

**Item 1: Cover Page  
Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure  
March 2020**



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Chief Compliance Officer**

**This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Beta Wealth Group, Inc. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us by telephone at 858-207-3377 or email [romy@betawealthgroup.com](mailto:romy@betawealthgroup.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any State Securities Authority. Additional information about Beta Wealth Group, Inc. also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov) by searching CRD # 165224.**

**Please note that the use of the term "registered investment adviser" and description of Beta Wealth Group, Inc. and/or our associates as "registered" does not imply a certain level of skill or training. You are encouraged to review this Brochure and Brochure Supplements for our firm's associates who advise you for more information on the qualifications of our firm and our employees.**

## Item 2: Material Changes

Beta Wealth Group, Inc is required to notify clients of any information that has changed since the last annual update of the Firm Brochure ("Brochure") that may be important to them. Clients can request a full copy of our Brochure or contact us with any questions that they may have about the changes.

Since the last annual amendment filed on 03/22/2019, the following changes have been made:

- We now offer Institutional Advisory Services. Please see Items 4 & 5 for further information.
- Item 5 has been updated to reflect Schwab, Fidelity and TD Ameritrade elimination of commissions for online trades of U.S. equities, ETFs and options (subject to \$0.65 per contract fee).

### Item 3: Table of Contents

Item 1: Cover Page .....	1
Item 2: Material Changes to Our Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure .....	2
Item 3: Table of Contents .....	3
Item 4: Advisory Business.....	4
Item 5: Fees & Compensation.....	7
Item 6: Performance-Based Fees & Side-By-Side Management.....	9
Item 7: Types of Clients & Account Requirements .....	9
Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies & Risk of Loss .....	9
Item 9: Disciplinary Information.....	12
Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities & Affiliations.....	12
Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions & Personal Trading.....	12
Item 12: Brokerage Practices .....	13
Item 13: Review of Accounts or Financial Plans.....	15
Item 14: Client Referrals & Other Compensation.....	16
Item 15: Custody .....	18
Item 16: Investment Discretion.....	19
Item 17: Voting Client Securities.....	19
Item 18: Financial Information.....	19

## Item 4: Advisory Business

We are dedicated to providing individuals and other types of clients with a wide array of investment advisory services. Our firm is a corporation formed in the State of California. Our firm has been in business since 2009 and an investment adviser since 2012. Our firm is owned by Jodi Vleck and Michael Vleck.

The purpose of this Brochure is to disclose the conflicts of interest associated with the investment transactions, compensation and any other matters related to investment decisions made by our firm or its representatives. As a fiduciary, it is our duty to always act in the client's best interest. This is accomplished in part by knowing our client. Our firm has established a service-oriented advisory practice with open lines of communication for many different types of clients to help meet their financial goals while remaining sensitive to risk tolerance and time horizons. Working with clients to understand their investment objectives while educating them about our process, facilitates the kind of working relationship we value.

### **Types of Advisory Services We Offer**

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#### **Comprehensive Portfolio Management:**

Our Comprehensive Portfolio Management service encompasses asset management as well as providing financial planning/financial consulting to clients. It is designed to assist clients in meeting their financial goals through the use of financial investments. We conduct at least one, but sometimes more than one meeting (in person if possible, otherwise via telephone conference) with clients in order to understand their current financial situation, existing resources, financial goals, and tolerance for risk. Based on what we learn, we propose an investment approach to the client. We may propose an investment portfolio, consisting of exchange traded funds, mutual funds, individual stocks or bonds, or other securities. Upon the client's agreement to the proposed investment plan, we work with the client to establish or transfer investment accounts so that we can manage the client's portfolio. Once the relevant accounts are under our management, we review such accounts on a regular basis and at least quarterly. We may periodically rebalance or adjust client accounts under our management. If the client experiences any significant changes to his/her financial or personal circumstances, the client must notify us so that we can consider such information in managing the client's investments.

We may utilize Independent Money Managers, where we may design an investment portfolio and provide ongoing corresponding comprehensive portfolio management services on a fee-only basis for a percentage of assets in conjunction with another investment advisory firm. Before selecting other advisers, we make sure that the other advisers are properly licensed or registered. Client may grant our firm full discretionary authority and authorization to select and appoint one or more Money Manager to provide investment advisory services without prior consultation with or the prior consent. Such advisory services will be as determined by our firm. These Money Managers shall have all of the same authority relating to the management of Client's investment accounts as is granted to our firm. In addition, as our firm's discretion, our firm may grant such Advisors full authority to further delegate such discretionary investment authority to additional Money Managers.

