

SIERRA OCEAN, LLC

Form ADV Part 2A Disclosure Brochure August 27, 2021

Contact: Jeffrey S. Burrow, Chief Compliance Officer
P.O. Box 1289
Ripon, CA 95366

CRD # 313829

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Sierra Ocean, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (209) 232-7100 or at Jeff@SierraOcean.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 Sierra Ocean, LLC also is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

References herein to Sierra Ocean, LLC as a "registered investment adviser" or any reference to being "registered" does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

Item 2 Material Changes

Since the initial filing of this Disclosure Brochure on April 1, 2021, ownership and control of Sierra Ocean, LLC has been established with Jeffrey S. Burrow. Mr. Burrow is the Registrant's managing member and Chief Compliance Officer. This Disclosure Brochure has also been amended to indicate that Sierra Ocean provides investment advisory services to retirement plans.

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Item 4 Advisory Business

- A. Sierra Ocean, LLC (“Sierra Ocean”) is a limited liability company formed in the state of Delaware in February 2021. Sierra Ocean became registered as a registered investment advisor with the Securities and Exchange Commission in May, 2021 and is principally owned by Jeffrey S. Burrow.
- B.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY SERVICES

Sierra Ocean provides investment management services and stands to provide financial planning and consulting services. Sierra Ocean provides investment advisory services specific to the needs of each client. Before providing investment advisory services, a financial advisor will ascertain the client’s investment objectives. Thereafter, Sierra Ocean will recommend that the client allocate investment assets consistent with the client’s designated investment objectives. Once allocated, Sierra Ocean provides ongoing monitoring and review of account performance, asset allocation and client investment objectives.

FINANCIAL PLANNING AND CONSULTING SERVICES (STAND-ALONE)

Sierra Ocean may provide financial planning and/or consulting services (including investment and non-investment related matters, including estate planning, insurance planning, etc.) on a stand-alone separate fee basis. Sierra Ocean offers financial planning on a project and ongoing basis.

Prior to engaging Sierra Ocean to provide planning or consulting services, clients are generally required to enter into a consulting agreement with Sierra Ocean setting forth the terms and conditions of the engagement (including termination), describing the scope of the services to be provided, and the portion of the fee that is due from the client prior to Sierra Ocean commencing services. If requested by the client, Sierra Ocean may recommend the services of other professionals for implementation purposes, including certain of Sierra Ocean’s representatives in their individual capacities as licensed insurance agents (See disclosure at Item 10.C below). The client is under no obligation to engage the services of any such recommended professional. The client retains absolute discretion over all implementation decisions and is free to accept or reject any recommendation from Sierra Ocean.

If the client engages any recommended professional, and a dispute arises thereafter relative to such engagement, the client agrees to seek recourse exclusively from and against the engaged professional. At all times, the licensed professional(s) (i.e. attorney, accountant, insurance agent, etc.), and not Sierra Ocean, shall be responsible for the quality and competency of the services provided.

It remains the client’s responsibility to promptly notify Sierra Ocean if there is ever any change in their financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing, evaluating or revising Sierra Ocean’s previous recommendations and/or services.

Miscellaneous

Limitations of Financial Planning and Non-Investment Consulting/Implementation Services. As indicated above, to the extent requested by a client, Sierra Ocean will

generally provide financial planning and related consulting services as part of its services (exceptions may occur based upon assets under management, special projects, etc. for which Sierra Ocean may charge a separate fee). However, neither Sierra Ocean nor its employees are responsible for implementing any aspect of a financial plan, unless they have agreed to do so in writing. Sierra Ocean does not monitor a client's financial plan, and it is the client's responsibility to revisit the financial plan with Sierra Ocean, if desired.

Furthermore, although Sierra Ocean may provide recommendations regarding non-investment related matters, such as estate planning, tax planning and insurance, Sierra Ocean does not serve as an attorney or accountant, and no portion of its services should be construed as legal or accounting services. Accordingly, Sierra Ocean does not prepare estate planning documents or tax returns.

