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This Form ADV Part 2A Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of John Hancock Personal Financial Services, LLC, (“JHPFS”). If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact us at (617) 663-2430 or [fknox@jhancock.com](mailto:fknox@jhancock.com). The information in this Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about JHPFS also is available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

JHPFS is a registered investment adviser. Registration of an investment adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

## **Item 2 – Material Changes**

The following material changes have been made to this brochure since its last annual update on March 30, 2016:

Item 4 – Assets under management has been updated.

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## **Item 4 – Advisory Business**

JHPFS is a Delaware limited liability company founded in 2014. JHPFS's principal owner is The Manufacturers Investment Corporation, which is an indirect, majority-owned subsidiary of Manulife Financial Corporation ("MFC"), a diversified international management and holding company with interests in companies that are active in, among other things, financial services and insurance. MFC is a publicly traded company listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange, the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and the Philippine Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol MFC.

JHPFS provides discretionary investment management services through a service program (the "OnTarget Service") as described below.

### **About The OnTarget Service**

The OnTarget Service is a discretionary investment management service offered only to persons residing in the United States who are participants in retirement plans for which John Hancock Retirement Plan Services LLC is the recordkeeper. The OnTarget Service invests eligible assets in a fund-specific portfolio. The fund-specific portfolio is developed and maintained based on personalized information provided to the OnTarget Service and according to asset allocation and diversification principles. Investment strategies are long term.

The investment options eligible for inclusion in the fund-specific portfolio for the OnTarget Service are limited to those chosen for a participant's plan by the plan sponsor or the plan's fiduciary. These must be investments that can be purchased and sold without restriction by the participant's employer or the plan's fiduciary and that the participant has not been restricted from the OnTarget Service. Employer stock is not eligible for the OnTarget Service.

Once a participant enrolls, the OnTarget Service will manage eligible assets, including future contributions, in the participant's retirement plan account on a discretionary basis, and the participant will not be able to make any exchanges of eligible assets among investment options within that account or otherwise direct the management of assets. The OnTarget Service will determine the eligible assets to be bought or sold, the amount of eligible assets to be bought or sold, and, if applicable, the broker-dealer to be used and the commissions to be paid. If your plan offers Automatic Increase in combination with OnTarget, your contribution rate may be increased annually by a percentage determined by your plan's fiduciary, until you reach a rate determined by your plan's fiduciary or the legal limit, whichever is less.

A terminated participant who continues to maintain a balance in the retirement plan and remains enrolled in the OnTarget Service after terminating from service will still be enrolled in the service upon rehire. Upon rehire the participant's future investment election will be changed to the retirement plan's qualified default investment alternative until the next scheduled OnTarget Service quarterly account rebalance.

## Assets Under Management

As of December 31, 2016, JHPFS had \$797 million under management on a discretionary basis.

## **Item 5 – Fees and Compensation**

### **The OnTarget Service**

Unless the plan or plan sponsor pays a participant's fee, in whole or in part, participants who enroll in the Service will be charged an annual advisory fee based on the following schedule:

<b><u>Account Balance</u></b>	<b><u>%</u></b>
On the first \$50,000	.50
On the next \$50,000	.40
On the next \$150,000	.30
On amounts over \$250,000	.20

The "Account Balance" used in determining the fee is the average daily balance of eligible assets as defined in the OnTarget Investment Advisory Service Agreement in a participant's accounts. The fee is payable monthly in arrears, will be calculated on the basis of JHPFS's then current fee schedule, and will be deducted directly from each participant's plan account on the business day following the fee calculation. Participants may choose to terminate their participation in the Service at any time with no additional charge, and fees for periods of less than a full month will be calculated on a *prorata* basis.

JHPFS will provide each participant with at least thirty (30) days' notice of any changes in the above-listed fee schedule. To the extent that OnTarget Service fees are paid in whole or in part by the plan or plan sponsor, the plan or plan sponsor may choose to reduce or eliminate these subsidies at any time. JHPFS will seek to notify participants as soon as practicable after it becomes aware of such change. In the event a subsidy is eliminated or reduced, the fees described above will apply.

