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Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure

August 24, 2020

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Platte River Wealth Advisors, LLC ("Platte River"). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 720-738-9010. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") or by any state securities authority. Platte River is a Registered Investment Adviser. Registration as an Investment Adviser with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

Additional information about Platte River is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). You can search this site by a unique identifying number, known as an IARD number. The IARD number for Platte River is # 304224.

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## ITEM 2 – MATERIAL CHANGES

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This section of the Brochure will address only those “material changes” that have been incorporated since our last delivery or posting of this document on the SEC’s public disclosure website (IAPD) [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). The following are material changes since our last Annual Amendment filing made on February 14, 2020:

- Item 4 was amended to update ownership in the Firm.
- Item 8 was amended to reflect additional risk of loss regarding structured products.

If you would like another copy of this Brochure, please download it from the SEC Website as indicated above or you may contact our Chief Compliance Officer, Marie James, at [marie.james@platteriverwa.com](mailto:marie.james@platteriverwa.com), or by phone at 720-738-9010.

We encourage you to read this document in its entirety.

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## ITEM 4 – ADVISORY BUSINESS

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This Disclosure document is being offered to you by Platte River Wealth Advisors, LLC (“Platte River” or “Firm”) about the investment advisory services we provide. It discloses information about our services and the way those services are made available to you, the client. Our Firm was registered as an Investment Adviser in July 2019 and is owned by Tyler Olsen and Warren Baker.

We are committed to helping clients build, manage, preserve and ultimately transfer their wealth, and to provide guidance that helps clients to achieve their stated financial goals. We specialize in counseling our clients to behave in ways that preserve and accrete wealth. We will offer an initial complimentary meeting upon our discretion; however, investment advisory services are initiated only after you and Platte River execute an Investment Management Agreement.

### **Investment Management Services**

We manage advisory accounts on a discretionary and, in very limited circumstances, non-discretionary basis. Once we determine a client’s profile, goals, income need, and investment plan, we execute the day-to-day transactions with or without prior consent, depending on the client’s agreement with our Firm. Account supervision is guided by the client’s written profile and investment plan. We may accept accounts with certain restrictions if circumstances warrant. We primarily allocate client assets among various equities, Exchanged Traded Funds (“ETFs”), mutual funds and debt securities in accordance with their stated investment objectives and income needs.

In personal discussions with clients, we determine their investment objectives, goals, time horizons, risk tolerance and liquidity and income needs. As appropriate, we also review their prior investment history, as well as family composition and background. Based on client needs and goals, we develop the client’s comprehensive financial and investment plan. We then create and manage the client’s investments based on their plan pursuant to achieving their goals. It is the client’s obligation to notify us immediately if circumstances have changed with respect to their goals and income needs.

Once we have determined the appropriate strategy for clients or client businesses and executed the strategy, we will provide ongoing investment review and management services. This approach requires us to periodically review client portfolios.

With our discretionary relationships, we will make changes to the portfolio, as we deem appropriate. As a policy we rebalance client portfolios at least annually to keep the target allocation intact. We tailor our advisory services to meet the needs of our clients and seek to ensure that your portfolio is managed in a manner consistent with those needs and objectives. You will have the ability to leave standing instructions with us to refrain from investing in particular industries or invest in limited amounts of securities.

Clients may engage us to advise on certain investment products that are not maintained at their primary custodian, such as annuity contracts and assets held in employer sponsored retirement plans and qualified tuition plans (i.e., 529 plans).

You are advised and are expected to understand that our past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Certain market and economic risks exist that adversely affect an account's performance. This could result in capital losses in your account.

If a non-discretionary relationship is in place, calls will be placed to the client presenting the recommendation made including a rebalancing recommendation and only upon your authorization will any action be taken on your behalf.

### **Financial Planning**

Although the majority of Financial Planning is provided as a courtesy to investment management clients, on occasion our firm will offer separate financial planning services for a fee. Through the Financial Planning process, the Platte River team strives to engage our clients in conversations around the family's goals, objectives, priorities, vision, and legacy – both for the near term as well as for future generations. With the unique goals and circumstances of each family in mind, the Platte River team will offer wealth planning ideas and strategies to address the client's holistic financial picture, including estate, income tax, charitable, cash flow, wealth transfer and family legacy objectives. Our team partners with our client's other advisors (CPA, Estate Attorney, Insurance broker, etc.) to ensure a coordinated effort of all parties toward the client's stated goals. Such services include various reports on specific goals and objectives or general investment and/or planning recommendations, guidance to outside assets and periodic updates.

Our specific services in preparing your plan include:

- Review and clarification of your financial goals.
- Assessment of your overall financial position including cash flow, balance sheet, investment strategy, risk management and estate planning.
- Provide a goal based approach to planning focused on personal and business real estate, education, retirement or other financial independence, charitable giving, estate planning, business succession and other personal goals. We may include any or all of the following additional items in our overall review and analysis:
  - Liability management
  - Cash flow forecasting
  - Trust and estate Planning
  - Tax planning
  - Insurance planning

- Risk management
- Development of a goal-oriented investment plan, with input from various advisors to our clients around tax suggestions, asset allocation, expenses, risk and liquidity factors for each goal. This includes IRA and qualified plans, taxable and trust accounts that require special attention.
- Design of a risk management plan including risk tolerance, risk avoidance, mitigation and transfer, including liquidity as well as various insurance and possible company benefits.
- Crafting and implementation of, in conjunction with your estate and/or corporate attorneys as tax advisor, an estate plan to provide for you and/or your heirs in the event of an incapacity or death.
- A written evaluation of each client's initial situation or Financial Plan is provided to the client. An annual review will be provided by the Adviser, if indicated by the Client and Advisor per the Financial Planning Agreement. More frequent reviews occur but are not necessarily communicated to the client unless immediate changes are recommended.

