

**ITEM 1. COVER PAGE FOR
PART 2A OF FORM ADV:
FIRM BROCHURE
DATED JANUARY 18, 2011**

RETIREMENT WEALTH STRATEGIES, LLC

**2200 E. CAMELBACK ROAD, SUITE 207
PHOENIX, AZ 85016**

FIRM CONTACT: STEVE BINDER, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Retirement Wealth Strategies, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact by telephone at (602) 955-7200 or email at steve.binder@retirementwealthstrategies.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 Retirement Wealth Strategies, LLC also is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

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

ITEM 2. MATERIAL CHANGES TO OUR PART 2A OF FORM ADV:
FIRM BROCHURE

Retirement Wealth Strategies, LLC is required to advise you of any material changes to our Firm Brochure (“Brochure”) from our last annual update, identify those changes on the cover page of our Brochure or on the page immediately following the cover page, or in a separate communication accompanying our Brochure. We must state clearly that we are discussing only material changes since the last annual update of our Brochure, and we must provide the date of the last annual update of our Brochure.

Please note that we do not have to provide this information to a client or prospective client who has not received a previous version of our brochure. At this time, there are no material changes to report about our Brochure.

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Item 4. Advisory Business

We specialize in the following types of services: asset management. Our assets under management are \$18,000,000 as of December 31, 2010.

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

We are dedicated to providing individuals and other types of clients with a wide array of investment advisory services. Our firm is a limited liability company formed in the State of Delaware. Our firm is owned as follows:

Steven Binder – Fifty-percent owner

Jan Binder – Fifty-percent owner

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

(i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Our comprehensive portfolio management service encompasses asset management as well as providing financial planning/financial consulting to clients. It is designed to assist clients in meeting their financial goals through the use of financial investments. We conduct at least one, but sometimes more than one meeting (in person if possible, otherwise via telephone conference) with clients in order to understand their current financial situation, existing resources, financial goals, and tolerance for risk. Based on what we learn, we propose an investment approach to the client. We may propose an investment portfolio, consisting of exchange traded funds, mutual funds, individual stocks or bonds, or other securities. Upon the client's agreement to the proposed investment plan, we work with the client to establish or transfer investment accounts so that we can manage the client's portfolio. Once the relevant accounts are under our management, we review such accounts on a regular basis and at least quarterly. We may periodically rebalance or adjust client accounts under our management. If the client experiences any significant changes to his/her financial or personal circumstances, the client must notify us so that we can consider such information in managing the client's investments.

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

(ii) LPL Financial Sponsored Advisory Programs:

We may provide advisory services through certain programs sponsored by LPL Financial Corporation (“LPL”), a registered investment adviser and broker-dealer. Below is a brief description of each LPL advisory program available to us. For more information regarding the LPL programs, including more information on the advisory services and fees that apply, the types of investments available in the programs and the potential conflicts of interest presented by the programs please see the LPL Financial Form ADV Part II or applicable client agreement. LPL’s applicable paperwork and client agreement shall not become effective until acceptance by us as evidenced by the signature of an authorized representative.

Advisory Services:

Optimum Market Portfolios Program (OMP)

OMP offers clients the ability to participate in a professionally managed asset allocation program using Optimum Funds Class I shares. Under OMP, client will authorize LPL on a discretionary basis to purchase and sell Optimum Funds pursuant to investment objectives chosen by the client. We will assist the client in determining the suitability of OMP for the client and assist the client in setting an appropriate investment objective. We will have discretion to select a mutual fund asset allocation portfolio designed by LPL consistent with the client’s investment objective. LPL will have discretion to purchase and sell Optimum Funds pursuant to the portfolio selected for the client. LPL will also have authority to rebalance the account.

A minimum account value of \$15,000 is required for OMP.

Personal Wealth Portfolios Program (PWP)

PWP offers clients an asset management account using asset allocation model portfolios designed by LPL. We will have discretion for selecting the asset allocation model portfolio based on client’s investment objective. We will also have discretion for selecting third party money managers (PWP Advisors) or mutual funds within each asset class of the model portfolio. LPL will act as the overlay portfolio manager on all PWP accounts and will be authorized to purchase and sell on a discretionary basis mutual funds and equity and fixed income securities.

