

# **Trinity Capital Management, LLC**

1730 S. Germantown Road  
Suite 224  
Germantown, TN 38138

**Telephone: 901-757-4448**  
**Fax: 901-758-8884**

**Website: [www.trinitycapitalmanagement.net](http://www.trinitycapitalmanagement.net)**

March 26, 2024

## **FORM ADV PART 2A BROCHURE**

This Disclosure Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Trinity Capital Management, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this Disclosure Brochure, contact us at 901-757-4448. The information in this Disclosure Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about Trinity Capital Management, LLC is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

Trinity Capital Management, LLC is a registered investment adviser. Registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

## Item 2 Summary of Material Changes

Form ADV Part 2 requires registered investment advisers to amend their Disclosure Brochure when information becomes materially inaccurate. If there are any material changes to an adviser's Disclosure Brochure, the adviser is required to notify you and provide you with a description of the material changes.

Since our last annual updating amendment dated March 23, 2023, we have the following material changes to report.

- We no longer provide Mutual Fund Advisory Services where we serve as the investment adviser/investment manager to a registered investment company. Additionally, we no longer offer Sub-Advisory Services Of Registered Investment Companies (Mutual Funds).
- We are also advising if you contribute additional monies during the quarter to your account(s), we will bill on a pro-rata basis the additional monies as part of the next quarter's billing based on the number of days remaining in the quarter. If you withdraw monies from your account(s), a reduction in your next quarter's billing will be effected on a pro-rata basis based on the number of days remaining in the quarter.
- Additionally, we reserve the right to postpone any initial billing of our fees based on the facts and circumstances whereby the fee is based on a date other than when you first become a client.
- When you elect to receive Portfolio Management Services, you will be recommended to establish an account with Raymond James and Associates, Inc. (RJA), member FINRA/SIPC, an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealer. However, we may agree to manage your account(s) held at another broker-dealer.
- We also updated our disclosure regarding our process recommending mutual funds. Mutual funds are sold with different share classes, which carry different cost structures. Each available share class is described in the mutual fund's prospectus. When we purchase, or recommend the purchase of, mutual funds for a client, we select the share class that is deemed to be in the client's best interest, taking into consideration the availability of advisory, institutional or retirement plan share classes, initial and ongoing share class costs, transaction costs (if any), tax implications, cost basis and other factors. We also review the mutual funds held in accounts that come under our management to determine whether a more beneficial share class is available, considering cost, tax implications, and the impact of contingent or deferred sales charges.

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## **Item 4 Advisory Business**

### **Description of Firm**

Trinity Capital Management, LLC is a registered investment adviser primarily based in Germantown, TN. We are organized as a limited liability company ("LLC") under the laws of the State of Tennessee. We have been providing investment advisory services since May 2016. We are owned by Morris Gordon Nutt.

The following paragraphs describe our services and fees. Refer to the description of each investment advisory service listed below for information on how we tailor our advisory services to your individual needs. As used in this brochure, the words "we," "our," and "us" refer to Trinity Capital Management, LLC and the words "you," "your," and "client" refer to you as either a client or prospective client of our firm.

### **Portfolio Management Services**

We offer discretionary portfolio management services. Our investment advice is tailored to meet our clients' needs and investment objectives.

If you participate in our discretionary portfolio management services, we require you to grant our firm discretionary authority to manage your account. Discretionary authorization will allow us to determine the specific securities, and the amount of securities, to be purchased or sold for your account without your approval prior to each transaction. Discretionary authority is typically granted by the investment advisory agreement you sign with our firm and the appropriate trading authorization forms.

We may also offer non-discretionary portfolio management services. If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we must obtain your approval prior to executing any transactions on behalf of your account. You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

As part of our portfolio management services, we may use one or more sub-advisers to manage a portion of your account on a discretionary basis. The sub-adviser(s) may use one or more of their model portfolios to manage your account. We will regularly monitor the performance of your accounts managed by sub-adviser(s), and may hire and fire any sub-adviser without your prior approval. We may pay a portion of our advisory fee to the sub-adviser(s) we use; however, you will not pay our firm a higher advisory fee as a result of any sub-advisory relationships.

In providing account management services, we do not accept client restrictions on the specific securities or the types of securities that may be held in your account.

### **Financial Planning Services**

As a separate and stand-alone service, we offer financial planning services which typically involve providing a variety of advisory services to clients regarding the management of their financial resources based upon an analysis of their individual needs. These services can range from broad-based financial planning to consultative or single subject planning. If you retain our firm for financial planning services, we will meet with you to gather information about your financial circumstances and objectives. We may also use financial planning software to determine your current financial position and to define and quantify your long-term goals and objectives. Once we specify those long-term objectives (both financial and non-financial), we will develop shorter-term, targeted objectives. Once we review and analyze the information you provide to our firm and the data derived from our financial planning software, we will deliver a written plan to you, designed to help you achieve your stated financial goals and objectives.

Financial plans are based on your financial situation at the time we present the plan to you, and on the financial information you provide to us. You must promptly notify our firm if your financial situation, goals, objectives, or needs change.

You are under no obligation to act on our financial planning recommendations. Should you choose to act on any of our recommendations, you are not obligated to implement the financial plan through any of our other investment advisory services. Moreover, you may act on our recommendations by placing securities transactions with any brokerage firm.

