

**Item 1. Cover Page**

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

**May 2013**



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**[www.chattertoninc.com](http://www.chattertoninc.com)**  
**[www.planningyoucantrust.com](http://www.planningyoucantrust.com)**

**This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Chatterton & Associates, The Wealth Management Team, Inc. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact by telephone at (714) 572-2050 or email at [tami@chattertoninc.com](mailto:tami@chattertoninc.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.**

**Additional information about Chatterton & Associates, The Wealth Management Team, Inc. also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).**

**Please note that the use of the term "registered investment adviser" and description of Chatterton & Associates, The Wealth Management Team, Inc. and/or our associates as "registered" does not imply a certain level of skill or training. You are encouraged to review this Brochure and Brochure Supplements for our firm's associates who advise you for more information on the qualifications of our firm and our employees.**

## **Item 2. Material Changes**

Chatterton & Associates, The Wealth Management Team, Inc. is required to advise you of any material changes to our Firm Brochure ("Brochure") from our last annual update, identify those changes on the cover page of our Brochure or on the page immediately following the cover page, or in a separate communication accompanying our Brochure. We must state clearly that we are discussing only material changes since the last annual update of our Brochure, and we must provide the date of the last annual update of our Brochure.

Please note that we do not have to provide this information to a client or prospective client who has not received a previous version of our brochure.

Our last annual update was filed on March 26, 2013.

We have added investment adviser representative Cameron Jalbert as of May 2013.

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

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#### **Item 4. Advisory Business**

A. Description of our advisory firm, including how long we have been in business and our principal owner(s)<sup>1</sup>.

We are dedicated to providing individuals and other types of clients with a wide array of investment advisory services. Our firm is a corporation formed in the State of California. Our firm has been in business as an investment adviser since 2004 and is owned 100% by Robert D. Chatterton.

B. Description of the types of advisory services we offer.

(i) Investment Management:

Our firm recommends that certain clients allocate investment assets among the various mutual fund asset allocation models, underlying mutual funds, and/or independent investment manager programs offered through SEI Investments Company ("SEI"). SEI is a global asset management company and sponsor of its own proprietary mutual funds. SEI Trust Company, a subsidiary of SEI, serves as custodian for each SEI account, and provides each client with reporting services, including consolidated monthly statements, quarterly performance reports, and year-end tax reports. SEI enables investment advisers such as our firm to offer its clients mutual fund asset allocation models, underlying individual mutual funds, and investment management programs that are not otherwise available to the general public. As part of its overall investment management program, SEI offers quarterly rebalancing of each client's investment assets for the purpose of maintaining the assets in accordance with the client's previously designated percentage (%) asset allocations for the SEI account. If a client desires automatic account rebalancing, he/she must first provide such authorization directly to our firm, who will then advise SEI accordingly. Our firm shall not remove clients' account from SEI to another program without the client's consent. The fees charged by SEI are exclusive of, and in addition to, our firm's investment management fee. In addition to our firm's investment management fee, the client, relative to all mutual fund purchases, shall also incur charges imposed at the mutual fund level (e.g., management fees and other fund expenses).

Our firm intends to primarily allocate investment management assets of our client accounts among various investment management programs offered through SEI Investments Company ("SEI") and various independent investment managers on a non-discretionary basis, in accordance with the investment objectives of our client.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that: (1) For purposes of this item, our principal owners include the persons we list as owning 25% or more of our firm on Schedule A of Part 1A of Form ADV (Ownership Codes C, D or E). (2) If we are a publicly held company without a 25% shareholder, we simply need to disclose that we are publicly held. (3) If an individual or company owns 25% or more of our firm through subsidiaries, we must identify the individual or parent company and intermediate subsidiaries. If we are a state-registered adviser, on Form ADV Part 2A Page 2, we must identify all intermediate subsidiaries. If we are an SEC-registered adviser, we must identify intermediate subsidiaries that are publicly held, but not other intermediate subsidiaries.

- C. Explanation of whether (and, if so, how) we tailor our advisory services to the individual needs of clients, whether clients may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities.

