

**Part 2B of Form ADV: *Brochure Supplement***

**Howard A. Bernstein**

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This brochure supplement provides information about Howard A. Bernstein that supplements the Merriman Wealth Advisors, Inc. brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact Howard Bernstein 415-262-1377 if you did not receive Merriman Wealth Advisors, Inc.'s brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

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

## **Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience**

**Full Legal Name:** Howard A. Bernstein

**Born:** 1953

### **Education**

- Regents College - University of the State of New York; BA, Political Science; 1993
- New York Law School; JD, Law; 1997

### **Business Experience**

- Merriman Wealth Advisors, Inc.; CEO and Chief Compliance Officer; 07/2011 to Present
- Merriman Capital, Inc.; Chief Compliance Officer and Associate General Counsel; from 10/12/2009 to Present
- Wedbush Morgan Securities, Inc.; Compliance Officer; from 03/01/2009 to 10/02/2009
- Pacific Growth Equities, LLC; General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer; from 08/19/2002 to 06/30/2009

## **Item 3 Disciplinary Information**

Howard A. Bernstein has no reportable disciplinary history.

## **Item 4 Other Business Activities**

### **A. Investment-Related Activities**

Mr. Bernstein is a registered representative with Merriman Capital, Inc., an affiliated registered broker-dealer, member FINRA and SIPC. In this capacity, Mr. Bernstein may recommend investment products and receive transactions commissions if products are purchased through the broker-dealer. Thus, a conflict of interest exists between the interests of Mr. Bernstein and those of the advisory clients, creating an incentive for him to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on a client's needs.

However, clients are under no obligation to act upon any recommendations of Mr. Bernstein or to effect any transactions through him if they decide to follow the recommendations. Mr. Bernstein only limits his recommendations to products or services offered by the broker-dealer and ensures that all recommendations are appropriate for a client's specific needs. Clients have the option to purchase investment products recommended through other broker-dealers not affiliated with Mr. Bernstein.

### **B. Non Investment-Related Activities**

Howard A. Bernstein is not engaged in any other business or occupation that provides substantial compensation or involves a substantial amount of his or her time.

## **Item 5 Additional Compensation**

Howard A. Bernstein does not receive any economic benefit from a non-advisory client for the provision of advisory services.

## **Item 6 Supervision**

## **Item 7 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers**

### **A. Arbitration or Civil, Self-Regulatory Organization or Administrative Proceedings**

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.

Mr. Bernstein has never been a part of an arbitration proceeding.

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.

Mr. Bernstein has not been the subject of any civil, self-regulatory or administrative proceeding.

### **B. Bankruptcy History**

Mr. Bernstein has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.