### **Selection of Other Advisers**

We may recommend that you use the services of a third party money manager ("TPMM") to manage all, or a portion of, your investment portfolio. After gathering information about your financial situation and objectives, we may recommend that you engage a specific TPMM or investment program. Factors that we take into consideration when making our recommendation(s) include, but are not limited to, the following: the TPMM's performance, methods of analysis, fees, your financial needs, investment goals, risk tolerance, and investment objectives. We will monitor the TPMM(s)' performance to ensure its management and investment style remains aligned with your investment goals and objectives.

The TPMM(s) will actively manage your portfolio and will assume discretionary investment authority over your account. We will assume discretionary authority to hire and fire TPMM(s) and/or reallocate your assets to other TPMM(s) where we deem such action appropriate.

### **Educational Workshops/Seminars**

We may offer and/or participate in educational workshops and/or seminars for individuals and groups. The content of these events will be tailored to the participants and/or direction of any organizer. The educational workshops and/or seminars can and will discuss a wide range of topics. If an individual participates in an educational workshop and/or seminar, they are under no obligation to enact advice rendered or become a client of our firm.

### **Types of Investments**

We offer advice on equity securities, corporate debt securities (other than commercial paper), commercial paper, certificates of deposit, municipal securities, variable life insurance, mutual fund shares, United States government securities, options contracts on securities, options contracts on commodities, futures contracts on tangibles, futures contracts on intangibles, money market funds, real estate, REITs, structured notes, ETFs, interests in partnerships investing in real estate and interests in partnerships investing in oil and gas interests.

Additionally, we may advise you on various types of investments based on your stated goals and objectives. We may also provide advice on any type of investment held in your portfolio at the inception of our advisory relationship.

### **Assets Under Management**

As of February 27, 2024, we provide continuous management services for \$113,053,157 in client assets on a discretionary basis and \$1,272,943 on a non-discretionary basis.

## **Item 5 Fees and Compensation**

### **Portfolio Management Services**

Our fee for portfolio management services is based on a percentage of the assets in your account and is set forth in the following annual blended-tiered fee schedule:

<i>Assets Under Management</i>	<i>Maximum Annualized Fee**</i>
\$250,000 - \$500,000	2.00%
\$500,001 - \$750,000	1.75%
\$750,001 - \$1,000,000	1.50%
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	1.15%
Over \$5,000,000	0.75%

*\*\*For example, the applicable management fee for a client with \$850,000 in portfolio assets would be as follows: the first \$500,000 would be billed at an annual rate of 2.00%; the next \$250,000 would be billed at an annual rate of 1.75%; and the remaining \$100,000 would be billed at an annual rate of 1.50%.*

Our annual portfolio management fee is billed and payable, quarterly in advance, based on the balance at end of billing period (last business day of the previous calendar quarter). The balance includes any market gains or losses, dividends, interest, fees, and all other events impacting the total balance. If the portfolio management agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar quarter, our fees will apply on a pro rata basis, which means that the advisory fee is payable in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. We reserve the right to postpone any initial billing of our fees based on the facts and circumstances whereby the fee is based on a date other than when you first become a client. Our advisory fee is negotiable, depending on individual client circumstances.

If you contribute additional monies during the quarter to your account(s), we will bill on a pro-rata basis the additional monies as part of the next quarter's billing based on the number of days remaining in the quarter. If you withdraw monies from your account(s), a reduction in your next quarter's billing will be effected on a pro-rata basis based on the number of days remaining in the quarter.

At our discretion, we may combine the account values of family members living in the same household to determine the applicable advisory fee. For example, we may combine account values for you and your minor children, joint accounts with your spouse, and other types of related accounts. Combining account values may increase the asset total, which may result in your paying a reduced advisory fee based on the available breakpoints in our fee schedule stated above.

We will deduct our fee directly from your account through the qualified custodian holding your funds and securities, unless otherwise agreed to by our firm that a check, ACH, or wire is deemed an acceptable form of payment. We will deduct our advisory fee only when you have given our firm written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from your account. Further, the qualified custodian will deliver an account statement to you at least quarterly. These account statements will show all activity in your account, including any disbursements, and you should review all statements for accuracy. If you have any questions about the statement(s) you receive from the qualified custodian call our main office number located on the cover page of this Disclosure Brochure.

As stated above in Item 4, we may use or recommend a sub-adviser to assist with managing your account. Generally, we will pay a portion of our advisory fee to the sub-adviser(s) we use; however, you will not pay our firm a higher advisory fee as a result of any sub-advisory relationships.

You may terminate the portfolio management agreement upon by providing 60 days written notice prior to the next billing date. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the portfolio management agreement, which means you will incur advisory fees only in proportion to

the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. If you have pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees based on the number of days remaining in the quarter after 60 day period has elapsed.

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

As a separate and stand-alone service, we offer financial planning services on either an hourly basis or fixed fee basis based on the following billing structure:

\$500 / hour (minimum two hours)  
\$2,000 for a 5 hour session  
\$3,500 for a 10 hour block

Our financial planning fees both - hourly and fixed fees - are negotiable depending upon the complexity and scope of the service to be performed, your financial situation, and your objectives. Our fees are generally payable in advance, but we may negotiate other fee payment arrangements upon request. In instances where we collect payments in advance, such advance payments are associated with services to be performed within 6 months from the engagement date. All terms of the engagement will be evidenced in the agreement that you sign with our firm.

