

# **Evanston Capital Management, LLC**

1560 Sherman Ave., Suite 960

Evanston, IL 60201

Phone: (847) 328-4961

Fax: (847) 328-4676

<https://www.evanstoncap.com>

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**This Form ADV, Part 2A (the “Brochure”) provides information about Evanston Capital Management, LLC’s (“ECM”) qualifications and business practices. If you have any questions about this Brochure’s contents, please contact ECM at (847) 328-4961 or [investorrelations@evanstoncap.com](mailto:investorrelations@evanstoncap.com). The information in this Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) or by any U.S. state securities authority.**

**ECM is registered with the SEC as an investment adviser. SEC registration does not signify that the SEC endorses ECM, nor does it imply a certain level of skill or training. Additional information about ECM is also available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).**

**This Brochure does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to purchase interests in or shares of any investment fund advised or sponsored by ECM. Such an offer may be made to qualified investors solely by way of such investment fund’s offering materials approved for use by ECM, and only in jurisdictions in which such an offer would be lawful.**

**Item 2 – Material Changes**

ECM previously updated this Brochure on March 29, 2023. This Brochure is being amended in connection with ECM's annual update.

We recommend that you read the Brochure and any applicable governing documents in full. ECM's Brochure may be requested by contacting Melanie Lorenzo, Partner, Chief Compliance Officer and Associate General Counsel of ECM, at (847) 563-5273 or [mlorenzo@evanstoncap.com](mailto:mlorenzo@evanstoncap.com).

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#### **Item 4 – Advisory Business**

ECM, a Delaware limited liability company, was established in 2002. ECM provides investment supervisory and management services to U.S. and non-U.S. commingled open-end and closed-end private funds of private funds (“Commingled Funds”). ECM may also provide services to customized investor funds (“Customized Fund,” and collectively with the Commingled Funds, the “Private Funds”).

The majority of the Commingled Funds invest primarily in hedge funds, and certain Commingled Funds invest a majority or substantially all of their assets in longer-term, illiquid private investment vehicles, such as private equity funds and other committed capital style funds such as venture capital funds. One Closed-end Commingled Fund invests in portfolios of closed-end, open-end, and hybrid funds and similar private vehicles with an investment focus on cryptographically derived digital assets including, without limitation, blockchain tokens, virtual or digital currencies, non-fungible tokens, and related products and in equity or other securities of public or private companies operating in the cryptographic or blockchain space (“Closed-end Commingled Fund”).

The Private Funds are exempt from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (“Company Act”). ECM also provides investment advisory or sub-advisory services to a closed-end investment company launched in July 2014 that is registered under the Company Act (the “Registered Fund,” and collectively with the Private Funds, the “Funds”).

The Funds are advised based on the investment objectives set forth in each Fund’s relevant confidential explanatory memorandum, confidential private placement memorandum, registration statement, or similar disclosure document (“Offering Document”). As of January 31, 2024, ECM managed, on a discretionary basis, approximately \$4,182,146,818 in client assets, including uncalled capital commitments. ECM does not manage any client assets on a non-discretionary basis.

All of ECM’s equity is owned by Evanston Capital Management, L.P. (“ECM LP”), an entity primarily owned by ECM employees. ECM LP’s general partner is ECM Holdco, LLC (“Holdco”) the managing member of which is Adam Blitz. Adam Blitz is currently a principal owner of ECM as defined under the instructions to Form ADV, Part 2 because he, along with his estate planning vehicles, own at least a 25% but less than 50% indirect ownership interest in ECM.

As noted in Item 7 below, ECM is an investment adviser to funds of private funds. ECM evaluates hedge funds and other open-end, closed-end, and hybrid private investment vehicles, inclusive of the private vehicles in which the Closed-end Commingled Fund invests as described above (collectively, “Portfolio Funds”) and the Portfolio Funds’ independent portfolio managers (each a “Portfolio Manager,” and collectively, the “Portfolio Managers”) by using ECM’s investment process which is outlined in Item 8. Consequently, ECM generally does not participate in the selection, buying or selling of specific securities of operating issuers, except in certain limited circumstances, such as where it must sell in-kind distributions of securities a Fund may receive from Portfolio Funds. The Funds’ investment

objectives, and any limitations or restrictions on investments, are described in each Fund's Offering Document.

The Funds' limited partners and shareholders are collectively referred to as the "Investors" or an "Investor" in this Brochure.

## **Item 5 – Fees and Compensation**

### **The Funds' Management Fees**

Generally, ECM's Private Funds charge an asset-based fee (the "Management Fee") ranging between 0.25% to 1.95% per annum that accrues over a set time period, namely monthly or quarterly, and is payable quarterly. Beginning on the initial closing date ("Commencement Date") and ending on the particular anniversary of the Closed-end Commingled Fund's Commencement Date as set forth in its Offering Document, the Closed-end Commingled Fund charges an annual Management Fee of up to 0.50% per annum, payable quarterly in advance, of the aggregate capital commitments. The Management Fee will be appropriately *pro rated* for partial periods. ECM's Private Funds may also pay performance-based compensation as described in Item 6 below. The Management Fee is disclosed in each Private Fund's Offering Document and will vary based on the particular Private Fund and the type or class of interests or shares held. A Customized Fund's Management Fee will vary based on ECM's level of services and would be negotiated with the Customized Fund investor on a case-by-case basis.

The Registered Fund's Management Fee and other fees are described in its prospectus, which may be found by searching for "*Evanston Alternative Opportunities Fund*" in the Company and Person Lookup search box on the SEC's EDGAR database, <http://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch.html>, by contacting ECM at [investorrelations@evanstoncap.com](mailto:investorrelations@evanstoncap.com), or by calling 847-328-4961.

ECM expects that the Management Fee may be waived in whole or in part for capital invested directly or indirectly in a Private Fund by ECM's partners, employees, former employees, members of ECM's current and former advisory board, any person related to the above, and certain entities whose investors primarily consist of the above. Additionally, ECM in its sole discretion may cause the Management Fee to be waived in whole or in part for investments made by an Investor in any Private Fund. ECM may also enter into agreements with certain Investors in ECM's sole discretion granting preferential fee terms in certain circumstances, including, for example, an Investor's investment size either individually or together with other Investors who share a common investment adviser, or as aggregated with affiliated Investor investments, without entitling any other Investor to such terms. Except as required by applicable law or regulation, neither ECM nor the relevant Private Fund is generally obligated to disclose such agreements to, or obtain the approval of, all Investors. ECM will not enter into any such agreement if ECM determines it would have a material adverse effect on other Investors in the relevant Private Fund, or if it is prohibited by law.

In situations where a Fund predominantly invests in another Fund for which ECM serves as the general partner and investment manager, ECM will only charge the Management Fee, and make the Incentive Allocation, at one level.

Each Fund's third-party administrator calculates the Funds' net asset value under ECM's overall supervision (which, in turn, is subject to the Registered Fund's Board of Trustees' oversight of ECM's performance of such duties).<sup>1</sup> ECM may in certain circumstances make a fair valuation recommendation for an investment, subject to ECM's Valuation Policy and Procedures, or the Registered Fund's Fair Valuation Policies and Procedures,<sup>1</sup> as applicable. In doing so, a conflict of interest exists given that the Management Fee and, if applicable, performance-based compensation (as discussed in Item 6 below) ECM would receive are based on such valuation.

### The Funds' Expenses

ECM is responsible for its employees' salaries and employee benefit expenses, and those of any of its affiliates involved in the management and conduct of the Funds' business and affairs and related overhead (including rent, utilities, and other similar items).

The Private Funds pay costs and expenses as ECM reasonably determines for their formation and to carry on their businesses, purposes and activities (and will reimburse ECM and its related persons for any costs and expenses incurred by them on the Private Funds' behalf). These costs and expenses typically include, for example, organizational and offering, legal (including costs and expenses of negotiating side letters with Investors and prospective Investors), audit, custodial, third-party administration, line of credit, interest on borrowings, unaffiliated director and anti-money laundering officer, insurance, indemnification, tax preparation and other tax-related fees and expenses (including "partnership representative" fees and expenses), commitment fees associated with a credit facility, filing fees, government fees and taxes or similar amounts (if any) and extraordinary expenses (if any).

With respect to a Closed-end Commingled Fund, the foregoing costs and expenses also include consulting, structuring, offering, capital raising (including presentations, conferences, symposiums, travel and communication expenses and related legal and regulatory compliance expenses), and regulatory expenses (including those relating to registrations, filings, and compliance contemplated by the law, rules, and regulations implemented or promulgated in any applicable jurisdiction).

Closed-end Commingled Funds also will be responsible for all fees, costs, expenses, liabilities, and obligations in connection with their (and any future feeder fund or blocker entities formed, as well as such entities' respective general partners or equivalents) operations, investments, business, and other activities, such as: (i) investment activities, including, for example, evaluating, negotiating, acquiring, maintaining, transferring, and disposing of investments, any fees related to financing, investment banking, private placement, brokerage, and appraisal fees, sales commissions, conferences and related costs, including

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<sup>1</sup> On or around the second quarter of 2024, ECM anticipates that it will become the Registered Fund's sub-adviser and an unaffiliated party will become the Registered Fund's investment adviser (the "New IA"). Consequently, upon the consummation of such transaction it is expected that the New IA will assume ECM's responsibilities with respect to the valuation of the Registered Fund's portfolio and overall supervision of the third-party administrator's calculation of the Registered Fund's NAV.

travel and travel-related expenses such as transportation, meal, entertainment, and lodging (collectively, "Travel-Related Expenses"); (ii) compliance with side letter provisions, any investor-specific requirements such as reporting or other terms in side letters and computer software or other administrative or reporting tools and transfers of interests; (iii) management fees and other costs and expenses of entities in which a Closed-end Commingled Fund invests; (iv) defaults by Investors or costs associated with excused limited partners (as described in Item 8, "Risks Related to Closed-end Commingled Fund Structure"); (v) all compliance-related activities such as compliance, risk management, legal, and regulatory requirements of ECM and its affiliates incurred in operating a Closed-end Commingled Fund, compliance with U.S. and non-U.S. laws, statutes, and regulations such as Freedom of Information Act, Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, European Union Directive on Alternative Investment Fund Managers, and anti-money laundering laws; (vi) information technology, software and computer systems, including, for example, purchasing, developing, and implementing technology, and investor subscription platforms and reporting tools/portals; (vii) subscription, licensing, and other expenses for news, databases, market intelligence, and other information and research services; (viii) protecting confidential or non-public information or data of a Closed-end Commingled Fund; (ix) advisory board meetings and such members' reasonable out-of-pocket expenses; (x) Investor meetings (including materials expenses and Travel-Related Expenses for attendees); (xi) trade conference attendance and related expenses, including registration, sponsorship, presentation fees, travel and Travel-Related Expenses; (xii) communications, mailings, courier and telephone charges, among other expenses; (xiii) any constituent document amendments, revisions, or restatements; (xiv) service providers engaged for a Closed-end Commingled Fund's benefit, including diligence, negotiation, and onboarding expenses; (xv) preparing, distributing, and filing financial and other statements, reports, and tax-related documents; (xvi) insurance and bond coverages, including directors and officers, errors and omissions, fidelity, cyber liability, and indemnification or extraordinary expenses or liability related to a Closed-end Commingled Fund's and its service providers' affairs; (xvii) permitted loans, borrowings, credit facilities and financings, financial institution, depository, cash management, and treasury services; (xviii) dissolving, liquidating, wind-up, and termination of a Closed-end Commingled Fund; (xix) any actual, threatened, or anticipated litigation or governmental inquiry, investigation, or proceeding involving a Closed-end Commingled Fund, including any judgment, settlement, or fine amount, and indemnification of ECM and general partners of any feeder fund, as described in limited partnership agreements; (xx) all taxes imposed on or incurred by a Closed-end Commingled Fund; and (xxi) any other fees, costs, expenses, liabilities, or obligations approved by a Closed-end Commingled Fund's advisory board.

The Registered Fund's expenses are described in in the "Prospectus Summary – Fees and Expenses," as well the "Fees and Expenses" sections of the prospectus, which can be obtained as described in this Item 5 above.

Certain expenses may be borne by a Private Fund and one or more other Private Funds. ECM will apportion such items of expense among such Private Funds in a manner that ECM determines to be fair and equitable over time; however, there will likely exist certain conflicts of interest in determining how to allocate such expenses. ECM's Fee and Expense

Allocation Policy summarizes its procedures to allocate Fund fees and expenses, including expenses assessed across more than one Fund.

The Funds also bear their *pro rata* share of the Portfolio Funds' interest, brokerage and other transactional charges, commitment fees, insurance, and fees. The fees earned by the Portfolio Managers generally include both management fees (percentage of allocated assets) and incentive compensation (percentage of profits from the allocated assets).

Management fees of the Portfolio Funds, excepting the Closed-end Commingled Fund's Portfolio Funds, generally range from 0.75% to 2.00% per annum of assets under management, and incentive compensation generally ranges between 10% and 30% of profits (which may be calculated as profits in excess of a hurdle amount), often calculated annually but in some cases more frequently.

