



**CarsonAllaria Wealth Management**

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Part 2A Appendix: Wrap Fee Program Brochure

**May 14, 2020**

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of CarsonAllaria Wealth Management, LTD. ("CarsonAllaria"). If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at 618-288-9505. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") or by any state securities authority. CarsonAllaria is a Registered Investment Adviser. Registration as an Investment Adviser with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

Additional information about CarsonAllaria is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). You can search this site by a unique identifying number, known as an IARD number. The IARD number for CarsonAllaria is 157998.

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## ITEM 2 – Material Changes

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

Our last ADV Annual Amendment filing was on February 7, 2020 . The material changes since our last filing are:

Item 9 was updated to reflect receipt of Paycheck Protection Plan Loan through the SBA in conjunction with the relief afforded from the CARES Act.

If you would like another copy of this Brochure, please download it from the SEC Website as indicated above or you may contact our Chief Compliance Officer, Joe Allaria at 618-288-9505.

We encourage you to read this document in its entirety.

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## ITEM 4 – Services, Fees & Compensation

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We offer a wrap fee program as described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. The Wrap Fee Program provides clients with the ability to trade in certain investment products without incurring separate brokerage commissions or transaction charges. A wrap fee program is generally considered any arrangement under which clients receive investment advisory services and the execution of client transactions for a specified fee or fees not based upon transactions in their accounts. Prior to receiving services through the Program, clients are required to enter into a written agreement with our firm setting forth the relevant terms and conditions of the investment advisory relationship (the “Agreement”).

### Investment Management Services

We manage advisory accounts on a discretionary basis. Once we have determined a profile and investment plan with a client, we will execute the day-to-day transactions without seeking prior client consent. Account supervision is guided by the written profile and investment plan of the client. We may accept accounts with certain restrictions if circumstances warrant. We primarily allocate client assets among various equities, Exchanged Traded Funds (“ETFs”), mutual funds and debt securities in accordance with their stated investment objectives.

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

Once we have determined the appropriate strategy for you or your business and executed the strategy, we will provide ongoing investment review and management services. This approach requires us to periodically review your portfolio.

With our discretionary relationship, we will make changes to the portfolio, as we deem appropriate, to meet your financial objectives. We trade these portfolios based on the combination of our market views and your objectives, using our investment process. We tailor our advisory services to meet the needs of our clients and seek to ensure that your portfolio is managed in a manner consistent with those needs and objectives. You will have the ability to leave standing instructions with us to refrain from investing in particular industries.

Where appropriate, we provide advice about concentrated stock positions held in client portfolios. Clients will engage us to advise on certain investment products that are not maintained at their primary custodian, such as annuity contracts and assets held in employer sponsored retirement plans and qualified tuition plans (i.e., 529 plans).

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

#### Relative Cost of the Program

A wrap fee program allows our clients to pay a specified fee for investment advisory services and the execution of transactions. By participating in a wrap fee program, you may end up paying more or less than you would through a non-wrap fee program. In a non-wrap fee program, trade execution costs are passed directly through to you by the executing broker.

Our Firm charges a fee as compensation for providing Investment Management services on your account. These services include advisory services, trade execution, investment supervision, and other account-maintenance activities. Our firm pays the Custodian a portion of the fee listed below for the trade executions. This portion paid to the Custodian is a set percentage of the advisory fee so there is no incentive for our firm to not trade client accounts. The Custodian may charge for custodial fees, redemption fees, retirement plan and administrative fees. See *Additional Fees and Expenses* below for additional details.

Our fee for the advisory services is an asset-based fee calculated as a percentage of the value of the managed assets, calculated according to the following fee schedule, which represents the maximum fees for individual services.

<u>Market Value of Accounts</u>	<u>Advisory Fee</u>
\$0–\$250,000	1.33%
\$250,001–\$500,000	1.28%
\$500,001–\$750,000	1.23%
\$750,001–\$1,000,000	1.13%
\$1,000,001–\$5,000,000	1.00%
Over \$5,000,000	Negotiable

For investment advisory services, we generally impose a minimum account size of \$250,000; however, the account minimum may be waived by our Firm in its sole discretion.

