Placements are computed on an annualized percentage of assets under management at an annual rate of 1.5%. Fees for these investments are subject to negotiation based on the size of the account and nature of the advisory relationship. This fee only applies to the portion of a client's money invested in Alternative securities.

Fees for **Sub-Advisory Investment Management**, are computed on an annualized percentage of assets under management at a maximum annual rate of 1.00%. Sub-Advisory Investment Management fees are collected quarterly in arrears, based on the value of the assets under management on the last business day of the previous calendar quarter.

Clients who hold multiple accounts with KFG and are invested in multiple portfolio strategies typically pay different fees per account based upon the portfolio strategy employed.

These fees are for advisory services only and do not include any transaction fees or commissions, which may be charged separately by the custodial broker/dealer firm. See the section heading Brokerage Practices for more information.

The fee will be payable quarterly in arrears. The first payment is assessed and due at the end of the first calendar quarter and will be assessed pro rata in the event the Agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of the current calendar quarter. Subsequent payments are due and will be assessed on the first day after the end of each calendar quarter based on the value of the account assets under supervision as of the close of business on the last business day of that quarter.

Unless other arrangements are made, all Investment Advising fees due KFG will be deducted directly by the custodian holding the clients' funds and securities in accordance with statements prepared and submitted to the custodian by KFG. The custodian will provide periodic account statements to the client. Such statements will reflect all fee withdrawals by KFG. It is the client's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the fee calculation. The custodian will not determine whether the fee is properly calculated.

Investment Advisor Representatives ("IA Reps") of our firm may also be Registered Representatives of a broker/dealer, and as such may receive commission-based compensation for the sale of securities and other investment products. KFG and its IA Reps are only compensated on a fee-basis for the securities held in the advisory portfolios. Double-dipping, where an IA Rep receives both fee-based compensation and commissions on portfolio assets is expressly prohibited. Mutual funds recommended under advisory services will be "no-load" or

“load-waived.” Clients are not obligated to purchase investment products recommended by KFG or affiliated firms.

Fees are not collected for services to be performed more than six months in advance.

Advisory fees are quoted at a negotiated rate as disclosed above. Fees may be waived for employees, relatives, and special accommodations.

Advisory services similar to those offered by KFG may be found elsewhere at lower or higher rates.

In addition to fees paid to KFG for advisory services with respect to clients' investments in mutual funds, clients may be charged additional fees on the mutual fund investment to pay for the mutual funds' management, marketing, and reporting expenses. Mutual funds also pay advisory and/or management fees to some investment advisors. KFG is not compensated by mutual funds.

**Investment Advising** services will continue until either party terminates the Agreement on five (5) business days written notice.

If termination occurs prior to the end of a calendar quarter, the client's account will be debited on a pro-rata basis for any advisory fees due as of the day KFG receives written notice of termination. If the account is transferred prior to advisory fees due being charged to the account, the client will be invoiced for any advisory fees due KFG for its services prior to termination.

For **Financial Plans** the client may terminate the agreement at any time and a refund of the unearned fees will be made based on time and effort expended before termination. The agreement terminates upon delivery of the plan. At this time no refunds will be made.

The Advisory Agreement contains a pre-dispute arbitration clause. Client understands that the agreement to arbitrate does not constitute a waiver of the right to seek a judicial forum where such a waiver would be void under the federal securities laws. Arbitration is final and binding on the parties.

#### Rollover Recommendations

When KFG and our IA Reps provide any rollover recommendations (e.g. from your employer's retirement plan, such as a 401(k), 457, or ERISA 403(b) account to individual retirement accounts), we are acting as fiduciaries within the meaning of Title I of the ERISA and/or the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”), as applicable, which are laws governing retirement accounts. If you elect to roll the assets to an IRA we will manage for you, we will charge you an advisory fee. This financial incentive creates a conflict of interest. You are under no obligation to complete the rollover. Moreover, if you do complete the rollover, you are under no obligation to have the assets in an IRA managed by our firm.

Due to the conflict of interest when we make rollover recommendations, we operate under rules that require us to act in your best interests and not put our interests ahead of yours. These rule's provisions require us to:

- meet a professional standard of care when making investment recommendations (i.e. give prudent advice);
- never put our financial interests ahead of yours when making recommendations (i.e. give loyal advice);

- avoid misleading statements about conflicts of interest, fees, and investments;
- follow policies and procedures designed to ensure that we give advice that is in your best interests;
- charge no more than a reasonable fee for our services; and
- give you basic information about conflicts of interest.

