



**FORM ADV PART 2A- APPENDIX 1  
ALLOCATION SERIES  
MANAGER SERIES  
PORTFOLIO ONE  
WRAP BROCHURE**



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This wrap brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of First Allied Advisory Services, Inc. If you have any questions about the contents of this wrap brochure, please contact us at 800-223-0989. The information in this wrap brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

First Allied Advisory Services, Inc. is a registered investment adviser. Registration of an investment adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

This brochure details important disclosure information about certain programs that we offer. We do offer other programs that are not discussed in this brochure.

Additional information about First Allied Advisory Services, Inc. also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).



## Item 2- Summary of Material Changes

The following items explain material changes that you should be aware of as a current or prospective client of First Allied Advisory Services, Inc. advisory programs or services. Each year you will receive either a summary of material changes that were made to our Form ADV disclosure brochures over the previous year or an updated brochure. You can always request a full copy of any of our current disclosure brochures by calling 800-223-0989.

The material changes that have been made to our Form ADV disclosure brochures since our annual amendment in March 2016 are summarized below:

- ***Ownership Change –RCS Capital Corporation***

On May 23, 2016, the parent company of First Allied Holdings, Inc., RCS Capital Corporation (“RCS”), had a change in ownership and a name change. As a result of this change, RCS is no longer a publicly held corporation. Instead, RCS is a privately held corporation owned by a group of companies. The RCS name has changed to Aretec Group, Inc.



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## Introduction

The GPS platform hosts a variety of advisory programs that are sponsored by First Allied Advisory Services, Inc. (“FAAS”), a registered investment adviser. This wrap brochure details certain of the programs available through the GPS platform. Envestnet Asset Management, Inc. (“Envestnet”) provides the technology platform for all GPS platform accounts. Envestnet is an unaffiliated registered investment adviser. FAAS offers other wrap and non-wrap programs, including other wrap and non-wrap programs on the GPS platform that are described in separate brochures. Your advisor will provide you with brochures describing these programs upon request. Throughout the remainder of this text, “we,” “us,” and “our” refers to FAAS.

### *FAAS’ Background*

FAAS, a Delaware corporation, is an investment adviser registered with the SEC. Being registered does not mean that FAAS is endorsed by any regulatory authority; it simply means that FAAS is required to follow the rules for investment advisers established by the SEC. Representatives of FAAS’ investment adviser are required to be registered for advisory business only in the state of their principal place of business. For advisory business in Texas, the investment adviser representative would also be required to be properly registered in that state prior to the solicitation of any advisory business in that state. Most representatives of FAAS are also registered as independent contractor registered representatives with First Allied Securities, Inc. (“First Allied”), an affiliated broker-dealer, registered municipal advisor, and registered investment adviser, to allow them to offer brokerage products and services to clients. Compensation for brokerage products and services is a commission based on each transaction executed. Representatives of First Allied are registered to conduct brokerage business in each state where clients reside. Some representatives of FAAS are also registered with affiliated broker-dealers or registered investment advisers, or unaffiliated registered investment advisers. Please see the representative’s Form ADV Part 2B for specific information about the companies each individual is registered with.

FAAS was founded in 2007 and is owned by First Allied Holdings, Inc. (“Holdings”). On September 25, 2013, a majority interest in Holdings was purchased by RCS Capital Holdings, LLC, a member of the American Realty Capital group of companies, from several private equity funds controlled by Lovell Minnick Partners, LLC. On May 23, 2016, RCS Capital Corporation (“RCS”), had a change in ownership and a name change. As a result of this change, RCS is no longer a publicly held corporation. Instead, RCS is a privately held corporation owned by a group of companies. The RCS name has changed to Aretec Group, Inc. Holdings is also the parent company of First Allied Securities, Inc., FASI Insurance Services, Inc., First Allied Retirement Services, Inc., and other affiliated entities that offer financial products and services (see Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations section of Item 9- Additional Information).

FAAS is not a custodian of any accounts. Accounts for the programs on the GPS platform are custodied at Pershing, LLC (“Pershing”). Accounts for other wrap and non-wrap programs that FAAS offers are custodied at Pershing, Fidelity Investments (“Fidelity”) or other approved custodians. The use of other custodians is limited, and may be allowed on a case by case basis with the approval of our management team and may only be approved for certain representatives. The majority of FAAS’ advisory accounts are introduced to custodians through First Allied.

### *Our Corporate Structure*

FAAS has approximately 593 producing investment adviser representatives (“IARs”) as of December 31, 2016. Our producing IARs are independent contractors and business owners. Each IAR is responsible for maintaining his own client relationships. The IARs contract with us to utilize our advisory programs in an effort to help their clients meet financial goals and needs. We provide services to you through these advisory programs.

You pay us fees for our programs and services. We pay a portion of these fees to your IAR. The IAR’s share of the fee may vary from one advisory program to another. This presents a conflict of interest for our IARs because they may have an incentive to recommend advisory programs that may be more profitable to them. Information about this conflict of interest is included in Item 9- Additional Information. The fees we retain may also be different between IARs, depending on their agreement with us.

Our back office operations are split between San Diego, CA, El Segundo, CA, Des Moines, IA, and St. Cloud, MN. Our IARs have branch offices across the United States. Each of our IARs is supervised by another individual registered with our firm. The supervisor is called a designated registered principal (“DRP”) or designated supervisory principal (“DSP”). DRPs are registered individuals that have contracted to work with us, and are often producing IARs and representatives themselves. DSPs are our employees and are generally located in our San Diego office.

### *Our Principal Officers*

Adam Antoniades is the Chief Executive Officer of Holdings. He formerly served as First Allied’s Chief Executive Officer from 2011 to 2014, as President from 2009 to 2011, and as President, Chief Executive Officer, and Corporate Secretary from 1994 until 2004. Mr. Antoniades served as President of Advanced Equities Financial Corp from 2004 to 2009. Prior to his employment at First Allied, Mr. Antoniades was employed by Bishop Saxony Corporation as Corporate Secretary and with Berkeley Safe Deposit as Head Currency Trader.



Kevin M. Keefe is the President and Chief Executive Officer of First Allied. Prior to joining First Allied, Mr. Keefe served as Executive Vice President and head of Wealth Management for AIG Advisor Group, where he also served as the Chief Executive Officer of their corporate registered investment adviser. Mr. Keefe also spent five years at LPL Financial where he was responsible for a variety of advisor-facing areas of the firm including wealth management, financial planning, sponsor relations, and investment research. Mr. Keefe earned the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) designation in 1997.

Luanne Graham has been the RIA Chief Compliance Officer of First Allied Securities since February 2007. Since July 2010, Ms. Graham has also been the Chief Compliance Officer of First Allied Advisory Services. She serves as Chief Compliance Officer for Cetera Investment Management LLC (formerly Tower Square Investment Management LLC) since December 2015. Ms. Graham previously served as RIA Chief Compliance Officer for Girard Securities, a broker-dealer and registered investment adviser, and Chief Compliance Officer of First Allied Asset Management, a registered investment adviser, Asset Planning Solutions, a broker-dealer, and Ken Stern & Associates, a registered investment adviser.

#### *Devotion of Resources*

Most FAAS IARs are independent contractor registered representatives with First Allied. If your IAR is a registered representative, he may divide his time between broker-dealer activities and advisory activities and have responsibilities to both FAAS advisory clients and First Allied brokerage clients. Depending on your IAR's individual business mix and client base, he may spend more or less time devoted to broker-dealer activities than other IARs. In addition to broker-dealer activities and responsibilities, your IAR may also be engaged in one or more outside business activities. These outside activities may or may not be related to the financial industry. Your IAR will provide you with a copy of his Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement, which describes his business background and outside business activities.

