

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

**Burnett Financial Group, Inc  
2569 S. Kelly Ave  
Edmond, OK 73013  
[www.BurnettFinancialGroup.com](http://www.BurnettFinancialGroup.com)**

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Burnett Financial Group, Inc. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us by telephone at (405) 341-9245 or email [ralphburnett@burnettfinancialgroup.com](mailto:ralphburnett@burnettfinancialgroup.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 Burnett Financial Group, Inc also is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

Please note that the use of the term "registered investment adviser" and description of Burnett Financial 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 to Our Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure**

Burnett Financial Group, Inc is required to advise you of any material changes to our Firm Brochure ("Brochure") from our last annual update, identify those changes on the cover page of our Brochure or on the page immediately following the cover page, or in a separate communication accompanying our Brochure. We must state clearly that we are discussing only material changes since the last annual update of our Brochure, and we must provide the date of the last annual update of our Brochure. Please note that we do not have to provide this information to a client or prospective client who has not received a previous version of our brochure.

Since the last annual amendment filed on 03/17/2020, the following changes have been made:

- Burnett Financial Group, Inc. has received financial assistance through the U.S. Small Business Administration's ("SBA") Economic Injury Loan ("EIL") program and Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP"). The EIL and PPP are two separate programs with two separate types of financial assistance. For more information please refer to Item 18 of our Brochure.

### • Item 3: Table of Contents

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.....	11
Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities & Affiliations.....	11
Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions & Personal Trading.....	12
Item 12: Brokerage Practices .....	14
Item 13: Review of Accounts or Financial Plans.....	18
Item 14: Client Referrals & Other Compensation.....	19
Item 15: Custody.....	20
Item 16: Investment Discretion.....	20
Item 17: Voting Client Securities.....	20
Item 18: Financial Information.....	21

#### Item 4: Advisory Business

We specialize in the following types of services: Comprehensive Portfolio Management, Financial Consulting, Pension Consulting, and Referrals to Third Party Money Managers.

A. Description of our advisory firm, including how long we have been in business and our principal owner(s).

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 Oklahoma. Our firm has been in business as an investment adviser since 2003 and is owned wholly by Mr. Ralph Burnett.

B. Description of the Types of Advisory Services We Offer.

(i) 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 ("ETFs"), 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.

(ii) Financial Consulting:

We provide a variety of financial 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. 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, Private Placement Consulting, Business and Personal Financial Planning.

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 financial consulting engagements, we can provide our clients with a written summary of our observations and recommendations based on the needs of the client. Plans or consultations are typically completed within six (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.

(iii) 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.

(iv) Referrals to Third Party Money Managers:

We provide clients with a list of investment advisory services of third party professional Portfolio Management firms for the individual management of client accounts. As part of this process, we assist clients in identifying an appropriate third party money manager. We provide initial due diligence on third party money managers and ongoing reviews of their management of your account.

In order to assist clients in the selection of a third party money manager, we typically gather information from the client about their financial situation, investment objectives, and reasonable restrictions they can impose on the management of the account, which are often very limited. It is important to note that we do not offer advice on any specific securities or other investments in connection with this service. Investment advice and trading of securities is only offered by or through the third party money managers to clients.

We periodically review third party money managers' reports provided to the client, but no less often than on an annual basis. Our associates contact the clients from time to time, as agreed to with the client, in order to review their financial situation and objectives; communicate information to third party money managers as warranted; and, assist the client in understanding and evaluating the services provided by the third party money manager. The client will be expected to notify us of any changes in his/her financial situation, investment objectives, or account restrictions that could affect their account. The client may also directly contact the third party money manager managing the account or sponsoring the program.

C. Explanation of whether (and, if so, how) we tailor our advisory services to the individual needs of clients, whether clients may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities.

(i) Individual Tailoring of Advice to Clients:

We offer individualized investment advice to clients utilizing our Comprehensive Portfolio Management service. Additionally, we offer general investment advice to clients utilizing the following services offered by our firm: Pension Consulting and Referrals to Third Party Money Managers.

