

Form ADV Part 2A



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March 30, 2023

This Form ADV Part 2A (the “Brochure”) provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Assured Investment Management LLC (“AssuredIM”), , and Assured Investment Management (London) LLP (“AssuredIM London”), a relying adviser of Assured IM. AssuredIM, and AssuredIM London are referred to collectively as the “AssuredIM Group.” If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact Dave Ray, Chief Compliance Officer, at 212-905-3900 and/or LegalNotices@assuredim.com. The information in this Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about the AssuredIM Group also is available on the SEC’s website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov. The SEC’s web site also provides information about any persons affiliated with the AssuredIM Group who are registered, or are required to be registered, as investment adviser representatives of the AssuredIM Group.

Although each member of the AssuredIM Group is registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the “Advisers Act”) as an investment adviser or relying adviser, such registration does not imply that the AssuredIM Group or its personnel have a certain level of skill or training.

Item 2 – Material Changes

If you are amending your *brochure* for your annual update and it contains material changes from your last annual update, identify and discuss those changes on the cover page of the *brochure* or on the page immediately following the cover page, or as a separate document accompanying the *brochure*. You must state clearly that you are discussing only material changes since the last annual update of your *brochure*, and you must provide the date of the last annual update of your *brochure*.

This Item 2 includes only material changes since the March 2022 update of this Part 2A of Form ADV:

Effective October 28, 2022, the AssuredIM Group appointed a new Chief Compliance Officer (in connection with the existing Chief Compliance Officer's resignation). This March 2023 Part 2A of Form ADV reflects such new Chief Compliance Officer.

Subsequent Event: Effective March 18, 2023, Assured Healthcare Partners, LLC, previously a relying adviser of AssuredIM, is now a registered investment advisor and remains an affiliate of AssuredIM. The regulatory assets under management for Assured Healthcare Partners, LLC are not included in AssuredIM's annual amendment filing.

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Item 4 – Advisory Business

A. Describe your advisory firm, including how long you have been in business. Identify your principal owner(s).

AssuredIM is organized as a Delaware limited liability company and is an investment adviser registered with the SEC. The firm has been in business since 2003.

The AssuredIM Group has approximately \$16,731,739,782¹ in regulatory assets under management. AssuredIM serves as an investment adviser to pooled investment vehicles (“AIM Funds”, and , “Fund Clients”), special purpose vehicles for collateralized loan obligations (“CLOs”), and institutional accounts (“Institutional Accounts,” and, together with Fund Clients and CLOs, “Advisory Clients”) that are primarily domestic and foreign limited partnerships, domestic limited liability companies, trusts and foreign companies, and as sub-adviser to the Fuji CLOs (as defined below).

Investments by Fund Clients typically are made through a master-feeder structure or through a parallel funds structure, in each case, with an affiliate of the AssuredIM Group serving as general partner of Fund Clients organized as limited partnerships, and a member of the AssuredIM Group serving as investment adviser to the Fund Clients. With respect to Fund Clients organized as foreign companies, some members of the board of directors (and in some cases, a majority of such members) of such entities are AssuredIM personnel.

Institutional Accounts are generally organized as limited partnerships with an affiliate of AssuredIM serving as the general partner of the Institutional Account, or as foreign companies with some members of the board of directors (and in some cases, a majority of such members) of such entity comprised of AssuredIM personnel, or as separately managed accounts (“SMAs”). Such Institutional Accounts include SMAs of subsidiaries of AGL (as defined below). Advisory Clients are generally neither registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, nor registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. Accordingly, interests in such Advisory Clients are offered exclusively to investors satisfying the applicable eligibility and suitability requirements either in private placement transactions within the United States or in offshore transactions. No offer to sell interests in these Advisory Clients is made by the descriptions in this Brochure. Please see Item 7 of this Brochure for more information with respect to the Advisory Clients.

Assured Investment Management (London) LLP (“AssuredIM London”) is an affiliate of AssuredIM and serves as adviser to AssuredIM, primarily with respect to issuers based in Europe, and is compensated by AssuredIM for its services. AssuredIM London was formerly known as Blue Mountain Capital Partners (London) LLP. AssuredIM London is registered with the Financial Conduct Authority.

AssuredIM and Assured Healthcare Partners, LLC (“AHP”) have entered into a services agreement and a secondment agreement pursuant to which AssuredIM provides certain services associated with the management of the AHP Funds in exchange for a services fee and a secondment fee.

AssuredIM London is a “relying adviser” (“Relying Adviser”), and, as such, is not required to be, independently registered with the SEC. Please refer to Items 10.B and 10.C for additional information related to AssuredIM’s Relying Adviser.

¹ Calculated as of December 31, 2022.

AssuredIM has a sub-advisory agreement with BlueVirgo Capital Management, LLC (“BlueVirgo”), pursuant to which BlueVirgo serves as an adviser to AssuredIM with respect to a limited number of tax liens and related investment products. BlueVirgo was previously a relying adviser of AssuredIM.

BlueMountain Fuji Management, LLC (“BlueMountain Fuji”) serves as the collateral manager to certain collateralized loan obligations (each, a “Fuji CLO”), and BlueMountain Fuji has engaged AssuredIM to provide non-discretionary investment advice to the Fuji CLOs as well as certain operational, administrative and compliance related services and personnel to BlueMountain Fuji, including, without limitation, personnel that act as BlueMountain Fuji’s portfolio managers and chief compliance officer, in exchange for a fee. BlueMountain Fuji is registered as an investment adviser with the SEC.

Principal Ownership

Assured Guaranty US Holdings Inc., a Delaware corporation (“AGUS”), is the sole owner of AssuredIM and Assured Investment Management GP Holdings LLC, a Delaware limited liability company that indirectly holds general partner interests in a number of Advisory Clients (collectively, the “AssuredIM Companies”). AGUS is a wholly-owned subsidiary of publicly traded Assured Guaranty Ltd. (NYSE: AGO), a limited company organized under the laws of Bermuda (“AGL” and, together with its subsidiaries other than the AssuredIM Companies and their subsidiaries, “Assured Guaranty”).

Further information related to Assured Guaranty is provided in Item 10.

B. Describe the types of advisory services you offer. If you hold yourself out as specializing in a particular type of advisory service, such as financial planning, quantitative analysis, or market timing, explain the nature of that service in greater detail. If you provide investment advice only with respect to limited types of investments, explain the type of investment advice you offer, and disclose that your advice is limited to those types of investments.

AssuredIM is a diversified asset manager specializing in (i) the management of CLOs, including the collateral obligations and related investments comprising the CLOs, which predominantly consist of below investment grade leveraged loans and (ii) investments in a broad array of instruments, among them corporate, government and municipal bonds, credit derivatives (including credit default swaps), public equities, private equities, loans (both broadly syndicated and privately traded, including private non-recourse loans supported by publicly traded companies), real estate related assets, privately negotiated investments in various industries including healthcare and specialty finance, equity derivatives, collateralized debt obligations, forex, interest rate derivatives, convertible bonds and other asset-based investments. Credit and equity derivatives relate either to individual reference entities or to baskets or portfolios of reference entities (including levered or de-levered tranches of such portfolios or baskets). AssuredIM’s advisory services also include advice regarding using interest rate derivatives (including futures, swaps, swaptions and rate locks) and government securities to hedge interest rate risk and spot and forward foreign currency contracts to hedge currency exposures.

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

The advisory services provided by the AssuredIM Group to the Advisory Clients are tailored to the investment objectives, investment strategy and investment restrictions, if any, as set forth in the governing documents of Advisory Clients and/or the investment management agreement entered into by AssuredIM with such clients. With respect to Fund Clients and CLOs, except as noted below, the AssuredIM Group typically does not tailor its advisory services to the individual needs of investors in the Fund Client or CLO; accordingly, the AssuredIM Group typically does not accept material investment restrictions

imposed by such Fund Client or CLO investors. With respect to Institutional Accounts, the terms of such relationship, including any investment restrictions, are individually negotiated. .

Each Advisory Client from time to time enters into Side Letters with one or more of its investors whereby in consideration for agreeing to invest certain amounts in an Advisory Client and/or other consideration deemed sufficiently material, such investors may be granted favorable rights not afforded other investors in such Advisory Client. Such rights may include one or more of the following: rights to receive additional representations and/or covenants; rights to receive reports from the Advisory Client on a more frequent basis or that include information not typically provided to other investors that the AssuredIM Group believes are not prejudicial to other investors; rights to receive reduced rates of performance fees/allocation and/or management fees earned by the AssuredIM Group, each Advisory Client's general partner and/or other affiliates (directly or indirectly through a rebate or reimbursement arrangement); application of a restricted securities list; and such other rights as are negotiated between the Advisory Client, the AssuredIM Group and such investors. Such agreements may be entered into by the Advisory Client and the applicable member of the AssuredIM Group without the consent of other investors in such Advisory Client; additionally, except as may be required by "most-favored-nations" clauses, such agreements usually need not be disclosed to other investors in such Advisory Client.

D. If you participate in *wrap fee programs* by providing portfolio management services, (1) describe the differences, if any, between how you manage wrap fee accounts and how you manage other accounts, and (2) explain that you receive a portion of the wrap fee for your services.

The AssuredIM Group does not participate in "wrap fee arrangements," whereby clients select the AssuredIM Group to manage funds through an investment program presented to the clients by a third-party program sponsor.

E. If you manage *client* assets, disclose the amount of *client* assets you manage on a *discretionary basis* and the amount of *client* assets you manage on a *non-discretionary basis*. Disclose the date "as of" which you calculated the amounts.

As of December 31, 2022, the AssuredIM Group has \$16,731,739,782 in regulatory assets under management. AssuredIM Group manages \$12,532,029,550 on a discretionary basis; provided that, with respect to certain Institutional Accounts, one or more investors therein may have consent rights in respect of certain investments. AssuredIM Group manages \$4,199,710,732 on a non-discretionary basis.

Item 5 – Fees and Compensation

A. Describe how you are compensated for your advisory services. Provide your fee schedule. Disclose whether the fees are negotiable.

AssuredIM is compensated for its advisory services generally through a management fee charged to Advisory Clients. AssuredIM typically receives a monthly management fee from AIM Funds – 1/12 of a per annum fee of typically 1%-2%, of the net assets of each AIM Fund (although in certain cases such management fee is paid on a quarterly basis). With respect to the CLOs, AssuredIM typically receives a management fee made up of two components (i.e., a “Senior Investment Management Fee” of 0.15% (or 0.20%) as well as a “Subordinated Investment Management Fee” of 0.35% (or 0.30%), in each case, of the net assets² of the CLO, per annum), which fee is typically payable quarterly in arrears (i.e., 1/4 of the aggregate annual management fee of 0.50% of the net assets of each CLO becomes payable to AssuredIM following the end of each calendar quarter). For those AIM Funds that are part of a master-feeder structure, the management fee is typically paid to AssuredIM by the respective master fund on behalf of the feeder funds.

In addition, with respect to certain Advisory Clients, AssuredIM (or affiliates of AssuredIM acting as general partners or managing members of the Advisory Clients) receives performance compensation with respect to each calendar year or lock-up period, typically 20%-30% of net profits allocated to each investor on an annual basis, payable at the end of each year or lock-up period, as the case may be. With respect to other Advisory Clients, AssuredIM (or affiliates of AssuredIM acting as general partners or managing members of the AIM Fund), as applicable, receives performance compensation based on an internal rate of return calculation by reference to distributions made to investors in such Advisory Clients (calculated on an aggregate basis or an investment-by-investment basis); provided that with respect to certain Advisory Clients, performance compensation is payable only if and to the extent a certain minimum rate of return (a “hurdle”) is exceeded. In certain cases, performance compensation is reduced by the amount of management fees paid over a specified period or subject to a “high water mark” or loss carry forward provisions. See Item 6 for further information with respect to performance compensation.