## **Financial Planning & Consulting:**

We provide a variety of financial planning and consulting services to individuals, families and other clients regarding the management of their financial resources based upon an analysis of the client's current situation, goals, and objectives. Generally, such financial planning services will involve preparing a financial plan or rendering a financial consultation for clients based on the client's financial goals and objectives. This planning or consulting may encompass one or more of the following areas: Investment Planning, Retirement Planning, Estate Planning, Charitable Planning, Education Planning, Corporate and Personal Tax Planning, Cost Segregation Study, Corporate Structure, Real Estate Analysis, Mortgage/Debt Analysis, Insurance Analysis, Lines of Credit Evaluation, Business and Personal Financial Planning.

Our written financial plans or financial consultations rendered to clients usually include general recommendations for a course of activity or specific actions to be taken by the clients. For example, recommendations may be made that the clients begin or revise investment programs, create or revise wills or trusts, obtain or revise insurance coverage, commence or alter retirement savings, or establish education or charitable giving programs. It should also be noted that we refer clients to an accountant, attorney or other specialist, as necessary for non-advisory related services. For written financial planning engagements, we provide our clients with a written summary of their financial situation, observations, and recommendations. For financial consulting engagements, we usually do not provide our clients with a written summary of our observations and recommendations as the process is less formal than our planning service. Plans or consultations are typically completed within 6 months of the client signing a contract with us, assuming that all the information and documents we request from the client are provided to us promptly. Implementation of the recommendations will be at the discretion of the client.

## **Retirement Plan Consulting:**

Our firm provides retirement plan consulting services to employer plan sponsors on an ongoing basis. Generally, such consulting services consist of assisting employer plan sponsors in establishing, monitoring and reviewing their company's participant-directed retirement plan. As the needs of the plan sponsor dictate, areas of advising may include:

- Establishing an Investment Policy Statement – Our firm will assist in the development of a statement that summarizes the investment goals and objectives along with the broad strategies to be employed to meet the objectives.
- Investment Options – Our firm will work with the Plan Sponsor to evaluate existing investment options and make recommendations for appropriate changes.
- Asset Allocation and Portfolio Construction – Our firm will develop strategic asset allocation models to aid Participants in developing strategies to meet their investment objectives, time horizon, financial situation and tolerance for risk.
- Investment Monitoring – Our firm will monitor the performance of the investments and notify the client in the event of over/underperformance and in times of market volatility.
- Participant Education – Our firm will provide opportunities to educate plan participants about their retirement plan offerings, different investment options, and general guidance on allocation strategies.

In providing services for retirement plan consulting, our firm does not provide any advisory services with respect to the following types of assets: employer securities, real estate (excluding real estate funds and publicly traded REITS), participant loans, non-publicly traded securities or assets, other

illiquid investments, or brokerage window programs (collectively, “Excluded Assets”). All retirement plan consulting services shall be in compliance with the applicable state laws regulating retirement consulting services. This applies to client accounts that are retirement or other employee benefit plans (“Plan”) governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA”). If the client accounts are part of a Plan, and our firm accepts appointment to provide services to such accounts, our firm acknowledges its fiduciary standard within the meaning of Section 3(21) or 3(38) of ERISA as designated by the Retirement Plan Consulting Agreement with respect to the provision of services described therein.

## **Beta Wealth Group DBA Beta Asset Management – Institutional Advisory Services:**

### **Sub-Advisory Programs**

We provide sub-management and consulting services to Clients of certain institutional clients based on our proprietary investment strategies offered through Beta Wealth Group, Inc. dba Beta Asset Management.

Beta Asset Management will act as the Sub-Investment Advisor on those assets specified in the signed advisory agreement. Beta Asset Management will construct a customized strategy using the Client’s assets specified in the signed advisory agreement. Beta Asset Management will be responsible for discretionary investment and reinvestment of those assets indicated in the customized strategy.

### **Tailoring of Advisory Services**

Our firm offers individualized investment advice to our Comprehensive Portfolio Management clients. General investment advice will be offered to our Financial Planning & Consulting clients. Each Comprehensive Portfolio Management client has the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments to be held in the portfolio. Restrictions on investments in certain securities or types of securities may not be possible due to the level of difficulty this would entail in managing the account.

### **Participation in Wrap Fee Programs**

Our firm offers and sponsors a wrap fee program, as further described in Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the “Wrap Fee Program Brochure”). Our firm does not manage wrap fee accounts in a different fashion than non-wrap fee accounts. All accounts are managed on an individualized basis according to the client’s investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc.

### **Regulatory Assets Under Management**

As of December 31, 2019, we manage \$307,500,000 on a discretionary basis.