To the extent requested by a client, Sierra Ocean may recommend the services of other professionals for certain non-investment implementation purposes (i.e. attorneys, accountants, insurance, etc.), including certain of Sierra Ocean's representatives in their individual capacities as licensed insurance agents (See disclosure at Item 10.C below). The client is under no obligation to engage the services of any such recommended professional. The client retains absolute discretion over all such implementation decisions and is free to accept or reject any recommendation from Sierra Ocean and/or its representatives. If the client engages any recommended unaffiliated professional, and a dispute arises thereafter relative to such engagement, the client agrees to seek recourse exclusively from and against the engaged professional. At all times, the engaged licensed professional(s) (i.e. attorney, accountant, insurance agent, etc.), and not Sierra Ocean, shall be responsible for the quality and competency of the services provided.

Custodian Charges-Additional Fees. As discussed below at Item 12 below, when requested to recommend a broker-dealer/custodian for client accounts, Sierra Ocean generally recommends that Charles Schwab and Co. ("*Schwab*") or Fidelity Brokerage Service, LLC and National Financial Services, LLC (collectively "*Fidelity*") serve as the broker-dealer/custodian for client investment management assets. Broker-dealers such as *Schwab* and *Fidelity* charge brokerage commissions, transaction, and/or other types of fees for effecting certain types of securities transactions (i.e., including transaction fees for certain mutual funds, and mark-ups and mark-downs charged for fixed income transactions, etc.). The types of securities for which transaction fees, commissions, and/or other type fees (as well as the amount of those fees) shall differ depending upon the broker-dealer/custodian (while certain custodians, including *Schwab* and *Fidelity*, do not currently charge fees on individual equity transactions, others do). These fees/charges are in addition to Sierra Ocean's investment advisory fee at Item 5 below. Sierra Ocean does not receive any portion of these fees/charges.

Independent Managers. As indicated above, Sierra Ocean may allocate a portion of the client's investment assets among unaffiliated independent investment managers in accordance with the client's designated investment objective(s). In such situations, the Independent Manager[s] shall have day-to-day responsibility for the active discretionary management of the allocated assets. Sierra Ocean shall continue to render investment supervisory services to the client relative to the ongoing monitoring and review of account performance, asset allocation and client investment objectives. Factors that Sierra Ocean shall consider in recommending Independent Manager[s] include the client's designated investment objective(s), management style, performance, reputation, financial strength, reporting, pricing, and research. The client is under no obligation to engage an Independent

Manager[s]. **ANY QUESTIONS:** Sierra Ocean's Chief Compliance Officer remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the allocation of account assets to an Independent Manager(s), including the specific additional fee to be charged by such Independent Manager(s).

Unaffiliated Private Investment Funds. Sierra Ocean also provides investment advice regarding private investment funds. Sierra Ocean, on a non-discretionary basis, may recommend that certain qualified clients consider an investment in private investment funds, the description of which (the terms, conditions, risks, conflicts and fees, including incentive compensation) is set forth in the fund's offering documents. Sierra Ocean's role relative to unaffiliated private investment funds shall be limited to its initial and ongoing due diligence and investment monitoring services. If a client determines to become an unaffiliated private fund investor, the amount of assets invested in the fund(s) shall be included as part of "assets under management" for purposes of Sierra Ocean calculating its investment advisory fee. Sierra Ocean's fee shall be in addition to the fund's fees. **Sierra Ocean's clients are under absolutely no obligation to consider or make an investment in any private investment fund(s).**

Please Note: Private investment funds generally involve various risk factors, including, but not limited to, potential for complete loss of principal, liquidity constraints and lack of transparency, a complete discussion of which is set forth in each fund's offering documents, which will be provided to each client for review and consideration. Unlike liquid investments that a client may own, private investment funds do not provide daily liquidity or pricing. Each prospective client investor will be required to complete a Subscription Agreement, pursuant to which the client shall establish that he/she is qualified for investment in the fund, and acknowledges and accepts the various risk factors that are associated with such an investment.

Please Also Note: Valuation. In the event that Sierra Ocean references private investment funds owned by the client on any supplemental account reports prepared by Sierra Ocean, the value(s) for all private investment funds owned by the client shall reflect the most recent valuation provided by the fund sponsor. However, if subsequent to purchase, the fund has not provided an updated valuation, the valuation shall reflect the initial purchase price. If subsequent to purchase, the fund provides an updated valuation, then the statement will reflect that updated value. The updated value will continue to be reflected on the report until the fund provides a further updated value. **Please Also Note:** As result of the valuation process, if the valuation reflects initial purchase price or an updated value subsequent to purchase price, the current value(s) of an investor's fund holding(s) could be significantly more or less than the value reflected on the report. Unless otherwise indicated, the Sierra Ocean shall calculate its fee based upon the latest value provided by the fund sponsor.