Management fees of the Closed-end Commingled Fund's Portfolio Funds will generally range from 0% to 3% per annum of the Closed-end Commingled Fund's capital commitment, and Carried Interest will generally range between 20% to 30% of distributions. Carried Interest distributions are calculated and made in each Portfolio Fund's discretion in accordance with the waterfall set forth in each Portfolio Fund's offering documents.

Incentive compensation will be paid to each Portfolio Manager individually, irrespective of each Fund's overall performance. Investors will bear their proportionate share of these fees and expenses, along with their proportionate share of the Funds' fees and expenses.

Each Fund's third-party administrator typically deducts Investors' share of the Management Fee, any applicable Incentive Allocation or Carried Interest (as defined in Item 6 below), and expenses directly from an Investor's account. The Management Fee generally is accrued monthly or quarterly, and is typically paid quarterly in arrears. However, the Management Fee is paid quarterly in advance for one Commingled Fund and the Closed-end Commingled Fund. The Incentive Allocation is made annually (and upon a withdrawal of capital) and is not paid in advance. Carried Interest distributions will be made in ECM's discretion generally within 120 days of receipt in accordance with the waterfall set forth in each Closed-end Commingled Fund's partnership agreement and is not paid in advance.

Closed-end Commingled Fund Investors who make initial or additional capital commitments after a Closed-end Commingled Fund's initial closing are required to pay an interest charge, equal to the WSJ Prime Rate or 8% per annum as set by such Closed-end Commingled Fund, multiplied by such Investor's share of (i) the cost basis of each existing investment and (ii) the total amount of such Closed-end Commingled Fund's expenses, including Management Fees, determined, in each case, from the date the relevant capital contributions relating to such investment or expenditure was due from existing Investors, through the date of such Investor's initial or additional capital commitment. This interest charge may be waived in whole or in part by a Closed-end Commingled Fund's general partner.



### Layering of Fees Charged

Due to the nature of “fund of funds” limited partnerships, trusts, and corporations, the Funds will invest in Portfolio Funds and incur certain charges such as fees assessed by the Portfolio Managers. The fees charged by the Portfolio Funds will be incorporated in the Funds’ net income or loss, not in the fees charged by ECM to the Funds. These fees are exclusive of and in addition to ECM’s Management Fee and Incentive Allocation/Carried Interest, as applicable (as defined in Item 6 below), and ECM will not receive any portion of such fees.

### Brokerage and Similar Commissions to Effect Client Transactions

As ECM focuses primarily on investments in Portfolio Funds, which generally are available directly from the issuers without payment of brokerage or similar commissions, ECM generally does not expect to use brokers to effect Fund transactions in the ordinary course of business. Item 12 describes the factors that ECM would consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for client transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (*i.e.*, commissions). If ECM determines to use brokers to effect transactions for clients, any brokerage or commissions assessed would be in addition to ECM’s Management Fee.

### Fees for Services ECM May Provide to Other Investment Vehicles

ECM or its affiliate may act as the general partner, investment manager, investment adviser, or sponsor to other commingled or customized investment vehicles or registered investment companies in the future, and such vehicles will pay ECM fees as described in their Offering Documents. Fees may take any number of forms, such as fees based on a percentage of capital commitments or assets under management and/or so-called “performance-based fees,” including so-called “carried interests,” as applicable. If fees are subject to the provisions of Rule 205-3 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the “Advisers Act”), these fees will be structured to comply with the Rule’s provisions.

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

### Performance-Based Fees

With the exception of the Closed-end Commingled Fund, Investors in the Private Funds may pay performance-based compensation, generally ranging between 5% to 10% of any net capital appreciation of an Investor’s investment (the “Incentive Allocation”) in a Private Fund. Investors in the Closed-end Commingled Fund are subject to a 10% carried interest (“Carried Interest”) after receiving an annually compounded internal rate of return of 8% on an Investor’s aggregate capital contributions, as set forth in the Closed-end Commingled Fund’s Offering Document (the “Preferred Return”).

The Incentive Allocation may be calculated on a “high water mark” basis, and in such cases generally includes a hurdle rate that requires performance to exceed a fixed percentage or a particular benchmark, such as the average yield on U.S. Treasury Bills, in a given year before an Incentive Allocation is made. Similarly, Carried Interest distributions are made after Investors have received (i) aggregate distributions equal to their funded capital contributions and (ii) cumulative distributions equal to the Preferred Return. Incentive Allocations and Carried Interest are structured subject to Section 205(a)(1) of the Advisers

Act and in compliance with the exemption in Rule 205-3 of the Advisers Act. Incentive Allocations will be appropriately *pro rated* for partial periods.

The Incentive Allocation and Carried Interest are based on capital appreciation, which may create an incentive for ECM to invest the Private Funds' assets in investments that are riskier or more speculative than if ECM received only a flat percentage of capital. Furthermore, only some of a Private Fund's classes of interests or series of shares may be subject to an Incentive Allocation. Because all such classes or series invest in the same Private Fund, all Investors in such Private Funds are subject to the risks discussed above.

#### Side-by-Side Management

ECM manages the Registered Fund alongside (or "side-by-side" with) another Private Fund, and such Registered Fund is not subject to any Incentive Allocation. ECM may offer other funds in the future that will not be subject to an Incentive Allocation. ECM's simultaneous management of similar investment strategies where only certain Funds compensate ECM for performance may incentivize ECM to allocate what it considers to be the best investment opportunities to those Funds that pay an Incentive Allocation. ECM takes into account its fiduciary duties to the Funds when dealing with conflicts of interest such as these, and ECM developed policies to reasonably ensure that no Fund will be treated unfairly in relation to other Funds and seeks to fairly allocate investment opportunities among all Funds over time. Please see Items 8 and 11 for details respecting ECM's policy on the allocation of investments among its client accounts.

ECM's compensation is determined on the basis of the value of the Funds' assets, including value attributable to unrealized appreciation, and ECM could earn an Incentive Allocation on gains that Investors may never realize. As noted in Item 5, ECM may value securities for which market quotations are not available as ECM reasonably determines and may not be independently valued or verified by a third party. This may incentivize ECM to place the highest reasonable value on the Funds' investments. ECM addresses such conflicts by making fair valuation determinations in accordance with ECM's Valuation Policy and Procedures and the Registered Fund's Fair Valuation Policy and Procedures, as applicable.

ECM expects that the Incentive Allocation/Carried Interest may be waived in whole or in part for capital invested directly or indirectly in a Private Fund by ECM's partners, employees, former employees, members of ECM's current and former advisory board, any person related to the above, and certain entities whose investors primarily consist of the above. ECM may also enter into agreements with certain Investors in its sole discretion granting preferential fee terms in certain circumstances without entitling any other Investor to such terms, as noted in Item 5 above.

#### **Item 7 – Types of Clients**

ECM's clients solely comprise its Funds. The Private Funds are privately offered commingled investment vehicles that rely on the 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) exemption from the definition of "investment company" under the Company Act. The Registered Fund is a closed-end registered investment company. ECM may, in the future, manage separate accounts.

The Funds' Investors may include, but are not limited to, high-net worth individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, non-profits, endowments, corporations, and other business entities. ECM or its affiliates, including certain subsidiaries, act as the general partner to certain Funds (collectively the "Affiliated GPs"), as the sponsor and/or investment manager of the non-U.S. Private Funds, and as the Registered Fund's investment adviser or sub-adviser, as applicable. ECM may also provide similar services to other collective and customized investment vehicles, registered funds, and other clients. ECM may retain sub-advisers, including its own affiliates, in the future.

The Private Funds generally have initial minimum investments as noted in Question 12 of Section 7.B.(1) of Schedule D in Form ADV Part 1, and also establish minimum additional investments amounts as provided in each Private Fund's Offering Document. Such minimum amounts may be waived or reduced in ECM's discretion (or in the discretion of the non-U.S. Private Funds' board of directors). A Customized Fund's minimum investment amount would vary depending on the Customized Fund's investment strategy and would be agreed upon with the relevant Customized Fund investor in advance. The Registered Fund generally requires an initial minimum investment of \$50,000, and minimum additional investments of \$10,000.

U.S. Private Funds that are 3(c)(7) funds accept capital from U.S. investors that are "accredited investors" as defined in Rule 501(a) ("Accredited Investors") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), "qualified purchasers" within the meaning of Section 2(a)(51)(A) of the Company Act, and "knowledgeable employees." The U.S. Private Funds that are 3(c)(1) funds accept capital from U.S. investors that are Accredited Investors, and if an Investor's interests in a 3(c)(1) fund are subject to an Incentive Allocation such Investor must also be a "qualified client" as defined in Rule 205-3 under the Advisers Act. The non-U.S. Private Funds generally accept capital from U.S. tax-exempt investors that are "accredited investors" and "qualified purchasers," non-U.S. investors that are "qualified purchasers" and are not "U.S. persons" as defined in Regulation S under the Securities Act, "employee benefit plans" as defined in and subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended and other qualified plan investors that are "accredited investors" and "qualified purchasers." The Registered Fund generally offers its securities to "Eligible Investors," which includes any Accredited Investor.

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

### **A. METHODS OF ANALYSIS**

ECM generally sources potential investment ideas primarily from three areas: prime brokers, other alternative investment fund investors, and Portfolio Managers (collectively, ECM's "network"). By maintaining continuous dialogue with these parties, ECM believes it can remain attuned to new Portfolio Managers' launches, given the relatively few top-tier Portfolio Fund launches that ECM believes occur every year. Portfolio Manager selection is primarily an exercise to identify and understand an investment thesis and process, combined with the assessment of human intellect and character. ECM will only select Portfolio Managers which it believes are of the highest quality.

Meetings as described in Steps 1, 1A, and 2 below take place in person, via phone or via video conference.

From time to time, ECM may identify time sensitive opportunistic potential investments in a Portfolio Fund due to capacity in such Portfolio Fund becoming unexpectedly available. Such situations generally arise in unusual circumstances, such as times of significant market volatility. Although ECM generally undertakes the steps described below, it may be unable to complete every step in the limited timeframe to consume such opportunistic investment. In such cases, ECM may cause the Fund to make such an opportunistic investment without having completed the full evaluation process described below.

Please note that the use of ECM's "network," Steps 1, 1A, 2, 3, and the Additional Portfolio Analyses as described below are primarily geared toward ECM's assessment of Portfolio Managers of hedge funds. They will not be applied in their totality when assessing Portfolio Managers of private equity funds and venture capital funds, and they will not be applied at all when assessing the Portfolio Managers of a Closed-end Commingled Fund's Portfolio Funds, due to a variety of factors, including the different investment styles and processes between hedge fund, private equity or venture fund Portfolio Managers. Furthermore, in order to take advantage of certain investment opportunities, ECM may need to make investment decisions on an expedited basis, despite not having access to detailed information necessary for a full analysis and evaluation of the investment opportunity at such time.

However, ECM will perform due diligence on prospective Portfolio Managers of private equity and venture funds, including review of their strategy, performance history and decision-making processes, in order to evaluate them. ECM will further consider each Portfolio Manager of private equity and venture funds in the context of such Commingled Fund's existing investments, if any, including in terms of sector, geography, and investment strategy and/or time horizon in order to seek to build a more diversified portfolio of investments.

#### Step 1 – Initial Portfolio Manager Evaluation

ECM meets with numerous prospective Portfolio Managers each year, and each is initially evaluated using ECM's proprietary 360° scoring system. ECM eliminates Portfolio Managers that do not meet predetermined hurdles from further consideration. ECM uses interviews, formal presentations, one-on-one meetings, and other research to complete its 360° review.

#### Step 1A – In-Depth Investment Review

ECM generally meets with the Portfolio Managers that pass the Step 1 initial evaluation and conducts a more intensive review to reevaluate and analyze each 360° factor in a more in-depth manner.

#### Step 2 – Business Partner Evaluation (i.e., Operational Due Diligence)

Following a successful Step 1A review, ECM's business due diligence team conducts a Step 2 review, which is designed to evaluate the Portfolio Manager's overall business and operational resources and to meet with or have conversations with functional business and

operational leaders to assess their ability to organize and manage a thoughtful business enterprise. Items addressed during a Step 2 review typically include staffing and organization structure, trade operations, accounting and valuation, counterparty management, legal, compliance, and disaster recovery.

ECM or its outside legal counsel also will review each Portfolio Fund's offering documents and ECM will engage an independent third-party background check firm to check on relevant key personnel associated with the Portfolio Manager.

### Step 3 - Portfolio Construction

After ECM has identified Portfolio Funds for potential inclusion within a Fund's portfolio, ECM seeks to build a team of Portfolio Managers in an effort to attain an optimal risk-reward tradeoff in connection with such Fund's investment objective. By seeking complementary strategies, styles, and personalities, and by balancing one Portfolio Manager's relative strengths against another's relative weaknesses, ECM seeks to create the best team possible given the Portfolio Managers it has identified. ECM also considers potential future Portfolio Managers who have cleared Step 1 and Step 1A. By understanding how each potential Portfolio Manager would complement the existing Portfolio Managers in a portfolio, ECM believes it can adjust such portfolio while retaining the optimal risk-return tradeoff.

