

# Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC

SEC File Number: 801 – 68317

## **ADV Part 2A, Appendix 1 Wrap Fee Program Brochure Dated: March 19, 2016**

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**This Wrap Fee Program Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure, please contact us at (630) 941-8560 or [tsawyer@sawyerfalduto.com](mailto:tsawyer@sawyerfalduto.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.**

**Additional information about Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).**

**References herein to Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC as a “registered investment adviser” or any reference to being “registered” does not imply a certain level of skill or training.**

## **Item 2           Material Changes**

There have been no material changes made this ADV Part 2A, Appendix 1 Wrap Fee Program Brochure since the previous Annual Amendment filing on February 12, 2015.

**Sawyer Falduto Asset Management, LLC’s Chief Compliance Officer, Thomas Sawyer, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have about this Brochure.**

## **Item 3           Table of Contents**

Item 1	Cover Page.....	1
Item 2	Material Changes.....	2
Item 3	Table of Contents.....	2
Item 4	Services, Fees and Compensation.....	3
Item 5	Account Requirements and Types of Clients .....	6
Item 6	Portfolio Manager Selection and Evaluation .....	6
Item 7	Client Information Provided to Portfolio Managers .....	10
Item 8	Client Contact with Portfolio Managers .....	10
Item 9	Additional Information .....	11

## Item 4 Services, Fees and Compensation

### A. INVESTMENT ADVISORY SERVICES

The client can determine to engage the Registrant to provide discretionary investment advisory services on a wrap *fee-only* basis. (See discussion below). If a client determines to engage the Registrant on a wrap fee basis the client will pay a single fee for bundled services (i.e. investment advisory, brokerage, custody). The services included in a wrap fee agreement will depend upon each client's particular need. Before Registrant provides investment advisory services, an investment adviser representative will ascertain each client's investment objectives. Thereafter, the Registrant will allocate investment assets consistent with the designated investment objectives. Once allocated, the Registrant provides ongoing monitoring and review of account performance and asset allocation as compared to client investment objectives.

### SAWYER FALDUTO WRAP PROGRAM

The Registrant is the sponsor and investment manager of the Sawyer Falduto Wrap Program (hereinafter the "Program"). Under the Program, the Registrant is able to offer participants discretionary investment management services, for a single specified annual Program fee, inclusive of trade execution (excluding mark-ups and mark-downs), custody, reporting, and investment management fees. The current annual Program fee shall vary depending upon the market value of assets under management (generally between 0.20% and 1.00%) and shall be based upon the level and scope of the overall investment advisory services to be rendered, which is based upon various objective and subjective factors (**See Fee Differentials below**).

Under the Program, the Registrant shall be provided with written authority to determine which securities and the amounts of securities that are bought or sold. Any limitations on this discretionary authority shall be included in the written agreement between each client and the Registrant. Clients may change/amend these limitations, in writing, at any time. The client shall have reasonable access to one of the Registrant's investment professionals to discuss their account.

Charles Schwab and Co., Inc. ("*Schwab*") shall serve as the custodian for Program accounts.

**Fee Calculation:** The fee charged is calculated as described above and is not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon or capital appreciation of the funds or any portion of the funds of an advisory client, pursuant to Section 205(a)(1) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (hereinafter the "Act").

**Fee Differentials/Conflict of Interest:** The Registrant shall receive a Program fee based upon a percentage (%) of the market value of the assets placed under management (between 0.20% and 1.00%). However, fees shall vary depending upon various objective and subjective factors, including but not limited to: the representative assigned to the account, the amount of assets to be invested, the complexity of the engagement, the anticipated number of meetings and servicing needs, related accounts, future earning capacity, anticipated future additional assets, account composition and negotiations with the client. As a result, similar clients could pay different fees, which will correspondingly impact a client's net account performance. Moreover, the services to be provided by the

Registrant to any particular client could be available from other advisers at lower fees. **Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, Thomas Sawyer, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the above fee disparity, impact on account performance, and conflict of interest.**

**Fee Payment:** Clients will be charged in arrears at the beginning of each calendar quarter based upon the value (market value or fair market value in the absence of market value, plus any credit balance or minus any debit balance), of the client's account at the end of the previous quarter. Fees are prorated for accounts opened during the quarter. An additional fee for the current quarter will be assessed if assets are deposited after the beginning of the quarter, prorated based on the number of calendar days remaining in the quarter during which the service will be in effect. No portion of the fee will be credited to the client for the current calendar quarter should any withdrawals from the portfolio occur in the same calendar quarter.