#### *Our Advisory Activities*

Through our IARs, we offer a variety of investment advisory programs and services for a fee. The following list includes some of our more common offerings:

- Assistance in selecting a portfolio manager
- Ongoing evaluation and review of portfolio managers
- Evaluation and review of portfolio composition
- Management of accounts
- Financial planning
- Consultation on client assets
- Active portfolio management

Portfolio management includes designing and implementing a portfolio through buying and selling stocks, bonds, mutual funds, options, managed futures, insurance products, private placements, and other securities. Our representatives, including your IAR, may personally buy and sell the same securities that you buy and sell. This conflict of interest is discussed fully in the Code of Ethics section of Item 9- Additional Information.

Our IARs are permitted to offer you advisory programs that are managed by the IAR, other FAAS IARs, or by unrelated third-party managers. IARs may rely on research or model portfolios provided by an affiliated third-party manager, Cetera Investment Management LLC ("CIM"). Third-party managers in the Allocation Series are referred to as strategists ("Strategists"); third-party managers in the Manager Series are referred to as investment managers ("Investment Managers"). In the Portfolio ONE program, our IARs act as an "overlay manager." An overlay manager is responsible for allocating assets among one or more sub-managers. In this program, our IARs allocate assets to be managed by Strategists, Investment Managers, and our IARs. All Strategists and Investment Managers are registered investment advisers. Certain Strategists and Investment Managers may not be available to all our IARs. In certain situations, usually due to legacy relationships, we will approve an IAR to use a Strategist or Investment Manager that is unavailable to other IARs.

We consider your investment goals and needs when recommending any advisory program or service. Your IAR will collect information from you regarding your risk tolerance, investment objective(s), and investment time horizon and other factors that will assist us in determining your investment objective for each account. You may have multiple accounts with us, with differing investment objectives, particularly if you intend to use certain accounts for specific purposes (such as transferring assets to a young child, many years in the future), or you may elect to have multiple accounts managed under one investment objective.

Our intention is to provide you with programs and services that will help you to meet your goals and needs. We will gather personal information when helping you choose a program or service. This information may include:

- Your investing experience
- How soon you need the money
- Your retirement goals
- Your current financial situation and future needs
- Your annual income
- Your ability to withstand losing money
- Your ability to withstand market fluctuation
- Your personal instructions on how to invest

**Please contact your IAR if this information changes so that your IAR can review your existing accounts to see if any changes need to be made.** We encourage you to meet with your IAR annually to review your portfolio(s). You may impose reasonable



investment restrictions in any of our advisory programs by written notification to and acceptance of both us and the third-party manager (if applicable).

We offer both wrap and non-wrap programs. A wrap program is one in which you pay a single “wrapped” fee for both investment advisory and brokerage execution services. This wrap fee is not based on the number of transactions made in your account. It is based on the size of the account(s) we manage for you. If you invest in a non-wrap program, you may be subject to charges for each transaction in addition to the advisory fee. Because wrap programs do not have fees or charges associated with each transaction, wrap fees may be greater for similar services than non-wrap fees. Clients paying wrap fees may pay a higher percentage of the account value on an ongoing basis for similar services as non-wrap clients. Non-wrap clients may pay a higher or lower overall fee for the same services, depending on the number of trades in their account during a billing period. Clients may request fee information on similar programs from their IAR.

Our IARs may also host or offer educational seminars to clients and prospective clients. In certain cases, these seminars may be “sponsored” by unaffiliated or affiliated companies who reimburse our IARs for the cost of these events. For more information about these reimbursements, please reference the Client Referrals and Other Compensation section of Item 9- Additional Information. Clients and prospective clients are not charged fees for attending educational seminars hosted by our IARs.

#### *Information on All Advisory Programs*

Regardless of which advisory program or service you choose, your IAR will work with you to collect suitability information that will aid in the creation of recommendations. This suitability information is maintained on internal systems and documents. Your IAR is required to submit the completed suitability information to his supervisor for review and approval. It is your responsibility to notify your IAR if your financial circumstances change so that your IAR may work with you to determine if a change in your investment(s) may benefit you. Your IAR is also responsible for the ongoing review of your account(s) and regular communication with you. Our IARs provide investment advice only with respect to limited types of investments.

Custody of all accounts for the programs on the GPS platform will be at Pershing. Pershing will provide you with confirmations of all transactions and monthly or quarterly account statements. You may have the option of directing Pershing to not send you trade confirmations. This suppression will not impact the delivery of account statements.

We offer additional wrap programs that are not detailed in this brochure and we also offer several non-wrap programs that are detailed in other disclosure brochures. Your IAR can provide you with these other brochures upon request. Some non-wrap programs that we offer are similar to the wrap programs that we offer. Your IAR will work with you to decide which program will best serve your needs.

#### *Managed Assets*

Every year we calculate the amount of assets that we manage. As of December 31, 2016, we managed:

- \$4,538,019,181 in discretionary assets
- \$4,939,694 in non-discretionary assets

Discretionary assets are the assets with which we have the authority to determine whether to buy or sell securities. This authority is called a trading authorization and is described in more detail in the Investment Discretion section of Item 9- Additional Information. Non-discretionary assets are assets in accounts that we provide recommendations on, as to the purchase or sale of specific securities. We do not place orders to buy or sell non-discretionary assets without first receiving your authorization.

## **Item 4- Services, Fees and Compensation**

#### *Fee Overview*

The fees that you pay for advisory programs or services will depend on several different factors. The fees for advisory programs are generally based on the “Assets Under Management.” This means that the account is charged a fee based on the account balance as of a certain date. These fees are negotiable between you and the IAR offering the service.

The advisory programs described in this brochure charge an advisory fee, paid quarterly, based on the account’s balance on the last day of each calendar quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31). If the last day of the calendar quarter falls on a day that the New York Stock Exchange is closed, we use the account balance on the last business day of the calendar quarter to calculate the advisory fee. This fee is generally charged in advance (or pre-paid) for the management to be provided over the next calendar quarter. We will only charge you an advisory fee for the portion of a quarter that the account is under management. For new accounts, we will bill the account when it is opened for the remaining days in the quarter. For accounts that are terminating management, we will automatically credit you back any pre-paid fees for the portion of the quarter remaining after management has terminated. Advisory fees are generally deducted from the account. The account statements you receive from Pershing will reflect the deduction of these fees. Fees are deducted from the client account in the month following quarter end. For certain advisory programs not described in this brochure, fees may be paid to FAAS by check, as outlined in the advisory agreement. In these cases, we will send an invoice to the client for the fees owed.





In the event a deposit or withdrawal of \$5,000 or more on a single day in one investment account occurs, we will calculate the fee owed or refund due and adjust the normal fee charged at the end of the calendar quarter.

Some assets in your managed account may not be included in the calculation of your advisory fee. For example, assets that you recently paid a commission on may be exempt from this advisory fee. With approval from our management, we allow you to “hold” the asset in your advisory account, but this asset would not be charged an advisory fee. If your account is billed on assets under management, the advisory fee is generally split between a program (or platform) fee and a management fee.

#### *Program Fees*

The program fee will vary depending on which program you select. The program fee for the advisory programs described in this brochure is paid to us and is split between us and the various Strategists or Investment Managers whose services we are utilizing. A portion of the program fee is also paid to service providers that we hire to help us administer the advisory program selected, including First Allied. The program fee is not negotiable. However, the program fee may be different based upon your IAR’s relationship with FAAS and/or its affiliates. For example, we may allow your IAR to have a lower program fee because his clients’ combined accounts exceed a certain amount of assets under management. If your IAR has a reduced program fee, this will not change the total advisory fee you pay, but it may present a conflict of interest (we address this conflict of interest in Item 9- Additional Information). Program fees are subject to change without notice, but these changes do not affect the fee that you pay to us.

The program fee may also be different based upon the Strategists, Investment Managers, and investment models selected. This difference will not affect the advisory fee that you pay to us, but it does present a conflict of interest in that your IAR may benefit from selecting Strategists, Investment Managers, or models whose fees are lower. We help mitigate this conflict of interest by ensuring that any Strategist, Investment Manager, or investment model selected by you and/or your IAR is suitable for your investment goals and that all fees that are charged by the Strategists or Investment Managers are reasonable and competitive for the services provided. In the Portfolio ONE program, if your account is invested in multiple investment models, a different program fee may be applied to each model according to its cost and the amount of assets invested in it. While the program fee may vary as assets are moved into different investment models over time, the total advisory fee that you pay will remain the same. For additional information about conflicts of interest relating to the program fees, please see Item 9- Additional Information.