With respect to the Fuji CLOs, BlueMountain Fuji typically receives management fees and performance compensation. AssuredIM typically rebates or offsets a pro rata portion of these fees to Advisory Clients to the extent such fees are attributable to the Advisory Client’s holdings of Fuji CLOs.

Depending on the characteristics of the Advisory Client, fees are higher or lower and may be subject to various reductions and offsets, in each case, as set forth in each Advisory Client’s offering documents. The AssuredIM Group reserves the right to waive some or all fees for certain investors in Advisory Clients, including for current or former employees of, or investors who are affiliated with, the AssuredIM Group. Except as described in the following paragraph, the management fee and performance compensation for Fund Clients and CLOs are generally not negotiable. Fee arrangements for Institutional Accounts are individually negotiated.

As explained above in Item 4, the AssuredIM Group enters into Side Letters with certain Fund Client investors, typically those with the largest aggregate investments in Fund Clients, whereby such investors are granted favorable rights not granted to other investors in the Fund Client including, among other

² The net assets of a CLO generally include the aggregate value of the CLO’s collateral plus available cash. The management fee is typically paid from interest revenue, which is segregated from other CLO cash at the time of such management fee payment.

things, rights to receive reduced rates of performance compensation and/or management fees earned by the AssuredIM Group or its affiliate.

Where advisory fees are calculated by reference to the net asset value of assets held by an Advisory Client or in an SMA, AssuredIM generally relies on prices provided by third parties (whether dealer quotes, third-party data feeds, or an independent valuation agent) for purposes of valuing portfolio securities held in Advisory Client accounts. The third-party administrator (the “Administrator”) for such Advisory Client or SMA verifies the third-party values that AssuredIM receives. In the event of a disagreement between AssuredIM and the Administrator, AssuredIM works with the Administrator to investigate and resolve any differences. Although it is extremely rare for discrepancies to persist after an investigation by AssuredIM and the Administrator, in the event that AssuredIM and the Administrator ultimately disagree on the valuation of a position, the Administrator can withhold the net asset value if it is unsatisfied with the valuation. The AssuredIM Group maintains policies and procedures relating to the pricing process.

Except to the extent that better performance increases assets under management and thus the amount of the management fee (in cases where the management fee is calculated by reference to the net asset value), management fees are payable without regard to the overall success or income earned by Advisory Clients and therefore may create an incentive on the part of the AssuredIM Group to raise or otherwise increase assets under management to a higher level than would be the case if the AssuredIM Group were receiving a lower or no management fee.

Other fees payable by investors in Advisory Clients are described below.

Advisory Client investors and prospective investors in Advisory Clients should refer to the private placement memorandum, offering circular or other offering documents of the respective Advisory Client for detailed information with respect to the fees associated with such Advisory Client. The information contained herein is a summary only and is qualified in its entirety by such documents.

B. Describe whether you deduct fees from *clients*’ assets or bill *clients* for fees incurred. If *clients* may select either method, disclose this fact. Explain how often you bill *clients* or deduct your fees.

The AssuredIM Group (or an affiliate) deducts fees (or directs the payment of fees) from Advisory Clients’ assets. Management fees are generally paid by Advisory Clients other than the CLOs to the AssuredIM Group (or an affiliate) pursuant to a management agreement between the parties. With respect to the CLOs, management fees and performance compensation are generally remitted by the independent trustees of the CLOs on behalf of the respective CLOs to the AssuredIM Group pursuant to the terms of the applicable indenture and investment management agreement between the parties.

Performance compensation typically is deducted from Advisory Client assets and allocated to an affiliate of the AssuredIM Group pursuant to the governing documents of the Advisory Client, or paid directly out of Advisory Client assets to a member of the AssuredIM Group pursuant to a management agreement between the parties.

Management fees are generally paid by Advisory Clients monthly or quarterly in arrears or in advance. Performance compensation is generally payable at the end of each year or other pre-defined period, at the time distributions are made to an investor and/or at the time an investor withdraws or redeems, as the case may be, from an Advisory Client, in each case, as set forth in the governing fund documents of Advisory Clients.

Management fees and performance compensation may be (and have been) waived or modified in the sole discretion of the AssuredIM Group and/or its affiliates, including for investors who are affiliated with the AssuredIM Group.

Advisory Client investors and prospective investors in Advisory Clients should refer to the private placement memorandum, offering circular or other offering documents of the respective Advisory Client for detailed information with respect to how fees are paid with respect to their assets. The information contained herein is a summary only and is qualified in its entirety by such documents.

C. Describe any other types of fees or expenses *clients* may pay in connection with your advisory services, such as custodian fees or mutual fund expenses. Disclose that *clients* will incur brokerage and other transaction costs, and direct *clients* to the section(s) of your *brochure* that discuss brokerage.

The AssuredIM Group's fees are exclusive of Advisory Clients' own organizational (which generally are amortized over a period of time, as set forth in the offering documents of each applicable Advisory Client), operating and other expenses including, without limitation: indemnification expenses; organizational expenses of an Advisory Client's general partner; expenses of an anchor investor subject to a cap; commissions; clearing fees; fees, interest and other costs on margin accounts, subscription facilities or other financings or re-financings; any taxes and duties payable in any jurisdiction in connection with the operation of Advisory Clients and any investment vehicles thereof; accounting and legal fees and disbursements (including legal fees related to the acquisition, protection and distribution of the Advisory Clients' investments and counterparty negotiation and documentation following commencement of trading operations); accounting, audit and tax preparation expenses; trustee, rating agency and administrator fees and expenses; investment-related expenses, including research, subscriptions, quotation services and data feeds; borrowing charges on securities sold short; custodial fees; bank service fees; third party servicing agents; expenses in connection with transactions directed to broker-dealers in part in recognition of investment research and information furnished or expenses for services rendered by broker-dealers in the execution of such orders and the use of such research and other services provided by such broker-dealers; investment and trading consultant (including consultants providing market research, new investment identification, pre-investment business diligence, post-investment value creation and investment disposition services) fees and expenses; investment-related travel and entertainment expenses; expenses in connection with proposed transactions (including transactions that fail to close); expenses related to reporting to and communicating with investors; liability insurance premiums with respect to the board of directors or board of managers of the Advisory Client, such Advisory Client's general partner and the AssuredIM Group; director and manager services fees and expenses; registered office expenses; and any other expenses related to the purchase, sale, holding or transmittal of Advisory Client assets or liabilities or the business or affairs of Advisory Clients. For those Fund Clients that are part of a master-feeder structure, each feeder fund will indirectly bear the administrative and other expenses of the master fund *pro rata* based on its interest in the master fund.

In certain cases, Advisory Clients invest directly in Fuji CLOs, which are sub-advised by AssuredIM. To the extent that an Advisory Client's Fuji CLO investment is subject to management fees or performance-based fees paid to BlueMountain Fuji, a pro rata portion of the amount of such fees paid to BlueMountain Fuji is subject to rebate or offset by AssuredIM in favor of such Advisory Client.

Execution of Advisory Client transactions typically requires payment of a bid/ask spread or brokerage commissions by the Advisory Client. Item 12 below describes the factors that the AssuredIM Group considers in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for the execution of transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (*e.g.*, commissions). Investment activity also involves other transaction fees payable by Advisory Clients, such as sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. In addition, Advisory Clients incur certain charges imposed by custodians, broker-dealers, third-party investment consultants, and other third parties, such as custodial fees, prime brokerage fees, consulting fees, administrative fees and transfer agency fees.

Advisory Client investors and prospective investors in Advisory Clients should refer to the private placement memorandum, offering circular or other offering documents of the respective Advisory Client for detailed information with respect to the fees and expenses they may pay in connection with an investment in such Advisory Client. The information contained herein is a summary only and is qualified in its entirety by such documents.

D. If your *clients* either may or must pay your fees in advance, disclose this fact. 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.

Management fees applicable to certain Advisory Clients are paid monthly or quarterly, as applicable, in advance as described in the investment management agreement between such Advisory Client and the member of the AssuredIM Group serving as investment manager to such Advisory Client and/or the governing documents of such Advisory Client. With respect to fee refunds, information about how investors in Advisory Clients withdraw or redeem interests or shares in an Advisory Client is set forth in the respective Advisory Client's governing documents.

E. If you or any of your *supervised persons* accepts compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products, including asset-based sales charges or service fees from the sale of mutual funds, disclose this fact and respond to Items 5.E.1, 5.E.2, 5.E.3 and 5.E.4.

- 1. Explain that this practice presents a conflict of interest and gives you or your *supervised persons* an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on a *client's* needs. Describe generally how you address conflicts that arise, including your procedures for disclosing the conflicts to *clients*. If you primarily recommend mutual funds, disclose whether you will recommend "no-load" funds.**
- 2. Explain that *clients* have the option to purchase investment products that you recommend through other brokers or agents that are not affiliated with you.**
- 3. If more than 50% of your revenue from advisory *clients* results from commissions and other compensation for the sale of investment products you recommend to your *clients*, including asset-based distribution fees from the sale of mutual funds, disclose that commissions provide your primary or, if applicable, your exclusive compensation.**
- 4. If you charge advisory fees in addition to commissions or markups, disclose whether you reduce your advisory fees to offset the commissions or markups.**

No member of the AssuredIM Group nor any of their respective employees receive, directly or indirectly, any compensation from the sale of securities or investments that are purchased or sold for Advisory Client accounts. Each member of the AssuredIM Group is compensated through the stated management fee and performance compensation agreed upon in the governing documents of the respective Advisory Client. Accordingly, the AssuredIM Group believes that it does not have any conflicts of interest regarding the receipt of additional compensation for the sale of investment products.

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

If you or any of your *supervised persons* accepts *performance-based fees* – that is, fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a *client* (such as a *client* that is a hedge fund or other pooled investment vehicle) – disclose this fact. If you or any of your *supervised persons* manage both accounts that are charged a *performance-based fee* and accounts that are charged another type of fee, such as an hourly or flat fee or an asset-based fee, disclose this fact. Explain the conflicts of interest that you or your *supervised persons* face by managing these accounts at the same time, including that you or your *supervised persons* have an incentive to favor accounts for which you or your *supervised persons* receive a *performance-based fee*, and describe generally how you address these conflicts.

As described in Item 5, the AssuredIM Group or its affiliates receive performance-based compensation for investment management services provided to Advisory Clients other than SMAs. Performance-based compensation represents an asset manager's compensation for managing an account which is based upon a percentage of the net profits of the account being managed. The AssuredIM Group's performance-based compensation arrangements are typically a percentage of net profits allocated to an investor in an Advisory Client on an annual basis or based on an internal rate of return calculation by reference to distributions made to investors and, in certain cases, is subject to a hurdle or a reduction based on the amount of management fees paid. SMAs are generally not subject to performance-based compensation.

Performance-based compensation creates certain inherent conflicts of interest with respect to the management of assets by the AssuredIM Group. Specifically, entitlement to performance-based compensation in managing one or more accounts may create an incentive for the AssuredIM Group to make investments that are riskier or more speculative than would be the case in the absence of such performance-based compensation.

With respect to SMAs that are charged only asset-based fees (i.e., fees based simply on the amount of assets under management in an account), a conflict of interest exists with respect to the AssuredIM Group's fee structure because the AssuredIM Group manages both accounts that pay performance-based compensation as well as accounts that pay only asset-based fees. As a general matter, since performance-based fees reward an adviser for strong performance in accounts subject to such fees, an adviser may have an incentive to favor these accounts over those that have only asset-based fees with respect to areas such as trading opportunities, trade allocation, and allocation of new investment opportunities. Because the AssuredIM Group receives only asset-based fees in respect of the SMAs, the AssuredIM Group has an incentive to favor the accounts which pay performance-based compensation over the SMAs.