**Termination of Advisory Relationship:** A client agreement may be canceled at any time, by either party, for any reason upon receipt of prior written notice. Upon termination of any account, any prepaid, unearned fees will be promptly refunded, and any earned, unpaid fees will be due and payable.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Client Responsibilities:** In performing any of its services, the Registrant shall not be required to verify any information received from the client or from the client's other professionals, and is expressly authorized to rely thereon. Furthermore, unless the client indicates to the contrary in the client's Investment Objective Confirmation letter, the Registrant shall assume that there are no restrictions on its services, other than to manage the account in accordance with the client's designated investment objective. **Moreover, it remains each client's responsibility to promptly notify the Registrant if there is ever any change in his/her/its financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing/evaluating/revising the Registrant's previous recommendations and/or services.**

**Please Note: Investment Performance:** As a condition to participating in the Program, the participant **must** accept that past performance may not be indicative of future results, and understand that the future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy (**including** the investments and/or investment strategies purchased and/or undertaken by the Registrant) **may not:** (1) achieve their intended objective; (2) be profitable; or, (3) equal historical performance level(s) or any other performance level(s).

**Retirement Plan Rollovers-No Obligation/Conflict of Interest:** A client leaving an employer typically has four options regarding an existing retirement plan (and may engage in a combination of these options): (i) leave the money in his/her former employer's plan, if permitted, (ii) roll over the assets to his/her new employer's plan, if one is available and rollovers are permitted, (iii) roll over to an Individual Retirement Account ("IRA"), or (iv) cash out the account value (which could, depending upon the client's age, result in adverse tax consequences). The Registrant may recommend an investor roll over plan assets to an IRA managed by the Registrant. As a result the Registrant and its representatives may earn an asset-based fee (see **Please Note** below). In contrast, a recommendation that a client or prospective client leave his or her plan

assets with his/her former employer or roll the assets to a plan sponsored by a new employer will generally result in no compensation to the Registrant (unless clients engage the Registrant to monitor and/or manage the account while maintained at his/her employer). The Registrant has an economic incentive to encourage a client to roll plan assets into an IRA that the Registrant will manage or to engage the Registrant to monitor and/or manage the account while maintained at the client's employer. There are various factors that the Registrant may consider before recommending a rollover, including but not limited to: (i) the investment options available in the plan versus the investment options available in an IRA, (ii) fees and expenses in the plan versus the fees and expenses in an IRA, (iii) the services and responsiveness of the plan's investment professionals versus the Registrant's, (iv) protection of assets from creditors and legal judgments, (v) required minimum distributions and age considerations, and (vi) employer stock tax consequences, if any. **No client is under any obligation to roll over plan assets to an IRA managed by the Registrant or to engage the Registrant to monitor and/or manage the account while maintained at the client's employer. Please Note:** If Registrant's engagement will include the management of the client's retirement account per the same fee schedule set forth herein, regardless of custodian or the client's decision to process a rollover, the above economic incentive to recommend a rollover is generally not present. **The Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, Thomas Sawyer, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding its prospective engagement and the corresponding conflict of interest presented by such engagement.**

**Use of Mutual Funds:** While the Registrant may recommend allocating investment assets to mutual funds that are not available directly to the public, the Registrant may also recommend that clients allocate investment assets to publically-available mutual funds that the client could obtain without engaging Registrant as an investment adviser. However, if a client or prospective client determines to allocate investment assets to publically-available mutual funds without engaging Registrant as an investment adviser, the client or prospective client would not receive the benefit of Registrant's initial and ongoing investment advisory services.