#### *Management Fee*

The management fee is paid to the IAR servicing the account. You and your IAR will negotiate this fee for each program account and it may not be the same for each account. It may also be different than the fees your IAR has negotiated with other clients, or the fees other IARs have negotiated with other clients for similar services. We retain a portion of the management fee as compensation for various services that we provide to your IAR and to you.

Once negotiated with you, your IAR’s management fee is fixed. However, your IAR’s costs associated with managing your account may vary depending on the investment choices that he decides are appropriate for your account. This creates a conflict of interest because your IAR has an incentive to select investments or investment models that will maximize his compensation rather than selecting investments without regard to compensation payable to him. This difference in your IAR’s compensation will not affect the advisory fee that you pay to us. We help mitigate this conflict of interest by requiring that your IAR adheres to his fiduciary obligation of selecting investments solely based on the best interests of clients and by establishing a maximum advisory fee for each advisory program. We address this conflict of interest in detail in Item 9- Additional Information.

#### *Total Advisory Fee*

You and your IAR will agree on your total advisory fee for each account prior to establishing the account. The total advisory fee is the sum of the program fee and the management fee. At any time, you and your IAR may agree to amend the original fee and submit a new statement of investment selection with a different total advisory fee listed. There are maximum allowable advisory fees for each program and we will not allow you to be charged more than this amount. The maximum allowable advisory fee may differ among programs, but is consistent for all IARs and all clients in each program. This maximum advisory fee is noted on the investment advisory agreement and in the fee schedules listed in this section.

#### *Fee Schedules*

Each advisory program that requires an investment account has its own fee schedule. The fee schedule will outline the program fee and the management fee. Generally, the management fee is negotiable with your IAR. The program fee is paid to us and is non-negotiable. The amount of your advisory fee, as a percentage, may remain the same regardless of the size of your account, or the percentage may decrease as your account balance increases. Your advisory fee will not increase, as a percentage, as your account balance increases.

#### **Allocation Series**

The Allocation Series program allows you and your IAR to select one of several different Strategists to manage your advisory account from a comprehensive, top-down perspective. We offer several Strategists to give you access to a variety of investment models including mutual fund-based models, exchange-traded fund-based models, and models with multiple types of investment vehicles, including mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and separately managed accounts. You and your IAR will initially choose one of the



available investment models. After the initial selection, your IAR has the flexibility to select a different model for your account at his discretion without your prior consent as long as the overall risk profile for all the accounts associated with the statement of investment selection is consistent with your selected risk profile.

The Allocation Series program includes several investment models that we formerly offered in legacy programs. The Allocation Series program allows you and your IAR to select Strategists and/or investment models that were not previously available. Please ask your IAR for a complete listing of Strategists and investment models available in the Allocation Series program. For more information about each Strategist and investment model, please review the Strategist's Form ADV disclosure brochure, which can be provided to you by your IAR.

The following table details the fee schedule for the Allocation Series program. The program fee for the Allocation Series program is dependent on which Strategist and/or investment model is selected. The advisory fee that you pay for your Allocation Series program account will be detailed on the statement of investment selection that you will sign when opening your account. Your total advisory fee will not change when your IAR changes Strategists or investment models.

Account Size	Program Fee (annually)	Management Fee (annually)	Total Advisory Fee (annually)
First \$250,000	0.55% - 0.75%	1.75% - 1.95%	2.50%
\$250,000 - \$500,000	0.50% - 0.70%	1.65% - 1.85%	2.35%
\$500,000 - \$1,000,000	0.45% - 0.65%	1.65% - 1.85%	2.30%
\$1,000,000 - \$2,000,000	0.35% - 0.60%	1.40% - 1.65%	2.00%
Over \$2,000,000	0.30% - 0.60%	1.40% - 1.70%	2.00%

### **Manager Series**

The Manager Series program allows you and your IAR to select one of several Investment Managers to manage your advisory account. These Investment Managers generally focus on a specific asset class or sector and will typically invest in individual stocks and/or bonds, but can also utilize exchange-traded funds and/or mutual funds. You and your IAR will initially choose one of the available investment models. After the initial selection, your IAR has the flexibility to select a different model for your account at his discretion without your prior consent as long as the overall risk profile for all the accounts associated with the statement of investment selection is consistent with your selected risk profile.

The Manager Series program includes several investment models that we formerly offered in legacy programs. The Manager Series program allows you and your IAR to select Investment Managers that were not previously available. Please ask your IAR for a complete listing of Investment Managers available in the Manager Series program. For detailed information about each investment manager, please review the Manager's Form ADV disclosure brochure, which can be provided to you by your IAR.

The following table details the fee schedule for the Manager Series program. The program fee for the Manager Series program is dependent on which Investment Manager and/or investment model is selected. The advisory fee that you pay for your Manager Series program account will be detailed on the statement of investment selection that you will sign when opening your account. Your total advisory fee will not change when your IAR changes Investment Managers or investment models.

Account Size	Program Fee (annually)	Management Fee (annually)	Total Advisory Fee (annually)
First \$250,000	0.63% - 1.35%	1.15% - 1.87%	2.50%
\$250,000 - \$500,000	0.63% - 1.35%	1.00% - 1.72%	2.35%
\$500,000 - \$1,000,000	0.58% - 1.30%	1.00% - 1.72%	2.30%
\$1,000,000 - \$2,000,000	0.53% - 1.25%	0.75% - 1.47%	2.00%
Over \$2,000,000	0.53% - 1.25%	0.75% - 1.47%	2.00%

### **Portfolio ONE**

The Portfolio ONE program allows you to access multiple investment models in one custodian account. In the Portfolio ONE program our IARs act as an "overlay manager" to your account, allocating your assets to one or more investment models that are available in the Allocation Series, Manager Series, and/or other advisory programs. The ability to include more than one investment model in the same account expands your ability to properly diversify, enhances your ability to monitor the performance of your assets with both account-level and investment model-level performance reporting, and limits the paperwork relating to establishing and maintaining your custodial account, including the number of 1099s you receive each year. Your IAR also has the benefit of being able to adjust your account's allocation to multiple investment models at the same time on the GPS platform and also complement your account's allocation with customized investment models.

You and your IAR will initially agree on an allocation for your Portfolio ONE account. After the initial selection, your IAR has the flexibility to select a different allocation for your account at his discretion without your prior consent as long as the overall risk profile for all the accounts associated with the statement of investment selection is consistent with your selected risk profile.





The following table details the fee schedule for the Portfolio ONE program. The program fee for the Portfolio ONE program is dependent on which investment models are selected. The advisory fee that you pay for your Portfolio ONE program account will be detailed on the statement of investment selection that you will sign when opening your account. Your total advisory fee will not change when your IAR changes your account's allocation to various investment models.

Account Size	Program Fee (annually)	Management Fee (annually)	Total Advisory Fee (annually)
First \$250,000	0.47% - 1.42%	1.08% - 2.03%	2.50%
\$250,000 - \$500,000	0.37% - 1.42%	1.08% - 2.13%	2.50%
\$500,000 - \$1,000,000	0.30% - 1.35%	1.00% - 2.05%	2.35%
\$1,000,000 - \$2,000,000	0.23% - 1.28%	1.02% - 2.07%	2.30%
Over \$2,000,000	0.16% - 1.26%	0.74% - 1.84%	2.00%

#### *Other Fees*

In addition to the fee schedules listed above, there are additional account maintenance related fees that may apply to your account. For more information relating to account maintenance fees, please refer to the Service Fee Schedule provided to you with your new account paperwork.

