

**Part 2A of Form ADV: *Firm Brochure***



**Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors**

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3/17/15

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 949-251-9333 or [michael@sfpria.com](mailto:michael@sfpria.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Registration with the SEC or with any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

Additional information about Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). You can search this site by a unique identifying number, known as a CRD number. Our firm's CRD number is 108502.

## **Item 2    Material Changes**

This Item provides information concerning material changes that were made since the last annual update, on May 28, 2014.

For client referrals provided during 2014, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors paid referral fees to a private contractor associated with Jung Novikoff Stevens LLP, the CPA firm in which Steven Yamshon holds a minority stake. See **Item 14 - Client Referrals and Other Compensation**, for further information.

SFP Forestry & Land Fund LP was established on May 19th, 2014. This is a Private Investment Fund which focuses its investment selections primarily in the Timber Industry. See **Item 5 - Fees and Compensation**, **Item 11 - Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading**, and **Item 15 - Custody**, for further information.

SFP Xpress began accepting applications for client investment accounts in July 2014 and the website, [www.sfpexpress.com](http://www.sfpexpress.com), was launched in January 2015. See **Item 4 - Advisory Business**, **Item 5 - Fees and Compensation**, and **Item 13 - Review of Accounts**, for further information.

Currently, our brochure may be requested by contacting us at 949-251-9333 or downloaded from our website [www.sfpria.com](http://www.sfpria.com).

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## **Item 4    Advisory Business**

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors is a SEC-registered investment adviser with its principal place of business located in Newport Beach, California. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors began conducting business in 1986.

Listed below is the firm's sole principal shareholder:

- Steven Lee Yamshon Living Trust (Steven Lee Yamshon, Trustee)

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors offers the following advisory services to our clients:

### **INVESTMENT SUPERVISORY SERVICES ("ISS") INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

Our firm provides continuous advice to a client regarding the investment of client funds based on the individual needs of the client. Through personal discussions in which goals and objectives based on a client's particular circumstances are established, we create and manage a portfolio based on that policy. During our data-gathering process, we determine the client's individual objectives, time horizons, risk tolerance, and liquidity needs. As appropriate, we also review and discuss a client's prior investment history, as well as family composition and background. In certain circumstances we draw up an investment policy, but in most cases, the investment objectives, risk tolerances, and other factors are written and stated in the investment advisory agreement.

We manage these advisory accounts on a discretionary or non-discretionary basis. Account supervision is guided by the client's stated objectives (i.e., maximum capital appreciation, growth, income, or growth and income), as well as tax considerations.

Clients may impose reasonable restrictions on investing in certain securities, types of securities, or industry sectors.

Our investment recommendations are not limited to any specific product or service offered by a broker-dealer or insurance company and will generally include advice regarding the following securities:

- Exchange-listed securities
- Securities traded over-the-counter
- Foreign issuers
- Warrants
- Corporate debt securities (other than commercial paper)
- Certificates of deposit

- Municipal securities
- Mutual fund shares
- United States governmental securities
- Options contracts on securities
- Options contracts on commodities

Because some types of investments involve certain additional degrees of risk, they will only be implemented/recommended when consistent with the client's stated investment objectives, tolerance for risk, liquidity and suitability.

### **INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

Our firm provides continuous asset management of client funds based on the individual needs of the client. Through personal discussions in which goals and objectives based on the client's particular circumstances are established, we develop the client's personal investment strategy. We create and manage a portfolio based on that policy. During our data-gathering process, we determine the client's individual objectives, time horizons, risk tolerance, and liquidity needs. As appropriate, we may also review and discuss a client's prior investment history, as well as family composition and background.

We manage these advisory accounts on a discretionary or non-discretionary basis. Account supervision is guided by the client's stated objectives (i.e., maximum capital appreciation, growth, income, or growth and income), as well as tax considerations.

Clients may impose reasonable restrictions on investing in certain securities, types of securities, or industry sectors.

Once the client's portfolio has been established, we review the portfolio at least monthly, and if necessary, rebalance the portfolio on an as-needed basis, based on the client's individual needs.

Our investment recommendations are not limited to any specific product or service offered by a broker-dealer or insurance company and will generally include advice regarding the following securities:

- Exchange-listed securities
- Securities traded over-the-counter
- Foreign issuers
- Warrants
- Corporate debt securities (other than commercial paper)

- Certificates of deposit
- Municipal securities
- Mutual fund shares
- United States governmental securities
- Options contracts on securities
- Options contracts on commodities

Because a client's request involves certain additional degrees of risk that is outside the scope of our investment sphere, the request will only be implemented upon written request by the client.

### **SFP XPRESS**

SFP Xpress is specifically designed for investors who are just beginning to invest or have small amounts of money to invest. Using Mutual Funds, Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), and Index Funds, SFP Xpress will attempt to invest funds using existing SFP investment models.

The difference between SFP advisory accounts and SFP Xpress is that SFP advisory accounts have higher minimum investment thresholds and, on average, require more personal investment advice. SFP Xpress has a low minimum investment threshold of \$3,000 and a maximum limit of \$50,000. While SFP investment advisory accounts are invested in individual securities, SFP Xpress accounts are solely invested in Mutual Funds, ETFs, and Index Funds.

All Mutual Funds, ETFs, and Index Funds have their own individual expense ratios in which SFP Xpress does not receive any of those fees. SFP Xpress charges a flat fee for investment advice.

### **FINANCIAL PLANNING**

We provide financial planning services to a limited degree and on a case-by-case basis. Financial planning is a comprehensive evaluation of a client's current and future financial state by using currently known variables to predict future cash flows, asset values and withdrawal plans. Through the financial planning process, all questions, information and analysis are considered as they impact and are impacted by the entire financial and life situation of the client. Clients purchasing this service receive a written report which provides the client with a detailed financial plan designed to assist the client achieve his or her financial goals and objectives.