A minimum account value of \$250,000 is required for PWP.

Model Wealth Portfolios Program (MWP)

MWP offers clients a professionally managed mutual fund asset allocation program. Adviser will obtain the necessary financial data from the client, assist the client in determining the suitability of the MWP program and assist the client in setting an appropriate investment objective. We will initiate the steps necessary to open an MWP

account and have discretion to select a model portfolio designed by LPL's Research Department consistent with the client's stated investment objective. LPL's Research Department is responsible for selecting the mutual funds within a model portfolio and for making changes to the mutual funds selected.

The client will authorize LPL to act on a discretionary basis to purchase and sell mutual funds (including in certain circumstances exchange traded funds) and to liquidate previously purchased securities. The client will also authorize LPL to effect rebalancing for MWP accounts.

In the future, the MWP program may make available model portfolios designed by strategists other than LPL's Research Department. If such models are made available, Adviser will have discretion to choose among the available models designed by LPL and outside strategists.

A minimum account value of \$100,000 is required for MWP.

Manager Access Select Program

Manager Access Select provides clients access to the investment advisory services of professional portfolio management firms for the individual management of client accounts. Adviser will assist client in identifying a third party portfolio manager (Portfolio Manager) from a list of Portfolio Managers made available by LPL. The Portfolio Manager manages client's assets on a discretionary basis. Adviser will provide initial and ongoing assistance regarding the Portfolio Manager selection process.

A minimum account value of \$100,000 is required for Manager Access Select, however, in certain instances, the minimum account size may be lower or higher.

Fees for LPL Advisory Programs

The account fee charged to the client for each LPL advisory program is negotiable, subject to the following maximum account fees:

Manager Access Select	3.0%
OMP	2.5%
PWP	2.5%
MWP	2.5%

Account fees are payable quarterly in advance.

LPL serves as program sponsor, investment adviser and broker-dealer for the LPL advisory programs. Adviser and LPL may share in the account fee and other fees associated with program accounts. Our firm's associated persons may also be registered representatives of LPL.

Potential Conflicts of Interest

Transactions in LPL advisory program accounts are generally effected through LPL as the executing broker-dealer.

We receive compensation as a result of a client's participation in an LPL program. Depending on, among other things, the size of the account, changes in its value over time, the ability to negotiate fees or commissions, and the number of transactions, the amount of this compensation may be more or less than what we would receive if the client participated in other programs, whether through LPL or another sponsor, or paid separately for investment advice, brokerage and other services.

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

(i) Individual Tailoring of Advice to Clients:

We offer individualized investment advice to clients utilizing our firm's Comprehensive Portfolio Management service.

(ii) Ability of Clients to Impose Restrictions on Investing in Certain Securities or Types of Securities:

We usually do not allow clients to impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities due to the level of difficulty this would entail in managing their account. In the rare instance that we would allow restrictions, it would be limited to our firm's Comprehensive Portfolio Management service.

D. Participation in *wrap fee programs*.

We offer wrap fee programs as further described in Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the "Wrap Fee Program Brochure") of our Brochure. Our wrap fee and non-wrap fee accounts are managed on an individualized basis according to the client's investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc. We do not manage wrap fee accounts in a different fashion than non-wrap fee accounts. As further described in our Wrap Fee Program Brochure, we receive a portion of the wrap fee for our services.

E. Disclosure of the amount of *client* assets we manage on a *discretionary basis* and the amount of *client* assets we manage on a *non-discretionary basis* as of *December 31, 2010*.

We manage² \$16,000,000 on a discretionary basis and \$2,000,000 on a non discretionary basis as of December 31, 2010.

Item 5. Fees and Compensation

We are required to describe our brokerage, custody, fees and fund expenses so you will know how much you are charged and by whom for our advisory services provided to you. Our fees are generally not negotiable.

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

(i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

<u>Assets under management</u>	<u>Annual Percentage of assets charge*:</u>
Any Assets	0.50% to 3.00%

*Our firm's fees are billed on a pro-rata annualized basis quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter.

