

# **Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC**

**6170 Research Road, Suite 216  
Frisco, TX 75033**

**Telephone: 888-304-6942  
Facsimile: 214-296-9353**

**[www.fulcrumeq.com](http://www.fulcrumeq.com)**

**March 6, 2020**

## **PART 2A - APPENDIX 1 WRAP FEE PROGRAM BROCHURE**

This Wrap Fee Program Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure, please contact us at 888-304-6942. The information in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC is a registered investment adviser. Registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

## Item 2 Summary of Material Changes

Form ADV Part 2 requires registered investment advisers to amend their disclosure brochure when information becomes materially inaccurate. If there are any material changes to an adviser's disclosure brochure, the adviser is required to notify you and provide you with a description of the material changes.

We have not made any material changes to this Wrap Fee Program Brochure since our last annual updating amendment dated March 28, 2019.

Any material conflicts of interest between you and our firm, or our employees are disclosed in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. If at any time additional material conflicts of interest develop, we will provide you with written notification of the material conflicts of interest or an updated Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

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## Item 4 Services, Fees, and Compensation

### Description of Firm

Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC ("FulcrumEQ") was founded in 2011 and is a Registered Investment Adviser based in Frisco, Texas. Our firm is organized as a limited liability company under the laws of the State of Texas. Craig Allen Love is our principal owner.

As used in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure, the words "we", "our" and "us" refer to Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC and the words "you", "your" and "client" refer to you as a client or prospective client of our firm. Also, you may see the term Associated Person in throughout this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. Our Associated Persons are our firm's officers, employees, and all individuals providing investment advice on behalf of our firm. Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC offers investment advice with the assistance of its Investment Adviser Representatives.

### Wrap Fee Program - Investment Management Services

We offer investment management services primarily through a wrap-fee program ("Program") as described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. We are the sponsor, portfolio manager, and investment adviser for the Program. A wrap-fee program is a type of investment program that provides clients with investment management services for one fee that covers the investment management services and related transaction costs. Prior to becoming a client under the Program, you will be required to enter into a written agreement with us that sets forth the terms and conditions of the engagement and describes the scope of the services to be provided, and the fees to be paid.

### Client Investment Process

Under the Program we provide discretionary investment management services in accordance with your individual investment objectives. If you participate in the Program, we require you to grant our firm discretionary authority to manage your account. Subject to a grant of discretionary authorization, we have the authority and responsibility to formulate investment strategies on your behalf. This authorization includes deciding which securities to buy and sell, when to buy and sell, and in what amounts, in accordance with your investment program, without obtaining your prior consent or approval for each transaction. Discretionary authority is typically granted by the investment advisory agreement you sign with our firm and/or through trading authorization forms. In limited circumstances, *and only in our sole discretion*, we may accept certain instructions from you that limit our discretionary authority (for example, limiting the types of securities that can be purchased for your account) by providing our firm with your restrictions and guidelines in writing.

Assets for program accounts are typically held at TD Ameritrade Institutional, a division of TD Ameritrade, Inc. ("TD Ameritrade") or Fidelity Brokerage Services, LLC ("Fidelity"). TD Ameritrade and/or Fidelity act as executing broker/dealer for transactions placed in Program accounts, and they provide other administrative services as described throughout this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. To compare the cost of the wrap fee program with non-wrap fee management services, you should consider the frequency of trading activity associated with our investment strategies and the brokerage commissions charged by TD Ameritrade and/or Fidelity, among others, and the advisory fees charged by our firm and other investment advisers.

In providing the contracted services, we are not required to verify any information we receive from you or from your other professionals (e.g. attorney, accountant, etc.) and we are expressly authorized to rely on the information you provide. Furthermore, unless you indicate to the contrary, we shall assume that there are no restrictions on our services, other than to manage your account in accordance with your designated investment objectives. It is your responsibility to promptly notify us if there are ever any changes in your financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing / evaluating / revising our previous recommendations and/or services.