### Additional Portfolio Analyses

#### *1. Portfolio Risk Management*

ECM conducts risk management analysis at the portfolio level using both quantitative and qualitative evaluation processes after it has identified a potential Portfolio Manager.

In the risk management process, some of the quantitative measures ECM may analyze at the portfolio level include: historical volatility, cross-manager correlation, correlation to major equity, fixed income and style indices, and historical return drawdowns to assess downside return potential.

ECM's qualitative approach considers how certain Funds' Portfolio Managers and each such Fund as a whole might perform in various "worst case" and stressed scenarios. ECM's portfolio risk management process for these Funds also incorporates a proprietary qualitative assessment of portfolio risk via the construction of its "Qualitative Risk Factor Correlation Matrix" (the "Risk Matrix") to consider how Portfolio Managers might behave in abnormal, or stressed, market environments. The Risk Matrix enables ECM to subjectively analyze how the performance of each such Fund's Portfolio Managers may be impacted by various stressed market scenarios.

ECM seeks to understand the risks a Commingled Fund and Registered Fund is taking and the expected return each is receiving to compensate for taking those risks. ECM believes the proper reaction to poor Portfolio Manager performance is first to assess whether it is the result of randomness or the result of some greater underlying risk that has surfaced. ECM then determines whether relevant Commingled Funds and the Registered Fund should allocate assets away from such Portfolio Manager's Portfolio Fund or to closely monitor the underlying risk.

## *2. Portfolio Manager Transparency*

ECM requires useful and appropriate levels of transparency from its Portfolio Managers, which it believes serves two critical purposes in the portfolio management process. First, it enables ECM to identify drifts from the Portfolio Manager's stated strategy, objectives, and guidelines. Second, it enables ECM to analyze exposures across a Fund's portfolio of Portfolio Managers, which may indicate overexposure or underexposure to certain regions, asset classes, industries, investment styles, etc. To this end, ECM will determine a different level of required transparency for each of the Commingled Fund's and Registered Fund's Portfolio Managers. ECM will attempt to appropriately tailor the required transparency to each Portfolio Manager's strategy and will remove from consideration those Portfolio Managers who fail to meet these requirements.

## *3. Portfolio Evaluation*

On a regular basis, ECM will evaluate the Portfolio Fund allocations. ECM expects to have telephone conversations on a periodic basis and face-to-face meetings (which may be conducted via video conference) at least annually with Portfolio Managers included in the Commingled Funds' and Registered Fund's portfolios. Management also will, among other things, discuss the Portfolio Fund allocations, each Portfolio Fund's recent performance vis-à-vis what might be expected given the Portfolio Manager's strategy and market events, and any material organizational issues which may affect any Portfolio Manager. ECM may increase its monitoring of, or ultimately terminate, a Portfolio Manager due to, among other things: (1) investment drift; (2) unexpectedly high or low volatility; (3) reduction in transparency; (4) poor long-term performance; (5) unexplained strong or negative performance outside of expected ranges; (6) organizational turnover (both outgoing and incoming); (7) loss of confidence in a Portfolio Manager being an "enhanced business partner;" (8) unexplained changes in the "personality of the firm;" (9) untimely distribution or reduction in investor reports; (10) switch to a non-reputable service provider; and (11) increased level of redemptions and/or poor asset and liability matching.

### Number of Portfolio Managers

While ECM will not impose any explicit limitations on the number of Portfolio Managers in a Fund's portfolio, ECM believes it generally constructs more concentrated portfolios of Portfolio Funds than many other fund of funds managers. The Funds' Offering Documents describe expected ranges, if any, of Portfolio Managers in a Fund's portfolio.

### Leverage

While most of the Funds generally will not use leverage except to use credit facilities to provide liquidity for investments and withdrawals, certain Commingled Funds, including the Closed-end Commingled Fund, may use borrowing or other forms of financial leverage to finance its operations or for investment purposes. The Funds may invest with Portfolio Managers that use leverage by purchasing securities with borrowed funds and/or purchasing options, futures, or other derivatives contracts. The interest rates at which such Fund or Portfolio Fund borrows will affect its operating results, and market fluctuations and increased collateral requirements can adversely affect such Fund's or Portfolio Fund's net asset value, or the value of positions held by it.

The Registered Fund's borrowings will be subject to the limitations set forth in the Company Act. Please refer to the additional information in the Registered Fund's prospectus, which may be found on the SEC's EDGAR database or by contacting ECM as described in Item 5 above.

While ECM generally does not impose any explicit rule on the aggregate total size of the positions that a Fund or Portfolio Manager holds, ECM sets forth its expectations, if any, of the maximum aggregate gross market value of such positions in a Fund's Offering Document. Leverage, of course, increases the magnitude of both profits and losses, and the use of credit facilities also may cause the Funds to incur additional interest and other expenses.

#### **B. INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

The following sections set forth the Funds' principal strategies and material risks. Except with respect to the Closed-end Commingled Fund, from time to time, ECM will adjust Portfolio Fund allocations and/or adjust the amount of assets committed to each Portfolio Fund. Except as described below, ECM generally does not itself manage any of the Funds' assets other than allocating assets to Portfolio Funds and Portfolio Managers, the selection of money market investments, or if short-term liquidity issues necessitate that a Fund hold securities from in-kind distributions.

Certain Funds do not have any restrictions on the types of investment strategies or styles that the Portfolio Managers may employ, and have broad discretion in the development and implementation of diverse alternative strategies across a variety of asset classes. Such strategies may include, for example, distressed, specialist credit, structured product, and short selling strategies, as well as managed futures, commodities, catastrophe insurance and reinsurance, energy trading, and other strategies as described in such Fund's Offering Document. The strategies employed by the Funds may change over time and the strategies described below are not intended to be an exhaustive list. A description of each Fund's investment objective and strategies may be found in such Fund's Offering Document.

With the exception of the Closed-end Commingled Fund, Funds allocate capital to external Portfolio Managers that generally employ one or more principal investment strategies as follows:

##### **(1) Long/Short Equity Strategies:**

Long/short equity strategies seek to profit by taking positions in equities and generally involve fundamental analysis in the investment decision process. Long/short equity strategies may aim to have a net long directional bias ("long-biased"), a net short directional bias ("short-biased") or be neutral to general movements in the stock market ("market-neutral"). Portfolio Managers in these strategies tend to be "stock pickers" and typically manage market exposure by shifting allocations between long and short investments depending on market conditions and outlook.

##### **(2) Event Driven Strategies:**

Event driven strategies involve investing in opportunities created by significant transaction events. Whether a Portfolio Manager that employs an event driven strategy is successful in

any given investment generally depends on such event's outcome. Event driven Portfolio Managers may focus on companies engaged in spin-offs, mergers and acquisitions, and reorganizations, and/or on companies involved in bankruptcy proceedings, reorganizations, or liquidations.

### **(3) Relative Value Strategies:**

Relative value strategies seek to profit by exploiting pricing inefficiencies between related instruments while remaining long-term neutral to directional price movements in any one market. Every relative value strategy consists of an exposure to some second order aspect of the market, such as the yield spread between similar-term government bonds, the yield or swap spread between government and corporate bonds, and short-term price dislocations between related securities triggered by unusual volume in one or multiple securities. The returns from these relative value strategies are derived from those second order risks.

### **(4) Global Asset Allocation Strategies:**

Global asset allocation strategies seek to exploit opportunities in various global markets. Portfolio Managers employing these strategies have a broad mandate to invest in those markets and instruments which they believe provide the best opportunity. At any given time, a Portfolio Manager employing a global macro strategy may take positions in currencies, sovereign bonds, global equities and equity indices or commodities. A Portfolio Manager employing a global asset allocation strategy may elect to take outright, directional positions or it may implement a strategy where a long position or set of positions is dynamically paired off against a short position or set of positions.

In addition to the investment strategies above, one Commingled Fund allocates a significant majority of its capital to longer-term, private equity or other committed capital Portfolio Funds that may employ leveraged buy-out, growth equity, and venture capital strategies. Leveraged buy-out and growth equity funds make comparatively long-term investments in private companies in the expectation of a future realization event such as an initial public offering or private sale.

Private equity funds typically emphasize management's ability to value and promote companies. Many private equity funds specialize in a particular industry or industry sector. Private equity funds often employ substantial amounts of third-party debt financing to enhance their investment returns and increase the amount of capital available to fund their acquisition and investment activities. Private equity funds are not restricted to equity investments, but are characterized by a long-term commitment and active involvement in management.

Venture capital funds also typically invest in illiquid securities held for the comparatively long term. These investments generally are made in the earlier stages of a company's development and are generally unleveraged, and are often in emerging industries such as technology or bioscience. Venture capital funds typically acquire preferred securities and similar instruments which offer potentially high returns. Unlike buy-out and growth equity funds, which customarily take controlling positions in the companies in which they invest, venture capital funds often take smaller, minority positions.



The Closed-end Commingled Fund solely invests in Portfolio Funds with an investment focus on blockchain-related opportunities and decentralized digital assets that use cryptography (commonly referred to as “cryptocurrencies” or “digital currencies” such as Bitcoin and Ethereum), virtual currencies, digital coins, tokens, non-fungible tokens, equity and equity related crypto and crypto-related investments, other securities related to crypto and crypto-related investments, as well as protocols, projects, derivatives on the foregoing and other digital assets whether in existence as of the date hereof or created subsequent to the date hereof (collectively, “Digital Assets”). Two other Commingled Funds’ portfolios include certain investments in Digital Assets (either directly or indirectly), among them digital currencies and tokens (including initial coin offerings) (collectively with the Closed-end Commingled Fund, the “Subset Commingled Funds”). One Subset Commingled Fund’s portfolio includes investments in baskets of uranium exchange-traded funds and an investment trust, all of which have direct and indirect exposure to the uranium industry.

### **C. RISK OF LOSS**

All securities investments risk the loss of capital. An investment in any Fund is subject to loss, including possible loss of the entire amount invested. No guarantee or representation is made that any Fund’s investments will be successful, and Investors should be prepared to bear such loss. ECM’s and the Funds’ past performance is not indicative of future results.

### **D. MATERIAL RISKS**

The following summarizes some of the material risks associated with the strategies expected to account for a significant portion of the Funds’ trading. This summary does not attempt to describe all of the risks associated with an investment in the Funds, or even all of the risks associated with the Funds’ strategies. Investors are urged to review the summary of risk factors in each Private Fund’s Offering Document, and in the Registered Fund’s Offering Document, which may be found by searching for “*Evanston Alternative Opportunities Fund*” in the Company and Person Lookup search box on the SEC’s EDGAR database, <http://www.sec.gov/edgar/searchedgar/companysearch.html>.

#### **General**

*Reliance on ECM.* ECM or its affiliate serves as the Funds’ general partner, investment manager, investment adviser, and/or sponsor. The Investors will not make decisions with respect to the management, disposition or other realization of any Fund investment, or other decisions regarding a Fund’s business and affairs. The Funds’ success will depend, in large part, on ECM’s skill and expertise to manage the Funds’ business and affairs.

*Regulatory Oversight.* None of the Private Funds is registered as an “investment company” under the Company Act or any comparable regulatory requirements. These regulations, which generally require investment companies to have a majority of disinterested directors, require securities held in custody at all times to be maintained in segregated accounts and regulate the relationship between the investment company and its asset manager, do not apply to an investment in the Private Funds. The Private Funds are not subject to comparable regulation in any non-U.S. jurisdiction. Therefore, Investors do not have the benefit of the protections afforded by, and the Private Funds are not subject to the

restrictions contained in, such registration and regulation.

ECM is not registered as a “commodity pool operator” (“CPO”) or “commodity trading advisor” with the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”), and therefore neither the Funds nor the Investors have the benefit of the protections afforded by, nor is ECM subject to the restrictions contained in, such registrations and regulations. In the CFTC’s letter No. 12-38 dated November 29, 2012, the CFTC granted temporary CPO registration relief to certain CPO fund of funds managers that comply with certain requirements until six months from the date that the CFTC’s Division of Swap Dealer and Intermediary Oversight issues revised guidance on the application of the de minimis thresholds of Regulation 4.5 and 4.13(a)(3). ECM will review any revised guidance issued by the CFTC and will determine whether it must register with the CFTC and become a National Futures Association member.

*Fund of Private Funds Investment Risk.* The Funds’ multi-manager investment approach is subject to various investment-related types of risks, including market risk, strategy risk, and manager risk. Market risk includes unexpected directional price movements, deviations from historical pricing relationships, changes in the regulatory environment, changes in market volatility, panicked or forced selling of riskier assets, and contraction of available credit or other financing sources.

Strategy risk relates to the failure or deterioration of an entire strategy and can result from excessive concentration by multiple Portfolio Funds in the same investment, or broad events that adversely affect particular strategies (*e.g.*, illiquidity within a given market). Certain of the Funds’ Portfolio Managers will employ high risk strategies.