In general, the financial plan can address any or all of the following areas:

- **PERSONAL:** We review family records, budgeting, personal liability, estate information and financial goals.
- **CASH FLOW:** We analyze the client's spending and planning for past, current and future years; then illustrate the impact of various investments on the client's future income.
- **INVESTMENTS:** We analyze investment alternatives and their effect on the client's portfolio.
- **INSURANCE:** We review existing policies to ensure proper coverage for life, health, disability, long-term care, liability, home and automobile.
- **RETIREMENT:** We analyze current strategies and investment plans to help the client achieve his or her retirement goals.
- **DEATH & DISABILITY:** We review the client's cash needs at death, income needs of surviving dependents, estate planning and disability income.

We gather required information through in-depth personal interviews. Information gathered includes the client's current financial status, tax status, future goals, returns objectives and attitudes towards risk. We carefully review documents supplied by the client, including a questionnaire completed by the client, and prepare a written report. Should the client choose to implement the recommendations contained in the plan, we suggest the client work closely with his/her attorney, accountant, insurance agent, and/or stockbroker. Implementation of financial plan recommendations is entirely at the client's discretion. We also provide general non-securities advice on topics that may include budgetary planning.

Typically the financial plan is presented to the client within six months of the contract date, provided that all information needed to prepare the financial plan has been promptly provided.

Financial Planning recommendations are not limited to any specific product or service offered by a broker-dealer or insurance company. All recommendations are of a generic nature.

## **CONSULTING SERVICES**

Clients can also receive investment advice on a more focused basis. This may include advice on only an isolated area(s) of concern such as estate planning, retirement planning, or any other specific topic. We also provide specific consultation and administrative services regarding investment and financial concerns of the client.

Consulting recommendations are not limited to any specific product or service offered by a broker-dealer or insurance company. All recommendations are of a generic nature.

## **ERISA PLANS**

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors is a registered investment adviser under the

United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors acts as a fiduciary under the United States Department of Labor ERISA Regulation Section 3(21) and 3(38).

We provide investment advice, portfolio management, mutual fund selection and evaluation, and education for defined benefit plans, defined contribution plans, profit sharing plans, and 401(k)'s.

### **AMOUNT OF MANAGED ASSETS**

As of 12/31/2014, we were actively managing \$281,580,555 of clients' assets on a discretionary basis plus \$5,728,127 of clients' assets on a non-discretionary basis.

## **Item 5 Fees and Compensation**

### **INVESTMENT SUPERVISORY SERVICES ("ISS") INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT FEES**

Our annual fees for Investment Supervisory Services are based upon a percentage of assets under management and generally range from 0.25 of 1% to 2%, dependent upon account type, relationship, size, and other circumstances.

The annualized fee for Investment Supervisory Services is charged as a percentage of assets under management, according to the following schedule:

<b><u>Assets Under Management</u></b>	<b><u>Annual Fee</u></b>
Equity Portfolio	1.25%*
Balanced Portfolio	1.25%*
Fixed Income Portfolio	0.75%*
Yellin-Yamshon-Rubinstein, LP Fund	1.5%**
SFP Forestry & Land Fund LP	1.0%, 5% of net profits

\*General guidelines subject to account type, size, and client relationship.

\*\*An additional '0.5 of 1%' performance fee is charged when fund returns above 12% annually.

On a case-by-case basis, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors determines an appropriate fee structure based on the size, complexity and investment objectives of the client's account. Fee arrangements consist of a management fee. Other fees and commissions are charged by the broker custodian and Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors does not receive any part of the brokers' compensation. The terms and conditions of the fee structure are mutually agreed upon prior to entering into an advisory agreement.



**Account Management Fees:** Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors typically charges a fee for account management that is calculated and paid as a percentage of the assets under management. The Account Management Fee is calculated at an annual rate not to exceed 1.25%, with the exception of Yellin-Yamshon-Rubinstein, L.P., which the maximum fee is not to exceed 2%. Fees are calculated on a quarterly basis, and are payable in arrears based on the value of the account at the end of each billing period. The Account Management Fee is prorated for periods less than a full billing cycle and adjusted to cover any additional contributions made during that period.

A minimum of \$100,000 of assets under management is required for this service with exceptions made depending on the client, circumstances, and Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors. This account size may be negotiable under certain circumstances. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors may group certain related client accounts for the purposes of achieving the minimum account size and determining the annualized fee.

**Limited Negotiability of Advisory Fees:** Although Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors has established the aforementioned fee schedule(s), we retain the discretion to negotiate alternative fees on a client-by-client basis. Client facts, circumstances and needs are considered in determining the fee schedule. These include the complexity of the client, assets to be placed under management, anticipated future additional assets; related accounts; portfolio style, account composition, reports, among other factors. The specific annual fee schedule is identified in the contract between the adviser and each client.

We may group certain related client accounts for the purposes of achieving the minimum account size requirements and determining the annualized fee.

Discounts, not generally available to our advisory clients, may be offered to family members and friends of associated persons of our firm.

## **PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT SERVICES FEES**

Our annual fees for Portfolio Management Services are based upon a percentage of assets under management and generally range from .75 of 1% to 1.5%, dependent upon account type, relationship, size, and other circumstances.

The annualized fee for Portfolio Management Services is charged as a percentage of assets under management, according to the following schedule:

<b><u>Assets Under Management</u></b>	<b><u>Annual Fee</u></b>
Equity Portfolio	1.25%*
Balanced Portfolio	1.25%*
Fixed Income Portfolio	0.75%*
Yellin-Yamshon-Rubinstein, LP Fund	1.5%**

\*General guidelines subject to account type, size, and client relationship.

\*\*An additional '0.5 of 1%' performance fee is charged when fund returns above 12% annually

The annualized fee for Portfolio Management Services is charged as a fixed fee, negotiated on a case-by-case basis. Overall factors to be considered will include the type and amount of assets to be managed and the complexity of the client's circumstances. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' fixed fees range from \$250 to \$3,000.

This service is limited to 529 educational plans and other deferred retirement plans. This account size may be negotiable under certain circumstances. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors may group certain related client accounts for the purposes of achieving the minimum account size and determining the annualized fee.