Many employers permit former employees to keep their retirement assets in their company plan. Also, current employees can sometimes move assets out of their company plan before they retire or change jobs. In determining whether to complete the rollover to an IRA, and to the extent the following options are available, you should consider the costs and benefits of a rollover. Note that an employee will typically have four options in this situation:

1. leaving the funds in your employer's (former employer's) plan;
2. moving the funds to a new employer's retirement plan;
3. cashing out and taking a taxable distribution from the plan; or
4. rolling the funds into an IRA rollover account.

Each of these options has positives and negatives. Because of that, along with the importance of understanding the differences between these types of accounts, we will provide you with a written explanation of the advantages and disadvantages of both account types and the basis for our belief that the rollover transaction we recommend is in your best interests.

As an alternative to providing you with a rollover recommendation, we may instead take an entirely educational approach in accordance with the U.S. Department of Labor's Interpretive Bulletin 96-1. Under this approach, our role will be limited only to providing you with general educational materials regarding the pros and cons of rollover transactions. We would make no recommendation to you regarding the prospective rollover of your assets and you are advised to speak with your trusted tax and legal advisors with respect to rollover decisions. As part of this educational approach, we will discuss with you general information about some or all of the following topics: the general pros and cons of rollover transactions; the benefits of retirement plan participation; the impact of pre-retirement withdrawals on retirement income; the investment options available inside your Plan Account; and high level discussion of general investment concepts (e.g., risk versus return, the benefits of diversification and asset allocation, historical returns of certain asset classes, etc.). We may also provide you with questionnaires and/or interactive investment materials that may provide a means for you to independently determine your future retirement income needs and to assess the impact of different asset allocations on your retirement income. You will make the final rollover decision.

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

KFG does not charge performance-based fees, which are based on capital gains in the clients' account.

## **Item 7: Types of Clients and Account Minimums**

KFG provides advisory services to individuals, pension and profit sharing plans and other ERISA accounts, trusts, estates, and business entities.

The recommended minimum account size for Investment Advising is \$600,000; however we are willing to open smaller accounts depending on the circumstances. Grandfathered accounts may also have lower minimums.

There is no minimum for clients retaining financial planning services.

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

KFG typically uses asset allocation strategies for Investment Advising. The firm looks at a client's entire financial picture in determining an investment strategy. The key considerations in determining these strategies are risk tolerance, time horizon, tax efficiency, and required cash flows.

When a Financial Plan is prepared at the client's request, planning looks to the long-term. After the client's short-term cash needs and emergency funds are evaluated, investment and insurance strategies are designed to help the client achieve his or her financial goals. Casualty insurance (e.g. homeowner's, auto, liability, etc.), health insurance, and life insurance are reviewed at the client's request, and any products recommended would be provided by an outside firm.

While there is risk in all investments, some carry a greater degree of risk or higher costs. There is no guarantee that the investment strategy selected for the client will result in the client's goals being met, nor is there any guarantee of profit or protection from loss.

KFG is disclosing below the risks and opportunities for our investment strategies or for types of securities used within investment strategies provided.

- Mutual Fund is an investment pool, which may include money market instruments, stocks, bonds, or other investment vehicles. Professional money managers research, select, and monitor the performance of the securities the fund purchases. It is easier to achieve diversification through ownership of mutual funds rather than through ownership of individual stocks or bonds. Even with no-load or load-waived funds, there are mutual fund expenses paid to the fund company. Investors may have to pay taxes on capital gains distribution received by the fund, but not distributed to the investor. Mutual funds redeem shares at net asset value ("NAV") at the end of the trading day. For mutual funds and other investments sold by prospectus, clients should read the prospectus in full.
- Exchange Traded Fund ("ETF") holds securities to match the price performance of a certain market index or commodity price. ETFs can track stock indexes and sectors, bonds and precious metals. ETFs are subject to the same market risks as the index or sector they are designed to track. ETFs can be bought and sold throughout the day like stocks. ETFs may be an index fund or a fully transparent actively managed fund. Certain ETFs are relatively easy to understand, while others may have unusual or complex strategies. For example, "leveraged ETFs" seek to achieve performance equal to a multiple of an index after fees and expenses. These ETFs seek to achieve their investment objective on a daily basis only, potentially making them unsuitable for long-term investors. "Inverse ETFs" use various derivatives to prove from the decline in value of an underlying index or basket of assets.
- Stock represents ownership in a company. If the company prospers and grows, the value of the stock should increase. Even if a company is profitable, the stock prices are subject to "market risk" which is attributable to investor attitudes. Stock ownership in more established companies is more conservative, while younger companies provide the most risk and reward opportunities.
- Options are contracts specifying the price of an underlying asset at some point in the future (the expiration date). For equity options, the underlying asset is a stock, ETF, market index or similar product. When an option expires, it no longer has value and no