Non-Discretionary Service Limitations. Clients that determine to engage Sierra Ocean on a non-discretionary investment advisory basis must be willing to accept that Sierra Ocean cannot effect any account transactions without obtaining prior consent to any such transaction(s) from the client. Thus, in the event of a market correction during which the client is unavailable, Sierra Ocean will be unable to effect any account transactions (as it would for its discretionary clients) without first obtaining the client's consent.

Retirement Plan Rollovers–Conflict of Interest: A client or prospective client leaving an employer typically has four options regarding an existing retirement plan (and may engage in a combination of these options): (i) leave the money in the former employer's

plan, if permitted, (ii) roll over the assets to the new employer's plan, if one is available and rollovers are permitted, (iii) roll over to an Individual Retirement Account ("IRA"), or (iv) cash out the account value (which could, depending upon the client's age, result in adverse tax consequences). If Sierra Ocean recommends that a client roll over their retirement plan assets into an account to be managed by Sierra Ocean, such a recommendation creates a conflict of interest if Sierra Ocean will earn an advisory fee on the rolled over assets. No client is under any obligation to roll over retirement plan assets to an account managed by Sierra Ocean.

Trustee Directed Plans. Sierra Ocean can be engaged to provide discretionary investment advisory services to ERISA retirement plans, whereby the Firm shall manage Plan assets consistent with the investment objective designated by the Plan trustees. In such engagements, Sierra Ocean will serve as an investment fiduciary as that term is defined under The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"). Sierra Ocean will generally provide services on an "assets under management" fee basis per the terms and conditions of an *Investment Advisory Agreement* between the Plan and the Firm.

Participant Directed Retirement Plans. Sierra Ocean can also provide investment advisory and consulting services to participant directed retirement plans per the terms and conditions of a Retirement Plan Services Agreement between Sierra Ocean and the plan. For such engagements, Sierra Ocean shall assist the Plan sponsor with the selection of an investment platform from which Plan participants shall make their respective investment choices (which may include investment strategies devised and managed by Sierra Ocean), and, to the extent engaged to do so, may also provide corresponding education to assist the participants with their decision making process.

Client Obligations. In performing its services, Sierra Ocean shall not be required to verify any information received from the client or from the client's other professionals, and is expressly authorized to rely thereon. Moreover, each client is advised that it remains their responsibility to promptly notify Sierra Ocean if there is ever any change in their financial situation or investment objectives for the purpose of reviewing, evaluating or revising Sierra Ocean's previous recommendations and/or services.

Investment Risk. Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk, and it should not be assumed that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy (including the investments and/or investment strategies recommended or undertaken by Sierra Ocean) will be profitable or equal any specific performance level(s).

Disclosure Statement: A copy of Sierra Ocean's written Brochure as set forth on Part 2A of Form ADV, along with our Form CRS Relationship Summary, shall be provided to each client prior to, or contemporaneously with, the execution of the Investment Advisory Agreement.

- C. Sierra Ocean shall provide investment advisory services specific to the needs of each client. Prior to providing investment advisory services, an investment adviser representative will ascertain each client's investment objective(s). Thereafter, Sierra Ocean shall allocate and/or recommend that the client allocate investment assets consistent with the designated investment objective(s). The client may, at any time, impose reasonable restrictions, in writing, on Sierra Ocean's services.

- D. Sierra Ocean does not participate in a wrap fee program.
- E. As of August 13, 2021, Sierra Ocean had \$137,000,000 in assets under management on a discretionary basis.

Item 5 Fees and Compensation

A.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY SERVICES

Sierra Ocean's annual investment advisory fee is based upon a percentage (%) of the market value of the client's assets placed under Sierra Ocean's management. Sierra Ocean's fee shall generally be between 0.50% and 1.25% of the client's assets under management. Alternatively, Sierra Ocean may agree to enter into a fixed annual retainer with clients for its services. In those cases, Sierra Ocean's fees will typically range from \$5,000 to \$35,000 per year. However, in exceptional cases, Sierra Ocean may charge more than \$35,000.

