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March 30, 2016

*This Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Coastal Investment Advisors, Inc. If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact us at 888.657.5200 and/or [info@coastal-one.com](mailto:info@coastal-one.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 of an Investment Adviser does not imply any level of skill or training. The verbal and written communications of an Adviser provide you with information about which you determine to hire or retain an Adviser.*

*Additional information about Coastal Investment Advisors also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).*

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## **Item 2 – Material Changes**

This Section addresses only specific material changes that are made to the Brochure and is intended to provide clients with a summary of such changes.

The firm has had a material change since its last annual Brochure as follows:

The firm's new Chief Compliance Officer is Francis J. Skinner, and changes to that effect appear throughout the Brochure.

The firm has added to Section 4 the section entitled "Retirement Services" which, among other things, addresses policies and procedures of the firm concerning retirement certain ERISA plans, as well as important disclosures required by the Department of Labor.

The firm amended section 17 'Voting Client Securities' by adding that clients may request the firm to provide proxy voting services. Such services would be delegated to a third-party vendor, Broadridge, in New York, NY.

Pursuant to SEC Rules, we will ensure that you receive a summary of any materials changes to this and subsequent Brochures within 120 days of the close of our business' fiscal year. We may further provide other ongoing disclosure information about material changes as necessary.

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## Item 4 – Advisory Business

Coastal Investment Advisors, Inc. (“Coastal Investment Advisors” or “CIA”) is an investment advisory firm that is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. CIA is wholly owned by Orange Street Holdings, Inc.

CIA provides ongoing investment advice and management of client assets through its investment advisor representatives, to whom we refer as “Financial Advisors.” Financial Advisors provide advice on the purchase and sale of various types of investments, such as mutual funds, exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), variable annuity subaccounts, real estate investment trusts (“REITs”), equities, fixed income securities and options. Through our Financial Advisors, we provide a variety of investment management services, including portfolio management (implemented by Coastal Investment Advisors or an independent, third-party money manager), investment consulting, financial planning, and estate planning. Our Financial Advisors may be specialists in areas such as wealth management, investment consulting, portfolio management, asset allocation, cash management/treasury services, and/or financial and estate planning.

CIA's Financial Advisors may market under the *Coastal* brand or under a business name of their choosing. When marketing under a business name other than Coastal, a Financial Advisor will distinguish between business done by *Coastal* and other, non-*Coastal*, business lines in which an Advisor may engage.

### INVESTMENT ADVICE

Our Financial Advisors provide advice that is tailored to the individual needs of the client based on the financial information and the investment objective(s) communicated by the client. Clients may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or groups of securities by notifying the Financial Advisor in writing (including in the Account Application). Clients’ proposed restrictions may or may not be accepted by Coastal.

### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT SERVICES -- WRAP FEE PROGRAMS

Some of our Financial Advisors participate in “wrap fee” programs, by providing portfolio management services. For these accounts, depending upon the platform or program, Coastal Investment Advisors, its Financial Advisors, the Custodian, and/or another third-party may:

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- Assist clients in the identification of investment needs and objectives.
  - Develop an investment policy and/or asset allocation strategy designed to meet the client's objectives.
  - Recommend specific investment style and asset allocation strategies.
  - Evaluate Money Managers and investment vehicles meeting style and allocation criteria.
  - Negotiate fees to be paid to Money Managers.
  - Assist in identification of appropriate Money Managers and investment vehicles suitable to the client's goals.
  - Manage client assets directly, eliminating the necessity for a Money Manager.
  - Assist in identification of a CIA Financial Advisor to manage client assets.
  - Engage selected Money Managers and investment vehicles on behalf of the client.
  - Perform ongoing monitoring and due diligence of an individual Money Manager's performance and management.
  - Review the client's account for adherence to objectives, policy guidelines, and/or asset allocation on a periodic basis.
  - Recommend reallocation among Money Managers or styles within the program.
  - Hire or fire Money Managers utilized by clients.
  - Provide reporting to the client regarding the performance of his/her/its account.

CIA and the Financial Advisor each receive a portion of the wrap fee for their services.

### FINANCIAL PLANNING SERVICES

Coastal Investment Advisors may provide financial planning to clients. Financial planning services are offered on a comprehensive or à la carte (limited focus) basis. Financial plans may encompass all or some of the following areas of financial concern to the client:

- Estate Planning Goals
- Retirement Planning
- Education Planning
- Insurance Planning/Risk Management
- Investments
- Asset Allocation Review and Recommendations

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The Financial Advisor obtains appropriate information from the client through personal interviews (including a discussion of current financial status, future goals and attitude towards risk) and reviews the documents and data supplied by the client. A written financial plan may be prepared and provided. The implementation of financial plan recommendations is entirely at the discretion of the client. Financial plans are not limited in any way to products or services provided by any particular company. However, in general, only products and services that Coastal Investment Advisors is able to provide will be offered.

### RETIREMENT SERVICES

The retirement services program offers the IAR two ways to assist plan sponsors with customized investment advisory services, diversified investment menus, consulting and reporting, and participant educational programs.

