

# Shepherd Financial Partners, LLC

## **ADV Part 2A, Appendix 1 Wrap Fee Program Brochure Dated: March 31, 2017**

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**This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Shepherd Financial Partners, LLC (the “Registrant”). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (781) 756-1804. 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 Shepherd Financial Partners, LLC also is available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).**

**References herein to Shepherd Financial Partners, LLC as a “registered investment adviser” or any reference to being “registered” does not imply a certain level of skill or training.**

## **Item 2           Material Changes**

There have been no material changes since our last Annual Amendment filing made on March 28, 2016.

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

### **A.**

#### **INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

The Registrant generally provides discretionary and/or non-discretionary investment advisory services on a wrap or non-wrap fee basis (See discussion below). If a client determines to engage the Registrant on a wrap fee basis the client will pay a single fee for bundled services (i.e. investment advisory, brokerage, custody). The services included in a wrap fee agreement will depend upon each client's particular need. If the client determines to engage the Registrant on a non-wrap fee basis the client will select individual services on an unbundled basis, paying for each service separately (i.e. investment advisory, brokerage, custody).

#### **SHEPHERD FINANCIAL WRAP PROGRAM**

The Registrant provides investment management services on a wrap fee basis in accordance with the Registrant's investment management wrap fee program (the "Program"). Under the Program, the Registrant is able to offer participants discretionary investment management services, for a single specified annual Program fee, inclusive of trade execution, custody, reporting, account maintenance, investment management fees, and fees charged by independent managers. However, clients may be responsible for, but not limited to, trustee fees, mutual fund expenses, ETF expenses, mark-ups, mark-downs, transfer taxes, odd lot differentials, exchange fees, interest charges, American Depository Receipt agency processing fees, and any charges, taxes or other fees mandated by any federal, state or other applicable law or otherwise agreed to with regard to client accounts. Such fees are in addition to any fees paid by the client to the Registrant and are between the client and the account custodian.

The current annual Program fee shall vary (up to 1.50% of the total assets placed under the Registrant's management/advisement) and shall be based upon various objective and subjective factors, including, but not limited to, the amount of the assets placed under the Registrant's management, the level and scope of financial planning and consulting services to be rendered, and the complexity of the engagement. See Fee Differential disclosure below.

Under the Program, if engaged on a discretionary basis, the Registrant shall have written authority to determine the type and amount of securities that are bought or sold. Clients who engage the Registrant on a discretionary basis may, at any time, impose restrictions, in writing, on the Registrant's discretionary authority (i.e. limit the types/amounts of particular securities purchased for their account, exclude the ability to purchase securities with an inverse relationship to the market, limit or proscribe the Registrant's use of margin, etc.).

LPL Financial ("LPL") shall serve as the custodian for Program accounts.

**Fee Calculation:** The fee charged is calculated as described above and is not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon or capital appreciation of the funds or any portion of the funds of an advisory client.

**Fee Payment:** Clients will be charged in advance, at the beginning of each calendar quarter based upon the market value of the assets on the last business day of the previous quarter. Clients may elect to have the Registrant's advisory fees deducted from their custodial account.

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

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

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

**Conflict of Interest.** Because Program transaction fees and/or commissions are being paid by the Registrant to the account custodian/broker-dealer, the Registrant could have an economic incentive to minimize the number of trades in the client's account. **The Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, R. Mark Shepherd, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the corresponding conflict of interest a wrap fee arrangement may create.**

- C. The Program's wrap fee does not include certain charges and administrative fees, including, but not limited to, trustee fees, mutual fund expenses, ETF expenses, mark-ups, mark-downs, transfer taxes, odd lot differentials, exchange fees, interest charges, American Depository Receipt agency processing fees, and any charges, taxes or other fees mandated by any federal, state or other applicable law or otherwise agreed to with regard to client accounts. Such fees and expenses are in addition to the Program's wrap fee.
- D. Registrant's related persons who recommend the Program to clients do not receive additional compensation as a result of a client's participation in the wrap fee program.

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

The Registrant's clients shall generally include individuals, business entities, pension and profit sharing plans, trusts, estates, and charitable organizations, and pension and profit sharing plans. The Registrant, in its sole discretion, may charge a lesser investment management fee based upon certain criteria (i.e. anticipated future earning capacity, anticipated future additional assets, dollar amount of assets to be managed, related accounts, account composition, negotiations with client, etc.).