### **Use of Third Party Money Managers (TPMM)**

Occasionally our firm utilizes the services of a TPMM for the management of client accounts. Investment advice and trading of securities will only be offered by or through the chosen TPMM. Our firm will not offer advice on any specific securities or other investments in connection with this service. Prior to referring clients, our firm will provide initial due diligence on various TPMMs and perform ongoing reviews of their management of client accounts. TPMMs selected for your investments need to meet several quantitative and qualitative criteria established by Platte River. Among the criteria that may be considered are the TPMM's experience, assets under management, performance record, client retention, the level of client services provided, investment style, buy and sell disciplines, capitalization level, and the general investment process.

You are advised and should understand that:

- A TPM's past performance is no guarantee of future results;
- There is a certain market and/or interest rate risk which may adversely affect any TPM's objectives and strategies, and could cause a loss in a Client's account(s); and
- Client risk parameters or comparative index selections provided to Platte River are guidelines only and there is no guarantee that they will be met or not be exceeded.

In order to assist in the selection of a TPMM, our firm will gather client information pertaining to financial situation, investment objectives, and reasonable restrictions to be imposed upon the management of the account.

Our firm will contact clients from time to time in order to review their financial situation and objectives; communicate information to TPMM as warranted; and, assist the client in understanding and evaluating the services provided by the TPMM. Clients will be expected to notify our firm of any changes in their financial situation, investment objectives, or account restrictions that could affect their financial standing.

Our firm takes actions on behalf of the client to hire or fire money managers used in the implementation of a client's investment plan and execution of the Advisory Agreement with our Firm. Therefore, the firm has the discretionary authority to hire or fire the TPMM or to allocate assets among managers without obtaining the Client's consent.

A complete description of the TPM's services, fee schedules and account minimums will be disclosed in the TPMM's Form ADV or similar Disclosure Brochure which will be provided to clients at the time an agreement for services is executed and account is established.

#### **Employee Retirement Income Security Act Retirement Plan Advisory Services**

For employer-sponsored retirement plans with participant-directed investments, our firm provides its advisory services as an investment advisor as defined under Section 3(21) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA").

When serving as an ERISA 3(21) investment advisor, the Plan Sponsor and Platte River Wealth Advisors share fiduciary responsibility. The plan sponsor retains ultimate decision-making authority for the investments and may accept or reject the recommendations in accordance with the terms of a separate ERISA 3(21) Investment Advisor Agreement between Platte River Wealth Advisors and the plan sponsor. Platte River Wealth Advisors may provide the following services to the Plan Sponsor:

- Screen investments and make recommendations.
- Monitor the investments and suggests replacement investments when appropriate.
- Provide a quarterly monitoring report.
- May assist the plan sponsor in developing an Investment Policy Statement ("IPS").
- Recommend QDIA alternatives.
- Recommend non-discretionary model portfolios.

We can also be engaged to provide financial education to Plan participants. The scope of education provided to participants will not constitute "investment advice" within the

meaning of ERISA and participant education will relate to general principles for investing and information about the investment options currently in the Plan. We may also participate in initial enrollment meetings and periodic workshops and enrollment meetings for new participants.

### **Consulting Services**

Platte River also provides clients investment advice on a more-limited basis on one-or-more isolated areas of concern such as estate planning, real estate, retirement planning, or any other specific topic. Additionally, we provide advice on non-securities matters about the rendering of estate planning, insurance, real estate, and/or annuity advice or any other business advisory / consulting services for equity or debt investments in privately held businesses. In these cases, you will be required to select your own investment managers, custodian and/or insurance companies for the implementation of consulting recommendations. If your needs include brokerage and/or other financial services, Platte River will recommend the use of one of several investment managers, brokers, banks, custodians, insurance companies or other financial professionals ("Firms"). You must independently evaluate these Firms before opening an account or transacting business, and have the right to effect business through any firm you choose. You have the right to choose whether to follow the consulting advice that we provide.

### **Wrap Fee Programs**

We do not provide a Wrap Fee Program.

### **Assets**

As of August 24, 2020, Platte River managed \$392,565,835.33 of discretionary assets and \$0 of non-discretionary assets. In addition to the regulatory assets reported in on our ADV filing, Platte River advises on assets totaling \$4,978,521 primarily consisting of alternative assets categories not held at the Firm's recommended Custodian.

## **ITEM 5 - FEES AND COMPENSATION**

### **Investment Management Fees and Compensation**

Platte River charges a fee as compensation for providing Investment Management services on your account. These services include advisory and consulting services, trade entry, investment supervision, and other account-maintenance activities. Our recommended custodian charges transaction costs, redemption fees, retirement plan and administrative fees or commissions. See Additional Fees and Expenses below for additional details on charges billed by the custodian.

The fees for portfolio management are based on an annual percentage of assets under management. Advisory fees are billed monthly in arrears based on the average daily of the account(s) as indicated in the Investment Management Agreement. There may be a possibility for price or account value discrepancies due to quarter-end transactions in an



account. Dividends or trade date settlements may occur and our third-party billing software may report a slight difference in account valuation at quarter end compared to what is reported on your Statement from the Custodian. Our firm has the ability to produce billing summaries, which can be provided upon request.

Platte River's maximum annual advisory fee for accounts paying a percentage of assets under management is:

On the first \$5,000,000	1.0%
Next \$5,000,000	0.60%
Next \$10,000,000	0.50%
On the balance over \$20,000,000	0.40%.

The specific advisory fees are set forth in your Investment Advisory Agreement. Fees may vary based on the size of the account, complexity of the portfolio, extent of activity in the account or other reasons agreed upon by us and you as the client. Additional deposits and withdrawals will be added or subtracted from portfolio assets which may lead to an adjustment of the account fee. In certain circumstances, our fees and the timing of the fee payments may be negotiated. Platte River employees and their family related accounts are charged a reduced fee for our services.

Unless otherwise agreed upon and stated in the Investment Management Agreement, fees are assessed on all assets under management, including securities, cash and money market balances. When applicable and noted in the Investment Management Agreement, legacy positions will also be excluded from the fee calculation.