**Limited Negotiability of Advisory Fees:** Although Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors has established the aforementioned fee schedule(s), we retain the discretion to negotiate alternative fees on a client-by-client basis. Client facts, circumstances and needs are considered in determining the fee schedule. These include the complexity of the client, assets to be placed under management, anticipated future additional assets; related accounts; portfolio style, account composition, reports, among other factors. The specific annual fee schedule is identified in the contract between the adviser and each client.

We may group certain related client accounts for the purposes of achieving the minimum account size requirements and determining the annualized fee.

Discounts, not generally available to our advisory clients, may be offered to family members and friends of associated persons of our firm.

### SFP XPRESS FEES

The fee structure is as shown below, billed quarterly:

<b><u>Portfolio Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Flat Fee</u></b>
\$3,000 - \$10,000	\$100 per year
\$10,001 - \$20,000	\$200 per year
\$20,001 - \$50,000	\$400 per year

The minimum investment is \$3,000 and the maximum investment is \$50,000 for this type of account. Investments over \$50,000 would be better suited for individually managed accounts. SFP Xpress management fees are in addition to any fee that the mutual fund may charge. SFP Xpress strives to select mutual funds with low expenses.

## FINANCIAL PLANNING FEES

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' Financial Planning fee is determined based on the nature of the services being provided and the complexity of each client's circumstances. All fees are agreed upon prior to entering into a contract with any client.

Our Financial Planning fees are calculated and charged on an hourly basis, ranging from \$50 to \$350 per hour. Although the length of time it will take to provide a Financial Plan will depend on each client's personal situation, we will provide an estimate for the total hours at the start of the advisory relationship.

The client is billed quarterly in arrears based on actual hours accrued.

## ERISA PLANS

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors fee for portfolio management services is outlined in the general management fee service section in this item. For investment advice outside of portfolio management services, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors charges an hourly rate ranging from \$50 to \$350. For mutual fund selection and evaluation and/or plan consulting services, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors charges hourly rates ranging from \$50 to \$350 or a negotiated flat rate.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

***Termination of the Advisory Relationship:*** A client agreement may be canceled at any time, by either party, for any reason upon receipt of 30 days written notice. In calculating the client's fee upon termination, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors will pro rate the fee according to the number of days remaining in the billing period.

***Mutual Fund Fees:*** All fees paid to Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds and/or Exchange Traded Fund (ETFs) to their shareholders. These fees and expenses are described in each fund's prospectus. These fees will generally include a management fee, other fund expenses, and a possible distribution fee. If the fund also imposes sales charges, a client may pay an initial or deferred sales charge. A client could invest in a mutual fund directly, without our services. In that case, the client would not receive the services provided by our firm which are designed, among other things, to assist the client in determining which mutual fund or funds are most appropriate to each client's financial condition and objectives. Accordingly, the client should review both the fees charged by the funds and our fees to fully understand the total amount of fees to be paid by the client and to thereby evaluate the advisory services being provided.

***Additional Fees and Expenses:*** In addition to our advisory fees, clients are also responsible for the fees and expenses charged by custodians and imposed by broker dealers, including, but not limited to, any transaction charges imposed by a broker dealer with which an independent investment manager effects transactions for the client's account(s). Please refer to the "Brokerage Practices" section (Item 12) of this Form ADV for additional information.

**Grandfathering of Minimum Account Requirements:** Pre-existing advisory clients are subject to Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' minimum account requirements and advisory fees in effect at the time the client entered into the advisory relationship. Therefore, our firm's minimum account requirements will differ among clients.

**ERISA Accounts:** Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors is deemed to be a fiduciary to advisory clients that are employee benefit plans or individual retirement accounts (IRAs) pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income and Securities Act ("ERISA"), and regulations under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"), respectively. As such, our firm is subject to specific duties and obligations under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code that include among other things, restrictions concerning certain forms of compensation. To avoid engaging in prohibited transactions, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors may only charge fees for investment advice about products for which our firm and/or our related persons do not receive any commissions or 12b-1 fees.

**Advisory Fees in General:** Clients should note that similar advisory services may (or may not) be available from other registered (or unregistered) investment advisers for similar or lower fees.

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

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors does not charge performance-based fees.

## **Item 7 Types of Clients**

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors provides advisory services to the following types of clients:

- Individuals (other than high net worth individuals)
- High net worth individuals
- Pension and profit sharing plans (other than plan participants)
- Charitable organizations
- Corporations or other businesses not listed above

As previously disclosed in Item 5, our firm has established certain initial minimum account requirements, based on the nature of the service(s) being provided. For a more detailed understanding of those requirements, please review the disclosures provided in each applicable service.

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

### **METHODS OF ANALYSIS**

We use the following methods of analysis in formulating our investment advice and/or managing client assets:

**Fundamental Analysis.** We attempt to measure the intrinsic value of a security by looking at economic and financial factors (including the overall economy, industry conditions, and the financial condition and management of the company itself) to determine if the company is underpriced (indicating it may be a good time to buy) or overpriced (indicating it may be time to sell).

Fundamental analysis does not attempt to anticipate market movements. This presents a potential risk, as the price of a security can move up or down along with the overall market regardless of the economic and financial factors considered in evaluating the stock.

**Quantitative Analysis.** We use mathematical models in an attempt to obtain more accurate measurements of a company's quantifiable data, such as the value of a share price or earnings per share, and predict changes to that data.

A risk in using quantitative analysis is that the models used may be based on assumptions that prove to be incorrect.

**Qualitative Analysis.** We subjectively evaluate non-quantifiable factors such as quality of management, labor relations, and strength of research and development factors not readily subject to measurement, and predict changes to share price based on that data.

A risk in using qualitative analysis is that our subjective judgment may prove incorrect.

**Asset Allocation.** Rather than focusing primarily on securities selection, we attempt to identify an appropriate ratio of securities, fixed income, and cash suitable to the client's investment goals and risk tolerance.

A risk of asset allocation is that the client may not participate in sharp increases in a particular security, industry or market sector. Another risk is that the ratio of securities, fixed income, and cash will change over time due to stock and market movements and, if not corrected, will no longer be appropriate for the client's goals.

