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**Disclosure Brochure**

**May 29, 2013**

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Abridge Partners, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 909.860.9992. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") or by any state securities authority.

Abridge Partners, LLC is a registered investment adviser. Registration of an investment adviser does not imply any level of skill or training. The oral and written communications of an adviser provide you with information about which you determine to hire or retain an adviser.

Additional information about Abridge Partners, LLC also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov)

## **MATERIAL CHANGES**

There have been no material updates or changes since Abridge Partners, LLC (“Abridge Partners, we, us, our, ours”) last update to this Disclosure Brochure on March 29, 2013.

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Our brochure may be requested by contacting MaryAnn Lawson, at (909) 860-9992 or by email at [mlawson@abridgepartnersllc.com](mailto:mlawson@abridgepartnersllc.com). We will gladly provide you with a new brochure at any time free of charge and expense.

Additional information about our company is also available via the SEC’s website: [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

The SEC’s website also provides information about any persons affiliated with Abridge Partners who are registered as investment adviser representatives of Abridge Partners. Information about the investment adviser representatives who works with your account can be found in our brochure supplements on the page shown in the table of contents to the right of this column.

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## ADVISORY BUSINESS

Abridge Partners is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of California. Robert M. Birgen, James D. Howard, and the late Michael Flanagan, Sr. founded the firm in 2007. Messrs. Birgen, Howard and Michael Flanagan, Jr. are the firm's acting principals. It is expected that Michael Flanagan, Jr. will be assuming an ownership interest in the firm in the near future proportional to the interest held by his father. The firm operates from three offices located in Diamond Bar, California; Spokane, Washington; and Middleton, Delaware. Abridge Partners is an SEC-registered investment adviser.

### *Investment Consulting Services*

We offer a number of investment advisory and consulting services. Each individual investment advisory representative ("Advisor" or "Advisory Representative") of Abridge Partners may or may not provide all of these services to you and your Advisor is responsible for communicating with you which services will be performed.

These services include:

- Investment Data Gathering – We meet with you to assist in establishing your investment goals and objectives, focusing on your current and future economic needs.
- Asset Allocation Services – Asset allocation models are developed using your fact finding data in addition to focusing on your desired risk tolerances, asset preferences, investment objectives, expected returns and time horizons. Using computer models, we assist you in evaluating different asset allocations and risk/return scenarios. Combinations of asset classes are modeled to create the proper allocation for each portfolio. Asset classes included in this analysis are domestic equities of different market capitalizations, non-U.S. equities and various fixed income asset classes.
- Investment Policy Statement – We utilize the information obtained from you and through the model development to draft a written investment policy. This policy statement defines investment portfolio objectives, investment guidelines, asset allocation parameters and benchmarks for ongoing performance monitoring and evaluation.
- Money Manager Selection – We have agreements with other third party investment advisors who specialize in management of the various asset classes. We provide you with quantitative data regarding third party manager's performance, consistency and risk as well as other information about the manager and their investment management style. Factors considered in the selection of a third party manager include but may not be limited to:
  - each individual Advisory Representative's preference for a particular manager;
  - your risk tolerance, goals and objectives, as well as investment experience; and
  - the amount of your assets available for investment.
- Mutual Fund Selection – We may also assist you in creating a mutual fund portfolio to meet the desired asset allocation model. Each portfolio is designed to meet your individual needs, stated goals and objectives. All funds purchased are no-load or load-waived mutual funds.
- Ongoing Money Manager Evaluation – We monitor the performance of your investment portfolios. We consider modifications in asset allocation and manager selection, and are responsible for arranging the purchase or sale of recommended funds.

You should notify us promptly if there are any changes in your financial situation or investment objectives or if you wish to impose any reasonable restrictions upon the management of your account.

### *Pension Consulting Services*

We provide services to pension and profit sharing plans which includes establishing plans and related documents through data gathering, assessment of participant's goals, meeting with plan participants, fund selection and conducting education and enrollment meetings. The services may include a quarterly review of fund performance and an annual fund review meeting.

### *Financial Planning Services*

We also provide business continuity, estate planning and executive benefits planning services. A report may be issued in association with the financial planning engagement. The preparation of the plan may necessitate that the client provide Abridge Partners with personal data such as family records, budgeting, personal liability, estate information and additional financial goals.

As part of the planning process, Abridge Partners will work closely with the client's attorney, accountant, insurance agent, stockbroker and/or other advisers, at the client's discretion. Otherwise, Abridge Partners suggests the client work closely with these outside professional advisers independently. Implementation of financial plan recommendations is entirely at the client's discretion.

## **FEES AND COMPENSATION**

We offer our services on a fee-only basis. Our fees are typically based upon the market value of the assets in your account on the last day of the previous quarter and may be calculated on a percentage basis, flat amount or a combination thereof. All fees are negotiable with your Advisor.

Broker-dealers and other financial institutions that hold client accounts are referred to as custodians. Your custodian, not Abridge Partners, determines the values of the assets in your portfolio.

### *Fees for Investment Consulting Services*

Initial fees are based on the value of your cash and securities on the date the custodian receives them and are prorated based upon the number of calendar days in the calendar quarter that our agreement is in effect. Our fee schedule is described below:

<b>Assets Under Management</b>		<b>Annual Fee<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	
0	3,000,000	\$0+ 1.00%
3,000,001	6,000,000	\$30,000 + 0.85%
6,000,001	10,000,000	\$55,500 + 0.75%
10,000,001	20,000,000	\$85,500 + 0.65%
20,000,001 and Over		\$150,500 + 0.55%

<sup>1</sup>There will be a \$15,000 minimum fee. All fees and minimums are negotiable at our sole discretion.

### *Fees for Pension Consulting Services*

Our fee schedule is described below:

<b>Assets Under Management</b>		<b>Annual Fee<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	
0	3,000,000	1.00%
3,000,001	6,000,000	0.85%
6,000,001	10,000,000	0.75%
10,000,001	20,000,000	0.65%
20,000,001 and Over		0.55%

<sup>1</sup>There will be a \$15,000 minimum fee. All fees and minimums are negotiable at our sole discretion.

### *Fees for Financial Planning Services*

All fees are negotiable. Compensation is arranged by your Advisory Representative according to your individual circumstance. Hourly fees vary from \$125 to \$500 with fixed fees ranging from \$500 to \$50,000. Clients may also negotiate an hourly fee not to exceed a specific total amount. Fees are based on the experience level of the individual creating the plan and the complexity of the project. Payment of the fees is negotiated at the time of engagement.

Abridge Partners may require the entire fee upfront or may require a deposit ranging between 30% and 50% of the total fee at the beginning of the project based upon the fixed fee or a reasonable estimation of the total hourly fee. If a deposit is collected, the remainder of the fee may be due either within sixty (60) days of signing the agreement or upon completion of the plan as specified in the planning agreement.