(ii) LPL Financial Sponsored Advisory Programs:

See Item 4(B)(ii) above.

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

(i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Fees will generally be automatically deducted from your managed account*. As part of this process, you understand and acknowledge the following:

- a) Your independent custodian sends statements at least quarterly to you showing all disbursements for your account, including the amount of the advisory fees paid to us;
- b) You provide authorization permitting us to be directly paid by these terms;
- c) We send a copy of our invoice to the independent custodian at the same time we send the invoice to you;

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

- d) If we send a copy of our invoice to you, our invoice includes a legend as required by paragraph (a)(2) of Rule 206(4)-2 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.**

* We do not offer direct billing as an option to our asset management clients.

**The legend urges the client to compare information provided in their statements with those from the qualified custodian in account opening notices and subsequent statements sent to the client for whom the adviser opens custodial accounts with the qualified custodian.

(ii) LPL Financial Sponsored Programs:

For more information regarding the LPL programs, including more information on the advisory services and fees that apply, the types of investments available in the programs and the potential conflicts of interest presented by the programs please see the LPL Financial Form ADV Part II or applicable client agreement.

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

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

Wrap fee clients will receive our Form ADV, Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the "Wrap Fee Program Brochure"). Wrap fee clients will not incur transaction costs for trades. More information about this is disclosed in our separate Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

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

Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

We charge our advisory fees quarterly in advance. In the event that you wish to terminate our services, we will refund the unearned portion of our advisory fee to you. You need to contact us in writing and state that you wish to terminate our services. Upon receipt of your letter of termination, we will proceed to close out your account and process a pro-rata refund of unearned advisory fees.

LPL Financial Sponsored Program:

For more information regarding the LPL programs, including more information on the advisory services and fees that apply, the types of investments available in the programs and the potential conflicts of interest presented by the programs please see the LPL Financial Form ADV Part II or applicable client agreement.

E. Commissionable securities sales.

We sell securities for a commission. In order to sell securities for a commission, our supervised persons are registered representatives of LPL Financial Corporation, member FINRA/SIPC. Our supervised persons may accept compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products, including distribution or service (“trail”) fees from the sale of mutual funds. You should be aware that the practice of accepting commissions for the sale of securities:

- 1) Presents a conflict of interest and gives our firm and/or our *supervised persons* an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on your needs. We generally address commissionable sales conflicts that arise:
 - a) when explaining to clients that commissionable securities sales creates an incentive to recommend products based on the compensation we and/or our supervised persons may earn and may not necessarily be in the best interests of the client;
 - b) when recommending commissionable mutual funds, explaining that “no-load” funds are available through our firm if the client wishes to become an investment advisory client.
- 2) In no way prohibits you from purchasing investment products recommended by us through other brokers or agents which are not affiliated with us.
- 3) More than 50% of our revenue from advisory *clients* results from commissions and other compensation paid to our supervised persons by broker-dealers for the sale of investment products we or our supervised persons recommend to you, including trail fees from the sale of mutual funds. The commissions we earn provide our primary source of compensation.
- 4) We charge advisory fees in addition to commissions. In doing so, we reduce our advisory fees to offset the commissions our supervised persons receive.

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

We do not charge performance fees to our clients.

Item 7. Types of Clients and Account Requirements

We have the following types of clients:

- Individuals and High Net Worth Individuals;
- Pension and Profit Sharing Plans;
- Corporations, limited liability companies and/or other business types

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

- We require a minimum account balance of \$25,000 for our comprehensive portfolio management. Generally, this minimum account balance requirement is not negotiable and would be required throughout the course of the client's relationship with our firm.

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

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

Methods of Analysis:

- Charting;
- Fundamental;
- Technical;
- Cyclical.

Investment Strategies we use:

- Long term purchases (securities held at least a year);
- Short term purchases (securities sold within a year);
- Trading (securities sold within 30 days);
- Margin transactions;
- Option writing, including covered options, uncovered options or spreading strategies.