All Accounts may invest in mutual funds that make a distribution payment referred to as a 12b-1 fee. The clearing/custodial firm has been instructed to credit any 12b-1 fees received to the client's Account. As a result, neither First Allied nor the Advisor shall receive 12b-1 fees from mutual funds purchased in the Accounts.

In addition, your account will be subject to other fees charged by the custodian of your account. Electronic funds and wire transfer fees, transfer taxes, account maintenance fees, margin fees, transaction charges, exchange fees, and odd lot differentials are examples of fees that may be charged by the custodian. These fees are charged by the custodian and are not included in the advisory fee that you pay to us for management of your account. In some cases, certain of these custodian fees may be paid by your IAR, on an account by account basis. Your IAR is not required to pay these fees on your behalf and your IAR may elect to not pay for any or all fees for each of his clients' accounts. First Allied may receive a portion of these fees in its capacity as introducing broker-dealer. An account service schedule detailing all these fees will be provided to you upon account opening.

Based on the activity in your account, you may pay more or less for a managed account than if you had a brokerage account or an account directly with a mutual fund company. Your IAR should be able to discuss with you the benefits of opening a managed account versus a brokerage or mutual fund account.

FlexInsured – FDIC Insured Sweep Account permits available cash balances in eligible accounts (including those derived from the sale of securities, dividend payments, interest credited from bonds and cash deposits) to be automatically deposited (swept) into interest bearing deposit accounts at one of more participating banks. Deposits made through the FlexInsured Account® are FDIC insured up to \$250,000 at each participating bank and up to \$2,500,000 for combined program deposits. First Allied will earn additional compensation for its role in offering the FlexInsured Account. Qualified advisory accounts are not eligible for investment in a FlexInsured Account. For advisory retirement accounts, including those subject to ERISA regulations, the Federated Treasury Obligation Money Market Fund will be the default options. All other accounts will default to the FlexInsured Account. If your default option is the FlexInsured Account, you may choose a sweep option other than the default option. For detailed information regarding the terms and conditions of the products, including balance limitations, see the applicable prospectus or FDIC sweep disclosure document. We may change the products available for your selection.

#### *Verification of Fees*

You are always responsible for verifying that the fee you are charged is accurate. The custodian will not determine whether the fee is properly calculated. Should you find an error, please contact your IAR immediately. If you are not satisfied with the action your IAR takes, you may contact us at the number on the cover page of this document.

## Item 5- Account Requirements and Types of Clients

Most programs we offer have account minimums (if the program requires an account). The Allocation Series program has a minimum of \$25,000, but certain investment models available in the Allocation Series program have higher minimums. The Manager Series program has a minimum of \$25,000, but most Investment Managers available in the Manager Series program have higher minimums. The Portfolio ONE program's minimum is derived from the minimums of the investment model(s) selected. The lowest the minimum could be for Portfolio ONE would be \$25,000, however, based on the investment models selected, it could be many times higher.

We generally will not allow accounts into these programs that do not meet all applicable minimums. However, at our discretion, we may allow you to open an account without meeting the stated minimum. You and your IAR should discuss your level of investable assets to determine which programs are best suited for you.



Certain account registration types prohibit investments in securities other than mutual funds. Should your account registration type restrict the kinds of securities that are purchased in your account, the performance of the account may not match the performance of the investment model selected. In addition, there may be some Strategists, Investment Managers, and investment models that may not be appropriate for these accounts. Should your account have one of these account registration types, your IAR will consider which Strategists, Investment Managers, and investment models are best for you.

Our IARs open accounts for individuals, high net worth individuals, banking institutions, pension plans, profit sharing plans, charitable organizations, and other corporations and businesses. The majority of these accounts are opened for individuals not considered high net worth individuals. Our clients may have both advisory accounts and brokerage accounts. Our representatives may offer you advisory services, brokerage services, or both, depending on your needs.

## Item 6- Portfolio Manager Selection and Evaluation

A review is conducted of each third-party manager or platform that provides management services to our clients. We call this process “due diligence.” The Strategists and Investment Managers that are available in the Allocation Series, Manager Series, and Portfolio ONE programs have been reviewed by either us or Envestnet.

Our due diligence process starts with the third-party manager completing a comprehensive questionnaire designed to provide us with information about the third-party manager and its investment process. We review each third-party manager based on guidelines we have developed to allow us to offer you reputable management, based largely on its answers to the questionnaire.

Along with reviewing the questionnaire, a more detailed review of the initial data is conducted, including:

- The ownership structure
- Employees, including investment professionals, marketing and client service staff
- Regulatory, legal, and compliance issues of the adviser
- The manager’s performance, both current and historical
- In some cases, the investment adviser’s financial statements

We have an internal review committee that reviews this information and decides if the third-party manager will be approved to manage our program accounts.

For the advisory programs described in this brochure, the Strategists and Investment Managers available for your account are all third-party managers. We have conducted due diligence in accordance with the process outlined above for managers also offered through the FAAS Elite Asset Management program and certain other unaffiliated third-party managers. Envestnet has conducted due diligence on the majority of third-party managers available for your account. All third-party managers who did not go through Envestnet’s due diligence process were reviewed by us. Information about Envestnet’s due diligence process is available in its disclosure brochure, which will be provided to you when you select a third-party manager for which Envestnet conducted due diligence.

## Item 7- Client Information Provided to Portfolio Managers

For most of our advisory programs, the information that we provide to third-party managers varies depending on the amount of information the manager requests. For Allocation Series, Manager Series, and Portfolio ONE program accounts, information about you is only provided to affiliates, Envestnet, and third-party managers servicing your accounts. Non-public information is information about you that is not available to the public. Your social security number, your net worth, and your annual income are examples of non-public information. Public information is information about you that is readily accessible to the public. Public information may include your name, phone number, and address.

For all accounts, including those in the programs described in this brochure, your IAR will have access to all of the non-public information you provided when opening the client account. This information is protected in accordance with our Privacy Policy. A copy of our Privacy Policy is available on our website ([https://www.firstallied.com/uploads/11/04/Privacy\\_Policy.pdf](https://www.firstallied.com/uploads/11/04/Privacy_Policy.pdf)), and is provided to you after you open an account with us and annually thereafter.

## Item 8- Client Contact with Portfolio Managers

Your IAR serves as the contact point for any questions or changes you have related to your accounts. The Strategists and Investment Managers are not generally available for to speak with you. However, your IAR may be able to facilitate contact with a Strategist or Investment Manager on your behalf.

## Item 9- Additional Information

### Conflicts of Interest



Your IAR will receive compensation as a result of your participation in the programs described in this brochure. The amount of this compensation may be more or less than the amount of compensation your IAR would receive if you were to pay separately for investment advice, brokerage, and other services. However, we attempt to design all of our advisory programs with pricing competitive with what a client might pay for investment advice, brokerage, and other services separately.

Your IAR may receive a higher percentage of management fees for certain programs. This presents a conflict of interest in that your IAR may benefit from recommending certain programs based on the difference in compensation he receives rather than selecting investments without regard to compensation payable to him. If your IAR qualifies for reductions in the program fee paid to us, this results in additional compensation to your IAR. To mitigate this conflict of interest, we require that any program you invest in must be suitable for your investment goals and financial needs. If your IAR qualifies for reductions in the program fee paid to us, which results in additional compensation to your IAR, your total advisory fee will not exceed the stated maximum for the programs.

In certain cases, we may be compensated by unaffiliated third-parties based on the amount of assets our IARs may place with them. This represents a conflict of interest in that your IAR may be incentivized to recommend the services of the third-party from which additional compensation may be received. In other cases, your IAR may incur fewer expenses from the third-party as a result of the amount of assets the IAR has placed with the third-party. Generally, the fees that the third-party charges will be lower as the amount of assets that is placed with them increase. Therefore, your IAR may be incentivized to recommend the services of the third-party.

