

# **Blue Fin Capital, Inc.**

**10 Weybosset Street Suite 302B  
Providence, RI 02903  
401.454.0772**

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

## **Disclosure Brochure**

March 16, 2017

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Blue Fin Capital, Inc. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 401.454.0772. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Blue Fin Capital, Inc., is a registered investment adviser. Registration of an investment adviser does not imply any level of skill or training. The oral and written communications of an adviser provide you with information about which you determine to hire or retain an adviser.

Additional information about Blue Fin Capital, Inc., also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov)

## Item 2 Summary of Material Changes

Form ADV Part 2 requires registered investment advisers to amend their 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 the filing of our last annual updating amendment dated March 8, 2016 we have the following material changes to report.

Richard F. Carolan, Jr. and Mars J. Bishop are now both Presidents of the Firm and Clark A. Sammartino is no longer President.

In Item 5, we disclosed that as of March 31, 2017, we charge advisory fees to each account in a household an average fee based on our fee schedule across all household accounts. To illustrate, under a tiered fee method, the fee on a total household valued at \$2,500,000 would be charged as follows: the first \$2,000,000 would be charged at 1.0% and the remaining \$500,000 charged at 0.6% with the total household fee allocated equally across each household account based upon each account's percentage of the total household.

In Item 5, we disclosed that we may provide advice on IRA rollovers and described considerations and certain conflicts of interest relevant thereto.

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## Item 4 Advisory Business

Blue Fin Capital, Inc. is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Rhode Island. Clark A. Sammartino and Richard F. Carolan, Jr., co-founded the Providence, RI-based investment advisory firm in 1996. Richard F. Carolan, Jr. and Mars J. Bishop are our principal owners. Blue Fin is an SEC registered investment advisory firm.

The following paragraphs describe our services and fees. Please 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 Blue Fin Capital, Inc., and the words "you", "your" and "client" refer to you as either a client or prospective client of our firm. Also, you may see the term Associated Person throughout this Brochure. As used in this Brochure, our Associated Persons are our firm's officers, employees, and all individuals providing investment advice on behalf of our firm.

### Portfolio Management Services

We offer discretionary portfolio management services. Our investment advice is tailored to meet your needs and investment objectives. If you retain our firm for these services, we will meet with you to determine your investment objectives, risk tolerance, and other relevant information (the "suitability information") at the beginning of our advisory relationship. We will use the suitability information we gather to develop a strategy that enables us to give you continuous and focused investment advice and/or to make investments on your behalf. As part of our portfolio management services, we will customize an investment portfolio for you in accordance with your risk tolerance and investing objectives. Once we construct an investment portfolio for you, we will monitor its performance on an ongoing basis, and will rebalance your portfolio as required by changes in market conditions and in your financial circumstances.

We require you to grant our firm discretionary authority to manage your account. Discretionary authorization will allow our firm to determine the specific securities, and the amount of securities, to be purchased or sold for your account and in some cases, the broker-dealer without your prior approval. Discretionary authority is typically granted by the portfolio management agreement you sign with our firm, a power of attorney, or trading authorization forms. You may limit our discretionary authority (for example, limiting the types of securities that can be purchased for your account) by providing our firm with your restrictions and guidelines in writing.

In managing your investment portfolio, we consider your:

- financial situation,
- risk tolerance,
- investment horizon,
- tax considerations,
- any other issues important to your state of affairs.

You should notify us promptly if there are any changes in your financial situation or investment objectives or if you wish to impose any reasonable restrictions upon the management of your account.

### Types of Investments

We primarily offer advice on equity and fixed income securities and Exchange Traded Funds.

### Assets Under Management

As of December 31, 2016, we provide continuous management services for \$244,341,113 in client assets on a discretionary basis.

## Item 5 Fees and Compensation

We offer our services on a fee-only basis. Our fee is calculated and is due and payable quarterly in arrears based upon the market value of the assets in your account on the last day of the quarter.

Broker-dealers and other financial institutions that hold client accounts are referred to as custodians ("custodian/ broker-dealer"). Your custodian/broker- dealer determines the values of the assets in your portfolio.