1. *Investment supervisory services.* Coastal has contracted with various service providers to provide recordkeeping services and third-party-administration services. Through these platforms, the IAR provides investment advisory service and assists plan sponsors with developing a customized investment plan to fit the needs of individual plan participants. Coastal and the IAR may use various investment options, including mutual fund company shares (including no-load and load-waived mutual funds), ETFs, asset allocation models, or a combination to meet the specific needs of the plan. In addition to the various investment options, the plan and plan participants have the ability to hire the use of an approved sub-advisor on the platform for the creation and management of the investments offered to the plan. Each plan will consist of a diversified mix of investment options to assist plan participants in meeting their individual needs. The mix and weightings of investments will be based on the available plan options and each plan participant's risk profile, investment objectives, and individual preferences. Each plan and plan participants will have the opportunity to meet with the IAR at periodic educational sessions or individually and the plan will have the opportunity to review the assets in the plan periodically with the IAR. The plan and plan participants will maintain full and complete ownership rights to all vested assets held within plan accounts. Plan participants will have the ability to either generate online account statements through the plan's Web site provided by the recordkeeping agent, or receive account statements from the recordkeeping agent, showing account activity, positions, and asset values held in the account no less frequently than quarterly. Additionally, participants can make changes to their investment allocation on a periodic basis, in

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accordance with the terms of the respective plan documents. The assets of each plan account will be held at a qualified custodian.

2. *Fee based retirement plan services (retirement consulting)* Plan sponsors may retain the IAR to provide selected non-discretionary services for qualified plans. The IAR may provide one or more of the following consulting services: general information on legislative, Department of Labor and Internal Revenue Service matters of relevance to qualified plans; evaluation and recommendation of service providers, plan design, needs analysis, preparation of plan investment policy statement, performance analysis of investments or investment managers utilized by the plan, monitoring of investments selected by the plan sponsor for style drift and correlation with stated fund investment objectives, enrollment meetings for participants, ongoing investment education for participants regarding plan options, provide information and education in response to participant inquiries; provide individual financial and estate planning consultation to plan participants, and plan distribution consulting. Plan assets will be held at a qualified custodian. The broker/dealer of record or qualified custodian may receive mutual fund sub-transfer agent fees and/or mutual fund 12b-1 fees, (collectively the fees) from investments in the plan. The broker/dealer of record or qualified custodian is responsible for ensuring such fees are used to offset the plan's administrative costs and that administrative costs that remain after the application of the fees are paid by the plan in accordance with the arrangement between the plan and the qualified custodian. Any fees remaining should be credited to the plan in accordance with the arrangement between the plan and the qualified custodian. Neither the IAR nor Coastal, as RIA, participate in these fees. Additionally, neither the IAR nor Coastal maintains responsibility for reviewing and/or monitoring such fees to ensure administrative costs are properly offset. The person(s) signing the retirement plan agreement on behalf of the plan must acknowledge he or she is authorized to do so and is a responsible plan fiduciary as defined by The Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration Section 408(b)(2) Fee Disclosure Rule. All recommendations or investment advice provided by the IAR will be based upon the information provided by the plan sponsor and/or plan participant as applicable. Coastal and the IAR are "fiduciary" as defined under Section 3 (21) of ERISA only to the extent to which it provides investment advice, as defined by ERISA, to the plan and/or the plan's participants. The IAR will have no discretionary authority or control with respect to the plan or plan assets. The plan sponsor and plan participants are under no obligation and are solely responsible for implementing any of the IAR's recommendations with respect to plan assets. IAR will not provide

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trade execution services with respect to plan assets. Coastal and the IAR are not “fiduciary” to the plan with respect to services not considered investment advice, as defined by ERISA, including but not limited to: investment education, consultation on plan design, and consultation related to evaluation and selection of service providers. The disclosures required of the regulation can be found within the firm’s Form ADV and Advisory Services agreement. These disclosures address items such as services, fees, payment notification, manner of payment, indirect compensation, and compensation to affiliates, related enterprises and subcontractors. Coastal and IAR acknowledge their duty to disclose and adequately address potential conflicts of interest, which may include IAR using its position as a fiduciary to promote or solicit the plan sponsor to enter into any agreement or otherwise conduct business with any entity or enterprise in which IAR has a financial interest (“related enterprise” or “affiliate”). In the event plan sponsor does enter into any agreement or otherwise conduct business with any “related enterprise”, plan sponsor will do so based solely on its knowledge and understanding of the other services available through the related enterprise or affiliate.

#### REGULATORY ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

As of December 31, 2015, Coastal Investment Advisors had discretionary assets under management of \$301,712,057.30. The firm currently has no non-discretionary assets under management.

### **Item 5 – Fees and Compensation**

#### FEES FOR INVESTMENT ADVICE

Coastal Investment Advisors and/or its Financial Advisors are generally compensated for investment advice by a percentage of the client's assets under the Financial Advisor's management. Advisory fees are generally charged monthly, in advance, although some legacy clients may be subject to a different arrangement such as quarterly versus monthly charges, or charges in arrears versus in advance.

These fees are negotiable at the sole discretion of the Firm or Financial Advisor, but fees shall not exceed the following Fee Schedule. The fee to be charged each client will be stipulated within each client’s advisory agreement with Coastal Investment Advisors and applies to all of the assets within the portfolio or household (as defined in the agreement).



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Certain clients, as described within a client's advisory agreement, may be billed in an "all-inclusive" manner. In such instances, Coastal Investment Advisors will assess one fee that captures the management, brokerage, and administrative portions collectively.

<b>Maximum Fee Schedule</b>	
<b>Account Asset Value</b>	<b>Annual Fee</b>
0-\$2,499,999.99	2.50%
\$2,500,000-\$4,999,999.99	1.75%
\$5,000,000-\$9,999,999.99	1.25%
\$10,000,000-\$24,999,999.99	1.00%
\$25,000,000-\$49,999,999.99	0.75%
\$50,000,000-\$99,999,999.99	0.50%
Over \$100,000,000	0.35%

Fees are payable monthly; the applicable annual percentage fee is divided by twelve. Assets included in clients' margin balances are included when calculating Coastal Investment Advisors' fees; clients should note that they may already be paying margin interest on these same assets. Fee breakpoints are not retroactive to the breakpoint's previous level. For example, an account valued at \$3,500,000.00 would pay, under the fee schedule above, 2.5% on the first \$2,499,999.99 and would pay 1.75% on the remaining \$1,000,000.01. The method for calculating the value of assets under management for purposes of the fee calculation may be different than the methodology used to calculate Regulatory Assets Under Management.