To maintain fair and equitable treatment of all of its Advisory Clients' accounts the AssuredIM Group has implemented controls to further its efforts to treat all accounts fairly, regardless of their corresponding fee-structure. The AssuredIM Group maintains and adheres to written guidelines on the allocation of investment opportunities that apply to the Advisory Clients and the Fuji CLOs. Such allocation guidelines are part of the compliance program that governs the conduct of the AssuredIM Group, BlueMountain Fuji and their respective employees and other personnel subject to such entities' compliance programs (the "Covered Persons"). As explained below, the AssuredIM Group believes that its allocation guidelines, along with other existing controls, provide an environment that fosters the fair and equitable treatment of all accounts managed by the AssuredIM Group, regardless of fee structure.

Side-by-Side Management

The AssuredIM Group's investment professionals simultaneously manage portfolios for Advisory Clients that implement comparable investment strategies (i.e., side-by-side management). In addition to managing the Advisory Clients' portfolios, such professionals manage the portfolios of Fuji CLOs. The

simultaneous management of these different investment products creates certain potential conflicts of interest and the possibility of favorable or preferential treatment of a portfolio or a group of portfolios, as the fees for the management of certain types of products are higher than others or the investors in a certain portfolio or group of portfolios are subsidiaries of Assured Guaranty. Because side-by-side management raises such issues, and because the AssuredIM Group has an affirmative duty to treat its Advisory Clients fairly and equitably over time, the AssuredIM Group has instituted controls, including its allocation guidelines, in an effort to ensure that it fulfills this duty.

The AssuredIM Group's allocation guidelines are written guidelines intended to ensure that investment opportunities are allocated on a fair and equitable basis among Advisory Clients (as well as the Fuji CLOs). Such allocation guidelines set forth (i) methods of investment opportunity purchase and sale allocations which vary according to the liquidity profile of each investment opportunity and certain risk parameters applicable to each Advisory Client (and Fuji CLOs) and (ii) allocation methods which determine how partially-filled orders are divided among Advisory Clients (and Fuji CLOs). The AssuredIM Group periodically performs a series of tests to ensure that investment opportunities are allocated in conformity with these guidelines. Although the AssuredIM Group has a duty to treat all portfolios employing an investment strategy fairly and equitably over time, such portfolios will not necessarily be managed in the same manner at all times. Specifically, there is no requirement that the AssuredIM Group use the same investment practices consistently across all portfolios. In general, investment decisions for each Advisory Client will be made independently from those of other Advisory Clients (or Fuji CLOs), and will be made with specific reference to the individual needs and objectives of each Advisory Client. In fact, different Advisory Client guidelines and/or differences within particular investment strategies may lead to the use of different investment practices for portfolios employing a similar investment strategy. In addition, the AssuredIM Group will not necessarily purchase or sell the same securities at the same time or in the same proportionate amounts for all eligible portfolios, particularly if different portfolios have materially different amounts of capital under management by the AssuredIM Group, different idiosyncratic risk concentration limits or different amounts of investable cash available. As a result, although the AssuredIM Group, BlueMountain Fuji and their Covered Persons manage numerous portfolios with comparable investment objectives, or manage accounts with different objectives that trade in the same securities, the portfolio decisions relating to these accounts, and the performance resulting from such decisions, differ from portfolio to portfolio.

The AssuredIM Group, from time to time, offers certain investors in Advisory Clients and/or other third parties ("Co-Investors") the right or opportunity to co-invest with other investors and/or Advisory Clients in certain portfolio investments, whether as a direct investment by the Co-Investor or as an indirect investment via a special purpose vehicle or other co-investment vehicle established by the AssuredIM Group to hold such co-investment (in each case, a "Co-Investment Opportunity"). Any such Co-Investment Opportunity would only be offered following a determination by the AssuredIM Group that all Advisory Clients (and Fuji CLOs) have received the full amount of their respective desired allocations of a particular investment in accordance with the AssuredIM Group's allocation guidelines.

The AssuredIM Group is generally not obligated to arrange Co-Investment Opportunities for all investors in an Advisory Client, and investors and Advisory Clients generally will not be entitled or have any right to participate in such an opportunity solely by reason of being an Advisory Client or an investor in an Advisory Client. The AssuredIM Group's decision to offer (or not to offer) Co-Investment Opportunities to any investor generally will be made in its sole discretion, with due consideration for, among other factors, (i) special rights previously offered to particular large or strategic investors (including "most-favored-nations" rights), (ii) the size of the Co-Investment Opportunity, (iii) the capacity of the prospective Co-Investor to make the investment, (iv) the extent to which previous Co-Investment Opportunities were offered to the prospective Co-Investor (and whether such prospective Co-Investor participated in such previous Co-Investment Opportunities); (v) whether the prospective Co-Investor will

represent a good syndicate partner in connection with the Advisory Client's investment; (vi) how quickly a prospective Co-Investor will be able to consummate its co-investment (including completion of due diligence and obtaining all required internal approvals); (vii) the AssuredIM Group's evaluation of whether the Co-Investment Opportunity would subject the potential Co-Investor to legal, regulatory, reporting, public relations, media, or other burdens that make it less likely that the prospective Co-Investor would act upon the Co-Investment Opportunity, if offered; (viii) the ability of such prospective Co-Investor to generate future investment opportunities or provide other benefits to Advisory Clients; (ix) the ability of such prospective Co-Investor to provide analytical and market advice or other expertise that may be valuable to Advisory Clients; and (x) tax, legal, regulatory or confidentiality considerations. In certain cases, Co-Investment Opportunities are structured to entitle the AssuredIM Group to receive performance-based compensation and/or management fees.

BlueMountain Fuji serves as the collateral manager to the Fuji CLOs, and BlueMountain Fuji has engaged AssuredIM to provide non-discretionary investment advice to the Fuji CLOs as well as certain operational, administrative and compliance related services and personnel to BlueMountain Fuji, including, without limitation, personnel that act as BlueMountain Fuji's portfolio managers and chief compliance officer, in exchange for a fee. AHP and AssuredIM have entered into a services and secondment agreement, pursuant to which AssuredIM provides certain services associated with the management of AHP Funds to AHP, including office space, back office services, legal and compliance services, and performance of trade executions, in exchange for a services fee and a secondment fee. As a result of these arrangements, AssuredIM, BlueMountain Fuji and AHP share certain personnel. Certain investment professionals associated with the AssuredIM Group (other than AHP) are actively involved in other investment activities not concerning its Advisory Clients and therefore will not be able to devote all of their time to its Advisory Clients' business and affairs. In addition, a limited number of AHP investment professionals provide investment advice to Advisory Clients of AssuredIM and will not be able to devote all of their time to AssuredIM and its Advisory Clients' business and affairs.

Item 7 – Types of Clients

Describe the types of *clients* to whom you generally provide investment advice, such as individuals, trusts, investment companies, or pension plans. If you have any requirements for opening or maintaining an account, such as a minimum account size, disclose the requirements.

Types of Clients

The AssuredIM Group provides investment advisory services to pooled investment vehicles operating as private investment funds, collateralized loan obligations and institutional accounts.

Conditions for Managing Accounts

The minimum initial investment amount for investors in Fund Clients is generally at least \$1,000,000. The minimum initial investment amount for investors in CLOs is generally at least \$250,000. In general, the minimum investment required for an Institutional Account depends on the type, number, and complexity of the strategies and instruments to be managed in the vehicle and the time horizon of the investment.

These requirements generally can be waived at the discretion of the general partner or the board of directors of the Advisory Client, or their respective delegates, subject to minimum investment size requirements for Fund Clients organized in certain offshore jurisdictions.

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

A. Describe the methods of analysis and investment strategies you use in formulating investment advice or managing assets. Explain that investing in securities involves risk of loss that *clients* should be prepared to bear.

The AssuredIM Group is an asset management firm that follows a comprehensive, multi-strategy approach to investing with specializations including but not limited to managing CLOs and investing in the healthcare sector, in municipal obligations and in asset-based investments. Each Advisory Client's investment strategy is generally set forth in a confidential private placement memorandum, offering circular or other offering documents of such Advisory Client.

The AssuredIM Group's investment process generally consists of identifying trading and investment strategies within and across asset classes and markets by combining one or more of the following methods of analysis:

1. Fundamental research by the AssuredIM Group's research team;
2. Quantitative analysis;
3. An understanding of the technical dynamics in the various credit, fixed income, equity and volatility markets (by the trading desk and portfolio managers); and
4. Market insights, macroeconomic views, judgment, and discretion of the portfolio managers.

The AssuredIM Group's analysts undertake in-depth financial analysis of individual names and monitor market developments across the sector. They combine a fundamental, cash flow approach with an understanding of the company's capital structure and specific securities to facilitate absolute and relative value judgments on individual names. Research specialists provide expertise in particular areas of fundamental research to complement sector and name coverage and use quantitative models that generate fundamental, technical and flow-based signals.

The AssuredIM Group's portfolio managers oversee the portfolio management team, the members of which are organized by sub-strategy. The portfolio managers analyze trade ideas, monitor the portfolio, perform risk and scenario analyses, and look for investment opportunities within their strategy. The portfolio management team is ultimately responsible for deciding which investment ideas to implement. The team makes these determinations based on the current exposures in the portfolio, the market environment, the relative attractiveness, risk profile, and liquidity of the new position, and the judgment of its members.

The AssuredIM Group's investment strategies and investment themes can be broadly grouped into the following categories:

CLOs: positions across the capital structure of collateralized loan obligations advised by AssuredIM Group and BlueMountain Fuji, as well as managing the underlying assets held by CLOs, including leveraged loans and high yield bonds.

Municipal Bonds: positions in taxable, tax-exempt, investment grade and high-yield municipal bonds.

Asset-Based Investing: provides specialty finance companies with capital by underwriting and structuring assets through warehouse facilities, secured asset-based debt, forward and discrete loan pool purchases, tradable securities and residuals of asset-backed securitizations. The asset classes of focus include auto loans, student loans, unsecured consumer loans, equipment loans, leases and dealer floorplan loans.

In evaluating loans and securities, the main sources of information used by the AssuredIM Group include, but are not limited to: quantitative data provided by third-party vendors; financial newspapers and

magazines; research materials prepared by third parties; corporate rating services; annual reports, prospectuses and filings with the SEC; and company press releases. However, the AssuredIM Group relies on its traders, portfolio managers, research analysts and quantitative strategists for generating and vetting trade ideas. The AssuredIM Group typically generates internally the research that it ultimately relies upon to make investment decisions.

Investors in Advisory Clients should be aware that investing in securities involves risk of loss that investors should be prepared to bear.

B. For each significant investment strategy or method of analysis you use, explain the material risks involved. If the method of analysis or strategy involves significant or unusual risks, discuss these risks in detail. If your primary strategy involves frequent trading of securities, explain how frequent trading can affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes.

All securities investments risk the loss of capital. No guarantee or representation is made that an Advisory Client will achieve its investment objective or that investors will not lose all or substantially all of their investment in the Advisory Client. Purchases of interests in Advisory Clients are suitable only for investors of substantial financial means who can make a long-term investment, can bear the risk of loss of their entire investment in the Advisory Client and have no need for liquidity of their investment.

Each strategy employed by the AssuredIM Group has the potential for Advisory Clients' assets to decline in value. The nature of Advisory Clients' investments involves certain risks, and the use of investment techniques (such as hedging, leverage and short selling) carries additional risks. Some of the specific risks to which Advisory Client assets are susceptible are as follows:

General Risks

Concentration of Investments

Advisory Clients may at certain times hold relatively few investments which are concentrated with respect to strategy, geography, risk profile, asset class or other characteristic. For example, certain Advisory Clients may invest all of their investable assets in municipal bonds and related products while other Advisory Clients may invest all of their investable assets in asset-backed securities, in each case, as disclosed in the offering documents with respect to an Advisory Client. Advisory Clients could be subject to significant losses if they hold a large position in a particular investment that declines in value or is otherwise adversely affected. The CLOs invest in the credit markets with most of the exposure coming from the leveraged loan market. As such, the CLOs have a high concentration of their respective portfolios invested in a single asset class.