We offer individualized investment advice to clients utilizing our Investment Management service. Each client has the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments to be held in the portfolio. However, restrictions on investments in certain securities or types of securities may not be possible due to the level of difficulty this would entail in managing the account.

- D. Disclosure of the amount of client assets we manage on a discretionary basis and the amount of client assets we manage on a non-discretionary basis.

We manage<sup>2</sup> \$0 on a discretionary basis and \$375,000,000 on a non-discretionary basis as of December 31, 2012.

### **Item 5. Fees and Compensation**

- A. Description of how we are compensated for our advisory services provided to you.

- (i) Investment Management:

<u>Assets under management</u>	<u>Annual Percentage of assets charge:</u>
Under \$1,000,000	1.00%
\$1,000,001 - \$3,000,000	0.75%
\$3,000,001 - \$5,000,000	0.62%
Over \$5,000,000	0.50%

Our firm's fees are billed on a pro-rata annualized basis quarterly in arrears based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter. Fees may be negotiable.

- B. Description of whether we deduct fees from clients' assets or bill clients for fees incurred.

Upon client consent, management fees will be deducted from the client's managed account through a qualified custodian. The custodian will send statements at least quarterly showing all fees deducted from the clients accounts.

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<sup>2</sup> Please note that our method for computing the amount of "client assets we manage" can be different from the method for computing "assets under management" required for Item 5.F in Part 1A of Form ADV. However, we have chosen to follow the method outlined for Item 5.F in Part 1A of Form ADV. If we decide to use a different method at a later date to compute "client assets we manage," we must keep documentation describing the method we use and inform you of the change. The amount of assets we manage may be disclosed by rounding to the nearest \$100,000. Our "as of" date must not be more than three months before the date we last updated our Brochure in response to Item 4.E of Form ADV Part 2A.

C. Description of any other types of fees or expenses clients may pay in connection with our advisory services, such as custodian fees or mutual fund expenses.

Clients will incur transaction charges for trades executed in their accounts. These transaction fees are separate from our fees and will be disclosed by the firm that the trades are executed through. Also, clients will pay the following separately incurred expenses, which we do not receive any part of: charges imposed directly by a mutual fund, index fund, or exchange traded fund which shall be disclosed in the fund's prospectus (i.e., fund management fees and other fund expenses).

D. Client's advisory fees are due quarterly in arrears.

We charge our advisory fees quarterly in arrears. If you wish to terminate our services, you need to contact us in writing and state that you wish to cancel the advisory agreement. Upon receipt of your letter of termination, we will proceed to close out your account and charge you a pro-rata advisory fee(s) for services rendered up to the point of termination.

E. Commissionable securities sales.

We may sell securities for a commission in non-advisory accounts. In order to sell securities for a commission, our supervised persons are registered representatives of Royal Alliance Associates, Inc. member FINRA/SIPC. Our supervised persons may accept compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products, including distribution or service ("trail") fees from the sale of mutual funds. You should be aware that the practice of accepting commissions for the sale of securities:

- 1) Presents a conflict of interest and gives our firm and/or our supervised persons an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on your needs. We generally address commissionable sales conflicts that arise:
  - a) when explaining to clients that commissionable securities sales creates an incentive to recommend products based on the compensation we and/or our supervised persons may earn and may not necessarily be in the best interests of the client;
  - b) when recommending commissionable mutual funds, explaining that "no-load" funds are available.
- 2) In no way prohibits you from purchasing investment products recommended by us through other brokers or agents which are not affiliated with us.
- 3) Does not exceed more than 50% of our revenue.
- 4) We charge advisory fees in addition to commissions. In doing so, we reduce or waive our advisory fees to offset any commissions on stock sales incurred.

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

We do not charge performance fees to our clients.

## **Item 7. Types of Clients and Account Requirements**

We have the following types of clients:

- Individuals;
- High Net Worth Individuals; and
- Pension and Profit Sharing Plans.