Portfolio Manager risk encompasses the possibility of loss due to Portfolio Manager fraud, intentional or inadvertent deviations from a predefined investment strategy, or simply poor judgment. There could be material changes in one or more of the Funds’ Portfolio Managers, including changes in control, initial public offerings, and mergers. The effect of such changes on a Portfolio Manager cannot be predicted but could be material and adverse. Given the Portfolio Funds’ limited liquidity, the Funds may not be able to alter (with respect to closed-end Portfolio Funds), or quickly alter, their portfolio allocation in response to any such changes, resulting in substantial losses from Portfolio Manager risk.

*Cybersecurity Risk.* ECM, the Funds, the Portfolio Funds, and their service providers (particularly the administrators to the Funds and the Portfolio Funds) process, store and transmit large amounts of electronic information, including relating to Fund transactions and Investors’ personally identifiable information (“Investor PII”). While ECM has procedures and systems in place that it believes are reasonably designed to protect information and prevent data loss and security breaches, these cannot provide absolute security. The techniques to obtain unauthorized access to data, disable or degrade service, or sabotage systems change frequently and may be difficult to detect for long periods of time.

Third-party hardware or software may contain defects in design or manufacture or other problems that could unexpectedly compromise information security. Network connection

services provided by third parties may be susceptible to compromise, leading to a network breach. ECM's systems or facilities may be susceptible to employee error or malfeasance, government surveillance, or other security threats. ECM's Investor on-line services may also be susceptible to compromise. Breach of ECM's information systems may cause information relating to Fund transactions and Investor PII to be lost or improperly accessed, used or disclosed.

The loss or improper access, use or disclosure of ECM's or the Funds' proprietary information may cause, among other things, financial loss, the disruption of business, liability to third parties, regulatory intervention or reputational damage. Any of these events could have a material adverse effect on the affected Funds and their Investors' investments.

*Privacy and Data Protection Law and Compliance.* The adoption, interpretation, and application of consumer protection, data protection, and/or privacy laws and regulations (collectively, "Privacy Laws") in the U.S. and elsewhere could significantly impact current and planned privacy and information security practices, and the collection, use, retention, and safeguarding of personally identifiable information by the Portfolio Funds and certain service providers, and Investor PII by ECM and the Funds, and increase compliance costs and require additional time and resources by same. Failure to comply could result in fines, sanctions, or penalties that could materially adversely affect ECM and the Funds' performance.

### **Market Risk**

*Lack of Liquidity for Funds of Investment Funds.* The Funds invest with Portfolio Managers that, in turn, may invest in securities and derivatives that often do not have a liquid market. For instance, a Fund may allocate a material portion of its assets to Portfolio Managers implementing distressed, credit, relative value, arbitrage, event-driven, leveraged buy-out, growth equity and venture capital strategies, each of which typically relies on investments in debt instruments, credit default swaps, large blocks of public or private equities, convertible bonds, or other illiquid debt, equity, or derivative instruments. As described below, the Closed-end Commingled Fund primarily invests, and another Commingled Fund also invests, in closed-end Portfolio Funds which are illiquid and must be held for the duration of such Portfolio Funds' terms. This lack of liquidity creates several risks. First, it makes it difficult for the Portfolio Manager and ECM to determine if the Portfolio Manager is accurately valuing its positions because of the uncertainty regarding the realization of the prices that are quoted if the Portfolio Manager attempted to liquidate its portfolio at those prices. Second, it increases the risk that other investors' withdrawals from such Portfolio Funds will reduce net asset values merely due to selling pressure, rather than a fundamental change in the investments themselves. Third, it increases the risk that a Portfolio Fund will not honor a Fund's liquidity expectations.

Although Portfolio Funds have restrictions in their governing documents that limit a Fund's ability to withdraw funds typically to calendar quarter or year ends (or less frequently) on significant prior notice, as the recent market turmoil demonstrated, Portfolio Funds may not be able to honor these somewhat onerous liquidity provisions. The inability to withdraw from a Portfolio Fund may prevent ECM from re-allocating a Fund's assets as dynamically as

it may otherwise desire. This limitation exists even when a Portfolio Fund has not implemented a constraint on its expected liquidity. Given that, even in the best of times, Portfolio Funds permit withdrawals only infrequently and on significant advance notice, the Funds' flexibility to reallocate assets among Portfolio Funds is limited.

ECM has no control over the Portfolio Funds' liquidity and depends on the Portfolio Managers to provide appropriate valuations and liquidity in order to process Investor withdrawals and redemptions. In some cases, ECM will allocate the Funds' assets to Portfolio Funds that later impose liquidity constraints, making it impossible for ECM to terminate them. Investors must recognize that under certain circumstances, restrictions on liquidity imposed by the Portfolio Managers may materially restrict or delay their withdrawal/redemption rights. An inability to withdraw from a Portfolio Fund may expose the Funds to losses they could have otherwise avoided if such Funds had been able to withdraw from such Portfolio Fund. Furthermore, if an Investor desiring to withdraw or redeem from a Fund must remain invested during its liquidation, such Investor may experience those losses as well. It may also cause the Funds to become unbalanced as they are forced to obtain liquidity from those Portfolio Funds which provide such liquidity. In certain cases, other Portfolio Fund investors may have preferential withdrawal rights, which, if exercised, could materially adversely affect a Fund's investment(s) in such Portfolio Fund.

Finally, a Closed-end Commingled Fund's interests and its corresponding investments in Portfolio Funds are illiquid, as Investors are expected to hold such investments for such Closed-end Commingled Fund's entire term (ranging from approximately ten to twelve years or more, if extended) and Portfolio Funds' entire terms (typically ten years or more), without any ability to transfer or redeem.

***Illiquidity of Underlying Investments.*** The Portfolio Funds are unregistered, and their interests and shares are subject to legal or other transfer restrictions. It may be impossible for a Fund to withdraw its interests in such Portfolio Funds when desired or to realize its fair value in the event of such withdrawals. Certain Portfolio Funds may permit withdrawals only on a semi-annual, annual, or less frequent basis or be subject to "lock-ups" (where investors cannot withdraw their capital for a specified period following investment) and/or "gates" (where withdrawal at any given withdrawal date is restricted to a specified percentage of such Portfolio Fund's or an investor's assets). Closed-end Portfolio Funds do not permit withdrawals, and interests are held for the entire investment term of such Portfolio Funds.

ECM believes that a number of private investment funds, including certain Portfolio Funds, have become increasingly composed of longer-term, illiquid investments either in an attempt to achieve returns which they do not find available in the liquid markets or because Portfolio Managers have exited liquid positions to fund withdrawals or for defensive purposes. In conjunction with this portfolio composition change and during the 2007-2009 financial market crisis, a number of private investment funds have adopted or otherwise implemented liquidity constraints, such as "gates," "side pockets," suspension of withdrawals/net asset value calculations, withdrawals in kind, special liquidity vehicles, lock-ups, withdrawal fees, and less frequent withdrawal rights. ECM has no control over the

Portfolio Funds' liquidity and depends on the Portfolio Managers to provide valuations as well as liquidity in order to process withdrawals. Investors must recognize that under certain circumstances, their withdrawal or redemption rights may be materially restricted or delayed due to Portfolio Fund illiquidity. In some cases, ECM may have allocated a Fund's assets to Portfolio Funds from which ECM later intends to liquidate but cannot promptly do so due to such Portfolio Funds' liquidity constraints. If a material portion of a Fund's assets are allocated to Portfolio Funds that take such actions, such Fund likely will not be able to withdraw from such Portfolio Funds for an extended period of time. This could expose the Funds to losses they may have avoided if they had been able to allocate away from such Portfolio Funds.

The complicated and often protracted process of withdrawing from Portfolio Funds could hinder the Funds' ability to timely meet Investors' withdrawal and redemption requests, as well as the Funds' ability to adjust their Portfolio Fund allocations. It could also cause the Funds to become unbalanced in the event they withdraw from their more liquid Portfolio Funds to fund their withdrawals or expenses. Also, to the extent that a material portion of the Funds' Portfolio Funds suspend net asset value calculations, ECM may be unable to calculate such Funds' net asset value.

*Competitive Markets.* Certain Portfolio Funds which have little capital may have difficulty competing in markets in which its competitors have substantially greater financial resources, larger research staffs, and more investment professionals. Other firms' investment and trading activity will tend to narrow the spread between the price at which a commodity interest or investment may be purchased by such Portfolio Fund, and the prices it expects to receive when the transaction is consummated.

*Natural Disasters, Health Epidemics and Other Unforeseen Events.*

ECM's and the Portfolio Managers' businesses and the investments of the Funds and the Portfolio Funds could be materially and adversely affected by events outside of ECM's and the Portfolio Managers' control, such as natural disasters, health epidemics and wars, including Russia's recent invasion of Ukraine, and/or terrorism. Certain of the Portfolio Funds' investments, and ECM's and the Portfolio Managers' operations, may be subject to relatively infrequent but potentially severe risk of loss resulting from the occurrence of one or more catastrophic events or natural disasters, such as floods, wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes, tsunamis, volcanic eruption or nuclear meltdowns, or due to terrorist events or the impact of wars. If any such event or disaster should occur, a Portfolio Fund's investments may be directly impacted by such loss, or operations at one or more of the Portfolio Managers may halt, either completely or for extended periods of time, as such disasters may destroy or impair the ability of such Portfolio Managers to make use of their facilities or obtain the supplies necessary to operate.

Similarly, ECM, the Portfolio Managers, the Funds and the Portfolio Funds may be materially and negatively impacted by health epidemics and pandemics including novel viral illnesses such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu) and COVID-19. The impacts of these outbreaks on human health as well as on the local and global economy have varied and, in certain cases, have been

substantial. It is not possible to estimate accurately the ultimate impact of any such outbreak at its onset. Measures taken by governments and the private sector to mitigate the spread of such illness, including travel restrictions and bans, quarantines, school and business closures, and work-at-home mandates, may have material impacts on the local and global economy and markets, including reductions in consumer demand and economic output. The ability of ECM and the Portfolio Managers to conduct due diligence may be constrained due to travel restrictions and public health considerations. Policies implemented by regulators and exchanges, such as trading market closures, short selling bans, rent moratoriums and other restrictions may not be effective in mitigating market volatility that may arise, and may in fact further exacerbate such volatility.

*Uncertain Economic, Social, and Political Environment.* Consumer, corporate, and financial confidence may be adversely affected by current or future tensions around the world, fear of terrorist activity and/or military conflicts, localized or global financial, public health, or other crises, inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates, or other sources of political, social, or economic unrest, which may lead to or extend a localized or global economic downturn. U.S. election outcomes and changes to economic, tax, immigration, and asset management industry policies may also create uncertainty with respect to legal, tax, and regulatory regimes that adversely affect the Funds and Portfolio Funds. Such a climate may reduce availability of potential investment opportunities, make modeling market conditions more difficult, and reduce the accuracy of financial projects.

For example, Russia's large-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, has led various countries, including the U.S., as well as other jurisdictions, to impose economic sanctions on certain Russian individuals and corporate and banking entities, as well as broader sanctions banning Russia from global payments systems that facilitate cross-border payments. These measures could prevent the Funds and/or the Portfolio Funds and their portfolio companies from selling and buying impacted securities or Digital Assets both in Russia and in other markets, and will likely cause significant delay in, or prevent, settlement of impacted securities or Digital Asset transactions. This in turn may cause the Funds and/or the Portfolio Funds to use fair value procedures to value certain securities. The consequences of the war and sanctions may negatively impact other regional and global economic markets in which the Funds and the Portfolio Funds and their portfolio companies participate. These sanctions, together with the potential for a wider armed or cyber conflict, could increase financial market volatility globally, including in the U. S., and, as a result, negatively impact the Funds' performance beyond any direct exposure to Russian issuers, securities or Digital Assets.

*Inflation.* Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had in the past, and may in the future have, negative effects on economies and financial markets. Wage and price controls have been imposed at times in certain countries in an attempt to control inflation, which could significantly affect the operation of the issuers of securities or other investments in which Portfolio Funds invest. Governmental efforts to curb inflation often have negative effects on the level of economic activity. As such, inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates may adversely affect the financial performance of the Funds.

### **Strategy and Portfolio Manager Risk**

**Principal Strategy Areas.** The success of the Funds' investment objectives will depend on the Portfolio Managers' ability to successfully engage in investments based on each Fund's principal strategy or strategies as set forth in Item 8, Section B. Each of the strategies a Fund implements may entail a specific set of risks relating to, among other things, investments in equity, fixed income, convertible, and high yield, low, or unrated securities, the credit markets, emerging markets, corporate debt obligations, structured notes, arbitrage strategies, derivatives, swaps, options, over-the-counter transactions, commodities, credit default swaps, futures, forward, and index contracts, hedging, spread trading, short sales, volatility strategies, and Digital Assets, as applicable to a Fund's strategy, and as described in further detail in a Fund's Offering Document.