### **Wrap Fee Program - Fees and Compensation**

Our firm charges an annual fee ranging up to 2.00% of assets under management depending on the investment strategies used in your portfolio. This fee is billed and payable monthly in advance based on the value of the assets on the last business day of the preceding calendar month. If the agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar month, our fees will apply on a pro rata basis, which means that the advisory fee is payable in proportion to the number of days in the month for which we provide investment management services. Our advisory fee is negotiable depending on individual client circumstances.

We will deduct our fee directly from your account through the qualified custodian holding your funds and securities. We will deduct our advisory fee only when you have given our firm written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from your account. Further, the qualified custodian will deliver an account statement to you at least quarterly. These account statements will show all disbursements from your account, and you should review all statements for accuracy. If you have any questions about the statement(s) you receive from the qualified custodian, please call our main office number located on the cover page of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

Either party may terminate the engagement upon 30 days written notice. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to termination, which means you will incur advisory fees only in proportion to the number of days in the month for which you are a client. If you have pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees.

### **Additional Fees And Expenses**

The Program Fee includes the costs of brokerage commissions for transactions executed through the Qualified Custodian (or a broker-dealer designated by the Qualified Custodian), and charges relating to the settlement, clearance, or custody of securities in the account.

The wrap program fees that you pay to our firm are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange traded funds (described in each fund's prospectus) to their shareholders. These fees will generally include a management fee and other fund expenses. To fully understand the total cost you will incur, you should review all the fees charged by mutual funds, exchange traded funds, our firm, and others.

The Program Fee does not include mark-ups and mark-downs, dealer spreads, or charges for transactions not executed through the Qualified Custodian. Your account will be responsible for these additional fees and expenses.

Additionally, Clients may be subject to additional fees charged by the client's acting custodian and/or regulatory authorities. We do not receive, directly or indirectly, any of the following fees that may be charged to you. While the following items and their associated fees may not be applicable to your individual circumstances, the following list includes fees that are separate and apart from the Program fee we charge for the wrap program:

- Accounts holding Alternative Investments may be charged an annual custodial fee per position per account per year;
- Advisory fees and administrative fees charged by Mutual Funds/Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs);
- Custodial Fees;
- Deferred sales charges (on Mutual funds or annuities);
- Foreign Exchange transactions;
- Check reorders and overnight check requests;

- Account closeout fees; and/or,
- Wire transfer and electronic fund processing fees.

### **Wrap Fee Program Disclosures**

- The benefits under a wrap fee program depend, in part, upon the size of the Account, the management fee charged, and the number of transactions likely to be generated in the Account. For example, a wrap fee program may not be suitable for Accounts with little trading activity. In order to evaluate whether a wrap fee program is suitable for you, you should compare the Program Fee and any other costs of the Program with the amounts that would be charged by other advisers, broker-dealers, and custodians, for advisory fees, brokerage and other execution costs, and custodial services comparable to those provided under the Program.
- Our firm and Associated Persons receive compensation as a result of your participation in the Program. This compensation may be more than the amount our firm or the Associated Persons would receive if you paid separately for investment advice, brokerage, and other services. Accordingly, a conflict of interest exists because our firm and our Associated Persons have a financial incentive to recommend the Program.
- Similar advisory services may be available from other registered investment advisers for lower fees.

As a client, you should be aware that the wrap fee charged by our firm may be higher (or lower) than those charged by others in the industry, and that it may be possible to obtain the same or similar services from other firms at lower (or higher) rates. A client may be able to obtain some or all of the types of services available through our firm's wrap fee program on an individual basis through other firms and, depending on the circumstances, the aggregate of any separately paid fees may be lower or higher than the annual fees shown above.

### **Brokerage Practices**

If you participate in the Program, you will be required to establish an account with a Qualified Custodian (for instance, TD Ameritrade and/or Fidelity) approved by our firm. If you do not direct our firm to execute transactions through one of our approved Qualified Custodians, we reserve the right to not accept your account. Not all advisers require their clients to direct brokerage. We believe that all of our approved Qualified Custodians provide quality execution services based on several factors, including, but not limited to, the ability to provide professional services, reputation, experience and financial stability.