For hourly contracts, if upon completion of the project, there is a difference between the actual amount of time spent and the total hourly estimate, any overpayment of fees will be promptly refunded to the client. Clients may also be billed on a monthly basis as fees are incurred or upon completion of the project. If the client or Advisor terminates the contract, any fees paid in advance will be refunded on a pro-rata basis. It is expected that all projects will be completed within six months from execution of the planning agreement. Similar financial planning services may be available elsewhere for a lower cost to the client.

### *Additional Information*

You must authorize us to have your custodian pay us directly by charging your account. This authorization must be provided in writing. One-fourth of the annual fee is charged in advance for each calendar quarter based upon the net value of the assets under management and the end of the prior quarter.

Your custodian will provide you with regular monthly statements that show the amount paid directly to us. We urge you to review your custodial statements and verify the calculation of our fees. Your custodian assumes no accountability nor does it verify the accuracy of our fee calculations. In addition to our fee, you may be required to pay other charges such as (i) custody fees, (ii) brokerage commissions, (iii) transaction fees, (iv) internal fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions and, (v) third-party separate account asset manager fees.

Mutual fund companies, ETFs, and variable annuity issuers charge internal fees and expenses for their products. These fees and expenses are in addition to any advisory fees charged by us. Complete details of these internal fees and expenses are explained in the fund's prospectuses for each investment. You are strongly encouraged to read these explanations before investing any money. We strongly encourage you to ask us any questions you have about these third-party fees and expenses as they will reduce your overall rate of return.

If you purchase mutual funds through your custodian, you may pay transaction fees that would not be charged if the transactions were made directly from the mutual fund company.

While you may purchase shares of mutual funds directly from a mutual fund company without a transaction fee, those investments would not be part of our advisory relationship with you. This means that they would not be included in our investment strategies, investment performance monitoring, or portfolio reallocations.

Please be sure to read the section entitled "Brokerage Practices," which follows later in this brochure.

You may pay our advisory fees in advance of receiving our services or they may be assessed in arrears as agreed to in the advisory agreement. Should you pay your fees in advance and subsequently terminate your advisory agreement with us within five (5) business days from the date the agreement is executed, you will receive a full refund of any fees paid.

Should either one of us terminate the advisory agreement we have entered into before the end of a billing period, any unearned fees that were deducted from your account will be returned to you by us. The amount refunded to you is calculated by dividing the most recent advisory fee you paid by the total number of days in the quarter. This daily fee is then multiplied by the number of calendar days in the quarter that our agreement was in effect. This amount, which equals the amount we earned for the partial quarter, is subtracted from the total fee you paid in advance to determine your refund.

Our advisory representatives are also registered representatives of LPL Financial, LLC ("LPL Financial"), FINRA-member broker/dealer. If you choose to implement your financial plan through LPL Financial, commissions may be earned by your financial advisor in addition to any fees paid for advisory services. In addition, the financial advisor may be entitled to a portion of the internal expense fees (such as so-called 12b-1 fees) charged by mutual funds. Thus, any recommendation to utilize LPL Financial for custodial and/or brokerage services represents a potential conflict of interest due to the potential for additional compensation that could be earned by your Advisor.

All advisory representatives of Abridge Partners who are also registered representatives of LPL Financial are subject to its regulatory supervision under FINRA rules. As such, LPL Financial has deemed it within the scope of its regulatory obligation to supervise the non-brokerage activities of our advisory representatives. LPL Financial mandates that we provide personal information on all of Abridge Partners' clients including, but not limited to account name, selected financial information, investment experience and objectives, ongoing account activity, and securities holdings. LPL Financial has strict safeguards to protect this information, does not share this information with any unaffiliated third-parties, and does not use this information for marketing or any other purpose than described above. If you would like a copy of LPL Financial's privacy policy statement, please contact us and we will promptly provide you with one.

Our advisory representatives may also recommend various asset management firms through their affiliation with LPL Financial. If you establish an investment advisory relationship with one of these firms, our financial advisors may share in the advisory fees you pay to these asset management firms.

Our advisory representatives are also licensed with various insurance companies. Commissions may be earned by our financial advisors if insurance products are purchased through these insurance companies. In addition, in some instances these insurance products may be purchased through insurance agencies owned by principals of Abridge Partners. (See "Other Financial Activities and Associations"). Furthermore, those individuals licensed to sell insurance products may receive benefits such as assistance with conferences and educational meetings from product sponsors.

The above arrangements may present a conflict of interest because they create an incentive to make recommendations based upon the amount of compensation we receive rather than based upon your needs. We will explain the specific costs associated with any recommended investments with you upon request. We also recommend no-load and load-waived mutual funds to further reduce conflicts of interest. Additionally, you have the option to purchase investment and insurance products through other brokers or agents who are not affiliated with us.

## PERFORMANCE-BASED FEES

Performance-based fees are designed to give a portion of the realized and unrealized returns of an investment to the investment manager as a reward for positive performance. These fees are generally a percentage of the profits earned on the investor's investments. Abridge Partners does not assess or charge performance-based fees for any of its advisory or consulting services.

## TYPES OF CLIENTS

We provide advisory services primarily to high-net worth individuals, including their trusts, estates and retirement accounts. We also provide services to corporations or similar business entities, including their pension and profit sharing plans. A minimum fee of \$15,000 may apply based on the level of service provided. Alternately, accounts with less than \$500,000 in assets may be charged a flat 1.5% annual fee. We, at our sole discretion, may waive this minimum requirement.

## METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISK OF LOSS

### *Methods of Analysis*

We select specific investments for your portfolios through the use of fundamental analysis. Fundamental analysis is a method of evaluating a company that has issued a security by attempting to measure the value of its underlying assets. It entails studying overall economic and industry conditions as well as the financial condition and the quality of the company's management. Earnings, expenses, assets, and liabilities are all important in determining the value of a company. The value is then compared to the current price of the issuing company's security to determine whether to purchase, sell or hold the security.

### *Investment Strategies*

After meeting with you, understanding your investment objectives, risk tolerances, time horizon, and your general overall financial circumstance, we will provide you with a recommended asset allocation, which will often be a blend of equities (stocks), fixed income (bonds) and cash. Abridge Partners commonly will recommend the services of unaffiliated third-party managers that specialize in the management of equity and fixed income securities.

Abridge Partners is an active fee-paying, member of the Independent Adviser Group ("IAG") which operates as a division of Callan Associates, Inc., an unaffiliated SEC-registered investment adviser ("Callan"). Using the tools provided by Callan/IAG we can identify and recommend to you third-party investment manager(s) to meet your asset allocation needs. These unaffiliated managers may manage your assets on a commingled basis through mutual funds or on an individual separate account basis. Callan's IAG platform provides Abridge Partners and you with:

- Investment manager profiles
- Quantitative screening
- Qualitative screening
- Ongoing performance monitoring
- Pre-negotiated access to select managers

In addition, Callan/IAG provides Abridge Partners with ongoing training and marketing support. Our clients incur no additional costs or expenses for our membership with the IAG.