## Item 5: Fees & Compensation

### How We Are Compensated for Our Advisory Services

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#### Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Assets Under Management	Annual Fee %
Up to \$1,000,000	1.25%
\$1,000,001 to \$3,000,000	1.00%
Over \$3,000,000	0.90%

Clients utilizing puts and covered calls to generate additional yield will be subject to the following fee schedule:

Assets Under Management	Annual Fee %
Any Assets	1.85%

The total annual fee assessed to the Client's account(s) will be specified in a signed advisory agreement. Annualized fees are billed on a pro-rata basis quarterly in advance based on the value of the account on the last day of the previous quarter. Fees will be adjusted for deposits and withdrawals made during the quarter and will be deducted from your managed account. As part of this process, the client is made aware of the following:

- a) The client's independent custodian sends statements at least quarterly showing the market values for each security included in the Assets and all account disbursements, including the amount of the advisory fees paid to our firm;
- b) Clients will provide authorization permitting our firm to be directly paid by these terms. Our firm will send an invoice directly to the custodian; and
- c) If our firm sends a copy of our invoice to the client, legend urging the comparison of information provided in our statement with those from the qualified custodian will be included.

#### Financial Planning & Consulting:

We charge on an hourly or flat fee basis for financial planning and consulting services. The total estimated fee, as well as the ultimate fee that we charge you, is based on the scope and complexity of our engagement with you. Our hourly fee is up to \$450. Flat fees generally range from \$1,500 to \$10,000. We require a retainer of 50% of the ultimate financial planning or consulting fee with the remainder of the fee directly billed to you and due to us within 30 days of your financial plan being delivered or consultation rendered to you. In all cases, we will not require a retainer exceeding \$1,200 when services cannot be rendered within 6 months.

#### Retirement Plan Consulting:

Our Retirement Plan Consulting services are billed on an hourly or flat fee basis or a fee based on the percentage of Plan assets under management. The total estimated fee, as well as the ultimate fee charged, is based on the scope and complexity of our engagement with the client. The maximum hourly fee to be charged will not exceed \$450. Our flat fees range from \$750 to \$10,000. Fees based

on a percentage of managed Plan assets will not exceed 0.50%. The fee-paying arrangements will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be detailed in the signed consulting agreement.

### **Beta Wealth Group DBA Beta Asset Management – Institutional Advisory Services:**

#### **Sub-Adviser Compensation:**

<b><u>Assets Under Management</u></b>	<b><u>Annual Fee %</u></b>
\$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999	1.00%
\$5,000,000 - \$9,999,999	0.90%
\$10,000,000 - \$19,999,999	0.80%
Over \$20,000,000	0.70%
Over \$50,000,000	0.60%

The annual fee charged by Beta Asset Management is calculated based on the Client assets in the Sub-Advisor's strategy specified in a signed advisory agreement. Annualized fees are billed on a pro-rata basis quarterly in advance based on the value of the accounts(s), within the Beta Asset Management Strategy, as of the last day of the prior quarter.

Fees are generally deducted from the managed account(s). As part of this process, the client is made aware of the following:

- a) The client's independent custodian sends statements at least quarterly showing the market values for each security included in the Assets and all account disbursements, including the amount of the advisory fees paid to our firm; and
- b) Clients will provide authorization permitting our firm to be directly paid by these terms. Our firm will send an invoice directly to the custodian.

### **Other Types of Fees & Expenses**

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Non-Wrap clients will incur transaction charges for trades executed in their accounts by their chosen custodian either based on a percentage of the dollar amount of assets in the account(s) or via individual transaction charges. These transaction fees are separate from our firm's advisory fees and will be disclosed by the chosen custodian. Clients may also pay holdings charges imposed by the chosen custodian for certain investments, charges imposed directly by a mutual fund, index fund, or exchange traded fund, which shall be disclosed in the fund's prospectus (i.e., fund management fees, initial or deferred sales charges, mutual fund sales loads, 12b-1 fees, surrender charges, variable annuity fees, IRA and qualified retirement plan fees, and other fund expenses), mark-ups and mark-downs, spreads paid to market makers, fees for trades executed away from custodian, wire transfer fees and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. Our firm does not receive a portion of these fees.

Wrap fee clients will receive our Form ADV, Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the "Wrap Fee Program Brochure"). Wrap fee clients will not incur transaction costs for trades. More information about this is disclosed in our separate Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

Effective October 3, 2019, TD Ameritrade has eliminated commissions for online trades of U.S. equities, ETFs and options (subject to \$0.65 per contract fee). We encourage you to review TD's pricing to compare the total costs of entering into a wrap fee arrangement versus a non-wrap arrangement. You will still incur commissions and fees for certain types of transactions in a non-wrap fee arrangement.