**Risk of Venture Capital and Growth Equity Investments.** Certain Commingled Funds, including the Closed-end Commingled Fund, invest in Portfolio Funds that in turn invest in venture companies in the blockchain and cryptocurrency sector which, among other things, could be in a conceptual or early development stage, have no operating history, have operating losses or significant fluctuations in operating results. Such investments are likely to face intense competition from companies with greater resources, more extensive development, production, marketing, and service capabilities. Moreover, such investments may, among other things, not prepare annual audited or reviewed financial statements, and have limited internal and financial controls. Later stage venture capital or growth equity investments also have significant risks related to competition, resources, manufacturing, marketing, and technology. All of the foregoing may materially adversely impact such Commingled Funds' and their Portfolio Funds' returns.

**Scrutiny and Regulation of the Private Fund Industry.** There continues to be significant scrutiny of the private fund industry in the U.S. and globally by various federal, state, and local regulatory agencies regarding the role of private fund service providers and conflicts of interest relating to private fund manager fees. There can be no assurance this scrutiny will not have an adverse impact on the Funds.

**Committed Capital Portfolio Fund Returns.** Private equity and venture capital Portfolio Funds ("Committed Capital Portfolio Funds") which draw down their capital over time generally charge management fees on committed rather than invested capital. Such Committed Capital Portfolio Funds' investment returns in their early years are typically negative, known in the industry as the "j-curve effect" (based on a graphical representation of performance, assuming Committed Capital Portfolio Fund success). Accordingly, such Committed Capital Portfolio Fund's profitability is typically uncertain until its later years and then is highly dependent on the performance of their respective investments in those years.

**Use of Portfolio Managers.** ECM evaluates and monitors each Portfolio Manager based in part on historical performance and investment strategies. ECM expects that it will not necessarily be given access to information regarding the Portfolio Funds' actual investments, as such information is often considered proprietary. At any given time, ECM may not know a Portfolio Fund's positions with respect to the degrees of hedged or directional positions, or the extent of concentration risk or exposure to specific markets. ECM also may not learn

of significant structural events, such as personnel changes, major asset withdrawals or substantial capital growth, until after the fact.

A number of Portfolio Funds might accumulate substantial positions in the same or related instruments at the same time. Because information about a Portfolio Fund's actual investments is generally unavailable, ECM cannot determine whether such accumulations, which could reduce diversification in the Funds' portfolios as a whole, have taken place. The Portfolio Funds will trade independently of one another and may at times hold economically offsetting positions. Portfolio Funds investing in a particular sector also may be subjected to differing or increased risks relating to that sector.

*Concentration by Portfolio Managers.* The Portfolio Managers are not required to follow any specific concentration restrictions and may at times (individually or collectively) accumulate substantial positions in one or more securities or assets, thereby exposing the Funds to the possibility of substantial losses.

*Availability of Portfolio Funds.* A number of Portfolio Funds may significantly limit investor access due to investor demand exceeding Portfolio Fund size or capacity or for other reasons. There can be no assurance that a Fund will be permitted to invest, or to invest as much as it desires, in each Portfolio Fund, and any such failure could adversely affect the Funds' investment performance.

*Use of Leverage.* Some Private Funds may borrow for investment purposes and some Funds may borrow to provide liquidity for investments, and to fund withdrawals and pay expenses. The Portfolio Funds' investment strategies also may at times require the use of substantial leverage. Such leverage may be achieved through, for example, borrowing funds, purchases of securities on margin and the use of options, futures, forward contracts, repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements and swaps. The use of leverage magnifies the degree of risk. While the majority of the Funds do not expect to incur indebtedness as part of their investment strategies, the Funds reserve the right to borrow in order to meet short term liquidity needs.

During the 2008 credit crisis and extending into 2010, banks and dealers substantially curtailed financing activities and increased collateral requirements, forcing many hedge funds to liquidate positions. Any increased collateral requirements of banks, dealers, or other counterparties may adversely affect the Portfolio Funds', and therefore the Funds', profit potential. There can be no assurance that the Portfolio Funds will be able to obtain adequate financing to pursue their investment program and achieve their objectives.

*Sole Principal Portfolio Managers.* Some of the Portfolio Managers may consist of only one or a limited number of principals. If the services of any of such principals become unavailable, the Funds might sustain losses.

*Misuse of Confidential Information.* ECM expects that the Portfolio Managers will use only public information. Portfolio Managers may be charged with misuse of confidential information or other securities law violations. In such case, the Portfolio Managers'



performance records could be misleading. Furthermore, if a Portfolio Manager or entity with which a Fund invests has engaged in such misuse or violations or does so in the future, such Fund could be exposed to losses.

*Other Clients of Portfolio Managers.* The Portfolio Managers manage other accounts (including other accounts in which the Portfolio Managers may have an interest) and may have financial and other incentives to favor such accounts over the Funds. Portfolio Managers must allocate their resources and limited market opportunities. Doing so not only could increase the level of competition for the same trades the Funds are exposed to, including the priorities of order entry, but also could make it difficult or impossible to take or liquidate a particular position at a price indicated by a Portfolio Manager's strategy.

*Changes in Allocations.* From time to time, to the extent permissible, ECM expects to change the percentage of the Funds' assets allocated to each Portfolio Fund, as well as to terminate and retain new Portfolio Managers. ECM will make these changes in its discretion, subject to any applicable securities law restrictions that may apply to the Registered Fund. The Funds' success will depend on ECM's ability to identify and allocate the Funds' assets among new and existing Portfolio Funds.

*Estimates and Valuations.* The net asset values ECM receives from Portfolio Funds may be estimates only and, unless materially different from the actual valuations, generally will not be subject to revision. ECM relies on these estimates in calculating the Funds' net asset value for reporting, capital contribution, withdrawal/redemption, fee and other purposes. However, Portfolio Managers from time to time revise their valuations and valuation methods, sometimes materially. If market quotations are not available, ECM may value investments as it reasonably determines based on ECM's Valuation Policy and Procedures and the Registered Fund's Fair Valuation Policy and Procedures, as applicable, and may not independently value the investment or have it verified by a third party. Such valuations may affect the amount of the Management Fees, Incentive Allocations and Carried Interest paid and made to ECM.

*Multiple Portfolio Managers.* There can be no assurance that the use of a multi-manager approach will not effectively result in losses if certain Portfolio Managers offset profits achieved by others. Such offsetting could significantly reduce the Funds' assets, as incentive allocations/fees may be allocable to those Portfolio Managers that recognized profits irrespective of the offsetting losses. Various Portfolio Managers will from time to time compete with others for the same positions. Conversely, opposite positions held by the Funds' Portfolio Managers will be economically offsetting. If Portfolio Managers hold positions that offset those held by other Portfolio Managers, a Fund will not be able to recognize any gain or loss on such open positions, while at the same time incurring brokerage commissions for each of the offsetting positions and paying advisory fees.

*Concentrated Portfolios.* Certain Funds will invest in a more limited number of Portfolio Funds than many other funds of funds. The more limited number of Portfolio Funds will increase these Funds' concentration and therefore may present increased risks.

*Small- and Medium-Capitalization Company Risk.* Investments in the securities of small- and medium-capitalization companies often involve greater risks than investments in larger, more established companies because small- and medium-capitalization companies tend to have less predictable earnings and may lack the management experience, financial resources, product diversification and competitive strengths of larger companies. As a result, they may be more susceptible to particular economic events or competitive factors than large capitalization companies. Securities of small- and medium-capitalization companies may be less liquid and more volatile than the securities of larger companies. The securities of smaller companies may trade less frequently and in smaller volumes than securities of larger companies. In addition, smaller companies may be more vulnerable to economic, market and industry changes. As a result, changes in the price of debt or equity issued by such companies may be more sudden or erratic than the prices of large capitalization companies, especially over the short term. This may cause unexpected and frequent decreases in the value of a Fund's direct or indirect investments.

*Non-U.S. Investments.* The Funds will invest (directly or indirectly) in securities of companies that are organized or have substantial sales or operations outside of the U.S., its territories, and possessions. Such investments may be subject to certain additional risks due to, among other things, potentially unsettled points of applicable governing law, the risks associated with fluctuating currency exchange rates, capital repatriation regulations, the application of complex U.S. and non-U.S. tax rules to cross-border investments, possible imposition of non-U.S. taxes on the Funds and/or their Investors with respect to a Fund's income, and possible non-U.S. tax return filing requirements for a Fund and/or its Investors. Additional risks include: (a) risks of economic dislocations in the host country; (b) less publicly available information; (c) less well-developed regulatory institutions; (d) greater difficulty of enforcing legal rights in a non-U.S. jurisdiction; (e) civil disturbances; (f) government instability; and (g) nationalization and expropriation of private assets. Moreover, non-U.S. companies may not be subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements comparable to those that apply to U.S. companies.

#### **Cryptographically Derived Digital Asset and Blockchain Risk**

Digital Assets, which are relatively recent compared to more traditional investable assets, markedly differ from traditional investment products, and are not issued or backed by any government, bank, or central organization. Accordingly, Digital Assets and blockchain technologies – the technology primarily used to record Digital Assets transactions – are subject to specific risks that prospective investors should carefully consider.

*Fraud and Loss, Damage, or Theft.* Blockchain is a relatively new technology that operates as a distributed ledger. Blockchain systems may be vulnerable to fraud, and access to a given blockchain, which requires an individualized key, could result in total loss of each Subset Commingled Fund's crypto investment if its or its Portfolio Funds' private key is lost, stolen, destroyed, withheld from a Subset Commingled Fund or Portfolio Fund, as applicable, in the event of a custodial provider's bankruptcy, or otherwise compromised. Moreover, malicious actors may use software to obtain a majority of a Digital Asset network's ("DAN") processing power, alter the source code and blockchain on which all of a Digital Asset's transactions rely,

and prevent its use, transfer, or ownership, adversely affecting such Subset Commingled Fund's investment.

*Regulatory Uncertainty and Tax Risks.* Digital Assets' global and borderless nature, and its rapidly evolving regulatory landscape in the U.S. and worldwide, is subject to significant uncertainty. The regulation of Digital Assets under current regulatory frameworks remains in early stages, is evolving, and is subject to uncertainty. Future regulatory developments could affect the value, liquidity, viability, legality, and expansion of Digital Assets and blockchain technology generally.

The Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") treats virtual currency as property, not currency, for U.S. federal tax purposes, and certain virtual currency transactions in the U.S. are taxable events. Recently, the IRS provided guidance that in certain circumstances, hard forks of digital currencies are taxable events giving rise to ordinary income, and guidance regarding how to determine a digital currency's tax basis. Tax laws and regulations are changed on an ongoing basis, sometimes retroactively, and the U.S. Department of Treasury and the IRS may issue future guidance providing for adverse tax consequences to Subset Commingled Funds and Portfolio Funds invested in Digital Assets. The tax uncertainties are further compounded by any Digital Asset "staking" in which the Subset Commingled Funds or their Portfolio Funds may engage, as there is no direct tax guidance as to the treatment of staking rewards.

*Third Party Wallet Providers ("TPW Provider").* The Subset Commingled Funds and their Portfolio Funds may use TPW Providers to hold Digital Assets. Using TPW Providers to hold Digital Assets may result in losses due to hacking, password loss, compromised credentials, malware, or cyber-attacks. Any such interruption could result in impermissible transfers of Digital Assets and/or loss of Digital Assets and/or their value. Such Subset Commingled Funds do not, and Portfolio Funds may not, conduct information technology diligence on TPW Providers, and may be unaware of all security vulnerabilities and risks. Certain TPW Providers may not provide indemnification against Digital Asset losses, and Digital Assets transferred by third parties into cold storage could result in additional costs to such Subset Commingled Funds, and also delay retrieval.

*Risk of Technology Investments.* The technology companies in the blockchain and cryptocurrency sector ("Technology Companies") are subject to numerous risks, including, but not limited to, limited and untested products or services offerings, high valuations relative to assets, customers, or revenues, and dependence on a limited or inexperienced management group. Technology Companies could be adversely affected by overall economic conditions, short product cycles, rapid obsolescence of products, competition, and government regulation. Subset Commingled Funds' and Portfolio Funds' success may depend on the development and marketing of new technologies that may be rendered unattractive or obsolete at any time, and the competitive and quickly evolving market in which Technology Companies operate increases the risks that their products and services may be unsuccessful or become outdated.

*Reliance on Virtual Currency Service Providers.* Third-party service providers will have certain Subset Commingled Funds' and certain Portfolio Funds' security information due to audit and operational needs, and may inadvertently or purposely leak such information. Such companies and financial institutions currently provide or may provide such Subset Commingled Funds and Portfolio Funds with support to buy, sell, and store virtual currencies, and if they no longer provide this support, such Subset Commingled Funds' and Portfolio Funds' investments may be adversely affected. Further, service providers also may refuse to provide services for Digital Assets or to provide services at a high cost, adversely impacting the Subset Commingled Funds.