We may combine multiple orders for shares of the same securities purchased for advisory accounts we manage (this practice is commonly referred to as "block trading"). We will then distribute a portion of the shares to participating accounts in a fair and equitable manner. The distribution of the shares purchased is typically proportionate to the size of the account, but it is not based on account performance or the amount or structure of management fees.

In the event a trading error occurs in your account, and we are responsible for that error, our policy is to restore your account to the position it should have been in had the trading error not occurred. Depending on the circumstances, corrective actions may include canceling the trade, adjusting an allocation, and/or reimbursing the account.

As a registered investment adviser, we may have access to research products and services from your account custodian and/or other brokerage firm. These products may include financial publications, information about particular companies and industries, research software, and other products or services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities. Such research products and services are provided to all investment advisers that utilize the service platforms of these firms and considered a benefit to our

firm, but are *not* considered to have been paid with soft dollars. To the extent our firm receives any research products and/or services from your acting custodian/broker-dealer, a conflict of interest arises in that such research and/or services might not directly benefit client accounts. In effort to mitigate this conflict of interest it is our firm's policy to use such research or services to assist in making investment decisions on behalf of client accounts or to assist with our overall responsibility for servicing client accounts, respectively. Clients should also be aware that the commissions charged by a particular broker-dealer for a particular transaction or set of transactions may be greater than the amounts another broker who did not provide research services or products might charge. As a registered investment adviser our firm and representatives of our firm have a fiduciary duty to act in our client's best interest.

We do not receive client referrals from broker-dealers in exchange for cash or other compensation, such as brokerage services or research.

#### TD Ameritrade Disclosures

FulcrumEQ (Advisor) participates in the institutional advisor program (the "Program") offered by TD Ameritrade Institutional. TD Ameritrade Institutional is a division of TD Ameritrade Inc., member FINRA/SIPC/NFA ("TD Ameritrade"), an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealer and FINRA member. TD Ameritrade offers to independent investment advisors services which include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. Advisor receives some benefits from TD Ameritrade through its participation in the Program.

As disclosed above, Advisor participates in TD Ameritrade's institutional customer program and Advisor may recommend TD Ameritrade to Clients for custody and brokerage services. There is no direct link between Advisor's participation in the program and the investment advice it gives to its Clients, although Advisor receives economic benefits through its participation in the program that are typically not available to TD Ameritrade retail investors. These benefits include the following products and services (provided without cost or at a discount): receipt of duplicate Client statements and confirmations; research related products and tools; consulting services; access to a trading desk serving Advisor participants; access to block trading (which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions for execution and then allocate the appropriate shares to Client accounts); the ability to have advisory fees deducted directly from Client accounts; access to an electronic communications network for Client order entry and account information; access to mutual funds with no transaction fees and to certain institutional money managers; and discounts on compliance, marketing, research, technology, and practice management products or services provided to Advisor by third party vendors. TD Ameritrade may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by Advisor's related persons. Some of the products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the program may benefit Advisor but may not benefit its Client accounts. These products or services may assist Advisor in managing and administering Client accounts, including accounts not maintained at TD Ameritrade. Other services made available by TD Ameritrade are intended to help Advisor manage and further develop its business enterprise. The benefits received by Advisor or its personnel through participation in the program do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to TD Ameritrade. As part of its fiduciary duties to clients, Advisor endeavors at all times to put the interests of its clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by Advisor or its related persons in and of itself creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence the Advisor's choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services.

#### **Assets Under Management**

As of December 31, 2019, we manage approximately \$243,589,380 in client assets on a discretionary basis.



## Item 5 Account Requirements and Types of Clients

We offer investment advisory services to other registered investment advisors, registered investment advisory firms and individuals (including high net worth individuals).

Generally, we impose the following account minimum requirements:

- Minimum account size for Equity strategies: \$100,000
- Minimum account size for ETF strategies: \$50,000
- Minimum account size for Mutual Fund and Advisor Directed strategies: \$25,000

We may waive or lower these minimum requirements in our sole discretion.

While the firm endeavors at all times to offer clients its specialized services at reasonable costs, the fees charged by other advisers for comparable services may be lower than the fees charged by Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC.