Unless instructed by the client, Platte River will aggregate asset amounts in accounts from your same household together to determine the advisory fee for all your accounts. Platte River would do this, for example, where we also service accounts on behalf of your minor children, individual and joint accounts for a spouse, and/or other types of related accounts. This consolidation practice is designed to allow you the benefit of an increased asset total, which could potentially cause your account(s) to be assessed a lower advisory fee.

The independent qualified custodian holding your funds and securities will debit your account directly for the advisory fee and pay that fee to Platte River. You will provide written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from your account held by the qualified custodian. Further, the qualified custodian agrees to deliver an account statement at least quarterly directly to you indicating all the amounts deducted from the account including our advisory fees. At our discretion, you may pay the advisory fees by check. You are encouraged to review your account statements for accuracy.

Either Platte River or you may terminate the management agreement immediately upon written notice to the other party. The management fee will be pro-rated to the date of termination, for the month in which the cancellation notice was given and either be billed to your account. Upon termination, you are responsible for monitoring the securities in your account, and Platte River will have no further obligation to act or advise with respect to those assets. In the event of client's death or disability, Platte River will continue management of the account until we are notified of client's death or disability and given alternative instructions by an authorized party.

### **Financial Planning Fees**

For stand-alone financial planning arrangements, Platte River will negotiate the planning fees with you using either a fixed fee or an hourly rate. Fees may vary based on the extent and complexity of your individual or family circumstances and the amount of your assets under our management. Platte River will determine your fee for the designated financial advisory services based on a fixed fee arrangement described below.

Under our fixed fee arrangement, any fee will be agreed in advance of services being performed. The fee will be determined based on factors including the complexity of your financial situation, agreed upon deliverables, and whether or not you intend to implement any recommendations through Platte River. Fixed fees for financial plans range from \$3,500 to \$20,000. Our hourly rate is \$350.00.

Typically, we complete a plan within a month and will present it to you within 90 days of the contract date, provided that you have provided us all information needed to prepare the financial plan. Fees are billed with one hundred percent (100%) payable at the time the financial plan is delivered. Financial planning fees can be deducted from client's brokerage accounts at their discretion. Written authorization will be required by you, the client. You may terminate the financial planning agreement by providing us with written notice. Upon termination, fees will be prorated to the date of termination and any unearned portion of the fee will be refunded to you based on an hourly rate of \$350.00. Services provided up to date of termination but not yet paid to Platte River will be billed to you based on the hourly rate of \$350.00. We will not require prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six (6) or more months in advance of providing any services.

In no case are Platte River fees based on, or related to, the performance of your funds or investments.

When both investment management or plan implementation and wealth planning services are offered, there is a conflict of interest since there is an incentive for us offering wealth planning services to recommend products or services for which Platte River receives compensation. However, Platte River will make all recommendations independent of such considerations and based solely on our obligations to consider your objectives and needs. As a wealth planning client, you have the right not to act upon any of our recommendations and not affect the transaction(s) through us if you decide to follow the recommendations.

### **Third Party Money Managers Fees**

As discussed in Item 4 above, there are occasions where an independent TPMM acts as a sub-adviser to our firm. In those circumstances, the TPMM manages the assets based upon the parameters provided by our firm. Under such arrangements where our firm elects to utilize a TPMM, our firm collects the total advisory fee. This total fee includes our firm's portion of the investment management fee (not to exceed 1.00%) as well as the portion paid to the TPMM (not to exceed 1.00%).

A TPMM relationship may be terminated at the IAR's discretion. Our Firm may at any time terminate the relationship with a TPMM that manages your assets. Our Firm will notify you of instances where we have terminated a relationship with any TPMM you are investing with. We will not conduct on-going supervisory reviews of the TPMM following such termination.

Factors involved in the termination of a TPMM may include a failure to adhere to their stated management style or your objectives, a material change in the professional staff of the TPMM, unexplained poor performance, unexplained inconsistency of account performance, or our decision to no longer include the TPMM on our list of approved TPMMs.

Our Firm offers several investment management programs. Account custodial services may be provided by several account custodians depending on the investment management program offered. Programs may have higher or lower fees than other programs available through Platte River or available elsewhere. Investment management programs may differ in the services provided and method or type of management offered, and each may have different account minimums. Client reports will depend upon the management program selected. Please see complete details in the program brochure and custodial account agreement for each program recommended and offered.

### **Employer Sponsored Retirement Plan Services**

For Retirement Plan Advisory Services compensation, we charge an annual fee as negotiated with the client and disclosed in the Employer Sponsored Retirement Plans Investment Advisory Agreement. The compensation method is explained and agreed upon in advance before any services are rendered. Asset based fees are assigned according to the management fee schedule outlined above and based on the aggregated assets of the Plan.

Plan advisory services begin with the effective date of the Employer Sponsored Retirement Plans Investment Advisory Agreement, which is the date you sign the Employer Sponsored Retirement Plans Investment Advisory Agreement. For that calendar quarter, fees will be adjusted pro rata based upon the number of calendar days in the calendar quarter that the Agreement was effective. Our fee is billed in arrears on the last

business day of the calendar quarter as outlined in the Agreement. For Plans where our fee is billed to the custodian, the fee is deducted directly from the participant accounts. Written authorization permitting us to be paid directly from the custodial account is outlined in the Agreement.

Either party may terminate the Investment Advisory Agreement at any time upon immediate notice. You are responsible to pay for services rendered until the termination of the Agreement. If billed in arrears, any earned fee will be billed to the account. Upon termination, you are responsible for monitoring the securities in your account, and we will have no further obligation to act or advise with respect to those assets.

### **Consulting Fees**

We provide general consulting services for clients who need advice on a limited scope of work. We will negotiate consulting fees with you. Fees for Consulting Services will vary based on the extent and complexity of the consulting project. Fees will be billed as services are rendered. Either party may terminate the agreement. Upon termination, fees will be prorated to the date of termination and any unearned portion of the fee will be refunded to you as described in the Agreement.