- B. Participation in the Program may cost more or less than purchasing such services separately. Also, the Program fee charged by Registrant for participation in the Program may be higher or lower than those charged by other sponsors of comparable wrap fee programs.

Depending upon the percentage wrap-fee charged by the Registrant, the amount of portfolio activity in the client's account, and the value of custodial and other services provided, the wrap fee may or may not exceed the aggregate cost of such services if they were to be provided separately and/or if the Registrant were to negotiate transaction fees and seek best price and execution of transactions for the client's account.

**Conflict of Interest.** When managing a client's account on a wrap fee basis, the Registrant shall receive as payment for its investment advisory services, the balance of the wrap fee after all other costs incorporated into the wrap fee have been deducted. **Participation in a wrap program may cost the client more or less than purchasing such services separately.** Because wrap program transaction fees and/or commissions are being paid by Registrant to the account broker-dealer/custodian, Registrant could have an economic incentive to minimize the number of trades in the client's account creating a **conflict of interest.** **Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, Thomas Sawyer, remains**

**available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding a wrap fee arrangement and the corresponding conflict of interest a wrap fee arrangement may create.**

- C. The Program's wrap fee does not include certain charges and administrative fees, including, but not limited to, transaction charges (including mark-ups and mark-downs) resulting from trades effected through or with a broker-dealer other than *Schwab*, transfer taxes, odd lot differentials, exchange fees, interest charges, American Depository Receipt agency processing fees, and any charges, taxes or other fees mandated by any federal, state or other applicable law or otherwise agreed to with regard to client accounts. Such fees and expenses are in addition to the Program's wrap fee.

**Tradeaway/Prime Broker Fees.** Relative to its discretionary investment management services, when beneficial to the client, individual fixed income transactions may be effected through broker-dealers other than the account custodian, in which event, the client generally will incur both the fee (commission, mark-up/mark-down) charged by the executing broker-dealer and a separate "tradeaway" and/or prime broker fee charged by the account custodian. However, the Registrant will absorb the "tradeaway" and/or prime broker fee charged by the account custodian.

- D. Registrant's related persons who recommend the Program to clients do not receive compensation as a result of a client's participation in the wrap fee program.

## **Item 5 Account Requirements and Types of Clients**

The Registrant's clients shall generally include individuals, business entities, trusts, estates and charitable organizations, pension and profit sharing plans. The Registrant generally requires an annual minimum fee of \$2,500. The Registrant, in its sole discretion, may reduce its investment management fee and/or reduce or waive its minimum fee based upon certain criteria (i.e. anticipated future earning capacity, anticipated future additional assets, dollar amount of assets to be managed, related accounts, account composition, negotiations with client, etc.).

## **Item 6 Portfolio Manager Selection and Evaluation**

- A. The Registrant may allocate a portion of a client's Program assets among Program managers in accordance with the client's designated investment objective(s). In such situations, the Program managers shall have day-to-day responsibility for the active discretionary management of the allocated Program assets. The Registrant shall continue to render investment supervisory services to the client relative to the ongoing monitoring and review of account performance, asset allocation and client investment objectives. Factors which the Registrant shall consider in recommending Program managers include the client's designated investment objective(s), management style, performance, reputation, financial strength, reporting, pricing, and research.

- B. The Registrant acts as the portfolio manager for the Program. Inasmuch as the execution costs for transactions effected in the client account will be paid by the Registrant, a potential conflict of interest arises in that the Registrant may have a disincentive to trade securities in the client account. In addition, the amount of compensation received by the Registrant as a result of the client's participation in the Program may be more than what the Registrant would receive if the client paid separately for investment advice, brokerage and other services.
- C. As discussed below, the Registrant also offers to its clients discretionary investment advisory services. The Registrant **does not** hold itself out as providing financial planning, estate planning, or insurance planning services.

## **ADVISORY BUSINESS SERVICES**

### **Investment Advisory Services**

The client can determine to engage the Registrant to provide discretionary investment advisory services on a wrap *fee-only* basis. (See discussion below). If a client determines to engage the Registrant on a wrap fee basis the client will pay a single fee for bundled services (i.e. investment advisory, brokerage, custody). The services included in a wrap fee agreement will depend upon each client's particular need. Alternatively, if advisory services are offered on a non-wrap fee basis the client selects individual services on an unbundled basis, paying for each service separately (i.e. investment advisory, brokerage, custody).