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

- A. The Registrant may allocate a portion of a client's Program assets among unaffiliated independent investment managers in accordance with the client's designated investment objective(s). In such situations, the independent manager(s) shall have day-to-day responsibility for the active discretionary management of the allocated Program assets. The Registrant shall continue to render investment supervisory services to the client relative to the ongoing monitoring and review of account performance, asset allocation and client investment objectives. Factors which the Registrant shall consider in recommending independent manager(s) or separately managed accounts include the client's designated investment objective(s), management style, performance, reputation, financial strength, reporting, pricing, and research.
- B. The Registrant acts as the portfolio manager for the Program. Inasmuch as the execution costs for transactions effected in the client account will be paid by the Registrant, a potential conflict of interest arises in that the Registrant may have a disincentive to trade securities in the client account. In addition, the amount of compensation received by the Registrant as a result of the client's participation in the Program may be more than what the Registrant would receive if the client paid separately for investment advice, brokerage and other services.

**Please Note:** When managing a client's account on a wrap fee basis, the Registrant shall receive as payment for its investment advisory services, the balance of the wrap fee after all other costs (including account transaction fees) incorporated into the wrap fee have been deducted. Accordingly, the Registrant has a conflict of interest because it could have an economic incentive to maximize its compensation by seeking to minimize the number of transactions/total costs in the client's account.

- C. As discussed below, the Registrant also offers to its clients, discretionary and/or non-discretionary investment management services, on a non-wrap fee basis, as well as, Financial Planning and Consulting on a stand-alone basis and Retirement Consulting services.

### **OTHER ADVISORY BUSINESS SERVICES**

#### **INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT ON A NON-WRAP FEE BASIS**

The Registrant may provide discretionary and/or non-discretionary investment advisory services on a non-wrap fee basis. The Registrant's annual investment advisory fee shall vary (up to 1.35% of the total assets placed under the Registrant's management/advisement) and shall be based upon various objective and subjective factors, including, but not limited to, the amount of the assets placed under the Registrant's management, the level and scope of financial planning and consulting services to be rendered, and the complexity of the engagement. See Fee Differential disclosure below.

Registrant's annual investment management fee shall include investment advisory services, and, to the extent specifically requested by the client, financial planning and consulting services. In the event that the client requires extraordinary planning and/or consultation services (to be determined in the sole discretion of the Registrant), the

Registrant may determine to charge for such additional services, the dollar amount of which shall be set forth in a separate written notice to the client.

### **FINANCIAL PLANNING AND CONSULTING SERVICES (STAND-ALONE)**

The client can engage the Registrant to provide financial planning and/or consulting services (including investment and non-investment related matters, including estate planning, insurance planning, etc.) on a stand-alone separate fee basis. Registrant's planning and consulting fees are negotiable, but generally range from \$2,000 to \$250,000 on a fixed fee basis, and from \$75 to \$500 on an hourly rate basis, depending upon the level and scope of the service(s) required and the professional(s) rendering the service(s). Prior to engaging the Registrant to provide planning or consulting services, clients are generally required to enter into a *Financial Planning and Consulting Agreement* with Registrant setting forth the terms and conditions of the engagement (including termination), describing the scope of the services to be provided, and the portion of the fee that is due from the client prior to Registrant commencing services. If requested by the client, Registrant may recommend the services of other professionals for implementation purposes, including certain of the Registrant's representatives in their individual capacities as registered representatives of LPL Financial ("LPL") and/or in their capacities as licensed insurance agents. (*See* disclosure below at Items 9 below). The client is under no obligation to engage the services of any such recommended professionals.

The client retains absolute discretion over all such implementation decisions and is free to accept or reject any recommendation from the Registrant. **Please Note:** If the client engages any such recommended professional, and a dispute arises thereafter relative to such engagement, the client agrees to seek recourse exclusively from and against the engaged professional. **Please Also Note:** It remains the client's responsibility to promptly notify the Registrant if there is ever any change in their financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing, evaluating or revising Registrant's previous recommendations and/or services.