### **Additional Fees and Expenses**

In addition to the advisory fees paid to our Firm, clients also incur certain charges imposed by other third parties, such as broker-dealers, custodians, trust companies, banks and other financial institutions (collectively “Financial Institutions”). These additional charges include custodial fees, charges imposed by a mutual fund or ETF in a client’s account, as disclosed in the fund’s prospectus (e.g., fund management fees and other fund expenses), deferred sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. Our brokerage practices are described at length in Item 12, below. Neither our Firm nor its supervised persons accept compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products. Further, our firm does not share in any of these additional fees and expenses outlined above.

### **Administrative Services Provided By Orion, LLC**

Platte River has contracted with Orion Advisor Services, LLC (referred to as “Orion”) to utilize its technology platforms to support data reconciliation, performance reporting, fee calculation and billing, research, client database maintenance, quarterly performance evaluations, payable reports, web site administration, models, trading platforms, and other functions related to the administrative tasks of managing client accounts. Due to this arrangement, Orion will have access to client accounts, but Orion will not serve as an investment advisor to our clients. Platte River and Orion are non-affiliated companies. Orion charges our firm an annual fee for each account administered by Orion. Please note, that the Platte River advisory fee charged to the client will not increase due to the annual

fee Platte River pays to Orion. The annual fee is paid from the portion of the management fee retained by us.

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#### **ITEM 6 - PERFORMANCE BASED FEES AND SIDE-BY-SIDE MANAGEMENT**

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We do not charge advisory fees on a share of the capital appreciation of the funds or securities in a client account (so-called performance-based fees) nor engage in side-by-side management.

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#### **ITEM 7 - TYPES OF CLIENTS**

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We provide investment advice to individuals, high net individuals, foundations, employer sponsored retirement plans, charitable organizations, institutions, estates and trusts. The minimum initial account value for opening an account with our firm is \$5,000,000. We reserve the right to make exceptions, at our discretion, on a case by case basis.

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#### **ITEM 8 - METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISK OF LOSS**

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##### **Investment Strategies**

Our Firm provides proprietary investment strategies personalized to the needs and goals of each individual client.

Our strategies are developed and maintained in-house by our team and clients have direct access to the individuals doing the research and making decisions regarding their accounts and the investments and strategies in which they are involved.

We create diversified portfolios designed to maximize return per unit of risk assumed.

- We diversify portfolios by asset class, location, and sector and have a strict set of guidelines defining maximum position size within a given portfolio.
- We use various software programs to help us access and analyze risk and return which helps guide our allocation and security selection decisions.
- We work to construct tax-efficient and cost-effective asset allocation strategies based on a client's unique cash flow needs, stated return and risk profile goals.
- Clients may hold or retain other types of assets as well, and Platter River may offer advice regarding those various assets as part of its services.

When combined with quality research and value-based fundamental analysis, we feel that this is the best prescription for consistent preservation and growth of wealth.

##### **Methods Of Analysis**

We use the following methods of analysis in formulating our investment advice and/or managing client assets:

*Fundamental Analysis:* We attempt to measure the intrinsic value of a security by looking at economic and financial factors (including the overall economy, industry conditions, and the financial condition and management of the company) to determine if the security is underpriced (indicating that it may be a good time to buy) or overpriced (indicating that it may be time to sell). Fundamental analysis does not attempt to anticipate market movements. This presents a potential risk because the price of a security can move up or down along with the overall market regardless of the economic and financial factors considered in evaluating the security.

*Asset Allocation:* In addition to focusing on securities selection, we attempt to identify an appropriate ratio of securities, fixed income, and cash suitable to the client's investment goals and risk tolerance.

A risk of asset allocation is that the client may not participate in sharp increases in a particular security, industry or market sector. Another risk is that the ratio of securities, fixed income, and cash will change over time due to stock and market movements and, if not corrected, will no longer be appropriate for the client's goals.

Periodically we may encounter economic conditions that warrant temporary adjustments to the asset allocation of an investment strategy or portfolio. If we believe that these conditions present either an increase in risk or opportunity for that particular asset class we may alter the appropriate allocation to reflect this conviction.

*Mutual Fund and/or ETF Analysis:* We look at the experience and track record of the manager of the mutual fund or ETF in an attempt to determine if the manager has demonstrated an ability to invest over a period of time and in different economic conditions. We also look at the underlying assets in a mutual fund or ETF in an attempt to determine if there is significant overlap in the underlying investments held in another fund(s) in the client's portfolio. We also monitor the funds or ETFs in an attempt to determine if they are continuing to follow their stated investment strategy.

A risk of mutual fund and/or ETF analysis is that, as in all securities investments, past performance does not guarantee future results. A manager who has been successful may not be able to replicate that success in the future. In addition, because we do not control the underlying investments in a fund or ETF, managers of different funds held by the client may purchase the same security thereby increasing the risk to the client if that security were to fall in value. There is also a risk that a manager may deviate from the stated investment mandate or strategy of the fund or ETF which could make the holding(s) less suitable for the client's portfolio.

*Risks for all forms of analysis:* Our securities analysis methods rely on the assumption that the companies whose securities we purchase and sell, the rating agencies that review these securities, and other publicly-available sources of information about these securities, are providing accurate and unbiased data. While we are alert to indications that

data may be incorrect, there is always a risk that our analysis may be compromised by inaccurate or misleading information.

If deemed appropriate for your portfolio, our Firm may recommend investments classified as "alternative investments". Alternative investments may include a broad range of underlying assets including, but not limited to, hedge funds, private equity, venture capital, and registered, publicly traded securities. Alternative investments are speculative, not suitable for all clients and intended for only experienced and sophisticated investors who are willing to bear the high risk of the investment, which can include: loss of all or a substantial portion of the investment due to leveraging, short-selling, or other speculative investment practices; lack of liquidity in that there may be no secondary market for the fund and none expected to develop; volatility of returns; potential for restrictions on transferring interest in the fund; potential lack of diversification and resulting higher risk due to concentration of trading authority with a single advisor; absence of information regarding valuations and pricing; potential for delays in tax reporting; less regulation and typically higher fees than other investment options such as mutual funds. The SEC requires investors be accredited to invest in these more speculative alternative investments. Investing in a fund that concentrates its investments in a few holdings may involve heightened risk and result in greater price volatility.