### **Sawyer Falduto Wrap Program**

The Registrant provides investment management services on a wrap fee basis in accordance with the Program. Under the Program, the Registrant is able to offer participants discretionary investment management services, for a single specified annual Program fee, inclusive of trade execution (excluding mark-ups and mark-downs), custody, reporting, and investment management fees. The current annual Program fee is negotiable, but generally ranges from 0.20% to 1.00% and shall be based upon the level and scope of the overall investment advisory services to be rendered, which is based upon **various objective and subjective factors**, including, but not limited to, the amount of the assets placed under the Registrant's management, the complexity of the engagement and negotiations with the client. Moreover, the services to be provided by the Registrant to any particular client could be available from other advisers at lower fees. (See **Fee Differentials** above).

## **MISCELLANEOUS ADVISORY SERVICES DISCLOSURE**

**Limitations of Financial Planning and Non-Investment Consulting/Implementation Services.** Although the Registrant does not hold itself out as providing financial planning, estate planning or accounting services, to the extent specifically requested by the client, Registrant may provide financial planning and related consulting services regarding non-investment related matters, such as estate planning, tax planning, insurance, etc. The Registrant does not serve as a law firm, accounting firm, or insurance agency, and no portion of Registrant's services should be construed as legal, accounting, or insurance implementation services. Accordingly, Registrant does not prepare estate planning

documents, tax returns or sell insurance products. To the extent requested by a client, Registrant may recommend the services of other professionals for certain non-investment implementation purposes (i.e. attorneys, accountants, insurance agents, etc.). Clients are reminded that they are under no obligation to engage the services of any such recommended professional. The client retains absolute discretion over all such implementation decisions and is free to accept or reject any recommendation made by Registrant or its representatives. **Please Note:** If the client engages any unaffiliated recommended professional, and a dispute arises thereafter relative to such engagement, the client agrees to seek recourse exclusively from and against the engaged professional.

**Client Obligations.** In performing its services, Registrant shall not be required to verify any information received from the client or from the client's other professionals, and is expressly authorized to rely thereon. Moreover, each client is advised that it remains his/her/its responsibility to promptly notify the Registrant if there is ever any change in his/her/its financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing/evaluating/revising Registrant's previous recommendations and/or services.

**Disclosure Statement.** A copy of the Registrant's: written Brochure as set forth on ADV: Part 2A, Wrap Fee Program Brochure as set forth on ADV Part 2A Appendix 1 (as applicable), and ADV Part 2B Brochure Supplement shall be provided to each client prior to, or contemporaneously with, the execution of the *Investment Advisory Agreement*.

The Registrant shall provide investment advisory services specific to the needs of each client. Prior to providing investment advisory services, an investment adviser representative will ascertain each client's investment objective(s). Thereafter, the Registrant shall allocate and/or recommend that the client allocate investment assets consistent with the designated investment objective(s). The client may, at anytime, impose reasonable restrictions, in writing, on the Registrant's services.

Registrant only provides investment services on a wrap-fee basis. However, as stated above, if a client determines to engage the Registrant on a wrap fee basis the client will pay a single fee for bundled services (i.e. investment advisory, brokerage, custody). The services included in a wrap fee agreement will depend upon each client's particular need.

**Please Note:** When managing a client's account on a wrap fee basis, the Registrant shall receive as payment for its investment advisory services, the balance of the wrap fee after all other costs incorporated into the wrap fee have been deducted.

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

Neither the Registrant nor any supervised person of the Registrant accepts performance-based fees.