**Mutual Fund and/or ETF Analysis.** We look at the experience and track record of the manager of the mutual fund or ETF in an attempt to determine if that manager has demonstrated an ability to invest over a period of time and in different economic conditions. We also look at the underlying assets in a mutual fund or ETF in an attempt to determine if there is significant overlap in the underlying investments held in another fund(s) in the client's portfolio. We also monitor the funds or ETFs in an attempt to determine if they are continuing to follow their stated investment strategy.

A risk of mutual fund and/or ETF analysis is that, as in all securities investments, past performance does not guarantee future results. A manager who has been successful may not be able to replicate that success in the future. In addition, as we do not control the underlying investments in a fund or ETF, managers of different funds held by the client may purchase the same security, increasing the risk to the client if that security were to fall in value. There is also a risk that a manager may deviate from the stated investment mandate or strategy of the fund or ETF, which could make the holding(s) less suitable for the client's portfolio.

**Risks for all forms of analysis.** Our securities analysis methods rely on the assumption that the companies whose securities we purchase and sell, the rating agencies that review these securities, and other publicly-available sources of information about these securities, are providing accurate and unbiased data. While we are alert to indications that data may be incorrect, there is always a risk that our analysis may be compromised by inaccurate or misleading information.

## **INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

We use the following strategies in managing client accounts, provided that such strategies are appropriate to the needs of the client and consistent with the client's investment objectives, risk tolerance, and time horizons, among other considerations:

**Long-term purchases.** We purchase securities with the idea of holding them in the client's account for a year or longer. Typically we employ this strategy when:

- we believe the securities to be currently undervalued, and/or
- we want exposure to a particular asset class over time, regardless of the current projection for this class.

A risk in a long-term purchase strategy is that by holding the security for this length of time, we may not take advantage of short-term gains that could be profitable to a client. Moreover, if our predictions are incorrect, a security may decline sharply in value before we make the decision to sell.

**Risk of Loss.** Securities investments are not guaranteed and you may lose money on your investments. We ask that you work with us to help us understand your tolerance for risk.

**The following applies only to clients in Yellin-Yamshon-Rubinstein, L.P.**

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

**Option writing.** We may use options as an investment strategy. An option is a contract that gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell an asset (such as a share of stock) at a specific price on or before a certain date. An option, just like a stock or bond, is a security. An option is also a derivative, because it derives its value from an underlying asset.

The two types of options are calls and puts:

- A call gives us the right to buy an asset at a certain price within a specific period of time. We will buy a call if we have determined that the stock will increase substantially before the option expires.
- A put gives us the right to sell an asset at a certain price within a specific period of time.

We will buy a put if we have determined that the price of the stock will fall before the option expires.

We will use options to speculate on the possibility of a sharp price swing. We will also use options to "hedge" a purchase of the underlying security; in other words, we will use an option purchase to limit the potential upside and downside of a security we have purchased for your funds portfolio.

We use "covered calls", in which we sell an option on securities you own. In this strategy, you receive a fee for making the option available, and the person purchasing the option has the right to buy the security from the fund at an agreed-upon price.

We may use a "spreading strategy", in which we purchase two or more option contracts (for example, a call option that you buy and a call option that you sell) for the same underlying security. This effectively puts you on both sides of the market, but with the ability to vary price, time and other factors.

**Risk of Loss.** Securities investments are not guaranteed and you may lose money on your investments. We ask that you work with us to help us understand your tolerance for risk.

## **Item 9     Disciplinary Information**

We are required to disclose any legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management.

Our firm and our management personnel have no reportable disciplinary events to disclose.

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

*Jung Novikoff & Stevens LLP.* Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors (SFP) has purchased a minority interest in Jung Novikoff & Stevens LLP, a CPA firm in Santa Monica, California. SFP purchased this interest for investment purposes. It should be noted that the accounting firm is operated independently of SFP and no services of either firm are combined. Other than Steven Yamshon's services, no other supervised person at SFP works for Jung Novikoff & Stevens LLP or completes any accounting services on its behalf.

Jung Novikoff & Stevens LLP may recommend clients to SFP from time to time, but these recommendations come from accountants within Jung Novikoff & Stevens LLP, who may or may not recommend SFP. Each accountant has independent discretion in which Investment Advisory firm to recommend. SFP believes that independent advice is the proper path to follow. As in the past, SFP will continue to refer clients to CPA firms outside of Jung Novikoff & Stevens LLP that it feels is better suited to the clients goals and objectives.

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

Our firm has adopted a Code of Ethics which sets forth high ethical standards of business conduct that we require of our employees, including compliance with applicable federal securities laws.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors and our personnel owe a duty of loyalty, fairness and good faith towards our clients, and have an obligation to adhere not only to the specific provisions of the Code of Ethics but to the general principles that guide the Code.

Our Code of Ethics includes policies and procedures for the review of quarterly securities transactions reports as well as initial and annual securities holdings reports that must be submitted by the firm's access persons. Among other things, our Code of Ethics also requires the prior approval of any acquisition of securities in a limited offering (e.g., private placement) or an initial public offering. Our code also provides for oversight, enforcement and recordkeeping provisions.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' Code of Ethics further includes the firm's policy prohibiting the use of material non-public information. While we do not believe that we have any particular access to non-public information, all employees are reminded that such information may not be used in a personal or professional capacity.

A copy of our Code of Ethics is available to our advisory clients and prospective clients. You may request a copy by email sent to [michael@sfpria.com](mailto:michael@sfpria.com), or by calling us at 949-251-9333 and asking for Michael Vediner.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors and individuals associated with our firm are prohibited from engaging in principal transactions.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors and individuals associated with our firm are prohibited from engaging in agency cross transactions.

The CEO of Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors is also the General Partner of Yellin-Yamshon-Rubinstein, L.P., and SFP Forestry & Land Fund, L.P. The General Partner has designated Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors as having primary responsibility for investment management and administrative matters, such as accounting tax and periodic reporting, pertaining to the Fund. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors and our members, officers and employees will devote to the Fund as much time as we deem necessary and appropriate to manage the Fund's business. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors and our affiliates are not restricted from forming additional investment funds, entering into other investment advisory relationships or engaging in other business activities, even though such activities may be in competition with the Fund and/or may involve substantial time and resources of our firm and our affiliates. Such activities could be viewed as creating a conflict of interest in that the time and effort of our management personnel and employees will not be devoted exclusively to the business of the Fund, but could be allocated between the business of the Fund and our business activities.