In the Portfolio ONE program, your IAR's compensation is directly affected by the investment models he selects as the overlay manager because he receives a fixed portion of the total advisory fee. If your IAR uses third-party managers' investment models for your account, he pays the third-party manager a fee based on the amount of assets to be managed by the third-party manager. The fees charged by the third-party managers for access to their investment models vary. However, in all cases, the greater the portion of your account's assets invested in third-party managers' investment models, the less your IAR will earn for overlay management of your account. Therefore, your IAR has an incentive to allocate greater percentage of your assets to himself to manage rather than utilizing third party managers' investment models. This conflict is mitigated by your IAR's requirement to act as a fiduciary and to select investments that are in the best interests of each client. In addition, the maximum program fee for Portfolio ONE limits the amount of compensation to which your IAR is entitled. For certain clients, more third-party strategies will be employed than others; for others, none will be employed. This is largely driven by functions beyond the IAR's control, including client suitability and investment goals, asset minimums for certain third-party manager investment models, client account sizes and structure (i.e. taxable vs. qualified). The greater the amount of assets in accounts and among accounts, the greater the likelihood that your IAR will utilize third-party managers. Because these factors often lead to different allocations among clients, your IAR's costs (and therefore net compensation) will differ between clients. However, the advisory fee that you pay is not affected by your IAR's selection of investments.

Your IAR may also be registered as an independent contractor registered representative with First Allied. This may create a conflict in that your IAR may be able to choose between offering you advisory programs or services and brokerage products or services. The amount and manner of compensation that your IAR receives in either of these capacities presents a conflict of interest. To mitigate this conflict of interest, we require that any advisory program or advisory service that you are offered is suitable for your investment goals and financial needs. First Allied conducts suitability reviews for product solicitations.

Furthermore, your IAR may also be registered with other affiliated investment advisers and/or broker-dealers that are part of Cetera Financial Group's network of investment advisers and broker-dealers. This may represent a conflict of interest since your IAR may be incentivized to offer certain services through one entity over another. However, as a fiduciary, your IAR is required to act in your best interest. For more information on Cetera Financial Group, please see Item 9- Additional Information.

Your IAR may have a financial interest in certain securities. We do not permit our IARs to solicit for or use discretionary trading authority in any purchases or sales in a security in which that IAR has a material financial interest. Your IAR may purchase or sell the same security he solicits for or uses discretionary trading authority for his client accounts as long as he does not have a material financial interest in the security. This presents a conflict of interest. Our Code of Ethics mitigates this conflict by detailing policies designed to ensure that clients are not disadvantaged by an IAR's trading activity.

Neither we nor our IARs accept mutual fund trailers in the Allocation Series, Manager Series, or Portfolio ONE programs. However, in certain other advisory programs that we offer, our IARs and First Allied do accept mutual fund trailers in accounts not subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA") or similar rules. Accounts subject to ERISA or equivalent rules include IRA, 401k, or other employer-sponsored retirement accounts. This presents a conflict of interest in that the receipt of these mutual fund trailers may give your IAR an incentive to recommend mutual funds based on compensation to be received. We help mitigate this conflict of interest by ensuring that the mutual fund sponsor companies that we have agreements with each have versions of advisory-share class mutual funds that are available for use, when appropriate, to avoid these fees. Your IAR is not required to use advisory share class mutual funds in your account.

You may be eligible to receive breakpoints, or discounts, on the fees that you pay to purchase or hold mutual funds in your account if your total investment in one or more particular mutual fund sponsors reaches certain levels. In certain cases, you can aggregate your investments in different accounts to reach these levels. We have established surveillance systems designed to help us monitor your



total investments in each mutual fund sponsor. However, the person granted trading authorization over your account may select mutual funds that prevent you from reaching a breakpoint level and taking advantage of a price break. In addition, if your account is managed by a third-party, we do not have the ability to ensure that your breakpoint levels will be a consideration in their investment decisions. For more information about breakpoints for the specific mutual funds you may hold in your account, please reference the mutual fund prospectus.

Pershing allows clients to enroll in the Fully Paid Securities Lending program, which allows clients to lend certain securities to Pershing. Pershing earns revenue from lending these securities and a portion of that revenue is shared with the clients and their financial advisors. If you elect to participate in this program, your IAR will receive compensation from Pershing. The receipt of this extra compensation creates a conflict in certain advisory programs in which your IAR acts as the portfolio manager. The conflict surrounds whether this extra compensation to your IAR would cause him to hold a security in your account that he otherwise would have liquidated if he was not receiving this extra compensation. This conflict is mitigated by our requirement that investment decisions made by your IAR are always in your best interests, as well as the fact that if your account holds these positions, your IAR's compensation will increase nominally, but the security will also generate income for your account. Not all accounts or client will qualify for this program.

Though our advisory programs are generally only available through our IARs, similar programs or investment advice may be available from other investment advisers. In addition, you have the option to obtain similar investment products through investment advisers that are not affiliated with us. These services may cost you more or less if obtained elsewhere.

Certain of our IARs and employees have an ownership interest in Holdings, which presents a conflict of interest with respect to their selection of advisory programs and services in that certain programs and services are more profitable to Holdings and its subsidiaries than other programs and services. As owners of Holdings, these individuals have an interest in its highest profitability. We help mitigate this conflict by requiring that all IARs and employees abide by our Code of Ethics, which is described more fully in the Code of Ethics section of this Item.

#### **Performance-Based Fees**

Performance-based fees are fees that are based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets in an account. Your IAR is not permitted to charge performance-based fees.

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

##### *Types of Risk*

Various types of risk are involved when investing in securities. Economic risk, market risk, currency risk, inflation risk, liquidity risk, and credit risk are examples of the types of risks to which your account may be subject.

##### *Assessing Risk*

While some types of risk can be mitigated by investment strategies, these risks cannot be eliminated completely. Your IAR will work with you to make sure that you are comfortable with the risks associated with the type of investments that are in your account.

##### *Risk of Loss*

You should know that all types of securities investing involve risk, sometimes substantial risk. Your account value can increase or decrease over time. You should not invest in any product if you are not prepared to bear a potential loss. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

##### *Liquidity Risk*

Liquidity is a financial institution's capacity to meet its cash and collateral obligations without incurring unacceptable losses. Liquidity risk is the risk to an institution's financial condition or safety and soundness arising from its inability to meet its contractual obligations. Some investments used in FAAS programs have limited liquidity, including REITs and interval funds. Some illiquid investments periodically offer to repurchase shares from shareholders. These repurchase offers may have limitations on the total number of shares being repurchased, so an individual investor may not be able to sell shares. You should read the prospectus for any investments.

##### *Management Philosophy*

The advisory programs detailed in this brochure are managed by either a third-party manager or our IAR(s). You can find information regarding the third-party manager's methods of analysis and investment strategy by reviewing its Form ADV disclosure brochure, which your IAR will provide to you upon request. Your IAR will also provide you with a copy of his Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement, which contains important information about your IAR.

In the Portfolio ONE program, your IAR serves as the overlay manager for your account. Each of our IARs is permitted to use his own method(s) of analysis. Many of them use asset allocation software to help them determine objectives and risk tolerance. This software seeks to optimize your portfolio and diversify risk across asset classes appropriately. Some asset allocation software can even aid in selecting specific securities. IARs are not obligated to use the same asset allocation software as other IARs use. Some IARs analyze securities individually to determine if those securities should be included in your account. Our IARs may create investment models





based on investment advice provided by Cetera Investment Management LLC (“CIM”), an affiliated registered investment adviser. This advice could include basic asset allocation advice, or advice regarding specific securities. Your IAR will provide you with a copy of his Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement, which contains important information about your IAR’s management philosophy.

### **Disciplinary Information**

FAAS and its IARs have been the subject of various regulatory and disciplinary findings by various states and regulatory bodies. The information in this section may impact your decision to do business with us.

In 2011, FAAS entered into a Consent Agreement with the Securities Division of the State of Indiana, whereby FAAS resolved allegations regarding violations of the Indiana Uniform Securities Act, Ind. Code 23-19-1, concerning the registration of certain investment adviser representatives in the State of Indiana. Without admission or finding of a violation, FAAS paid a fine in the amount \$9,000, and a reimbursement payment of the cost of the investigation in the amount of \$1,000.