You may terminate the agreement by providing our firm with written notice. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the agreement. If we have received pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees.

### **Selection of Other Advisers**

If the client chooses to utilize the services of a TPIA based on our firm's recommendation, we will generally share in the fee charged by the TPIA. In instances where the TPIA fee is separate and apart from our fee, our recommendation to use a TPIA will be part of portfolio management services where our fee is based on a percentage of assets under management (see Portfolio Management Services section above). Advisory fees that the client pays to the TPIA are outlined in the TPIA's Disclosure Brochure. These fees may or may not be negotiable. Should the client decide to utilize a TPIA, the client will be required to sign an agreement directly with the recommended TPIA(s). The client may terminate their advisory relationship with the TPIA according to the terms of their agreement with the TPIA. The client should review each TPIA's Disclosure Brochure for specific information regarding the termination of their advisory relationship and its agreement with the TPIA, and how to receive a refund (if applicable). The client should contact the TPIA directly for any questions regarding the advisory agreement with the TPIA.

In most cases, the TPIAs are responsible for the specialized portfolio management, portfolio reporting services, best execution review, quarterly reporting, trade error resolution, custodial reconciliations, and implementations of trades within their respective programs. We recommend that clients review the recommended TPIA's Disclosure Brochure when determining the total amount of fees when using a TPIA and the services to be performed.

### **Educational Workshops/Seminars**

To the extent we provide any educational workshops and/or seminars, we do not charge any fees. Attendees are welcome, but are never under any obligation, to utilize the Company's other services.

### **Additional Fees and Expenses**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may invest, or recommend that you invest, in mutual funds and exchange-traded funds. The fees that you pay to our firm for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange-



traded funds (described in each fund's prospectus) to their shareholders. These fees will generally include a management fee and other fund expenses. We seek to only invest in, or recommend mutual funds not containing a sales charge.

You will also incur transaction charges and/or brokerage fees when purchasing or selling securities. These charges are limited to SEC fees and fees for certain mutual funds and exchange-traded funds imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian through whom your account transactions are executed. The broker-dealer or custodian may also assess account fees, as applicable, for maintaining your account or extending margin. We do not share in any portion of the transaction or other charges imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian. To fully understand the total cost you will incur, you should review all the fees charged by mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, our firm, and others. For information on our brokerage practices, please refer to Item 12 (*Brokerage Practices* section) of this Disclosure Brochure.

### **Compensation for the Sale of Securities or Other Investment Products**

Persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are registered representatives with Kingswood Capital Partners, a securities broker-dealer, and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. In their capacity as registered representatives, these persons receive compensation in connection with the purchase and sale of securities or other investment products, including commissions, asset-based sales charges, service fees or 12b-1 fees, or holding, of mutual funds. Compensation earned by these persons in their capacities as registered representatives is separate and in addition to our advisory fees.

This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice to advisory clients on behalf of our firm who are registered representatives have an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received rather than solely based on your needs. To mitigate this conflict of interest, our firm prohibits the receipt of such compensation for account(s) in which the persons are providing portfolio management services to a client. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to purchase securities products through any person affiliated with our firm who receives compensation described above.

Additionally, persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm, are also licensed as independent insurance agents, and will earn commission-based compensation for selling insurance products to you. Compensation earned by these persons in their separate capacities as licensed insurance agents is separate and in addition to our advisory fees.

This practice presents a conflict of interest because these individuals have a financial incentive to sell insurance products to you based on compensation received. Our firm and our investment adviser representatives serve as fiduciaries and we will act in each client's best interest. Clients are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to purchase insurance products through any person affiliated with our firm.

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

We do not accept performance-based fees or participate in side-by-side management. Our fees are calculated as described in the *Fees and Compensation* section above, and are not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon, or capital appreciation of, the funds in your advisory account.



## Item 7 Types of Clients

We provide our investment advisory services to individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, corporations, other registered investment advisers, and other business entities. We can offer investment advisory services to other client types.

In general, we require a minimum of \$250,000 to establish a managed account. However, in our sole discretion we may accept clients that do not meet our minimum account requirements.

If you are referred to a third party investment adviser, you should review that third party investment adviser's Disclosure Brochure for any account requirements imposed by the third party investment adviser.

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

### Our Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies

We may use one or more of the following methods of analysis or investment strategies when providing investment advice to you:

Technical Analysis - involves studying past price patterns, trends, and interrelationships in the financial markets to assess risk-adjusted performance and predict the direction of both the overall market and specific securities.

*Risk:* The risk of market timing based on technical analysis is that our analysis may not accurately detect anomalies or predict future price movements. Current prices of securities may reflect all information known about the security and day-to-day changes in market prices of securities may follow random patterns and may not be predictable with any reliable degree of accuracy.

Long-Term Purchases - securities purchased with the expectation that the value of those securities will grow over a relatively long period of time, generally greater than one year.

*Risk:* Using a long-term purchase strategy generally assumes the financial markets will go up in the long-term which may not be the case. There is also the risk that the segment of the market that you are invested in or perhaps just your particular investment will go down over time even if the overall financial markets advance. Purchasing investments long-term may create an opportunity cost - "locking-up" assets that may be better utilized in the short-term in other investments.