Please note:

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

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

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

Item 9. Disciplinary Information

We are required to disclose whether there are legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management. There are a number of specific legal and disciplinary events that we must presume are material for this Item. If our advisory firm or a management person has been involved in one of these events, we must disclose it under this Item for ten years following the date of the event, unless (1) the event was resolved in our or the management person's favor, or was reversed, suspended or vacated, or (2) the event is not material (see Note below). For purposes of calculating this ten-year period, the "date" of an event is the date that the final order, judgment, or decree was entered, or the date that any rights of appeal from preliminary orders, judgments or decrees lapsed.

The SEC and/or State Regulators have not provided us with an exclusive list of material disciplinary events, which need to be disclosed. If our advisory firm or a management person has been involved in a legal or disciplinary event that is not specifically required to be disclosed, but nonetheless is material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management, we must disclose the event. Similarly, even if more than ten years has passed since the date of the event, we must disclose the event if it is so serious that it remains currently material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of our firm or management.

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

Item 10. Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

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

Mr. Steve Binder is a registered representative of LPL Financial Corporation, member FINRA/SIPC. Mr. Binder may offer securities and receive normal and customary commissions as a result of securities transactions. This presents a conflict of interest to the extent that the management persons recommend that a client invest in a security which results in a commission being paid to him.

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

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

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

Therefore, in order to prevent conflicts of interest, we have in place a set of procedures (including a pre-clearing procedure) with respect to transactions effected by our members, officers and employees for their personal accounts³. In order to monitor compliance with our personal trading policy, we have a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our associates.

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

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

See Item 11A of this Brochure.

- C. If our firm or a *related person* recommends securities to *clients*, or buys or sells securities for *client* accounts, at or about the same time that you or a *related person* buys or sells the same

³ For purposes of the policy, our associate's personal account generally includes any account (a) in the name of our associate, his/her spouse, his/her minor children or other dependents residing in the same household, (b) for which our associate is a trustee or executor, or (c) which our associate controls, including our client accounts which our associate controls and/or a member of his/her household has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in.

securities for our firm's (or the *related person's* own) account, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. We are also required to describe generally how we address conflicts that arise.

See Item 11A of this Brochure.

Item 12. Brokerage Practices

A. Description of the factors that we consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for *client* transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (e.g., commissions).

1. Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits. If we receive research or other products or services other than execution from a broker-dealer or a third party in connection with *client* securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits"), we are required to disclose our practices and discuss the conflicts of interest they create. Please note that we must disclose all soft dollar benefits we receive, including, in the case of research, both proprietary research (created or developed by the broker-dealer) and research created or developed by a third party.

Our firm has an arrangement with LPL Financial Corporation ("LPL Financial"). Under the arrangement with LPL Financial we receive services which include, among others, brokerage, custodial, administrative support, record keeping and related services that are intended to support our firm in conducting business and in serving the best interests of our clients but that may benefit our firm.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our non-wrap fee program clients may pay a commission to LPL Financial that is higher than another qualified broker dealer might charge to effect the same transaction where we determine in good faith that the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services received. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible cost, but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a broker-dealer's services, including the value of research provided, execution capability, commission rates, and responsiveness. Accordingly, although we will seek competitive rates, to the benefit of all clients, we may not necessarily obtain the lowest possible commission rates for specific client account transactions.

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

Although the investment research products and services that may be obtained by our firm will generally be used to service all of our clients, a brokerage commission paid by a specific client may be used to pay for research that is not used in managing that specific client's account.

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

We do not acquire *client* brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns).

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

All soft dollars arrangements must be approved in writing by our Chief Compliance Officer. A brief description of the purpose of the soft dollar arrangement outlining the benefits received by our firm and clients along with any noted concerns about increased costs to our clients and how such concerns were alleviated will be maintained on file. Our Chief Compliance Officer undertakes a review of parties which propose to pay our firm in soft dollars and analyzes a number of criteria. When deciding whether to approve or disapprove of a soft dollar relationship, the following criteria is reviewed: the broker-dealer's business reputation and financial position and our ability to consistently execute orders professionally and on a cost effective basis, provide prompt and accurate execution reports, prepare timely and accurate confirms, deliver securities or cash proceeds promptly and provide meaningful research services that are useful to us in investment decision-making or other desired and appropriate services. Our Chief Compliance Officer also annually reviews all our soft dollar relationships for appropriateness, benefits to our clients, etc.