Fees for the initial quarter are based on the value of your cash and securities on the date the custodian/broker-dealer receives them and are prorated based upon the number of calendar days in the calendar quarter that our agreement is in effect. Our fee schedule uses a tiered method and is described below:

<u>Assets under Management</u>	<u>Advisory Fee</u>
Up to \$2,000,000	1.0%
Over \$2,000,000	0.6%

As of March 31, 2017, we charge advisory fees to each account in a household an average fee based on the fee schedule above across all household accounts. To illustrate, under a tiered fee method, the fee on a total household valued at \$2,500,000 would be charged as follows: the first \$2,000,000 would be charged at 1.0% and the remaining \$500,000 charged at 0.6% with the total household fee allocated equally across each household account based upon each account's percentage of the total household.

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.

You must authorize us to have the custodian/broker-dealer pay us directly by charging your account. This authorization must be provided in writing. One-fourth of the annual fee is charged each calendar quarter.

Your custodian/broker-dealer provides you with statements that show the amount paid directly to us. You should review the statement from your custodian/broker-dealer and verify the calculation of our fees. Your custodian/broker-dealer does not verify the accuracy of fee calculations. In some cases, we may invoice clients directly for the payment of our fees.

You or our firm may terminate the portfolio management agreement upon notice. Should either one of us terminate the advisory agreement we have entered into before the end of a billing period, you will be charged a pro-rata fee for that quarter. The amount to be charged to you is based on the number of days in the quarter in which you were a client based on the value of the account as of the date of termination. This amount, which equals the amount we earned for the partial quarter, is charged for our fee for that quarter.

### **Additional Fees and Expenses**

In addition to our fee, you may be required to pay other charges such as:

- custodial fees,
- brokerage commissions,
- transaction fees,
- internal fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), and
- other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions.

None of these fees are paid to or are shared with us.

Mutual fund companies, ETFs, and variable annuity issuers charge internal fees and expenses for their products. These fees and expenses are in addition to any advisory fees charged by us. Complete details of these internal fees and expenses are explained in the prospectuses for each investment. You may ask us any questions you have about fees and expenses.

If you purchase mutual funds through the custodian/broker-dealer, you may pay a transaction fee that would not be charged if the transactions were made directly through the mutual fund company. Also, mutual funds held in accounts at brokerage firms may pay internal fees that are different from funds held at the mutual fund company.

While you may purchase shares of mutual funds directly from the mutual fund company without a transaction fee, those investments would not be part of our advisory relationship with you. This means that they would not be included in our investment strategies, investment performance monitoring, or portfolio reallocations.

Please be sure to read the section entitled "Brokerage Practices," which follows later in this brochure.

### **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:

An employee will typically have four options:

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 age 70.5.
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 brochure.

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

Performance-based fees are designed to give a portion of the returns of an investment to the investment adviser as a reward for positive performance. The fee is generally a percentage of the profits made on the investments. We do not charge performance-based fees on any of our client accounts.

## **Item 7 Types of Clients**

We provide advisory services primarily to high net worth individuals, including their trusts, estates and retirement accounts. We also provide services to corporations or business entities including their pension and profit sharing plans, and to charitable organizations.

As a condition for starting and maintaining an advisory relationship, we generally require a minimum portfolio size of \$500,000. We, at our sole discretion, may accept clients with smaller portfolios based upon certain factors including anticipated future earning capacity, anticipated future additional assets, account composition, related accounts, and pre-existing client relationships. We may consider the portfolios of your family members to determine if your portfolio meets the minimum size requirement.

## **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:

**Fundamental analysis** is a method of evaluating a company that has issued a security by attempting to measure the value of its underlying assets. It entails studying overall economic and industry conditions as well as the financial condition and the quality of the company's management. Earnings, expenses, assets, and liabilities are all important in determining the value of a company. The value is then compared to the current price of the issuing company's security to determine whether to purchase, sell or hold the security.

Risk: The risk of fundamental analysis is that information obtained may be incorrect and the analysis may not provide an accurate estimate of earnings, which may be the basis for a stock's value. If securities prices adjust rapidly to new information, utilizing fundamental analysis may not result in favorable performance.