If a client engages a CIA Financial Advisor other than the client's Financial Advisor, or where a client's Financial Advisor has discretion to engage a CIA Financial Advisor and exercises that discretion to manage client assets, the total fee paid by the client will be allocated between the client's Financial Advisor and any other Financial Advisor so engaged. The total fee paid may be higher than the fee otherwise would be, but in no case will it exceed the maximum fee schedule above.

#### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT SERVICES -- WRAP PROGRAM FEES.

Under these programs, an annual fee is negotiated between Coastal Investment Advisors and its clients, typically ranging from 0.20% to 2.5%. The total fee clients will pay typically includes Coastal Investment Advisors' fee and the platform or program fee charged by the

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Custodian or other third party administering the platform or program, and/or the Money Managers; for certain programs, the fees charged by the Custodian or administrator of the platform or program are separate from Coastal Investment Advisors' fee. Under many of these platforms and programs, there are no separate commissions or transaction costs charged to clients. In addition, many of these platforms and programs do not charge separate administrative, custodial, or reporting fees. Such an "all-inclusive" or "bundled" fee structure is often otherwise referred to as a "wrap fee."

Certain platforms charge an "unbundled" fee, meaning fees for execution, custodial, reporting, and/or administrative services are not combined with the Money Manager fees and/or Coastal Investment Advisors' fees. Also, certain platforms will charge execution costs in the form of an asset-based fee. Depending upon the platform selected, there may not be an option for "householding" accounts for fee discounts.

In all cases, clients should carefully review each Disclosure Document maintained by Money Managers that have been selected to manage their assets, as well as the Disclosure Document for each wrap fee program that they participate in, for complete details on the charges and fees clients will incur. Such additional Disclosure Documents, as applicable, will be provided to clients by Coastal Investment Advisors' Financial Advisor.

The fees clients pay the Money Manager and Coastal Investment Advisors may be shown on clients' custodial statements as one gross fee or in some cases, may be listed as separate fees. Additionally, clients may request that fees be broken out. In this case, the client will make this request on the client advisory agreement and will see two to three separate charges depending on the custodial reporting requirements. Some platforms and programs may require an additional advisory agreement with clients in addition to the agreement clients execute with Coastal Investment Advisors. Similarly, certain platforms and programs may require clients to complete brokerage account documents necessary to open new brokerage accounts. Access to certain Money Managers, platforms, and programs may be limited to certain types of accounts and may be subject to account minimums, which will vary and may be negotiable depending upon the Money Managers, platforms, and programs selected. Certain platforms and programs administered by Coastal Investment Advisors and/or made available to clients by Coastal Investment Advisors' Financial Advisors may be available through other independent investment advisors, and in certain instances, directly via the Custodian or other third-party administering the platform or program. In addition, clients may be able to access certain Money Managers directly. As such, clients may be able to access such Money Managers, platforms, and programs at a

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lower cost through other channels. Further, it may be possible for a client to access Money Managers directly or through other platforms or programs for an “unbundled” fee that is lower than the “bundled” fee that is available through Coastal Investment Advisors’ Financial Advisors.

#### FEES FOR FINANCIAL PLANNING SERVICES

Fees are negotiated between the Financial Advisor and the client on a case-by-case basis. They may be charged on an hourly or fixed fee basis. Once determined, the fee arrangement is set forth in the Client Agreement with Coastal Investment Advisors.

**Hourly Fees.** Hourly rates range from \$60 to \$400 per hour based upon the knowledge and experience of the individual providing the work. Fees are billed in 15-minute increments. Hourly fees will be billed monthly as the work is provided (in arrears).

**Fixed Fees.** Fees are typically determined by estimating the number of hours to be spent preparing the plan and then quoting a fixed price. If additional work is requested (that goes beyond the original scope of the project), it may be billed on an hourly basis or a fixed price basis as negotiated. Fixed fees will be invoiced monthly or quarterly depending upon the negotiated agreement with the client and the anticipated delivery of the plan. Other limited planning services are billed monthly. In addition, some or all of the financial planning fees may be included in the investment management fees agreed upon by clients and their Financial Advisor. Financial planning is not always billed separately. Total costs for financial plans, whether per hour or on a fixed basis, may range from as little as \$500 to as much as \$5,000 or more. There is no “typical” plan, as services are customized to the particular needs of the client; thus there is a wide range of fees that may be imposed. Should a contract be terminated prior to the service being delivered, Coastal Investment Advisors will bill for work completed. In the case of prepayment of fees, the prorated refund will be based upon the hourly rate of the individuals who provided services.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION ON ADVISORY SERVICES AND FEES

**Fee Differentials.** As indicated above, CIA may price its services based upon assets under management or other subjective factors, and fees are typically set or negotiated by each Financial Advisor, subject to our maximum fee schedule set forth above. As a result, any CIA client could pay fees that are higher or lower than the fees charged to other CIA clients, based upon the market value of their assets, the complexity of the engagement, and the level and scope of the overall investment advisory and/or consulting services to be rendered. As a result of these factors, the services to be provided by CIA to any particular

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client could be available from other advisers at lower fees. All clients and prospective clients should be guided accordingly.

**Termination.** All advisory agreements may be terminated upon written notification by either party at any time, or in accordance with any written advisory agreement. Upon termination, clients will receive refunds of the prepaid and unearned advisory fees (prorated for the balance of the month, if needed). If services have been provided, and are therefore due and payable, clients will receive an invoice with the amount due. Any transactional or custodial charges levied by the custodian after the termination of Coastal Investment Advisors' advisory agreement will be the client's responsibility and not the responsibility of Coastal Investment Advisors. Coastal Investment Advisors has no obligation to refund these fees to its clients.