Asset-based fees are billed quarterly in advance and calculated on the last business day of the prior quarter as valued by the qualified custodian of the account. There may be a possibility for price or account value discrepancies due to quarter-end transactions in an account. Dividends or trade date settlements may occur and our third party billing software may report a slight difference in account valuation at quarter end compared to what is reported on your Statement from the Custodian. Our firm has the ability to produce billing summaries, which can be provided upon request.

All fees are deducted from the account by the qualified custodian. Adjustments for significant contributions to a client's portfolio (10% or more of portfolio value) are prorated for the quarter in which the change occurs; no adjustments will be made for withdrawals.

This client investment advisory agreement may be terminated by either party upon written or verbal notice to the other party. Upon termination, any prepaid, unearned fees will be returned to the client. Upon termination, you are responsible for monitoring the securities in your account, and we will have no further obligation to act or advise with respect to those assets. In the event of client's death or disability, our Firm will continue management of the account until we are notified of client's death or disability and given alternative instructions by an authorized party.

Fees are negotiable and may vary based on the size of the account, complexity of the portfolio, extent of activity in the account or other reasons agreed upon by us and you as the client. In certain circumstances, our fees and the timing of the fee payments may be negotiated.

Unless otherwise instructed by the Client, we will aggregate related client accounts for the purposes of determining the account size and annualized fee. The common practice is often referred to as "householding" portfolios for fee purposes and may result in lower fees than if fees were calculated on portfolios separately. Our method of householding accounts for fee purposes looks at the overall family dynamic and relationship.

When applicable and noted in the Investment Management Agreement, concentrated stock positions may also be excluded from the fee calculation.

The independent qualified custodian holding your funds and securities will debit your account directly for the advisory fee and pay that fee to us. You will provide written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from your account held by the qualified custodian. At our discretion, you may pay the advisory fees directly to our Firm by check. Further, the qualified custodian agrees to deliver an account statement to you on a quarterly basis indicating all the amounts deducted from the account including our advisory fees.

#### Other Types of Fees & Expenses

You pay custodial fees, 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 and other fund expenses), mark-ups and mark-downs, wire transfer fees, fees for trades executed away from custodian, and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. These fees are not included within the wrap-fee you are charged by our firm. Neither our Firm nor its supervised persons accept compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products. Further, our firm does not share in any of these additional fees and expenses outlined above.

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#### ITEM 5 – Account Requirements & Types of Clients

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We provide investment advice to individuals, high net individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, trusts, estates, corporations, and profit-sharing plans. We have no minimum initial account value for opening an account with our firm. For investment advisory services, we generally impose a minimum account size of \$250,000; however, the account minimum may be waived by our Firm in its sole discretion.

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## ITEM 6 – Portfolio Manager Selection & Evaluation

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### Advisory Business

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See Item 4 for information about our wrap fee advisory program. We offer individualized investment advice to clients utilizing our Wrap Portfolio Management service.

Each 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

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We offer wrap fee accounts to our clients, which are managed on an individualized basis according to the client's investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc.

### Performance-Based Fees & Side-By-Side Management

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We do not charge performance fees to our clients.

### Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies & Risk of Loss

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We use a variety of sources of data to conduct our economic, investment and market analysis, such as financial newspapers and magazines, economic and market research materials prepared by others, conference calls hosted by mutual funds, corporate rating services, annual reports, prospectuses, and company press releases. It is important to keep in mind that there is no specific approach to investing that guarantees success or positive returns; investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear.

Our Firm and its investment adviser representatives are responsible for identifying and implementing the methods of analysis used in formulating investment recommendations to clients. The methods of analysis may include quantitative methods for optimizing client portfolios, computer-based risk/return analysis, technical analysis, and statistical and/or computer models utilizing long-term economic criteria.