**Cyclical analysis** is a form of fundamental analysis that involves the process of making investment decisions based on the different stages of an industry at a given point in time.

Risk: The lengths of economic cycles may be difficult to predict with accuracy and therefore the risk of cyclical analysis is the difficulty in predicting economic trends and consequently the changing value of securities that would be affected by these changing trends.

**Charting** involves identifying patterns that can suggest future activity in price movements. A chart pattern is a distinct formation on a stock chart that creates a trading signal or a sign of future price movements. Chartists use these patterns to identify current trends and trend reversals to trigger buy and sell signals. Some of the chart types are Line Charts, Bar Charts, Candlestick, Point and Figure, etc.

Risk: Our charting 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.

**Technical analysis** is a method of evaluating securities by analyzing statistics generated by market activity, such as past prices and volume. Technical analysts do not attempt to measure a security's intrinsic value, but instead use charts and other tools to identify patterns that can suggest future activity.

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.

**Short Sales** - securities transaction in which an investor sells securities that were borrowed in anticipation of a price decline. The investor is then required to return an equal number of shares at some point in the future.

**Risk:** A short seller will profit if the stock goes down in price, but if the price of the shares increase, the potential losses are unlimited.

**Margin Transactions** - a securities transaction in which an investor borrows money to purchase a security, in which case the security serves as collateral on the loan.

**Risk:** If the value of the shares drops sufficiently, the investor will be required to either deposit more cash into the account or sell a portion of the stock in order to maintain the margin requirements of the account. This is known as a "margin call." An investor's overall risk includes the amount of money invested plus the amount that was loaned to them.

**Options Trading** - a securities transaction that involves buying or selling (writing) an option. If you write an option, and the buyer exercises the option, you are obligated to purchase or deliver a specified number of shares at a specified price at the expiration of the option regardless of the market value of the security at expiration of the option. Buying an option gives you the right to purchase or sell a specified number of shares at a specified price until the date of expiration of the option regardless of the market value of the security at expiration of the option. The trading of options may be highly speculative and may entail more risk than those present when investing in other types of securities. Prices of options are generally more volatile than prices of other types of securities. When trading in options, you may run the risk of losing the entire investment in a relatively short period of time. In more risky options strategies, an investor could theoretically have an unlimited risk of loss.

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.

We may use short-term trading (in general, selling securities within 30 days of purchasing the same securities) as an investment strategy when managing your account(s). Short-term trading is not a fundamental part of our overall investment strategy, but we may use this strategy occasionally when we determine that it is suitable given your stated investment objectives and tolerance for risk. This may include buying and selling securities frequently in an effort to capture significant market gains and avoid significant losses. However, there is a risk that frequent trading can negatively affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transactional costs and taxes.

Subject to our agreement, you may place reasonable restrictions on the strategies to be employed in your portfolio and the types of investments to be held in your portfolio.

All investments involve risks that can result in loss:

- loss of principal,
- a reduction in earnings (including interest, dividends and other distributions), and
- the loss of future earnings.

Additionally, these risks may include:

- market risk,
- interest rate risk,
- issuer risk, and
- general economic risk.

### **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 prior to and throughout the investing of your assets.

Moreover, as a result of revised IRS regulations, custodians and broker-dealers will begin reporting the cost basis of equities acquired in client accounts on or after January 1, 2011. Your custodian will default to the FIFO (First-In First-Out) 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, please provide written notice to our firm immediately and we will alert your account custodian of your individually selected accounting method. Please note that 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**

Although we manage your portfolio in a manner consistent with your risk tolerances, there can be no guarantee that our efforts will be successful. You should be prepared to bear the risk of loss.

Although we manage your portfolio in a manner consistent with your risk tolerances, we cannot guarantee that our efforts will be successful. You should be prepared to bear the risk of loss.

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

As disclosed under the *Advisory Business* section in this brochure, we primarily recommend equity and fixed income securities and Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs). However, we may recommend other types of investments as appropriate for you since each client has different needs and different tolerance for risk. 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.