Volatility

The market value of certain of an Advisory Client's investments may be volatile, and will generally fluctuate due to a variety of factors that are inherently difficult to predict, including, among other things, the macro business and economic environment, specific developments or trends within a company or in any particular industry, the market's overall perception of risk, general economic conditions, the condition of certain financial markets, domestic and international economic or political events, prevailing credit spreads, changes in prevailing interest rates and the financial condition of counterparties.

Illiquidity of Investments

In some circumstances, investments are relatively illiquid, making it difficult to acquire or dispose of them at the prices quoted on the various exchanges. Accordingly, the AssuredIM Group's ability to

respond to market movements may be impaired, and Advisory Clients may experience adverse price movements upon liquidation of its investments.

In addition, the Advisory Clients may make private investments that are subject to liquidity-related risks, particularly the risk that an Advisory Client will be unable to dispose of such investments by sale or other means at attractive prices or will otherwise be unable to complete any exit strategy. Among others, these risks include changes in the financial condition or prospects of the entity in which the investment is made. It is not generally expected that private securities acquired by an Advisory Client will eventually be registered and listed on a securities exchange. Absent registration, such Advisory Client will not be able to sell such securities unless an exemption from such registration requirements is available. In addition, in some cases an Advisory Client may be prohibited by contract or regulatory restrictions from selling such securities for a period of time. To the extent that there is no liquid trading market for an investment, an Advisory Client may be unable to liquidate that investment or may be unable to do so at a profit. Moreover, there can be no assurances that private purchasers for an Advisory Client's investments will be found.

Financial Model Risk

Most, if not all, of Advisory Clients' investments and investment strategies require the use of quantitative and qualitative valuation models developed by the AssuredIM Group and third parties. As market dynamics shift (for example, due to changed market conditions and participants) over time, a previously highly successful model may become outdated or inaccurate, perhaps without the AssuredIM Group recognizing the change before significant losses are incurred. An Advisory Client's model risk extends to the valuation of its investments, most of which will be made on the basis of internal AssuredIM Group models in the absence of any readily determinable market value. The valuations so determined may differ materially from values that are actually realized.

Trade Errors

As a fiduciary, the AssuredIM Group has an obligation to seek to ensure that orders it places for the account of Advisory Clients are accurate; nevertheless, Advisory Clients may experience errors with respect to the execution of trades placed on its behalf by the AssuredIM Group. Such "Trade Errors" include, for example: (i) an unintended or inaccurate execution of an actionable order generated by the AssuredIM Group's trading system; (ii) an erroneous voice instruction or an erroneous keystroke order entry relating to an actionable order generated by the AssuredIM Group's trading system; (iii) an error in the AssuredIM Group's trade execution routing systems, software or protocols; and (iv) an error during the clearance and settlement processes that results in an unintended transaction. Delays in executions of orders that are attributable to the AssuredIM Group and trading errors that do not result in transactions (such as erroneous trade instructions that are withdrawn or corrected prior to execution and erroneous cancellations of actionable orders generated by the AssuredIM Group's trading system) will not be viewed as "Trade Errors."

While the identification of Trade Errors and the proper method for resolving Trade Errors in any particular circumstance can be complicated, it is the AssuredIM Group's general policy to identify Trade Errors and, where feasible and appropriate, to ensure that each Trade Error is corrected in an expeditious manner. However, there are situations—particularly where the discovery of the trade error follows the settlement of the erroneous trades by some period of time—where it will be in the best interests of Advisory Clients to allow a trade placed in error to stand, and for the portfolio (including the position resulting from a trade error) to serve as the basis for subsequent trading decisions.

Neither the AssuredIM Group nor any other person indemnified pursuant to an Advisory Client's governing documentation (each, an "Indemnified Person") will be liable to the Advisory Clients for losses

resulting from any Trade Error, absent the actual fraud, bad faith, gross negligence (as determined under New York law), breach of a specified duty or willful misconduct of the AssuredIM Group or of any such Indemnified Person, in each case, subject to the specific indemnification terms and conditions in an Advisory Client's governing documentation. As a result of these provisions, the Advisory Clients (and not the AssuredIM Group) will benefit from any gains resulting from Trade Errors and will be responsible for any losses (including additional trading costs) resulting from Trade Errors, absent actual fraud, bad faith, gross negligence (as determined under New York law), breach of a specified duty or willful misconduct of the AssuredIM Group or of any such Indemnified Person, in each case, subject to the specific indemnification terms and conditions in an Advisory Client's governing documentation, in which case the AssuredIM Group will reimburse the Advisory Clients for any losses resulting from such covered Trade Errors. Profits from Trade Errors may not offset losses from Trade Errors, unless the underlying transactions constitute a single transaction.

Given the potentially large volume of transactions executed by the AssuredIM Group on behalf of the Advisory Clients, investors should assume that Trade Errors will occur and that, to the extent permitted by applicable law and under the applicable Advisory Client's governing documents and/or investment management agreement, the Advisory Client will be responsible for any resulting losses, even if such losses result from the negligence (but not gross negligence) of the AssuredIM Group and its personnel.

Hardware Failures. Similarly, with regard to trading, communication, development, programming and other systems or equipment that the AssuredIM Group operates, utilizes or relies upon, any or all of the following events may occur, even where the AssuredIM Group, acting as a fiduciary, takes steps to select secure and satisfactory equipment and service providers: (i) failures of such systems or equipment; (ii) interruptions in access to or the operations of such systems or equipment; (iii) loss of functionality of such systems or equipment; (iv) degradation or corruption of such systems or equipment; (v) compromises in the security or integrity of such systems or equipment; (vi) loss of power to such systems or equipment; and (vii) other situations that adversely affect such systems or equipment, however caused or occurring. These sorts of problems can result in losses for the Advisory Clients and are collectively termed "Hardware Failures." Hardware Failures also are not deemed to be "Trade Errors."

Pursuant to the "general exculpation and indemnity standard" described above, none of the AssuredIM Group or any other Indemnified Person will generally be liable to the Advisory Clients for losses resulting from any Hardware Failure, absent the actual fraud, bad faith, gross negligence (as determined under New York law), breach of a specified duty or willful misconduct of the AssuredIM Group or of any such Indemnified Person, in each case, subject to the specific indemnification terms and conditions in an Advisory Client's governing documentation. As a result of these provisions, the Advisory Clients (and not the AssuredIM Group) will be responsible for any losses resulting from Hardware Failures, absent actual fraud, bad faith, gross negligence (as determined under New York law), breach of a specified duty or willful misconduct of the AssuredIM Group or of any such Indemnified Person, in each case, subject to the specific indemnification terms and conditions in an Advisory Client's governing documentation, in which case the AssuredIM Group will reimburse the Advisory Clients for losses resulting from such covered Hardware Failures. Investors should weigh the risk that Hardware Failures result in losses for the Advisory Clients, which will be responsible for such losses, even if they result from the negligence (but not gross negligence) of the AssuredIM Group and its personnel.

Currency Exposure

Interests in Advisory Clients are issued and withdrawn primarily in U.S. Dollars, and a limited amount of interests in Advisory Clients are issued and withdrawn in either Euro, British Pound Sterling or Japanese Yen. In certain cases, the assets of Advisory Clients are, however, invested in securities and other investments which are denominated in currencies other than U.S. Dollars, Euro, British Pound Sterling and Japanese Yen. Accordingly, the value of such assets may be affected favorably or unfavorably by

fluctuations in currency rates. The AssuredIM Group usually seeks to hedge the foreign currency exposure of Advisory Clients (subject to the terms of the offering documents of each Advisory Client), but Advisory Clients are not required to hedge and there can be no assurance that an Advisory Client's hedging activities, even if undertaken, will be effective. However, Advisory Clients are necessarily subject to foreign exchange risks. In addition, prospective investors in Advisory Clients whose assets and liabilities are predominately in other currencies should take into account the potential risk of loss arising from fluctuations in value between the U.S. Dollar and other currencies.

Possible Positive Correlation

One of the goals in incorporating non-traditional investment strategies such as those to be utilized by Advisory Clients into a portfolio or series of portfolios is to provide a potentially valuable element of diversification. However, there can be no assurance, particularly during periods of market disruption and stress, when the risk control benefits of diversification may be most important, that an Advisory Client will, in fact, be negatively- or non-correlated with a traditional portfolio of stocks or bonds.

Short Selling

The AssuredIM Group engages in short selling with respect to certain government bonds, including U.S. treasury bonds. Short selling involves trading on margin and accordingly can involve greater risk than investments based on a long position. A short sale of a security involves the risk of a theoretically unlimited increase in the market price of the security, which could result in an inability to cover the short position and a theoretically unlimited loss. Additionally, there can be no assurance that securities necessary to cover a short position will be available for purchase.

Leverage

Certain Advisory Clients employ leverage for the purpose of making investments and to hedge their exposure to market and credit risk. The use of leverage creates special risks and may significantly increase the Advisory Client's investment risk. Leverage creates an opportunity for greater yield and total return but, at the same time, increases the Advisory Client's exposure to capital risk and interest costs. Any investment income and gains earned on investments made through the use of leverage that are in excess of the interest costs associated therewith may cause the value of interests in the Advisory Client to increase more rapidly than would otherwise be the case. Conversely, where the associated interest costs are greater than such income and gains, the value of the interests in the Advisory Client may decrease more rapidly than would otherwise be the case.

Spread Trading Risks

A part of an Advisory Client's trading operations may involve spreads between two or more positions. To the extent the price relationships between such positions remain constant, no gain or loss on the positions will occur. In addition, such positions entail substantial risk that the price differential could change unfavorably, causing a loss to the spread position. In periods of trendless, stagnant markets and/or deflation, many alternative investment strategies have materially diminished prospects for profitability.

Hedging Transactions

The success of an Advisory Client's hedging strategy is subject to the AssuredIM Group's ability to assess correctly the degree of correlation between the performance of the instruments used in the hedging strategy and the performance of the investments in the portfolio being hedged. Since the characteristics of many securities change as markets change or time passes, the success of an Advisory Client's hedging strategy is also subject to the AssuredIM Group's ability to recalculate, readjust, and execute hedges continually and in an efficient and timely manner.

From time to time, an Advisory Client may enter into hedging transactions to seek to reduce risk; however, such transactions may result in a poorer overall performance for the Advisory Client than if it had not engaged in any such hedging transactions. For a variety of reasons, the AssuredIM Group may not seek to establish a perfect correlation between such hedging instruments and the risks being hedged. Such imperfect correlation may prevent the Advisory Client from achieving the intended hedge or expose the Advisory Client to risk of loss. In addition, the AssuredIM Group may not hedge a risk inherent in the Advisory Client because a hedge may not be available or is too costly in light of the likelihood of the possible risk actually occurring, or because the risk simply was not anticipated.

Interest Rate Risk/Libor/SOFR

Interest rate risk will be inherent in the CLO because of, among other things, a difference between the interest rate basis of the CLO's rated notes and of floating/fixed rate assets purchased by the CLO, the CLO's cash balances not being required to be invested in floating rate investments, and changing levels of SOFR or other indexes in relation to the floating rate CLO notes and floating rate assets. No assurance can be made that the portion of floating rate assets of the CLO that bear interest based on indices other than SOFR will not increase in the future. The CLO is not expected to enter into hedge agreements to minimize such risk. The CLOs are subject to the risk that SOFR is replaced by alternative rates, which may differ as between the securities issued by the CLOs and the underlying loan assets. Subject to limitations imposed by the CLO documents, AssuredIM will be responsible for nominating or designating an alternative to SOFR in respect of its securities.