Sierra Ocean's investment advisory fee is negotiable at Sierra Ocean's discretion, depending upon objective and subjective factors including but not limited to: the amount of assets to be managed; portfolio composition; the scope and complexity of the engagement; the anticipated number of meetings and servicing needs; related accounts; future earning capacity; anticipated future additional assets; the professional(s) rendering the service(s); prior relationships with Sierra Ocean and/or its representatives, and negotiations with the client. As a result of these factors, similarly situated clients could pay different fees, the services to be provided by Sierra Ocean to any particular client could be available from other advisers at lower fees, and certain clients may have fees different than those specifically set forth above.

FINANCIAL PLANNING AND CONSULTING SERVICES (STAND-ALONE)

Sierra Ocean provides financial planning and/or consulting services (including investment and non-investment related matters, including estate planning, insurance planning, etc.) on a stand-alone fee basis. Sierra Ocean may be engaged on either a project or ongoing basis.

Sierra Ocean's planning and consulting fees are negotiable, or on a project-basis ranging from \$5,000 up to \$35,000.

- B. Clients may elect to have Sierra Ocean's advisory fees deducted from their custodial account. Both Sierra Ocean's Agreement and the custodial/clearing agreement may authorize the custodian to debit the account for the amount of Sierra Ocean's investment advisory fee and to directly remit that advisory fee to Sierra Ocean in compliance with regulatory procedures. In the limited event that Sierra Ocean bills the client directly, payment is due upon receipt of Sierra Ocean's invoice. Sierra Ocean shall deduct fees and/or bill clients monthly in advance, based upon the market value of the assets on the last business day of the previous month.
- C. As discussed below, unless the client directs otherwise or an individual client's circumstances require, Sierra Ocean shall generally recommend that *Schwab* or *Fidelity* serve as the broker-dealer/custodian for client investment management assets. Broker-

dealers such as *Schwab* or *Fidelity* charge transaction fees for effecting certain securities transactions. Clients may also incur, to the extent applicable, fees charged by independent managers and platform providers.

- D. Sierra Ocean's annual investment advisory fee shall be prorated and paid quarterly, in advance, based upon the market value of the assets on the last business day of the previous quarter as applicable. If the client selects a flat fee agreement, one quarter of the annual fee will be debited in the first month of each calendar quarter. Upon termination, Sierra Ocean shall refund the pro-rated portion of any advanced advisory fee paid to Sierra Ocean based upon the number of days remaining in the billing quarter.
- E. Neither Sierra Ocean, nor its representatives accept compensation from the sale of securities or other investment products.

Item 6 Performance-Based Fees and Side-by-Side Management

Neither Sierra Ocean nor any supervised person of Sierra Ocean accepts performance-based fees.

Item 7 Types of Clients

Sierra Ocean's clients shall generally include individuals, business entities, non-profit organizations and trusts/estates.

Item 8 Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

- A. Sierra Ocean may utilize the following methods of security analysis:
 - Fundamental - (analysis performed on historical and present data, with the goal of making financial forecasts)

Sierra Ocean may utilize the following investment strategies when implementing investment advice given to clients:

- Long Term Purchases (securities held at least a year)
- Short Term Purchases (securities sold within a year)

Investment Risk. Investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. Different types of investments involve varying degrees of risk, and it should not be assumed that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy (including the investments and/or investment strategies recommended or undertaken by Sierra Ocean) will be profitable or equal any specific performance level(s).

Investors generally face the following types investment risks:

- Interest-rate Risk: Fluctuations in interest rates may cause investment prices to fluctuate. For example, when interest rates rise, yields on existing bonds become less attractive, causing their market values to decline.
- Market Risk: The price of a security, bond, or mutual fund may drop in reaction to tangible and intangible events and conditions. This type of risk may be caused by

- external factors independent of the fund's specific investments as well as due to the fund's specific investments. Additionally, each security's price will fluctuate based on market movement and emotion, which may, or may not be due to the security's operations or changes in its true value. For example, political, economic and social conditions may trigger market events which are temporarily negative, or temporarily positive.
- Inflation Risk: When any type of inflation is present, a dollar today will not buy as much as a dollar next year, because purchasing power is eroding at the rate of inflation.
 - Reinvestment Risk: This is the risk that future proceeds from investments may have to be reinvested at a potentially lower rate of return (i.e. interest rate). This primarily relates to fixed income securities.
 - Liquidity Risk: Liquidity is the ability to readily convert an investment into cash. Generally, assets are more liquid if many traders are interested in a standardized product. For example, Treasury Bills are highly liquid, while real estate properties are not.
 - Financial Risk: Excessive borrowing to finance a business' operations increases the risk of profitability, because the company must meet the terms of its obligations in good times and bad. During periods of financial stress, the inability to meet loan obligations may result in bankruptcy and/or a declining market value.