At times, a product or service we would like to purchase with soft dollars may have a "mixed use", meaning that a portion of the product is used to provide bona fide research as part of the investment decision-making process and part of it may be used for a non-research purpose. In these situations, our Chief Compliance Officer will make a pro-rata allocation of the cost of such service based on our evaluation of the research and non-research uses of the product. The cost of the product must be paid using both hard and soft dollars, the hard dollars being paid by our firm for the non-research portion and soft dollars for the research portion. For services that have a "mixed use", our Chief Compliance Officer will make a fair and reasonable determination as to how much of the cost may be paid with soft dollars. The basis for such determination shall be documented and will include an explanation as to how the computation of such percentage was reached. Our Chief Compliance Officer's computation shall be retained in our firm's files along with any records used to determine the "mixed use" percentages. Whenever there is a substantial change in the use of "mixed use" services, our Chief Compliance Officer will reevaluate such services. Providers of services that have a "mixed use" will be directed to either bill the paying broker for such service and the broker will be directed to bill us for the non-research portion, or to send separate bills to us and the paying broker for the appropriate amounts.

As a fiduciary, we have an obligation to obtain "best execution" of clients' transactions under the circumstances of the particular transaction. Consequently, notwithstanding the safe harbor provided under Section 28(e), no allocation for soft

dollar payments shall be made unless best execution of the transaction is reasonably expected to be obtained.

- 2) Brokerage for *Client* Referrals. If we use client brokerage to compensate or otherwise reward brokers for client referrals, we must disclose this practice, the conflicts of interest it creates, and any procedures we used to direct client brokerage to referring brokers during the last fiscal year (*i.e.*, the system of controls used by us when allocating brokerage).

Our firm does not receive brokerage for client referrals.

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

Neither we nor any of our firm's related person have discretionary authority in making the determination of the brokers with whom orders for the purchase or sale of securities are placed for execution, and the commission rates at which such securities transactions are effected.

Special Considerations for ERISA Clients

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

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

See Item 12A(3) of this Brochure.

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

We perform investment management services for various clients. There are occasions on which portfolio transactions may be executed as part of concurrent authorizations to purchase or sell the same security for numerous accounts served by our firm, which involve accounts with similar investment objectives. Although such concurrent authorizations potentially could be either advantageous or disadvantageous to any one or more particular accounts, they are affected only when we believe that to do so will be in the best interest of the effected accounts. When such concurrent authorizations occur, the objective is to allocate the executions in a manner which is deemed equitable to the accounts involved. In any given situation, we attempt to allocate trade executions in the most equitable manner possible, taking into consideration client objectives, current asset allocation and availability of funds using price averaging, proration and consistently non-arbitrary methods of allocation.

Item 13. Review of Accounts or Financial Plans

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

We review accounts on at least a quarterly basis for our clients subscribing to our firm's Comprehensive Portfolio Management service. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether clients' accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and investment policies, if applicable. Mr. Steve Binder, Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer, conducts reviews of all client accounts.

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

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

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

We do not provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Verbal reports to clients take place on at least an annual basis when we meet with clients who subscribe to our firm's Comprehensive Portfolio Management service.

Item 14. Client Referrals and Other Compensation

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

LPL:

Investment or Brokerage Discretion

We provide discretionary portfolio management services where the investment advice provided is custom tailored to meet the needs and investment objectives of each client. Accordingly, we are authorized to perform various functions, at the client's expense, without further approval from the client. Such functions include the determination of securities to be purchased/sold and the amount of securities to be purchased/sold. We do not have discretionary authority over the broker or dealer to be used.