Effective October 7, 2019, Schwab has eliminated commissions for online trades of U.S. equities, ETFs and options (subject to \$0.65 per contract fee). We encourage you to review Schwab's pricing to compare the total costs of entering into a wrap fee arrangement versus a non-wrap arrangement. You will still incur commissions and fees for certain types of transactions in a non-wrap fee arrangement. To see what you would pay for transactions in a non-wrap account please refer to Schwab's most recent pricing schedules available at [www.schwab.com/aspricingguide](http://www.schwab.com/aspricingguide).

Effective November 4, 2019, Fidelity has eliminated commissions for online trades of U.S. equities, ETFs and options (subject to \$0.65 per contract fee) for accounts enrolled in eDelivery. We encourage you to review Fidelity's pricing to compare the total costs of entering into a wrap fee arrangement versus a non-wrap arrangement. You will still incur commissions and fees for certain types of transactions in a non-wrap fee arrangement.

Legacy Clients may be held to a different fee structure, but will not exceed, what is disclosed above.

### **Refunds Following Termination**

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Either party may terminate the advisory agreement signed with our firm for Comprehensive Portfolio Management and Retirement Plan Consulting services in writing at any time. Upon notice of termination our firm will process a pro-rata refund of the unearned portion of the advisory fees charged in advance at the beginning of the quarter.

Financial Planning & Consulting clients may terminate their agreement at any time before the delivery of a financial plan by providing written notice. For purposes of calculating refunds, all work performed by us up to the point of termination shall be calculated at the hourly fee currently in effect. Clients will receive a pro-rata refund of unearned fees based on the time and effort expended by our firm.

### **Commissionable Securities Sales**

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Our firm and representatives do not sell securities for a commission in advisory accounts.

## **Item 6: Performance-Based Fees & Side-By-Side Management**

Our firm does not charge performance based fees.

## **Item 7: Types of Clients & Account Requirements**

Our clients typically consist of Individuals, High Net Worth Individuals and Institutional Clients. We do not have requirements for opening and maintaining accounts or otherwise engaging us.

## **Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies & Risk of Loss**

The following methods of analysis and investment strategies may be utilized in formulating our investment advice and/or managing client assets, provided that such methods and/or strategies are

appropriate to the needs of the client and consistent with the client's investment objectives, risk tolerance, and time horizons, among other considerations.

### **General Risks of Owning Securities**

The prices of securities held in client accounts and the income they generate may decline in response to certain events taking place around the world. These include events directly involving the issuers of securities held as underlying assets of mutual funds in a client's account, conditions affecting the general economy, and overall market changes. Other contributing factors include local, regional, or global political, social, or economic instability and governmental or governmental agency responses to economic conditions. Finally, currency, interest rate, and commodity price fluctuations may also affect security prices and income.

The prices of, and the income generated by, most debt securities held by a client's account may be affected by changing interest rates and by changes in the effective maturities and credit ratings of these securities. For example, the prices of debt securities in the client's account generally will decline when interest rates rise and increase when interest rates fall. In addition, falling interest rates may cause an issuer to redeem, "call" or refinance a security before its stated maturity, which may result in our firm having to reinvest the proceeds in lower yielding securities. Longer maturity debt securities generally have higher rates of interest and may be subject to greater price fluctuations than shorter maturity debt securities. Debt securities are also subject to credit risk, which is the possibility that the credit strength of an issuer will weaken and/or an issuer of a debt security will fail to make timely payments of principal or interest and the security will go into default.

The guarantee of a security backed by the U.S. Treasury or the full faith and credit of the U.S. government only covers the timely payment of interest and principal when held to maturity. This means that the current market values for these securities will fluctuate with changes in interest rates.

Investments in securities issued by entities based outside the United States may be subject to increased levels of the risks described above. Currency fluctuations and controls, different accounting, auditing, financial reporting, disclosure, regulatory and legal standards and practices could also affect investments in securities of foreign issuers. Additional factors may include expropriation, changes in tax policy, greater market volatility, different securities market structures, and higher transaction costs.

Finally, various administrative difficulties, such as delays in clearing and settling portfolio transactions, or in receiving payment of dividends can increase risk. Finally, investments in securities issued by entities domiciled in the United States may also be subject to many of these risks.

Securities analysis methods rely on the assumption that the companies whose securities are purchased and/or sold, the rating agencies that review these securities, and other publicly-available sources of information about these securities, are providing accurate and unbiased data. While our firm is alert to indications that data may be incorrect, there is always a risk that our firm's analysis may be compromised by inaccurate or misleading information.