## Item 6 Portfolio Manager Selection and Evaluation

Fulcrum Equity Management, LLC is the sponsor and portfolio manager for the wrap fee program.

Please refer to Item 4 (above) of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure for information on our fees, and additional fees that you might pay outside of our wrap fee program.

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

We do not accept performance-based fees or participate in side-by-side management. Our fees are calculated as described in Item 4 (*Services, Fees, and Compensation* section), and are not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon, or capital appreciation of, the funds in your advisory account.

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

We may use one or more of the following methods of analysis or investment strategies when providing investment advice to you:

Fundamental Analysis - involves analyzing individual companies and their industry groups, such as a company's financial statements, details regarding the company's product line, the experience and expertise of the company's management, and the outlook for the company and its industry. The resulting data is used to measure the true value of the company's stock compared to the current market value.

*Risk:* The risk of fundamental analysis is that information obtained may be incorrect and the analysis may not provide an accurate estimate of earnings, which may be the basis for a stock's value. If securities prices adjust rapidly to new information, utilizing fundamental analysis may not result in favorable performance.

Technical Analysis - involves studying past price patterns, trends, and interrelationships in the financial markets to assess risk-adjusted performance and predict the direction of both the overall market and specific securities.

*Risk:* The risk of market timing based on technical analysis is that our analysis may not accurately detect anomalies or predict future price movements. Current prices of securities may reflect all information known about the security and day-to-day changes in market prices of securities may follow random patterns and may not be predictable with any reliable degree of accuracy.



Long-Term Purchases - securities purchased with the expectation that the value of those securities will grow over a relatively long period of time, generally greater than one year.

*Risk:* Using a long-term purchase strategy generally assumes the financial markets will go up in the long-term which may not be the case. There is also the risk that the segment of the market that you are invested in or perhaps just your particular investment will go down over time even if the overall financial markets advance. Purchasing investments long-term may create an opportunity cost - "locking-up" assets that may be better utilized in the short-term in other investments.

Short-Term Purchases - securities purchased with the expectation that they will be sold within a relatively short period of time, generally less than one year, to take advantage of the securities' short-term price fluctuations.

*Risk:* Using a short-term purchase strategy generally assumes that we can predict how financial markets will perform in the short-term which may be very difficult and will incur a disproportionately higher amount of transaction costs compared to long-term trading. There are many factors that can affect financial market performance in the short-term (such as short-term interest rate changes, cyclical earnings announcements, etc.) but may have a smaller impact over longer periods of times.

Our investment strategies and advice may vary depending upon each client's specific financial situation. As such, we determine investments and allocations based upon your predefined objectives, risk tolerance, time horizon, financial horizon, financial information, liquidity needs, and other various suitability factors. Your restrictions and guidelines may affect the composition of your portfolio.

### **Risk of Loss**

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that you should be prepared to bear. We do not represent or guarantee that our services or methods of analysis can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate clients from losses due to market corrections or declines. We cannot offer any guarantees or promises that your financial goals and objectives will be met. Past performance is in no way an indication of future performance.

### **Other Risk Considerations**

When evaluating risk, financial loss may be viewed differently by each client and may depend on many different risks, each of which may affect the probability and magnitude of any potential losses. The following risks may not be all-inclusive, but should be considered carefully by a prospective client before retaining our services.

Liquidity Risk: The risk of being unable to sell your investment at a fair price at a given time due to high volatility or lack of active liquid markets. You may receive a lower price or it may not be possible to sell the investment at all.

Credit Risk: Credit risk typically applies to debt investments such as corporate, municipal, and sovereign fixed income or bonds. A bond issuing entity can experience a credit event that could impair or erase the value of an issuer's securities held by a client.

Inflation and Interest Rate Risk: Security prices and portfolio returns will likely vary in response to changes in inflation and interest rates. Inflation causes the value of future dollars to be worth less and may reduce the purchasing power of a client's future interest payments and principal. Inflation also generally leads to higher interest rates which may cause the value of many types of fixed income investments to decline.