Our requirements for opening and maintaining accounts or otherwise engaging us:

- We require a minimum account balance of \$200,000 for our Investment Management service. Generally, this minimum account balance requirement is not negotiable and would be required throughout the course of the client's relationship with our firm.
- We generally charge a minimum fee of \$1,500 for written financial plans.

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

### **A. Description of the methods of analysis and investment strategies we use in formulating investment advice or managing assets.**

#### **Methods of Analysis:**

- **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.

#### **Investment Strategies we use:**

- **Long-term purchases.** When utilizing this strategy, we may purchase securities with the idea of holding them for a relatively long time (typically held for at least a year). A risk in a long-term purchase strategy is that by holding the security for this length of time, we may not take advantages 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. Typically we employ this sub-strategy when:

1. we believe the securities to be well valued; and/or
  2. we want exposure to a particular asset class over time, regardless of the current projection for this class.
- **Short-term purchases.** When utilizing this strategy, we may also 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.
  - **Trading.** We purchase securities with the idea of selling them very quickly (typically within 30 days or less). We do this in an attempt to take advantage of our predictions of brief price swings.

**Please note:**

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. While the stock market may increase and your account(s) could enjoy a gain, it is also possible that the stock market may decrease and your account(s) could suffer a loss. It is important that you understand the risks associated with investing in the stock market, are appropriately diversified in your investments, and ask us any questions you may have.

**B. Our practices regarding cash balances in client accounts, including whether we invest cash balances for temporary purposes and, if so, how.**

We generally invest client's cash balances in money market funds, FDIC Insured Certificates of Deposit, high-grade commercial paper and/or government backed debt instruments. Ultimately, we try to achieve the highest return on our client's cash balances through relatively low-risk conservative investments. In most cases, at least a partial cash balance will be maintained in a money market account so that our firm may debit advisory fees for our services related to Investment Management service, as applicable.

**Item 9. Disciplinary Information**

We are required to disclose whether there are 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.

We have determined that our firm and management have nothing to disclose under the aforementioned standard.



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

- A. Our firm or our management persons are registered, or have an application to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer. The details are as follows:

Our firm in its capacity as a registered representative of Royal Alliance Associates, Inc, may effect securities brokerage transactions for our clients on a fully-disclosed commission basis. The securities commission business of our firm is separate and apart from our firm's fee-only investment management services.

A conflict of interest may arise as these commissionable securities sales may create an incentive to recommend products based on the compensation our firm may earn and may not necessarily be in the best interests of the client. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our firm will place client interests ahead of its own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics as well as clearly explaining this conflict when recommending any such products to clients. Clients are not obligated to purchase these products.

- B. Description of any relationship or arrangement that is material to our advisory business or to our clients that we or any of our management persons have with any related person<sup>3</sup> listed below. We are required to identify the related person and if the relationship or arrangement creates a material conflict of interest with clients, describe the nature of the conflict and how we address it.

Our representatives may also be an insurance agent licensed with the California Division of Insurance, in which they may offer advice and products on life insurance. Any such insurance-related services shall be provided under the licensure name of Chatterton & Associates Insurance Services.

A conflict of interest may arise as these commissionable insurance product sales may create an incentive to recommend products based on the compensation our firm may earn and may not necessarily be in the best interests of the client. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our firm will place client interests ahead of its own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics as well as clearly explaining this conflict when recommending any such products to our clients. Clients are not obligated to purchase these products.

Robert Chatterton is a partner of Planning You Can Trust, a marketing firm. This business activity represents approximately 3% of his time.

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<sup>3</sup> Our Related Persons are any advisory affiliates and any person that is under common control with our firm. Advisory Affiliate: Our advisory affiliates are (1) all of our officers, partners, or directors (or any person performing similar functions); (2) all persons directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by us; and (3) all of our current employees (other than employees performing only clerical, administrative, support or similar functions). Person: A natural person (an individual) or a company. A company includes any partnership, corporation, trust, limited liability company ("LLC"), limited liability partnership ("LLP"), sole proprietorship, or other organization.