(ii) Ability of Clients to Impose Restrictions on Investing in Certain Securities or Types of Securities:

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. Restrictions would be limited to our Comprehensive Portfolio Management service. We do not manage assets through our other services.

D. Participation in Wrap Fee Programs.

Our firm does not offer or sponsor a wrap fee program.

E. Disclosure of the amount of client assets we manage on a discretionary basis and the amount of client assets we manage on a non-discretionary basis as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

We manage<sup>1</sup> \$57,419,061 on a discretionary basis and \$62,946,261 on a non-discretionary basis.

---

<sup>1</sup> Please note that our method for computing the amount of "client assets we manage" can be different from the method for computing "assets under management" required for Item 5.F in Part 1A of Form ADV. However, we have chosen to follow the method outlined for Item 5.F in Part 1A of Form ADV. If we decide to use a different method at a later date to compute "client assets we manage," we must keep documentation describing the method we use and inform you of the change. The amount of assets we manage may be disclosed by rounding

## Item 5: Fees & Compensation

### A. Description of how we are compensated for our advisory services provided to you.

#### (i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Assets Under Management	Annual Fee %
\$0 to \$499,000	1.50%
\$500,000 to \$749,999.99	1.30%
\$750,000 to \$999,999.99	1.20%
\$1,000,000 to \$1,499,999.99	1.10%
\$1,500,000 to \$1,999,999.99	1.00%
\$2,000,000 to \$2,999,999.99	.9%
\$3,000,000 to \$3,999,999.99	.8%
\$4,000,000 to \$4,999,999.99	.7%
\$5,000,000 to \$9,999,999.99	.6%
\$10,000,000+	.5%

Fees to be assessed will be outlined in the advisory agreement to be signed by the client. Annualized fees are billed on a pro-rata basis quarterly in advance based on the value of the account(s) on the last day of the quarter. Fees are generally negotiable and will be deducted from client account(s). Adjustments will be made for deposits and withdrawals during the quarter. In rare cases, our firm will agree to directly invoice.

#### (ii) Financial Consulting:

We charge on an hourly fee basis for financial consulting services. Our hourly fees range from \$250 to \$400. 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.

#### (iii) Retirement Plan Consulting:

Our Retirement Plan Consulting services are billed as 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. Fees based on a percentage of managed Plan assets will not exceed 1.00%.

#### (iv) Referrals to Third Party Money Managers:

We are paid by third party money managers when we refer you to them and you decide to open a managed account. Third party money managers pay us a portion of the investment advisory fee that they charge you for managing your account. The portion of the aggregate advisory fee that our firm receives will not exceed 1.00%. Fees paid to us by third party money manager are generally ongoing. All fees we receive from third party money managers and the written separate disclosures made to you regarding these fees comply with

---

to the nearest \$100,000. Our "as of" date must not be more than three months before the date we last updated our Brochure in response to Item 4.E of Form ADV Part 2A.

applicable state statutes and rules. The separate written disclosures you need to be provided with include a copy of the third party money manager's Form ADV Part 2, all relevant Brochures, a Solicitation Disclosure Statement detailing the exact fees we are paid and a copy of the third party money manager's privacy policy. The third-party money managers we recommend will not directly charge you a higher fee than they would have charged without us introducing you to them.

**B. Description of whether we deduct fees from clients' assets or bill clients for fees incurred.**

**(i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:**

The fees determined by the advisory agreement will be deducted from the client account(s). As part of this process, clients are 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.

**(ii) Financial Consulting:**

The fee-paying arrangements for financial consulting services will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be detailed in the signed Financial Consulting Agreement. The client will be invoiced directly for the fees.

**(iii) Pension Consulting:**

The fee-paying arrangements will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be detailed in the signed consulting agreement.

**(iv) Referrals to Third Party Money Managers:**

Third party money managers establish and maintain their own separate billing processes over which we have no control. In general, they will directly bill you and describe how this works in their separate written disclosure documents.