Horizon and Longevity Risk: The risk that your investment horizon is shortened because of an

unforeseen event, for example, the loss of your job. This may force you to sell investments that you were expecting to hold for the long term. If you must sell at a time that the markets are down, you may lose money. Longevity Risk is the risk of outliving your savings. This risk is particularly relevant for people who are retired, or are nearing retirement.

### **Recommendation of Particular Types of Securities / Investment Strategies**

In regards to our Investment Strategies, we primarily recommend equity securities, mutual fund shares (open-end and closed-end), bonds, and exchange-traded funds. We may also recommend other types of securities since each client may have different needs and/or risk tolerances. Each type of security has its own unique set of risks associated with it and it would not be possible to list here all of the specific risks of every type of investment. Even within the same type of investment, risks can vary widely. However, in very general terms, the higher the anticipated return of an investment, the higher the risk of loss associated with it.

Equity Securities (Stocks): There are numerous ways of measuring the risk of equity securities (also known simply as "equities" or "stock"). In very broad terms, the value of a stock depends on the financial health of the company issuing it. However, stock prices can be affected by many other factors including, but not limited to the class of stock (for example, preferred or common); the health of the market sector of the issuing company; and, the overall health of the economy. In general, larger, better established companies ("large cap") tend to be safer than smaller start-up companies ("small cap") are but the mere size of an issuer is not, by itself, an indicator of the safety of the investment.

Mutual Funds and ETFs: Mutual funds and exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") are professionally managed collective investment systems that pool money from many investors and invest in stocks, bonds, short-term money market instruments, other mutual funds, other securities, or any combination thereof. The fund will have a manager that trades the fund's investments in accordance with the fund's investment objective. While mutual funds and ETFs generally provide diversification, risks can be significantly increased if the fund is concentrated in a particular sector of the market, primarily invests in small cap or speculative companies, uses leverage (i.e., borrows money) to a significant degree, or concentrates in a particular type of security (i.e., equities) rather than balancing the fund with different types of securities. Exchange-traded funds differ from mutual funds since they can be bought and sold throughout the day like stock and their price can fluctuate throughout the day. The returns on mutual funds and ETFs can be reduced by the costs to manage the funds. Also, while some mutual funds are "no load" and charge no fee to buy into, or sell out of, the fund, other types of mutual funds do charge such fees which can also reduce returns. Mutual funds can also be "closed end" or "open end". So-called "open end" mutual funds continue to allow in new investors indefinitely whereas "closed end" funds have a fixed number of shares to sell which can limit their availability to new investors.

Bonds: Corporate debt securities (or "bonds") are typically safer investments than equity securities, but their risk can also vary widely based on: the financial health of the issuer; the risk that the issuer might default; when the bond is set to mature; and, whether or not the bond can be "called" prior to maturity. When a bond is called, it may not be possible to replace it with a bond of equal character paying the same rate of return.

While our managed portfolios typically consist of equity securities, mutual funds, and ETFs, we may also recommend alternative investments, such as private placements, limited partnerships, limited liability companies, or private funds, to certain "qualified" clients. Alternative investments should be considered to contain an above average amount of risk and the loss of principal is high. These types of investments are generally recommended only as long-term investments as they may be considered illiquid in nature, and clients should be prepared for any investment in these funds to be inaccessible

for a prolonged period. To the extent applicable, clients will be provided the required legal investment documentation and must sign documents outside the scope of our firm's investment advisory agreement. These documents may include, but are not limited to: Private Placement Memorandum; Subscription Agreement; Operating Agreement; and/or, Limited Partnership Agreement.

### **Proxy Voting**

We will not vote proxies on behalf of your advisory accounts. At your request, we may offer you advice regarding corporate actions and the exercise of your proxy voting rights. If you own shares of applicable securities, you are responsible for exercising your right to vote as a shareholder.

In most cases, you will receive proxy materials directly from the account custodian. However, in the event we were to receive any written or electronic proxy materials, we would forward them directly to you by mail, unless you have authorized our firm to contact you by electronic mail, in which case, we would forward any electronic solicitations to vote proxies.