### **RETIREMENT CONSULTING**

The Registrant also provides non-discretionary pension consulting services, pursuant to which it assists sponsors of self-directed retirement plans with the selection and/or monitoring of investment alternatives (generally open-end mutual funds) from which plan participants shall choose in self-directing the investments for their individual plan retirement accounts. In addition, to the extent requested by the plan sponsor, the Registrant shall also provide participant education designed to assist participants in identifying the appropriate investment strategy for their retirement plan accounts. The terms and conditions of the engagement shall generally be set forth in a *Retirement Plan Consulting Agreement* between the Registrant and the plan sponsor.

### **MISCELLANEOUS ADVISORY SERVICES DISCLOSURE**

**Limitations of Financial Planning and Non-Investment Consulting/Implementation Services.** As indicated above, to the extent requested by the client, Registrant may provide financial planning and related consulting services regarding non-investment related matters, such as estate planning, tax planning, insurance, etc. Registrant does not serve as a law firm or accounting firm, and no portion of its services should be construed

as legal or accounting services. Accordingly, Registrant does not prepare estate planning documents or tax returns. To the extent requested by a client, Registrant may recommend the services of other professionals for certain non-investment implementation purposes (i.e. attorneys, accountants, insurance agents, etc.), including representatives of Registrant in their separate individual capacities as representatives of *LPL* and as licensed insurance agents. The client is under no obligation to engage the services of any such recommended professional. The client retains absolute discretion over all such implementation decisions and is free to accept or reject any recommendation from Registrant and/or its representatives. **Please Note:** If the client engages any recommended unaffiliated professional, and a dispute arises thereafter relative to such engagement, the client agrees to seek recourse exclusively from and against the engaged professional. **Please Also Note-Conflict of Interest:** The recommendation by Registrant's representative that a client purchase a securities or insurance commission product through Registrant's representative in their separate and individual capacity as a registered representative of *LPL* and/or as an insurance agent, presents a **conflict of interest**, as the receipt of commissions may provide an incentive to recommend investment or insurance products based on commissions to be received, rather than on a particular client's need. No client is under any obligation to purchase any securities or insurance commission products through such a representative. Clients are reminded that they may purchase securities and insurance products recommended by Registrant through other, non-affiliated broker-dealers and/or insurance agents. **Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, R. Mark Shepherd, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the above conflict of interest.**

**Please Note: Fee Differentials.** As discussed above, the Registrant shall price its services based upon various objective and subjective factors. As a result, Registrant's clients could pay diverse fees based upon the market value of their assets, the complexity of the engagement, and the level and scope of the overall financial planning and/or consulting services to be rendered. The services to be provided by the Registrant to any particular client could be available from other advisers at lower fees. All clients and prospective clients should be guided accordingly.

**Please Note: Non-Discretionary Service Limitations.** Clients that determine to engage the Registrant on a non-discretionary investment advisory basis **must be willing to accept** that the Registrant cannot effect any account transactions without obtaining prior consent to any such transaction(s) from the client. Thus, in the event of a market correction during which the client is unavailable, the Registrant will be unable to effect any account transactions (as it would for its discretionary clients) **without first obtaining the client's consent.**

**Retirement Plan Rollovers – No Obligation / Potential for Conflict of Interest:** A client or prospective client leaving an employer typically has four options regarding an existing retirement plan (and may engage in a combination of these options): (i) leave the money in the former employer's plan, if permitted, (ii) roll over the assets to the new employer's plan, if one is available and rollovers are permitted, (iii) roll over to an Individual Retirement Account ("IRA"), or (iv) cash out the account value (which could, depending upon the client's age, result in adverse tax consequences). If the Registrant recommends that a client roll over their retirement plan assets into an account to be managed by the Registrant, such a recommendation creates a conflict of interest if the Registrant will earn an advisory fee on the rolled over assets. **No client is under any obligation to roll over retirement plan assets to an account managed by Registrant.**

**The Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, R. Mark Shepherd, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the potential for conflict of interest presented by such rollover recommendation.**

**Use of Mutual Funds.** Most mutual funds are available directly to the public. Thus, a client or prospective client can obtain many of the mutual funds that may be recommended and/or utilized by the Registrant independent of engaging the Registrant as an investment advisor. However, if a client or prospective client determines to do so, they will not receive the benefit of the Registrant's initial and ongoing investment advisory services.