Investments in the Fund may be recommended to advisory clients for whom a partnership investment may be more suitable than would a separate advisory account managed by our firm. Clients who invest in the Fund are not charged any additional advisory fees other than the advisory fee allocated to the limited partners of the Fund.

The Fund is not required to register as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 in reliance upon an exemption available to funds whose securities are



not publicly offered. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors manages the Fund on a discretionary basis in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Fund's offering and organizational documents.

Our Code of Ethics is designed to assure that the personal securities transactions, activities and interests of our employees will not interfere with (i) making decisions in the best interest of advisory clients and (ii) implementing such decisions while, at the same time, allowing employees to invest for their own accounts.

Our firm and/or individuals associated with our firm may buy or sell for their personal accounts securities identical to or different from those recommended to our clients. In addition, any related person(s) may have an interest or position in a certain security(ies) which may also be recommended to a client.

It is the expressed policy of our firm that no person employed by us may purchase or sell any security prior to a transaction(s) being implemented for an advisory account, thereby preventing such employee(s) from benefiting from transactions placed on behalf of advisory accounts.

We may aggregate our employee trades with client transactions where possible and when compliant with our duty to seek best execution for our clients. In these instances, participating clients will receive an average share price and transaction costs will be shared equally and on a pro-rata basis. In the instances where there is a partial fill of a particular batched order, we will allocate all purchases pro-rata, with each account paying the average price. Our employee accounts may be included in the pro-rata allocation.

As these situations represent actual or potential conflicts of interest to our clients, we have established the following policies and procedures for implementing our firm's Code of Ethics, to ensure our firm complies with its regulatory obligations and provides our clients and potential clients with full and fair disclosure of such conflicts of interest:

1. No principal or employee of our firm may put his or her own interest above the interest of an advisory client.
2. No principal or employee of our firm may buy or sell securities for their personal portfolio(s) where their decision is a result of information received as a result of his or her employment unless the information is also available to the investing public.
3. It is the expressed policy of our firm that no person employed by us may purchase or sell any security prior to a transaction(s) being implemented for an advisory account. This prevents such employees from benefiting from transactions placed on behalf of advisory accounts.
4. Our firm requires prior approval for any IPO or private placement investments by related persons of the firm.
5. We maintain a list of all reportable securities holdings for our firm and anyone associated with this advisory practice that has access to advisory recommendations ("access person"). These holdings are reviewed on a regular basis by our firm's Chief Compliance

Officer or his/her designee.

6. We have established procedures for the maintenance of all required books and records.
7. Clients can decline to implement any advice rendered, except in situations where our firm is granted discretionary authority.
8. All of our principals and employees must act in accordance with all applicable Federal and State regulations governing registered investment advisory practices.
9. We require delivery and acknowledgement of the Code of Ethics by each supervised person of our firm.
10. We have established policies requiring the reporting of Code of Ethics violations to our senior management.
11. Any individual who violates any of the above restrictions may be subject to termination.

## **Item 12 Brokerage Practices**

For discretionary clients, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors requires these clients to provide us with written authority to determine the broker dealer to use and the commission costs that will be charged to these clients for these transactions.

These clients must include any limitations on this discretionary authority in this written authority statement. Clients may change/amend these limitations as required. Such amendments must be provided to us in writing.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors will trade in blocks where possible and when advantageous to clients. This permits the trading of aggregate blocks of securities composed of assets from multiple client accounts, so long as transaction costs are shared equally and on a pro-rated basis between all accounts included in any such block.

Block trading may allow us to execute equity trades in a timelier, more equitable manner, at an average share price. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors will typically aggregate trades among clients whose accounts can be traded on any particular day. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' block trading policy and procedures are as follows:

- 1) Transactions for any client account may not be aggregated for execution if the practice is prohibited by or inconsistent with the client's advisory agreement with Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors, or our firm's order allocation policy.
- 2) The trading desk in concert with the portfolio manager must determine that the purchase or sale of the particular security involved is appropriate for the client and consistent with the client's investment objectives and with any investment guidelines or restrictions applicable to the client's account.
- 3) The portfolio manager must reasonably believe that the order aggregation will benefit, and will enable Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors to seek best execution for each client participating in the aggregated order. This requires a good faith judgment at the time the

order is placed for the execution. It does not mean that the determination made in advance of the transaction must always prove to have been correct in the light of a "20-20 hindsight" perspective. Best execution includes the duty to seek the best quality of execution, as well as the best net price.

4) Prior to entry of an aggregated order, a written order ticket must be completed which identifies each client account participating in the order and the proposed allocation of the order, upon completion, to those clients.

5) If the order cannot be executed in full at the same price or time, the securities actually purchased or sold by the close of each business day must be allocated pro rata among the participating client accounts in accordance with the initial order ticket or other written statement of allocation. However, adjustments to this pro rata allocation may be made to participating client accounts in accordance with the initial order ticket or other written statement of allocation. Furthermore, adjustments to this pro rata allocation may be made to avoid having odd amounts of shares held in any client account, or to avoid excessive ticket charges in smaller accounts.

6) Generally, each client that participates in the aggregated order must do so at the average price for all separate transactions made to fill the order, and must share in the commissions on a pro rata basis in proportion to the client's participation. Under the client's agreement with the custodian/broker, transaction costs may be based on the number of shares traded for each client.

7) If the order will be allocated in a manner other than that stated in the initial statement of allocation, a written explanation of the change must be provided to and approved by the Chief Compliance Officer no later than the morning following the execution of the aggregate trade.

8) Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' client account records separately reflect, for each account in which the aggregated transaction occurred, the securities which are held by, and bought and sold for, that account.

9) Funds and securities for aggregated orders are clearly identified on Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' records and to the broker-dealers or other intermediaries handling the transactions, by the appropriate account numbers for each participating client.