For clients whose assets are on the Callan's unified managed account ("UMA") program and specifically its overlay portfolio management ("OPM") platform, Callan may reduce the annual fee owed by Abridge Partners to Callan in an amount equal to the management fees paid to Callan by clients. While the existence of such an arrangement creates an incentive for Abridge Partners to refer clients to managers on the OPM platform, we will nonetheless only make such a recommendation when suitable for client's needs. Fees paid to third-party managers on the OPM platform shall be reasonable and customary, yet may in some instances be higher than those fees paid by non-UMA clients.



Equity or stock managers will be identified based upon their investment focus (e.g. stock of large, medium, or small market capitalization companies) and style (e.g. growth versus equity). Through our Callan/IAG participation, Abridge Partners monitors its recommended managers and a pool of prospective managers in order to help ensure that these managers are performing as identified. Commonly contingent upon the amount of investible assets, our recommended managers may engage in individual stock selection on an account-by-account basis or may manage assets on a pooled basis, such as through mutual funds or exchange traded funds ("ETFs"). In addition, select third-party, separate account managers may impose minimum investment amounts that are subject to change and may, in some instances, necessitate closing of an account in the case of a higher account minimum that cannot be met.

Fixed income (bond) managers are selected based upon their identified investment focus such as core, high-yield, municipal bonds, defensive, and even international/global strategies.

Our investment strategies may include long-term and short-term purchases, trading (securities sold within 30 days) and sales, and the use of margin. You may place reasonable restrictions on the strategies to be employed in your portfolio and the types of investments to be held in your portfolio.

#### *Risk of Loss*

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that all clients should be prepared to bear. As with all investments, there are inherent, unavoidable and often unforeseeable risks in investing in securities. These risks will vary depending on the nature of the investment, the strategy pursued, the type of instrument used to pursue or give effect to that strategy, the conditions and performance of the U.S. and global economies, as well as the performance/financial condition of the individual company or entity issuing the security. As with all investments, the value of the investment at the time of sale will fluctuate and might be greater or less than the value at the time of purchase. Primary risks inherent in investing in the types of securities used for client accounts include, but are not limited to, risk of loss of principal; interest-rate risk; credit risk; reinvestment risk; economic risk; political risks and currency risk (principally for foreign securities); liquidity risk; risk of default; inflation and market volatility in general.

While Abridge Partners seeks to assess the merits of investing in a particular security or recommending a third-party investment manager based upon an assessment of the perceived risks and potential rewards, there are no assurances that our assessments will be correct or that subsequent events or company, market, or investment manager changes will not render the assessment incorrect at a later time.

#### **DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION**

Neither Abridge Partners nor any of its principals or associates have been the subject of any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of our business or the integrity of our management.

#### **OTHER FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS**

Robert Birgen, Michael Flanagan, Jr., and James Howard are licensed insurance agents. As such, they have appointments with various insurance companies that authorize them to offer and sell insurance products to current and prospective clients of Abridge Partners. While you may be offered or receive a recommendation to purchase an insurance product, you are absolutely under no obligation to do so as a condition of becoming a client of Abridge Partners.

Robert Birgen is an owner and principal of Birgen Asset Management, Inc. Birgen Asset Management is a California-licensed insurance agency. When suitable, Mr. Birgen may offer or recommend the purchase of certain insurance products through Birgen Asset Management. These products could include life, long-term care, disability, group health, and fixed annuities insurance policies. Should you choose to purchase an insurance product from Mr. Birgen, he will be compensated as a licensed insurance agent and owner of Birgen Asset Management.

Michael Flanagan, Jr. is the managing member of Business Prosperity, LLC. Business Prosperity, LLC is not currently a Delaware-licensed insurance agency, but it anticipates becoming one by the end of 2013. As such, it is expected that Mr. Flanagan may offer or recommend the purchase of certain insurance products to clients through Business Prosperity upon licensure. These products may include life and fixed annuities insurance policies.

Mr. Howard is an owner and principal of Estate Strategies, Inc. Estate Strategies, Inc. is a Washington-licensed insurance agency. Mr. Howard may offer or recommend the purchase of insurance products through Estate Strategies, Inc. When suitable, Mr. Howard may offer or recommend the purchase of insurance products including life, long-term care, disability, and fixed annuities insurance products or policies. Should you purchase an insurance product from Mr. Howard he will be compensated as a licensed insurance agent and owner of Estate Strategies, Inc.

Select investment adviser representatives and clerical associates are brokerage licensed and are registered representatives with LPL Financial, an unaffiliated FINRA-member broker/dealer. In select circumstances this arrangement may present a material conflict of interest as there may be an incentive to make recommendations based upon the amount of compensation your advisory representative can receive as a registered representative of LPL Financial rather than as an investment advisory representative of Abridge Partners.

Select investment adviser representatives hold state insurance licenses. This allows these individuals to recommend life insurance products such as term, whole life, universal life, and annuity contracts. Annuity products commonly have an investment component and may pay high commissions to the agent who sells the annuity. In select circumstances the existence of this could present a material conflict of interest as there may be an incentive to make a recommendation to purchase a life insurance product based upon the amount of compensation your advisory representative could receive as an insurance agent rather than as an investment advisory representative of Abridge Partners. The recommendation to purchase an insurance product will likely be through an agency owned by one of our principals.

We will explain the specific costs associated with any recommended investments with you upon request. We also recommend no-load and load-waived mutual funds to further reduce conflicts of interest. You have the option to purchase investment products through other brokers or agents who are not affiliated with us.

Our advisory representatives may also recommend various asset management firms through their affiliation with LPL Financial. If you establish an investment advisory relationship with one of these firms, our financial advisors may share in the advisory fees you pay to these asset management firms.

Robert Birgen is an owner and principal of Abridge Partners. He is also an owner and managing member of Stanislawski & Harrison Wealth Management, LLC ("S&H Wealth Management"), a California-licensed investment advisor. As such, S&H Wealth Management is an affiliate of Abridge Partners. S&H Wealth Management offers similar investment advisory service to those of Abridge Partners and like Abridge Partners refers prospective clients to Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("Schwab") for custodial services. Clients of S&H Wealth Management are only those who are referred to Mr. Birgen by select third-party accountants.

## **CODE OF ETHICS, PARTICIPATION OR INTEREST IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS AND PERSONAL TRADING**

We have adopted a Code of Ethics (the "Code") in order to ensure a high standard of conduct and to address the securities and business-related activities of our advisory representatives and associates. The Code includes our policies and procedures developed to reinforce ethical behavior and to protect your interests. In part, these include:

- An acknowledgement of our fiduciary duty to you to place your interests ahead of ours
- Assurance that all personal securities transactions of our advisory representatives and employees are conducted in a manner consistent with the Code and in order to avoid any actual or potential conflict of interest
- Procedures to ensure that we and our advisory representatives do not take inappropriate or unethical advantage of our position as your advisor
- Procedures to protect and prevent the potential misuse of material inside information

Upon request and free of charge we will provide a copy of the Code to you or any prospective client.