**Private Investment Funds.** Registrant may provide investment advice regarding unaffiliated private investment funds. The Registrant's role relative to the private investment funds shall be limited to its initial and ongoing due diligence and investment monitoring services. If a client determines to become a private fund investor, the amount of assets invested in the fund(s) shall be included as part of "assets under management" for purposes of Registrant calculating its investment advisory fee. Registrant's clients are under absolutely no obligation to consider or make an investment in a private investment fund(s).

**Please Note:** Private investment funds generally involve various risk factors, including, but not limited to, potential for complete loss of principal, liquidity constraints and lack of transparency, a complete discussion of which is set forth in each fund's offering documents, which will be provided to each client for review and consideration. Unlike liquid investments that a client may maintain, private investment funds do not provide daily liquidity or pricing. Each prospective client investor will be required to complete a Subscription Agreement, pursuant to which the client shall establish that he/she is qualified for investment in the fund, and acknowledges and accepts the various risk factors that are associated with such an investment.

**Please Also Note: Valuation:** In the event that the Registrant references private investment funds owned by the client on any supplemental account reports prepared by the Registrant, the value(s) for all private investment funds owned by the client shall reflect the most recent valuation provided by the fund sponsor. If the fund sponsor does not provide a post-purchase valuation, then the valuation shall reflect the initial purchase price (and/or a value as of a previous date) or the current value(s) (either the initial purchase price and/or the most recent valuation provided by the fund sponsor). If the valuation reflects the initial purchase price (and/or a value as of a previous date), then the current value(s) (to the extent ascertainable) could be significantly more or less than the value referenced on any supplemental document provided by the Registrant. However, the client's advisory fee shall be based upon such reflected fund value(s).

**Independent Managers.** The Registrant may allocate (and/or recommend that the client allocate) a portion of a client's investment assets among unaffiliated independent investment managers in accordance with the client's designated investment objective(s). In such situations, the *Independent Manager[s]* shall have day-to-day responsibility for the active discretionary management of the allocated assets. The Registrant shall continue to render investment advisory services to the client relative to the ongoing monitoring and review of account performance, asset allocation and client investment objectives. Factors which the Registrant shall consider in recommending *Independent Manager[s]* include the client's designated investment objective(s), management style, performance,



reputation, financial strength, reporting, pricing, and research. The investment management fee charged by the Independent Manager(s) is separate from, and in addition to, Registrant's advisory fee as set forth in Item 5.

**Please Note: Inverse/Enhanced Market Strategies.** The Registrant may utilize long and short mutual funds and/or exchange traded funds that are designed to perform in either an: (1) inverse relationship to certain market indices (at a rate of 1 or more times the inverse [opposite] result of the corresponding index) as an investment strategy and/or for the purpose of hedging against downside market risk; and (2) enhanced relationship to certain market indices (at a rate of 1 or more times the actual result of the corresponding index) as an investment strategy and/or for the purpose of increasing gains in an advancing market. There can be no assurance that any such strategy will prove profitable or successful. In light of these enhanced risks/rewards, a client may direct the Registrant, in writing, not to employ any or all such strategies for their accounts.

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

**Disclosure Statement.** A copy of the Registrant's written Brochure as set forth on Part 2A of Form ADV shall be provided to each client prior to, or contemporaneously with, the execution of the *Investment Advisory Agreement* or *Financial Planning and Consulting Agreement*.

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

**Please Note:** There is no significant difference between how the Registrant manages wrap fee accounts and non-wrap fee accounts. However, as stated above, If a client determines to engage the Registrant on a wrap fee basis the client will pay a single fee for bundled services (i.e. asset management, brokerage, custody) (See Item 4.A). The services included in a wrap fee agreement will depend upon each client's particular need.

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

**Conflict of Interest:** Because Program transaction fees and/or commissions are being paid by the Registrant to the account custodian/broker-dealer, the Registrant could have an economic incentive to maximize its compensation by seeking to minimize the number of trades in the client's account.

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

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

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

The Registrant shall utilize the following methods of security analysis:

- Fundamental - (analysis performed on historical and present data, with the goal of making financial forecasts)
- Technical – (analysis performed on historical and present data, focusing on price and trade volume, to forecast the direction of prices)
- Quantitative – (analysis performed on momentum indicators such as earnings revisions changes in macro-economic factors, etc.)