longer exists. Options come in two varieties, calls and puts, and you can buy or sell either type. There are many types of option strategies, some of which help protect your portfolio and others which are highly speculative. In addition to the short term expiration, the value of the option is affected by news on the company on which the option is held. Prior to buying or selling an option, clients should read "Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options." Copies of this document may be obtained from your financial advisor, on the web: [www.optionsclearing.com/components/docs/riskstoc.pdf](http://www.optionsclearing.com/components/docs/riskstoc.pdf), or by contacting The Options Clearing Corporation, One North Wacker Dr., Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60606 (1-888-678-4667).

- Debt Securities (corporate or municipal bonds) (aka fixed income securities) are promissory notes that pay interest and the return of principal at the end of a specified term. Credit risk is the chance the issuer will fail to pay the interest payments on the security or to pay the principal at maturity. Interest rate risk is that the market value of the bonds will go down when interest rates go up. Prepayment risk is the chance that a bond will be paid off early. For example, if interest rates fall, a bond issuer may decide to pay off its debt. When this happens, the investor may not be able to reinvest the proceeds in an investment with as high a return or yield.
- High Yield Bonds have a lower credit rating than investment-grade bonds. Because of the higher risk of default, these bonds pay a higher yield than investment grade bonds.
- Alternative Investments, including non-traded REITs (Real Estate Investment Trusts), Business Development Companies, and Private Placements are recommended only for sophisticated investors if the product fits the client's stated financial situation, investment objectives, risk tolerance and time horizon. Many REITs focus on particular types of commercial development, such as apartments or office buildings. This concentration leaves them vulnerable to a downturn in this particular sector of real estate. Also, a high concentration of development in one community or geographic region may leave it vulnerable to a downturn in that area's economy. Equity REITs own and manage income-producing real estate properties. Mortgage REITs purchase or originate mortgages on properties, not the properties themselves. These are affected by the interest rates, property titling, collections, property valuations, and the available inventory of loans. These can potentially affect the investment's ability to achieve their desired outcomes. Some REITs use leverage, which has potential for higher rewards, but comes with greater risks. Some REITs are private placements and thus are not traded on the stock exchange. Alternative Investments and Private Placements often are high risk products, are illiquid in almost all cases, and generally offer a high dividend rate to the investor as an offset to the increased risk and illiquidity. There is increased risk of partial or full loss of value when investing in illiquid securities.
- Alternative Investments in mutual funds: There is no uniform definition of the term "alternative investments." As utilized by KFG, alternative or "alt" mutual funds are publicly traded funds that use investment strategies that differ from the buy-and-hold strategy typical in funds. Compared to a traditional fund, an alternative fund typically holds more non-traditional investments and employs more complex trading strategies. Alt funds might invest in assets such as global real estate, commodities, natural resources, leveraged loans, foreign currency, managed futures, derivatives, swap agreements, start-up companies and unlisted securities that offer exposure beyond traditional stocks, bonds and cash. Alt fund strategies might include market neutral (long/short positions) and arbitrage strategies. Alternative mutual funds have unique characteristics and risks. Investors should read the prospectus for an understanding of a particular fund's strategy and risk.



- Insurance Dedicated Fund (“IDF”): IDF’s are typically hedge fund or private equity, private debt, or private real estate type investments. These often carry “lock up” periods of 1 to 3 years and sometimes longer. Due the illiquid nature upfront, there is increased risk of partial or full loss of value when investing in illiquid securities. The underlying holdings of these investments also include risks associated with the general economic and business cycle, leverage, credit, interest, currency, among others. For IDF’s offered through investments sold by prospectus, clients should read the prospectus in full.
- Variable Insurance Trust (“VIT”): VITs are essentially mutual funds that are offered through insurance company products like life insurance and annuities. Individual VIT’s are investment pools, which generally include money market instruments, stocks, bonds, or other investment vehicles. Professional money managers research, select, and monitor the performance of the securities the fund purchases. It is a common way to achieve diversification instead of through individual stocks or bonds. For VIT’s offered through investments sold by prospectus, clients should read the prospectus in full.