Short-Term Purchases - securities purchased with the expectation that they will be sold within a relatively short period of time, generally less than one year, to take advantage of the securities' short-term price fluctuations.

*Risk:* Using a short-term purchase strategy generally assumes that we can predict how financial markets will perform in the short-term which may be very difficult and will incur a disproportionately higher amount of transaction costs compared to long-term trading. There are many factors that can affect financial market performance in the short-term (such as short-term interest rate changes, cyclical earnings announcements, etc.) but may have a smaller impact over longer periods of times.

Our investment strategies and advice may vary depending upon each client's specific financial situation. As such, we determine investments and allocations based upon your predefined objectives, risk tolerance, time horizon, financial horizon, financial information, liquidity needs, and other various suitability factors. Your restrictions and guidelines may affect the composition of your portfolio.

## **Tax Considerations**

Our strategies and investments may have unique and significant tax implications. However, unless we specifically agree otherwise, and in writing, tax efficiency is not our primary consideration in the management of your assets. Regardless of your account size or any other factors, we strongly recommend that you consult with a tax professional regarding the investing of your assets.

Moreover, custodians and broker-dealers must report the cost basis of equities acquired in client accounts on or after January 1, 2011. Your custodian will default to the First-In First-Out ("FIFO") accounting method for calculating the cost basis of your investments. You are responsible for contacting your tax advisor to determine if this accounting method is the right choice for you. If your tax advisor believes another accounting method is more advantageous, provide written notice to our firm immediately and we will alert your account custodian of your individually selected accounting method. Decisions about cost basis accounting methods will need to be made before trades settle, as the cost basis method cannot be changed after settlement.

## **Risk of Loss**

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that you should be prepared to bear. We do not represent or guarantee that our services or methods of analysis can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate clients from losses due to market corrections or declines. We cannot offer any guarantees or promises that your financial goals and objectives will be met. Past performance is in no way an indication of future performance.

## **Other Risk Considerations**

When evaluating risk, financial loss may be viewed differently by each client and may depend on many different risks, each of which may affect the probability and magnitude of any potential losses. The following risks may not be all-inclusive, but should be considered carefully by a prospective client before retaining our services.

Liquidity Risk: The risk of being unable to sell your investment at a fair price at a given time due to high volatility or lack of active liquid markets. You may receive a lower price or it may not be possible to sell the investment at all.

Credit Risk: Credit risk typically applies to debt investments such as corporate, municipal, and sovereign fixed income or bonds. A bond issuing entity can experience a credit event that could impair or erase the value of an issuer's securities held by a client.

Inflation and Interest Rate Risk: Security prices and portfolio returns will likely vary in response to changes in inflation and interest rates. Inflation causes the value of future dollars to be worth less and may reduce the purchasing power of a client's future interest payments and principal. Inflation also generally leads to higher interest rates which may cause the value of many types of fixed income investments to decline.

Horizon and Longevity Risk: The risk that your investment horizon is shortened because of an unforeseen event, for example, the loss of your job. This may force you to sell investments that you were expecting to hold for the long term. If you must sell at a time that the markets are down, you may lose money. Longevity Risk is the risk of outliving your savings. This risk is particularly relevant for people who are retired, or are nearing retirement.

## **Recommendation of Particular Types of Securities**

We primarily offer advice on equity securities, mutual fund shares (open-end and closed-end), and exchange-traded funds. We may also recommend other types of securities since each client may have different needs and/or risk tolerances. Each type of security has its own unique set of risks

associated with it and it would not be possible to list here all of the specific risks of every type of investment. Even within the same type of investment, risks can vary widely. However, in very general terms, the higher the anticipated return of an investment, the higher the risk of loss associated with it.

Equity Securities (Stocks): There are numerous ways of measuring the risk of equity securities (also known simply as "equities" or "stock"). In very broad terms, the value of a stock depends on the financial health of the company issuing it. However, stock prices can be affected by many other factors including, but not limited to the class of stock (for example, preferred or common); the health of the market sector of the issuing company; and the overall health of the economy. In general, larger, better established companies ("large cap") tend to be safer than smaller start-up companies ("small cap") are but the mere size of an issuer is not, by itself, an indicator of the safety of the investment.

Mutual Funds and ETFs: Mutual funds, both open-end and closed-end funds, and exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") are professionally managed collective investment systems that pool money from many investors and invest in stocks, bonds, short-term money market instruments, other mutual funds, other securities, or any combination thereof. The fund will have a manager that trades the fund's investments in accordance with the fund's investment objective. While mutual funds and ETFs generally provide diversification, risks can be significantly increased if the fund is concentrated in a particular sector of the market, primarily invests in small cap or speculative companies, uses leverage (i.e., borrows money) to a significant degree, or concentrates in a particular type of security (i.e., equities) rather than balancing the fund with different types of securities. Exchange-traded funds and closed-end mutual funds differ from open-end mutual funds since they can be bought and sold throughout the day like stock and their price can fluctuate throughout the day, while open-end mutual funds can only be bought and sold at one price per day. The returns on mutual funds and ETFs can be reduced by the costs to manage the funds. Mutual funds and exchange-traded funds are subject to management and/or other fees which can reduce returns.