10) No client or account will be favored over another.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors has an arrangement with National Financial Services LLC, and Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC (collectively, and together with all affiliates, "Fidelity") through which Fidelity provides our firm with "institutional platform services". The institutional platform services include, among others, brokerage, custody, and other related services. Fidelity's institutional platform services that assist us in managing and administering clients' accounts include software and other technology that (i) provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements); (ii) facilitate trade execution and allocate aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts; (iii) provide research, pricing and other market data; (iv) facilitate payment of fees from its clients' accounts; and (v) assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping and client reporting.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors is independently operated and owned and is not affiliated with Fidelity.

Fidelity generally does not charge its advisor clients separately for custody services but is compensated by account holders through commissions and other transaction-related or asset-based fees for securities trades that are executed through Fidelity or that settle into Fidelity accounts (i.e., transactions fees are charged for certain no-load mutual funds, commissions are charged for individual equity and debt securities transactions). Fidelity provides access to many no-load mutual funds without transaction charges and other no-load funds at nominal transaction charges.

Fidelity is providing Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors with certain brokerage and research products and services that qualify as "brokerage or research services" under Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act").

As a result of receiving such services for no additional cost, we may have an incentive to continue to use or expand the use of Fidelity's services. We examined this potential conflict of interest when we chose to enter into the relationship with Fidelity and have determined that the relationship is in the best interests of Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' clients and satisfies our client obligations, including our duty to seek best execution. A client may pay a commission that is higher than another qualified broker-dealer might charge to effect the same transaction where we determine in good faith that the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services received. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible cost, but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a broker-dealer's services, including the value of research provided, execution capability, commission rates, and responsiveness. Accordingly, while Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors will seek competitive rates, to the benefit of all clients, we may not necessarily obtain the lowest possible commission rates for specific client account transactions. Although the investment research products and services that may be obtained by us will generally be used to service all of our clients, a brokerage commission paid by a specific client may be used to pay for research that is not used in managing that specific client's account.

Investment advisors may direct portfolio brokerage commissions to a particular broker/dealer in return for services and research used in making investment decisions in client accounts. The commissions used to acquire these services and research are known as "soft dollars." Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 provides a "safe harbor" that allows an investment advisor to pay more than the lowest available commission for brokerage and research services if it determines in good faith that the commission paid was reasonable in relation to the brokerage and research services provided.

Although we don't allow directed brokerage, we may still receive products and services from Fidelity. These products and services may be used for both research and non-research purposes and allows us to supplement, at no cost, our own research and analysis activities. These products and services can include, but are not limited to:

- Reports, publications and data on matters such as the economy, industries, sectors

and individual companies or issuers, statistical information, account and law interpretations, political analyses, legal developments affecting portfolio securities, technical market actions, credit analyses, risk management and analyses of corporate responsibility issues

- On-line news services and financial and market database services
- Information management systems integrating quotation and trading, performance management, accounting, recordkeeping and document retrieval and other administrative matters
- Meetings, seminars, workshops and conferences with representatives of issuers, program sponsors and/or other analysts and specialists

Research obtained with soft dollars is not necessarily utilized for the specific account that generated the soft dollars. We do not attempt to allocate the relative costs or benefits of research among clients because we believe that, in the aggregate, the research we receive benefits all clients and assists us in fulfilling our overall duty to clients.

These arrangements may be deemed to create a conflict of interest to the extent that we would have to pay for some or all of the research and/or services with “hard dollars” if we were unable to obtain the research and services in exchange for commissions in connection with client transactions. Client trades are always to be implemented based on the goals and objectives of the client and not on any research, products or other incentives available.

### **Item 13    Review of Accounts**

#### **INVESTMENT SUPERVISORY SERVICES ("ISS") INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**REVIEWS:** While the underlying securities within Individual Portfolio Management Services accounts are continually monitored, these accounts are reviewed at least monthly. Accounts are reviewed in the context of each client's stated investment objectives and guidelines. More frequent reviews may be triggered by material changes in variables such as the client's individual circumstances, or the market, political or economic environment.

These accounts are reviewed by Steven Lee Yamshon, Chief Investment Officer.

**REPORTS:** In addition to the monthly statements and confirmations of transactions that clients receive from their broker-dealer, we provide annual reports summarizing account performance, balances and holdings.

#### **PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

**REVIEWS:** While the underlying securities within Individual Portfolio Management Services accounts are continually monitored, these accounts are reviewed with the client annually. Accounts are reviewed in the context of each client's stated investment objectives and guidelines. More frequent reviews may be triggered by material changes in variables such as the client's individual circumstances, or the market, political or economic environment.

These accounts are reviewed by Steven Lee Yamshon, Chief Investment Officer.

**REPORTS:** In addition to the monthly statements and confirmations of transactions that Portfolio Management Services clients receive from their broker-dealer, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors will provide annual reports summarizing account performance, balances and holdings.

### **SFP XPRESS**

**REVIEWS:** While the underlying securities within SFP Xpress accounts are reviewed quarterly by management, these accounts are reviewed with the client annually. Accounts are reviewed in the context of each client's stated investment objectives and guidelines. More frequent reviews may be triggered by material changes in variables such as the client's individual circumstances, or the market, political or economic environment.

These accounts are reviewed by Steven Lee Yamshon, Chief Investment Officer, and by Robert Verdugo, financial analyst.

**REPORTS:** In addition to the monthly statements and confirmations of transactions that SFP Xpress clients receive from their broker-dealer, Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors will provide annual reports summarizing account performance, balances and holdings.

### **FINANCIAL PLANNING SERVICES**

**REVIEWS:** While reviews may occur at different stages depending on the nature and terms of the specific engagement, typically no formal reviews will be conducted for Financial Planning clients unless otherwise contracted for.

**REPORTS:** Financial Planning clients will receive a completed financial plan. Additional reports will not typically be provided unless otherwise contracted for.