- Optimization involves the use of mathematical algorithms to determine the appropriate mix of assets given the firm's current capital market rate assessment and a particular client's risk tolerance.
- Quantitative methods include analysis of historical data such as price and volume statistics, performance data, standard deviation and related risk metrics, how the security performs relative to the overall stock market, earnings data, price to earnings ratios and related data.
- Technical analysis involves charting price and volume data as reported by the exchange where the security is traded to look for price trends.
- Computer models may be used to attempt the future value of a security based on assumptions of various data categories such as earnings, cash flow, profit margins, sales, and a variety of other company specific metrics.

In addition, we may review research material prepared by others, corporate filings, corporate rating services, and a variety of financial publications. We may employ outside vendors or utilize third-party software to assist in formulating investment recommendations to clients.

A description of the criteria to be used in formulating an investment recommendation for mutual funds, ETFs, and individual securities (including fixed-income securities).

Our Firm has formed relationships with third-party vendors that:

- provide a technological platform for separate account management
- prepare performance reports
- perform due diligence monitoring of mutual funds and managers
- perform billing and certain other administrative tasks.

We may utilize additional independent third parties to assist it in recommending and monitoring individual securities, and mutual funds to clients as appropriate under the circumstances.

We review certain quantitative and qualitative criteria related to mutual funds and managers and to formulate investment recommendations to its clients. Quantitative criteria may include:

- the performance history of a mutual fund or manager evaluated against that of its peers and other benchmarks
- an analysis of risk-adjusted returns; we prefer funds to have a lower expense ratio as compared to peer funds, and we would expect the fund to lower its management fee if the asset base of the fund grows substantially
- an analysis of the manager's contribution to the investment return (e.g., manager's alpha), standard deviation of returns over specific time periods, sector and style analysis
- a clearly defined investment process and a history of being disciplined in the execution of their processes and philosophy
- funds that keep shareholder interests at the forefront of any decision-making process (e.g., closing the fund to new investors to restrict the fund's size)
- the fund's fee structure
- the relevant portfolio manager's tenure
- strong corporate culture and high ethical standards

Qualitative criteria used in selecting mutual funds include the investment objectives and/or management style and philosophy of a mutual fund; a mutual fund's consistency of investment style; and employee turnover and efficiency and capacity.

Quantitative and qualitative criteria related to mutual funds are reviewed by our Firm on a quarterly basis or such other interval as appropriate under the circumstances. In addition, mutual funds are reviewed to determine the extent to which their investments evidence style drift such that their portfolios no longer accurately reflect the particular asset category attributed to the mutual fund by our Firm (both of which are negative factors in implementing an asset allocation structure).



We will regularly review the activities of mutual funds utilized for the client. Clients that who invest in mutual funds should first review and understand the disclosure documents of those mutual funds, which contain information relevant to such retention or investment, including information on the methodology used to analyze securities, investment strategies, fees and conflicts of interest.

The following are the characteristics our Firm looks for when selecting individual equity securities:

- Established, blue-chip company with a global presence
- Dividend paying companies with a history of maintaining and growing their dividends
- Strong balance sheet with a lower debt/equity ratio
- Attractive price to earnings ratio

Our Firm may include mutual funds and exchange traded funds, (“ETFs”) in our investment strategies. Our policy is to purchase institutional share classes of those mutual funds selected for the client’s portfolio. The institutional share class generally has the lowest expense ratio. The expense ratio is the annual fee that all mutual funds or ETFs charge their shareholders. It expresses the percentage of assets deducted each fiscal year for funds expenses, including 12b-1 fees, management fees, administrative fees, operating costs, and all other asset-based costs incurred by the fund. Some fund families offer different classes of the same fund and one share class may have a lower expense ratio than another share class. These expenses come from client assets which could impact the client’s account performance. Mutual fund expense ratios are in addition to our fee, and we do not receive any portion of these charges. If an institutional share class is not available for the mutual fund selected, the adviser will purchase the least expensive share class available for the mutual fund. As share classes with lower expense ratios become available, we may use them in the client’s portfolio, and/or convert the existing mutual fund position to the lower cost share class. Clients who transfer mutual funds into their accounts with our Firm would bear the expense of any contingent or deferred sales loads incurred upon selling the product. If a mutual fund has a frequent trading policy, the policy can limit a client’s transactions in shares of the fund (e.g., for rebalancing, liquidations, deposits or tax harvesting). All mutual fund expenses and fees are disclosed in the respective mutual fund prospectus.