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

- Long Term Purchases (securities held at least a year)
- Short Term Purchases (securities sold within a year)
- Options (contract for the purchase or sale of a security at a predetermined price during a specific period of time)

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

The Registrant's methods of analysis and investment strategies do not present any significant or unusual risks.

However, every method of analysis has its own inherent risks. To perform an accurate market analysis the Registrant must have access to current/new market information. The Registrant has no control over the dissemination rate of market information; therefore, unbeknownst to the Registrant, certain analyses may be compiled with outdated market information, severely limiting the value of the Registrant's analysis. Furthermore, an accurate market analysis can only produce a forecast of the direction of market values. There can be no assurances that a forecasted change in market value will materialize into actionable and/or profitable investment opportunities.

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

In addition to the fundamental investment strategies discussed above, the Registrant may also utilize certain options transactions.

**Covered Call Writing.** Covered call writing is the sale of in-, at-, or out-of- the money call option against a long security position held in a client portfolio. This type of transaction is used to generate income. It also serves to create downside protection in the event the security position declines in value. Income is received from the proceeds of the option sale. Such income may be reduced to the extent it is necessary to buy back the option position prior to its expiration. This strategy may involve a degree of trading velocity, transaction costs and significant losses if the underlying security has volatile price movement. Covered call strategies are generally suited for companies with little price volatility.

**Components of Investment Portfolios:** The Registrant may utilize a diverse set of asset classes to gain exposure. These are generally liquid investments, which are traded in the public markets, and include cash, bonds, stock, real estate funds, industry sector funds and commodity funds. Bond market participation is generally through bond market mutual funds, but could also be through bond ETFs and individual bonds. Stock investment vehicles may include: ETFs, index mutual funds, actively managed mutual funds, and publicly traded individual stocks. Real estate vehicles include US and foreign REITs, and real estate mutual funds. Commodity vehicles may include: commodity mutual funds, commodity index funds, and exchange traded notes.

### **Voting Client Securities**

The Registrant does not vote client proxies. 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.

Clients will receive their proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian. Clients may contact the Registrant to discuss any questions they may have with a particular solicitation.

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

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

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

To the extent the Program utilizes independent Manager(s), the Registrant shall provide the independent manager(s) with each client's particular investment objective(s). Any changes in the client's financial situation or investment objectives reported by the client to the Registrant shall be communicated to the independent manager(s) within a reasonable period of time.

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

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

## **Item 9 Additional Information**

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

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

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

**Registered Representatives of a Broker Dealer.** Certain of Registrant's representatives are registered representatives of *LPL*, a FINRA member broker-dealer. Clients can choose to engage Registrant's representatives, in their individual capacities, to effect securities brokerage transactions on a commission basis. **Conflict of Interest:** The recommendation by Registrant's representatives, that a client purchase a securities commission product presents a conflict of interest, as the receipt of commissions may provide an incentive to recommend investment products based on commissions received, rather than on a particular client's need. No client is under any obligation to purchase any commission products from Registrant's representatives. Clients are reminded that they may purchase securities products recommended by Registrant through other, non-affiliated registered representatives. **The Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, R. Mark Shepherd, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the above conflicts of interest.**

**Licensed Insurance Agents.** Certain of the Registrant's representatives are, in their separate individual capacities, licensed insurance agents. As discussed above, clients can choose to engage these representatives, in their individual capacities to affect the purchase of insurance products on a commission basis. The recommendation by the Registrant that a client purchase an insurance commission product through one of its representatives in their individual capacities presents a conflict of interest. No client is under any obligation to engage the services of or representatives in their individual capacities as licensed insurance agents. Furthermore, clients are reminded that they may purchase insurance commission products recommended by Registrant through other, non-affiliated insurance agents. **The Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, R. Mark Shepherd, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the above conflicts of interest.**

As discussed above, certain of Registrant's associated persons are also, in their individual capacities, registered representatives of *LPL*. As a result of this relationship, *LPL* may have access to certain confidential information (e.g., financial information, investment objectives, transactions and holdings) about Registrant's clients, even if the client does not establish any account through *LPL*. Any client may contact the Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, R. Mark Shepherd to request a copy of *LPL*'s privacy policy

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

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

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

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

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

The Registrant has a personal securities transaction policy in place to monitor the personal securities transactions and securities holdings of each of the Registrant's "Access Persons". The Registrant's securities transaction policy requires that an Access Person of the Registrant must provide the Chief Compliance Officer or his/her designee with a written report of their current securities holdings within ten (10) days after becoming an Access Person. Each quarter, Access Persons shall provide a summary of their personal transactions to the Chief Compliance Officer or his/her designee. Each Access Person must also provide the Chief Compliance Officer or his/her designee with a written report of the Access Person's current securities holdings at least once each twelve (12) month period thereafter on a date the Registrant selects.