### **Risk Of Loss**

Clients must understand that past performance is not indicative of future results. Therefore, current and prospective clients should never assume that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy will be profitable. Investing in securities involves risk of loss. Further, depending on the different types of investments there will be varying degrees of risk. Clients and prospective clients should be prepared to bear investment loss including loss of original principal.

Because of the inherent risk of loss associated with investing, our Firm is unable to represent, guarantee, or even imply that our services and methods of analysis can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate you from losses due to market corrections or declines.

Investors should be aware that accounts are subject to the following risks:

**Market Risk** — Even a long-term investment approach cannot guarantee a profit. Economic, political and issuer-specific events will cause the value of securities to rise or fall. Because the value of investment portfolios will fluctuate, there is the risk that you will lose money and your investment may be worth more or less upon liquidation.

**Foreign Securities and Currency Risk** — Investments in international and emerging-market securities include exposure to risks such as currency fluctuations, foreign taxes and regulations, and the potential for illiquid markets and political instability.

**Capitalization Risk** — Small-cap and mid-cap companies may be hindered as a result of limited resources or less diverse products or services, and their stocks have historically been more volatile than the stocks of larger, more established companies.

**Interest Rate Risk** — In a rising rate environment, the value of fixed-income securities generally declines, and the value of equity securities may be adversely affected.

**Credit Risk** — Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a security may be unable to make interest payments and/or repay principal when due. A downgrade to an issuer's credit rating or a perceived change in an issuer's financial strength may affect a security's value and, thus, impact the fund's performance.

**Securities Lending Risk** — Securities lending involves the risk that the fund loses money because the borrower fails to return the securities in a timely manner or at all. The fund could also lose money if the value of the collateral provided for loaned securities, or the value of the investments made with the cash collateral, falls. These events could also trigger adverse tax consequences for the fund.

**Exchange-Traded Funds** — ETFs face market-trading risks, including the potential lack of an active market for shares, losses from trading in the secondary markets and disruption in the creation/redemption process of the ETF. Any of these factors may lead to the fund's shares trading at either a premium or a discount to its "net asset value."

**Performance of Underlying Managers** — We select the mutual funds and ETFs in our portfolios. However, we depend on the manager of such funds to select individual investments in accordance with their stated investment strategy.

**Liquidity Risk** - Liquidity risk exists when particular investments would be difficult to purchase or sell, possibly preventing clients from selling such securities at an advantageous time or price.

**Structured Notes** - Structured products are designed to facilitate highly customized risk-return objectives. While structured products come in many different forms, they typically consist of a debt security that is structured to make interest and principal payments based upon various assets, rates, or formulas. Many structured products include an embedded derivative component. Structured products may be structured in the form of a security, in which case these products may receive benefits provided under federal securities law, or they may be cast as derivatives, in which case they are offered in the over-the-counter market and are subject to no regulation. Investment in structured products includes significant risks, including valuation, liquidity, price, credit, and market risks. One common risk associated with structured products is a relative lack of liquidity due to the highly customized nature of the investment. Moreover, the full extent of returns from the complex performance features is often not realized until maturity. As such, structured products tend to be more of a buy-and-hold investment decision rather than a means of getting in and out of a position with speed and efficiency. Another risk with structured



products is the credit quality of the issuer. Although the cash flows are derived from other sources, the products themselves are legally considered to be the issuing financial institution's liabilities. The vast majority of structured products are from high-investment-grade issuers only. Also, there is a lack of pricing transparency. There is no uniform standard for pricing, making it harder to compare the net-of-pricing attractiveness of alternative structured product offerings than it is, for instance, to compare the net expense ratios of different mutual funds or commissions among broker-dealers.

**Cybersecurity Risk** - In addition to the Material Risks listed above, investing involves various operational and "cybersecurity" risks. These risks include both intentional and unintentional events at our Firm or one of its third-party counterparties or service providers, that may result in a loss or corruption of data, result in the unauthorized release or other misuse of confidential information, and generally compromise our Firm's ability to conduct its business. A cybersecurity breach may also result in a third-party obtaining unauthorized access to our clients' information, including social security numbers, home addresses, account numbers, account balances, and account holdings. Our Firm has established business continuity plans and risk management systems designed to reduce the risks associated with cybersecurity breaches. However, there are inherent limitations in these plans and systems, including that certain risks may not have been identified, in large part because different or unknown threats may emerge in the future. As such, there is no guarantee that such efforts will succeed, especially because our Firm does not directly control the cybersecurity systems of our third-party service providers. There is also a risk that cybersecurity breaches may not be detected.

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#### **ITEM 9 - DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION**

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We do not have any legal, financial or other "disciplinary" item to report.

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#### **ITEM 10 - OTHER FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS**

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##### **Insurance**

Some of our IAR's are also licensed insurance agents and sell various life insurance products, long term care and fixed annuities through the licensed insurance agency. Our IAR's receive compensation (commissions, trails, or other compensation from the respective product sponsors) as a result of effecting insurance transactions for clients. IAR's spend a portion of time in connection with these insurance activities and it represents ongoing revenue for our IAR's. The adviser has an incentive to recommend insurance and this incentive creates a conflict of interest between your interests and our Firm. Clients should note that they have the right to decide whether or not to engage the services of our IAR's. Further, clients should note they have the right to decide whether to act on the recommendations and the right to choose any professional to execute the advice for any insurance products through our IAR or any licensed insurance agent not affiliated with our Firm. We recognize the fiduciary responsibility to place your interests first and have established policies in this regard to avoid any conflicts of interest.