ETFs may have tracking error risks. For example, the ETF investment adviser may not be able to cause the ETF's performance to match that of its underlying index or other benchmark, which may negatively affect the ETF's performance. In addition, for leveraged and inverse ETFs that seek to track the performance of their underlying index or benchmarks on a daily basis, mathematical compounding may prevent the ETF from correlating with performance of its benchmark. In addition, an ETF may not have investment exposure to all of the securities included in its underlying index, or its weighting of investment exposure to such securities may vary from that of the underlying index. Some ETFs may invest in securities or financial instruments that are not included in the underlying index, but which are expected to yield similar performance.

Municipal Securities: Municipal securities, while generally thought of as safe, can have significant risks associated with them including, but not limited to: the credit worthiness of the governmental entity that issues the bond; the stability of the revenue stream that is used to pay the interest to the bondholders; when the bond is due to mature; and, whether or not the bond can be "called" prior to maturity. When a bond is called, it may not be possible to replace it with a bond of equal character paying the same amount of interest or yield to maturity.

While our managed portfolios typically consist of equity securities, mutual funds, and ETFs, we may also recommend alternative investments to certain "qualified" clients where appropriate, such as limited partnerships (including hedge funds) and REITs.

Limited Partnerships: A limited partnership is a financial affiliation that includes at least one general partner and a number of limited partners. The partnership invests in a venture, such as real estate development or oil exploration, for financial gain. The general partner does not usually invest any capital, but has management authority and unlimited liability. That is, the general partner runs the business and, in the event of bankruptcy, is responsible for all debts not paid or discharged. The limited partners have no management authority and confine their participation to their capital investment. That is, limited partners invest a certain amount of money and have nothing else to do with the business. However, their liability is limited to the amount of the investment. In the worst-case scenario for a limited partner, he/she loses what he/she invested. Profits are divided between general and limited partners according to an arrangement formed at the creation of the partnership.

Real Estate Investment Trust: A real estate investment trust ("REIT") is a corporate entity which invests in real estate and/or engages in real estate financing. A REIT reduces or eliminates corporate income taxes. REITs can be publicly or privately held. Public REITs may be listed on public stock exchanges. REITs are required to declare 90% of their taxable income as dividends, but they actually pay dividends out of funds from operations, so cash flow has to be strong or the REIT must either dip into reserves, borrow to pay dividends, or distribute them in stock (which causes dilution). After 2012, the IRS stopped permitting stock dividends. Most REITs must refinance or erase large balloon debts periodically. The credit markets are no longer frozen, but banks are demanding, and getting, harsher terms to re-extend REIT debt. Some REITs may be forced to make secondary stock offerings to repay debt, which will lead to additional dilution of the stockholders. Fluctuations in the real estate market can affect the REIT's value and dividends.

As part of our firm's investment philosophy, we may also recommend to certain *accredited investors* to invest in private investments, including, but not limited to, private placements, limited partnerships, limited liability companies, alternative investments or private investment funds. Clients should be aware of the additional risks associated with investing in private investment funds. Private investment funds may lack transparency due to limited information. Private investment fund shares should be considered highly illiquid because they will not be listed on any national securities exchange and are subject to restrictions on transferability. Furthermore, the lack of a secondary market for trading private investment funds subjects may result in greater price risk and potential for inaccuracies in determining fair market value. Other risks include, but are not limited to, market risk, concentration risk, and potentially less diversification if fund assets are concentrated in certain sectors or specific investments. Private funds are also subject to the risks of leverage, higher fees and additional layers of expenses, as well as the potential for greater volatility if fund assets are invested in a limited number of securities, or focus on particular sectors and geographical regions. If assets are invested in foreign securities, this exposes the fund to various geopolitical risks and currency fluctuations typically not applicable in the U.S. The potential for adverse changes in business and tax laws involves tax risk and heightened regulatory scrutiny. As a result, private investments should be considered to contain an above average amount of risk and the loss of principal is high. Prior to investing in private investments, clients will be provided the required legal investment documentation and must sign documents outside the scope of our firm's investment advisory agreement. These documents may include, but are not limited to: Private Placement Memorandum; Subscription Agreement; Operating Agreement; and/or, Limited Partnership Agreement.

Variable Annuities: A variable annuity is a form of insurance where the seller or issuer (typically an insurance company) makes a series of future payments to a buyer (annuitant) in exchange for the immediate payment of a lump sum (single-payment annuity) or a series of regular payments (regular-payment annuity). The payment stream from the issuer to the annuitant has an unknown duration based principally upon the date of death of the annuitant. At this point, the contract will terminate and the remainder of the funds accumulated forfeited unless there are other annuitants or beneficiaries in

the contract. Annuities can be purchased to provide an income during retirement. Unlike fixed annuities that make payments in fixed amounts or in amounts that increase by a fixed percentage, variable annuities, pay amounts that vary according to the performance of a specified set of investments, typically bond and equity mutual funds. Many variable annuities typically impose asset-based sales charges or surrender charges for withdrawals within a specified period. Variable annuities may impose a variety of fees and expenses, in addition to sales and surrender charges, such as mortality and expense risk charges; administrative fees; underlying fund expenses; and charges for special features, all of which can reduce the return. Earnings in a variable annuity do not provide all the tax advantages of 401(k)s and other before-tax retirement plans. Once the investor starts withdrawing money from their variable annuity, earnings are taxed at the ordinary income rate, rather than at the lower capital gains rates applied to other non-tax-deferred vehicles which are held for more than one year. Proceeds of most variable annuities do not receive a "step-up" in cost basis when the owner dies like stocks, bonds and mutual funds do. Some variable annuities offer "bonus credits." These are usually not free. In order to fund them, insurance companies typically impose mortality and expense charges and surrender charge periods. In an exchange of an existing annuity for a new annuity (so-called 1035 exchanges), the new variable annuity may have a lower contract value and a smaller death benefit; may impose new surrender charges or increase the period of time for which the surrender charge applies; may have higher annual fees; and provide another commission for the broker.