**C. Description of any other types of fees or expenses clients may pay in connection with our advisory services, such as custodian fees or mutual fund expenses.**

Clients will incur transaction charges for trades executed in their accounts. These transaction fees are separate from our fees and will be disclosed by the firm that the trades are executed through. Also, clients will pay the following separately incurred expenses, which we do not receive any part of: 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). TD Ameritrade, Inc. ("TD Ameritrade"), does not charge transaction fees for U.S. listed equities and exchange traded funds.



Our firm also recommends third-party money managers that utilize Pershing Advisor Solutions, LLC (“Pershing”) as a custodian for client accounts. Other major custodians have recently eliminated transaction fees for all ETFs and U.S. listed equities, so clients may pay more for investing in the same securities at Pershing.

- D. We must disclose if client’s advisory fees are due quarterly in advance. Explain how a client may obtain a refund of a pre-paid fee if the advisory contract is terminated before the end of the billing period. Explain how you will determine the amount of the refund.

We charge our advisory fees quarterly in advance. If you wish to terminate our services, you need to contact us in writing and state that you wish to cancel the advisory agreement. Upon receipt of your letter of termination, we will proceed to close out your account and process a pro-rata refund of the unearned portion of the advisory fees charged in advance.

- E. Commissionable Securities Sales.

We do not sell securities for a commission in our advisory accounts.

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

We do not accept performance-based fees.

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

We have the following types of clients:

- Individuals and High Net Worth Individuals;
- Pension and Profit Sharing Plans;
- Corporations, Limited Liability Companies and/or Other Business Types

We do not have requirements for opening and maintaining accounts or otherwise engaging us.

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

- A. Description of the methods of analysis and investment strategies we use in formulating investment advice or managing assets.

### **Methods of Analysis**

We believe that Capital Markets work and that prices reflect all available information. As a result, we do not time markets. We believe we can help clients engineer their equity and fixed income exposure to accomplish their goals based on rigorous academic research. We believe we can make slight adjustments in fixed income to increase a client’s expected return. In general terms, we tend to increase the credit quality and shorten duration the greater allocation a client has to fixed income. The rationale being that fixed income volatility will drive more of the portfolio

volatility if fixed income is greater part of the allocation. Also, when fixed income is a smaller part of the allocation the equity volatility drives the majority of the volatility in the allocation.

We focus client duration exposure on the steepest part of the yield curve within specific duration tolerances based on the allocation. We also change credit exposure based on where current credit spreads are based on historical averages. When credit spreads are wider, we will allocate to slightly lower credit quality to increase expected return. Conversely, when credit spreads are narrow relative to the Treasury curve we will increase the credit quality in the fixed income portfolio.

### **Investment Strategies We Use**

**Equity:** We provide clients the following options:

- Market Capitalization weighted Globally diversified portfolios.
- Minimum Volatility – we believe there is academic research to substantiate a globally diversified equity portfolio optimized to lower volatility.
- Market premium focused portfolios – we believe there are ways to construct portfolios that focus on specific stock characteristics – smaller companies, value companies, quality companies and stocks that exhibit certain momentum characteristics. We take a measured approach to integrating targeting these premiums and managing tracking error to a cap weighted benchmark.
- Dividend Focus – through the use of Separately managed accounts of specific dividend focused funds we can construct portfolios around specific dividend income objectives. We balance the client's desire for income with tracking error to a broadly diversified cap weighted benchmark.

**Fixed Income:** We provide clients the following options:

- We offer a constrained credit and duration ETF portfolio based on specific parameters dictated by the shape of the yield curve and credit spreads. We build the portfolio with ETFs. We also offer taxable and tax-free fixed income based on tax equivalent yields for specific clients.
- For larger portfolios we offer Separately Managed Accounts, we offer Corporate and Municipal portfolios.
- Short Duration Fixed Income – we can construct a customized short duration portfolio based on specific client mandates.

**Long-Term Purchases:** Our firm may buy securities for your account and hold them for a relatively long time (more than a year) in anticipation that the security's value will appreciate over a long horizon. The risk of this strategy is that our firm could miss out on potential short-term gains that could have been profitable to your account, or it's possible that the security's value may decline sharply before our firm makes a decision to sell.