**Asset Allocation:** Rather than focusing primarily 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.

**Long-Term Purchases:** When utilizing this strategy, we may purchase securities with the idea of holding them for a relatively long time (typically held for at least a year). A risk in a long-term purchase strategy is that by holding the security for this length of time, we may not take advantages of short-term gains that could be profitable to a client. Moreover, if our predictions are incorrect, a security may decline sharply in value before we make the decision to sell.

**Margin Transactions:** We will purchase stocks for your portfolio with money borrowed from your brokerage account. This allows you to purchase more stock than you would be able to with your available cash, and allows us to purchase stock without selling other holdings.

**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 that 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, as 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, 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.

**Option Writing:** We may use options as an investment strategy for certain clients. Options are not suitable for all investors, as the risks inherent to options trading may expose investors to potentially rapid and substantial losses. Spreads and other multiple-leg option strategies can entail substantial transaction costs, including multiple commissions, which may impact any potential return. A covered call strategy can limit the upside potential of the underlying stock position, as the stock would likely be called away in the event of substantial stock price increase. Additionally, any downside protection provided to the related stock position is limited to the premium received. The cash secured put strategy risks purchasing the corresponding stock at the strike price when the market price of the stock will likely be lower.

**Short-Term Purchases:** When utilizing this strategy, we may also purchase securities with the idea of selling them within a relatively short time (typically a year or less). We do this in an attempt to take advantage of conditions that we believe will soon result in a price swing in the securities we purchase.

**Please Note:** Securities investments are not guaranteed and you may lose money on your investments. We ask that you work with us to help us understand your tolerance for risk. Investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. While the stock market may increase and your account(s) could enjoy a gain, it is also possible that the stock market may decrease and your account(s) could suffer a loss. It is important that you understand the risks associated with investing in the stock market, are appropriately diversified in your investments, and ask us any questions you may have.

## **Item 9: Disciplinary Information**

There are no legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management.

## **Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities & Affiliations**

Representatives of our firm may also be licensed insurance agents and conduct insurance business outside of their duties at our firm. These representatives may receive normal and customary commissions associated with insurance products. The purchase of insurance is separate from the services of our firm. Clients interested in insurance products will be referred to an unaffiliated insurance company. Our firm will not receive any kind of compensation for this referral.

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

We recognize that the personal investment transactions of members and employees of our firm demand the application of a high Code of Ethics and require that all such transactions be carried out in a way that does not endanger the interest of any client. At the same time, we believe that if investment goals are similar for clients and for members and employees of our firm, it is logical and even desirable that there be common ownership of some securities.

Therefore, in order to prevent conflicts of interest, we have in place a set of procedures (including a pre-clearing procedure) with respect to transactions effected by our members, officers and employees for their personal accounts<sup>1</sup>. In order to monitor compliance with our personal trading policy, we have a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our associates.

Furthermore, our firm has established a Code of Ethics which applies to all of our associated persons. An investment adviser is considered a fiduciary. As a fiduciary, it is an investment adviser's responsibility to provide fair and full disclosure of all material facts and to act solely in the best interest of each of our clients at all times. We have a fiduciary duty to all clients. Our fiduciary duty is considered the core underlying principle for our Code of Ethics which also includes Insider Trading and Personal Securities Transactions Policies and Procedures. We require all of our supervised persons to conduct business with the highest level of ethical standards and to comply with all federal and state securities laws at all times. Upon employment or affiliation and at least annually thereafter, all supervised persons will sign an acknowledgement that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with our Code of Ethics. Our firm and supervised persons must conduct business in an honest, ethical, and fair manner and avoid all circumstances that might negatively affect or appear to affect our duty of complete loyalty to all clients. This disclosure is provided to give all clients a summary of our Code of Ethics. However, if a client or a potential client wishes to review our Code of Ethics in its entirety, a copy will be provided promptly upon request.

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of the policy, our associate's personal account generally includes any account (a) in the name of our associate, his/her spouse, his/her minor children or other dependents residing in the same household, (b) for which our associate is a trustee or executor, or (c) which our associate controls, including our client accounts which our associate controls and/or a member of his/her household has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in.

Neither our firm nor a related person recommends, buys or sells for client accounts, securities in which our firm or a related person has a material financial interest without prior disclosure to the client.

Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities and other investments that are also recommended to clients. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request.

Likewise, related persons of our firm buy or sell securities for themselves at or about the same time they buy or sell the same securities for client accounts. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request. Further, our related persons will refrain from buying or selling the same securities prior to buying or selling for our clients in the same day unless included in a block trade.