### **Risk of Loss**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Cybersecurity Risk** -In addition to the Material Risks listed above, investing involves various operational and "cybersecurity" risks. These risks include both intentional and

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

#### Voting Client Securities

We will not vote proxies on your behalf. You are welcome to vote proxies or designate an independent third-party at your own discretion. You designate proxy voting authority in the custodial account documents. You must ensure that proxy materials are sent directly to you or your assigned third party. We do not take action with respect to any securities or other investments that become the subject of any legal proceedings, including bankruptcies. Clients can contact our office with questions about a particular solicitation by phone at 618-288-9505.

#### **ITEM 7 – Client Information Provided to Portfolio Manager(s)**

Our financial advisors work with you directly to understand your current financial situation, existing resources, financial goals, and tolerance for risk. Our firm urges you to communicate to us any significant changes to your financial or personal circumstances, so that we can consider such information in managing your investments.

#### **ITEM 8 – Client Contact with Portfolio Manager(s)**

Our firm does not place restrictions on the client's ability to contact and consult their financial advisor. As the portfolio manager, clients are free to contact us at any time.

#### **ITEM 9 – Additional Information**

##### Disciplinary Information

We have determined that our firm and management have no disciplinary information to disclose.

##### Financial Industry Activities & Affiliations

##### Insurance

Some of our IARs are also licensed insurance agents and sell various life insurance products, long term care and fixed and variable annuities through the licensed insurance agency. Our IARs receive compensation (commissions, trails, or other compensation from the respective product

sponsors) as a result of effecting insurance transactions for clients. As a result, this creates a conflict of interest between your interests and our Firm. However, clients should note that they have the right to purchase insurance products away from CarsonAllaria. A limited portion of the time IARs spend (generally less than 5%) is in connection with these insurance activities and it represents less than 5% of the ongoing revenue for our IARs. However, at all times CarsonAllaria and its IARs will act in your best interest and act as a fiduciary in carrying out services provided to you.

#### Broker Dealer

Certain IARs of our Firm are registered representatives of Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments ("PKS"), a FINRA-registered broker-dealer and member of SIPC, and will be compensated for effecting securities transactions or providing advisory services. A portion of the time of these IARs is spent in connection with broker/dealer activities.

As a broker-dealer, PKS engages in a broad range of activities normally associated with securities brokerage firms. Pursuant to the investment advice given by our Firm or its IARs, investments in securities may be recommended for clients. If PKS is selected as the broker-dealer, PKS and its registered representatives, including IARs of our Firm, may receive commissions for executing securities transactions. When IARs of our Firm receive commissions in connection with the advice given to advisory clients, our Firm will reduce a portion of its fees by the amount of the commissions earned by our IARs.

You are advised that if PKS is selected as the broker-dealer, the transaction charges may be higher or lower than the charges you may pay if the transactions were executed at other broker/dealers. You should note, however, that you are under no obligation to purchase securities through IARs of our Firm or PKS.

Our Firm may provide advice regarding investment company securities. You should be aware that, in addition to the advisory fees you pay in connection with any our Firm's program, each investment company also pays its own separate investment advisory fees and other expenses. Such fees and expenses are disclosed in the mutual fund's prospectus. In addition, clients should be aware that mutual funds may be purchased separately, independent of the investment management services of our Firm.

Moreover, you should note that under the rules and regulations of FINRA, PKS has an obligation to maintain certain client records and perform other functions regarding certain aspects of the investment advisory activities of its registered representatives. These obligations require PKS to coordinate with, and have the cooperation of its registered representatives that operate as, or are otherwise associated with, investment advisers other than PKS.

Certain IARs of our Firm may, in their capacity as registered representatives of PKS, or as agents appointed with various life, disability or other insurance companies, receive commissions, 12(b)-1 fees, trails, or other compensation from the respective product sponsors and/or as a result of effecting securities transactions for clients. As previously noted, when commissions or fees are

received by our Firm or these IARs in connection with the advice given to advisory clients, our Firm may, but is not obligated to, reduce its fee proportionate to the amount of the commission or fee earned by our Firm or these IARs. However, clients should note that they are under no obligation to purchase any investment products through our Firm or its IARs.