**Private Placements:** A private placement is a capital raising event involving the sale of unregistered securities to a relatively small number of select investors. In a private placement, a company sells shares of stock in the company or other interest in the company, such as warrants or bonds, in exchange for cash. These placements are not required to be registered with the SEC and are far less expensive and faster than other means of raising capital. While these placements do not require the issuer to register its securities with the SEC, it does require the issuer to only sell to investors that qualify (i.e., accredited investors) under the SEC's Regulation D of the

Securities Act of 1933. Further, Regulation D requires that instead of a prospectus, placements must offer their securities by providing an offering memorandum or private placement memorandum, known as “PPM” for short and cannot be broadly marketed to the general public.

The PPM covers important information for investors and investors should review this document carefully and should consider conducting additional due diligence before investing in the private placement. The primary risks of private placement include the following: (a) private placements are “restricted,” meaning they do not sell publicly and are generally very illiquid. By engaging in a private placement an investor may lock themselves into an investment that could come with high transaction costs; and (b) private placements are subject to various other risks, including risks associated with the types of business issuing the private placement.

**Please Note:**

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

- A. If our firm or our management persons are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer, we must disclose this fact.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

- B. If our management persons are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, a commodity trading advisor, or an associated person of the foregoing entities, we must disclose this fact.

We have determined we have nothing to disclose in this regard.

- C. Description of any relationship or arrangement that is material to our advisory business or to our clients, that we or any of our management persons have with any related person<sup>2</sup> listed below. We are required to identify the related person and if the relationship or arrangement creates a

---

<sup>2</sup> Our Related Persons are any advisory affiliates and any person that is under common control with our firm. Advisory Affiliate: Our advisory affiliates are (1) all of our officers, partners, or directors (or any person performing similar functions); (2) all persons directly or indirectly controlling or controlled by us; and (3) all of our current employees (other than employees performing only clerical, administrative, support or similar functions). Person: A natural person (an individual) or a company. A company includes any partnership, corporation, trust, limited liability company (“LLC”), limited liability partnership (“LLP”), sole proprietorship, or other organization.

material conflict of interest with clients, describe the nature of the conflict and how we address it.

Our firm or our management persons have a material relationship with the following related person(s) as follows:

1. insurance company or agency

Representatives of our firm are insurance agents/brokers. They may offer insurance products and receive customary fees as a result of insurance sales. A conflict of interest may arise as these insurance sales may create an incentive to recommend products based on the compensation adviser and/or our supervised persons may earn and may not necessarily be in the best interests of the client.

2. Other materially relevant arrangements

A representative of our firm, Mr. Sullivan, serves as a Proprietor and Consultant for Streamlined Operations Group, LLC, a management consulting firm. Mr. Sullivan helps businesses look at their strategy, operations, sales and financial position and make recommendations and implement solutions that will aim to improve their business. Mr. Sullivan spends approximately 10 hours a month devoted to this outside business activity. Clients of Burnett Financial Group, Inc. will not be solicited to Streamlined Operations Group. Further, no clients of Streamlined Operations Group, LLC will be solicited to Burnett Financial Group, Inc.

D. If we recommend or select other investment advisers for our clients and we receive compensation directly or indirectly from those advisers, or we have other business relationships with those advisers, we are required to describe these practices and discuss the conflicts of interest these practices create and how we address them.

Please see Item 4B(iv) of this Brochure. The compensation paid to us by third party managers may vary, and thus, there may be a conflict of interest in recommending a manager who shares a larger portion of its advisory fees over another manager. Our firm's fees are not higher than they would have been had our client obtained services directly from the third party money manager. Prior to referring clients to third party advisors, we will ensure that third party advisors are licensed or notice filed with the respective authorities. A potential conflict of interest in utilizing third party advisors may be an incentive to us in selecting a particular advisor over another in the form of fees or services. In order to minimize this conflict our firm will make our selections in the best interest of our clients.

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

A. Brief description of our Code of Ethics adopted pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1 and offer to provide a copy of our Code of Ethics to any client or prospective client upon request.