## Item 12: Brokerage Practices

### Selecting a Brokerage Firm

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We seek to recommend a custodian/broker who will hold your 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, these:

- Ability to maintain the confidentiality of trading intentions
- Timeliness of execution
- Timeliness and accuracy of trade confirmations
- Liquidity of the securities traded
- Willingness to commit capital
- Ability to place trades in difficult market environments
- Research services provided
- Ability to provide investment ideas
- Execution facilitation services provided
- Record keeping services provided
- Custody services provided
- Frequency and correction of trading errors
- Ability to access a variety of market venues
- Expertise as it relates to specific securities
- Financial condition
- Business reputation

With this in consideration, our firm has an arrangement with Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("Schwab"), Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC ("Fidelity") and TD Ameritrade Institutional is a division of TD Ameritrade, Inc. ("TD Ameritrade"), member FINRA/SIPC/NFA (collectively "Recommended Custodians"). Fidelity and Schwab offer to independent investment advisers non-soft dollar services which include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. Please see the disclosure under Item 14 of this Brochure.

The Recommended Custodians may make certain research and brokerage services available at no additional cost to our firm. These services may be directly from independent research companies, as selected by our firm (within specific parameters). Research products and services provided by the Recommended Custodians may include research reports on recommendations or other information about, particular companies or industries; economic surveys, data and analyses; financial publications; portfolio evaluation services; financial database software and services; computerized news and pricing services; quotation equipment for use in running software used in investment decision-making; and other products or services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance by the Recommended Custodians to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities.

We do not use client brokerage commissions to obtain research or other products or services. The aforementioned research and brokerage services are used by our firm to manage accounts for which we have investment discretion. Without this arrangement, our firm might be compelled to purchase the same or similar services at our own expense.

As a result of receiving the services, we may have an incentive to continue to use or expand the use of the Recommended Custodians' services. Our firm examined this potential conflict of interest when we chose to enter into the relationship with the Recommended Custodians and we have determined that the relationship is in the best interest of our firm's clients and satisfies our client obligations, including our duty to seek best execution.

The Recommended Custodians charge brokerage commissions and transaction fees for effecting certain securities transactions (i.e., transaction fees are charged for certain no-load mutual funds, commissions are charged for individual equity and debt securities transactions). The Recommended Custodians enable us to obtain many no-load mutual funds without transaction charges and other no-load funds at nominal transaction charges. The Recommended Custodians' commission rates are generally discounted from customary retail commission rates. The commission and transaction fees charged by the Recommended Custodians may be higher or lower than those charged by other custodians and broker-dealers.

Our non-wrap fee program clients may pay a commission to the Recommended Custodians that is higher than another qualified broker dealer might charge to effect the same transaction where we determine in good faith that the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services received. In seeking best execution, the determinative factor is not the lowest possible cost, but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of a broker-dealer's services, including the value of research provided, execution capability, commission rates, and responsiveness. Accordingly, although we will seek competitive rates, to the benefit of all clients, we may not necessarily obtain the lowest possible commission rates for specific client account transactions.

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### **Soft Dollars**

Our firm does not accept products or services that do not qualify for Safe Harbor outlined in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, such as those services that do not aid in investment decision-making or trade execution.

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### **Client Brokerage Commissions**

We do not acquire client brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns). We do not direct client transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for soft dollar benefits. Our firm does not receive brokerage for client referrals.



## **Directed Brokerage**

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In certain instances, clients may seek to limit or restrict our discretionary authority in making the determination of the brokers with whom orders for the purchase or sale of securities are placed for execution, and the commission rates at which such securities transactions are effected. Clients may seek to limit our authority in this area by directing that transactions (or some specified percentage of transactions) be executed through specified brokers in return for portfolio evaluation or other services deemed by the client to be of value. Any such client direction must be in writing (often through our advisory agreement), and may contain a representation from the client that the arrangement is permissible under its governing laws and documents, if this is relevant.

We provide appropriate disclosure in writing to clients who direct trades to particular brokers, that with respect to their directed trades, they will be treated as if they have retained the investment discretion that we otherwise would have in selecting brokers to effect transactions and in negotiating commissions and that such direction may adversely affect our ability to obtain best price and execution. In addition, we will inform you in writing that your trade orders may not be aggregated with other clients' orders and that direction of brokerage may hinder best execution.