In addition to the incidents above, certain FAAS IARs have been censured or censured and suspended by non-SEC regulators for violations related to suitability deficiencies, supervision deficiencies, marketing approval deficiencies, improper disclosure of outside business activities, continuing education deficiencies, delinquency of payment of state taxes, insurance deficiencies, sales of unregistered securities. In one case, a FAAS IAR’s insurance application was denied by a state.

#### *Affiliated Broker-Dealer*

In October 2015, First Allied Securities, without admitting or denying the allegations, entered into an Acceptance, Waiver and Consent that was accepted by FINRA, whereby First Allied Securities accepted FINRA’s findings that First Allied Securities failed to identify and apply sales charge discounts to certain customers’ eligible purchases of unit investment trusts (UITs). First Allied Securities had no written supervisory procedures regarding sales charges on UITs and the firm relied primarily on its registered representatives to ensure that customers received the appropriate UIT sales charge discounts, despite the fact that the firm did not effectively train representatives and their supervisors to identify and apply such sales charges. First Allied Securities agreed to accept a censure, a fine of \$325,000, and was ordered to \$689,647.34 in restitution to customers.

In March 2015, First Allied Securities consented to a civil penalty in the amount of \$6,690.80 by the State of Nevada, Securities Division for operating unregistered branch office locations.

In January 2013, First Allied Securities, without admitting or denying the allegations, entered into an Acceptance, Waiver and Consent that was accepted by FINRA, whereby First Allied Securities accepted FINRA’s findings that First Allied Securities had inadequate supervisory systems and procedures designed to ensure that it delivered the appropriate disclosure documents to clients purchasing unit investment trusts and/or exchange-traded funds. First Allied Securities had engaged a vendor to deliver the written prospectuses to clients, however, First Allied Securities retained ultimate responsibility to ensure the clients received the appropriate documents. First Allied Securities agreed to accept a censure and fine of \$40,000.

In late 2009, the SEC filed an enforcement action against a former First Allied Securities representative. The SEC alleged that the representative engaged in unauthorized and fraudulent trading in two customer accounts. The SEC also issued a “Wells Notice” to First Allied Securities which alleged that First Allied Securities violated certain SEC rules and that it failed to reasonably supervise this registered representative. After considering the surrounding circumstances, First Allied Securities determined that it was in its best interests to settle the matter. The alleged rule violations were in connection with First Allied Securities’ supervision of the representative and deficiencies in its e-mail retention system. As part of the settlement, First Allied Securities agreed to accept a censure and pay disgorgement and interest (approximately \$1.46 million) and a fine (\$500,000). In addition, the SEC’s order required First Allied Securities to cease and desist from committing or causing any future violations of certain books and records provisions. First Allied Securities also agreed to hire an independent consultant to review its policies and procedures and its system for implementing policies and procedures. First Allied Securities consented to the issuance of the order without admitting or denying the SEC’s findings. A copy of the SEC order is available online at <http://www.sec.gov/litigation/admin/2010/34-61655.pdf>.

#### *Additional Information*

More information on all of these items, and other items not summarized above, can be found on FINRA’s BrokerCheck® (<http://brokercheck.finra.org>). The Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement that your IAR will provide to you along with this document contains information regarding any disciplinary items that we deem material to your decision to select your IAR to provide you with advisory services. Additional information about your IAR’s disciplinary history can also be viewed on BrokerCheck®.

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

#### *Broker-Dealer Affiliation*

First Allied is an affiliated a broker-dealer that we use to introduce accounts to custodians. First Allied, a New York corporation, is a broker-dealer registered with the Financial Industry Reporting Authority (“FINRA”), a registered municipal advisor and a registered investment adviser registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). Being registered does not mean that First Allied is endorsed by any regulatory authority; it simply means that First Allied is required to follow the rules established by FINRA for brokerage business and the SEC for advisory business and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (“MSRB”) for advisory



business on municipal bond proceeds and debt reserve accounts. For municipal advisors, the rules are created through the MSRB and registration is required through the SEC, though FINRA enforces these rules. First Allied, headquartered in San Diego, CA, was founded in 1994. On November 1, 2011, First Allied Holdings, Inc. (“Holdings”) purchased First Allied from AEFC, who owned First Allied since 2005. Because First Allied is owned by Holdings, many of its officers and principals are engaged in business both with First Allied and us. Some of our officers spend up to 90% of their time on First Allied activities, and the remaining 10% on FAAS activities. Other officers devote 100% of their time to FAAS activities. Holdings is currently owned by RCS Capital Holdings, LLC., which is wholly owned by Aretex Group, Inc., a privately held corporation owned by a group of companies.

As a broker-dealer, First Allied places trades for clients for the purchase and sale of stocks, bonds, options, mutual funds, variable insurance products, and private placements. Since the majority of our IARs are registered with First Allied, these services may be available to you if your IAR is a registered representative. Because most of our IARs are registered to offer you both advisory programs and services and brokerage products or services, a conflict of interest exists. The conflict involves the determination of whether advisory business (fee-based) or brokerage business (commission) is more suitable for the client. Because most of our IARs can offer both, your IAR could be conflicted about which business to recommend to you. We attempt to mitigate this risk by reviewing the suitability of the advisory program selected by each client. Ultimately, our IARs will discuss with you which type of business will best help you meet your goals.

You may have brokerage accounts with First Allied. The main differences between an advisory account and a brokerage account are the form of payment, the use of discretionary authority, and our level of responsibility to ensure the transaction is appropriate for you. In an advisory account, you will pay an advisory fee based on the amount of assets in the account; in a brokerage account, you will pay a commission for each transaction. In an advisory account, you may grant us, your IAR, or a third-party discretionary trading authorization that allows us to place securities transactions on your behalf without notifying you prior to placing the transaction; in a brokerage account, we will discuss each transaction with you prior to placing the transaction. Having discretionary trading authorization allows us, your IAR, or the third-party to act quickly on your behalf should there be an opportunity that would benefit you. With a brokerage account, you have the opportunity to approve each trade before it is placed on your behalf.

As a broker-dealer, First Allied buys and sells securities in its own accounts in order to facilitate the trading activities of its clients. First Allied also buys and sells securities on behalf of other clients. First Allied’s main activities include retail and institutional client services. First Allied generally uses its own execution services for advisory clients and brokerage clients, for accounts custodied at Pershing, though for advisory programs on the GPS platform, Envestnet’s execution services are used.

#### *Other Related Financial Industry Entities*

One of the affiliates to Holdings, Cetera Financial Holdings Inc., also owns multiple other investment advisers, including Cetera Investment Management LLC (“CIM”). We use research and model portfolios provided by CIM in many of our programs. A conflict of interest exists due to these affiliations. We attempt to mitigate this risk by ensuring that policies and procedures are in place requiring our IARs to exercise their fiduciary responsibilities when recommending investments to clients. Client fees are not increased if IARs use CIM research or model portfolios, and CIM receives no compensation when their services are used by FAAS IARs. Our IARs’ recommendations must only take into account what programs or services are best for each client.

Holdings also owns First Allied Retirement Services, Inc. (“Cetera Retirement Plan Specialists”) and FASI Insurance Services, Inc. (“FAIS”). Cetera Retirement Plan Specialists is a pension administration firm that provides pension services to pension plan sponsors. Our IARs do not receive any compensation for referring clients to Cetera Retirement Plan Specialists. Cetera Retirement Plan Specialists owns Associates in Excellence, which is another pension administration firm that provides pension services to pension plan sponsors.

FAIS is an insurance general agency that offers insurance products through licensed agents. Many agents offering insurance through FAIS are also First Allied registered representatives.