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>3</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.

- B. If our firm or a related person recommends to clients, or buys or sells for client accounts, securities in which our firm or a related person has a material financial interest (excluding an interest as a shareholder of an SEC-registered, open-end investment company), we must describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents.

Neither our firm nor a related person recommends to clients, or buys or sells for client accounts, securities in which our firm or a related person has a material financial interest.

- C. If our firm or a related person invests in the same securities (or related securities, e.g., warrants, options or futures) that our firm or a related person recommends to clients, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest this presents and generally how we address the conflicts that arise in connection with personal trading.

See Item 11A of this Brochure. 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.

- D. If our firm or a related person recommends securities to clients, or buys or sells securities for client accounts, at or about the same time that you or a related person buys or sells the same securities for our firm's (or the related person's own) account, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. We are also required to describe generally how we address conflicts that arise.

---

<sup>3</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.

See Item 11A of this brochure. Related persons of our firm may 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 within 48 hours prior to buying or selling for our clients. If related persons' accounts are included in a block trade, our related persons will always trade personal accounts last.

## Item 12: Brokerage Practices

A. Description of the factors that we consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for client transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (e.g., commissions).

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 TD Ameritrade Institutional, a division of TD Ameritrade, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC/NFA. ("TD Ameritrade") and Pershing Advisor Solutions LLC ("PAS"), member FINRA/SIPC, to maintain custody of client assets and to effect trades for their accounts. TD Ameritrade offers to independent investment advisers non-soft dollar services which include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. We receive some non-soft dollar benefits from TD Ameritrade through our participation in the program. Please see the disclosure under Item 14 of this Brochure. Although our firm recommends PAS, it is the client's decision to custody assets with PAS. Our firm is independently owned and operated, and is not affiliated with PAS. PAS generally does not charge separately for custody services but is compensated by account holders through commissions and other transaction-related or asset-based fees for securities trades that are executed through PAS or that settle into PAS accounts. Client accounts will



be charged transaction fees, commissions or other fees on trades that are executed or settle into the client's custodial account. Transaction fees are negotiated with PAS and are generally discounted from customary retail commission rates. Pershing still assesses transaction costs for all ETFs and U.S. listed equities while other major custodians have recently eliminated transaction fees for all ETFs and U.S. listed equities. Clients may pay more for investing in the same securities at Pershing.

1. Research & Other Soft Dollar Benefits. If we receive non-soft dollar research or other products or services other than execution from a broker-dealer or a third party in connection with client securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits"), we are required to disclose our practices and discuss the conflicts of interest they create. Please note that we must disclose all soft dollar benefits we receive, including, in the case of research, both proprietary research (created or developed by the broker-dealer) and research created or developed by a third party.

TD Ameritrade 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 TD Ameritrade 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 TD Ameritrade to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities.

- a. Explanation of when we use client brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) to obtain research or other products or services, and how we receive a benefit because our firm does not have to produce or pay for the research, products or services.

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.

- b. Incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on our interest in receiving the research or other products or services, rather than on our clients' interest in receiving best execution.

As a result of receiving the services discussed in 12A.1, we may have an incentive to continue to use or expand the use of TD Ameritrade services. Our firm examined this potential conflict of interest when we chose to enter into the relationship with TD Ameritrade and we have determined that the relationship is in the best interest of our firm's clients and satisfies our fiduciary obligations, including our duty to seek best execution.

TD Ameritrade charges brokerage commissions and transaction fees for effecting certain securities transactions (i.e., transaction fees are charged for certain no-load mutual funds, and commissions are charged for debt securities transactions). TD Ameritrade enables us to obtain many no-load mutual funds without transaction charges and other no-load funds at nominal transaction charges. TD Ameritrade does not charge transaction fees for U.S. listed equities and exchange traded funds. TD Ameritrade commission rates are generally

discounted from customary retail commission rates. However, the commission and transaction fees charged by TD Ameritrade may be higher or lower than those charged by other custodians and broker-dealers.

- c. Causing clients to pay commissions (or markups or markdowns) higher than those charged by other broker-dealers in return for soft dollar benefits (known as paying-up).