### **Special Considerations for ERISA Clients:**

A retirement or ERISA plan client may direct all or part of portfolio transactions for its account through a specific broker or dealer in order to obtain goods or services on behalf of the plan. Such direction is permitted provided that the goods and services provided are reasonable expenses of the plan incurred in the ordinary course of its business for which it otherwise would be obligated and empowered to pay. ERISA prohibits directed brokerage arrangements when the goods or services purchased are not for the exclusive benefit of the plan. Consequently, we will request that plan sponsors who direct plan brokerage provide us with a letter documenting that this arrangement will be for the exclusive benefit of the plan.

## **Aggregation of Purchase or Sale**

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We perform investment management services for various clients. There are occasions on which portfolio transactions may be executed as part of concurrent authorizations to purchase or sell the same security for numerous accounts served by our firm, which involve accounts with similar investment objectives. Although such concurrent authorizations potentially could be either advantageous or disadvantageous to any one or more particular accounts, they are affected only when we believe that to do so will be in the best interest of the effected accounts. When such concurrent authorizations occur, the objective is to allocate the executions in a manner which is deemed equitable to the accounts involved. In any given situation, we attempt to allocate trade executions in the most equitable manner possible, taking into consideration client objectives, current asset allocation and availability of funds using price averaging, proration and consistently non-arbitrary methods of allocation.

## **Item 13: Review of Accounts or Financial Plans**

Our management personnel or financial advisors review accounts on at least an annual basis for our Comprehensive Portfolio Management clients. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether client accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and investment policies, if applicable. Our firm does not provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Verbal reports to clients take place on at least an annual basis when our Comprehensive Portfolio Management clients are contacted.

Financial Planning clients do not receive reviews of their written plans unless they take action to schedule a financial consultation with us. Our firm does not provide ongoing services to financial planning clients, but are willing to meet with such clients upon their request to discuss updates to their plans, changes in their circumstances, etc. Financial Planning clients do not receive written or verbal updated reports regarding their financial plans unless they separately engage our firm for a post-financial plan meeting or update to their initial written financial plan.

## **Item 14: Client Referrals & Other Compensation**

### **Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.**

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Our firm may recommend that clients establish brokerage accounts with Schwab to maintain custody of Clients' assets and to effect trades for their accounts. Our firm is independently owned and operated and not affiliated with Schwab. Our firm may also recommend that Clients establish accounts with firms other than Schwab.

Our firm places trades for its Clients' accounts subject to its duty to seek best execution and its other fiduciary duties. Our firm may use broker-dealers other than Schwab to execute trades for client accounts maintained at Schwab, but this practice may result in additional costs to clients so that we are more likely to place trades through Schwab rather than other broker-dealers. Schwab's execution quality may be different than other broker-dealers. For our client accounts maintained in its custody, Schwab generally does not charge separately for custody services but is compensated by account holders through commissions or other transaction-related or asset-based fees for securities trades that are executed through Schwab or that settle into Schwab accounts.

Some of the products, services and other benefits provided by Schwab benefit us and may not benefit our firm's client accounts. Our recommendation that a client place assets in Schwab's custody may be based in part on benefits Schwab provides to us, and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and execution services provided by Schwab.

Schwab also makes available to our firm other products and services that benefit us but may not benefit clients' accounts. These benefits may include national, regional or specific to our firm, educational events organized and/or sponsored by Schwab Institutional. Other potential benefits may include occasional business entertainment of personnel of our firm by Schwab Institutional personnel, including meals, invitations to sporting events, including golf tournaments, and other forms of entertainment, some of which may accompany educational opportunities. Other of these products and services assist us in managing and administering clients' accounts. These include software and other technology (and related technological training) that provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements), facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts), provide research, pricing information and other market data, facilitate payment of our fees from its clients' accounts, and assist with back-office training and support functions, recordkeeping and client reporting. Many of these services generally may be used to service all or some substantial number of our firm's accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab Institutional. Schwab Institutional also makes available to us other services intended to help our firm manage and further develop its business enterprise. These services may include professional compliance, legal and business consulting, publications and conferences on practice management, information technology, business succession, regulatory compliance, employee benefits providers, human capital consultants, insurance and marketing. In



addition, Schwab may make available, arrange and/or pay vendors for these types of services rendered to our firm by independent third parties. Schwab Institutional may discount or waive fees it would otherwise charge for some of these services or pay all or a part of the fees of a third-party providing these services to us. While, as a fiduciary, our firm endeavors to act in its clients' best interests, our recommendation that clients maintain their assets in accounts at Schwab may be based in part on the benefit to our firm of the availability of some of the foregoing products and services and other arrangements and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and brokerage services provided by Schwab, which may create a potential conflict of interest. But for soft dollar arrangements, we would have to obtain the aforementioned services and products for cash. As a result of receiving such products and services for no cost, we may have an incentive to continue to place Client trades through broker-dealers that offer soft dollar arrangements. This interest conflicts with the Clients' interest of obtaining the lowest commission rate available. Therefore, our firm must determine in good faith, based on the "best execution" policy stated above that such commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of the services provided by such executing broker-dealers.