Suggestion of Brokers to Clients

We shall recommend LPL Financial. LPL is the broker-dealer and investment adviser with which our representatives are also associated. As a result of the individual association of the our representatives with LPL, we are generally required to utilize the brokerage/custodial services of LPL for investment advisory accounts. Our general policies relative to the execution of client securities brokerage transactions are as follows:

Execution of Brokerage Transactions (when applicable)

If requested, we will arrange for the execution of securities brokerage transactions for the account through broker-dealers that we reasonably believe will provide "best execution". In seeking "best execution", the determinative factor is not the lowest possible commission cost, but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution. We also take into consideration the full range of a broker-dealer's services including execution capability, commission rates, and responsiveness. Although we will seek competitive commission rates, it may not necessarily obtain the lowest possible commission rates for account transactions.

Over-the-Counter (OTC) securities transactions for our clients are generally effected based on two (2) separate broker-dealers: (1) a "dealer" or "principal" acting as market-maker; and (2) the executing broker-dealer that acts in an agency capacity for the client's account. Dealers executing principal transactions typically include a mark-up/down, which is included in the offer or bid price of the securities purchased or sold. In addition to the dealer mark-up/down, the client may also incur the transaction fee imposed by the executing broker-dealer. We do not receive any portion of the dealer mark-up/down or the executing broker-dealer transaction fee.

Transactions for each client account generally will be effected independently, unless we decide to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time. We may, but are not obligated to, combine or "batch" such orders to obtain "best execution", to negotiate more favorable commission rates, to allocate fairly among the clients' differences in prices and commissions or other transaction costs that might have been obtained had such orders been placed independently. Under this procedure, transactions will be averaged as to price and will be allocated among our clients in proportion to the purchase and sale orders placed for each client account on any given day. To the extent that we determine to aggregate client orders for the purchase or sale of securities, including securities in which our principals) and/or associated persons) may invest, we shall generally do so in accordance with the parameters set forth in SEC No-Action Letter, *SMC Capital, Inc.* We shall not receive any additional compensation or remuneration as a result of the aggregation.

When referring clients to dealers, we will only refer clients to dealers registered in states where the clients reside.

Additional Compensation

We *may* receive from LPL or a mutual fund company, without cost and/or at a discount support services and/or products, to assist us to better monitor and service client accounts maintained at such institutions. Included within the support services we may receive investment-related research, pricing information and market data, software and other technology that provide access to client account data, compliance and/or practice management-related publications, discounted or gratis consulting services, discounted and/or gratis attendance at conferences, meetings, and other educational and/or social events, marketing support, computer hardware and/or software and/or other products used by us to assist us in our investment advisory business operations.

Our clients do not pay more for investment transactions effected and/or assets maintained at LPL as result of this arrangement. There is no commitment made by us to LPL or any other institution as a result of the above arrangement.

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

We do not pay referral fees (non-commission based) to independent solicitors (non-registered representatives) for the referral of their clients to our firm in accordance with Rule 206 (4)-3 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

Item 15. Custody

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

All of our clients receive at least quarterly account statements directly from their custodians. Upon opening an account with a qualified custodian on a client's behalf, we promptly notify the client in writing of the qualified custodian's contact information. If we decide to also send account statements to clients, such notice and account statements include a legend that recommends that the client compare the account statements received from the qualified custodian with those received from our firm.

State Securities Bureaus or their equivalent generally takes the position that any arrangement under which a registered investment adviser is authorized or permitted to withdraw client funds or securities maintained with a custodian upon the adviser's instruction to the custodian is deemed to have custody of client funds and securities.

As such, we have adopted the following safeguarding procedures:

- (1) Our clients must provide us with written authorization permitting direct payment to us of our advisory fees from their account(s) maintained by a custodian who is independent of our firm;
 - (2) We must send a statement to our clients showing the amount of our fee, the value of your assets upon which our fee was based, and the specific manner in which our fee was calculated;
 - (3) We must disclose to you that it is your responsibility to verify the accuracy of our fee calculation, and that the custodian will not determine whether the fee is properly calculated; and
 - (4) Your account custodian must agree to send you a statement, at least quarterly, showing all disbursements from your account, including advisory fees.
- B. If we have *custody* of *client* funds or securities and a qualified custodian sends quarterly, or more frequent, account statements directly to our *clients*, we are required to explain that you will receive account statements from the broker-dealer, bank, or other qualified custodian and that you should carefully review those statements.