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

As required, in order to provide the Program services, we will provide your private information to your account custodian. We may also provide your private information to mutual fund companies and/or private managers. We will only share the information necessary in order to carry out our obligations to you in servicing your account. We share your personal account data in accordance with our privacy policy as described below.

### **Privacy Policy**

We view protecting your private information as a top priority. Pursuant to applicable privacy requirements, we have instituted policies and procedures to ensure that we keep your personal information private and secure.

We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about you to any non-affiliated third parties, except as permitted by law. In the course of servicing your account, we may share some information with our service providers, such as transfer agents, custodians, broker-dealers, insurance agencies and insurance companies, accountants, consultants, and attorneys.

We restrict internal access to non-public personal information about you to employees, who need that information in order to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical and procedural safeguards that comply with regulatory standards to guard your non-public personal information and to ensure our integrity and confidentiality. We will not sell information about you or your accounts to anyone. We do not share your information unless it is required to process a transaction, at your request, or required by law.

You will receive a copy of our privacy notice prior to or at the time you sign an advisory agreement with our firm. Thereafter, we will deliver a copy of the current privacy policy notice to you on an annual basis. Please contact our main office at the telephone number on the cover page of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure if you have any questions regarding this policy.

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

Without restriction, you should contact our firm or your advisory representative directly with any questions regarding your Program account.

## Item 9 Additional Information

### Disciplinary Information

We are required to disclose the facts of any legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management. We do not have any required disclosures under this item.

### Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

Investment Adviser Representatives ("IARs") of our firm may be licensed as insurance agents and may sell insurance products through unaffiliated insurance agencies. These persons will earn commission-based compensation for selling insurance products, which is separate and in addition to our advisory fees. This practice presents a conflict of interest because insurance agents have a financial incentive to recommend insurance products. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to purchase insurance products through any person affiliated with our firm.

### Description of Our Code of Ethics

We strive to comply with applicable laws and regulations governing our practices. Therefore, our Code of Ethics includes guidelines for professional standards of conduct for persons associated with our firm. Our goal is to protect your interests at all times and to demonstrate our commitment to our fiduciary duties of honesty, good faith, and fair dealing with you. All persons associated with our firm are expected to adhere strictly to these guidelines. Persons associated with our firm are also required to report any violations of our Code of Ethics. Additionally, we maintain and enforce written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse or dissemination of material, non-public information about you or your account holdings by persons associated with our firm.

Clients or prospective clients may obtain a copy of our Code of Ethics by contacting us at the telephone number on the cover page of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

### Participation or Interest in Client Transactions

Neither our firm nor any persons associated with our firm has any material financial interest in client transactions beyond the provision of investment advisory services as disclosed in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

### Personal Trading Practices

Our firm or persons associated with our firm may buy or sell the same securities that we recommend to you or securities in which you are already invested. A conflict of interest exists in such cases because we may have the ability to trade ahead of you and potentially receive more favorable prices than you will receive. In efforts to mitigate this conflict of interest, it is our policy that neither our firm nor persons associated with our firm shall have priority over your account in the purchase or sale of securities. As a fiduciary, it is our firm's obligation to act in our client's best interest.

### Review of Accounts

Craig Allen Love, owner of our firm, and/or the Investment Adviser Representative of our firm that is assigned to your account will be responsible for monitoring your managed accounts on an ongoing basis and conducting account reviews (at least annually and/or upon your request) in efforts to ensure that the advisory services provided to you are consistent with your stated investment needs and objectives. Additional reviews may be conducted based on various circumstances, including, but not limited to: contributions and withdrawals; year-end tax planning; market moving events; security specific events; and/or, changes in your risk/return objectives.

You will receive trade confirmations and monthly or quarterly statements from your account custodian(s).

## **Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

We do not receive any compensation from any third party in connection with providing investment advice to you nor do we compensate any individual or firm for client referrals.