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

The Registrant may utilize the following methods of security analysis:

- Charting - (analysis performed using patterns to identify current trends and trend reversals to forecast the direction of prices)
- Fundamental - (analysis performed on historical and present data, with the goal of making financial forecasts)
- Technical – (analysis performed on historical and present data, focusing on price and trade volume, to forecast the direction of prices)
- Cyclical – (analysis performed on historical relationships between price and market trends, to forecast the direction of prices)

The Registrant may utilize the following investment strategies when implementing investment advice given to clients:

- Long Term Purchases (securities held at least a year)
- Short Term Purchases (securities sold within a year)

**Please Note: Investment Risk.** Investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk, and it should not be assumed that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy (including the investments and/or investment strategies recommended or undertaken by the Registrant) will be profitable or equal any specific performance level(s).

The Registrant's methods of analysis and investment strategies do not present any significant or unusual risks. However, every method of analysis has its own inherent risks. To perform an accurate market analysis the Registrant must have access to current/new market information. The Registrant has no control over the dissemination rate of market information; therefore, unbeknownst to the Registrant, certain analyses may be compiled with outdated market information, severely limiting the value of the Registrant's analysis. Furthermore, an accurate market analysis can only produce a forecast of the direction of market values. There can be no assurances that a forecasted change in market value will materialize into actionable and/or profitable investment opportunities.

The Registrant's primary investment strategies - Long Term Purchases and Short Term Purchases - are fundamental investment strategies. However, every investment strategy has its own inherent risks and limitations. For example, longer term investment strategies require a longer investment time period to allow for the strategy to potentially develop. Shorter term investment strategies require a shorter investment time period to potentially develop but, as a result of more frequent trading, may incur higher transactional costs when compared to a longer term investment strategy.

Currently, the Registrant primarily allocates client investment assets primarily among various fixed income securities, mutual funds and/or exchange traded funds, on a discretionary basis in accordance with the client's designated investment objective(s).

## **Voting Client Securities**

Unless the client directs otherwise in writing, the Registrant is responsible for voting client proxies (**However**, the client shall maintain exclusive responsibility for all legal proceedings or other type events pertaining to the account assets, including, but not limited to, class action lawsuits.). The Registrant shall vote proxies in accordance with its Proxy Voting Policy, a copy of which is available upon request. The Registrant shall monitor corporate actions of individual issuers and investment companies consistent with the Registrant's fiduciary duty to vote proxies in the best interests of its clients. Although the factors which Registrant will consider when determining how it will vote differ on a case by case basis, they may, but are not be limited to, include the following a review of recommendations from issuer management, shareholder proposals, cost effects of such proposals, effect on employees and executive and director compensation. With respect to individual issuers, the Registrant may be solicited to vote on matters including corporate governance, adoption or amendments to compensation plans (including stock options), and matters involving social issues and corporate responsibility. With respect to investment companies (e.g., mutual funds), the Registrant may be solicited to vote on matters including the approval of advisory contracts, distribution plans, and mergers. The Registrant shall maintain records pertaining to proxy voting as required pursuant to Rule 204-2 (c)(2) under the Advisers Act. Copies of Rules 206(4)-6 and 204-2(c)(2) are available upon written request. In addition, information pertaining to how the Registrant voted on any specific proxy issue is also available upon written request. Requests should be made by contacting the Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, Thomas Sawyer.

## **Item 7            Client Information Provided to Portfolio Managers**

The Registrant shall be the Program's portfolio manager. The Registrant shall provide investment advisory services specific to needs of each client. Prior to providing investment advisory services, an investment adviser representative will discuss with each client, their particular investment objective(s). The Registrant shall allocate each client's investment assets consistent with their designated investment objective(s). Clients may, at anytime, impose restrictions, in writing, on the Registrant's services.

As indicated above, each client is advised that it remains his/her/its responsibility to promptly notify the Registrant if there is ever any change in his/her/its financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing/evaluating/revising Registrant's previous recommendations and/or services.

## **Item 8            Client Contact with Portfolio Managers**

The client shall have, without restriction, reasonable access to the Program's portfolio manager.

## **Item 9 Additional Information**

- A. The Registrant has not been the subject of any disciplinary actions.

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

Neither the Registrant, nor its representatives, are registered or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.

Neither the Registrant, nor its representatives, are registered or have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, a commodity trading advisor, or a representative of the foregoing.