Abridge Partners does not buy or sell securities for itself that it also recommends to clients. Our advisory representatives and employees are permitted, however, to buy or sell the same securities for their personal and family accounts that are bought or sold for your account(s). The personal securities transactions by advisory representatives and employees may raise potential conflicts of interest when they trade in a security that is either owned by you or considered for purchase or sale for you.

We have adopted policies and procedures that are intended to address these conflicts of interest. These policies and procedures:

- Require our advisory representatives and employees to act in your best interest
- Prohibit favoring one client over another
- Provide for the review of transactions to discover and correct any same-day trades that result in an advisory representative or employee receiving a better price than a client

Advisory representatives and employees must follow our procedures when purchasing or selling the same securities purchased or sold for you.

## **BROKERAGE PRACTICES**

In selecting a broker/dealer to execute a transaction for a client, an investment adviser may consider a variety of factors, including the following: the broker's capital depth; the broker/dealer's market access; the broker/dealer's transaction confirmation and account statement practices; the knowledge of negotiated commission rates and spreads currently available; the nature and character of the markets for the security or instrument to be purchased or sold; the desired timing of the transaction; the execution, clearance and settlement capabilities of the broker/dealer selected and others considered; the reputation and perceived soundness of the broker selected and others considered; the knowledge of any actual or apparent operational problems of a broker; the other services, including research, supplied by the broker/dealer; and the reasonableness of the commission or its equivalent for the specific transaction.

Concurrent with our engagement with you for investment advisory services, we will recommend that you utilize Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., ("Schwab") for custody services. Schwab is an unaffiliated FINRA-member broker/dealer. While there is no requirement that you use Schwab for your custodian in connection with our engagement with you, we believe Schwab is a superior custodian. You may, of course, elect to use the custodian of your choice, and we encourage you to consider alternative custodians as you deem appropriate yet we have selected Schwab based upon several factors including, but not limited to Schwab's excellent client servicing, quality trade execution services, and financial strength. With this recommendation, we will execute your securities transactions through Schwab. In the

case of fixed income transactions, Schwab may act as agent and execute trades with third-party brokers or dealers in accord with Schwab's best execution obligations.

The determining factor in recommending Schwab to execute transactions for your accounts is not the lowest possible transaction cost, but whether Schwab can provide consistent, high-quality trade executions for your account, which we believe it does. In recommending Schwab to you, we have considered a number of factors including, but not limited to Schwab's:

- Financial strength
- Reputation
- Reporting capabilities
- Trade execution capabilities
- Access to domestic and global securities markets
- Pricing services
- Access to research
- Insurance protections
- Client-friendly services

In the case of 403(b) plans, LPL Financial or one of its affiliates will be recommended to serve as your custodian and will execute trades on your behalf.

#### *Discretionary versus Non-Discretionary Accounts*

For those clients who chose not to grant us investment discretion, there may be delays in the execution of investment recommendations as we will execute transactions on behalf of our discretionary clients before contacting any non-discretionary clients. While we will make every reasonable effort to mitigate the impact of this circumstance, it is possible that non-discretionary accounts may receive less favorable trade executions that might possibly result in poorer overall investment performance than those clients who grant us investment discretion.

#### *Soft Dollars*

While Schwab provides us with access to its institutional trading and custody services, Abridge Partners is not required to execute a minimum volume of transactions or maintain a minimum dollar amount of client assets to receive these services. Schwab does not charge custodial or depository fees for holding your cash and securities, but Schwab is compensated by you through commissions charged to you for trades executed in your account.

Through the Callan/IAG platform, certain Schwab-affiliated mutual funds or individual account managers may be recommended to you. Like all mutual funds, these funds assess management and so-called 12(b)-1 fees. These 12(b)-1 fees are customarily paid to referring brokers as compensation for recommending and investing a client's funds. Due to our advisory relationship with Schwab, we cannot receive these fees so they are retained by Schwab. In those instances where we may recommend a Schwab-affiliated investment manager, this manager will charge management fees. Any recommendation of a Schwab-affiliated mutual fund or investment manager is only made in adherence with our fiduciary duty to place your interests first. In both situations, Abridge Partners receives no compensation for such a recommendation.

As your custodian and executing broker/dealer, Schwab makes available to us products and services, sometimes at a discounted price, that benefit us, but may not benefit you directly. Some of these products and services assist us in managing and administering your accounts, such as software and other technology that:

- Provides access to account transaction data such as duplicate trade confirmations, bundled duplicate account statements, access to an electronic communication network for client order entry and account information

- Assist us with portfolio accounting and investment performance calculations
- Provides access to a trading desk serving advisory participants exclusively
- Provides access to bulk trading
- Provides research, pricing information, and other market data
- Facilitates payment of our fees from client accounts
- Assists with back-office functions, record keeping and client reporting
- Receipt of compliance publications

Schwab also makes available to us other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business. These services include, but may not be limited to:

- Business consulting
- Marketing
- Access to publications and conferences on practice management
- Information technology
- Regulatory compliance

Schwab may also make available or arrange for these types of services to be provided to us by independent third parties. Schwab may discount or waive the fees it would otherwise charge for some of the services it makes available to us. Schwab may also pay all or a part of the fees of a third party providing these services to us. Thus, we receive economic benefits as a result of our relationship with Schwab because we do not have to produce or purchase the products and services listed above.

Since the amount of potential compensation, products offered, or services available to us may vary depending on the custodian and/or broker-dealer we recommend to you, Abridge Partners may have a conflict of interest in making such a recommendation. Our recommendation of any specific custodian or broker/dealer may be based in part on the economic benefit to us and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and brokerage services provided to you and our other clients. We nonetheless strive to act in your best interest at all times.

In addition, commissions and other fees for transactions executed through Schwab may be higher than commissions if you used another broker-dealer to execute transactions and maintain custody of your account. We believe, however, that the overall level of services and support provided to our clients by Schwab outweighs the benefit of possibly lower transaction costs, which may be available under other brokerage and custodial arrangements.

Many of the services described above may be used to benefit all or a substantial number of our accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab. We do not attempt to allocate these benefits to specific clients.

On occasion, Abridge Partners may purchase or recommend the purchase of mutual funds or ETFs managed by Schwab, or one of its affiliates. Any such recommendation will be within our fiduciary duty to you as your advisor and in sync with your investment objectives and within your account restrictions. While Abridge Partners receives no direct financial benefit from utilizing any Schwab-managed funds in your account, there could be an incentive to do so given the benefits Abridge Partners receives from Schwab generally as your recommended custodian.