Holdings and all of its subsidiaries are part of Cetera Financial Group. Cetera Financial Group is the retail advice platform of Aretex Group, Inc. that delivers the benefits of scale to its family of independent broker-dealer firms and registered investment advisers. Cetera Financial Group includes the following companies: Cetera Advisors LLC., Cetera Advisor Networks LLC., Cetera Financial Specialists LLC., Cetera Investment Advisers LLC., Cetera Investment Management LLC., Cetera Investment Services LLC., Summit Brokerage Services, Inc., Summit Financial Group Inc., First Allied Securities, Inc., First Allied Advisory Services, Inc., and Cetera Advisory Services LLC.

Our principals, employees and representatives may have responsibilities to any of these listed affiliates. Certain administrative and payroll expenses for employees of any affiliate may be allocated among some or all of the affiliates. Allocation of these expenses is not determined by assets referred to any affiliate.

#### *Other Financial Industry Activities*

In addition to the related entities noted above, we also conduct business with other investment advisers that are owned or operated by registered representatives of First Allied and investment advisers that are owned by other persons. These investment advisers may





enter into an agreement with us to offer our programs or use our services. We are not responsible for supervising or managing these investment advisers beyond their representatives' activities with First Allied.

Some of our IARs may work in a bank or credit union location. We do not supervise any IAR's bank or credit union responsibilities. If the bank or credit union will receive any fees that you pay, our IARs are required to disclose this to you. Some of our IARs may be real estate agents. Activities related to real estate are not undertaken as part of the IAR's representation of us. In addition to being investment adviser representatives, some of our IARs are also accountants. We do not supervise their accounting activities. Any tax advice you receive from your IAR is part of an outside business activity and is totally separate from the IAR's affiliation with us.

Some of our IARs may be involved in other outside businesses. Activities related to these outside businesses are not undertaken as part of the IAR's representation of us. The amount of time that IARs devote to outside business activities varies. Your IAR's material outside business activities are reported on the Form ADV Part 2B brochure supplement that your IAR will deliver to you when he starts discussing advisory programs and services with you. Your IAR's outside business activities, including without limitation, bank or credit union responsibilities, real estate, accounting, tax and legal activities, are not endorsed or supervised by, or the responsibility of, us or First Allied or any of our affiliates.

We are involved in several industry advocacy groups. These groups generally provide a forum for industry professionals to gather and discuss current and proposed regulations. Our membership in these groups helps us to better educate and supervise our IARs.

## **Code of Ethics**

### *Overview*

Pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1, we have adopted a Code of Ethics ("COE") to establish rules of conduct for all supervised persons. Supervised persons are individuals that are associated with our firm who are involved with offering or providing advisory services. Supervised persons may also include our home office employees. Your IAR is a supervised person. The COE recognizes our IARs' fiduciary responsibility to clients. The COE instructs our IARs to conduct their affairs in such a manner as to avoid:

- Serving their own interests ahead of clients' interests
- Engaging in unacceptable actual or potential conflicts of interest
- Taking inappropriate advantage of their position

A copy of our COE is available upon request by calling our Compliance department at 800-223-0989.

We do not permit our IARs to solicit for or use discretionary trading authority in any purchases or sales in a security in which that IAR has a material financial interest. Our supervised persons may, however, invest in the same securities that the IAR or another supervised person recommends to clients. This presents a conflict of interest. This conflict is mitigated by the policies and procedures set forth in our COE and Compliance Manual. Our IARs are not permitted to disadvantage clients while trading their own accounts. We also have surveillances in place designed to enforce our policies and procedures.

Our supervised persons are not permitted to recommend or use discretionary trading authority on behalf of clients at or about the same time that the IAR or another supervised person in the IAR's branch office or responsible for supervising the IAR buys or sells the same securities for their own account(s). We have established surveillance systems that check trading patterns between supervised persons and clients. These surveillances are designed to ensure that even if a supervised person unintentionally trades in the same security as a client, the client will not be disadvantaged.

## **Brokerage Practices**

### *Soft Dollar Benefits*

Some firms in the industry receive benefits in exchange for delivering business to a broker-dealer, mutual fund sponsor, insurance company, or other third-party. These benefits are known as "soft dollars." Soft dollar benefits are generally defined as benefits (besides normal fees) received from a firm in exchange for doing business with the firm. These benefits may include access to software, hardware, research, and/or office space. We do not receive any soft dollar benefits from choosing the broker-dealer through which we effect trades, nor from the mutual funds or insurance in which we invest.

### *Directed Brokerage*

In most of our advisory programs, we do not permit clients to direct us to execute transactions through a specified broker-dealer other than First Allied. We believe that First Allied allows us to achieve "best execution" because of their business relationships with Pershing, our access to First Allied's trading department, our ability to rely on First Allied's financial stability, and First Allied's overall service to us and our IARs. "Best execution" factors include timeliness of execution, trader expertise, pricing, and responsiveness. In addition, certain advisory programs are only available through us and our affiliates and these programs allow your IAR to offer you a product or service that you cannot obtain elsewhere, although other investment advisers may offer similar programs.

### *Aggregation of Client Trades*

We are under no obligation to aggregate trade orders or to average price transactions. For the advisory programs described in this brochure, all responsibility for execution of trades is taken by either Envestnet or the third-party manager. Depending on the method



of trading chosen by the third-party manager, trades are aggregated according to either Envestnet's trading policies and procedures or the third-party manager's trading policies and procedures.

### Review of Accounts

As mentioned previously, each of our IARs is supervised by another of our representatives or an employee. Advisory accounts are reviewed by an IAR's supervisor. We have created several different surveillances to aid in this supervision. The surveillances include checks for:

- registration status of the IAR
- loss in equity of accounts
- inappropriate use of discretionary trading authority
- purchase of low-priced securities
- trading activity in personal accounts
- having an excessive margin balance
- being over-concentrated within the account
- trading volume
- correlation between account allocation and investment objective and risk tolerance

Many of these surveillances are run daily and others are run monthly or quarterly. The frequency of the surveillance is determined by the nature of the underlying event. Not all of the surveillances listed above are used on all advisory accounts. We take into account who is managing your advisory account. In the Allocation Series, Manager Series, and Portfolio ONE programs, some of these surveillances will **not** be used.

After the end of each calendar quarter, we create performance reports and make them available to each client that is invested in our Allocation Series, Manager Series, and/or Portfolio ONE programs. These performance reports will contain statistical information about your account. In some cases, if you have more than one GPS platform account, we may be able to combine multiple accounts on the same performance report. The reports we create will differ slightly based on which program you have purchased. Generally, the reports we create for you will list the beginning balance for the period, the ending balance for the period, the percentage change in asset level between the beginning and end of the period, and any deposits or withdrawals during the period. There is also information about your account's holdings as of the end of the period, a list of one or more comparable benchmarks, and important disclosure information.

For Allocation Series, Manager Series, and Portfolio ONE program accounts, the following benchmarks will be listed on the performance reports:

- S&P 500 Index- an index of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity and industry grouping (among other factors), designed to be a leading indicator of U.S. equities and is meant to reflect the risk/return characteristics of the large cap universe.
- MSCI EAFE Index- a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada).
- Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Bond Index- an unmanaged index composed of the Barclays Government/Credit Bond Index, Mortgage-Backed Securities Index, and Asset-Backed Securities Index and is generally representative of the U.S. bond market.
- Consumer Price Index- an index of prices used to measure the change in the cost of basic goods and services in comparison with a fixed-base period.

If your account or a portion of your account is managed by a third-party manager, an additional benchmark selected by the third-party manager may be listed on your performance reports. For more information on each third-party manager's selection of benchmarks, please review the third-party manager's Form ADV disclosure brochure, which will be provided to you upon request. In addition, we may allow your IAR to select an additional index or a blended benchmark to which your account will be compared. This index or benchmark must be approved by us before your IAR is permitted to use it on your performance reports.