Our clients may pay a commission to TD Ameritrade 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.

- d. Disclosure of whether we use soft dollar benefits to service all of our clients' accounts or only those that paid for the benefits, as well as whether we seek to allocate soft dollar benefits to client accounts proportionately to the soft dollar credits the accounts generate.

Our firm does not receive soft dollars in excess of what is allowed by Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The safe harbor research products and services obtained by our firm will generally be used to service all of our clients but not necessarily all at any one particular time.

- e. Description of the types of products and services our firm or any of our related persons acquired with client brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) within our last fiscal year.

We do not acquire client brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns).

- f. Explanation of the procedures we used during our last fiscal year to direct client transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for soft dollar benefits we received.

We do not direct client transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for soft dollar benefits.

2. Brokerage for Client Referrals. If we use client brokerage to compensate or otherwise reward brokers for client referrals, we must disclose this practice, the conflicts of interest it creates, and any procedures we used to direct client brokerage to referring brokers during the last fiscal year (i.e., the system of controls used by us when allocating brokerage).

Our firm does not receive brokerage for client referrals.

3. Directed Brokerage.



- a. If we routinely recommend, request or require that a client directs us to execute transactions through a specified broker-dealer, we are required to describe our practice or policy. Further, we must explain that not all advisers require their clients to direct brokerage. If our firm and the broker-dealer are affiliates or have another economic relationship that creates a material conflict of interest, we are further required to describe the relationship and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents by explaining that through the direction of brokerage we may be unable to achieve best execution of client transactions, and that this practice may cost our clients more money.

Neither we nor any of our firm's related persons have 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. We routinely recommend that a client directs us to execute through a specified broker-dealer. Our firm recommends the use of TD Ameritrade. Each client will be required to establish their account(s) with TD Ameritrade if not already done. Please note that not all advisers have this requirement.

#### **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.

- b. If we permit a client to direct brokerage, we are required to describe our practice. If applicable, we must also explain that we may be unable to achieve best execution of your transactions. Directed brokerage may cost clients more money. For example, in a directed brokerage account, you may pay higher brokerage commissions because we may not be able to aggregate orders to reduce transaction costs, or you may receive less favorable prices on transactions.

We do not allow client-directed brokerage outside our recommendations.

- B. Discussion of whether, and under what conditions, we aggregate the purchase or sale of securities for various client accounts in quantities sufficient to obtain reduced transaction costs (known as bunching). If we do not bunch orders when we have the opportunity to do so, we are required to explain our practice and describe the costs to clients of not bunching.

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**

- A. Review of client accounts or financial plans, along with a description of the frequency and nature of our review, and the titles of our employees who conduct the review.

We review accounts on at least a quarterly basis for our clients subscribing our Comprehensive Portfolio Management and Third Party Money Management. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether clients' accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and investment policies, if applicable. Only our Mr. Ralph Burnett, the firm's Chief Compliance Officer, will conduct reviews.

Pension Consulting clients receive reviews of their pension plans for the duration of the pension consulting service. We also provide ongoing services to Pension Consulting clients where we meet with such clients upon their request to discuss updates to their plans, changes in their circumstances, etc.

Financial Consulting clients do not receive reviews of their consultations. We do not provide ongoing services to financial consulting clients, but are willing to meet with such clients upon their request to discuss updates and/or changes in their circumstances, etc.

- B. Review of client accounts on other than a periodic basis, along with a description of the factors that trigger a review.

We may review client accounts more frequently than described above. Among the factors which may trigger an off-cycle review are major market or economic events, the client's life events, requests by the client, etc.

- C. Description of the content and indication of the frequency of written or verbal regular reports we provide to clients regarding their accounts.

We do not provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Verbal reports to clients take place on at least an annual basis when we contact clients who subscribe to our Comprehensive Portfolio Management and Third Party Money Management.

As mentioned in Item 13A of this Brochure, Pension Consulting clients do not receive written or verbal updated reports regarding their pension plans unless they choose to contract with us for ongoing Pension Consulting services.