- B. Sierra Ocean's methods of analysis and investment strategies do not present any significant or unusual risks. However, every method of analysis has its own inherent risks. To perform an accurate market analysis Sierra Ocean must have access to current/new market information. Sierra Ocean has no control over the dissemination rate of market information; therefore, unbeknownst to Sierra Ocean, certain analyses may be compiled with outdated market information, severely limiting the value of Sierra Ocean's analysis. Furthermore, an accurate market analysis can only produce a forecast of the direction of market values. There can be no assurances that a forecasted change in market value will materialize into actionable and/or profitable investment opportunities.

Sierra Ocean's primary investment strategies - Long Term Purchases and Short Term Purchases are fundamental investment strategies. However, every investment strategy has its own inherent risks and limitations. For example, longer term investment strategies require a longer investment time period to allow for the strategy to potentially develop. Shorter term investment strategies require a shorter investment time period to potentially develop but, as a result of more frequent trading, may incur higher transactional costs when compared to a longer term investment strategy.

- C. Currently, Sierra Ocean primarily recommends individual equities (stocks), fixed income securities (bonds), mutual funds and exchange traded funds ("ETFs"). Sierra Ocean may also recommend alternative investments, including real estate and hedge funds, private credit and private equity. However, Sierra Ocean may from time to time recommend other types of securities depending on the needs and desires of the client.

Item 9 Disciplinary Information

Sierra Ocean has not been the subject of any disciplinary actions.

Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

- A. Neither Sierra Ocean, nor its representatives, are registered or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.
- B. Neither Sierra Ocean, nor its representatives, are registered or have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, a commodity trading advisor, or a representative of the foregoing.
- C. **Licensed Insurance Agency/Agents.** Certain of Sierra Ocean's representatives are licensed insurance agents. They may recommend the purchase of certain insurance-related products on a commission basis. The recommendation by representatives of Sierra Ocean that a client purchase an insurance commission product presents a conflict of interest, as the receipt of commissions provides an incentive to recommend investment products based on commissions to be received, rather than on a client's need. No client is under any obligation to purchase any commission products from representatives of Sierra Ocean. Clients are reminded that they may purchase insurance products recommended by Sierra Ocean through other, non-affiliated insurance agencies and/or agents.
- D. Sierra Ocean does not receive, directly or indirectly, compensation from investment advisors that it recommends or selects for its clients.

Item 11 Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading

- A. Sierra Ocean maintains an investment policy relative to personal securities transactions. This investment policy is part of Sierra Ocean's overall Code of Ethics, which serves to establish a standard of business conduct for all of Sierra Ocean's Representatives that is based upon fundamental principles of openness, integrity, honesty and trust, a copy of which is available upon request.

In accordance with Section 204A of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, Sierra Ocean also maintains and enforces written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse of material non-public information by Sierra Ocean or any person associated with Sierra Ocean.

- B. Neither Sierra Ocean nor any related person of Sierra Ocean recommends, buys, or sells for client accounts, securities in which Sierra Ocean or any related person of Sierra Ocean has a material financial interest.
- C. Sierra Ocean and/or representatives of Sierra Ocean *may* buy or sell securities that are also recommended to clients. This practice may create a situation where Sierra Ocean and/or representatives of Sierra Ocean are in a position to materially benefit from the sale or purchase of those securities. Therefore, this situation creates a conflict of interest. Practices such as "scalping" (i.e., a practice whereby the owner of shares of a security recommends that security for investment and then immediately sells it at a profit upon the rise in the market price which follows the recommendation) could take place if Sierra Ocean did not have adequate policies in place to detect such activities. In addition, this requirement can help detect insider trading, "front-running" (i.e., personal trades executed prior to those of Sierra Ocean's clients) and other potentially abusive practices.

Sierra Ocean has a personal securities transaction policy in place to monitor the personal securities transactions and securities holdings of each of Sierra Ocean's "Access Persons". Sierra Ocean's securities transaction policy requires that an Access Person of Sierra Ocean must provide the Chief Compliance Officer or his/her designee with a written report of their current securities holdings within ten (10) days after becoming an Access Person. Additionally, each Access Person must provide the Chief Compliance Officer or his/her designee with a written report of the Access Person's current securities holdings at least once each twelve (12) month period thereafter on a date Sierra Ocean selects; provided, however that at any time that Sierra Ocean has only one Access Person, he or she shall not be required to submit any securities report described above.