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

Our firm may pay referral fees to independent persons for introducing clients to us. At this time, SFP is only receiving referrals from one person. Before opening any account, regardless if a referral fee is paid or not, a copy of Form ADV Part II is given to each client. Referral fees are limited to 10% of the first years advisory fees. As a matter of firm practice, the advisory fees paid to us by clients referred are not increased as a result of any referral.

It is Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' policy not to accept or allow our related persons to accept any form of compensation, including cash, sales awards or other prizes, from a non-client in conjunction with the advisory services we provide to our clients.

## **Item 15 Custody**

We previously disclosed in the "Fees and Compensation" section (Item 5) of this Brochure that our firm directly debits advisory fees from client accounts.

As part of this billing process, the client's custodian is advised of the amount of the fee to be deducted from that client's account. On at least a quarterly basis, the custodian is required to

send to the client a statement showing all transactions within the account during the reporting period.

Because the custodian does not calculate the amount of the fee to be deducted, it is important for clients to carefully review their custodial statements to verify the accuracy of the calculation, among other things. Clients should contact us directly if they believe that there may be an error in their statement.

Our firm does not have actual or constructive custody of client accounts, except for Yellin-Yamshon-Rubinstein, L.P. and SFP Forestry & Land Fund, L.P.

## **Item 16 Investment Discretion**

Clients may hire us to provide discretionary asset management services, in which case we place trades in a client's account without contacting the client prior to each trade to obtain the client's permission.

Our discretionary authority includes the ability to do the following without contacting the client:

- determine the security to buy or sell; and/or
- determine the amount of the security to buy or sell

Clients give us discretionary authority when they sign a discretionary agreement with our firm, and may limit this authority by giving us written instructions. Clients may also change/amend such limitations by once again providing us with written instructions.

## **Item 17 Voting Client Securities**

We vote proxies for all client accounts; however, you always have the right to vote proxies yourself. You can exercise this right by instructing us in writing to not vote proxies in your account.

We will vote proxies in the best interests of its clients and in accordance with our established policies and procedures. Our firm will retain all proxy voting books and records for the requisite period of time, including a copy of each proxy statement received, a record of each vote cast, a copy of any document created by us that was material to making a decision how to vote proxies, and a copy of each written client request for information on how the adviser voted proxies. If our firm has a conflict of interest in voting a particular action, we will notify the client of the conflict and retain an independent third-party to cast a vote.

Clients may obtain a copy of our complete proxy voting policies and procedures by contacting Michael Vediner by telephone, email, or in writing. Clients may request, in writing, information on how proxies for his/her shares were voted. If any client requests a copy of our complete proxy policies and procedures or how we voted proxies for his/her account(s), we will promptly provide such information to the client.

We will neither advise nor act on behalf of the client in legal proceedings involving companies whose securities are held in the client's account(s), including, but not limited to, the filing of "Proofs of Claim" in class action settlements. If desired, clients may direct us to transmit

copies of class action notices to the client or a third party. Upon such direction, we will make commercially reasonable efforts to forward such notices in a timely manner.

With respect to ERISA accounts, we will vote proxies unless the plan documents specifically reserve the plan sponsor's right to vote proxies. To direct us to vote a proxy in a particular manner, clients should contact Michael Vediner by telephone, email, or in writing.

You can instruct us to vote proxies according to particular criteria (for example, to always vote with management, or to vote for or against a proposal to allow a so-called "poison pill" defense against a possible takeover). These requests must be made in writing. You can also instruct us on how to cast your vote in a particular proxy contest by contacting us at [michael@sfpria.com](mailto:michael@sfpria.com).

## **Item 18 Financial Information**

As an advisory firm that maintains discretionary authority for client accounts, we are also required to disclose any financial condition that is reasonable likely to impair our ability to meet our contractual obligations. Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors has no additional financial circumstances to report.

Under no circumstances do we require or solicit payment of fees in excess of \$1,200 per client more than six months in advance for services rendered. Therefore, we are not required to include a financial statement.

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years.



**Part 2B of Form ADV: *Brochure Supplement***



Steven Lee Yamshon  
4100 Newport Place Drive, Suite 720  
Newport Beach, CA 92660-2451  
949-251-9333

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors  
4100 Newport Place Drive  
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Newport Beach, California 92660

3/17/15

This brochure supplement provides information about Steven Lee Yamshon that supplements the Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Michael Vediner 949-251-9333 if you did not receive Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors' brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

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

## **Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience**

**Full Legal Name:** Steven Lee Yamshon      **Born:** 1954

### **Education**

- Sacramento State University; B.S., Environmental Resources - Forestry and Engineering Concentration; 1977
- Harvard University Graduate School of Business; O.P.M., General Management; 1987
- University of Redlands, School of Business; M.B.A., International Economics and Global Finance - Coursework at University of London and University of Cambridge, England; 1995
- University of California, Los Angeles, Anderson Graduate School of Management, 1994 - 1997; Doctoral Studies & Visiting Scholar, Executive Program and Advanced Executive Program; 1986, 1991
- California Institute of Technology, Industrial Relations Center; Certificate in Engineering Management; 2001
- University of Maryland; General Certificate in Forestry; 2005
- University of Oxford; Postgraduate Diploma, Financial Strategy; 2009
- University of Oxford; Business Economics Program; 2010
- University of Oxford; Postgraduate Diploma, Global Business; 2012
- University of Oxford; Certificate in Management Studies and Advanced Management Leadership Program, Forest Management Studies; 2014
- Yale University, School of Forestry & Environmental Sciences; Certificate in Executive Forest Management; 2012

### **Business Experience**

- Stevens First Principles Investment Advisor; Chief Investment and Compliance Officer; from 1986 to Present

### **Designations**

Steven Lee Yamshon has earned the following designation(s) and is in good standing with the granting authority:

- Accredited Asset Management Specialist<sup>SM</sup>; College for Financial Planning; 2002

The Accredited Asset Management Specialist <sup>SM</sup> (AAMS®) designation is awarded by the College for Financial Planning to investment professionals who complete its 12-module AAMS® Professional Education Program, pass an examination, commit to a code of ethics and agree to complete 16 hours of continuing education every two years.