Clients should be aware that the ability to receive additional compensation by our Firm and its management persons or employees creates conflicts of interest that impair the objectivity of the Firm and these individuals when making advisory recommendations. Our Firm endeavors at all times to put the interest of its clients first as part of our fiduciary duty as a registered investment adviser; we take the following steps, among others to address this conflict:

- we disclose to clients the existence of all material conflicts of interest, including the potential for the Firm and our employees to earn compensation from advisory clients in addition to the Firm's advisory fees;
- we disclose to clients that they have the right to decide to purchase recommended investment products from our employees;
- we collect, maintain and document accurate, complete and relevant client background information, including the client's financial goals, objectives, and risk tolerance;
- the Firm conducts regular reviews of each client advisory account to verify that all recommendations made to a client are in the best interest of the client's needs and circumstances;
- we require that our employees seek prior approval of any outside employment activity so that we may ensure that any conflicts of interests in such activities are properly addressed;
- we periodically monitor these outside employment activities to verify that any conflicts of interest continue to be properly addressed by the Firm; and
- we educate our employees regarding the responsibilities of a fiduciary, including the need for having a reasonable and independent basis for the investment advice provided to clients.

Our firm does not have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, a commodity trading adviser, or an associated person of the foregoing entities.

Our firm nor any of its management persons are registered or have an application pending to register as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.

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**ITEM 11 - CODE OF ETHICS PARTICIPATION OR INTEREST IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS  
AND PERSONAL TRADING**

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We have developed and implemented a Code of Ethics that sets forth standards of conduct expected of our advisory personnel to mitigate this conflict of interest. The Code of Ethics addresses, among other things, personal trading, gifts, and the prohibition against the use of inside information.

The Code of Ethics is designed to:

- protect our clients,
- detect and deter misconduct,
- educate personnel regarding the firm's expectations and laws governing their conduct,
- remind personnel that they are in a position of trust and must act with complete propriety at all times,
- protect the reputation of our Firm,
- guard against violation of the securities laws,
- establish procedures for personnel to follow so that we may determine whether their personnel are complying with the firm's ethical principles.

Our Firm and persons associated with us are allowed to invest for their own accounts or to have a financial investment in the same securities or other investments that we recommend or acquire for your account and may engage in transactions that are the same as transactions made in your account. We recognize the fiduciary responsibility to act in your best interest and have established policies to mitigate conflicts of interest.

We have established the following restrictions in order to ensure our firm's fiduciary responsibilities:

- A director, officer or employee of Platte River shall not buy or sell any securities for their personal portfolio(s) where their decision is substantially derived, in whole or in part, by reason of his or her employment unless the information is also available to the investing public on reasonable inquiry. No supervised employee of Platte River shall prefer his or her own interest to that of the advisory client.
- We maintain a list of all securities holdings of anyone associated with this advisory practice with access to advisory recommendations. These holdings are reviewed on a regular basis by an appropriate officer/individual of Platte River.
- We emphasize the unrestricted right of the client to decline to implement any advice rendered, except in situations where we are granted discretionary authority of the client's account.
- We require that all supervised employees must act in accordance with all applicable Federal and State regulations governing registered investment advisory practices.
- Any supervised employee not in observance of the above may be subject to termination.

You may request a complete copy of our Code of Ethics by contacting us at the telephone number on the cover page of this Part 2; Attn: Chief Compliance Officer.

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## ITEM 12 - BROKERAGE PRACTICES

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### **The Custodian and Brokers We Use**

#### **Investment Management Services**

Clients must maintain assets in an account at a “qualified custodian,” generally a broker-dealer or bank. We recommend that our clients use Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Advisor Services (“Schwab”), a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, as the qualified custodian. We are independently owned and operated, and unaffiliated with Schwab. Schwab will hold client assets in a brokerage account, and buy and sell securities when we instruct them to.

While we recommend that clients use Schwab as Custodian, client must decide whether to do so and open accounts with Schwab by entering into account agreements directly with them. The Client opens the accounts with Schwab. The accounts will always be held in the name of the client and never in Platte River’s name.

#### **How We Select Custodians**

We seek to recommend a custodian who will hold client assets and execute transactions on terms that are, overall, most advantageous when compared to other available providers and their services. We consider a wide range of factors, including, among others:

- Combination of transaction execution services and asset custody services (generally without a separate fee for custody)
- Capability to execute, clear, and settle trades (buy and sell securities for client accounts)
- Capability to facilitate transfers and payments to and from accounts (wire transfers, check requests, bill payment, etc.)
- Breadth of available investment products (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds [ETFs], etc.)
- Availability of investment research and tools that assist us in making investment decisions
- Quality of services
- Competitiveness of the price of those services (commission rates, other fees, etc.) and willingness to negotiate the prices
- Reputation, financial strength, and stability
- Prior service to Platte River and our other clients

- Availability of other products and services that benefit us, as discussed below (see Products and Services Available to Us from Schwab)

### **Client Brokerage and Custody Costs**

For our clients' accounts that Schwab maintains, Schwab generally does not charge separately for custody services. However, Schwab receives compensation by charging ticket charges or other fees on trades that it executes or that settle into clients' Schwab accounts. We have determined that having Schwab execute most trades is consistent with our duty to seek "best execution" of client trades. Best execution means the most favorable terms for a transaction based on all relevant factors, including those listed above (see How We Select Custodians).

### **Products and Services Available to Us from Schwab**

Schwab provides Platte River and our clients with access to its institutional brokerage, trading, custody, reporting, and related services, many of which are not typically available to Schwab retail customers. Schwab also makes available various support services. Some of those services help us manage or administer our clients' accounts; others help us manage and grow our business. Schwab's support services generally are available on an unsolicited basis (we do not have to request them) and at no charge to us. These are considered economic benefits because there is an incentive to do business with Schwab. This creates a conflict of interest. We recognize the fiduciary responsibility to always act in best interest of our clients and have established policies in this regard to mitigate any conflicts of interest.