- C. If we recommend or select other investment advisers for our clients and we receive compensation directly or indirectly from those advisers, or we have other business relationships with those advisers, we are required to describe these practices and discuss the conflicts of interest these practices create and how we address them.

We have determined we have nothing to disclose in this regard.

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

- A. Brief description of our Code of Ethics adopted pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1 and offer to provide a copy of our Code of Ethics to any client or prospective client upon request.

We recognize that the personal investment transactions of members and employees of our firm demand the application of a high Code of Ethics and require that all such transactions be carried out in a way that does not endanger the interest of any client. At the same time, we believe that if investment goals are similar for clients and for members and employees of our firm, it is logical and even desirable that there be common ownership of some securities.

Therefore, in order to prevent conflicts of interest, we have in place a set of procedures (including a pre-clearing procedure) with respect to transactions effected by our members, officers and employees for their personal accounts<sup>4</sup>. In order to monitor compliance with our personal trading policy, we have a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our associates.

Furthermore, our firm has established a Code of Ethics which applies to all of our associated persons. An investment adviser is considered a fiduciary. As a fiduciary, it is an investment adviser's responsibility to provide fair and full disclosure of all material facts and to act solely in the best interest of each of our clients at all times. We have a fiduciary duty to all clients. Our fiduciary duty is considered the core underlying principle for our Code of Ethics which also includes Insider Trading and Personal Securities Transactions Policies and Procedures. We require all of our supervised persons to conduct business with the highest level of ethical standards and to comply with all federal and state securities laws at all times. Upon employment or affiliation and at least annually thereafter, all supervised persons will sign an acknowledgement that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with our Code of Ethics. Our firm and supervised persons must conduct business in an honest, ethical, and fair manner and avoid all circumstances that might negatively affect or appear to affect our duty of complete loyalty to all clients. This disclosure is provided to give all clients a summary of our Code of Ethics. However, if a client or a potential client wishes to review our Code of Ethics in its entirety, a copy will be provided promptly upon request.

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<sup>4</sup> For purposes of the policy, our associate's personal account generally includes any account (a) in the name of our associate, his/her spouse, his/her minor children or other dependents residing in the same household, (b) for which our associate is a trustee or executor, or (c) which our associate controls, including our client accounts which our associate controls and/or a member of his/her household has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in.

- B. If our firm or a related person invests in the same securities (or related securities, e.g., warrants, options or futures) that our firm or a related person recommends to clients, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest this presents and generally how we address the conflicts that arise in connection with personal trading.

See Item 11A of this Brochure. Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities and other investments that are also recommended to clients. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request.

- C. If our firm or a related person recommends securities to clients, or buys or sells securities for client accounts, at or about the same time that you or a related person buys or sells the same securities for our firm's (or the related person's own) account, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. We are also required to describe generally how we address conflicts that arise.

See Item 11A of this brochure. Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities for themselves at or about the same time they buy or sell the same securities for client accounts. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request. Further, our related persons will refrain from buying or selling the same securities within 48 hours of buying or selling for our clients. If related persons' accounts are included in a block trade, our related persons will always trade personal accounts last.

## **Item 12. Brokerage Practices**

- A. Description of the factors that we consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for client transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (e.g., commissions).
1. Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits. If we receive research or other products or services other than execution from a broker-dealer or a third party in connection with client securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits"), we are required to disclose our practices and discuss the conflicts of interest they create. Please note that we must disclose all soft dollar benefits we receive, including, in the case of research, both proprietary research (created or developed by the broker-dealer) and research created or developed by a third party.