For clients whose assets are on the Callan's unified managed account ("UMA") program and specifically its overlay portfolio management ("OPM") platform, Callan may reduce the annual fee owed by Abridge Partners to Callan in an amount equal to the management fees paid to Callan by clients. While the existence of such an arrangement creates an incentive for us to refer clients to managers on the OPM platform, Abridge Partners will nonetheless only make such a recommendation when suitable for client's needs. Fees paid to third-party managers on the OPM platform shall be reasonable and customary, yet may in some instances be higher than those fees paid by non-UMA clients.

### *Directed Brokerage*

You may direct us in writing to use a broker/dealer other than Schwab to execute some or all of the transactions for your account. If you do so, you are responsible for negotiating the terms and arrangements for the account with that broker/dealer. In such circumstances we likely will not be able to negotiate favorable commissions, obtain volume discounts, or even guarantee best execution. In addition, under these circumstances a difference in commission charges may exist between the commissions charged to clients who direct us to use a particular broker/dealer and other clients who do not direct us to use a particular broker/dealer.

### **REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

All client accounts are monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis. These reviews ensure that the portfolio is in line with the asset allocation model described in your written Investment Policy Statement. Where applicable, reviews will also consider the performance of independent investment advisers that may be managing your accounts.

Account reviews may also be triggered by other factors such as changes in general economic and market conditions, analyst reports, issuer news and interest rate movement. Reviews are performed by Investment Advisory Representatives that meet the firm's education and experience requirements.

### *Third Party Money Managers*

We may review quarterly reports to evaluate performance of each manager and the performance of the portfolio as a whole. Performance comparisons may be made to appropriate index benchmarks and/or to groups of portfolio managers with similar style. Adjustments are made as necessary to stay within the parameters of the investment policy statement.

We will contact you at least annually, or more often as agreed upon, to review your financial situation and objectives, communicate information to the third party manager managing the account as warranted, and to assist the client in understanding and evaluating the services provided by the third party manager.

You will receive statements from the custodian/broker-dealer at least quarterly. These statements identify your current investment holdings, the cost of each of those investments, and their current market values. If agreed upon, you will also receive reports from Portfolio Monitoring Services that provide detailed performance measurement and other data relating to your individual holdings in an investment portfolio.

### **CLIENT REFERRALS AND OTHER COMPENSATION**

We do not directly or indirectly compensate any person who is not one of our advisory representatives or employees for client referrals.

We receive certain economic benefits as a result of our participation in Schwab's institutional program. Those benefits are described in detail in the preceding section entitled "Brokerage Practices."

For clients whose assets are on the Callan's unified managed account ("UMA") program and specifically its overlay portfolio management ("OPM") platform, Callan may reduce the annual fee owed by Abridge Partners to Callan in an amount equal to the management fees paid to Callan by clients. While the existence of such an arrangement creates an incentive for us to refer clients to managers on the OPM platform, Abridge Partners will nonetheless only make such a recommendation when suitable for client's needs. Fees paid to third-party managers on the OPM platform shall be reasonable and customary, yet may in some instances be higher than those fees paid by non-UMA clients.

## **CUSTODY**

Your chosen custodian maintains day-to-day custody of your assets, including cash, money market instruments, and securities. Under federal regulations, however, if you authorize your custodian to directly debit your account for quarterly management fees payable to Abridge Partners, we are deemed to have custody of your assets, as well. You will receive brokerage statements from your custodian on at least on a quarterly basis. We urge you to carefully review these statements. You should verify that the transactions in your account are consistent with your investment goals and the objectives for your account, but also verify the accuracy of any directly assessed management fees. We also encourage you to contact your investment advisory representative or our Chief Compliance Officer should you have any questions or concerns regarding your account.

Abridge Partners prohibits any principal or employee from holding any signatory authority or serving as a trustee, executor, guardian or in a similar capacity for any managed client account.

## **INVESTMENT DISCRETION**

Abridge Partners offers its investment advisory services on a discretionary and non-discretionary basis. We will typically recommend that we be granted discretionary trading authorization as it permits us to more quickly respond to investment opportunities and react to changing markets.

In relationships where we have discretionary trading authority we have received pre-approval to execute transactions on your behalf consistent with yet within your stated investment objectives. In such a relationship we will not consult with you in advance of executing a recommended transaction. In a non-discretionary investment advisory relationship we must contact you and seek your authorization on a recommendation-by-recommendation basis before any transaction to purchase or sell a security is executed.

For those clients who chose not to grant us investment discretion, there may be delays in the execution of investment recommendations as we will execute transactions on behalf of our discretionary clients before contacting any non-discretionary clients. This means these clients may possibly receive less favorable trade executions and possibly poorer overall investment performance than those clients who grant us investment discretion.

### *Third-Party Investment Managers*

In circumstances where we recommend third-party investment managers, trading authorization will be granted to the manager consenting to the execution of securities transactions for these clients without prior notification.

## **VOTING CLIENT SECURITIES**

Abridge Partners does not take any action or give any advice with respect to voting of proxies solicited by, or with respect to, the issuers of securities in which your accounts may be invested. In addition, we do not take any action or give any advice with respect to any securities held in any accounts that are named in or subject to class action lawsuits. We will, however, forward to you any information received by us regarding proxies and class action legal matters involving any securities held in your accounts.

In some instances, third-party investment managers may retain proxy voting rights to vote on your behalf for shares managed for your benefit. Should you wish to retain those rights yourself, you must contact Abridge Partners and instruct us accordingly.

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

We have no financial commitment that impairs our ability to meet our contractual and fiduciary commitments to you and we have not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.

**Robert M. Birgen, CPA(inactive), CFP®, PFS  
Abridge Partners, LLC**

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[www.abridgepartnersllc.com](http://www.abridgepartnersllc.com)

Brochure Supplement

March 28, 2013

This brochure supplement provides information about Robert M. Birgen, CPA (inactive), CFP®, PFS that supplements the Abridge Partners' brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact MaryAnn Lawson, at 909-860-9992 or [mlawson@abridgepartnersllc.com](mailto:mlawson@abridgepartnersllc.com) if you did not receive Abridge Partners' brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement. Additional information about Mr. Birgen is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

Educational Background and Business Experience

Year of birth: 1957

Formal education:

- California State Polytechnic University, Pomona BS;1980

Business background:

- LPL Financial, LLC – Registered Representative (09/09 to Present)
- Abridge Partners, LLC – Principal and Advisory Representative (09/07 to Present)
- Abridge Partners, LLC – Chief Compliance Officer (09/07 to 05/10)
- Stanislawski & Harrison Wealth Management, LLC – Managing Member (11/07 to Present)
- Birgen Asset Management, Inc. – President (04/01 to Present)
- Strategic Insurance Services, Inc. – President (05/91 to 12/07)
- Associated Securities Corp – Registered Representative (04/09 to 09/09)
- FSC Securities Corporation – Registered Representative (06/91 to 04/09)
- FFR Advisory, LLC – Advisory Representative (01/98 to 12/07)
- Cigna Securities, Inc.-Registered Representative (04/87 to 05/91)
- CT General Life Ins. Co-Agent (03/87 to 01/91)