The OnTarget Service will include mutual funds and/or other investment options available under a participant's plan ("Funds"), some or all of which may be managed by affiliates of JHPFS who receive advisory fees from the Funds.

Participants enrolling in the OnTarget Service will receive or have received a copy of the current prospectus or other available descriptions of the investment alternatives, which contain more complete information, including management fees and operating expenses.

Mutual funds may assess redemption fees against a participant's account if purchases and sales of fund shares are effected within a specified period of time. Applicable plan administrative fees such as loan origination fees will continue to be assessed in accordance with the governing

retirement plan account documents.

## **Item 6 – Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management**

JHPFS does not receive performance-based fees for advisory services provided to clients. Therefore, JHPFS does not engage in side-by-side management of clients with performance based fees.

## **Item 7 – Types of Clients**

### **OnTarget Service**

As discussed in the “Advisory Business” section above, the OnTarget Service is offered only to persons residing in the United States who are participants in retirement plans for which John Hancock Retirement Plan Services LLC is the recordkeeper. The plan’s named fiduciary must authorize JHPFS to offer the OnTarget Service to participants in the plan. The plan’s named fiduciary may terminate such authorization at any time.

The OnTarget Service does not require a minimum account balance.

## **Item 8 – Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss**

JHPFS selected Morningstar Investment Management LLC (“Morningstar”) (SEC File No. 801-56896) to act as an independent financial expert for the OnTarget Service. The plan sponsor or the plan’s fiduciary selects the investment options for the plan. The investment options are tested by Morningstar to determine whether the plan has a sufficient investment option lineup to ensure that appropriate portfolios can be constructed for participants through combinations of the available investment options. Once the asset allocation targets for a portfolio are built, Morningstar then determines which funds to use to meet their asset class targets and standards for quality. The selection process relies on both quantitative and qualitative measures. The selection criteria includes: manager experience, performance record, manager history, alpha (excess returns provided by the manager), style consistency and fund type.

A participant will be assigned a fund-specific portfolio based on his or her financial situation, time horizon and other information the participant and the plan sponsor have provided (such as assets held outside the retirement account, a partner’s financial information, brokerage holdings, etc.). In some cases, Morningstar may adjust the participant’s proposed strategy if the participant has excluded certain funds and/or has assets frozen in a fund. The participant is responsible for the accuracy of the information that the participant provides. The OnTarget Service will rely on this information in making an initial recommendation and in managing the participant’s account. It is the participant’s responsibility to notify the OnTarget Service promptly of any change that may affect the manner in which the OnTarget Service should allocate or invest the eligible assets in the participant’s account.

The OnTarget Service relies on historical performance and other data, all of which have limitations. Past performance of investments is no guarantee of future results. The OnTarget

Service depends upon a number of factors, including the information participants provide, various assumptions and estimates, and other considerations. As a result, the forecast developed, and the analysis and actions taken under the OnTarget Service are not guarantees that participants will achieve their retirement goals.

Investments in retirement plan accounts are subject to the risks associated with investing in mutual funds and other securities, will not always be profitable, and involve risk of loss that participants should be prepared to bear. The OnTarget Service does not guarantee the results or timing of any recommendations, or that the investment objectives of the funds or the participants' accounts will be met. All investments in retirement plans are subject to the terms of the governing document for that investment option. Participants should read all prospectuses and other documents for mutual funds and other investment options.

### **Item 9 – Disciplinary Information**

There are no legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of or the integrity of JHPFS or its management persons.

### **Item 10 – Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

JHPFS is an indirect, majority-owned subsidiary of MFC. As such, JHPFS is affiliated with a number of investment advisers, investment companies, broker-dealers and insurance companies. Except as noted below, JHPFS does not believe that these relationships are material to JHPFS's advisory business.

#### Broker-Dealers

John Hancock Distributors LLC ("JHD") is the distributor of the John Hancock Variable Insurance Trust ("JHVIT"), a no-load, open-end investment company that serves as the underlying investment medium for variable annuity and variable life contracts issued by John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.) and affiliated entities. John Hancock Funds, LLC ("JHF, LLC") is the distributor of all of the funds in the John Hancock Group of Funds advised by John Hancock Advisers, LLC, an affiliate of JHPFS. JHD and JHF, LLC are each related persons of JHPFS. JHF, LLC and JHD are broker-dealers registered with the SEC.