*Reliance on DANs.* Many DANs have only recently been established, and represent a new and rapidly evolving industry. Many are still in the process of developing and making significant decisions that will affect policies governing the supply and issuance of their tokens. Some may be targeted by other DAN users who attempt to negatively impact their use or adoption. Many DANs have concentrated ownership, and large sales or distributions by such holders could adversely affect certain Digital Assets' market price. Digital Asset source code flaws could be exploited and result in theft, and cryptographic flaws or developments in mathematics or technology could result in a cryptography becoming ineffective. Finally, decentralized network governance is by voluntary consensus and open competition, which could stymie their utility and ability to grow. The protocols for some decentralized networks are managed by a group of core developers, and if a significant majority of users and miners adopt amendments to a decentralized network based on such core developers' proposals, such network will be subject to new protocols that could adversely affect the value of the relevant Digital Asset, or if adopted by a significant but not overwhelming percentage of users, may result in a "fork" that causes the operation of two separate networks, which may also materially impact the Subset Commingled Funds. Many DANs also face significant scaling challenges because public blockchains generally face a tradeoff regarding security and scalability; security can be achieved via decentralization, but this may then limit the number of transactions a DAN can process. While developers are actively researching scalability solutions for public blockchains that do not result in lower levels of security or decentralization, there is no guarantee that any mechanism will be effective, which could adversely impact the value of Digital Assets held by the Subset Commingled Funds or their Portfolio Funds.

*Irreversibility of Digital Asset Transactions.* Digital Asset transactions are not reversible, even if made in error or due to theft.

*Intellectual Property Rights and Operation of Blockchain Technology.* The number of blockchain platforms available may have competing intellectual property claims, which could cause companies to use blockchain alternatives. Regardless of the merit of such claims, any threatened action that reduces confidence in a Digital Asset's long-term viability or the ability of end-users to hold Digital Assets may adversely affect an investment in the Subset Commingled Funds. Additionally, a meritorious intellectual property claim could prevent a Subset Commingled Fund or Portfolio Fund and other end-users from accessing a Digital Asset network or holding or transferring their Digital Assets, which could force such Subset Commingled Fund or Portfolio Fund to terminate and liquidate its Digital Assets (if

such liquidation of such Digital Assets is possible). As a result, an intellectual property claim against a Subset Commingled Fund or Portfolio Fund could adversely affect an investment in a Subset Commingled Fund. Digital Assets registered in a blockchain do not have a standardized exchange like a stock market, and therefore there is less liquidity and greater possibility of fraud or manipulation.

*Risks of Digital Asset Exchanges (“DAEs”) and Custody Risk.* DAEs are relatively new and in most cases, largely unregulated, and non-U.S. DAEs are also unregulated or more lightly regulated than their U.S. counterparts. Much of the daily trading volume of certain Digital Assets is conducted on poorly capitalized, unregulated, unaudited, and unaccountable DAEs located outside of the U.S. Digital Assets deposited with non-U.S. DAEs may not be clearly identified as Subset Commingled Fund or Portfolio Fund assets, exposing such Subset Commingled Fund or Portfolio Fund to credit risk. DAEs that the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission deems to be hosting trading in Digital Assets constituting securities will be subject to registration as a national securities exchange or alternative trading system, which could present significant delays for an unregistered DAE, and Digital Assets traded on such exchange would suffer illiquidity that could result in losses. A number of DAEs have closed due to fraud, business failure, bankruptcy, security breaches, cybercrime, hacking, malware attacks, and government regulation, with partial or complete losses to customers.

While there has been some improvement, regulators still lack the ability to surveil many DAEs; those transacting on Digital Assets trading platforms do not receive many of the market protections they would receive when transacting through traditional third parties, such as broker-dealers, on registered securities exchanges or alternative trading systems (*i.e.*, best execution, front running prohibitions, short sale restrictions, and custody and capital requirements). DAEs could become insolvent or, in the event of a failure of such an exchange having custody of a Subset Commingled Fund’s or Portfolio Fund’s assets, cause losses to such Subset Commingled Fund.

Further, qualified third-party custodians that satisfy the SEC’s requirements for qualified custodians for certain Digital Assets may not be available, and the Subset Commingled Funds or the Portfolio Funds may be required to self-custody Digital Assets. There can be no assurance that self-custody will adequately protect the security of such Digital Assets, exposing such Portfolio Funds and/or Subset Commingled Funds to up to the complete loss of a Digital Asset owing to a security breach or other failure of the self-custody procedures. In addition, regulators may not agree with a Subset Commingled Fund’s and/or a Portfolio Fund’s decision to self-custody a Digital Asset, resulting in the possibility of sanctions, fines or other regulatory reparations imposed on such Subset Commingled Fund or Portfolio Fund, their advisers or any of their respective affiliates by the SEC.

*Bankruptcy of a Digital Asset Custodian.* The Subset Commingled Funds and their Portfolio Funds could be negatively impacted by the poor financial condition or bankruptcy of a Digital Asset custodian. For example, if a custodian were ever subject to bankruptcy proceedings, a portfolio company’s Digital Assets held in custody could be found by the bankruptcy court to be the property of the bankruptcy estate and treated as a general unsecured claim against such custodian, exposing Portfolio Funds to a loss of such Digital Assets, and in turn

negatively affecting the value of such Portfolio Funds' and the Subset Commingled Funds' investment.

In July 2022, two prominent Digital Asset platforms and exchanges, Celsius Network and Voyager Digital, each filed for bankruptcy protection, and customer withdrawals of custodied assets were halted.

*Non-Fungible Tokens ("NFTs").* There are a number of risks associated with NFTs, including, but not limited to: (1) reliance on the sound functioning of the underlying blockchain network; (2) interest in NFTs as collectable objects could wane, and temporary popularity of some NFTs may result in short-term value increases that prove unsustainable; (3) there is no assurance that there will be a ready market for NFTs; (4) their value is inherently subjective and their actual realizable value may differ widely from a prior sale price or its appraised value; (5) as a Digital Asset, NFTs may be subject to security breaches, cyberattacks or other malicious activities, as well as human errors or computer malfunctions, that may result in their loss or destruction; and (6) NFTs, like other Digital Assets, are subject to a rapidly evolving regulatory landscape which could affect their value, liquidity, viability, legality, and expansion.

*Volatility.* Digital Assets' market price is highly volatile, and has and is expected to experience frequent disruptions, thefts, and other issues resulting in losses. Their market price is subject to various factors, including: (1) increase in global supply of Digital Assets; (2) manipulative trading activity on DAEs, which are highly unregulated; (3) forks in applicable DANs; (4) consumer preferences and perceptions; (5) liquidity of DAEs; (6) large investors' investment and trading activities directly or indirectly in Digital Assets; (7) governments' monetary policies, trade restrictions, currency devaluations and revaluations, and regulatory measures or enforcement actions that restrict Digital Assets in any way; (8) associated fees with processing Digital Asset transactions, and speed at which transactions are settled; (9) interruptions in service from or failures of major DAEs; (10) decreased confidence in Digital Assets due to their unregulated nature, lack of transparency in DAEs' operations and adequacy of asset segregation of on-exchange custodial services; (11) increased competition from other forms of Digital Assets or payment services; and (12) momentum pricing of Digital Assets due to speculation regarding future appreciation in value.

*Valuation.* The valuation of Subset Commingled Funds' assets and liabilities investing in Digital Assets (directly or indirectly) may be subject to considerable uncertainty given to, among other things (1) the extreme volatility of many Digital Assets' trading prices; (2) the early development stages of DANs and their operating software, as well as internet dependence which inhibits Digital Assets' transferability in the event of any internet or DAN disruption, which may dissuade parties from transacting Digital Assets and dampen its growth; (3) Digital Asset pricing is largely determined by speculators and miners, which contributes to its volatility, and makes it less likely retail and commercial outlets will accept Digital Asset payments or that banks and other established institutions will process Digital Asset transactions; (4) significant scaling challenges DANs face to increase the speed and throughput (amount of data moved from one place to another in a given time period) of

Digital Asset transactions; (5) lack of financial incentive for developers to maintain or develop DAN protocols, given the open-source structure of many DAN protocols does not provide for direct compensation; and (6) banks may not provide or cut off banking services to businesses providing Digital Asset-related services or that accept Digital Asset payments, which could dampen liquidity in the market and damage the public perception of Digital Assets.

### **Fund Structure Risk**

*Master-Feeder Structure Risk.* Certain Non-U.S. Commingled Funds and their U.S. Commingled Fund are organized as “master-feeder” structures. In the future, a U.S. Commingled Fund may be restructured to become part of a “master-feeder” structure - the Commingled Funds would invest all or substantially all of their assets at the master fund entity level – the level where trading and investment activities occurs. The “master-feeder” fund structure — in particular the existence of multiple investment vehicles investing in the same portfolio — presents certain unique risks to Investors. Smaller investment vehicles investing in a master fund may be materially affected by the actions of larger investment vehicles investing in the master fund. For example, if a larger investment vehicle withdraws from the master fund, the remaining investment vehicles may experience higher *pro rata* operating expenses, producing lower returns. Similarly, the master fund may become less diverse due to a withdrawal by a larger investment vehicle, resulting in increased portfolio risk.

*Illiquidity and Non-Transferability of Limited Partnership Interests or Shares.* The Funds are highly illiquid investments that are only suitable for Investors who can commit their funds for an indefinite period of time. Investors cannot transfer their limited partnership interests or shares without ECM’s consent, which may be withheld in its sole discretion, and satisfying certain other conditions, including compliance with applicable securities laws. Investors should not expect ECM to grant its consent to transfers. There is currently no market for limited partnership interests and shares, and none is expected to develop. Investors may not be able to liquidate their investment in the event of an emergency or for any other reason, and limited partnership interests and shares may not be readily accepted as collateral for a loan. Except with respect to the Closed-end Commingled Fund whose Investors may not withdraw, the Funds’ interests and shares are subject to lock-up terms and other liquidity restrictions as set forth in each Fund’s Offering Document.

*Different Liquidity Terms for Other Investors.* ECM may provide different liquidity terms to certain Private Fund Investors. In addition, investment funds managed by ECM that may invest in the Commingled Funds, most likely “feeder” funds, may have materially less restrictive withdrawal/redemption rights, and may require the ability to withdraw/redeem at any time and without notice to other Investors. Except as required by applicable law or regulation, withdrawals or redemptions by such entities are likely to be made without regard to the Private Funds’ or Investors’ best interests, may result in withdrawals or redemptions that may, in certain circumstances, impair the Private Funds’ operations or their net asset value, and may occur at a time when other Investors would deem it advantageous to withdraw or redeem, as applicable, but cannot do so due to applicable notice or lock-up requirements.

*Substantial Withdrawals/Redemptions.* Substantial withdrawals and redemptions within a limited period of time could require the Funds to liquidate their investments more rapidly than would otherwise be desirable. Funds that invest in Committed Capital Portfolio Funds will be further restricted from funding withdrawals. A Fund may distribute any securities it receives from a Portfolio Fund in-kind to withdrawing investors; furthermore, substantial Fund withdrawals could also place such Fund at risk of defaulting on capital commitments it made to Committed Capital Portfolio Funds, which could lead to adverse consequences, including damage claims and forfeiture of investments in such Committed Capital Portfolio Funds.

*Credit Facilities.* Certain Funds may use credit facilities from time to time for short-term cash management purposes for the receipt of subscription/capital call proceeds, withdrawal requests, reallocations, payment of capital calls, financial leverage for investment purposes, or to pay expenses. Additionally, a Private Fund offers a class of shares issued and redeemed in non-U.S. currency, and a credit facility will be used to post margin to such Private Fund's derivative counterparty for purposes of engaging in currency hedging. This margin will reduce the amount of borrowing capacity available for other investment and operating activities.

Credit facilities may be provided to a Fund at prevailing market rates by unaffiliated third parties. When a Fund uses a credit facility, it is subject to greater risk of loss, and it incurs additional interest and other expenses for using such facilities. Any credit facility provider that permits a Fund to borrow may require a security interest in such Fund's assets as collateral for the credit facility and therefore (i) generally may be permitted to register such assets in the credit facility provider's or its nominee's name rather than in such Fund's name or in a custodian's or its nominee's name and (ii) generally may be permitted (subject to the same withdrawal limitations applicable to any investment held in such Fund's name) to require the Fund to withdraw any or all of its interests in Portfolio Funds held directly or indirectly through its custodial account at a custodian as collateral, after default by such Fund under its agreement with such credit facility provider. If a Fund commits an event of default under a credit facility, ECM may be forced to suspend withdrawals from such Fund in order to comply with the terms of such credit facility.

*Currency Hedging and Cross-Class Liability.* A Private Fund expects to engage in currency hedging through forwards, futures and options to hedge against currency fluctuations for the benefit of certain shareholders which hold a class of shares issued and redeemed in non-U.S. currency. All separately identifiable profits and losses related to such currency hedging will, to the extent possible, be allocated solely to such shareholders. Banks, dealers, or volatile currency markets could reduce the amount of cash and credit available for portfolio planning purposes.