- D. Sierra Ocean and/or representatives of Sierra Ocean *may* buy or sell securities, at or around the same time as those securities are recommended to clients. This practice creates a situation where Sierra Ocean and/or representatives of Sierra Ocean are in a position to materially benefit from the sale or purchase of those securities. Therefore, this situation creates a conflict of interest. As indicated above in Item 11 C, Sierra Ocean has a personal securities transaction policy in place to monitor the personal securities transaction and securities holdings of each of Sierra Ocean's Access Persons.

Item 12 Brokerage Practices

- A. In the event that the client requests that Sierra Ocean recommend a broker-dealer/custodian for execution and/or custodial services (exclusive of those clients that may direct Sierra Ocean to use a specific broker-dealer/custodian), Sierra Ocean generally recommends that investment management accounts be maintained at *Schwab* or *Fidelity*. Prior to engaging Sierra Ocean to provide investment management services, the client will be required to enter into a formal advisory agreement with Sierra Ocean setting forth the terms and conditions under which Sierra Ocean shall manage the client's assets, and a separate custodial/clearing agreement with each designated broker-dealer/custodian.

Factors that Sierra Ocean considers in recommending *Schwab*, *Fidelity* (or any other broker-dealer/custodian to clients) include historical relationship with Sierra Ocean, financial strength, reputation, execution capabilities, pricing, research, and service. Although the commissions and/or transaction fees paid by Sierra Ocean's clients shall comply with Sierra Ocean's duty to seek best execution, a client may pay a commission that is higher than another qualified broker-dealer might charge to effect the same transaction where Sierra Ocean determines, in good faith, that the commission/transaction fee is reasonable. 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 Sierra Ocean will seek competitive rates, it may not necessarily obtain the lowest possible commission rates for client account transactions. The brokerage commissions or transaction fees charged by the designated broker-dealer/custodian are exclusive of, and in addition to, Sierra Ocean's investment management fee. Sierra Ocean's best execution responsibility is qualified if securities that it purchases for client accounts are mutual funds that trade at net asset value as determined at the daily market close.

1. Research and Additional Benefits

Although not a material consideration when determining whether to recommend that a client utilize the services of a particular broker-dealer/custodian, Sierra Ocean receives from *Schwab*, *Fidelity* (or another broker-dealer/custodian, investment platform, unaffiliated investment manager, vendor, unaffiliated product/fund sponsor, or vendor) without cost (and/or at a discount) support services and/or products, certain of which assist Sierra Ocean to better monitor and service client accounts maintained at such institutions. Included within the support services that may be obtained by Sierra Ocean may be investment-related research, pricing information and market data, software and other technology that provide access to client account data, compliance and/or practice management-related publications, discounted or gratis consulting services, discounted and/or gratis attendance at conferences, meetings, and other educational and/or social events, marketing support, computer hardware and/or software and/or other products used by Sierra Ocean in furtherance of its investment advisory business operations.

As indicated above, certain of the support services and/or products received may assist Sierra Ocean in managing and administering client accounts. Others do not directly provide such assistance, but rather assist Sierra Ocean to manage and further develop its business enterprise.

There is no corresponding commitment made by Sierra Ocean to *Schwab*, *Fidelity* or any other entity to invest any specific amount or percentage of client assets in any specific mutual funds, securities or other investment products as a result of the above arrangement.

2. Sierra Ocean does not receive referrals from broker-dealers.
3. Sierra Ocean does not generally accept directed brokerage arrangements (when a client requires that account transactions be effected through a specific broker-dealer). In such client directed arrangements, the client will negotiate terms and arrangements for their account with that broker-dealer, and Sierra Ocean will not seek better execution services or prices from other broker-dealers or be able to “batch” the client's transactions for execution through other broker-dealers with orders for other accounts managed by Sierra Ocean. As a result, client may pay higher commissions or other transaction costs or greater spreads, or receive less favorable net prices, on transactions for the account than would otherwise be the case.

In the event that the client directs Sierra Ocean to effect securities transactions for the client's accounts through a specific broker-dealer, the client correspondingly acknowledges that such direction may cause the accounts to incur higher commissions or transaction costs than the accounts would otherwise incur had the client determined to effect account transactions through alternative clearing arrangements that may be available through Sierra Ocean. Higher transaction costs adversely impact account performance.