## Item 9 Disciplinary Information

We are required to disclose the facts of any legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management. We do not have any required disclosures under this item.

## Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

### **Broker-Dealer Registered Representative / Licensed Insurance Agent / Investment adviser Representative of another Investment Adviser**

Morris Nutt, our firm's Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer is a registered representative with Kingswood Capital Partners, a securities broker-dealer, and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. In his capacity as a registered representative, Mr. Nutt receives compensation in connection with the purchase and sale of securities or other investment products, including commissions, asset-based sales charges, service fees or 12b-1 fees, or holding, of mutual funds. Compensation earned by Mr. Nutt in his capacity as a registered representative is separate and in addition to our advisory fees.

This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice to advisory clients on behalf of our firm who are registered representatives have an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received rather than solely based on your needs. To mitigate this conflict of interest, our firm prohibits the receipt of such compensation for account(s) in which the persons are providing portfolio management services to a client. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to purchase securities products through any person affiliated with our firm who receives compensation described above.

Additionally, persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are licensed as insurance agents, and will earn commission-based compensation for selling insurance products to you. Compensation earned by these persons in their separate capacity as a licensed insurance agent is separate and in addition to our advisory fees.



This practice presents a conflict of interest because these individuals have a financial incentive to sell insurance products to you based on compensation received. Our firm and our investment adviser representatives serve as fiduciaries and we will act in each client's best interest. Clients are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to purchase insurance products through any person affiliated with our firm.

### **Recommendation of Other Advisers**

We may recommend that you use a third party investment adviser ("TPIA") based on your needs and suitability. We will receive compensation from the TPIA for recommending that you use their services. These compensation arrangements present a conflict of interest because we have a financial incentive to recommend the services of the third party adviser. You are not obligated, contractually or otherwise, to use the services of any TPIA we recommend. We do not have any other business relationships with the recommended TPIA(s). Please refer to the *Advisory Business* section above for additional disclosures on this topic.

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

### **Code of Ethics**

We strive to comply with applicable laws and regulations governing our practices. Therefore, our Code of Ethics includes guidelines for professional standards of conduct for persons associated with our firm. Our goal is to protect your interests at all times and to demonstrate our commitment to our fiduciary duties of honesty, good faith, and fair dealing with you. All persons associated with our firm are expected to adhere strictly to these guidelines. Persons associated with our firm are also required to report any violations of our Code of Ethics. Additionally, we maintain and enforce written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse or dissemination of material, non-public information about you or your account holdings by persons associated with our firm. Clients or prospective clients may obtain a copy of our Code of Ethics by contacting us at the telephone number on the cover page of this Disclosure Brochure.

### **Participation or Interest in Client Transactions**

Neither our firm nor any persons associated with our firm has any material financial interest in client transactions beyond the provision of investment advisory services as disclosed in this Disclosure Brochure.

### **Personal Trading Practices**

Our firm or persons associated with our firm may buy or sell the same securities that we recommend to you or securities in which you are already invested. A conflict of interest exists in such cases because we may have the ability to trade ahead of you and potentially receive more favorable prices than you will receive. To mitigate this conflict of interest, it is our *strict* policy that neither our firm nor persons associated with our firm shall have priority over your account in the purchase or sale of securities or investment products.

## **Item 12 Brokerage Practices**

### **Brokerage Recommendations**

If you elect to receive Portfolio Management Services, you will be recommended to establish an account with Raymond James and Associates, Inc. (RJA), member FINRA/SIPC, an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealer. However, we may agree to manage your account(s) held at another broker-



dealer. We believe that RJA provides quality execution services based on several factors, including, but not limited to, the ability to provide professional services, and best execution and their reputation, experience and financial stability.

### **Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits**

We do not have any soft dollar arrangements, but we may receive soft dollar benefits. As a registered investment adviser, we have access to the institutional platform of your account custodian. As such, we will also have access to research products and services from your account custodian and/or other brokerage firm. These products may include financial publications, information about particular companies and industries, research software, and other products or services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities. Such research products and services are provided to all investment advisers that utilize the institutional services platforms of these firms, and are not considered to be paid for with soft dollars. However, you should be aware that the commissions charged by a particular broker for a particular transaction or set of transactions may be greater than the amounts another broker who did not provide research services or products might charge.

### **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

We do not receive client referrals from broker-dealers in exchange for cash or other compensation, such as brokerage services or research.

### **Directed Brokerage**

Transactions will be directed to the broker-dealer maintaining your account(s); however, in limited circumstances, and at our discretion, some clients may instruct our firm to use one or more particular brokers for the transactions in their accounts. If you choose to direct our firm to use a particular broker, you should understand that this might prevent our firm from aggregating trades with other client accounts and/or otherwise prevent our firm from obtaining favorable net price and execution. Thus, when directing brokerage business, you should consider whether the commission expenses, execution, clearance, and settlement capabilities that you will obtain through your broker are adequately favorable in comparison to those that we would otherwise obtain for you. Not all advisers require their clients to direct brokerage.