All of a Private Fund's assets will be available to meet all of its liabilities regardless of the class to which such assets or liabilities are attributable. Counterparties to these currency hedging arrangements may have recourse to all assets of such Private Fund. Cross-class liability is only expected to arise where liabilities referable to one class are in excess of the



assets referable to such class and it is unable to meet corresponding liabilities. In such a case, such Private Fund's assets attributable to other classes may be applied to cover such liability excess and the value of the contributing classes will be reduced as a result.

### **Risks Related to Closed-end Commingled Fund Structure**

*Long-Term Investment.* The Closed-end Commingled Fund's interests are not short-term investments, and if successful, are unlikely to produce a realized return for a number of years.

*Dilution of Existing Investors.* Closed-end Commingled Fund Investors admitted at subsequent closings will participate in a Closed-end Commingled Fund's existing investments, diluting the existing Investors' interests.

*Capital Calls and Adverse Consequences of Failure to Make Capital Contributions.* A Closed-end Commingled Fund will be required to fund capital calls or other investment obligations over an extended time period, and any Investor's failure to meet a capital call could result in such Closed-end Commingled Fund's failure to meet its obligations, which could have adverse consequences for it and its Investors. Defaulting Investors will be subject to various remedies, including forfeiture of its interest and legal proceedings.

*Early Termination of a Closed-end Commingled Fund and/or its Investment Period.* ECM may terminate a Closed-end Commingled Fund's investment period before its scheduled expiration, and cease approving new investments. A Closed-end Commingled Fund also may terminate earlier than anticipated. In each case, a Closed-end Commingled Fund's ability to consummate, manage, and/or dispose of investments or achieve its investment objectives is likely to be negatively affected, and early termination may also require disposal of investments at a disadvantageous time and/or making in-kind distributions to Investors.

*No Guaranteed Distribution.* Distributions, or their timing to Closed-end Commingled Fund Investors is not guaranteed and cannot be predicted. There is no assurance that distributions will be regularly made or that, if made, will exceed an Investor's investment (or taxes payable by such Investor) in a Closed-end Commingled Fund.

### **Registered Fund Risk**

*Special Tax Risk.* The Registered Fund has elected to, and intends to meet the requirements necessary to, qualify as a "regulated investment company" or "RIC" under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"). As such, the Registered Fund must satisfy, among other requirements, certain ongoing asset diversification, source-of-income, and annual distribution requirements. If before any quarter-end of its taxable year, the Registered Fund believes that it may fail the asset diversification requirement, the Registered Fund may seek to take certain actions to avert such a failure. The Registered Fund may try to acquire additional interests in Portfolio Funds to come into compliance with the asset diversification test. However, the action frequently taken by RICs to avert such a failure, the disposition of non-diversified assets, may be difficult for the Registered Fund to pursue because the Registered Fund may redeem its interest in a Portfolio Fund only at certain times specified by the Portfolio Fund's governing documents. While relevant

provisions also afford the Registered Fund a 30-day period after the relevant quarter-end to cure a diversification failure by disposing of non-diversified assets, the constraints on the Registered Fund's ability to redeem from a Portfolio Fund referred to above may limit use of this cure period. If the Registered Fund fails to satisfy the asset diversification or other RIC requirements, it may lose its status as a RIC under the Code. In that case, all of its taxable income would be subject to U.S. federal income tax at regular corporate rates without any deduction for distributions to shareholders. In addition, all distributions (including distributions of net capital gain) would be taxed to their recipients as dividend income to the extent of the Registered Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Disqualification as a RIC would have a material adverse effect on the value of the Registered Fund's shares and the amount of its distributions.

*Non-Diversified Status of Registered Fund.* The Registered Fund is a "non-diversified" investment company. This means that a greater percentage of the Registered Fund's assets may be invested in the securities of any one issuer. ECM will follow a general policy of seeking to invest the Registered Fund's capital broadly among multiple Portfolio Funds. If the Registered Fund makes a large investment in a particular Portfolio Fund, losses suffered by such a Portfolio Fund could result in a higher reduction in the Registered Fund's capital than if such capital had been more proportionately allocated among a larger number of Portfolio Funds.

#### **Item 9 – Disciplinary Information**

ECM is required to disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to an evaluation of ECM or the integrity of ECM's management. As of the date of this Brochure, ECM has no information to disclose applicable to this Item.

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

ECM's and its executive officers' principal business is providing investment advice. ECM is not actively engaged in a business other than giving investment advice, and ECM does not sell products or services other than investment advice to clients.

As noted in Item 7, the Affiliated GPs serve as the general partner of a Private Fund and a Closed-end Commingled Fund. Any ECM persons acting on the Affiliated GPs' behalf are subject to ECM's supervision and control in connection with any investment advisory activities. In accordance with SEC guidance, the Affiliated GPs are registered as investment advisers in reliance on the Form ADV filed by ECM.

During such time that ECM serves as investment adviser to the Registered Fund, certain ECM employees are licensed as registered representatives of the Registered Fund's distributor, Foreside Fund Services LLC, under Financial Industry Regulatory Authority rules.<sup>2</sup> Certain ECM employees also serve as directors or officers of certain Funds, and do not receive compensation for such services.

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<sup>2</sup> Such ECM employees' licensures will be withdrawn when ECM assumes its role as sub-adviser to the Registered Fund on or around the second quarter of 2024.

Although ECM selects Portfolio Managers and/or Portfolio Funds for the Funds, ECM does not receive compensation directly or indirectly from such Portfolio Managers and/or Portfolio Funds and does not have any other business relationships with such Portfolio Managers and/or Portfolio Funds.

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

ECM has adopted a Code of Ethics (the “Code”) pursuant to Rule 204A-1 of the Advisers Act which describes its standards of business conduct as well as its fiduciary duty to exercise good faith and fairness in dealings with its clients. ECM takes into account its fiduciary duties to the Funds when dealing with a conflict of interest. The Code governs ECM’s employees’ standard of conduct, and includes ECM’s policies on the prevention and detection of insider trading, gifts and business entertainment and political contributions restrictions, pre-clearance and reporting requirements, as well as certain personal securities trading prohibitions and pre-clearance requirements by ECM’s “Access Persons” (as defined in the Code). All of ECM’s supervised persons must acknowledge the terms of the Code upon joining ECM and annually thereafter.

Subject to satisfying applicable laws and the Code’s principles, ECM’s officers and employees may trade securities for their own accounts which are recommended to and/or purchased for ECM’s clients. Because the Code would permit ECM’s employees to invest in the same securities as clients in some circumstances as discussed in more detail below, there is a possibility, although slight — given that ECM’s portfolio activity primarily consists of Portfolio Manager selection and Portfolio Fund investment — that such employees might benefit from a client’s market activity in a security held by an employee. Employee trading is regularly monitored under the Code to reasonably prevent conflicts of interest between ECM’s personnel and its clients. ECM maintains a restricted list.

Any Investor or prospective Investor who wishes to obtain a copy of the Code may do so by contacting Melanie Lorenzo, ECM’s Chief Compliance Officer, at 847-563-5273.

Certain Funds invest or may invest in a vehicle in which ECM or its related persons may have a financial interest. Any such investment will be subject to applicable laws and such Fund will only be subject to one layer of fees but will be subject to its pro rata share of expenses in the Fund in which it invests. Similarly, although ECM generally does not intend to invest in vehicles that ECM recommends to the Funds, ECM and its related persons may also purchase for themselves securities or other investments which one or more of ECM’s Funds or accounts own, previously owned, or will own in the future. However, ECM’s Access Persons may not purchase or acquire securities in an initial public offering or a limited offering (each as defined in the Code) without the Chief Compliance Officer’s or her delegate’s prior written approval, which will be granted only if the Chief Compliance Officer or her delegate determines that the purchase is not one that should be reserved for ECM’s clients and the opportunity to purchase such security was not offered to the Access Person solely because of his or her position with ECM.

ECM, ECM's related persons and its officers and employees (collectively, the "ECM Parties"), the Portfolio Managers, and their respective principals and employees also may trade securities and other financial instruments for their own accounts, which may be in competition with the Funds. Investors will not be permitted to inspect proprietary trading records. ECM and its related persons may invest in and acquire a financial interest in such investments only as permitted by state and federal securities laws and ECM's compliance policies. Specifically, the Code provides that ECM's supervised persons (1) may not place personal interests ahead of those of any ECM client; (2) must conduct personal reportable security transactions in a manner consistent with the Code and that does not create an actual or potential conflict of interest or an abuse of such supervised person's position of trust and responsibility, (3) may not take inappropriate advantage of their position within ECM; (4) may not execute securities transactions where such supervised person has actual knowledge that a Portfolio Manager is contemplating, or in the process of, executing a transaction in those securities, and (5) may not breach any applicable federal securities laws, including insider trading laws.

ECM Parties and their family members or family investment vehicles also may have substantial investments in certain Funds, which may create the incentive for ECM or its principals to favor such Funds over other Funds it advises. However, any Fund may outperform other Funds for a variety of reasons, including, for example, because such Fund has different volatility objectives, uses leverage, or pursues a more concentrated strategy. ECM will be guided by the investment objectives and policies set forth in the Funds' Offering Documents to manage the Funds.

The Code also provides that ECM's Access Persons may not purchase or sell, directly or indirectly, any reportable security where such person has, or acquires, direct or indirect beneficial ownership if such person knows or should have known that an ECM client intended to make such purchase or sale or there was a pending purchase or sale order. However, ECM will permit Access Persons to purchase or sell a reportable security if ECM's Chief Compliance Officer, General Counsel, or their delegate determines, in his or her judgment, that the proposed transaction will not (1) adversely affect any ECM client, (2) position the Access Person to profit from the trade or position of such ECM client, or (3) violate the Code's five general principles set forth above.

ECM may provide investment advisory services to different clients with similar investment objectives, and certain investments may be appropriate for more than one client. ECM must use reasonable efforts to select Portfolio Funds or Portfolio Managers to ensure that no Fund or account will be treated unfairly vis á vis other Funds or accounts. ECM does not need to select the same Portfolio Funds or Portfolio Managers for all Funds and accounts with the same investment objectives; however, ECM must fairly allocate investment opportunities over time, including access to Portfolio Funds or Portfolio Managers ("Investment Opportunities"), among those Funds and accounts for which such Investment Opportunity is appropriate, as ECM determines in its discretion.

If a Portfolio Fund or Portfolio Manager has limited ability to accept capital from all of the Funds that ECM would like to invest at a particular time, ECM will endeavor to equitably

allocate the limited Investment Opportunity among those Funds and accounts in a fair manner over time. ECM will give due consideration to various factors that it believes distinguish different Funds, such as: the Funds' investment objectives and constraints, and the appropriateness of making a particular allocation to a Fund in light of these; the gross exposure and/or volatility parameters of the Portfolio Fund or Portfolio Manager and how these impact the Funds' gross exposure and volatility parameters; the amount of cash in a Fund's portfolio that is available for such investment; the amount of investment capacity to be allocated; tax or other legal considerations; a Fund's liquidity position; the percentage of a Fund's portfolio, if any, that is currently invested in the Portfolio Fund or Portfolio Manager (or with other Portfolio Funds or Portfolio Managers that engage in similar investment strategies); prior non *pro rata* allocations of Portfolio Funds or Portfolio Managers to Funds based on factors such as those described above notwithstanding the fact that one or more Funds appeared to be similarly situated; and whether an allocation to a particular Fund will have a material or immaterial impact on its overall portfolio. These considerations may result in different allocation decisions depending on the particular facts and circumstances at the time the allocations are made and may or may not result in a *pro rata* allocation of limited investment capacity among all Funds or among all Funds with similar investment objectives and constraints.

In certain circumstances, such as for rebalancing purposes, ECM may recommend that a Private Fund purchase or sell an investment that is being sold or purchased, respectively, by another advisory client, in compliance with applicable laws, including U.S. securities laws and the U.S. Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended. ECM may recommend such a transaction so long as it determines that such transaction as a whole would be in both advisory clients' best interests. Such transactions involve a conflict of interest between acting in one advisory client's best interests, and assisting the other advisory client by selling or purchasing, as applicable, a particular Portfolio Fund interest held by such other advisory client. ECM will not receive any additional compensation specifically for such transaction, and will effect such transaction at the net asset value calculated and reported by the Portfolio Manager of such investment.

With few exceptions, the Funds generally only invest in Portfolio Funds. However, from time to time such Funds may be paid withdrawal or redemption proceeds in kind in the form of securities or other underlying financial instruments held by a Portfolio Fund ("In-Kind Distributions"). In such case, the Funds may need to hold and/or trade In-Kind Distributions with a view to their orderly liquidation. In the event that ECM advises a Fund on the sale or retention of an In-Kind Distribution, ECM's personnel may on occasion experience trade errors, which can result in a variety of situations. If ECM caused the trade error, it will be brought to the Chief Compliance Officer's and senior management's attention. Once a trade error is detected, ECM will correct it in an expeditious manner. The identification and the proper method for resolving trade errors can be complicated. For the Private Funds, it is ECM's general policy that, absent a violation of the applicable standard of care, all of the benefits and burdens of a trade error will be borne by the relevant Private Fund. All Registered Fund trade errors will be handled in accordance with its NAV Error Correction Policy.