- Chartered Mutual Fund Counselor<sup>SM</sup>; College for Financial Planning; 2003

The Chartered Mutual Fund Counselor<sup>SM</sup> (CMFC®) designation is

awarded by the College for Financial Planning to investment practitioners who complete its nine-module CMFC® Professional Education Program jointly sponsored by the College and the Investment Company Institute , pass an examination, commit to a code of ethics and agree to pursue continuing education.

- Certified Fund Specialist®; The Institute for Business and Finance; 2004  
The Certified Fund Specialist® (CFS®) designation is offered by The Institute of Business and Finance (IBF) to financial services professionals who successfully complete its 60-hour course focusing on mutual funds and mutual fund industry, pass a comprehensive exam, adhere to the IBF's code of ethics and complete 15 hours of continuing education courses each year.

- Accredited Wealth Management Advisor<sup>SM</sup>; College for Financial Planning; 2005  
The Accredited Wealth Management Advisor<sup>SM</sup> (AWMA®) designation is awarded by the College for Financial Planning to investment professionals who complete coursework in the areas of asset management, allocation and selection; investment performance and strategies; and taxation issues pertaining to investments for a broad range of investors including small businesses and deferred compensation plans. Advisors must sign a code of ethics and complete 16 hours of continuing education every two years.

- Accredited Portfolio Management Advisor; College for Financial Planning; 2013  
Individuals who hold the APMA® designation have completed a course of study encompassing client assessment and suitability, risk/return, investment objectives, bond and equity portfolios, modern portfolio theory and investor psychology. Students have hands-on practice in analyzing investment policy statements, building portfolios, and making asset allocation decisions including sell, hold, and buy decisions within a client's portfolio.

### **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Steven Lee Yamshon has no reportable disciplinary history.

### **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

#### **A. Investment-Related Activities**

1. Steven Lee Yamshon is also engaged in the following investment-related activities:

#### **Other investment-related business**

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors owns, for investment purposes, a minority interest in Jung Novikoff & Stevens LLP ("JNS"), a CPA firm in Santa Monica, CA. See **Item 10 - Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**, of this brochure, for further information.

2. Steven Lee Yamshon does not receive commissions, bonuses or other compensation on the sale of securities or other investment products.

#### **B. Non Investment-Related Activities**

Steven Lee Yamshon is not engaged in any other business or occupation that provides substantial compensation or involves a substantial amount of his or her time.

### **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Steven Lee Yamshon does not receive any economic benefit from a non-advisory client for the provision of advisory services.

### **Item 6 Supervision**

**Supervisor:** Steven Lee Yamshon

**Title:** Chief Investment and Compliance Officer

**Phone Number:** 949-251-9333

**Part 2B of Form ADV: *Brochure Supplement***



Michael Vediner  
4100 Newport Place Drive, Suite 720  
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3/17/15

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

## **Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience**

**Full Legal Name:** Michael Vediner

**Born:** 1987

### **Education**

- University of Southern California; B.S. , Accounting; 2010

### **Business Experience**

none

### **Designations**

Michael Vediner has earned the following designation(s) and is in good standing with the granting authority:

- Certified Public Accountant; American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; 2014

In order to become a CPA in the United States, the candidate must sit for and pass the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination, which is set by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and administered by the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy. Eligibility to sit for the Uniform CPA Exam is determined by individual State Boards of Accountancy. Typically the requirement is a U.S. bachelors degree which includes a minimum number of qualifying credit hours in accounting and business administration with an additional 1 year study. All CPA candidates must pass the Uniform CPA Examination to qualify for a CPA certificate and license (i.e., permit to practice) to practice public accounting. CPAs are required to take continuing education courses in order to renew their license. Requirements vary by state. The vast majority of states require 120 hours of CPE every 3 years with a minimum of 20 hours per calendar year. The requirement can be fulfilled through attending live seminars, webcast seminars, or through self-study (textbooks, videos, online courses, all of which require a test to receive credit). As part of the CPE requirement, most states require their CPAs to take an ethics course during every renewal period. Ethics requirements vary by state, and the courses range from 2–8 hours

## **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Michael Vediner has no reportable disciplinary history.

## **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

#### **A. Investment-Related Activities**

1. Michael Vediner is not engaged in any other investment-related activities.

2. Michael Vediner does not receive commissions, bonuses or other compensation on the sale of securities or other investment products.

#### **B. Non Investment-Related Activities**

Michael Vediner is not engaged in any other business or occupation that provides substantial compensation or involves a substantial amount of his or her time.

### **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Michael Vediner does not receive any economic benefit from a non-advisory client for the provision of advisory services.

### **Item 6 Supervision**

**Supervisor:** Steven Lee Yamshon

**Title:** Chief Investment and Compliance Officer

**Phone Number:** 949-251-9333

Steven Lee Yamshon provides supervision of the investment process and portfolio management of Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors. He may be contacted at the number provided above.

# **Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors**

## **PRIVACY POLICY**

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors primary client goal is to protect your privacy.

To conduct regular business, we may collect nonpublic personal information from sources such as:

- Information reported by you on applications or other forms you provide to us
- Information about your transactions with us, our affiliates, or others

As the Firm shares nonpublic information solely to service our client accounts, we do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about our customers or former customers to anyone, except as permitted by law.

To provide the utmost in service, we may disclose the information below regarding customers and/or former customers, as necessary, to companies performing certain services on our behalf or to other financial institutions with whom we have agreements, or as required by law.

- Information the firm receives from clients on applications (name, social security number, address, assets, etc.)
- Information about client transactions with our firm or others (account information, payment history, parties to transactions, etc.)

At times, we may disclose nonpublic personal information to affiliated third parties. We may share any of the information that we collect as described above. We may disclose nonpublic personal information about you to the following types of affiliated third parties:

- Financial service providers such as mortgage brokers, insurance companies, or broker dealers

### **Information Safeguarding**

Stevens First Principles Investment Advisors will internally safeguard your nonpublic personal information by restricting access to only those employees who provide products or services to you or those who need access to your information to service your account. In addition, we will maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that meet federal and/or state standards to guard your nonpublic personal information.