A substantial portion of the portfolio collateral obligations in the CLOs may still bear interest based on LIBOR. On March 5, 2021, the United Kingdom Financial Conduct Authority (the "FCA") announced that all LIBOR settings will either cease to be provided by any administrator, or no longer be representative immediately after December 31, 2021 for all GBP, EUR, CHF and JPY LIBOR settings and one-week and two-month USD LIBOR settings, and immediately after June 30, 2023 for the remaining USD LIBOR settings, including one-month and three-month USD LIBOR (the "**Announcement**"). Concurrent with the Announcement, the Federal Reserve Board, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation released a statement that (i) encouraged banks to cease entering into new contracts that use U.S. dollar LIBOR as a reference rate as soon as practicable and in any event by December 31, 2021, (ii) indicated that new contracts entered into before December 31, 2021 should either utilize a reference rate other than U.S. dollar LIBOR or have robust fallback language that includes a clearly defined alternative reference rate after the discontinuation of U.S. dollar LIBOR and (iii) explained that extending the publication of certain U.S. dollar LIBOR tenors until June 30, 2023 would allow most legacy U.S. dollar LIBOR contracts to mature before LIBOR begins experiencing disruptions. Although it is expected that floating rate obligations that bear interest based on LIBOR will migrate to a new benchmark prior to June 30, 2023, there is no guarantee that (i) such transition will occur, and if it occurs, when such transition will occur, (ii) SOFR, or the Term SOFR Reference Rate, will replace LIBOR as the benchmark for such floating rate obligations and (iii) any spread adjustment adopted in connection with such transition will be representative of LIBOR as of the date of determination of such benchmark or as prescribed pursuant to the underlying contractual agreement. When LIBOR is discontinued as a benchmark rate, it may cause one or more of the following to occur: (i) increase the volatility of LIBOR and SOFR prior to the consummation of any such change, (ii) increase pricing volatility with respect to collateral obligations, (iii) decrease the likelihood that the Advisors can effectively hedge interest rate risks or (iv) negatively impact the liquidity of the CLO notes.

Counterparty Risk

An Advisory Client is subject to the risk of the inability of any counterparty (including prime brokers) to perform with respect to transactions, whether due to insolvency, bankruptcy or other causes. The stability and liquidity of swap transactions, forward transactions and other over-the-counter derivative transactions depend in large part on the creditworthiness of the parties to the transactions. It is expected that the AssuredIM Group will monitor on an ongoing basis the creditworthiness of firms with which it will enter into swaps or other over-the-counter derivatives on behalf of the Advisory Clients. If there is a default by the counterparty to such a transaction, the Advisory Client will under most normal circumstances have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction. However, exercising such contractual rights may involve delays or costs which could result in losses. Furthermore, there is a risk that any of such counterparties could become insolvent. If one or more of the Advisory Client's counterparties were to become insolvent or the subject of liquidation proceedings in the United States (either under the Securities Investor Protection Act or the United States Bankruptcy Code), there exists the risk that the recovery of that portion of such Advisory Client's portfolio held by such prime broker or broker-dealer will be delayed or be of a value less than the value of the securities or assets originally entrusted to such prime broker or broker-dealer. In addition, Advisory Clients use counterparties located in various jurisdictions outside the United States. Such local counterparties are subject to various laws and regulations in various jurisdictions that are designed to protect their customers in the event of their insolvency. However, the practical effect of these laws and their application to the Advisory Clients' assets are subject to substantial limitations and uncertainties. Because of the large number of entities and jurisdictions involved and the range of possible factual scenarios involving the insolvency of a counterparty, it is impossible to generalize about the effect of their insolvency on an Advisory Client and its assets. Investors should assume that the insolvency of any counterparty would result in a loss, which could be material, to the affected Advisory Client.

Reliance on Corporate Management and Financial Reporting

The AssuredIM Group relies on the financial information made available by the issuers in which Advisory Clients invest. The AssuredIM Group typically does not independently verify the financial information disseminated by the numerous issuers in which Advisory Clients may invest and is dependent upon the integrity of both the management of these issuers and the financial reporting process in general. Corporate mismanagement, fraud and accounting irregularities relating to the issuers of investments held by Advisory Clients may result in material losses. Equity prices are particularly vulnerable to corporate mismanagement.

Litigation

From time to time, in the ordinary course of their operations, the AssuredIM Group and its affiliates may be subject to litigation and arbitration, which can be costly and divert significant portions of available staff time and resources. In addition, from time to time the AssuredIM Group uses litigation as part of an investment tactic. An Advisory Client could be party to lawsuits either initiated by it, or by a company in which such Advisory Client invests, other shareholders, or state, federal and foreign governmental bodies. There can be no assurance that any such litigation, once begun, would be resolved in favor of the applicable Advisory Client. Any litigation or arbitration could have a materially adverse effect on the involved Advisory Client.

Exposure to Material, Non-Public Information

From time to time, the AssuredIM Group receives material, non-public information with respect to an issuer of publicly traded securities. In such circumstances, Advisory Clients may be prohibited, by law, policy or contract, for a period of time from (i) unwinding a position in such issuer, (ii) establishing an initial position or taking any greater position in such issuer, and (iii) pursuing other investment opportunities related to such issuer.

Reliance on Management

Investors generally do not have an opportunity to select or evaluate any Advisory Client's investments, or to review an Advisory Client's securities and other investment positions. The AssuredIM Group selects all Advisory Client investments, and the quality of the AssuredIM Group's decisions dictates the Advisory Clients' success or failure. In addition, the business and prospects of the AssuredIM Group (and by extension, the Advisory Clients) might be materially and adversely affected by the death or incapacity of any senior personnel of the AssuredIM Group. Further, if the Advisory Clients managed by the AssuredIM Group were to incur substantial losses, the revenues of the AssuredIM Group may decline substantially. Such losses may impair the AssuredIM Group's ability to retain employees, provide the same level of service to the Advisory Clients and continue operations.

Reliance on Certain Third Parties

Advisory Clients are dependent upon their counterparties and certain service providers, such as the administrators of the Advisory Clients. Errors are inherent in the operations of any business (including the business of the Advisory Clients), and although the AssuredIM Group has adopted measures to prevent and detect errors by, and misconduct of, counterparties and service providers, and to transact with counterparties and service providers it believes to be reliable, such measures may not be effective in all cases. Errors or misconduct by such service providers could have a material adverse effect on the Advisory Clients.

Incentive Fees of Service Providers and Third-Party Managers

Service providers and managers of special purpose vehicles (each, an "SPV") through which Advisory Clients may invest ("Third-Party Managers") receive compensation based on, among other things, the performance of the assets that they service or in which such SPVs invest. Therefore, it is possible that certain service providers or Third-Party Managers receive incentive compensation from an Advisory Client, even though such Advisory Client, as a whole, does not achieve net capital appreciation. Such compensation arrangements may create an incentive to make investments that are riskier or more speculative than would be the case if such arrangements were not in effect. In addition, because performance-based compensation may be calculated on a basis which includes unrealized appreciation of an Advisory Client's assets, such performance-based compensation may be greater than if such compensation were based solely on realized gains. In addition, the existence of such incentive fees and other fees, such as management fees based, for example, on the value of assets managed, result in Advisory Clients paying fees twice, once to the AssuredIM Group or its affiliate and once to the service provider or Third-Party Manager to service or manage the same assets.

In certain cases, Third-Party Managers also receive compensation from investments in the form of transaction, director, monitor and other similar fees or in connection with any investment not completed (e.g., break-up fees). An Advisory Client is responsible for the payment of such transaction fees and conflicts of interest may arise in connection with the payment of such transaction fees.

Co-Investments by Advisory Clients and Other Third Party Investors

An Advisory Client may co-invest initially in a particular loan, security or other investment at substantially the same time as other Advisory Clients, in which case they would invest at substantially the same price. Though Advisory Clients often invest in tandem with other Advisory Clients, each Advisory Client will not necessarily invest through the same entity or use the same counterparties. This may result in differences in price, terms and amount of leverage (if any), and associated transaction costs. In addition, there can be no assurance that each Advisory Client would dispose of such an investment at substantially the same price or time as other Advisory Clients due to many factors that may or may not be foreseeable at the time of investment, including availability of capital for follow-on investment and other needs, differing basis in the investment, differing financing terms applicable to different investments, time horizons applicable to different Advisory Clients (including different investment periods) and their differing investment objectives and investment programs. Further, one Advisory Client's determination to dispose of an investment could affect the timing of another Advisory Client's disposal of that same investment. For example, such disposal could forfeit or diminish altogether certain rights or benefits (e.g., voting or other consent and control rights, board or committee representation, other rights attendant to superior equity or debt positions, etc.) held directly or indirectly by all Advisory Clients participating in the investment due to aggregate holdings size requirements or other considerations or otherwise affect the long-term viability of the investment, resulting in the determination by the other Advisory Clients that it is in their respective best interests to liquidate their positions as well even if the timing of such liquidation would not otherwise have been considered optimal. Further, to the extent an Advisory Client is required to liquidate its interest in such investment to meet liquidity demands of its investors, such liquidation may have an adverse effect on the market value of the underlying investment.

In addition, Advisory Clients may co-invest with third parties that are not Advisory Clients through joint ventures or other SPVs. Such investments involve risks not present in investments where a third party is not involved, including the possibility that a co-venturer or partner of an Advisory Client may at any time have economic or business interests or goals which are inconsistent with those of such Advisory Client, or may be in a position to take action contrary to such Advisory Client's investment objectives. In addition, an Advisory Client in certain circumstances will be liable for actions of its co-venturers or partners. Furthermore, if a co-venturer defaults on its funding obligations, in certain circumstances such Advisory Client will be required to make up the shortfall. Investments made with third parties in partnerships, joint ventures or other SPVs involve carried interest and/or other fees payable to such third-party co-venturers or partners. In those circumstances where such third parties involve a management group, such third parties receive compensation arrangements relating to such investments, including incentive compensation arrangements.

Co-Investment Opportunities

As discussed above under *Side-by-Side Management*, the AssuredIM Group, from time to time, offers certain investors in Advisory Clients and/or other third parties the right or opportunity to co-invest with other investors and/or Advisory Clients in certain portfolio investments, whether as a direct investment or as an indirect investment via a special purpose vehicle or other co-investment vehicle established by the AssuredIM Group to hold such co-investment. The AssuredIM Group generally is not obligated to arrange Co-Investment Opportunities for investors in any Advisory Client, and investors and Advisory Clients generally will not be entitled or have any right to participate in such a Co-Investment Opportunity solely by reason of being an Advisory Client or an investor in an Advisory Client.

Investing in Pre-Existing Investments

In certain cases, Advisory Clients invest in entities or assets in which other Advisory Clients hold an investment. Such transactions may have an effect (positive or negative) on the market price of such

investment. In circumstances in which an Advisory Client makes an investment in an entity in which other Advisory Clients have a pre-existing investment, the investing Advisory Client would be expected to make business decisions relating to such investment (such as, for example, financing or hedging interest rate or currency risk) independently of the analogous decisions made with respect to such investment by such other Advisory Clients. This may result in situations where an Advisory Client may choose not to hedge certain risks that other Advisory Clients do hedge, or the possibility that an Advisory Client is exposed to risks of financing (for example, possible margin calls) on an investment when other Advisory Clients are not.

Investing in Different Levels of the Capital Structure

It is expected that Advisory Clients will hold interests in an entity that are of a different class, type or seniority than, or otherwise adverse to, the class, type or seniority of interests held by other Advisory Clients. Similarly, from time to time Advisory Clients will hold multiple investments across the capital structure of an issuer of varying classes, types or seniorities, but will hold different proportions of each such investment. It is possible that the trading and investment activities of any Advisory Client could conflict with the activities and strategies employed in managing the assets of any other Advisory Client and affect the prices and availability of the securities and instruments in which an Advisory Client invests. For example, one Advisory Client may hold unsecured debt of an issuer while another Advisory Client holds secured debt of the same issuer. This would potentially result in one Advisory Client being senior or junior to another Advisory Client in the capital structure of such entity, which could mean that in a restructuring, workout or other distressed scenario the interests of such Advisory Clients might be adverse to one another, and one such Advisory Client might recover all or part of their investment while the other does not. Decisions about what action should be taken in such a situation, including whether or not to enforce claims, whether or not to advocate or initiate a restructuring or liquidation inside or outside of bankruptcy, and the terms of any work-out or restructuring, raise conflicts of interest.