For investments with third party money managers, clients should read the Form ADV disclosure of the outside money manager for risk factors.

### **Item 9: Disciplinary Information**

An investment advisor must disclose material facts about any legal or disciplinary event that is material to a client’s evaluation of the advisory business or of the integrity of its management personnel. On May 28, 2024, Bryan Kocen entered into a settlement with FINRA in connection with its net capital examination of Financial Goal Securities, Inc., a previously FINRA registered broker dealer affiliated with KFG under common ownership. Under the terms of the settlement, Bryan Kocen agreed to a permanent bar as a FINRA registered representative. For additional information, see <https://brokercheck.finra.org/>.

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

Neither KFG nor its management persons have any financial industry activities or affiliations to disclose.

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

#### Code of Ethics

KFG maintains a Code of Ethics. The Code of Ethics sets forth standards of conduct expected of advisory personnel; requires compliance with federal securities laws; and, addresses conflicts that arise from personal trading by advisory personnel. Clients may request a copy of the Code of Ethics.

#### Personal Trading

At times the interests of KFG and/or its IA Reps correspond with our client's interests, and then we may invest in the same securities that are recommended to clients. KFG's policy is designed to avoid conflicts of interest with our clients. We will not violate the Advisor's fiduciary responsibilities to our clients.

**Mutual funds** are purchased or redeemed at a fixed net asset value price set by the fund company. Transactions in mutual funds by access persons are not likely to have an impact on the prices of the fund shares. Access persons may buy or sell these funds on the same day as clients.

**General securities transactions (e.g. stocks, bonds, ETFs, options):**

- We will generally be "last in" and "last out" for the trading day when trading occurs in close proximity to client trades. IA Reps may participate in block trades with clients pursuant to the disclosure in the Trade Aggregation section of this document.
- Scalping (trading shortly ahead of clients) is prohibited.
- Should a conflict occur because of materiality (i.e. access person's prior holding of a thinly traded security), disclosure will be made to the client(s) at the time of trading.
- Incidental trading not deemed to be a conflict (i.e. a purchase or sale which is minimal in relation to the total outstanding value, and as such would have negligible effect on the market price), would not be disclosed at the time of trading.

**Limited partnership or private placement offerings** have a set number of units available for purchase. Due to potential conflicts of interest, we will fulfill client subscriptions first, and access persons may invest if units are remaining. Thus, we will not "race" clients into limited partnerships or private placements.

## **Item 12: Brokerage Practices**

### Selection or Recommendation of Broker/Dealers

For Investment Advising portfolios it is recommended, although clients may choose an alternative, to implement trades and maintain custody of assets through a discount broker. The selection is made based on the discount rates and execution services available to the client.

The services of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (Schwab") are recommended. Schwab is an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealer and member FINRA/SIPC/NFA. Schwab offers to independent investment advisors services which include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. Clients may pay transaction fees to Schwab for the purchase of "no-load" funds. Schwab provides the clients with consolidated statements.

KFG is not affiliated with Schwab. IA Reps of our firm are not registered representatives of Schwab and do not receive any commissions or fees from recommending these services.

For the portion of the portfolio allocated to third party money managers, a different broker/dealer may be utilized. Refer to the Form ADV 2 disclosure of the money manager.

### Soft Dollar Practices

KFG receives compensation from a brokerage firm in the form of research, products or services ("soft dollars"). When a firm uses client brokerage commissions to obtain soft dollars, the firm receives a benefit by not having to produce or pay for such items. A firm may have an incentive to select or recommend a broker/dealer based on soft dollars received, rather than best execution for the client.

KFG receives soft dollar compensation from Schwab for research and non-research services to include receipt of duplicate Client statements and confirmations; research related products and tools; consulting services; access to a trading desk serving KFG participants; 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 KFG by third party vendors. Schwab may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by KFG's related persons.

KFG understands its duty for best execution and considers all factors in making recommendations to clients. These services may be useful in servicing all KFG clients, and may not be used in connection with any particular account that may have paid compensation to the firm providing such services. While KFG may not always obtain the lowest commission rate, KFG believes the rate is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided.

### Directed Brokerage

Client may direct brokerage to a specified broker/dealer other than the firm recommended by KFG. It is up to the client to negotiate the commission rate, as KFG will not. The client may not be able to negotiate the most competitive rate. As a result, the client may pay more than the rate available through the broker/dealer used by KFG.