**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.

**Bonds:** Corporate debt securities (or "bonds") are typically safer investments than equity securities, but their risk can also vary widely based on: the financial health of the issuer; the risk that the issuer might default; when the bond is set 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 rate of return.

**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, more well established companies ("large cap") tend to be safer than smaller start-up companies ("small cap") but the mere size of an issuer is not, by itself, an indicator of the safety of the investment.

Exchange traded funds are professionally managed collective investment systems that pool money from many investors and invest in stocks, bonds, short-term money market instruments, other 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 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 differ from mutual funds since they can be bought and sold throughout the day like stock and their price can fluctuate throughout the day. During time of extreme market volatility ETF pricing may lag vs the actual underlying asset values. This lag usually resolves itself in a short period of time (usually less than one day) however there is no guarantee this relationship will always occur. The returns on ETFs can be reduced by the costs to manage the funds.

## **Item 9 Disciplinary Information**

We have not been the subject of any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of our business or the integrity of our management.

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

We have no relationships or arrangements with other related financial entities that are material to our advisory business or to you as our client.

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

We have adopted a *Code of Ethics* ("Code") to address the securities-related conduct of our advisory representatives and employees. The Code includes our policies and procedures developed to protect your interests in relation to the following:

- the duty at all times to place your interests ahead of ours;
- that all personal securities transactions of our advisory representatives and employees be

conducted in a manner consistent with the *Code* and avoid any actual or potential conflict of interest, or any abuse of an advisory representative's or employee's position of trust and responsibility;

- that advisory representatives may not take inappropriate advantage of their positions;
- that information concerning the identity of your security holdings and financial circumstances are confidential; and
- that independence in the investment decision-making process is paramount.

We will provide a copy of the *Code* to you or any prospective client upon request.

We and our advisory representatives and employees may buy and sell similar or different securities from those purchased for, or recommended for, you. These trades will be executed in accordance with our internal trading policy.

Our advisory representatives and employees are permitted to buy or sell the same securities for their personal and family accounts that are bought or sold for your account(s). We may also combine our orders to purchase securities with your orders to purchase securities ("block trading"). Please refer to the *Brokerage Practices* section in this brochure for information on our block trading practices. The personal securities transactions by advisory representatives and employees may raise potential conflicts of interest when they trade in a security that is:

- owned by you or
- considered for purchase or sale for you.

We have adopted policies and procedures that are intended to address these conflicts of interest. These policies and procedures:

- require our advisory representatives and employees to act in your best interest,
- prohibit favoring one client over another, and
- provide for the review of transactions to discover and correct any same-day trades that result in an advisory representative or employee receiving a better price than a client.

Advisory representatives and employees must follow our procedures when purchasing or selling the same securities purchased or sold for you. It is our policy that neither our firm nor persons associated with our firm shall have priority over your account in the purchase or sale of securities.

## **Item 12 Brokerage Practices**

We recommend broker-dealer/custodians for your account through which the securities transactions are executed. This broker-dealer/custodian will assist us in servicing your accounts. We are independently owned and operated and not affiliated with the broker-dealer/custodian. Our use of the broker-dealer/custodian is, however, a beneficial business arrangement for us and for the broker-dealer/custodian. Information regarding the benefits of this relationship is described below.

We generally recommend that the broker-dealer/custodian for your account be Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC ("Fidelity"). Fidelity will assist us in servicing your account. On occasion, we also utilize Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. and National Financial Services LLC ("NFS") for our broker-dealer/custodian as well as Goldman Sachs and Oppenheimer & Co. to execute client transactions. We are independently owned and operated and not affiliated with any broker-dealer/custodians.

In recommending the broker- dealer/custodian as custodian and as the securities brokerage firm responsible for executing transactions for your portfolios, we consider at a minimum the broker-dealer/custodian's:

- existing relationship with us,
- financial strength,
- reputation,
- reporting capabilities,
- execution capabilities,
- pricing, and
- types and quality of research.

The determining factor in the selection of the broker-dealer/custodian to execute transactions for your accounts is not the lowest possible transaction cost, but whether the broker-dealer/custodian can provide what is in our view the best qualitative execution for your account.