We seek to recommend a custodian/broker who will hold your assets and execute transactions on terms that are overall most advantageous when compared to other available providers and their services. We consider a wide range of factors, including, among others, these:

- Ability to maintain the confidentiality of trading intentions
- Timeliness of execution
- Timeliness and accuracy of trade confirmations

- Liquidity of the securities traded
- Willingness to commit capital
- Ability to place trades in difficult market environments
- Research services provided
- Ability to provide investment ideas
- Execution facilitation services provided
- Record keeping services provided
- Custody services provided
- Frequency and correction of trading errors
- Ability to access a variety of market venues
- Expertise as it relates to specific securities
- Financial condition
- Business reputation

As described in Item 10, our Advisory Representatives are also Registered Representatives of Royal Alliance, a FINRA registered broker-dealer. In order to meet its FINRA supervisory obligations, Royal Alliance requires that all investment advisory activities that we conduct are processed through Royal Alliance's clearing relationships with Pershing LLC ("Pershing"). We do not have the discretion to choose the broker-dealer or commission rates to be paid. However, we do believe that Pershing's blend of execution services, commission and transaction costs as well as professionalism will allow us to seek best execution and competitive prices. SEI Trust Company may also be used as a custodian for client assets.

- a. Explanation of when we use client brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) to obtain research or other products or services, and how we receive a benefit because our firm does not have to produce or pay for the research, products or services.

As part of the arrangement described in Item 12A1, Royal Alliance also makes certain research and brokerage services available at no additional cost to our firm. These services include certain research and brokerage services, including research services obtained by Royal Alliance directly from independent research companies, as selected by our firm (within specific parameters). Research products and services provided by Royal Alliance to our firm may include research reports on recommendations or other information about, particular companies or industries; economic surveys, data and analyses; financial publications; portfolio evaluation services; financial database software and services; computerized news and pricing services; quotation equipment for use in running software used in investment decision-making; and other products or services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance by Royal Alliance to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities. The aforementioned research and brokerage services are used by our firm to manage accounts for which we have investment discretion. Without this arrangement, our firm might be compelled to purchase the same or similar services at our own expense.

- b. Incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on our interest in receiving the research or other products or services, rather than on our clients' interest in receiving best execution.

As a result of receiving the services discussed in 12A (1) (a) of this Firm Brochure for no additional cost, we may have an incentive to continue to use or expand the use of Royal Alliance's services. Our firm examined this potential conflict of interest when we chose to enter into the relationship with Royal Alliance and we have determined that the relationship is in the best interest of our firm's clients and satisfies our client obligations, including our duty to seek best execution.

Royal Alliance charges brokerage commissions and transaction fees for effecting certain securities transactions (i.e., transaction fees are charged for certain no-load mutual funds, commissions are charged for individual equity and debt securities transactions). Royal Alliance enables us to obtain many no-load mutual funds without transaction charges and other no-load funds at nominal transaction charges. Royal Alliance's commission rates are generally discounted from customary retail commission rates. However, the commission and transaction fees charged by Royal Alliance may be higher or lower than those charged by other custodians and broker-dealers.

- c. Causing clients to pay commissions (or markups or markdowns) higher than those charged by other broker-dealers in return for soft dollar benefits (known as paying-up).

Our clients may pay a commission to Royal Alliance 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, although we 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.

- d. Disclosure of whether we use soft dollar benefits to service all of our clients' accounts or only those that paid for the benefits, as well as whether we seek to allocate soft dollar benefits to client accounts proportionately to the soft dollar credits the accounts generate.

Although the investment research products and services that may be obtained by our firm 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.

- e. Description of the types of products and services our firm or any of our related persons acquired with client brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) within our last fiscal year.

We are required to specifically describe to our clients the types of products or services that we are acquiring and to permit them to evaluate possible conflicts of interest. Our description must be more detailed for products or services that do not qualify for the safe harbor in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, such as those services that do not aid in investment decision-making or trade execution. Merely disclosing that we obtain various research reports and products is not specific enough.

In addition to the benefits described in Item 12A1 of this Brochure, Royal Alliance also makes available to our firm products and services that help manage and administer clients' accounts. These include software and other technology (and related technological training) that provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements), facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts), provide research, pricing information and other market data, facilitate payment of our fees from clients' accounts, and assist with back-office training and support functions, recordkeeping and client reporting. SEI may provide varying annual budget for printing costs on seminars. Many of these services generally may be used to service all or some substantial number of our accounts, including accounts not maintained at Royal Alliance. While, as a fiduciary, our firm endeavors to act in our clients' best interests, Adviser's recommendation/requirement that clients maintain their assets in accounts at Royal Alliance may be based in part on the benefit to our firm of the availability of some of the foregoing products and services and other arrangements and not solely on the nature, cost, or quality of custody and brokerage services provided by Royal Alliance, which may create a potential conflict of interest.