#### Entity under Common Ownership

Carpenter Creek LLC, an LLC used for personal rental property, is commonly owned by Mark Allaria and Joe Allaria. This LLC is not investment related and less than 10% of time is spent on this outside entity.

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

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

IARs of our Firm do not have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, a commodity trading adviser, or an associated person of the foregoing entities.

#### Brokerage Practices

We participate in the TD Ameritrade Institutional program. TD Ameritrade Institutional is a division of TD Ameritrade, Inc. ("TD Ameritrade") Member FINRA/SIPC. TD Ameritrade is an independent and unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealer. TD Ameritrade offers services to independent investment advisors that include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement

of transactions. Adviser receives some benefits from TD Ameritrade through its participation in the program.

There is no direct link between our participation in the program and the investment advice we give to our clients, although we receive economic benefits through our participation in the program that are typically not available to any other independent investment advisors participating in the program. 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 us by third party vendors. TD Ameritrade may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by some of our related persons. Some of the products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the program may benefit us but may not benefit your account. These products or services may assist us in managing and administering your account, including accounts not maintained at TD Ameritrade. Other services made available by TD Ameritrade are intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. The benefits received by our firm or our personnel through participation in the program do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to TD Ameritrade. As part of our fiduciary duties to clients, we endeavor at all times to put the interests of our clients first. You should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by our Firm or our related persons in and of itself creates a conflict of interest and may indirectly influence our choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services.

In the event you request us to recommend a broker/dealer custodian for execution and/or custodial services, we generally recommend your account to be maintained at TD Ameritrade. We may recommend that you establish accounts with TD Ameritrade to maintain custody of your assets and to effect trades for your accounts. You are under no obligation to act upon any recommendations, and if you elect to act upon any recommendations, you are under no obligation to place the transactions through any broker/dealer we recommend. Our recommendation is generally based on the broker's cost and fees, skills, reputation, dependability and compatibility with the client. You may be able to obtain lower commissions and fees from other brokers and the value of products, research and services given to us is not a factor in determining the selection of broker/dealer or the reasonableness of their commissions.

#### Aggregation and Allocation of Transactions

We may aggregate transactions if we believe that aggregation is consistent with the duty to seek best execution for our clients and is consistent with the disclosures made to clients and terms defined in the client Investment Advisory Agreement. No advisory client will be favored over any other client, and each account that participates in an aggregated order will participate at the average share price (per custodian) for all transactions in that security on a given business day.

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

1. Our policy for the aggregation of transactions shall be fully-disclosed separately to our existing clients (if any) and the broker/dealer(s) through which such transactions will be placed;
2. We will not aggregate transactions unless we believe that aggregation is consistent with our duty to seek the best execution (which includes the duty to seek best price) for you and is consistent with the terms of our Investment Advisory Agreement with you for which trades are being aggregated.
3. No advisory client will be favored over any other client; each client that participates in an aggregated order will participate at the average share price for all our transactions in a given security on a given business day, with transaction costs based on each client's participation in the transaction;
4. We will prepare a written statement ("Allocation Statement") specifying the participating client accounts and how to allocate the order among those clients;
5. If the aggregated order is filled in its entirety, it will be allocated among clients in accordance with the allocation statement; if the order is partially filled, the accounts that did not receive the previous trade's positions should be "first in line" to receive the next allocation.
6. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the order may be allocated on a basis different from that specified in the Allocation Statement if all client accounts receive fair and equitable treatment and the reason for difference of allocation is explained in writing and is reviewed by our compliance officer. Our books and records will separately reflect, for each client account, the orders of which aggregated, the securities held by, and bought for that account.
7. We will receive no additional compensation or remuneration of any kind as a result of the proposed aggregation; and
8. Individual advice and treatment will be accorded to each advisory client.

#### Brokerage for Client Referrals

Our Firm does not receive client referrals from any custodian or third party in exchange for using that broker-dealer or third party.