Some and/or all of the broker-dealer/custodian provides us with access to their institutional trading and custody services, which includes:

- brokerage,
- custody,
- research, and
- access to mutual funds and other investments that are otherwise generally available only to institutional investors or would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment.

We are not required to effect a minimum volume of transactions or maintain a minimum dollar amount of client assets to receive these services.

The broker-dealer/custodian does not charge separately for holding our clients accounts, but may be compensated by you through other transaction-related fees associated with the securities transactions it executes for your accounts.

The broker-dealer/custodian also makes available to us other products and services that benefit us but may not benefit you directly. Some of these products and services assist us in managing and administering our client accounts, such as software and other technology that:

- provide access to account data such as:
  - duplicate trade confirmations,
  - bundled duplicate account statements, and
  - access to an electronic communication network for client order entry and account information;
- facilitate trade execution, including:
  - access to a trading desk serving advisory participants exclusively and
  - access to block trading which provides the ability to combine securities transactions and then allocate the appropriate number of shares to each individual account;
- provide research, pricing information and other market data;
- facilitate payment of our fees from client accounts; and
- assist with back-office functions, record keeping and client reporting; and
- receipt of compliance publications.

The broker-dealer/custodian also makes available to us other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business. These services may include:

- consulting,
- publications and conferences on practice management,
- information technology,
- business succession,
- regulatory compliance, and
- marketing.
- payment for expenses to attend conferences

The broker-dealer/custodian may also make available or arrange for these types of services to be provided to us by independent third parties. The broker- dealer/custodian may discount or waive the fees it would otherwise charge for some of the services it makes available to us. It may also pay all or a part of the fees of a third party providing these services to us. Thus, we receive economic benefits as a result of our relationship with the brokerdealer/custodian, because we do not have to produce or purchase the products and services listed above.

Because the amount of our compensation or the products or services we receive may vary depending on the custodian/broker-dealer we recommend to be used by our clients, we may have a conflict of interest in making that recommendation. Our recommendation of specific custodian/broker-dealers may be based in part on the economic benefit to us and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and brokerage services provided to you and our other clients. We nonetheless strive to act in your best interests at all times.

Commissions and other fees for transactions executed through the broker-dealer/custodian may be higher than commissions and other fees available if you use another custodian/broker-dealer firm to execute transactions and maintain custody of your account. We believe, however, that the overall level of services and support provided to our clients by the brokerdealer/custodian outweighs the benefit of possibly lower transactions cost which may be available under other brokerage arrangements.

Many of the services described above may be used to benefit all or a substantial number of our accounts, including accounts not maintained at through the broker-dealer/custodian. We do not attempt to allocate these benefits to specific clients.

We may utilize other broker-dealers to execute some or all of the transactions in your account. As such, we will negotiate the terms and arrangements for the accounts with that broker -dealer. We may execute trades at a broker-dealer where a conflict of interest could exist.

Under those circumstances we will advise you of that conflict.

### **Directed Brokerage**

Additionally, you may direct us in writing to use a particular broker-dealer to execute some or all of the transactions for your account. If you do so, you are responsible for negotiating the terms and arrangements for the account with that broker-dealer. We may not be able to negotiate commissions, obtain volume discounts, or best execution. In addition, under these circumstances a difference in commission charges may exist between the commissions charged to clients who direct us to use a particular broker or dealer and other clients who do not direct us to use a particular broker or dealer.



## **Block Trades**

Transactions for each client generally will be effected independently, unless we decide to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time. We may, but are not obligated to, 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. Subject to our discretion regarding factual and market conditions, when we combine orders, each participating account pays an average price per share for all transactions and pays a proportionate share of all transaction costs on any given day. Accounts owned by our firm or persons associated with our firm may participate in block trading with your accounts; however, they will not be given preferential treatment.

## **Item 13 Review of Accounts**

Your accounts are monitored on an ongoing basis with a formal review conducted at least annually or as agreed upon with you. The reviews focus on the consistency of portfolio investments with each client's stated objectives and risk tolerances. Reviews also consider investment restrictions requested by you, investment time horizons, liquidity needs, tax considerations and other circumstances unique to you.