### Trade Aggregation

KFG investment strategies utilize mutual funds and referrals to third party asset managers. Trade aggregation does not apply for mutual fund investments. Third party asset managers that KFG recommends often use individual securities and other market traded vehicles to implement their investment strategies. In doing so, they generally will utilize trade aggregation to seek best execution for investors. Information about third party asset manager trade aggregation policies can be found in their respective ADV 2A brochures.

## **Item 13: Review of Accounts and Reports on Accounts**

### Reviews

Investment Advising portfolios are reviewed at a minimum of once per quarter. Market conditions that might cause a wide variance in the specified asset allocation, or other factors could cause a more frequent review. KFG offers clients an in-person portfolio review meeting on an annual basis at a minimum.

The Financial Plan is a snapshot in time and no ongoing reviews are conducted. We recommend clients engage us on an annual basis to update the Financial Plan.

The account reviews are performed by the client's IA Rep. The Chief Compliance Officer and other designated compliance staff monitor the portfolios and financial plans for investment objectives and other supervisory review.

### Reports

All clients receive standard account statements from investment sponsors and brokerage firms.

Investment Advising clients receive a written quarterly performance report from KFG, which includes assets managed directly by KFG and by the third party money managers.

#### **Item 14: Client Referrals & Other Compensation**

##### Referral Fees Paid

KFG may compensate for client referrals. All promoters'/solicitors' agreements are in compliance with the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. In addition, all applicable federal and state laws will also be observed. All clients procured by promoters/solicitors will be given full written disclosures describing the terms and fee arrangements between the advisor and the promoter/solicitor prior to or at the time of entering into the advisory agreement.

##### Referral Fees Received

KFG may exercise agreements with other Registered Investment Advisors and recommend other Advisors to clients. KFG's fees are separate from fees charged by the third party money manager. KFG does not receive a portion of the third party money manager's fees. KFG makes available to the client the Form ADV for the other Advisor. The client is under no obligation to use the services of the other Advisor(s) recommended.

##### Other Compensation

As described previously in Items 4 and 5, KFG provides Sub-Advisory Investment Management services to other institutions for compensation. In certain situations, where appropriate for clients, KFG may recommend that select clients invest in these sub-advised investment options. KFG's recommendation of an investment strategy that involves separate compensation as the sub-adviser creates a conflict of interest. For Investment Advising clients, this conflict is mitigated by KFG waiving its fees for Investment Advising services on any assets that the client has chosen to invest within these sub-advised investment options so that KFG does not receive two sources of compensation on the same assets under management. Financial Plan clients are under no obligation to purchase products or services where additional compensation is received by KFG or its IA Reps.

#### **Item 15: Custody**

Although client assets are held at a third-party independent custodian, KFG is deemed to have custody of client funds solely because of the fee deduction authority granted by the client in the investment advising agreement.

Clients will receive account statements at least quarterly from the broker-dealer or other qualified custodians. The Client is urged to compare custodial account statements against statements prepared by KFG for accuracy. Minor variations may occur because of reporting dates, accrual methods of interest and dividends, and other factors. The custodial statement is the official record of your account for tax purposes.

#### **Item 16: Investment Discretion**

KFG maintains full discretion under a limited power of attorney as to the securities and amount of securities under the Trading Authorization clause in the Agreement with the client.

KFG will not have authority to withdraw funds or to take custody of client funds or securities, other than under the terms of the Fee Payment Authorization clause in the Agreement with the client.

#### **Item 17: Voting Client Securities**

KFG does not vote proxies. It is the client's responsibility to vote proxies. Clients will receive proxy materials directly from the custodian. Questions about proxies may be made via the contact information on the cover page.

KFG does not accept any authority or responsibility regarding any claim or potential claim in any bankruptcy proceeding, class action securities litigation or other litigation or proceeding relating to securities held at any time in a client account. Any documents received in relation to a class action lawsuit will be forwarded to the Client. KFG does not provide advice on whether or not to participate as a member of class action lawsuits and will not automatically file claims on a client's behalf. However, if a client wishes to participate in a class action lawsuit, upon request, KFG will provide the client with transaction information pertaining to the client's account necessary for client to file a proof of claim in a class action.

#### **Item 18: Financial Information**

An investment advisor must provide financial information if a threshold of fee prepayments is met; there is a financial condition likely to impair the ability to meet contractual commitments; or, a bankruptcy within the past ten years. KFG does not have any disclosure items in this section.