**Calculation of Fees.** CIA Advisory fees are billed based upon the average daily balance in clients' account(s), in advance. Some platforms and programs charge fees in arrears, and some in advance. These are outlined in the applicable program's Disclosure Document. Each client's billing specifics and election (where applicable) are listed in its client advisory agreement.

**Additional Costs.** All fees paid to Coastal Investment Advisors for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds 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. Clients should review such additional fees and the fees Coastal Investment Advisors charges to understand the total amount of fees paid, as investments in mutual funds may be made by clients, independent of and without the services provided by Coastal Investment Advisors. Although Coastal Investment Advisors' Financial Advisors generally recommend and purchase only no-load or load-waived mutual funds for client advisory accounts, some funds may impose an initial or deferred sales charge. Clients may also own some of these funds when they transfer their account(s) to Coastal Investment Advisors. Coastal Investment Advisors may participate indirectly in the sales charges imposed by mutual funds through its affiliated broker/dealer, Coastal Equities, Inc. CEI could receive 12b-1 fees in connection with certain mutual funds purchased for clients' accounts, including certain money market funds. These fees will not always be used to offset advisory fees paid by clients to Coastal Investment Advisors, although in some cases clients' advisory fees may be lower (due to the receipt of the 12b-1 fees) than they otherwise would have been without the 12b-1 fees. Coastal Investment Advisors may also receive

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shareholder-servicing fees (also referred to as “rebates” or “revenue sharing” payments) from various mutual fund companies with respect to its clients whose assets are invested in those mutual funds, which typically range from 5 basis points to 50 basis points depending on the mutual fund purchased. Virtually all investments purchased by prospectus or private placement memorandum have internal fees that are borne by the client in addition to any trading, execution, or Coastal Investment Advisors advisory fees. Coastal Investment Advisors is not compensated based on a share of capital gains upon or capital appreciation of the assets or any portion of the assets of any client. Coastal Investment Advisors’ advisory fees are charged only as described within this Disclosure Document.

**Additional compensation.** Some of CIA's Financial Advisors may also receive compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products or insurance, including asset-based sales charges or service fees from the sale of mutual funds. Please see Item 10, below, for further information. This practice presents a conflict of interest and can give the Firm and its Financial Advisors an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on the client's needs. No client is under any obligation to purchase any securities or insurance commission products from CIA and/or its representatives. Clients are reminded that they may purchase securities and insurance products recommended by CIA through other, non-affiliated broker-dealers and/or insurance agencies.

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

The firm does not accept performance based fees. However, one of the firm’s supervised persons, Kevin Blackburn, does accept performance based fees from qualified clients in a hedge fund managed by an entity controlled by Mr. Blackburn. Such fees are subject to individualized negotiation with each such client. Performance based fee arrangements may create an incentive for Mr. Blackburn to recommend investments which may be riskier or more speculative than those which would be recommended under a different fee arrangement. Such fee arrangements also create an incentive to favor higher fee paying accounts over other accounts in the allocation of investment opportunities. CIA has procedures designed and implemented to ensure that all clients are treated fairly and equally, and to prevent this conflict from influencing the allocation of investment opportunities among clients.

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## Item 7 – Types of Clients

Clients of Coastal Investment Advisors' Financial Advisors include high and ultra-high net worth families as well as individuals, businesses, institutions, trusts, and estates.

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

**Investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear.**

The Firm's Financial Advisors strive to learn the client's goals, risk tolerance and time horizon through a verbal interview process. Upon identification of appropriate strategies that are suited to fit the client's needs, Coastal Investment Advisors or the Financial Advisor will recommend investment management strategies to help a client achieve his or her financial goals.

Specific investment strategies vary in accordance with the specific needs of each client. For most clients, Financial Advisors attempt to design a strategy based on the concept of asset allocation, or spreading investments among a number of asset classes (domestic stocks vs. foreign stocks; large cap stocks vs. small cap stocks; corporate bonds vs. government securities). Asset allocation seeks efficient diversification of assets in an attempt to lessen the risk of concentrated exposure to a particular security or asset class.

Coastal Investment Advisors may use trading strategies that involve frequent trading of securities. Frequent trading strategies may negatively affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes.

Coastal Investment Advisors' methods of analysis include charting analysis, fundamental analysis, technical analysis, and cyclical analysis.

**Charting analysis** involves the use of patterns in performance charts. The firm uses this technique to search for patterns used to help predict favorable conditions for buying and/or selling a security.

**Fundamental analysis** involves the analysis of financial statements, the general financial health of companies, and/or the analysis of management or competitive advantages.

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**Technical analysis** involves the analysis of past market data; primarily price and volume.

**Cyclical analysis** involved the analysis of business cycles to find favorable conditions for buying and/or selling a security.

Coastal Investment Advisors uses Long Term Trading, Short Term Trading, and Options Writing Strategies (including covered options, uncovered options, or spreading strategies) that are designed to capture market rates of both return and risk. Frequent trading, when done, can affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes. Short sales and options writing generally hold greater risk and clients should be aware that there is a chance of material risk of loss using any of those strategies.

Other investment strategies may be chosen by the Financial Advisor or Money Manager if they meet a client's particular financial needs, risk profile, and overall investment strategy. Cash management and some treasury services may also be offered. Financial Advisors may recommend that Advisory Clients engage in margin transactions. Purchasing securities on margin can amplify potential returns and losses. As such, purchasing securities on margin may result in losses greater than an Advisory Client's original principal. Clients should carefully review disclosures regarding risks, fees, and other considerations appearing in margin account agreements prior to opening margin accounts.