Account reviews may also be triggered by other factors such as changes in general economic and market conditions, analyst reports, issuer news and interest rate movement. Your advisory representative is responsible for all reviews.

You will receive statements from the custodian/broker-dealer at least quarterly. These statements identify your current investment holdings, the cost of each of those investments, and their current market values. On at least an annual basis, you will also receive performance reports prepared by us which describe the returns realized on the investments in your account.

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

We do not directly or indirectly compensate any person who is not one of our advisory representatives or employees for client referrals.

We receive certain economic benefits as a result of our participation in the broker-dealer/custodian's institutional program. Those benefits are described in detail in the preceding section entitled "Brokerage Practices."

## **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. Your funds and securities will be held with a bank, broker-dealer, or other independent, qualified custodian. You will receive account statements from the independent, 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.

You should verify that the transactions in your account are consistent with your investment goals and the objectives for your account. We also encourage you to contact your advisory representative or our Chief Compliance Officer should you have any questions or concerns regarding your account.

## **Item 16 Investment Discretion**

We offer our advisory services on a discretionary basis. This means that we do not need advance approval from you to determine the type and amount of securities to be bought and sold for your accounts. We do have the ability to choose the broker-dealer through which transactions will be executed. We do not have the ability to withdraw funds from your account (other than to withdraw our advisory fees which, may only be done with your prior written authorization.) This discretion is used in a manner consistent with the stated investment objectives for your account, if you have given us written authorization to do so. We only exercise discretion in accounts where we have been authorized by you. This authorization is typically included in the investment advisory agreement you enter into with us.

## **Item 17 Voting Client Securities**

### **Proxy Voting**

It is Blue Fin Capital, Inc.'s policy to exercise proxy voting authority for client securities. Proxies will be received by the CCO and forwarded to the appropriate portfolio manager. The portfolio manager will vote the proxies on a case- by-case basis to the financial benefit of the client. Routine issues will be voted with management in the majority of cases, while non-routine issues may be more frequently voted against management. Where there is a question as to whether an issue is in the client's best interest or if a new policy question arises, the questions will be brought before the investment committee for discussion and approval.

Except in the case of a conflict of interest as described below, we do not accept direction from you on voting a particular proxy.

Conflicts of interest between you and our firm, or a principal of our firm, regarding certain proxy issues could arise. If we determine that a material conflict of interest exists, we will take the necessary steps to resolve the conflict before voting the proxies. For example, we may disclose the existence and nature of the conflict to you, and seek direction from you as to how to vote on a particular issue; we may abstain from voting, particularly if there are conflicting interests for you (for example, where your account(s) hold different securities in a competitive merger situation); or, we will take other necessary steps designed to ensure that a decision to vote is in your best interest and was not the product of the conflict.

We keep certain records required by applicable law in connection with our proxy voting activities. You may obtain information on how we voted proxies and/or obtain a full copy of our proxy voting policies and procedures by making a written or oral request to our firm.

### **Class Action Lawsuits**

While we may assist clients with completing paperwork regarding 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.



## **Item 18 Financial Information**

We have no financial commitment that impairs our ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to you and we have not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.

## **Item 19 Requirement 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**

### **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. Except as stated below, If a profit results from correcting the trade, you will retain the profit.

For accounts maintained at Fidelity, during any month, if there are any net profits (total profits minus total losses) from correcting trades, the net profits will be donated to charity and you will not maintain the profit.

For accounts custodied at Schwab: If a profit results from the correcting trade, the gain will remain in your account unless the same error involved other client account(s) that should have received the gain, you are not permitted to keep the gain, or you do not want the profit (e.g., due to tax reasons). If the profit does not remain in your account, and your account is custodied at Schwab: Schwab will donate the amount of any profit \$100 and over to charity. If a loss occurs greater than \$100, we will pay for the loss. Schwab will keep the loss or profit (if you do not keep the profit) if it is under \$100 to minimize and offset its administrative time and expense. Generally, if related trade errors result in profit and losses in your account, they may be netted.