In addressing certain of the potential conflicts of interest described herein, the AssuredIM Group may, but shall not be obligated to, take one or more actions on behalf of an Advisory Client, including any one or more of the following: (i) causing an Advisory Client to remain passive in a situation in which it is otherwise entitled to vote or take other action, which may result in the outcome of such vote or action being determined by (x) other investors or decision-makers in the same class of equity or debt securities (or another class of equity or debt) or (y) the vote or other action taken by another Advisory Client; (ii) referring the matter to one or more persons that is not affiliated with the AssuredIM Group to review or approve of an intended course of action with respect to such matter; (iii) consulting with the Advisory Client on such matter or otherwise requesting that the underlying investors (or an advisory board) approve such matter; (iv) establishing ethical screens or information barriers to separate investment professionals or assigning different teams of investment professionals, supported by legal counsel and other advisers, as the AssuredIM Group deems appropriate, to act independently of each other in representing different Advisory Clients or Advisory Clients that hold different classes, series or tranches of an issuer's capital structure; (v) as between two Advisory Clients, ensuring (or seeking to ensure) that the underlying investors therein own interests in the same securities or financial instruments and in the same proportions so as to preserve an alignment of interest; or (vi) causing an Advisory Client to divest itself of a security or financial instrument or particular class, series or tranche of an issuer's capital structure it might otherwise have held on to, including causing an Advisory Client to sell a security or financial instrument to one or more other Advisory Clients (or vice versa), or underlying investors in such other Advisory Client. There can be no assurance that any of these measures will be feasible or effective in any particular situation, and it is possible that the outcome for the Advisory Client will be less favorable than might otherwise have been the case if the AssuredIM Group had not had duties to other Advisory Clients.

The AssuredIM Group recognizes that conflicts arise when Advisory Clients invest in different levels of the capital structure of the same entities and will endeavor to treat all Advisory Clients fairly and equitably under such circumstances. The actions taken by the AssuredIM Group on behalf of an Advisory Client are expected to vary based on the particular facts and circumstances surrounding each investment by two or more Advisory Clients in different classes, series or tranches of an issuer's capital structure (as well as across multiple issuers or borrowers within the same overall capital structure) and, as such, investors should expect some degree of variation, and potentially inconsistency, in the manner in which potential or actual conflicts are addressed. While the AssuredIM Group seeks to resolve the conflicts in an impartial manner, there can be no assurance that the AssuredIM Group's own interests will not influence its conduct.

Lender Liability Considerations and Equitable Subordination

Holders of debt securities may be subject to so-called "lender liability" claims by the issuer of the obligations. Such claims may be deemed to arise when an institutional lender has assumed a duty to the borrower (whether implied or contractual) of good faith and fair dealing or has assumed a degree of control over the borrower resulting in the creation of a fiduciary duty to the borrower or the other creditors or shareholders of the borrower, and then violated such duty.

In addition, U.S. common law principles, in certain circumstances, can form the basis for lender liability claims; if a lending institution (i) intentionally takes an action that results in the undercapitalization of a borrower to the detriment of other creditors of such borrower, (ii) engages in other inequitable conduct to the detriment of such other creditors, (iii) engages in fraud with respect to, or makes misrepresentations to, such other creditors, or (iv) uses its influence as a stockholder to dominate or control a borrower to the detriment of other creditors of such borrower, a court may elect to subordinate the claim of the offending lending institution to the claims of the disadvantaged creditor or creditors, a remedy called "equitable subordination." Certain foreign jurisdictions may impose liability upon lenders or bondholders under factual circumstances similar to those described above, with consequences that may or may not be analogous to those described above. Advisory Clients could be subject to claims from creditors of an obligor that the Advisory Clients' investments issued by such obligor should be equitably subordinated because of actions by the Advisory Clients.

Dissolution Risks

Advisory Clients may be required to liquidate their investments pursuant to the liquidity rights of their investors. In the case of a dissolution of an Advisory Client, dissolution may require the selling of such Advisory Client's investments under circumstances which may negatively affect the Advisory Client's returns. Where an Advisory Client is liquidated pursuant to its dissolution provisions, this may also negatively affect the value of other Advisory Clients' investments and/or the circumstances of their disposition and accordingly the Advisory Clients' returns.

Cybersecurity and Systems Risks

The AssuredIM Group relies extensively on computer programs, networks, devices and systems (and may rely on new systems and technology in the future) in connection with the Advisory Clients' investment activities, including, without limitation, to trade, clear and settle securities transactions, to evaluate certain investments based on real-time information, to monitor each Advisory Client's portfolio and net capital, and to generate risk management and other reports that are critical to oversight of each Advisory Client's activities. In addition, certain of the Advisory Clients', the AssuredIM Group's and their affiliates' operations interface with or depend on computer programs, networks, devices and systems operated by third-parties, service providers and market counterparties and their sub-custodians and other service providers, and the AssuredIM Group may not be in a position to verify the risks or reliability of such

third-party systems. These programs or systems may be subject to certain defects, failures, interruptions or security breaches, including, but not limited to, those caused by computer “worms,” viruses, power failures and social engineering schemes such as “phishing.” Although the AssuredIM Group has implemented software risk management systems, there can be no guarantee that AssuredIM’s software systems are error free. Potential flaws in these software systems include but are not limited to flaws in design, implementation, configuration, communication, testing, compiling, or linking.

Cybersecurity and information security breaches can include unauthorized access to systems, networks, or devices; infection from computer viruses or other malicious software code; and attacks that shut down, disable, slow, or otherwise disrupt operations, business processes, or website access or functionality. The AssuredIM Group’s operations are highly dependent on each of these systems and the successful operation of such systems is often out of the AssuredIM Group’s control. Any such defect, failure or breach could have a material adverse effect on the Advisory Clients, the AssuredIM Group and their affiliates. For example, systems failures, information security incidents or cybersecurity breaches could cause settlement of trades to fail, lead to inaccurate accounting, recording or processing of trades, and cause inaccurate reports, which may affect the ability of the AssuredIM Group to accurately monitor the Advisory Clients’ investment portfolios and risks. Cybersecurity breaches may cause (i) disruptions and impact business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses to the Advisory Clients; (ii) interference with the AssuredIM Group’s ability to calculate the value of an Advisory Client’s investment; (iii) impediments to trading; (iv) the inability of the AssuredIM Group and other service providers to transact business; (v) violations of applicable privacy and other laws; (vi) regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, or additional compliance costs; as well as (vii) the inadvertent release of confidential information. Similar adverse consequences could result from system failures and cybersecurity breaches affecting (i) issuers of securities in which the Advisory Clients invest; (ii) counterparties with which the Advisory Clients engage in transactions; (iii) governmental and other regulatory authorities; (iv) exchange and other financial market operators, banks, brokers, dealers, insurance companies, and other financial institutions; and (v) other parties. In addition, substantial costs may be incurred by these entities in order to prevent any cybersecurity breaches in the future.

Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery

The business operations of the AssuredIM Group may be vulnerable to disruption in the case of catastrophic events such as fires, natural disaster (e.g., floods and hurricanes), epidemics, pandemics, terrorist attacks or other circumstances resulting in property damage, network interruption and/or prolonged power outages. Although the AssuredIM Group has implemented measures to manage risks relating to these types of events, there can be no assurances that all contingencies can be planned for. In addition, such a disruption may materially and adversely impact the value and performance of investments in underlying portfolio companies and the AssuredIM Group’s ability to achieve Advisory Clients’ investment objectives more generally. The extent of the impact of any such disruptions on the AssuredIM Group, Advisory Clients, and any underlying portfolio company’s operational and financial performance will depend on many factors, including the duration and scope of such disruptions, the extent of any responsive measures implemented and the impact of such disruptions on overall economic activity, consumer confidence and economic markets, all of which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted. The related risks of loss from such disruptions can be substantial and could have a material adverse effect on the Advisory Clients.

Sanctions

Advisory Clients are subject to laws which restrict the Advisory Clients from dealing with persons that are located or domiciled in sanctioned jurisdictions. Accordingly, the Advisory Clients require each subscriber to represent that the subscriber is not named on a list of prohibited entities and individuals

maintained by the US Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control or under European Union ("EU") and United Kingdom ("UK") regulations (as extended to the Cayman Islands by statutory instrument), and is not operationally based or domiciled in a country or territory in relation to which current sanctions have been issued by the United Nations, EU or UK (collectively "Sanctions Lists"). Where the subscriber is on a Sanctions List, an Advisory Client may be required to cease any further dealings with the subscriber's interest in the Advisory Client, until such sanctions are lifted or a license is sought under applicable law to continue dealings. In addition, the existence of such sanctions (or possibility thereof) may preclude the Advisory Clients from acquiring or selling a position in an investment at a time when AssuredIM otherwise believes it would be appropriate to do so.

Regulatory/Legislative Developments Risk

Regulators and/or legislators may promulgate rules or pass legislation that places restrictions on, adds procedural hurdles to, affects the liquidity of, and/or alters the risks associated with certain investment transactions or the securities underlying such investment transactions. Such rules/legislation could adversely affect the value associated with such investment transactions or underlying securities. Future legal, tax and regulatory changes could occur that may adversely affect business and require additional reporting for registered investment advisors. The SEC, other regulators and self-regulatory organizations and exchanges have taken various extraordinary actions in connection with market events and may take additional actions. Registered investment advisors may also be adversely affected by changes in the enforcement or interpretation of existing laws, rules and regulations, including tax laws, by federal, state and non-U.S. agencies, courts, authorities or regulators.

Economic Conditions

Changes in economic conditions, including, for example, interest rates, inflation rates, currency and exchange rates, industry conditions, competition, technological developments, trade relationships, political and diplomatic events and trends, tax laws and innumerable other factors, can affect substantially and adversely the investment performance of an Advisory Client's account. Economic, political and financial conditions (including military conflicts and financial sanctions), or industry or economic trends and developments, may, from time to time, and for varying periods of time, cause volatility, illiquidity or other potentially adverse effects in the financial markets. Economic or political turmoil, a deterioration of diplomatic relations or a natural or man-made disaster in a region or country where AssuredIM's Advisory Client assets are invested may result in adverse consequences to such Advisory Clients. As of the beginning of 2023, there is an especially high degree of economic uncertainty given elevated inflation, a rapid increase in interest rates by Central Banks, and a high level of geopolitical uncertainty in Europe and Asia. The likelihood of a recession, and the magnitude of any such recession, is highly uncertain and would have significant implications across asset classes. In addition, due to the recent bank failures, there is a risk of loss of deposits in excess of \$250,000, the standard FDIC insured amount per depositor, risks surrounding liquidity concentration, systemic risk regarding the failure of other banks, and increased compliance costs associated with diversifying deposits among multiple banks. None of these conditions is or will be within the control of AssuredIM, and no assurances can be given that AssuredIM will anticipate or successfully navigate these developments.

Pandemic Outbreak

An epidemic outbreak and reactions to such an outbreak could cause uncertainty in markets and businesses, including AssuredIM's business, and may adversely affect the performance of the global economy, including causing market volatility, market and business uncertainty and closures, supply chain and travel interruptions, the need for employees and vendors to work at external locations, and extensive medical absences. AssuredIM has policies and procedures to address known situations, but because a

large epidemic may create significant market and business uncertainties and disruptions, not all events that could affect AssuredIM's business and/or the markets can be determined and addressed in advance. During the COVID-19 outbreak, AssuredIM's Business Continuity Plan allowed AssuredIM's personnel to work remotely without interruption to AssuredIM's investment management or client service and AssuredIM has adopted a hybrid home-office work model subsequently. This incident response may not be representative of future incident conditions.