**Unaffiliated Private Investment Funds.** CIA may also provide investment advice regarding unaffiliated private investment funds. CIA, on a non-discretionary basis, may recommend that certain qualified clients consider an investment in unaffiliated private investment funds. CIA's role relative to the private investment funds is limited to its initial and ongoing due diligence and investment monitoring services. If a client determines to become a private fund investor, the assets invested in the fund(s) shall generally be included as part of "assets under management" for purposes of CIA calculating its investment advisory fee (unless the client purchases the fund on a commission basis from CIA's affiliated broker-dealer). CIA's clients are under no obligation to consider or make an investment in a private investment fund(s).

Private investment funds generally involve unique risks, including, but not limited to, potential for complete loss of principal, liquidity constraints and lack of transparency, a complete discussion of which is set forth in each fund's offering documents, which will be provided to each client for review and consideration. Unlike other investments that a client may maintain, private investment funds do not provide daily liquidity or pricing. Each prospective client investor will be required to complete a Subscription Agreement,



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pursuant to which the client shall establish that he/she is qualified for investment in the fund, and shall acknowledge and accept all risk factors that are associated with such an investment.

If CIA references private investment funds owned by the client on any supplemental account reports prepared by CIA, the value(s) for all the private investment funds will reflect either the initial purchase and/or the most recent valuation provided by fund sponsor. If the valuation reflects the initial purchase price (and/or a value as of a previous date), the current value(s) (to the extent ascertainable) could be significantly more or less than the original purchase price.

**Client Obligations.** In performing its services, CIA is not required to verify any information received from the client or from the client's other professionals, and is expressly authorized to rely on that information. Moreover, it is the client's responsibility to notify CIA promptly upon any change in the client's financial situation or investment objectives. If the client does not provide this notice or information, CIA and its Financial Advisors will not be in a position to perform an accurate review, evaluation or revision of their previous recommendations and/or services.

**Non-Discretionary Service Limitations.** CIA's Financial Advisors generally provide investment advice on a discretionary basis -- meaning that the Financial Advisor is authorized to make transactions on the client's behalf in the client's account at the discretion of the advisor. If a client engages CIA on a non-discretionary investment advisory basis, the client must be willing to accept that CIA cannot effect any account transactions without obtaining prior verbal consent to any such transaction(s) from the client. Thus, if the client is unavailable during a market event, CIA will be unable to effect any account transactions (as it would for its discretionary clients) because it must first obtain the client's verbal consent.

**Investment Risk.** Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk. No one should assume that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy (including the investments and/or investment strategies recommended or undertaken by CIA) will be profitable or equal any specific performance level(s).

## **Item 9 – Disciplinary Information**

Registered investment advisers are required to disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of Coastal Investment



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Advisors or the integrity of Coastal Investment Advisors' management. Coastal Investment Advisors has no information applicable to this Item.

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

CIA is affiliated with other financial services firms.

Coastal Equities, Inc., is our affiliated broker/dealer. Many of our Financial Advisors are registered representatives of CEI. They may provide analysis of and recommend the purchase and sale of securities through CEI.

Coastal Equities Insurance Agency, Inc., Coastal Insurance Consulting, LLC and Coastal Risk Advisors, LLC, are licensed as general insurance brokers and agencies. Properly licensed Financial Advisors may provide analysis of and recommend the purchase and sale of certain insurance products.

CIA may receive a commission or other form of compensation in connection with these securities or insurance transactions and may compensate Financial Advisors with a percentage of commissions or other forms of compensation. Clients are not obligated to use any of these affiliated entities as their broker-dealer, insurance broker or agent, or to use any recommended insurance company for any recommended insurance transaction.

Coastal Investment Advisors may utilize outside insurance agencies or brokers for help with the analysis and recommendation of insurance products and/or for insurance licensing and appointments with various states and insurance companies.

**Time Spent on Other Activities.** Principals of Coastal Investment Advisors may spend up to 90% of their time on other related or non-related activities, including management of the firm, recruiting, and registered representative activities, including the sale of commissionable products through CEI and/or the sale or recommendation of insurance products.

**Broker/Dealer.** CEI is a member of FINRA, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB"), and SIPC and is registered in various states as required. CEI is an introducing broker/dealer with a fully-disclosed clearing arrangement through First Clearing Corp.

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**Conflict of Interest.** The recommendation by CIA representatives that a client purchase a securities or insurance product from the firm's affiliated broker-dealer or insurance agency presents a conflict of interest, as the receipt of commissions may provide an incentive to recommend investment products based on commissions to be received, rather than on a particular client's need. No client is under any obligation to purchase any securities or insurance commission products from CIA and/or its representatives. Clients are reminded that they may purchase securities and insurance products recommended by CIA through other, non-affiliated broker-dealers and/or insurance agencies. CIA's Chief Compliance Officer, Francis J. Skinner, is available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding this conflict of interest.

**Non-Investment Consulting/Implementation Services.** CIA or its Financial Advisors may provide consulting services regarding non-investment related matters, such as estate planning, tax planning, insurance, etc. Although certain of its representatives may be separately licensed in other capacities, CIA is not a law firm or accounting firm, none of its representatives is authorized to act as an attorney or accountant on behalf of the firm, and no portion of CIA's services should be construed as legal or accounting services. CIA or its Financial Advisors may recommend the services of other professionals for certain non-investment implementation purposes (i.e. attorneys, accountants, insurance, etc.), including, as disclosed below, CIA representatives in their separate capacities as attorneys, CPAs, tax preparers, mortgage brokers, registered representatives and/or licensed agents of CIA's affiliated broker-dealer or insurance agencies. The client is under no obligation to engage the services of any recommended professional. The client retains absolute discretion over all implementation decisions and is free to accept or reject any recommendation from CIA.