Professional Designations

*Certified Financial Planner*™, CFP® and federally registered CFP® (with flame design) marks (collectively, the "CFP® marks") are professional certification marks granted in the United States by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP® Board"). The CFP® certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients. Currently, more than 62,000 individuals have obtained CFP® certification in the United States. To attain the right to use the CFP® marks, an individual must satisfactorily fulfill the following requirements:



- Education – Complete an advanced college-level course of study addressing the financial planning subject areas that CFP Board's studies have determined as necessary for the competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, and attain a Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited United States college or university (or its equivalent from a foreign university). CFP Board's financial planning subject areas include insurance planning and risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning, retirement planning, and estate planning;
- Examination – Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination, administered in 10 hours over a two-day period, includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances;
- Experience – Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year); and
- Ethics – Agree to be bound by CFP Board's Standards of Professional Conduct, a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP® professionals.
- Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP® marks:
- Continuing Education – Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including two hours on the Code of Ethics and other parts of the Standards of Professional Conduct, to maintain competence and keep up with developments in the financial planning field; and
- Ethics – Renew an agreement to be bound by the Standards of Professional Conduct. The Standards prominently require that CFP® professionals provide financial planning services at a fiduciary standard of care. This means CFP® professionals must provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.

CFP® professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board's enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP® certification.

*Certified Investment Management Analyst* - The CIMA Board Certification is for individuals who have 3 or more years of financial management experience and have agreed to engage in 10 hours of continued education per year. An advisor must also be free of all criminal actions, regulatory violations, civil actions and customer complaints on the Form U-4, or present satisfactory justification of any occurrence.

*Personal Financial Specialist* - The Personal Financial Specialist (PFS) is a program that allows CPAs to demonstrate their knowledge and expertise in personal financial planning.

A PFS candidate must hold a valid and unrevoked CPA license issued by a legally constituted state authority.

The CPA license establishes the ethical and professional foundation for the PFS Credential. Every PFS credential holder has successfully completed the rigorous CPA Exam, has met the strict education and experience requirements, and with membership in the AICPA, has agreed to the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct.

Additionally, a PFS Candidate must:

- Earn a minimum of 80 hours of personal financial planning education within the five year period preceding the date of the PFS application.
- The PFS Candidate must have 2 years of full-time business or teaching experience (or 3,000 hours equivalent) in personal financial planning within the five year period preceding the date of the PFS application.
- The PFS Candidate must successfully pass a PFP-related exam.

#### Disciplinary Information

Mr. Birgen has not been the subject of any legal or disciplinary event.

### Other Business Activities

Mr. Birgen is affiliated with Stanislawski & Harrison Wealth Management, LLC ("S&H Wealth Management"), through common ownership. S&H Wealth Management is a registered investment advisor. Services offered by S&H Wealth Management are similar to the services we offer.

You may purchase commissionable insurance products through various affiliated insurance brokerage companies, including Birgen Asset Management, Inc. The arrangement is optional and you are not required to purchase such products from these entities. Abridge Partners and these entities share common owners. There is a potential conflict of interest between Abridge Partners and these entities since persons associated with Abridge Partners may receive compensation from insurance products purchased through the affiliated companies.

### Additional Compensation

Mr. Birgen is also a registered representative of LPL Financial, LLC ("LPL"), a registered broker/dealer, member FINRA/SIPC. If you choose to implement your financial plan through LPL Financial, commissions may be earned by Mr. Birgen in addition to any fees paid for advisory services. In addition, he may be entitled to a portion of the internal expense fees (such as 12b-1 fees) charged by mutual funds.

Mr. Birgen is also licensed with various insurance companies. He may earn commissions if insurance products are purchased through these insurance companies.

He may also receive benefits such as assistance with conferences and educational meetings from product sponsors.

The above arrangements present a conflict of interest because they create an incentive to make recommendations based upon the amount of compensation we receive rather than based upon your needs. We will explain the specific costs associated with any recommended investments with you upon request. We also recommend no-load and load-waived mutual funds to further reduce conflicts of interest. Additionally, you have the option to purchase investment and insurance products through other brokers or agents who are not affiliated with us.

### Supervision

Mr. Birgen is a principal of Abridge Partners and is generally responsible for his own supervision. Mr. Birgen monitors his own advice in an effort to ensure that all investments are suitable for his clients and are consistent with their individual needs, goals, objectives and risk tolerance, as well as within any client-imposed restrictions.

In addition, Mr. Birgen is subject to the policies and procedures of Abridge Partners. These policies and procedures are monitored by Gery Sadzewicz, Chief Compliance Officer at Abridge Partners. Mr. Sadzewicz can be reached at 815-782-1250.

**James D. Howard, PhD, CFP®, AEP®**  
**Abridge Partners, LLC**

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Brochure Supplement

March 28 2013

This brochure supplement provides information about James D. Howard, PhD, CFP®, AEP® that supplements the Abridge Partners brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Jody Howard, PhD, Operations Manager at 509-747-5101 or [jkhoward@abridgepartnersllc.com](mailto:jkhoward@abridgepartnersllc.com) if you did not receive Abridge Partners' brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

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

Educational Background and Business Experience

Year of birth: 1953

Formal education:

- Stanford University, Stanford California - 1976
- Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA – BA Physical Education - 1974
- Idaho State University, Pocatello ID – MS Physical Education/Biology - 1979
- University of Arizona, Tucson AZ – PhD Physiology – 1987

Business background:

- LPL Financial, LLC – Registered Representative (09/09 to Present)
- Abridge Partners, LLC – Principal and Advisory Representative (10/07 to Present)
- Estate Strategies, Inc. – President (1/97 to Present )
- Associated Securities Corp – Registered Representative (04/09 to 09/09)
- FSC Securities Corporation – Registered Representative (01/98 to 04/09)
- FFR Advisory, LLC – Advisory Representative (01/98 to 12/07)
- Strategic Insurance Services, Inc. – Agent (01/98 to 2/09)
- Manequity, Inc. – Registered Representative (02/93 to 01/98)

Professional Designations

*Certified Financial Planner™*, CFP® and federally registered CFP (with flame design) marks (collectively, the "CFP® marks") are professional certification marks granted in the United States by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP Board"). The CFP® certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients. Currently, more than 62,000 individuals have obtained CFP® certification in the United States. To attain the right to use the CFP® marks, an individual must satisfactorily fulfill the following requirements:

- Education – Complete an advanced college-level course of study addressing the financial planning subject areas that CFP Board's studies have determined as necessary for the competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, and attain a Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited United States college or university (or its equivalent from a foreign university). CFP Board's financial planning subject areas include insurance planning and risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning, retirement planning, and estate planning.
- Examination – Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination, administered in 10 hours over a two-day period, includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances.
- Experience – Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year).
- Ethics – Agree to be bound by CFP Board's Standards of Professional Conduct, a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP® professionals.
- Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP® marks.
- Continuing Education – Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including two hours on the Code of Ethics and other parts of the Standards of Professional Conduct, to maintain competence and keep up with developments in the financial planning field.
- Ethics – Renew an agreement to be bound by the Standards of Professional Conduct. The Standards prominently require that CFP® professionals provide financial planning services at a fiduciary standard of care. This means CFP® professionals must provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.