## **Custody - Fee Deduction**

As paying agent for our firm, your independent custodian will directly debit your account(s) for the payment of our advisory fees. This ability to deduct our advisory fees from your accounts causes our firm to exercise *limited* custody over your funds or securities. We do not have physical custody of any of your funds and/or securities as your funds and securities will be held with a bank, broker-dealer, or other qualified custodian (for instance, TD Ameritrade / Fidelity). You will receive account statements from the qualified custodian(s) holding your funds and securities at least quarterly. The account statements from your custodian(s) will indicate the amount of our advisory fees deducted from your account(s) each billing period. You should carefully review account statements for accuracy, and contact us immediately if you have any questions.

## **Financial Information**

The following are disclosures required by the Form ADV Instructions:

Our firm does not have any financial condition or impairment that would prevent us from meeting our contractual commitments to you. We do not serve as trustee or signatory for client accounts. In addition, we do not require the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees six or more months in advance nor have we filed a bankruptcy petition at any time in the past ten years. Therefore, we are not required to include a financial statement with this Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

## **Class Action Lawsuits**

We do not determine if securities held by you are the subject of a class action lawsuit or whether you are eligible to participate in class action settlements or litigation nor do we initiate or participate in litigation to recover damages on your behalf for injuries as a result of actions, misconduct, or negligence by issuers of securities held by you.

## **IRA Rollover Considerations**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may recommend that you withdraw the assets from your employer's retirement plan and roll the assets over to an individual retirement account ("IRA") that we will manage on your behalf. If you elect to roll the assets to an IRA that is subject to our management, we will charge you an asset based fee as set forth in the agreement you executed with our firm. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice on our behalf have an incentive to recommend a rollover to you for the purpose of generating fee based compensation rather than solely based on your needs. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to complete the rollover. Moreover, if you do complete the rollover, you are under no obligation to have the assets in an IRA managed by our firm.

Many employers permit former employees to keep their retirement assets in their company plan. Also, current employees can sometimes move assets out of their company plan before they retire or change jobs. In determining whether to complete the rollover to an IRA, and to the extent the following options are available, you should consider the costs and benefits of:

1. Leaving the funds in your employer's (former employer's) plan.
2. Moving the funds to a new employer's retirement plan.
3. Cashing out and taking a taxable distribution from the plan.
4. Rolling the funds into an IRA rollover account.

Each of these options has advantages and disadvantages and before making a change we encourage you to speak with your CPA and/or tax attorney.

If you are considering rolling over your retirement funds to an IRA for us to manage here are a few points to consider before you do so:

1. Determine whether the investment options in your employer's retirement plan address your needs or whether you might want to consider other types of investments.
  1. Employer retirement plans generally have a more limited investment menu than IRAs.
  2. Employer retirement plans may have unique investment options not available to the public such as employer securities, or previously closed funds.
2. Your current plan may have lower fees than our fees.
  1. If you are interested in investing only in mutual funds, you should understand the cost structure of the share classes available in your employer's retirement plan and how the costs of those share classes compare with those available in an IRA.
  2. You should understand the various products and services you might take advantage of at an IRA provider and the potential costs of those products and services.
3. Our strategy may have higher risk than the option(s) provided to you in your plan.
4. Your current plan may also offer financial advice.
5. If you keep your assets titled in a 401k or retirement account, you could potentially delay your required minimum distribution beyond age 70.5.
6. Your 401k may offer more liability protection than a rollover IRA; each state may vary.
  1. Generally, federal law protects assets in qualified plans from creditors. Since 2005, IRA assets have been generally protected from creditors in bankruptcies. However, there can be some exceptions to the general rules so you should consult with an attorney if you are concerned about protecting your retirement plan assets from creditors.
7. You may be able to take out a loan on your 401k, but not from an IRA.
8. IRA assets can be accessed any time; however, distributions are subject to ordinary income tax and may also be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty unless they qualify for an exception such as disability, higher education expenses or the purchase of a home.
9. If you own company stock in your plan, you may be able to liquidate those shares at a lower capital gains tax rate.
10. Your plan may allow you to hire us as the manager and keep the assets titled in the plan name.

It is important that you understand the differences between these types of accounts and to decide whether a rollover is best for you. Prior to proceeding, if you have questions contact your investment adviser representative, or call our main number as listed on the cover page of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

## **Item 10 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers**

FulcrumEQ is registered with the SEC; therefore, no response is required for this item.