The Registrant and/or representatives of the Registrant may buy or sell securities, at or around the same time as those securities are recommended to clients. This practice creates a situation where the Registrant and/or representatives of the Registrant are in a position to materially benefit from the sale or purchase of those securities. Therefore, this situation creates a potential conflict of interest. As indicated above, the Registrant has a

personal securities transaction policy in place to monitor the personal securities transaction and securities holdings of each of Registrant's Access Persons.

#### **REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

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

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

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

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

The Registrant may receive an economic benefit from *LPL*. The Registrant, without cost (and/or at a discount), may receive support services and/or products from *LPL*.

##### Research and Additional Benefits

Although not a material consideration when determining whether to recommend that a client utilize the services of a particular broker-dealer/custodian, Registrant may receive from *LPL* (or another broker-dealer/custodian, investment platform, unaffiliated investment manager, vendor, unaffiliated product/fund sponsor, or vendor) without cost (and/or at a discount) support services and/or products, certain of which assist the Registrant to better monitor and service client accounts maintained at such institutions. Included within the support services that may be obtained by the Registrant may be 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 Registrant in furtherance of its investment advisory business operations.

As indicated above, certain of the support services and/or products that *may* be received may assist the Registrant in managing and administering client accounts. Others do not directly provide such assistance, but rather assist the Registrant to manage and further develop its business enterprise.

Registrant's clients do not pay more for investment transactions effected and/or assets maintained at *LPL* as a result of this arrangement. There is no corresponding commitment made by the Registrant to *LPL* or any other entity to invest any specific amount or percentage of client assets in any specific mutual funds, securities or other investment products as a result of the above arrangement.

#### Additional Economic Benefits

Registrant has received, and expects to continue to receive, certain economic benefits from *LPL*. Specifically, the benefits include a \$9,000 annual credit towards the Registrant's compliance services and costs. This credit represents the agreed upon value of the compliance services that *LPL* previously provided to Registrant, but which are no longer offered by *LPL*. The benefit is paid pursuant to a written agreement executed between Registrant and *LPL*.

#### Forgivable Loan

*LPL* has provided financial assistance to the Registrant by establishing a forgivable loan. The forgivable loan is intended to assist the Registrant with start-up costs, including overhead expenses, computers, monies owed to third parties, and similar costs. Under the terms of the *LPL* forgivable loan, the loan plus any accrued interest shall be forgiven, so long as no Event of Default has occurred, as of October 2, 2016. Clearing and custodial arrangements with *LPL*, any of *LPL*'s affiliates as described herein do not and will not in any way affect, or relate or pertain to, the *LPL* forgivable loan

Registrant's clients do not pay more for investment transactions effected and/or assets maintained at *LPL* as result of these arrangements. There is no corresponding commitment made by the Registrant to *LPL* or any other entity to invest any specific amount or percentage of client assets in any specific mutual funds, securities or other investment products as a result of the above arrangement.

#### **The Registrant's Chief Compliance Officer, R. Mark Shepherd, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the above arrangement and any corresponding perceived conflict of interest any such arrangement may create**

If a client is introduced to the Registrant by either an unaffiliated or an affiliated solicitor, Registrant *may* pay that solicitor a referral fee in accordance with the requirements of Rule 206(4)-3 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, and any corresponding state securities law requirements. Any such referral fee shall be paid solely from the Registrant's investment advisory fee, and shall not result in any additional charge to the client. If the client is introduced to the Registrant by an unaffiliated solicitor, the solicitor, at the time of the solicitation, shall disclose the nature of his/her/its solicitor relationship, and shall provide each prospective client with a copy of the Registrant's written Brochure with a copy of the written disclosure statement from the solicitor to the client disclosing the terms of the solicitation arrangement between the Registrant and the solicitor, including the compensation to be received by the solicitor from the Registrant.

#### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The Registrant does not solicit fees of more than \$1,200, per client, six months or more in advance.

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

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

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