If the client engages any recommended professional, and a dispute relating to that engagement arises later, the client agrees to seek recourse exclusively from and against the engaged professional. It is always the client's responsibility to notify CIA promptly upon any change in the client's financial situation or investment objectives. If the client does not provide this notice or information, CIA and its Financial Advisors will not be in a position to evaluate or reconsider their previous recommendations for products, services or service providers.

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## Item 11 – Code of Ethics

Coastal Investment Advisors has adopted a Code of Ethics pursuant to the SEC's rules. Our Code of Ethics describes the high standard of business conduct we expect from our Financial Advisors and other members of our staff, and the fiduciary duty we each owe our clients. The Code of Ethics includes provisions relating to the confidentiality of client information, a prohibition on insider trading, a prohibition of rumormongering, restrictions on the acceptance of significant gifts and the reporting of certain gifts and business entertainment items, and personal securities trading procedures, among other topics. All supervised persons at Coastal Investment Advisors must acknowledge the terms of the Code of Ethics annually, or as amended.

The firm or its related persons may recommend to clients, or buy or sell for client accounts, securities in which the firm or its related persons have a material financial interest. Under certain circumstances, this may present a conflict of interest. Coastal Investment Advisors' Code of Ethics addresses this conflict; employees and associated persons are required to follow the Firm's policy and applicable laws. Subject to these requirements, officers, directors and employees of Coastal Investment Advisors and its affiliates may trade for their own accounts in securities which are recommended to and/or purchased for Coastal Investment Advisors' clients. The Code of Ethics is designed to assure that the personal securities transactions, activities and interests of the employees of Coastal Investment Advisors 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. Under the Code, certain classes of securities have been designated as exempt transactions, based upon a determination that these would materially not interfere with the best interest of Coastal Investment Advisors' clients. In addition, the Code requires pre-clearance of many transactions, and restricts trading in close proximity to client trading activity. Nonetheless, because the Code of Ethics in some circumstances would permit employees to invest in the same securities as clients, there is a possibility that employees might benefit from market activity by a client in a security held by an employee. The firm regularly monitors employee trading to ensure that clients' interests are protected in the event of any conflict of interest between Coastal Investment Advisors' Financial Advisor and a client.

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Certain affiliated accounts may trade in the same securities with client accounts on an aggregated basis when consistent with Coastal Investment Advisors' obligation of best execution. In these circumstances, the affiliated accounts and client accounts will share commission costs equally and receive securities at a total average price. Coastal Investment Advisors will retain records of the trade order (specifying each participating account) and its allocation, which will be completed prior to the entry of the aggregated order. Completed orders will be allocated as specified in the initial trade order. Partially filled orders will be allocated on a pro rata basis. Any exceptions will be explained on the Order.

Coastal Investment Advisors' clients or prospective clients may request a copy of the firm's Code of Ethics by contacting Francis J. Skinner, Chief Compliance Officer.

It is Coastal Investment Advisors' policy that the firm will not effect any principal or agency cross securities transactions for client accounts. Coastal Investment Advisors will also not cross trades between client accounts. Principal transactions are generally defined as transactions where an adviser, acting as principal for its own account or the account of an affiliated broker-dealer, buys from or sells any security to any advisory client. A principal transaction may also be deemed to have occurred if a security is crossed between an affiliated hedge fund and another client account. An agency cross transaction is defined as a transaction where a person acts as an investment adviser in relation to a transaction in which the investment adviser, or any person controlled by or under common control with the investment adviser, acts as broker for both the advisory client and for another person on the other side of the transaction. Agency cross transactions may arise where an adviser is dually registered as a broker-dealer or has an affiliated broker-dealer.

## **Item 12 – Brokerage Practices**

### The Custodian and Brokers We Use

Coastal Investment Advisors does not maintain custody of your assets, although we may be deemed to have custody of your assets if you give us authority to withdraw assets from your account. Your assets must be maintained in an account at a "qualified custodian," generally a broker/dealer or bank. We recommend that our clients use TD Ameritrade ("TDA"), a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, Trust Company of America ("TCA"), a Colorado bank and member FDIC, Maxim Group, LLC ("Maxim," a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, Motif Investing, Inc. ("Motif," a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, or our affiliate, Coastal Equities, Inc., a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC. CEI maintains

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custody and clearing of its brokerage accounts via a fully disclosed clearing agreement with First Clearing, LLC ("First Clearing"), a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, a wholly owned non-bank subsidiary of Wells Fargo. We are independently owned and operated and are not affiliated with TDA, TCA, Maxim, Motif, or First Clearing, although we are affiliated with Coastal. (We refer to any of these qualified custodians as a "QC.")

The QC will hold your assets in a brokerage account, and buy and sell securities when we instruct them to. While we recommend that you use one of the aforementioned as custodian/broker, you will decide whether to do so and will open your account with a qualified custodian by entering into an account agreement directly with them. We do not open the account for you, although we may assist you in doing so. Not all advisors require their clients to use a particular broker-dealer or other custodian selected by the advisor. Even though your account is maintained at one of the aforementioned QCs, we can still use other brokers to execute trades for your account as described below.

#### How We Select Brokers/Custodians

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:

- Combination of transaction execution services and asset custody services (generally without a separate fee for custody)
- Capability to execute, clear, and settle trades (buy and sell securities for your account)
- Capability to facilitate transfers and payments to and from accounts (wire transfers, check requests, bill payment, etc.)
- Breadth of available investment products (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds [ETFs], etc.)
- Availability of investment research and tools that assist us in making investment decisions
- Quality of services
- Competitiveness of the price of those services (commission rates, margin interest rates, other fees, etc.) and willingness to negotiate the prices

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- Reputation, financial strength, and stability
  - Prior service to us and our other clients
  - Availability of other products and services that benefit us, as discussed below

#### Your Brokerage and Custody Costs

For our clients' accounts that a QC maintains, the QC generally does not charge you separately for custody services but is compensated by charging you commissions or other fees on trades that it executes or that settle into your QC account.