The Registrant has no other relationship or arrangement with a related person that is material to its advisory business.

The Registrant does not receive, directly or indirectly, compensation from investment advisors that it recommends or selects for its clients.

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

The Registrant maintains an investment policy relative to personal securities transactions. This investment policy is part of Registrant's overall Code of Ethics, which serves to establish a standard of business conduct for all of Registrant's representatives that is based upon fundamental principles of openness, integrity, honesty and trust, a copy of which is available upon request.

In accordance with Section 204A of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the Registrant also maintains and enforces written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse of material non-public information by the Registrant or any person associated with the Registrant.

Neither the Registrant nor any related person of Registrant recommends, buys, or sells for client accounts, securities in which the Registrant or any related person of Registrant has a material financial interest.

The Registrant and/or representatives of the Registrant *may* buy or sell securities that are also recommended to clients. This practice may create a situation where the Registrant and/or representatives of the Registrant are in a position to materially benefit from the sale or purchase of those securities. Therefore, this situation creates a potential conflict of interest. Practices such as "scalping" (i.e., a practice whereby the owner of shares of a security recommends that security for investment and then immediately sells it at a profit upon the rise in the market price which follows the recommendation) could take place if the Registrant did not have adequate policies in place to detect such activities. In addition, this requirement can help detect insider trading, "front-running" (i.e., personal trades executed prior to those of the Registrant's clients) and other potentially abusive practices.

The Registrant has a personal securities transaction policy in place to monitor the personal securities transactions and securities holdings of each of the Registrant's "Access Persons". The Registrant's securities transaction policy requires that an Access Person of the Registrant must provide the Chief Compliance Officer or his/her designee

with a written report of their current securities holdings within ten (10) days after becoming an Access Person. Additionally, each Access Person must provide the Chief Compliance Officer or his/her designee with a written report of the Access Person's current securities holdings at least once each twelve (12) month period thereafter on a date the Registrant selects; provided, however that at any time that the Registrant has only one Access Person, he or she shall not be required to submit any securities report described above.

The Registrant and/or representatives of the Registrant *may* buy or sell securities, at or around the same time as those securities are recommended to clients. This practice creates a situation where the Registrant and/or representatives of the Registrant are in a position to materially benefit from the sale or purchase of those securities. Therefore, this situation creates a potential conflict of interest. As indicated above, the Registrant has a personal securities transaction policy in place to monitor the personal securities transaction and securities holdings of each of Registrant's Access Persons.

### **Review of Accounts**

For those clients to whom Registrant provides investment supervisory services, account reviews are conducted on an ongoing basis by the Registrant's Principals and/or representatives. All investment supervisory clients are advised that it remains their responsibility to advise the Registrant of any changes in their investment objectives and/or financial situation. All clients (in person or via telephone) are encouraged to review financial planning issues (to the extent applicable), investment objectives and account performance with the Registrant on an annual basis.

The Registrant *may* conduct account reviews on an other than periodic basis upon the occurrence of a triggering event, such as a change in client investment objectives and/or financial situation, market corrections and client request.

Clients are provided, at least quarterly, with written transaction confirmation notices and regular written summary account statements directly from the broker-dealer/custodian and/or program sponsor for the client accounts. The Registrant may also provide a written periodic report summarizing account activity and performance.

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

The Registrant may receive indirect economic benefits from *Schwab* including support services or products (without cost and/or at a discount). Registrant's clients do not pay more for investment transactions effected and/or assets maintained at *Schwab* as a result of this arrangement. There is no corresponding commitment made by the Registrant to *Schwab* or any other entity to invest any specific amount or percentage of client assets in any specific mutual funds, securities or other investment products as a result of the above arrangement.

Neither the Registrant nor its representatives compensate any non-supervised persons for client referrals.

**Financial Information**

The Registrant does not solicit fees in advance.

The Registrant is unaware of any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet its contractual commitments relating to its discretionary authority over certain client accounts.

The Registrant has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.

**ANY QUESTIONS: The Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, Thomas Sawyer, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the above disclosures and arrangements.**