We would have to obtain the aforementioned services and products for cash if we did not have soft dollars available to pay for them. As a result of receiving such products and services for no cost, we may have an incentive to continue to place client trades through broker-dealers that offer soft dollar arrangements. This interest conflicts with the clients' interest of obtaining the lowest commission rate available. Therefore, we must determine in good faith, based on the best execution policy stated above that such commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of the services provided by such executing broker-dealers.

- f. Explanation of the procedures we used during our last fiscal year to direct client transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for soft dollar benefits we received.

All soft dollars arrangements must be approved in writing by our Chief Compliance Officer and/or President of our firm. A brief description of the purpose of the soft dollar arrangement outlining the benefits received by our firm and clients along with any noted concerns about increased costs to our clients and how such concerns were alleviated will be maintained on file. Our Chief Compliance Officer undertakes a

review of parties which propose to pay our firm in soft dollars and analyzes a number of criteria. When deciding whether to approve or disapprove of a soft dollar relationship, the following criteria is reviewed: the broker-dealer's business reputation and financial position and our ability to consistently execute orders professionally and on a cost effective basis, provide prompt and accurate execution reports, prepare timely and accurate confirms, deliver securities or cash proceeds promptly and provide meaningful research services that are useful to us in investment decision-making or other desired and appropriate services. Our Chief Compliance Officer also annually reviews all our soft dollar relationships for appropriateness, benefits to our clients, etc.

As a fiduciary, we have an obligation to obtain "best execution" of clients' transactions under the circumstances of the particular transaction. Consequently, notwithstanding the safe harbor provided under Section 28(e), no allocation for soft dollar payments shall be made unless best execution of the transaction is reasonably expected to be obtained.

## 2) Directed Brokerage.

- a. If we routinely recommend, request or require that a client directs us to execute transactions through a specified broker-dealer, we are required to describe our practice or policy. Further, we must explain that not all advisers require their clients to direct brokerage. If our firm and the broker-dealer are affiliates or have another economic relationship that creates a material conflict of interest, we are further required to describe the relationship and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents by explaining that through the direction of brokerage we may be unable to achieve best execution of client transactions, and that this practice may cost our clients more money.

We do not have discretionary authority in making the determination of the brokers with whom orders for the purchase or sale of securities are placed for execution, and the commission rates at which such securities transactions are effected. We routinely recommend that a client directs us to execute through a specified broker-dealer. Our firm recommends the use of Royal Alliance/SEI.

### **Special Considerations for ERISA Clients**

A retirement or ERISA plan client may direct all or part of portfolio transactions for its account through a specific broker or dealer in order to obtain goods or services on behalf of the plan. Such direction is permitted provided that the goods and services provided are reasonable expenses of the plan incurred in the ordinary course of its business for which it otherwise would be obligated and empowered to pay. ERISA prohibits directed brokerage arrangements when the goods or services purchased are not for the exclusive benefit of the plan. Consequently, we will request that plan sponsors who direct plan brokerage provide us with a letter documenting that this arrangement will be for the exclusive benefit of the plan.

- b. If we permit a client to direct brokerage, we are required to describe our practice. If applicable, we must also explain that we may be unable to achieve best execution of your transactions. Directed brokerage may cost clients more money. For example, in a directed brokerage account, you may pay higher brokerage commissions because we may not be able to aggregate orders to reduce transaction costs, or you may receive less favorable prices on transactions.

We may allow clients to direct brokerage outside our recommendation. However, we may be unable to achieve the most favorable execution of client transactions. Client directed brokerage may cost clients more money. For example, in a directed brokerage account, you may pay higher brokerage commissions because we may not be able to aggregate orders to reduce transaction costs, or you may receive less favorable prices.