#### Investment Companies and Investment Advisers

As described above, John Hancock Advisers, LLC ("JHA") serves as investment adviser to the John Hancock Group of Funds, and John Hancock Investment Management Services, LLC ("JHIMS"), an affiliated investment adviser, serves as investment adviser to JHVIT. JHA and JHIMS are each related persons of JHPFS. JHPFS may from time to time offer funds advised by JHA in its OnTarget Service program.

## Insurance Companies

MFC is the sole owner of Manufacturers Life Insurance Company, which is indirectly the sole owner of John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.), which in turn wholly owns, directly or indirectly, a number of subsidiaries, including the following: The Manufacturers Investment Corporation, John Hancock Life & Health Insurance Company, John Hancock Life Insurance Company of New York, John Hancock Financial Network, Inc., Hancock Venture Partners, Inc., The Berkeley Financial Group, LLC, Hancock Natural Resource Group, Inc. and Hancock Capital Investment Management, LLC. John Hancock Financial Network, Inc. wholly owns Signator Investors, Inc.

The Manufacturers Investment Corporation directly owns JHPFS. John Hancock Life Insurance Company (U.S.A.) is also the majority owner of JHIMS. The Berkeley Financial Group, LLC wholly owns a number of subsidiaries, including JHA, JHF, LLC, Manulife Asset Management (U.S.) LLC, and certain other entities affiliated with Manulife Asset Management (U.S.) LLC.

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

### Code of Ethics

JHPFS's Code of Ethics (the "Code") establishes standards of business conduct for JHPFS and its "Covered Employees" (which includes all officers and employees with access to non-public portfolio information) and all persons who provide investment advice, or are involved with the OnTarget Service, on behalf of JHPFS and are subject to the supervision and control of JHPFS ("Supervised Persons").

The Code states that each Covered Employee is responsible for maintaining the very highest ethical standards when conducting company business. In general, JHPFS and its Covered Employees are required to (i) at all times place the interests of clients first; (ii) ensure that all personal securities transactions are conducted consistent with this Code and in such a manner as to avoid any actual or potential conflict of interest or any abuse of a position of trust and responsibility; (iii) not take inappropriate advantage of their positions or engage in manipulative practices such as front running or manipulative market timing; (iv) comply with all applicable federal securities laws; and (v) promptly report any violation of the Code to the Chief Compliance Officer ("CCO").

The Code is designed to prevent abuses in the investment advisory business that can arise when conflicts of interest exist between the employees of an investment adviser and its clients. When conflicting interests cannot be reconciled, the Code makes clear that, first and foremost, Covered Employees owe a fiduciary duty to John Hancock clients. The Code contains specific rules prohibiting defined types of conflicts. Since every potential conflict cannot be anticipated by the Code, it also contains general provisions prohibiting conflict situations.

The Code is also designed to permit JHPFS to monitor various securities transactions by Covered Employees, including those in shares of any mutual funds advised by JHPFS or an affiliate of JHPFS, in which they may have a direct or indirect beneficial ownership interest. Under the Code and subject to limited exceptions, Covered Employees must obtain the approval of the CCO before acquiring any covered security in an IPO or limited offering. However, any Covered Employee who participates in, or has prior knowledge of, purchase or sale recommendations made to a fund generally is prohibited from acquiring any covered security in an IPO.

The Code includes sections on policies in and outside the Code, reporting requirements and other disclosures inside and outside the Code, reporting violations, interpretation and enforcement, exemptions and appeals, education of employees and recordkeeping.

This Code will be provided to any client or prospective client upon request by contacting JHPFS at 617-663-2430 or [fknox@jhancock.com](mailto:fknox@jhancock.com).