In addition to commissions, a QC charges you a flat dollar amount as a "prime broker" or "trade away" fee for each trade that we have executed by a different broker-dealer but where the securities bought or the funds from the securities sold are deposited (settled) into your QC account. These fees are in addition to the commissions or other compensation you pay the executing broker-dealer. Because of this, in order to minimize your trading costs, we execute most trades for your account at the QC, however, in some cases, we may obtain better pricing on a security or be able to obtain a security that may not be available at the QC at a different broker-dealer.

We have determined that having a QC execute most trades is consistent with our duty to seek "best execution" of your trades. Best execution means the most favorable terms for a transaction based on all relevant factors, including those listed above.

#### Products and Services Available to Us From QC's.

QCs provide us and our clients with access to institutional brokerage—trading, custody, reporting, and related services—many of which are not typically available to retail customers. QCs also make available various support services. Some of those services help us manage or administer our clients' accounts, while others help us manage and grow our business. QC's support services generally are available on an unsolicited basis (we don't have to request them) and at no charge to us. Following is a more detailed description of QC's support services:

**Services That Benefit You.** Institutional brokerage services include access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of client assets. The investment products available include some to which we might not otherwise have access or that would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment by our clients. The services described in this paragraph generally benefit you and your account.

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**Services That May Not Directly Benefit You.** Other products and services are available to us that benefit us but may not directly benefit you or your account. These products and services assist us in managing and administering our clients' accounts. They include investment research, both a QC's own and that of third parties. We may use this research to service all or a substantial number of our clients' accounts, including accounts not maintained at the QC. In addition to investment research, the QC also makes available software and other technology that:

- Provide access to client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements)
- Facilitate trade execution and allocate aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts
- Provide pricing and other market data
- Facilitate payment of our fees from our clients' accounts
- Assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting

**Services That Generally Benefit Only Us.** QCs also offer other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. These services include:

- Educational conferences and events
- Consulting on technology, compliance, legal, and business needs
- Publications and conferences on practice management and business succession
- Access to employee benefits providers, human capital consultants, and insurance providers

A QC may provide some of these services itself. In other cases, it will arrange for third-party vendors to provide the services to us. A QC may also discount or waive its fees for some of these services or pay all or a part of a third party's fees. A QC may also provide us with other benefits, such as occasional business entertainment of our personnel.

**Our Interest in a QC's Services.** The availability of these services benefits us because we do not have to produce or purchase them. We don't have to pay for services so long as our clients collectively keep a minimum dollar amount of their assets in accounts at the QC. That minimum dollar amount may vary with each QC. Beyond that, these services are not contingent upon our committing any specific amount of business to a QC in trading

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commissions or assets in custody. The applicable minimum may give us an incentive to recommend that you maintain your account with a particular QC, based on our interest in receiving services that benefit our business rather than based on your interest in receiving the best value in custody services and the most favorable execution of your transactions. This is a potential conflict of interest. We believe, however, that our selection of an aforementioned QC as custodian and broker is in the best interests of our clients. Our selection is primarily supported by the scope, quality, and price of services and not by the services that benefit only us.

Soft dollar benefits are not limited to those clients who may have generated a particular benefit although certain soft dollar allocations are connected to particular clients or groups of clients. Soft dollar benefits are not proportionally allocated to any accounts that may generate different amounts of the soft dollar benefits.

**Brokerage Discretion – Prime Brokerage.** For a number of discretionary client accounts, Coastal Investment Advisors currently has the discretionary authority to select a broker (other than a client’s current Custodian) to execute a fixed income trade. Each trade placed at a broker other than a client’s selected Custodian will cost the client up to \$25.00, which is charged by the Custodian to settle the trade. This is in addition to any mark-up or mark-down that may be paid to the broker/dealer Coastal Investment Advisors selects to buy or sell the security. Clients must qualify for prime brokerage to participate in these transactions. To qualify for prime brokerage transactions, clients must maintain a minimum portfolio value of \$100,000 or more and sign the appropriate prime brokerage paperwork with the custodian. Coastal Investment Advisors may use this discretionary authority to trade away from the custodian when purchasing or selling fixed income securities only. It is not used in all cases. Reasonable restrictions on this authority may be imposed, as described above.

**No Brokerage Discretion.** If a client account does not qualify for prime brokerage, Coastal Investment Advisors will not have the ability to trade at any other broker other than the client’s selected Custodian (without the client’s specific consent). All transactions for a client’s account will be directed to its chosen Custodian unless permission is granted by a client to Coastal Investment Advisors for prime brokerage trades.

**Trade Errors.** If a trade error occurs in a client account and it is Coastal Investment Advisors’ error, Coastal Investment Advisors will correct the error so the client account does not suffer a loss. However, it is possible that the client may not profit from the error,



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even if the correction results in a profit. For example, certain custodians keep all trade profits on an error regardless of how the error was caused.

**Block Trading (Mini Blocks) and Trade Allocations.** Coastal Investment Advisors may “aggregate” or “block” purchases or sales of the same security for multiple accounts. Each account participating in the block will receive the average price if multiple executions are required to complete the order. Coastal Investment Advisors may block multiple client accounts together that qualify for prime brokerage trading activity. Participating clients will receive the average execution price and their pro rata share of transaction costs. However, because of Coastal Investment Advisors’ practice of managing portfolios on an individual basis, Coastal Investment Advisors does not frequently block transactions except for certain accounts managed in accordance with a model. Thus, Coastal Investment Advisors’ ability to take advantage of volume discounts or other potential cost and execution advantages of block trades may be limited.