CFP® professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board's enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP® certification.

*Accredited Estate Planner®* - The Accredited Estate Planner® (AEP®) designation is a graduate level specialization in estate planning, obtained in addition to already recognized professional credentials within the various disciplines of estate planning. It is awarded by the National Association of Estate Planners and Councils (NAEPC) to recognize estate planning professionals who meet stringent requirements of experience, knowledge, education, professional reputation, and character.

#### Qualifications and Requirements

An Accredited Estate Planner® applicant must meet all of the following requirements:

- Credential requirement: To be eligible to be considered for the AEP® designation, the applicant must provide documentation of being licensed to practice law as an Attorney (JD) or to practice as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), or of being currently designated as a Chartered Life Underwriter® (CLU®), Chartered Financial Consultant® (ChFC®), Certified Financial Planner (CFP®), or Certified Trust & Financial Advisor (CTFA), in any jurisdiction of the United States of America.
- Professional discipline engaged in estate planning requirement: The applicant must be presently and significantly engaged in "estate planning activities" as an attorney, an accountant, an insurance professional and financial planner, or a trust officer. Estate planning encompasses the accumulation, conservation, preservation, and transfer of an estate through planning and implementation of an estate plan. The overall purpose of the estate planning process is to develop a plan that will maintain the financial security of individuals and their families. Estate planning has come to include lifetime planning that leads to conservation and transfer of assets. Estate planning should also facilitate the intended and orderly transfer of property at death, taking into consideration the family unit and the potential costs of different methods.
- Experience requirement: A minimum of five (5) years of experience engaged in estate planning and estate planning activities is required. To be exempt from the education requirements described below, an applicant must have a minimum of fifteen (15) years of experience engaged in estate planning and estate planning activities.

- Education requirement - The National Association of Estate Planners & Councils has designated The American College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, as the primary provider of the education courses required to earn the AEP® designation. Applicants for the AEP® designation must successfully complete two graduate courses through the Richard D. Irwin Graduate School of The American College.

#### Disciplinary Information

Mr. Howard, PhD, CFP®, AEP® has not been the subject of any legal or disciplinary event.

#### Other Business Activities

You may purchase commissionable insurance products through various affiliated insurance brokerage companies including Estate Strategies, Inc. This arrangement is optional and you are not required to purchase such products from these entities. Abridge Partners and these entities share common owners. There is a potential conflict of interest between Abridge Partners and these entities since persons associated with Abridge Partners may receive compensation from insurance products purchased through the affiliated companies.

#### Additional Compensation

Mr. Howard is also a registered representative of LPL Financial, LLC ("LPL"), a registered broker/dealer, member FINRA/SIPC. If you choose to implement your financial plan through LPL Financial, commissions may be earned by Mr. Howard in addition to any fees paid for advisory services. In addition, he may be entitled to a portion of the internal expense fees (such as 12b-1 fees) charged by mutual funds.

Mr. Howard is also licensed with various insurance companies. He may earn commissions if insurance products are purchased through these insurance companies. He may also receive benefits such as assistance with conferences and educational meetings from product sponsors.

The above arrangements present a conflict of interest because they create an incentive to make recommendations based upon the amount of compensation we receive rather than based upon your needs. We will explain the specific costs associated with any recommended investments with you upon request. We also recommend no-load and load-waived mutual funds to further reduce conflicts of interest. Additionally, you have the option to purchase investment and insurance products through other brokers or agents who are not affiliated with us.

#### Supervision

Mr. Howard is a principal of Abridge Partners and is generally responsible for his own supervision. Mr. Howard monitors his own advice in an effort to ensure that all investments are suitable for his clients and are consistent with their individual needs, goals, objectives and risk tolerance, as well as within any client-imposed restrictions.

In addition, Mr. Howard is subject to the policies and procedures of the firm. These policies and procedures are monitored by Gery Sadzewicz, Chief Compliance Officer at Abridge Partners. Mr. Sadzewicz can be reached at 815-782-1250.

**Michael A. Flanagan, Jr., CIMA**  
**Abridge Partners, LLC**

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Brochure Supplement

March 28, 2013

This brochure supplement provides information about Michael Flanagan, Jr. that supplements the Abridge Partners brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Kellie Pulgini at 302-378-1882, or [kpulgini@abridgepartnersllc.com](mailto:kpulgini@abridgepartnersllc.com) if you did not receive Abridge Partners' brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

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

Educational Background and Business Experience

Year of birth: 1968

Formal education:

- The Pennsylvania State University, BS Finance; 1990

Business background:

- Business Prosperity, LLC – Managing Member (11/12 to Present)
- LPL Financial, LLC – Registered Representative (09/09 to Present)
- Abridge Partners, LLC – Principal and Advisory Representative (09/07 to Present)
- First Financial Services – Financial Analyst (04/96 to Present)
- Associated Securities Corp – Registered Representative (04/09 to 09/09)
- FSC Securities Corporation – Registered Representative (10/93 to 04/09)
- FFR Advisory, LLC – Advisory Representative (11/93 to 09/07)
- Cigna Financial Advisors, Inc. – Registered Representative (01/92 to 10/93)
- CT General Life ins. – Agent (09/91 to 09/93)
- Spectrum Administration, Inc. – Registered Representative (10/93 to 03/96)

Professional Designations

*Certified Investment Management Analyst* - The CIMA Board Certification is for individuals who have 3 or more years of financial management experience and have agreed to engage in 10 hours of continued education per year. An advisor must also be free of all criminal actions, regulatory violations, civil actions and customer complaints on the Form U-4, or present satisfactory justification of any occurrence.

Disciplinary Information

Mr. Flanagan has not been the subject of any legal or disciplinary event.

### Other Business Activities

You may purchase commissionable insurance products through various affiliated insurance companies, including Business Prosperity, LLC. This arrangement is optional and you are not required to purchase such products from these entities. Abridge Partners and these entities share common owners. There is a potential conflict of interest between Abridge Partners and these entities since persons associated with Abridge Partners may receive compensation from insurance products purchased through the affiliated companies.