### **Block Trades**

We may combine multiple orders for shares of the same securities purchased for advisory accounts we manage (this practice is commonly referred to as "block trading"). We will then distribute a portion of the shares to participating accounts in a fair and equitable manner. The distribution of the shares purchased is typically proportionate to the size of the account, but it is not based on account performance or the amount or structure of management fees. Accounts owned by our firm or persons associated with our firm will not participate in block trading with your accounts. To the extent we combine multiple orders (block trade), we will only do so for accounts managed on a discretionary basis.

### **Trade Errors**

In the event a trading error occurs in your account, our policy is to restore your account to the position it should have been in had the trading error not occurred. Depending on the circumstances, corrective actions may include canceling the trade, adjusting an allocation, and/or reimbursing the account.

### **Mutual Fund Share Classes**

Mutual funds are sold with different share classes, which carry different cost structures. Each available share class is described in the mutual fund's prospectus. When we purchase, or recommend the purchase of, mutual funds for a client, we select the share class that is deemed to be in the client's best interest, taking into consideration the availability of advisory, institutional or retirement plan share

classes, initial and ongoing share class costs, transaction costs (if any), tax implications, cost basis and other factors. We also review the mutual funds held in accounts that come under our management to determine whether a more beneficial share class is available, considering cost, tax implications, and the impact of contingent or deferred sales charges.

### **Item 13 Review of Accounts**

Morris Nutt, Managing Member of our firm, and/or the Investment Adviser Representative assigned to your account will monitor your accounts on an ongoing basis and will conduct account reviews at least annually to ensure the advisory services provided to you are consistent with your investment needs and objectives. Additional reviews may be conducted based on various circumstances, including, but not limited to: contributions and withdrawals; year-end tax planning; market moving events; security specific events; and/or, changes in your risk/return objectives. The individuals conducting reviews may vary from time to time, as personnel join or leave our firm. Clients are encouraged to meet with us on at least an annual basis to review their account(s).

Clients will receive trade confirmations and at least quarterly statements from their account custodian (RJS). Upon client request and at our discretion, we may also provide performance reports.

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

Our firm does not compensate any entity or individual for client referrals.

In his capacity as a registered representative of Kingswood Capital Partners, Morris Nutt may recommend private placement investment opportunities to advisory clients in which Mr. Nutt has, or will receive, ownership interest in the private placement. A conflict of interest exists where Morris Nutt has a financial incentive, as a result of his actual or potential ownership interests, to recommend investments in these private placements. Such recommendations will only be made if in each individual client's best interest.

### **Item 15 Custody**

As paying agent for our firm, your independent custodian will directly debit your account(s) for the payment of our advisory fees. This ability to deduct our advisory fees from your accounts causes our firm to exercise limited custody over your funds or securities. We do not have physical custody of any of your funds and/or securities as your funds and securities will be held with a bank, broker-dealer, or other qualified custodian. You will receive account statements from the qualified custodian(s) holding your funds and securities at least quarterly. The account statements from your custodian(s) will indicate the amount of our advisory fees deducted from your account(s) each billing period. You should carefully review account statements for accuracy and contact us immediately if you have any questions.

### **Item 16 Investment Discretion**

If you enter into discretionary arrangements with our firm, you must grant our firm discretion over the selection and amount of securities to be purchased or sold for your account(s) before we can buy or sell securities on your behalf. Discretionary authority enables our firm to execute transactions within your account without obtaining your consent or approval prior to each transaction. You may specify investment objectives, guidelines, and/or impose certain conditions or investment parameters for your account(s) in the Suitability Questionnaire that you complete soon after engaging our firm. For

example, you may specify that the investment in any particular stock or industry should not exceed specified percentages of the value of the portfolio and/or restrictions or prohibitions of transactions in the securities of a specific industry or security.

If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we will obtain your approval prior to the execution of any transactions for your account(s). You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

## **Item 17 Voting Client Securities**

We will not vote proxies on behalf of your advisory accounts. At your request, we may offer you advice regarding corporate actions and the exercise of your proxy voting rights. If you own shares of applicable securities, you are responsible for exercising your right to vote as a shareholder.

In most cases, you will receive proxy materials directly from the account custodian. However, in the event we were to receive any written or electronic proxy materials, we would forward them directly to you by mail, unless you have authorized our firm to contact you by electronic mail, in which case, we would forward any electronic solicitations to vote proxies.

## **Item 18 Financial Information**

The following are disclosures required by the Form ADV Instructions:

Our firm does not have any financial condition or impairment that would prevent us from meeting our contractual commitments to you. We do not take physical custody of client funds or securities, or serve as trustee or signatory for client accounts, and we do not require the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees six or more months in advance. Therefore, we are not required to include a financial statement with this Disclosure Brochure. We have not filed a bankruptcy petition at any time in the past ten years.

## **Item 19 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers**

We are a federally registered investment adviser; therefore, we are not required to respond to this item.