As also mentioned in Item 13A of this Brochure, Financial Consulting clients do not receive written or verbal updated reports regarding their consultations.

While clients may not receive written reports, all clients have access to their account data including account valuations through the custodial platform.

## Item 14: Client Referrals & Other Compensation

- A. If someone who is not a client provides an economic benefit to our firm for providing investment advice or other advisory services to our clients, we must generally describe the arrangement. For purposes of this Item, economic benefits include any sales awards or other prizes.

As disclosed under Item 12 of this Brochure, we participate in TD Ameritrade's institutional customer program and we may recommend TD Ameritrade to Clients for custody and brokerage services. There is no direct link between our firm's 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 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 our firm's 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 our firm's related persons. Some of the products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the program may benefit our firm but may not benefit our Client accounts. These products or services may assist us in managing and administering Client accounts, 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 our clients, we endeavor at all times to put the interests of our clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by our firm or our related persons in and of itself creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence our firm's choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services.

Except for the arrangements outlined in Item 12 of this brochure, our firm has no additional arrangements with PAS to disclose

- B. Product Sponsor Funded Events.

Various product wholesalers provide financial assistance to allow us to sponsor client educational seminars, or attend such seminars hosted by the product sponsor. This money is not directly tied to our use of their products, nor it is contingent upon any future business to be directed to their products, nonetheless it creates a conflict of interest that may incentivize us to utilize their products. Our firm will adhere to our fiduciary duty to act in our client's best interest when selecting what products to use in client accounts.

- C. If our firm or a related person directly or indirectly compensates any person who is not our employee for client referrals, we are required to describe the arrangement and the compensation.

Our firm does 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

- A. If we have custody of client funds or securities and a qualified custodian as defined in SEC rule 206(4)-2 or similar state rules (for example, a broker-dealer or bank) and do not send account statements with respect to those funds or securities directly to our clients, we must disclose that we have custody and explain the risks that you will face because of this.

Our firm does not have custody of client funds or securities. 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.

- B. If we have custody of client funds or securities and a qualified custodian sends quarterly, or more frequent, account statements directly to our clients, we are required to explain that you will receive account statements from the broker-dealer, bank, or other qualified custodian and that you should carefully review those statements.

As stated above our firm does not take custody of client assets, however, clients are encouraged to raise any questions with us about the custody, safety or security of their assets and our custodial recommendations.

### Item 16: Investment Discretion

If we accept discretionary authority to manage securities accounts on behalf of clients, we are required to disclose this fact and describe any limitations our clients may place on our authority.

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, the total amount to be bought and sold, and the costs at which the transactions will be affected. 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

If we have, or will accept, proxy authority to vote client securities, we must briefly describe our voting policies and procedures, including those adopted pursuant to SEC Rule 206(4)-6.

We do not and will 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, we will forward them on to you and ask the party who sent them to mail them directly to you 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**

### **Inclusion of a Balance Sheet**

---

Our firm does not require nor is prepayment solicited for more than \$1,200 in fees per client, 6 months or more in advance. Therefore our firm has not included a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

### **Disclosure of Financial Condition**

---

Our firm has received financial assistance through the U.S. Small Business Administration's ("SBA") Economic Injury Loan ("EIL") program. The EIL program is intended to support small businesses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing low-interest loans and granting a \$10,000 grant for business essential purposes. Although our firm has directly received funding from an outside entity, clients are not obligated to partner with any SBA lenders nor is our firm directly affiliated with the SBA outside of this unique situation. In addition, the funding is meant to provide relief to our firm's current operations and are not intended for soliciting business.

In addition, our firm has obtained financial assistance by participating in Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP") established by the U.S. Small Business Administration ("SBA"). PPP is intended to assist us with maintaining our firm's business in response to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing low-interest loans for business essentials such as payroll expenses. These loans are eligible for forgiveness, but it is not guaranteed as it will be based on factors such as staff retention and being used for payroll or firm overhead.

### **Bankruptcy Petition**

---

Our firm has nothing to disclose in this regard.