## **Item 12 – Brokerage Practices**

As primarily a funds of investment funds manager, ECM focuses predominantly on investments in Portfolio Funds, which generally are available directly from the issuers without brokerage payments or similar commissions. ECM does not expect to use brokers to effect client transactions, or to control or direct the brokers and dealers that Portfolio Funds may use.

If ECM engages in direct trading for the Private Funds, or in hedging investments for certain Funds, ECM will seek best execution in selecting brokers or dealers. Included in “best execution” are several factors: best price, including commissions; capital position of the broker; responsiveness; ability to consummate and clear trades in an orderly and satisfactory manner; administrative resources; consistent quality of service; expertise; industry reputation; access to market indices; creditworthiness; risks taken in positioning a block of securities; and broad market coverage resulting in a continuous flow of information regarding bids and offers. Although ECM generally will seek reasonably competitive commission rates, the Funds will not necessarily pay the lowest commission available on each transaction.

ECM does not currently receive research or other products or services from broker-dealers or third parties, although ECM reserves the right to enter into such agreements in the future. The use of “soft dollar” agreements can benefit ECM because ECM would not have to produce or pay for such research, products, or services. Such agreements may also incentivize ECM to select or recommend broker-dealers based on their available research or other products or services, rather than based on ECM’s clients’ interest in receiving the most favorable execution. In such circumstances, so long as the services or other products provided by a particular broker-dealer qualify as “brokerage and research services” within the meaning of Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended and relevant SEC interpretations of Section 28(e), and so long as ECM determines in good faith that the amount of commission a broker-dealer charges is reasonable in relation to the value of such “brokerage and research services,” ECM may use such broker-dealer services to execute transactions for the Funds on an agency or riskless principal basis, even if (i) the Funds would incur higher transaction costs than they would have incurred if another broker-dealer had been used, and (ii) the Funds do not necessarily benefit from the research services or products provided by such broker-dealer. Not each and every research service may be used for the benefit of each and every Fund, and brokerage commissions paid by one Fund may apply towards payment for research services that may not be used in the service of that Fund.

Client transactions in publicly-traded securities, if any, ordinarily will be effected independently for each client. However, if ECM decides to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time, ECM may, to the extent permitted by applicable law, 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 ECM’s clients, price and commission differences or other applicable transaction costs. Under this procedure, transaction price and costs will be averaged and allocated among ECM’s clients (which may include persons associated with ECM and clients in which persons associated with ECM have invested) in proportion to the purchase and sale orders placed for

each client account on any given day. ECM will not aggregate orders if, in a particular instance, ECM believes that aggregation would cause a client's execution costs to materially increase. Please also see Item 11.

### **Item 13 – Review of Accounts**

ECM's general investment committee ("General Investment Committee") or, with respect to certain Funds, two subsets of the General Investment Committee (the "Subset Committees," and collectively with the General Investment Committee, the "Committee") evaluates all the Funds' allocations to Portfolio Funds on a regular basis. The General Investment Committee consists of (1) Adam Blitz, Founding Partner, CEO and CIO, (2) Kenneth Meister, Founding Partner, President and COO, (3) Kristen VanGelder, Partner – Deputy Chief Investment Officer, (4) Michael Liddy, Partner – Investments, (5) William Steele III, Partner – Director of Research, (6) Maneesh Gandhi, Partner – Investments, and (7) Richard "RJ" Schrik III, Managing Director – Investments. The two Subset Committees consist of (A) (1) Mr. Liddy, (2) Mr. Blitz and (3) Ms. VanGelder; and (B) (1) Mr. Blitz, (2) Mr. Gandhi and (3) Mr. Liddy. Other ECM employees, including Operational Due Diligence team members, also contribute to the Portfolio Funds' initial and regular due diligence process.

The General Investment Committee members and other ECM team members conduct monthly meetings, and generally expect to have periodic phone conversations and annual in-person or video conference meetings with Portfolio Managers. The Subset Committees conduct ad hoc meetings. During the General Investment Committee and Subset Committee meetings, members discuss, among other things, the Portfolio Funds and their recent performance vis-à-vis what might be expected given the Portfolio Managers' strategies and market events, and any material issues affecting any Portfolio Manager. ECM may determine to conduct meetings more frequently in certain circumstances, as described in Item 8, Section A under "Portfolio Evaluation." Meetings may be in person, via phone or via video conference.

ECM's risk management committee ("Risk Committee") periodically monitors the portfolio risk of certain Commingled Funds and the Registered Fund in consultation with the General Investment Committee. The Risk Committee consists of (1) Kenneth Meister, Founding Partner, President and COO, (2) Brian Lease, Partner – Chief Financial Officer, (3) Scott Zimmerman, Partner – General Counsel, (4) Richard "RJ" Schrik III, Managing Director – Investments, (5) Brendan James, Senior Vice-President – Investments, and (6) Fedor Baev – Assistant Vice President – Investments. The Risk Committee reviews and evaluates the risk characteristics and exposures of such Commingled Funds and the Registered Fund based on their investment objectives, guidelines, and expectations, and makes recommendations to the Investment Committee, as warranted.

ECM seeks to provide Investors with an appropriate level of transparency. Commingled Funds may produce, in writing, some or all of the following: (i) a monthly unaudited "flash" report that includes estimated Commingled Fund performance; (ii) a monthly or quarterly unaudited account statement, (iii) a quarterly management letter discussing, among other things, a Commingled Fund's and its Portfolio Funds' performance; (iv) interim unaudited financial statements as of June 30 with an independent accountant's review report, and (v)

as noted in Item 15, annual audited financial statements delivered as soon as practicable after the end of each fiscal year. ECM's Customized Fund Investors may receive the same or similar reporting as the Commingled Funds, or may receive more frequent reporting than Commingled Fund Investors. ECM also provides annual information necessary for completion of federal income tax returns, as applicable.

Subject to applicable law or regulation, ECM may also provide certain information about a Private Fund to certain prospective and current Investors upon request that is not proactively offered to others, or that is offered in a different format. To the extent permitted by applicable law or regulation, a prospective or current Investor receiving such information may have an actual or perceived advantage in determining whether to invest in or to redeem from a Private Fund. ECM will not provide such information if ECM determines it would have a material adverse effect on other Investors in the relevant Private Fund. ECM will provide information about the Registered Fund as permitted under Regulation Fair Disclosure.

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

ECM and/or certain Private Funds have entered into written selling agent agreements (“Selling Agreements”) with third parties to solicit Investors. Selling agents solicit, on a “best efforts” basis, interest among their respective customers to invest in such Private Funds. ECM pays selling agents out of ECM's own resources; except as described below, neither ECM nor a Private Fund will charge any additional fees to any Investor that is introduced to such Private Fund by a selling agent. However, the management fee for certain types/classes of interests offered by at least one Private Fund may be higher to account for the fact that ECM pays a portion of such management fee to a selling agent for sales of interests to its customers of such Private Fund.

The Registered Fund pays its distributor a distribution and/or service fee with respect to one of its classes of shares in accordance with a Rule 12b-1 plan adopted by the Registered Fund under the Company Act. The distributor may pay all or a portion of such fee to certain financial intermediaries. ECM also pays from its own resources compensation to broker-dealers and other intermediaries in connection with selling the Registered Fund's shares to investors and/or investor servicing.<sup>3</sup>

A conflict of interest exists for selling agents and intermediaries, as solicitation compensation may incentivize them to recommend ECM or its Funds to an Investor over another investment adviser that does not pay, or pays a lesser amount of, solicitation compensation.

Investors may use third-party consultants to recommend investment decisions regarding such Investors' investment portfolios, such as when to subscribe in/make capital commitments to or withdraw from a Fund. While ECM does not pay these consultants for

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<sup>3</sup> On or around the second quarter of 2024, ECM anticipates that it will become the Registered Fund's sub-adviser and the New IA will become the Registered Fund's investment adviser. Consequently, upon the consummation of such transaction it is anticipated that the New IA and/or ECM will pay compensation to broker-dealers and other intermediaries as described.



such referrals, ECM may pay to participate in consultant-sponsored conferences in order to obtain information about industry trends and Investor investment needs, among other things. ECM may also purchase products or services from these consultants and their affiliates, or may pay membership fees in industry-related organizations, for similar reasons. None of these payments are paid in connection with any Investor referrals.

No related person of ECM directly or indirectly compensates any non-supervised person for Investor referrals.

#### **Item 15 – Custody**

ECM or its affiliate, in their capacity as the Private Funds’ general partner, investment manager, investment adviser, and/or sponsor, are deemed to have custody of the Private Funds’ cash, bank accounts and securities under Rule 206(4)-2 of the Advisers Act (the “Custody Rule”). However, the Private Funds’ interests in Portfolio Funds are not required to be held by a qualified custodian under the Custody Rule, because such Portfolio Fund interests held by the Private Funds are uncertificated and are acquired directly from the issuer in transactions not involving a public offering. Furthermore, ownership of these securities is recorded in a Private Fund’s name only on the issuer’s or transfer agent’s books, and these securities are only transferable with the issuer’s prior consent. Securities that remain subject to the Custody Rule will, at all times, be held in compliance with the Custody Rule.

ECM and its affiliates are exempt from many of the Custody Rule provisions because the Private Funds are subject to audit annually by an independent public accountant registered with, and subject to regular inspection by, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. Furthermore, ECM or its affiliates distributes audited financial statements that are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles to all Investors within 180 days of each Private Fund’s fiscal year-end or otherwise in accordance with SEC guidance.

#### **Item 16 – Investment Discretion**

ECM is granted investment discretion to manage the Funds’ portfolios under the Funds’ governing documents (*i.e.*, Offering Documents, limited partnership agreements and investment management agreements). Investors generally will not take part in the Funds’ management and may not place any limitations on ECM’s discretionary authority in managing the Funds’ assets.

ECM has the authority to select, without obtaining client or Investor consent, the Funds’ Portfolio Funds and Portfolio Managers, among other things. ECM’s authority to trade securities for the Registered Fund is subject to, and may be limited by, applicable laws. In all cases, ECM will strive to exercise its discretion in a manner consistent with the Funds’ stated investment objectives and investment limitations or restrictions, if any, set forth in each Fund’s Offering Document.

ECM may, in the future, provide its services on a non-discretionary basis.

**Item 17 – Voting Client Securities**

Rule 206(4)-6 under the Advisers Act addresses investment advisers' fiduciary obligation to their clients when these advisers have the authority to vote proxies of securities in client accounts. ECM has implemented Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (the "Proxy Policy") that are reasonably designed to ensure that ECM votes client securities in its clients' best interests in accordance with its fiduciary duties.

Except as noted below, in its general capacity as a manager of funds of investment funds, ECM is rarely, if ever, requested to vote the proxies of traditional operating companies. None of the Funds has been formed for the purpose of holding publicly traded securities, and Portfolio Fund securities generally will not have voting rights. Rather, from time to time, ECM may be requested to vote on behalf of its Funds in their capacities as Portfolio Fund investors, and such proxies generally involve Portfolio Fund term and structure changes. In all cases, ECM will consider how its vote could affect the Funds, and will be guided by general fiduciary principles. ECM will exercise voting or consent rights in a manner it believes to be in a Fund's best interests, and consistent with efforts to achieve the Fund's stated objective, including maximizing portfolio value.

The Registered Fund may purchase non-voting securities of, or irrevocably waive or contractually limit the right to vote in respect of, Portfolio Funds in order to prevent it from becoming a Portfolio Fund's "affiliated person" for purposes of the Company Act and becoming subject to the prohibitions on affiliated person transactions contained in the Company Act. Consequently, the Registered Fund may not be able to vote to the full extent of its economic interest, including matters that could adversely affect the Registered Fund's investment. ECM will make the determination to waive voting rights pursuant to policies adopted by the Registered Fund's Board of Trustees. Entering into voting waivers is expected to allow the Registered Fund to purchase interests in Portfolio Funds that represent attractive investment opportunities, which the Registered Fund might otherwise be restricted from holding pursuant to the prohibitions on affiliated person transactions under the Company Act.

If ECM determines that a conflict or potential conflict exists between ECM's and the Funds' interests, ECM may vote proxies despite the existence of the conflict. If ECM determines that a conflict or potential conflict of interest is material, ECM's Chief Compliance Officer will work with appropriate personnel to agree upon a method to resolve such conflict before voting proxies affected by the conflict. Investors may obtain a copy of ECM's Proxy Policy and may request an opportunity to review relevant proxy voting records by contacting Melanie Lorenzo at 847-563-5273.

**Item 18 – Financial Information**

ECM is required to provide you with certain financial information or disclosures about ECM's financial condition in this Item. ECM has no financial condition that it believes will impair its ability to meet contractual commitments to clients, and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.