## **Item 20 Additional Information**

### **Your Privacy**

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

We do not disclose any non-public personal information about you to any non-affiliated third parties, except as permitted by law. In the course of servicing your account, we may share some information with our service providers, such as transfer agents, custodians, broker-dealers, accountants, consultants, and attorneys. We restrict internal access to non-public personal information about you to employees, who need that information in order to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical and procedural safeguards that comply with regulatory standards to guard your non-public personal information and to ensure our integrity and confidentiality. We will not sell information about you or your accounts to anyone. We do not share your information unless it is required to process a transaction, at your request, or required by law.

You will receive a copy of our privacy notice prior to or at the time you sign an advisory agreement with our firm. Thereafter, we will deliver a copy of the current privacy policy notice to you on an annual basis. Contact our main office at the telephone number on the cover page of this Disclosure Brochure if you have any questions regarding this policy. If you decide to close your account(s) we will adhere to our privacy policies, which may be amended from time to time.

If we make any substantive changes in our privacy policy that would further permit or require disclosures of your private information, we will provide written notice to you. Where the change is based on permitted disclosures, you will be given an opportunity to direct us as to whether such disclosure is acceptable. Where the change is based on required disclosures, you will only receive written notice of the change. You may not opt out of the required disclosures. If you have questions about our privacy policies contact our main office at the telephone number on the cover page of this Disclosure Brochure and ask to speak to the Chief Compliance Officer.

### **Class Action Lawsuits**

We do not determine if securities held by you are the subject of a class action lawsuit or whether you are eligible to participate in class action settlements or litigation nor do we initiate or participate in litigation to recover damages on your behalf for injuries as a result of actions, misconduct, or negligence by issuers of securities held by you.

### **IRA Rollover Considerations**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may recommend that you withdraw the assets from your employer's retirement plan and roll the assets over to an individual retirement account ("IRA") that we will manage on your behalf. If you elect to roll the assets to an IRA that is subject to our management, we will charge you an asset based fee as set forth in the agreement you executed with our firm. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice on our behalf have an incentive to recommend a rollover to you for the purpose of generating fee based compensation rather than solely based on your needs. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to complete the rollover. Moreover, if you do complete the rollover, you are under no obligation to have the assets in an IRA managed by our firm.

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

1. Leaving the funds in your employer's (former employer's) plan.
2. Moving the funds to a new employer's retirement plan.
3. Cashing out and taking a taxable distribution from the plan.
4. Rolling the funds into an IRA rollover account.

Each of these options has advantages and disadvantages and before making a change we encourage you to speak with your CPA and/or tax attorney.

If you are considering rolling over your retirement funds to an IRA for us to manage here are a few points to consider before you do so:

1. Determine whether the investment options in your employer's retirement plan address your needs or whether you might want to consider other types of investments.
  - a. Employer retirement plans generally have a more limited investment menu than IRAs.
  - b. Employer retirement plans may have unique investment options not available to the

- public such as employer securities, or previously closed funds.
2. Your current plan may have lower fees than our fees.
    - a. If you are interested in investing only in mutual funds, you should understand the cost structure of the share classes available in your employer's retirement plan and how the costs of those share classes compare with those available in an IRA.
    - b. You should understand the various products and services you might take advantage of at an IRA provider and the potential costs of those products and services.
  3. Our strategy may have higher risk than the option(s) provided to you in your plan.
  4. Your current plan may also offer financial advice.
  5. If you keep your assets titled in a 401k or retirement account, you could potentially delay your required minimum distribution beyond a certain age.
  6. Your 401k may offer more liability protection than a rollover IRA; each state may vary.
    - a. Generally, federal law protects assets in qualified plans from creditors. Since 2005, IRA assets have been generally protected from creditors in bankruptcies. However, there can be some exceptions to the general rules so you should consult with an attorney if you are concerned about protecting your retirement plan assets from creditors.
  7. You may be able to take out a loan on your 401k, but not from an IRA.
  8. IRA assets can be accessed any time; however, distributions are subject to ordinary income tax and may also be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty unless they qualify for an exception such as disability, higher education expenses or the purchase of a home.
  9. If you own company stock in your plan, you may be able to liquidate those shares at a lower capital gains tax rate.
  10. Your plan may allow you to hire us as the manager and keep the assets titled in the plan name.

It is important that you understand the differences between these types of accounts and to decide whether a rollover is best for you. Prior to proceeding, if you have questions contact your investment adviser representative, or call our main number as listed on the cover page of this Disclosure Brochure.

### **IRA Rollover Recommendations**

For purposes of complying with the DOL's Prohibited Transaction Exemption 2020-02 ("PTE 2020-02") where applicable, we are providing the following acknowledgment to you.

When we provide investment advice to you regarding your retirement plan account or individual retirement account, we are fiduciaries within the meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and/or the Internal Revenue Code, as applicable, which are laws governing retirement accounts. The way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests, so we operate under a special rule that requires us to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. Under this special rule's provisions, we must:

- Meet a professional standard of care when making investment recommendations (give prudent advice);
- Never put our financial interests ahead of yours when making recommendations (give loyal advice);
- Avoid misleading statements about conflicts of interest, fees, and investments;
- Follow policies and procedures designed to ensure that we give advice that is in your best interest;
- Charge no more than is reasonable for our services; and
- Give you basic information about conflicts of interest.

We benefit financially from the rollover of your assets from a retirement account to an account that we manage or provide investment advice, because the assets increase our assets under management and, in turn, our advisory fees. As a fiduciary, we only recommend a rollover when we believe it is in your best interest.