### Additional Compensation

Mr. Flanagan is also a registered representative of LPL Financial, LLC ("LPL"), a registered broker/dealer, member FINRA/SIPC. If you choose to implement your financial plan through LPL Financial, commissions may be earned by Mr. Howard in addition to any fees paid for advisory services. In addition, he may be entitled to a portion of the internal expense fees (such as 12b-1 fees) charged by mutual funds.

Mr. Flanagan is also licensed with various insurance companies. He may earn commissions if insurance products are purchased through these insurance companies. He may also receive benefits such as assistance with conferences and educational meetings from product sponsors.

The above arrangements present a conflict of interest because they create an incentive to make recommendations based upon the amount of compensation we receive rather than based upon your needs. We will explain the specific costs associated with any recommended investments with you upon request. We also recommend no-load and load-waived mutual funds to further reduce conflicts of interest. Additionally, you have the option to purchase investment and insurance products through other brokers or agents who are not affiliated with us.

### Supervision

Mr. Flanagan is a principal of Abridge Partners and is generally responsible for his own supervision. Mr. Flanagan monitors his own advice in an effort to ensure that all investments are suitable for his clients and are consistent with their individual needs, goals, objectives and risk tolerance, as well as within any client-imposed restrictions.

In addition, Mr. Flanagan is subject to the policies and procedures of the firm. These policies and procedures are monitored by Gery Sadzewicz, Chief Compliance Officer at Abridge Partners. Mr. Sadzewicz can be reached at 815-782-1250.

**Paul K. Steenblik, CFA<sup>®</sup>, CFP<sup>®</sup>**  
**Abridge Partners, LLC**

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Brochure Supplement

March 28, 2013

This brochure supplement provides information about Paul K. Steenblik CFA<sup>®</sup>, CFP<sup>®</sup> that supplements the Abridge Partners' brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Jody Howard, Ph.D., Operations Manager at 509-747-5101 or [jkhoward@abridgepartnersllc.com](mailto:jkhoward@abridgepartnersllc.com) if you did not receive Abridge Partners' brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

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

Educational Background and Business Experience

Year of birth: 1956

Formal education

- Brigham Young University, Master of Business Administration, 1983, Finance emphasis
- University of Utah, 1981, Bachelor of Arts, Accounting

Business background

- Abridge Partners, LLC – Advisory Representative and Senior Associate/Investment Analyst, (01/10 to Present); Senior Associate (10/07 to 12/09)
- FFR Advisory, LLC – Senior Associate (7/06 to 12/07)
- LPL Financial, LLC – Registered Representative (09 to Present)
- Associated Securities Corp. – Registered Representative (4/09 to 9/09)
- FSC Securities Corp. – Administrative Representative (9/06 to 4/09)
- Western United Life Assurance – Senior Financial Analyst (6/04 to 7/06)

Professional Designations

*Certified Financial Planner*<sup>™</sup>, CFP<sup>®</sup> and federally registered CFP (with flame design) marks (collectively, the "CFP<sup>®</sup> marks") are professional certification marks granted in the United States by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP Board"). The CFP<sup>®</sup> certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP<sup>®</sup> certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients. Currently, more than 62,000 individuals have obtained CFP<sup>®</sup> certification in the United States. To attain the right to use the CFP<sup>®</sup> marks, an individual must satisfactorily fulfill the following requirements:

- Education – Complete an advanced college-level course of study addressing the financial planning subject areas that CFP Board's studies have determined as necessary for the competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, and attain a Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited United States college or university (or its equivalent from a foreign university). CFP Board's financial planning subject areas include insurance planning and risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning, retirement planning, and estate planning.



- Examination – Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination, administered in 10 hours over a two-day period, includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances.
- Experience – Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year).
- Ethics – Agree to be bound by CFP Board's Standards of Professional Conduct, a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP® professionals.
- Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP® marks.
- Continuing Education – Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including two hours on the Code of Ethics and other parts of the Standards of Professional Conduct, to maintain competence and keep up with developments in the financial planning field.
- Ethics – Renew an agreement to be bound by the Standards of Professional Conduct. The Standards prominently require that CFP® professionals provide financial planning services at a fiduciary standard of care. This means CFP® professionals must provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.

CFP® professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board's enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP® certification.

*Chartered Financial Analyst®* - The Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter is awarded by CFA Institute. To earn the CFA charter, candidates must: 1) pass three sequential, six-hour examinations; 2) have at least four years of qualified professional investment experience; 3) join CFA Institute as a member; and 4) commit to abide by, and annually reaffirm, their adherence to the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.

## Ethical Standards

The CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct, enforced through an active professional conduct program, require CFA charter-holders to:

- Place their clients' interests ahead of their own
- Maintain independence and objectivity
- Act with integrity
- Maintain and improve their professional competence
- Disclose conflicts of interest and legal matters

Passing the three CFA exams is a difficult feat that requires extensive study (successful candidates report spending an average of 300 hours of study per level). Earning the CFA charter demonstrates understanding of many of the advanced skills needed for investment analysis and decision making in today's global financial industry.

The CFA Program curriculum provides a framework of knowledge for investment decision making and is grounded in the knowledge and skills used every day in the investment profession. The three levels of the CFA Program test a proficiency with a wide range of fundamental and advanced investment topics, including ethical and professional standards, fixed-income and equity analysis, alternative and derivative investments, economics, financial reporting standards, portfolio management, and wealth planning. The CFA Program curriculum is updated every year to ensure that candidates learn the most relevant and practical new tools, ideas, and investment and wealth management skills to reflect the dynamic and complex nature of the profession.

## Disciplinary Information

Mr. Steenblik has not been the subject of any legal or disciplinary event.

#### Other Business Activities

In addition, to his association with Abridge Partners, Mr. Steenblik is also a registered representative of LPL Financial, LLC, a registered broker/dealer, member FINRA/SIPC.

While not investment related, Mr. Steenblik also serves as an Independent Researcher, researching public records in the County Clerk's office.

Lastly, Mr. Steenblik participates on a Charitable Board and serves as a Member of the Investment Committee for St. Georges School. The Committee meets quarterly with an outside Investment Manager who makes recommendations to the school board. Mr. Steenblik has no control nor direct investment involvement.

#### Additional Compensation

As an Investment Advisory Representative, Mr. Steenblik receives a base annual salary and a bonus award at the discretion of the managing member.

As an Independent Researcher, Mr. Steenblik averages approximately three hours per month and receives a minimal hourly rate for hours worked.

He does not receive any other compensation in relation to his other business activities.

#### Supervision

James Howard, principal of Abridge Partners, supervises Mr. Steenblik and his advisory activities. Mr. Howard can be reached at (509) 747-5101. In addition, Mr. Steenblik is subject to the policies and procedures of the firm that are monitored by the firm's chief compliance officer.