From time-to-time our firm may make an error in submitting a trade order on a client's behalf. When this occurs, we may place a correcting trade with the broker-dealer which has custody of the client's account. If an investment gain results from the correcting trade, the gain will remain in the client's account unless the same error involved other client account(s) that should have received the gain, it is not permissible for the client to retain the gain, or our firm confers with the client and the client decides to forego the gain (e.g., due to tax reasons). If the gain does not remain in the client's account and Schwab is the custodian, Schwab will donate the amount of any gain \$100 and over to charity. If a loss occurs greater than \$100, we will pay for the loss. Schwab will maintain the loss or gain (if such gain is not retained in the client's account) if it is under \$100 to minimize and offset its administrative time and expense. Generally, if related trade errors result in both gains and losses in the client's account, they may be netted.

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**Fidelity Brokerage Services, LLC**

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Except for the arrangements outlined in Item 12 of this brochure, we have no additional arrangements to disclose.

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**TD Ameritrade, Inc.**

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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.

### **Financial Institution Consulting Services**

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Beta Wealth Group Inc may contract directly with and receive payments from broker/dealers, insurance companies, investment companies, and other registered investment advisors to provide investment advisory consulting services to the clients of those contracted financial institutions. Such contractual engagements do not include assuming discretionary authority over brokerage accounts or the monitoring of securities positions. Services offered to financial institution clients may include a general review of client investment holdings, which may or may not result in a Beta Wealth Group investment advisor representative making specific securities recommendations or offering general investment advice.

### **Referral Fees**

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We do not pay referral fees (non-commission based) to independent solicitors (non-registered representatives) for the referral of their clients to our firm in accordance with Rule 206 (4)-3 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

## **Item 15: Custody**

All of our clients receive account statements directly from their qualified custodians at least quarterly upon opening of an account. If our firm decides to also send account statements to clients, such notice and account statements include a legend that recommends that the client compare the account statements received from the qualified custodian with those received from our firm. Clients are encouraged to raise any questions with us about the custody, safety or security of their assets and our custodial recommendations.

### **Third Party Money Movement:**

The SEC issued a no-action letter ("Letter") with respect to the Rule 206(4)-2 ("Custody Rule") under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act"). The letter provided guidance on the Custody Rule as well as clarified that an adviser who has the power to disburse client funds to a third party under a standing letter of instruction ("SLOA") is deemed to have custody. As such, our firm has adopted the following safeguards in conjunction with the account custodian:

- The client provides an instruction to the qualified custodian, in writing, that includes the client's signature, the third party's name, and either the third party's address or the third party's account number at a custodian to which the transfer should be directed.
- The client authorizes the investment adviser, in writing, either on the qualified custodian's form or separately, to direct transfers to the third party either on a specified schedule or from time to time.

- The client's qualified custodian performs appropriate verification of the instruction, such as a signature review or other method to verify the client's authorization, and provides a transfer of funds notice to the client promptly after each transfer.
- The client has the ability to terminate or change the instruction to the client's qualified custodian.
- The investment adviser has no authority or ability to designate or change the identity of the third party, the address, or any other information about the third party contained in the client's instruction.
- The investment adviser maintains records showing that the third party is not a related party of the investment adviser or located at the same address as the investment adviser.
- The client's qualified custodian sends the client, in writing, an initial notice confirming the instruction and an annual notice reconfirming the instruction.

### **Item 16: Investment Discretion**

Clients have the option of providing our firm with investment discretion on their behalf, pursuant to an executed investment advisory client agreement. By granting investment discretion, we are authorized to execute securities transactions, which securities are bought and sold, and the total amount to be bought and sold. Limitations may be imposed by the client in the form of specific constraints on any of these areas of discretion with our firm's written acknowledgement.

### **Item 17: Voting Client Securities**

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, write or email us to discuss questions they may have about particular proxy votes or other solicitations.

### **Item 18: Financial Information**

Our firm is not required to provide financial information in this Brochure because:

- Our firm does not require the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees when services cannot be rendered within 6 months.
- Our firm does not take custody of client funds or securities.
- Our firm does not have a financial condition or commitment that impairs our ability to meet contractual and fiduciary obligations to clients.

Our firm has never been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.