Transactions for directed accounts will generally be executed following the execution of portfolio transactions for non-directed accounts.

- B. To the extent that Sierra Ocean provides investment management services to its clients, the transactions for each client account generally will be effected independently, unless Sierra Ocean decides to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time. Sierra Ocean may (but is not obligated to) combine or “bunch” such orders to seek best execution, to negotiate more favorable commission rates or to allocate

equitably among Sierra Ocean's clients differences in prices and commissions or other transaction costs that might have been obtained had such orders been placed independently. Under this procedure, transactions will be averaged as to price and will be allocated among clients in proportion to the purchase and sale orders placed for each client account on any given day. Sierra Ocean shall not receive any additional compensation or remuneration as a result of such aggregation.

Item 13 Review of Accounts

- A. For those clients to whom Sierra Ocean provides investment supervisory services, account reviews are conducted on an ongoing basis by Sierra Ocean's Member. All investment advisory clients are advised that it remains their responsibility to advise Sierra Ocean of any changes in their investment objectives and/or financial situation. All clients are encouraged to review financial planning issues (to the extent applicable), investment objectives and account performance with Sierra Ocean on an annual basis.
- B. Sierra Ocean may conduct account reviews on an other than periodic basis upon the occurrence of a triggering event, such as a change in client investment objectives and/or financial situation, market corrections and client request.
- C. Clients are provided, at least quarterly, with written transaction confirmation notices and regular written summary account statements directly from the broker-dealer/custodian and/or program sponsor for the client accounts. Sierra Ocean may also provide a written periodic report summarizing account activity and performance.

Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation

- A. As referenced in Item 12.A.1 above, Sierra Ocean receives an economic benefit from broker-dealers. Sierra Ocean, without cost (and/or at a discount), receives support services and/or products from broker-dealers.

There is no corresponding commitment made by Sierra Ocean to a broker-dealer or any other entity to invest any specific amount or percentage of client assets in any specific mutual funds, securities or other investment products as a result of the above arrangement.

- B. Neither Sierra Ocean nor any of its representatives compensates any person other than its supervised persons for client referrals.

Item 15 Custody

Sierra Ocean shall have the ability to have its advisory fee for each client debited by the custodian. Clients are provided, at least quarterly, with written transaction confirmation notices and regular written summary account statements directly from the broker-dealer/custodian and/or program sponsor for the client accounts. Sierra Ocean may also provide a written periodic report summarizing account activity and performance.

To the extent that Sierra Ocean provides clients with periodic account statements or reports, the client is urged to compare any statement or report provided by Sierra Ocean with the

account statements received from the account custodian. The account custodian does not verify the accuracy of Sierra Ocean's advisory fee calculation.

Item 16 Investment Discretion

The client can determine to engage Sierra Ocean to provide investment advisory services on a discretionary basis. Prior to Sierra Ocean assuming discretionary authority over a client's account, the client shall be required to execute an *Investment Advisory Agreement*, naming Sierra Ocean as the client's attorney and agent in fact, granting Sierra Ocean full authority to buy, sell, or otherwise effect investment transactions involving the assets in the client's name found in the discretionary account.

Clients who engage Sierra Ocean on a discretionary basis may, at any time, impose restrictions, in writing, on Sierra Ocean's discretionary authority (i.e. limit the types/amounts of particular securities purchased for their account, exclude the ability to purchase securities with an inverse relationship to the market, limit or proscribe Sierra Ocean's use of margin, etc.).

Item 17 Voting Client Securities

- A. Sierra Ocean does not vote client proxies. Clients maintain exclusive responsibility for: (1) directing the manner in which proxies solicited by issuers of securities beneficially owned by the client shall be voted, and (2) making all elections relative to any mergers, acquisitions, tender offers, bankruptcy proceedings or other type events pertaining to the client's investment assets.
- B. Clients will receive their proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian. Clients may contact Sierra Ocean to discuss any questions they may have with a particular solicitation.

Item 18 Financial Information

- A. Sierra Ocean does not require clients to pay fees of more than \$1,200, per client, six months or more in advance.
- B. Sierra Ocean is unaware of any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet its contractual commitments relating to its discretionary authority over certain client accounts.
- C. Sierra Ocean has not been the subject of a bankruptcy petition.