Custody Risk

The Firm is required to maintain certain Advisory Client assets with a qualified custodian. Advisory Clients may incur a loss on securities and cash held in custody in the event of a custodian's or sub-custodian's insolvency, negligence, fraud, poor administration or inadequate recordkeeping. Generally, deposits maintained at a bank do not become part of a failed bank's estate however, the Firm's operations could be impacted by the bank's insolvency in that there may be a delay in access to liquidity, trade settlement, delivery of securities, etc. Establishing multiple custodial relationships could mitigate custodial risk in the event of a bank failure.

CLO-Focused Risks

Due to the unique structure and focus of CLOs, they are subject to a number of specific risks.

Nature of CLO Investments

The CLOs invest in collateral obligations consisting at the time of acquisition of predominantly bank loans and other debt instruments, all of which have greater credit and liquidity risk than investment grade sovereign or corporate bonds or loans. Such collateral is subject to credit, liquidity and interest rate risks. The lower rating of below investment grade collateral reflects a greater possibility that adverse changes in the financial condition of an issuer or borrower or in general economic conditions or both may impair the ability of the relevant borrower or issuer, as the case may be, to make payments of principal or interest.

CLOs are typically structured so that the notes issued by the CLO are assumed to be able to withstand certain assumed losses relating to defaults on the underlying collateral obligations; however, there is no assurance that actual losses will not exceed such assumed losses. If any losses exceed such assumed levels, payments to CLO investors could be adversely affected.

In recent years, events in the collateral debt obligation (including CLO), leveraged finance and fixed income markets have contributed to a severe liquidity crisis in the global credit markets which has resulted in substantial fluctuations in prices for leveraged loans and high-yield debt securities and limited liquidity for such instruments. No assurance can be made that the conditions giving rise to such price fluctuations and limited liquidity will not continue or become more acute. During periods of limited liquidity and higher price volatility, a CLO's ability to acquire or dispose of collateral obligations at a price and time that the CLO deems advantageous may be severely impaired. As a result, in periods of rising market prices, a CLO may be unable to participate in price increases fully to the extent that it is unable to acquire desired positions quickly; and such CLO's inability to dispose fully and promptly of positions in declining markets may exacerbate losses suffered by the CLO when collateral obligations are sold.

The market value and performance of the collateral obligations may be adversely impacted by current and future economic conditions, including perceptions of potential, current or future conditions, market trading imbalances or technical dislocation. To the extent that economic and business conditions fail to

improve or deteriorate further, the levels of defaults and delinquencies are likely to increase and market values may decrease or not fully recover, which may adversely affect the amount of proceeds that could be obtained upon the sale of the collateral obligations and could adversely impact the ability of the CLO to meet its financial obligations.

Concentration of Investments

The CLOs invest in the credit markets with most of the exposure coming from the leveraged loan market. As such, the CLOs have a high concentration of their respective portfolios invested in a single asset class.

Collateral Obligations below Investment Grade

Primarily all of the collateral obligations of the CLOs are rated below investment grade. Obligors of below investment grade debt obligations may be highly leveraged and may not have available to them more traditional methods of financing or may not be able to refinance their debt obligations. Leveraged loans have historically experienced greater default rates than has been the case for investment grade securities. There can be no assurance as to the levels of defaults and/or recoveries that may be experienced on the collateral obligations, and an increase in default levels could adversely affect the performance of the CLO, and thus, the return to investors in the CLO.

A non-investment grade loan or other debt obligation is generally considered speculative in nature and may go into default. Such a defaulted obligation may become subject to either substantial work out negotiations or restructuring, which may entail, among other things, a substantial reduction in the interest rate, a substantial write-down of principal, and a substantial change in the terms, conditions and covenants with respect to such defaulted obligation. In addition, such negotiations or restructuring may be quite extensive and protracted over time, and therefore may result in substantial uncertainty with respect to the ultimate recovery on such defaulted obligation. The liquidity for defaulted obligations may be limited, and to the extent that defaulted obligations are sold, it is highly unlikely that the proceeds from such sale will be equal to the amount of unpaid principal and interest thereon.

Prepayment Risk

Some of the terms of loans acquired by a CLO are subject to early prepayment options or similar provisions which, in each case, could result in a CLO realizing such loans earlier than expected, sometimes with no or a nominal prepayment premium. This typically happens when there is a decline in interest rates, when the portfolio company's improved credit or operating or financial performance allows the refinancing of certain classes of debt with lower cost debt or when the general credit market conditions improve. In the event a CLO receives proceeds from an investment earlier than it had anticipated, a CLO is often permitted to reinvest such proceeds, but there is no assurance that a CLO will be able to reinvest such proceeds even where they are received during such CLO's reinvestment period. On occasion, a CLO's inability to reinvest such proceeds will materially affect the performance of a CLO.

Reinvestment Risk

Subject to certain limitations, each CLO may generally reinvest any proceeds from its investments for a certain period following the closing date of such CLO. The objective of such reinvestment capability is to provide ongoing additional capital to potentially increase the total return from the investments to such CLO's investors. However, if the proceeds of a CLO's investments are reinvested, its investors' capital will continue to be subject to the risk of loss for a longer period of time. If reinvested proceeds are lost, such loss would offset at least a portion of any gains that may have been realized from prior investments of such CLO, and it is possible that any such loss could exceed any such prior gains, thereby resulting in a possible loss of at least a portion of the amounts invested in the CLO by its investors.

Leverage

CLOs employ leverage which could lead to losses in some of the notes issued by a CLO, and the subordinated notes are subject to up to 100% loss of invested capital. Any deterioration in the performance of the underlying collateral will be borne first by the subordinated notes.

Currency Exposure

Underlying collateral in CLOs are primarily in U.S. Dollars or Euros, and a limited amount may be in British Pound Sterling or other foreign currencies. The AssuredIM Group may seek to hedge the foreign currency exposure of CLOs in accordance with the terms of each CLO's indenture. However, CLOs are necessarily subject to foreign exchange risks. In addition, prospective investors in CLOs whose assets and liabilities are predominately in other currencies should take into account the potential risk of loss arising from fluctuations in value between the U.S. Dollar, the Euro and other currencies.

Hedging Transactions

Aside from entering into swaps to hedge certain currency or interest rate risks, the CLOs are not expected to enter into hedging transactions. Any hedging transactions must conform to the requirements of the indenture.

Litigation

The AssuredIM Group may participate in creditors' committees with respect to the bankruptcy, restructuring or work out of issuers of collateral obligations. In such circumstances, the AssuredIM Group may take positions on behalf of a CLO that are adverse to the interests of another CLO. The AssuredIM Group may be entitled to receive steering committee fees associated with a bankruptcy, restructuring or work out (except any fees received in connection with the extension of the maturity of a defaulted obligation or a reduction in the outstanding principal balance of a defaulted obligation) received in connection with the work out or restructuring of any defaulted obligations.

The funds available to a CLO to pay certain fees and operating expenses are limited by restrictions governing the CLO's priority of payments to pay for such fees and expenses. If such funds are not sufficient to pay the expenses incurred by the CLO, the ability of the CLO to operate effectively may be impaired, and the CLO may not be able to defend or prosecute legal proceedings that may be brought against it or that the CLO might otherwise bring to protect its interests. In addition, service providers of a CLO that are not paid in full may have the right to resign. This could ultimately lead to the CLO being in default under applicable law.

Financially Troubled Companies and Bankruptcy Risks

CLOs make investments that may become distressed and or file for bankruptcy protection due to factors outside the control of the AssuredIM Group. There is no assurance that there will be sufficient collateral to cover the value of the loans and/or other investments purchased by a CLO or that there will be a successful reorganization or similar action of the company or investment which becomes distressed. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a company in which a CLO invests, a CLO is in a position to lose its entire investment, to be required to accept cash or securities with a value less than a CLO's original investment and/or to be required to accept payment over an extended period of time. Under these circumstances, the returns generated from a CLO's investments will likely not compensate the investors in the CLOs adequately for the risks assumed. Additionally, under certain circumstances, a lender who has inappropriately exercised control of the management and policies of a debtor will generally either have its claims subordinated, or disallowed, or be found liable for damage suffered by parties as a result of such actions. Under circumstances involving a portfolio company's insolvency,

payments to a CLO and distributions by a CLO to its investors are likely to be reclaimed if any such payment or distribution is later determined to have been a fraudulent conveyance or a preferential payment.

Troubled company investments require active monitoring and, at times, require significant participation in business strategy or reorganization proceedings by the AssuredIM Group. In addition, involvement by the AssuredIM Group in a company's reorganization proceedings could result in the imposition of restrictions limiting a CLO's ability to liquidate its position in the company.

The Dodd Frank Act and U.S. Risk Retention Rules

In response to the downturn in the credit markets and the global economic crisis of 2007-2008, legislators and various agencies and regulatory bodies of the United States federal government and in Europe have taken or are considering taking actions. These actions include, but are not limited to, the enactment of the Dodd Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd Frank Act"), which was signed into law on July 21, 2010, and which imposes a regulatory framework over the U.S. financial services industry and the consumer credit markets in general, and proposed and actual regulations by the SEC and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"). Implementation of the Dodd Frank Act has required, and will continue to require, many lengthy rulemaking processes resulting in the adoption of a multitude of new regulations applicable to entities which transact business in the U.S. or with U.S. persons outside the U.S. The Dodd Frank Act affects many aspects, in the U.S. and internationally, of the business of the AssuredIM Group. While many regulations implementing various provisions of the Dodd Frank Act have been finalized and adopted, some implementing regulations currently exist only in draft form and are subject to comment and revision, and still other implementing regulations have not yet been proposed. It is therefore difficult to predict whether and to what extent the CLOs and the businesses of the AssuredIM Group and its subsidiaries and affiliates, will be affected by the Dodd Frank Act as implementing regulations are finalized over time and come into effect.

Pursuant to the Dodd Frank Act, the CFTC has promulgated a range of regulatory requirements that may affect the pricing, terms and compliance costs associated with derivatives contracts that may be entered into by a CLO from time to time. Such regulations may require central clearing of derivatives trades with a derivatives clearinghouse organization, may mandate initial and variation margin requirements, and may increase reporting obligations, documentation responsibilities and other matters in respect of derivatives contracts, in each case, potentially resulting in significantly increased costs to the CLOs and/or the AssuredIM Group. Such regulation and related increased costs may lead to a CLO's inability to purchase additional collateral obligations or have unforeseen legal consequences on a CLO or the AssuredIM Group or have other material adverse effects on the CLOs or investors therein. In addition, CFTC rules under the Dodd Frank Act include "swaps" along with "futures" as contracts which if traded by an entity may cause that entity to fall within the definitions of a "commodity pool" or "commodity trading advisor" under the Commodities Exchange Act and the AssuredIM Group to fall within the definition of a "commodity pool operator" ("CPO") and/or a "commodity trading advisor" ("CTA") with respect to the CLOs.

Based on applicable CFTC guidance, it is expected that the CLOs will not fall within the definition of "commodity pool". However, no assurance can be given that the CLOs will not be deemed to be commodity pools and that the AssuredIM Group may be required to bear additional compliance burdens with respect to the rules of the CFTC and/or the National Futures Association ("NFA").

Given the broad scope and sweeping nature of these changes and the fact that final implementing rules and regulations have not yet been enacted, the potential impact of these actions on the CLOs and the AssuredIM Group is unknown, and no assurance can be made that the impact of such changes would not

have a material adverse effect on the prospects of the CLOs or the value or marketability of their investments.

On October 21, 2014, the final rules implementing the credit risk retention requirements of Section 941 of the Dodd Frank Act (the “U.S. Risk Retention Rules”) were issued. The U.S. Risk Retention Rules generally require the collateral manager of a collateralized loan obligation to retain not less than five percent of the credit risk of the assets collateralizing the collateralized loan obligation’s securities.