Both you and your IAR have the ability to create additional reports regarding your GPS platform accounts upon demand. Certain of these reports also contain performance information. Your IAR may also provide you with reports created by Albridge Wealth Reporting Solutions ("Albridge"). Albridge is a reporting vendor we have contracted with to enable your IAR to create reports for your accounts. These reports may encompass different information than the quarterly performance reports we deliver to you and may include information about brokerage accounts, variable annuities and alternative investments. There may be discrepancies in the pricing of securities between Albridge reports, the performance reports we prepare for you, and the statements you receive from your custodian. These discrepancies may be the result of different calculation and reporting methods between Albridge, our reporting vendors, and your custodian. If you have a question about a discrepancy or any other aspect of any of these reports, you should direct it to your IAR. If you are not satisfied with your IAR's explanation, please contact us at 800-223-0989.

The custodian of your account will also send account statements to you on a monthly or quarterly basis. Although the information we provide in the performance reports we deliver to you has been retrieved from sources believed to be reliable, we urge you to compare



the holdings listed on the custodian's statement to those listed on any GPS performance reports or Albridge reports we may deliver to you. Should you note any discrepancies, please contact us at 800-223-0989. In addition, the reports that we deliver to you should not be relied upon for tax calculations or any other legal representation.

### **Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

Solicitors are individuals who introduce clients to an investment adviser with which the solicitor is not affiliated. Solicitor's arrangements allow individuals to receive compensation for referring a client to us. The compensation paid to a solicitor is a portion of the advisory fee that you pay. All solicitation arrangements that our IARs are involved in must be approved by us.

#### *Solicitors to FAAS*

We have solicitor's arrangements with persons who are not our IARs. If a solicitor is going to receive any portion of the advisory fee that you pay, the solicitor will provide you with disclosure when he refers you to an IAR. You will sign this disclosure, acknowledging that you know a payment is being made for the introduction. We conduct a background check on solicitors to ensure they have not been disqualified from the securities industry. We mitigate any conflicts of interest in relation to these arrangements by ensuring that you will not pay higher fees because of the solicitor's agreement.

#### *FAAS Acting as a Solicitor*

Our IARs have the ability to refer, or "solicit," clients to other investment advisers. Our IARs can solicit advisory business for both affiliated investment advisers and unaffiliated investment advisers. Both affiliated and unaffiliated investment advisers must be approved by us before any of our IARs are permitted to refer clients to them. If our IARs are soliciting advisory business for any investment adviser, this will be disclosed to you by issuance of a disclosure statement and a written acknowledgement. The investment advisers that we solicit for provide a variety of management services, as outlined in each investment adviser's disclosure brochure. In general, they provide management strategies and investment models to advisory clients. The investment adviser will pay a portion of the advisory fee, as disclosed to you in the written acknowledgement, to us for soliciting clients. We will share a portion of this fee with your IAR. In exchange for this fee, the IAR is providing services including investor profiling, selection of managers, and ongoing account monitoring.

In certain cases, we may be compensated by unaffiliated third-parties based on the amount of assets our IARs may place with them. This represents a conflict of interest in that your IAR may be incentivized to recommend the services of the third-party from which additional compensation may be received. In other cases, your IAR may incur fewer expenses from the third-party as a result of the amount of assets the IAR has placed with the third-party. Generally, the fees that the third-party charges will be lower as the amount of assets that is placed with them increase. Therefore, your IAR may be incentivized to recommend the services of the third-party.

Certain investment advisers to whom we solicit may make donations to charitable organizations as an award to us or our IARs. The award criteria may vary between investment advisers, but this award may incentivize our IARs to solicit to investment advisers offering a donation rather than those that do not. This conflict is mitigated by our requirement that any advisory program or advisory service that you are offered is suitable for your investment goals and financial needs and by our restriction on any of our IARs financially benefiting directly from any donations made by investment advisers either on their behalf or as a result of any solicitations.

#### *Other Compensation Payable to Us*

We and our affiliates offer a wide variety of approved products to our IARs to serve your needs. We have designated a subset of approved products as "Product Sponsors." Product Sponsors offer an assortment of approved products. They also train and educate our representatives on products and industry-related topics.

Product Sponsors pay extra compensation to us and our affiliates; however, clients do not pay more to purchase these products through us than clients would pay to purchase them elsewhere. This extra compensation is based in part on the total amount of assets that our IARs refer to their products and services. There may be a financial incentive to promote certain products because of this extra compensation. Because IARs do not receive a direct financial benefit from recommending Product Sponsors to you, we believe that these relationships do not compromise the advice provided by our representatives.

Sometimes we and our affiliates receive payments from firms that are not Product Sponsors to recognize our sales efforts. All companies may pay us and our affiliates in connection with the sale of certain products. This compensation may include such items as gifts valued at less than \$100 annually, an occasional dinner or ticket to a sporting event, or reimbursement in connection with educational meetings or marketing or advertising initiatives. They may also pay for training, educational meetings or training events, conferences, and entertainment for our representatives and/or clients, as permitted by industry rules. In the cases where our IARs host seminars for clients or prospective clients, no fees are charged to attendees. Additional disclosure and a listing of companies who pay additional compensation to us may be obtained at [www.firstallied.com](http://www.firstallied.com) or by contacting us at 800-223-0989. Some investments pay higher commissions than others. Commissions on equities are usually greater than those on bonds. Investments in limited partnerships generally pay higher commissions than investments in equities.

### **Custody**

As mentioned in the "Review of Accounts" section, we do not custody your account assets. GPS platform account assets are custodied by Pershing. Pershing will send account statements to you either quarterly or more frequently. You should review the account



statements carefully and compare these account statements with any GPS performance reports or Albridge reports that your IAR may provide to you. Should you note any discrepancies, please contact us at 800-223-0989.

Occasionally, IARs may accept stock certificates from clients and forward them to First Allied for delivery to the client's account with the custodian. In the course of business development, we may obtain custody in other forms that are not disclosed here but will be disclosed to our independent auditor. Because of these activities, we meet the regulatory definition of having custody of client securities and are required to hire an independent accounting firm to review our procedures. This audit is conducted each year. More information about the results of the audit can be found through the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure website, [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov), by selecting "Investment Adviser Firm" and typing our name into the "Firm Name."

We ask that any checks you write for deposit into your GPS platform accounts be made payable to Pershing and **not** made payable to FAAS, First Allied, or your IAR.

## **Investment Discretion**

### *Overview*

We do not have discretion over your assets. However, when you invest in the Allocation Series or Manager Series advisory programs, you are granting full trading authorization to a third-party manager; when you invest in the Portfolio ONE program, our IAR(s) assume full trading authorization. Full trading authorization allows the third-party manager or your IAR to make decisions on your behalf regarding purchases and sales of equities, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, fixed income products including bonds and certificates of deposit, options, and any other security traded on a national exchange. The trading authorization granted in the GPS Investment Advisory Agreement allows either Envestnet or the third-party manager to execute trades for your account without your consent.

Your IAR does not have trading authorization in the Allocation Series or Manager Series programs. However, when you select the Allocation Series or Manager Series program, you are granting your IAR the authority to select Strategists, Investment Managers, and models for your account without your consent. In the Portfolio ONE program, you are granting your IAR the authority to select Strategists, Investment Managers, and investment models, including investment models that are managed by your IAR, for your account without your consent.

## **Voting Client Securities**

We do not accept authority to vote client proxies. In the Allocation Series and Manager Series program accounts, a third-party manager will vote proxies on your behalf in accordance with its policies and procedures. In the Portfolio ONE program, either Envestnet or third-party managers will vote proxies for the securities held in the portion of the account that is allocated to the investment models of third-party managers. Envestnet and/or some third-party managers may hire another firm to vote proxies on their behalf. You may revoke this voting authorization at any time by sending us written notice.

## **Financial Information**

### *Prepayment of Fees*

We do not require nor solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance. Advisory fees for Allocation Series and Manager Series accounts are paid quarterly in advance.

### *Our Financial Condition*

We are required to inform you of any financial conditions that are reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to you. Currently, there are no financial conditions that would impair our ability to meet our contractual commitments to you. Should any arise, we will notify you according to SEC guidelines.