- B. Discussion of whether, and under what conditions, we aggregate the purchase or sale of securities for various client accounts in quantities sufficient to obtain reduced transaction costs (known as bunching). If we do not bunch orders when we have the opportunity to do so, we are required to explain our practice and describe the costs to clients of not bunching.

We do not aggregate the purchase or sale of securities for client accounts.

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

- A. Review of client accounts or financial plans, along with a description of the frequency and nature of our review, and the titles of our employees who conduct the review.

We review client accounts at least annually. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether clients' accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and investment policies, if applicable. Only our Financial Advisors will conduct reviews.

- B. Review of client accounts on other than a periodic basis, along with a description of the factors that trigger a review.

We may review client accounts more frequently than described above. Among the factors which may trigger an off-cycle review are major market or economic events, the client's life events, requests by the client, etc.

- C. Description of the content and indication of the frequency of written or verbal regular reports we provide to clients regarding their accounts.

We do not provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Performance reports may be available to clients. Verbal reports to clients take place on at least an annual basis when we meet with clients who subscribe to our Investment Management service.



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

- A. If someone who is not a client provides an economic benefit to our firm for providing investment advice or other advisory services to our clients, we must generally describe the arrangement. For purposes of this Item, economic benefits include any sales awards or other prizes.

Except for the arrangements outlined in Item 12 of this brochure, we have no additional arrangements to disclose.

- B. If our firm or a related person directly or indirectly compensates any person who is not our employee for client referrals, we are required to describe the arrangement and the compensation.

We may pay referral fees to unaffiliated third parties (Solicitors) equal to a percentage of the advisory fees collected from clients that Solicitors referred to our Advisory Representatives. Clients are provided with a written disclosure outlining the specific terms, compensation arrangements and obligations of the Solicitor and our Advisory Representatives.

#### **Item 15. Custody**

- A. If we have custody of client funds or securities and a qualified custodian as defined in SEC rule 206(4)-2 or similar state rules (for example, a broker-dealer or bank) does not send account statements with respect to those funds or securities directly to our clients, we must disclose that we have custody and explain the risks that you will face because of this.

We do not have custody of client funds or securities. All of our clients receive at least quarterly account statements directly from their custodians. Upon opening an account with a qualified custodian on a client's behalf, we promptly notify the client in writing of the qualified custodian's contact information. If we decide to also send account statements to clients, such notice and account statements include a legend that recommends that the client compare the account statements received from the qualified custodian with those received from our firm.

- B. If we have custody of client funds or securities and a qualified custodian sends quarterly, or more frequent, account statements directly to our clients, we are required to explain that you will receive account statements from the broker-dealer, bank, or other qualified custodian and that you should carefully review those statements.

We encourage our clients to raise any questions with us about the custody, safety or security of their assets. The custodians we do business with will send you independent account statements listing your account balance(s), transaction history and any fee debits or other fees taken out of your account.

### **Item 16. Investment Discretion**

If we accept discretionary authority to manage securities accounts on behalf of clients, we are required to disclose this fact and describe any limitations our clients may place on our authority. The following procedures are followed before we assume this authority.

We do not take or exercise discretionary authority with respect to our client's accounts.

### **Item 17. Voting Client Securities**

If we have, or will accept, proxy authority to vote client securities, we must briefly describe our voting policies and procedures, including those adopted pursuant to SEC Rule 206(4)-6.

We do not and will not accept the proxy authority to vote client securities. Clients will receive proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian or a transfer agent. In the event that proxies are sent to our firm, we will forward them on to you and ask the party who sent them to mail them directly to you in the future. Clients may call, write or email us to discuss questions they may have about particular proxy votes or other solicitations.

### **Item 18. Financial Information**

- A. If we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance, we must include a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

We do not require nor do we solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance. Therefore we have not included a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

- B. If we are an SEC-registered adviser and have discretionary authority or custody of client funds or securities, or we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance, we must disclose any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to clients.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

- C. If we have been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years, we must disclose this fact, the date the petition was first brought, and the current status.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.