Following is a more detailed description of Schwab's support services:

### **Services That Benefit Our Clients**

Schwab's institutional brokerage services include access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of client assets. The investment products available through Schwab include some to which we might not otherwise have access or that would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment by our clients. Schwab's services described in this paragraph generally benefit our clients and their accounts.

### **Services That May Not Directly Benefit Our Clients**

Schwab also makes available to us other products and services that benefit us but may not directly benefit our clients or their accounts. These products and services assist us in managing and administering our clients' accounts. They include investment research, both Schwab's own and that of third parties. We may use this research to service all or a substantial number of our clients' accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab. In addition to investment research, Schwab also makes available software and other technology that:

- Provide access to client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements)
- Facilitate trade execution and allocate aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts
- Provide pricing and other market data
- Facilitate payment of our fees from our clients' accounts
- Assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting

### **Services That Generally Benefit Only Us**

Schwab also offers other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise.

These services include:

- Educational conferences and events
- Consulting on technology, compliance, legal, and business needs
- Publications and conferences on practice management and business succession
- Access to employee benefits providers, human capital consultants, and insurance providers

Schwab may provide some of these services itself. In other cases, it will arrange for third-party vendors to provide the services to us. Schwab may also discount or waive its fees for some of these services or pay all or a part of a third party's fees. Schwab may also provide us with other benefits, such as occasional business entertainment of our personnel.

### **Our Interest in Schwab's Services**

The availability of these services from Schwab benefits us because we do not have to produce or purchase them. These services are not contingent upon us committing any specific amount of business to Schwab in trading commissions. We believe that our recommendation of Schwab as custodian is in the best interests of our clients.

Some of the products, services and other benefits provided by Schwab benefit Platte River and may not benefit our client accounts. Our recommendation or requirement that you place assets in Schwab's custody may be based in part on benefits Schwab provides to us, or our agreement to maintain certain Assets Under Management at Schwab, and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and execution services provided by Schwab.

We place trades for our clients' accounts subject to its duty to seek best execution and its other fiduciary duties. Schwab's execution quality may be different than other custodians.

**Fixed Income Trades**

We have full discretion in the selection of brokers or dealers for fixed income trading. We seek to obtain quality execution for security transactions through brokers and dealers who in our opinion are financially responsible. In selecting a broker or dealer, we may take into account relevant factors with respect to liquidity and execution of the order, as well as the amount of the capital commitment by the broker or dealer. Other relevant factors may include, without limitation: (a) the execution capabilities of the brokers and/or dealers, (b) the size of the transaction, (c) the difficulty of execution, (d) the operations facilities of the brokers and/or dealers involved, and (e) the risk in positioning a block of securities.

**Aggregation and Allocation of Transactions**

We may aggregate transactions if we believe that aggregation is consistent with the duty to seek best execution for our clients and is consistent with the disclosures made to clients and terms defined in the client Investment Advisory Agreement. We may make trades in individual accounts (that are not aggregated with others) so that we may address that client's unique circumstances. No advisory client will be favored over any other client, and each account that participates in an aggregated order will participate at the average share price (per custodian) for all transactions in that security on a given business day.

We will aggregate trades for ourselves or our associated persons with your trades, providing that the following conditions are met:

- Our policy for the aggregation of transactions shall be fully disclosed to our existing clients (if any) and the Custodian(s) through which such transactions will be placed;
- We will not aggregate transactions unless we believe that aggregation is consistent with our duty to seek the best execution (which includes the duty to seek best price) for you and is consistent with the terms of our Investment Advisory Agreement with you for which trades are being aggregated.
- No advisory client will be favored over any other client; each client that participates in an aggregated order will participate at the average share price for all our transactions in a given security on a given business day, with transaction costs based on each client's participation in the transaction;
- We will prepare a written statement ("Allocation Statement") specifying the participating client accounts and how to allocate the order among those clients;
- If the aggregated order is filled in its entirety, it will be allocated among clients in accordance with the allocation statement; if the order is partially filled, the accounts that did not receive the previous trade's positions should be "first in line" to receive the next allocation.

- Notwithstanding the foregoing, the order may be allocated on a basis different from that specified in the Allocation Statement if all client accounts receive fair and equitable treatment and the reason for difference of allocation is explained in writing and is reviewed by our compliance officer. Our books and records will separately reflect, for each client account, the orders of which aggregated, the securities held by, and bought for that account.
- We will receive no additional compensation or remuneration of any kind as a result of the proposed aggregation; and
- Individual advice and treatment will be accorded to each advisory client.

### **Trade Errors**

We have implemented procedures designed to prevent trade errors; however, trade errors in client accounts cannot always be avoided. Consistent with our fiduciary duty, it is our policy to correct trade errors in a manner that is in the best interest of the client. In cases where the client causes the trade error, the client will be responsible for any loss resulting from the correction. Depending on the specific circumstances of the trade error, the client may not be able to receive any gains generated as a result of the error correction. In all situations where the client does not cause the trade error, the client will be made whole and we will absorb any loss resulting from the trade error if the error was caused by the firm. If the error is caused by the custodian or our trading platform provider, the custodian or trading platform provider will be responsible for covering all trade error costs. If an investment gain results from the correcting trade, the gain will be donated to charity. We will never benefit or profit from trade errors.

### **Soft Dollars**

Soft dollars are revenue programs offered by Custodians whereby an advisor enters into an agreement to place security trades with the broker in exchange for research and other services. Our Firm does not participate in soft dollar programs sponsored or offered by any Custodian. However, we do receive certain economic benefits from the Custodians as detailed above.

### **Brokerage Referrals**

We do not receive any compensation from any third party in connection with the recommendation for establishing an account.

Our firm will place trades within the established account[s] at the Custodian designated by the Client. Further, all Client accounts are traded within their respective account[s]. We will not engage in any principal transactions (i.e., trade of any security from or to the Advisor's own account) or cross transactions with other Client accounts (i.e., purchase of a security into one Client account from another Client's account[s]). In selecting the Custodian, our Firm will not be obligated to select competitive bids on securities



transactions and does not have an obligation to seek the lowest available transaction costs. These costs are determined by the Custodian.