JHPFS has also adopted an Amended and Restated Policy Statement and Procedures on Insider Trading in accordance with Section 204A of the Advisers Act which establishes procedures to prevent the misuse of material information by its officers, directors and employees. JHPFS and its related persons may, from time to time, come into possession of material nonpublic and other confidential information which, if disclosed, might affect an investor's decision to buy, sell or hold a security. Under applicable law, JHPFS and its related persons may be prohibited from improperly disclosing or using such information for their personal benefit or for the benefit of any other person, regardless of whether such other person is a client. Accordingly, should such persons come into possession of material nonpublic or other confidential information with respect to any company, they may be prohibited from communicating such information to, or using such information for the benefit of, their respective clients, and have no obligation or responsibility to disclose such information to, nor responsibility to use such information for the benefit of, their clients when following policies and procedures designed to comply with law.

#### Participation or Interest in Client Transactions

From time to time, employees and principals of JHPFS or a related person may also invest or otherwise have an interest in securities owned by or recommended to JHPFS's clients.

Similarly, some or all of the financial services businesses under common control with JHPFS may invest in securities that are also owned by JHPFS's clients. Any of such persons may invest or otherwise have an interest, either directly or indirectly, in certain pooled vehicles, which, in turn, may invest in securities held in other managed accounts. As these situations may involve potential conflicts of interest, JHPFS has implemented policies and procedures relating to personal securities transactions and insider trading, that are designed to identify potential conflicts of interest, to prevent or mitigate actual conflicts of interest and to resolve such conflicts appropriately if they do occur.



## **Item 12 – Brokerage Practices**

The OnTarget Service does not utilize the services of broker- dealers. John Hancock Trust Company, as trustee and/or custodian of the applicable retirement plan effects all transactions.

## **Item 13 – Review of Accounts**

### **OnTarget Service**

At least annually, JHPFS will ask participants to update the information they provided to the OnTarget Service. It is important for participants to do so. Based on the information participants provide, the fund-specific portfolio to which the OnTarget Service manages their eligible assets may be changed. On a quarterly basis, if appropriate, the OnTarget Service will rebalance accounts to the recommended asset allocation. Over time, the OnTarget Service will generally reallocate a participant's account to a more conservative fund- specific portfolio, absent any other changes to the participant's personal or financial situation.

Distributions, withdrawals, and loans will be satisfied according to plan rules, and may temporarily impact the OnTarget Service's ability to closely track the fund-specific portfolio. Transfers to an alternate payee pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order will be governed by court order and plan rules, but such a transfer will immediately terminate the OnTarget Service's obligation to manage the portion of the account transferred.

Participants will receive confirmations of all transactions in their accounts attributable to the OnTarget Service as well as an annual progress report. In addition, they will continue to receive all reports with respect to their accounts that they would receive if they were not enrolled in the OnTarget Service. In addition, participants are able to electronically access an annual OnTarget Service progress report.

## **Item 14 – Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

JHPFS does not directly or indirectly compensate any person for client referrals.

## **Item 15 – Custody**

JHPFS is deemed to have indirect custody of the retirement plan accounts enrolled in the OnTarget Service because its affiliate, John Hancock Trust Company, is the named custodian for the applicable retirement plan. JHPFS participants will receive account statements from John Hancock Trust Company and should carefully review those statements.

## **Item 16 – Investment Discretion**

### **OnTarget Service**

The OnTarget Service is a discretionary investment management service. As discussed above, JHPFS selected Morningstar to act as an independent financial expert for the OnTarget Service. Morningstar has developed the investment models for the OnTarget Service, which models are outside the control of JHPFS. In order to avoid potential conflicts of interest, all investment decisions, including the allocation of a participant's retirement plan assets among the various investment options, will be based upon information provided by Morningstar. This enables JHPFS to offer objective, on-going investment management of a participant's retirement plan assets through many of the investment options in the universe of eligible investment options in the participant's retirement plan. JHPFS assumes fiduciary responsibility for this role.

## **Item 17 – Voting Client Securities**

Participants are responsible for exercising shareholder and other rights with respect to investment options in their account, to the extent permitted by their plans. Neither JHPFS nor the OnTarget Service is authorized to exercise any shareholder rights on their behalf unless required by law. The OnTarget Service will not advise participants on the voting of proxies for fund shares held in their accounts. In addition, the OnTarget Service will not advise participants on legal proceedings, including bankruptcies and class actions, involving investment options.

## **Item 18 – Financial Information**

JHPFS is not aware of any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to clients, and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years.