#### Trade Errors

We have implemented procedures designed to prevent trade errors; however, trade errors in client accounts cannot always be avoided. Consistent with our fiduciary duty, it is our policy to correct trade errors in a manner that is in the best interest of the client. In cases where the client causes the trade error, the client will be responsible for any loss resulting from the correction. Depending on the specific circumstances of the trade error, the client may not be able to receive any gains generated as a result of the error correction. In all situations where the client does not cause the trade error, the client will be made whole and we will absorb any loss resulting from the trade error if the error was caused by the firm. If the error is caused by the Custodian, the Custodian will be responsible for covering all trade error costs. If an investment gain results from

the correcting trade, the gain will be donated to charity. We will never benefit or profit from trade errors.

#### Directed Brokerage

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

#### Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions & Personal Trading

We have developed and implemented a Code of Ethics that sets forth standards of conduct expected of our advisory personnel to mitigate this conflict of interest. The Code of Ethics addresses, among other things, personal trading, gifts, the prohibition against the use of inside information. The Code of Ethics is designed to protect our clients to detect and deter misconduct, educate personnel regarding the firm's expectations and laws governing their conduct, remind personnel that they are in a position of trust and must act with complete propriety at all times, protect the reputation of our Firm, guard against violation of the securities laws, and establish procedures for personnel to follow so that we may determine whether their personnel are complying with the firm's ethical principles.

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

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

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



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

## Review of Accounts

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

Our Investment Adviser Representatives will monitor client accounts on a regular basis and perform annual reviews with each client. All accounts are reviewed for consistency with client investment strategy, asset allocation, risk tolerance and performance relative to the appropriate benchmark. More frequent reviews may be triggered by changes in an account holder's personal, tax or financial status. Geopolitical and macroeconomic specific events may also trigger reviews.

### *Statements and Reports*

Accounts are also subjected to a risk-based exception reporting system that flags accounts on a quarterly basis for criteria such as performance, trading activity, and position concentration. The exception reporting identifies accounts where additional scrutiny or analysis by CarsonAllaria may be appropriate. The firm provides quarterly performance reports via Morningstar, which are delivered through an online web portal for access by the client.

The custodian for the individual client's account will provide clients with an account statement at least quarterly. You are urged to compare the reports provided by our firm against the account statements you receive directly from your account custodian.

Those clients who are exclusively Consulting or Financial Planning clients (i.e. those who have no assets under management with us in our advisory program) will receive no regular reports from the Firm.

## Client Referrals & Other Compensation

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Our firm neither accepts nor pay fees for client referrals.

## Soft Dollars

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As disclosed under Brokerage Practices, we participate in TD Ameritrade's institutional customer program and we may recommend TD Ameritrade to you for custody and brokerage services. There is no direct link between our participation in the program and the investment advice we give to our clients, although we receive economic benefits through our participation in the program that are typically not available to any other independent Investment Advisors participating in the program. 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 us by third party vendors. TD Ameritrade may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by some of our related persons. Some of the products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the program may benefit us but may not benefit your account. These products or services may assist us in managing and administering your account, including accounts not maintained at TD Ameritrade. Other services made available by TD Ameritrade are intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. The benefits received by our Firm or our personnel through participation in the program do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to TD Ameritrade. As part of our fiduciary duties to clients, we endeavor at all times to put the interests of our clients first. You should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by our Firm or our related persons in and of itself creates a conflict of interest and may indirectly influence our choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services.

#### Financial Information

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The firm received a Paycheck Protection Plan Loan (\$91,346.00) through the SBA in conjunction with the relief afforded from the CARES Act. The firm procured the loan to guarantee payroll due to the potential of decreased revenue associated with the unprecedented health pandemic. It also aids in supporting and retaining our staff and support the ongoing operations due to the potential for continued revenue decline in 2020.

We are not required to provide financial information in this Brochure because:

- We do not receive more than \$1200 in fees and six or more months in advance.
- We do not take custody of client funds or securities, except for our authorization to directly deduct fees as disclosed in item 4.
- We have never been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.