**Directed Brokerage.** In directing Coastal Investment Advisors to use a specific custodian and/or broker/dealer (other than those recommended by Coastal Investment Advisors) clients should understand that Coastal Investment Advisors will not have the authority to negotiate commissions among various Custodians or obtain volume discounts. This may also affect our ability to achieve best execution.

***For First Clearing accounts:*** By recommending certain programs, Coastal Investment Advisors is also recommending itself and its affiliated broker/dealer, Coastal Equities, Inc. Coastal Investment Advisors has an incentive to recommend programs that generate revenue for Coastal Investment Advisors and its affiliated broker/dealer over other programs to the extent that such arrangements generate higher total income for Coastal Investment Advisors and its affiliates. In addition, clients should understand that this brokerage arrangement may cause the client to forego any potential savings on execution costs that Coastal Investment Advisors otherwise might be able to negotiate with different broker/dealers, such as reduced execution costs that may result from utilizing alternative trading services. Clients or prospective clients may contact Francis J. Skinner, Chief Compliance Officer, with questions.

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### **Item 13 – Review of Accounts**

Each client is offered at least an annual account review by a Financial Advisor. Additional reviews may be triggered by client request, or by material market, economic or political events, or by changes in clients' financial situations (such as retirement, termination of employment, physical move, or inheritance).

Reviews are based on objectives and parameters established by clients, which are generally memorialized through their individual advisory agreements and/or investment policy statements.

While Financial Advisors will typically evaluate the continued suitability of specific Money Managers (as applicable), managed account platforms, and wrap programs during account reviews, the administrators of such platforms and programs (which may be Coastal Investment Advisors, a Custodian, or another third-party) may also perform their own reviews of managers appearing on the platforms and programs. Any reviews will be disclosed in the separate Disclosure Documents maintained by the administrators to applicable platforms and programs.

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

We receive an economic benefit from QCs in the form of the support products and services made available to us and other independent investment advisors whose clients maintain their accounts with the aforementioned QCs. These products and services, how they benefit us, and the related conflicts of interest are described above in Item 12. The availability to us of products and services is not based on our giving particular investment advice, such as buying particular securities for our clients.

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## ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION

**Solicitors.** Coastal Investment Advisors may directly compensate some individuals for client referrals and their on-going business, which creates a conflict of interest for those individuals. Compensation is paid and appropriate disclosures are made in compliance with the SEC Cash Solicitation Rule 206(4)-3. The compensation paid to such third-parties generally represents a percentage of management and/or incentive fees paid by the client to Coastal Investment Advisors. The compensation paid by Coastal Investment Advisors is for the solicitation services provided by the third-party solicitor and for referring the potential client to Coastal Investment Advisors. These solicitation services include making introductions and providing information and materials about the advisory services of Coastal Investment Advisors. In no event will such solicitation services include providing investment advisory services. The compensation paid by Coastal Investment Advisors for these solicitation services is paid completely by Coastal Investment Advisors from the management fees earned, which are not increased or passed through to the referred client in any way as a result of a third-party solicitor's involvement in the introduction.

### **Item 15 – Custody**

Under government regulations, we are deemed to have custody of your assets if, for example, you authorize us to instruct a QC to deduct our advisory fees directly from your account or if you grant us authority to move your money to another person's account. The QC maintains actual custody of your assets. You will receive account statements directly from the QC at least quarterly. They will be sent to the email or postal mailing address you provided to them. You should carefully review those statements promptly when you receive them.

Some of our Financial Advisors may provide their clients with periodic statements reflecting information about their accounts. Clients should compare these statements with the statements they receive from the qualified custodian who holds their account assets. Clients should notify Francis J. Skinner, Chief Compliance Officer, of any discrepancy.

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

CIA usually receives discretionary authority from the client at the outset of an advisory relationship to select the identity and amount of securities to be bought or sold. This

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discretionary authority also allows Coastal Investment Advisors to determine the Money Manager to be used for client account(s). In all cases, however, discretion is to be exercised in a manner consistent with the stated investment objectives for the particular client account.

When selecting securities and determining amounts, CIA observes the investment policies, limitations and restrictions of the clients it advises.

Clients may impose reasonable restrictions on this authority, (i.e., no defense stocks, no tobacco, etc.). Investment guidelines and restrictions, and any subsequent modifications thereto, must be provided to CIA in writing. Coastal Investment Advisors reserves the right to refuse to open an account or to terminate an account if Coastal Investment Advisors believes, in its sole opinion, that the restrictions placed are excessive or would limit its abilities to manage the account effectively and prudently. Clients should also understand that the imposition of portfolio restrictions may affect performance of the affected portfolio(s), either positively or negatively.

#### **Item 17 – Voting Client Securities**

As a matter of firm policy and practice, Coastal Investment Advisors does not have any authority to and does not vote proxies on behalf of advisory clients. Clients retain the responsibility for receiving and voting proxies for any and all securities maintained in client portfolios. Coastal Investment Advisors may provide advice to clients regarding the clients' voting of proxies. Some of Coastal Investment Advisors may, upon client request, recommend and refer the customer's account to a third-party proxy voting firm. Such services are delegated to a third-party vendor, Broadridge, in New York, NY.

#### **Item 18 – Financial Information**

Registered investment advisers are required in this Item to provide you with certain financial information or disclosures about Coastal Investment Advisors' financial condition. Coastal Investment Advisors has no financial commitment that impairs its ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to clients, and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.