We do not routinely recommend, request or require that you direct us to execute transaction through a specified broker dealer. We place trades for your account subject to our duty to seek best execution and other fiduciary duties.

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## **ITEM 13 - REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

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### **Account Reviews and Reviewers – Investment Supervisory Services**

Our Investment Adviser Representatives will monitor client accounts on at least a quarterly basis and perform reviews with each client annually or as often as is agreed upon by the client and our firm. All accounts are reviewed for consistency with client investment strategy, asset allocation, risk tolerance and performance relative to the appropriate benchmark. More frequent reviews may be triggered by changes in an account holder's personal, tax or financial status. Geopolitical and macroeconomic specific events may also trigger reviews. Clients may request a review at any time.

### **Statements and Reports**

The custodian for the individual client's account will provide clients with an account statement at least monthly. Upon request, clients can receive a Platte River-prepared written report detailing their current positions, asset allocation, and year-to-date performance. You are urged to compare the reports and invoices provided by our firm against the account statements you receive directly from your account custodian.

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## **ITEM 14 - CLIENT REFERRALS AND OTHER COMPENSATION**

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Our Firm and its related entities do not directly or indirectly compensate any person who is not an IAR of our firm nor receive any compensation for any client referrals.

### **Insurance**

As disclosed in Item 10 of this Brochure, some of our IAR's are also licensed insurance agents and sell various life insurance products, long term care and fixed annuities. There is a conflict of interest to clients because our IAR's receive compensation (commissions, trails, or other compensation from the sale of the respective insurance products) as a result of effecting insurance transactions for clients. The firm and the IAR have an incentive to recommend insurance products and this incentive creates a conflict of interest between your interests and our Firm. We mitigate this conflict by disclosing to clients they have the right to decide whether or not to engage the services of our IAR's or our affiliated Insurance agency. Further, clients should note they have the right to decide whether to act on the recommendations and the right to choose any professional to execute the advice for any insurance products through our IAR or any licensed insurance agent not affiliated with our Firm. We recognize the fiduciary responsibility to place the

client's interests first and have established policies in this regard to avoid any conflicts of interest.

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#### ITEM 15 - CUSTODY

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Custody has been defined by regulators as having access or control over client funds and/or securities. Our firm does not have physical custody of funds or securities, as it applies to investment advisors.

Per SEC regulations, we are deemed to have custody because, for certain clients, we or an affiliate:

- Have entered into an arrangement with the client, per the client's request, in which we are able to withdraw funds from the client's account (including bill-pay services or other withdrawals made pursuant to standing letters of client authorization); and/or
- Have client-authorized access to an account, with the ability to withdraw or transfer funds from the account.

The SEC requires that firms who have custody for the reasons listed above are subject to an annual surprise audit to be conducted by an independent CPA firm which is registered with and subject to regular inspection by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB). We have complied with the requirements concerning such surprise audits and will continue to do so in the future.

We are also deemed to have constructive custody over those client accounts where we are able to deduct our fees directly from the account. As long as we comply with certain regulatory requirements, this constructive custody does not mandate that we undergo a surprise audit for those accounts. Our clients receive account statements directly from the qualified custodian at least quarterly. We also send clients quarterly reports that we produce using our portfolio accounting system. We strongly urge our clients to compare such reports with the statements received from the qualified custodian. Furthermore, when we calculate our investment management fees and instruct the custodian to remit these fees to us directly from clients' accounts, the custodian does not verify our calculation of fees. We perform quarterly testing to ensure that our fees are charged in accordance with the client's Agreement.

Our firm is also deemed to have custody of clients' funds or securities when clients have standing authorizations with their custodian to move money from a client's account to a third-party ("SLOA") and, under that SLOA, it authorizes us to designate the amount or timing of transfers with the custodian. The SEC has set forth a set of standards intended to protect client assets in such situations, which we follow. We do not have a beneficial interest on any of the accounts we are deemed to have Custody where SLOAs are on file. In addition, account statements reflecting all activity on the account(s), are delivered directly from the qualified custodian to each client or the client's independent representative, at least quarterly. You should carefully review those statements and are

urged to compare the statements against reports received from us. When you have questions about your account statements, you should contact us, your Advisor or the qualified custodian preparing the statement.

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#### **ITEM 16 - INVESTMENT DISCRETION**

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For discretionary accounts, prior to engaging our Firm to provide investment advisory services, you will enter a written Agreement with us granting the firm the authority to supervise and direct, on an on-going basis, investments in accordance with the client's investment objective and guidelines. In addition, you will need to execute additional documents required by the Custodian to authorize and enable Platte River, in its sole discretion, without prior consultation with or ratification by you, to purchase, sell or exchange securities in and for your accounts. We are authorized, in our discretion and without prior consultation with you to: (1) buy, sell, exchange and trade any stocks, bonds or other securities or assets and (2) determine the amount of securities to be bought or sold and (3) place orders with the custodian. Any limitations to such discretionary authority will be communicated to our Firm in writing by you, the client.

The limitations on investment discretion held by Platte River for you are:

- For discretionary accounts, we require that we be provided with authority to determine which securities and the amounts of securities to be bought or sold.
- Any limitations on this discretionary authority shall be in writing. You may change/amend these limitations as required.

In some instances, we may not have discretion. We will discuss all transactions with you prior to execution or you will be required to make the trades if in an employer sponsored account.

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#### **ITEM 17 - VOTING YOUR SECURITIES**

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Our firm does 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, our firm will forward them to the appropriate client and ask the party who sent them to mail them directly to the client in the future. Clients may call us at 720-738-9010 or email us to discuss questions they may have about particular proxy votes or other solicitation.

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#### **ITEM 18 - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

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We do not require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance. Therefore, we are not required to include a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year. We are not subject to a financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to clients. Finally, we have not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time.