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

Item 16. Investment Discretion

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

Our clients need to sign a discretionary investment advisory agreement with our firm for the management of their account. This type of agreement only applies to our Comprehensive Portfolio Management clients. We do not take or exercise discretion with respect to our other clients.

Item 17. Voting Client Securities

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

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

However clients maintain exclusive responsibility for: (1) directing the manner in which proxies solicited by issuers of securities beneficially owned by the client shall be voted, and (2) making all elections relative to any mergers, acquisitions, tender offers, bankruptcy proceedings or other type events pertaining to the client's investment assets. Therefore (except for proxies that may be voted by a third party money manager), our firm and/or you shall instruct your qualified custodian to forward to you copies of all proxies and shareholder communications relating to your investment assets.

Item 18. Financial Information

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

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

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

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

Note: With respect to Items 18.A and 18.B, if we are registered or are registering only with one or more of the *state securities authorities*, the dollar amount reporting threshold for including the required balance sheet and for making the required financial condition disclosures is more than \$500 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance.

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

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

If we are registering or are registered with one or more *state securities authorities*, we must respond to the following additional Item.

Item 19. Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

- A. Identification of each of our principal executive officers and *management persons*, and description of their formal educations and business backgrounds.

Name: Steven Mark Binder

Year of Birth: 1951

Formal Education After High School:

- ❖ University of Maryland, B.A Accounting, 1974.

Business Background for Previous Five Years:

- ❖ Retirement Wealth Strategies, LLC, Managing Member and Chief Compliance Officer, 08/2010 to Present.
- ❖ LPL Financial, Registered Representative, 08/2010 to Present.
- ❖ Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Vice President, 06/2009 to 08/2010.
- ❖ Citigroup Global Markets, Inc., Vice President, 03/2008 to 06/2009.
- ❖ Merrill Lynch, Vice President, 06/1993 to 03/2008.

License/Exams:

- ❖ Series 7, 63 (1993)

- B. Description of any business in which we are actively engaged (other than giving investment advice) and the approximate amount of time spent on that business.

Mr. Binder is a Registered Representative with LPL. In such a capacity, he may offer securities and receive normal and customary commissions as a result of securities transactions. This presents a conflict of interest to the extent that he recommends that a client

invest in a security which results in a commission being paid to him. The primary business of the principals of the Adviser, Mr. Binder, is providing brokerage services through LPL. He spends 50% of time on this activity.

Mr. Binder is a licensed insurance agent through various insurance companies. In such a capacity, he may offer insurance products and receive normal and customary commissions as a result of such a purchase. This presents a conflict of interest to the extent that he recommends the purchase of an insurance product which results in a commission being paid to him as an insurance agent. Mr. Binder spends 10% of time on these activities.

- C. In addition to the description of our fees in response to Item 5 of Part 2A, if our firm or a supervised person is compensated for advisory services with performance-based fees, we must explain how these fees will be calculated. Further, we must disclose specifically that performance-based compensation may create an incentive for the adviser to recommend an investment that may carry a higher degree of risk to the client.

We do not charge performance-based fees.

- D. If our firm or a management person has been involved in one of the events listed below, we must disclose all material facts regarding the event.

1. An award or otherwise being found liable in an arbitration claim alleging damages in excess of \$2,500, involving any of the following:
 - (a) an investment or an *investment-related* business or activity;
 - (b) fraud, false statement(s), or omissions;
 - (c) theft, embezzlement, or other wrongful taking of property;
 - (d) bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or
 - (e) dishonest, unfair, or unethical practices.
2. An award or otherwise being found liable in a civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding involving any of the following:
 - (a) an investment or an *investment-related* business or activity;
 - (b) fraud, false statement(s), or omissions;
 - (c) theft, embezzlement, or other wrongful taking of property;
 - (d) bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or
 - (e) dishonest, unfair, or unethical practices.

We have nothing to disclose in regards to Item 19D(1)(2) above.

- E. In addition to any relationship or arrangement described in response to Item 10.C. of Part 2A, we must describe any relationship or arrangement that our firm or any of our management persons have with any issuer of securities that is not listed in Item 10.C. of Part 2A.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.