On February 9, 2018, a three-judge panel (the “Panel”) of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit (the “Appellate Court”) ruled in favor of an appeal by the Loan Syndications and Trading Association against the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System that managers of so-called “open market CLOs” are not “securitizers” under Section 941 of the Dodd Frank Act and, therefore, are not subject to the U.S. Risk Retention Rules (the “LSTA Opinion”).

On April 5, 2018, the District Court entered its order implementing the appellate mandate issued by the Appellate Court (the “Appellate Mandate”) and vacating the U.S. Risk Retention Rules as they apply to managers of “open market CLOs”. Therefore, the U.S. Risk Retention Rules do not apply to managers of “open market CLOs” (which includes the AssuredIM Group) as of the date hereof, and there may be no “sponsor” of the CLOs and no party may be required to acquire and retain an economic interest in the credit risk of the securitized assets of the CLOs under the U.S. Risk Retention Rules.

Investors in the CLOs will not be entitled to the protections afforded by the U.S. Risk Retention Rules to comply with certain disclosure obligations in the U.S. Risk Retention Rules. The market may face some of the same risk faced by other securitization markets preceding the enactment of the Dodd Frank Act: excessive leverage by borrowers, an insufficient supply of loans, excessive demand in the loan market driven by new offerings, loosening of credit standards due to excessive demand and other similar risks. All of these risks and others could reduce the market value or liquidity of investments in the CLOs. The ultimate effects of the LSTA Opinion are unknown at this time.

Because the U.S. Risk Retention Rules are intended to apply with respect to initial offerings as well as other transactions, including, without limitation, certain refinancings, re-pricings and additional issuances, and the AssuredIM Group does not expect to effect any such transactions, even if the U.S. Risk Retention Rules generally become effective, they are not expected to apply to the AssuredIM Group’s activities. However, the AssuredIM Group does not expect to make any commitment or any representation nor give any undertaking as to compliance with the U.S. Risk Retention Rules in connection with its operations. The AssuredIM Group’s regulatory authorizations and obligations may change from time to time, and no assurance can be made that the United States federal government or any U.S. regulatory body (or other authority or regulatory body) will not continue to take further legislative or regulatory action in response to the economic crisis or otherwise, and the effect of such actions, if any, cannot be known or predicted.

European and UK Risk Retention

In Europe and the UK, risk retention and due diligence requirements (together, the “EU/UK Risk Retention and Due Diligence Requirements”) apply in respect of various types of EU or UK regulated investors, as the case may be. Among other things, such requirements restrict an investor who is subject to the EU/UK Risk Retention and Due Diligence Requirements from investing in securitizations unless: (i) the originator has explicitly disclosed that it will retain at least five percent of certain specified tranches; and (ii) is able to demonstrate that the investor performed certain due diligence with respect to its investment. Failure to comply with one or more of the requirements may result in various penalties including, in the case of those investors subject to regulatory capital requirements, the imposition of a punitive capital charge on the notes acquired by the relevant investor. Aspects of the requirements and

what is or will be required to demonstrate compliance to national regulators remain unclear. These requirements and any other changes to the regulatory treatment of securitizations may negatively impact the regulatory position of certain investors. In addition, such regulations could have a negative impact on the price and liquidity of the notes offered by a CLO in the secondary market. The AssuredIM Group makes no representation, warranty or guarantee that the offering of any CLO is compliant with the EU/UK Risk Retention and Due Diligence Requirements or any other applicable legal regulatory or other requirements. There can be no assurances as to whether the EU/UK Risk Retention and Due Diligence Requirements will be amended or altered by a change in law or regulation.

Municipal Bond-Focused Risks

Municipal Securities

Advisory Clients will buy and sell municipal securities as well as other municipal obligations directly or indirectly, including by investing in other vehicles, such as exchange-traded funds, that have exposure to municipal securities or other municipal obligations. Municipal securities are issued by or on behalf of states, territories and possessions of the United States and their political subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities and the District of Columbia to obtain funds for various public purposes. Municipal securities are subject to more credit risk than U.S. government securities that are supported by the full faith and credit of the United States. The two principal classifications of municipal securities are notes and bonds. There are, in addition, a variety of hybrid and special types of municipal securities and other obligations as well as numerous differences in the security of municipal securities both within and between the two principal classifications (*i.e.*, notes and bonds).

Municipal notes are generally used to provide for short-term capital needs, such as to finance working capital needs of municipalities or to provide various interim or construction financing, and generally have maturities of one year or less. They are generally payable from specific revenues expected to be received at a future date or are issued in anticipation of long-term financing to be obtained in the market to provide for the repayment of the note.

Municipal bonds, which generally meet longer-term capital needs and generally have maturities of more than one year when issued, have two principal classifications: general obligation bonds and revenue bonds. General obligation bonds are backed by the “full faith and credit” of the governmental entity issuing the bonds. The creditworthiness of general obligation bonds is primarily based upon the “ability to pay,” generally defined by the overall financial health of the issuer and its “willingness to pay” generally determined by the history of fiscal responsibility, necessity of market access and current political climate. In contrast, revenue bonds are not payable from the general taxing power of the municipality and holders of revenue bonds typically have no claims on the issuer’s other resources. Rather, revenue bonds traditionally depend on one or more specified sources of revenue designated to satisfy the issuer’s obligations to capture that stream of revenues or finance a specific project or enterprise.

Each type of municipal obligation may be more or less susceptible to downgrades or defaults during recessions or similar periods of economic stress. As such, the value of the Advisory Clients’ investments in municipal obligations will be affected by local, state, regional and national factors. These may include economic or policy changes, erosion of the tax base, population changes, legislative changes (especially those regarding taxes) and the possibility of other credit problems. Any such changes or events may adversely affect the value of the Advisory Clients’ investments.

In addition to being downgraded, an insolvent municipality may file for bankruptcy. The reorganization process of a municipality’s debts has little precedent and may significantly affect the rights of creditors. In particular, Chapter 9 (“Chapter 9”) of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, as amended, provides a financially

distressed municipality with protection from its creditors while it develops and negotiates a plan for adjusting its debts. The commencement of a Chapter 9 bankruptcy case operates as a stay, applicable to all creditors of the municipality, of most efforts to collect prepetition claims. Such a stay would operate to restrict the municipality from making payments of either principal or interest on accounts of its general obligation bonds. In general, numerous important legal issues under Chapter 9 are unsettled and evolving. Accordingly, a Chapter 9 filing by an issuer of securities may result in an adverse effect on the value of general obligation bonds and special revenue bonds.

There also is political risk that state legislatures or municipal authorities will seek to interfere with or rescind the revenue streams required for the issuer to satisfy its obligations, leaving the creditor with no recourse. This risk exists for both performing and non-performing or defaulted obligations. Furthermore, states and municipalities face uncertainty in respect of federal mandates, federal assistance and subsidies, a rapidly changing and unpredictable regulatory landscape and other political and regulatory policy changes, any of which may adversely affect the performance of municipal obligations. There is no guarantee that AssuredIM will be able to anticipate the above risks effectively.

High-Yield Securities

Advisory Clients invest in “high yield” bonds and other debt securities which are rated in the lower rating categories by the various credit rating agencies (or in comparable non-rated securities). Debt securities in the lower categories are subject to greater risk of loss of principal and interest than higher-rated securities and are generally considered to be predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer’s capacity to pay interest and repay principal. They are also generally considered to be subject to greater risk than debt securities with higher ratings in the case of deterioration or general economic conditions. Because investors generally perceive that there are greater risks associated with the lower-rated debt securities, the yields and prices of such securities may tend to fluctuate more than those of higher-rated securities. The market for lower-rated debt securities is thinner and less active than that for higher rated securities, which can adversely affect the prices at which these securities can be sold. In addition, adverse publicity and investor perceptions about lower rated debt securities, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may be a contributing factor in a decrease in the value and liquidity of such lower-rated securities.

Distressed Securities

Advisory Clients purchase or hold debt securities and other obligations of issuers that are experiencing significant financial distress, including issuers involved in bankruptcy or other reorganization and liquidation proceedings. Although such purchases may result in significant returns, they involve a substantial degree of risk and may not show any return for a considerable period of time. In fact, many of these securities and investments ordinarily remain unpaid unless and until the issuer reorganizes and/or emerges from bankruptcy proceedings, and as a result may have to be held for an extended period of time. In some circumstances, such debt securities may be converted to equity as part of the reorganization.

A wide variety of considerations, including, for example, the possibility of litigation between the participants in a reorganization or liquidation proceeding or a requirement to obtain mandatory or discretionary consents from various governmental authorities or others may affect the value of these securities and investments. The uncertainties inherent in evaluating such investments may be increased by legal and practical considerations which limit the access of AssuredIM to reliable and timely information concerning material developments affecting an issuer, or which cause lengthy delays in the completion of the liquidation or reorganization proceedings.

The level of analytical sophistication, both financial and legal, necessary for successful investment in issuers experiencing significant financial distress is unusually high. There is no assurance that AssuredIM will correctly evaluate the nature and magnitude of the various factors that could affect the

prospects for a successful reorganization or similar action. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to an issuer in which an Advisory Client invests, such Advisory Client may lose its entire investment or may be required to accept cash or securities with a value less than its original investment.

U.S. Government Securities

Advisory Clients take long and short positions in U.S. government securities. Generally, these securities include U.S. Treasury obligations and obligations issued or guaranteed by U.S. government agencies, instrumentalities or sponsored enterprises. U.S. government securities also include Treasury receipts and other stripped U.S. government securities, where the interest and principal components of stripped U.S. government securities are traded independently. These securities are subject to market and interest rate risk. Advisory Clients also invest in zero coupon U.S. Treasury securities and in zero coupon securities issued by financial institutions, which represent a proportionate interest in underlying U.S. Treasury securities. A zero coupon security pays no interest to its holder during its life, and its value consists of the difference between its face value at maturity and its cost. The market prices of zero coupon securities generally are more volatile than the market prices of securities that pay interest periodically.

Rating Agencies

Certain of the Advisory Clients' assets, and certain assets relating to certain of the Advisory Clients' assets, have been assigned and will in the future be assigned credit ratings by various rating agencies. The ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market and other factors that may affect the value of such assets. In addition, such rating agencies could withdraw or change their ratings or could place any such asset on "credit watch" with negative implications. If any such event were to occur, the market value of the applicable assets could fall.

Generally, a credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be revised or withdrawn by the relevant rating agency at any time. Each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating.

Asset-Backed Securities-Focused Risks

Asset-Backed Securities

Advisory Clients invest in asset-backed securities including, but not limited to, interests in pools of receivables. These securities are in the form of pass-through instruments or asset-backed obligations. The securities, many of which are issued by non-governmental entities and carry no direct or indirect government guarantee, present certain risks primarily because these securities may not have the benefit of a security interest in the related collateral.

Advisory Client investors and prospective investors in Advisory Clients are generally provided with a confidential private placement memorandum, offering circular or other offering documents of the respective Advisory Client that provide a detailed description of the material risks related to an investment in the Advisory Client. Such investors are advised to review carefully all risk factors set forth in such documents.

C. If you recommend primarily a particular type of security, explain the material risks involved. If the type of security involves significant or unusual risks, discuss these risks in detail.

In addition to the types of securities addressed in Item 8.B., above, the AssuredIM Group makes recommendations with respect to the following:

Fixed Income Obligations

An Advisory Client's investments in fixed income obligations are subject to the risk of an issuer's ability to meet principal and interest payments on the obligation (credit risk), and may also be subject to price volatility due to such factors as interest rate sensitivity, market perception of the creditworthiness of the issuer and general market liquidity (market risk). Changes in interest rates may cause a decline in the market value of an investment. With bonds and other fixed income securities, a rise in interest rates typically causes a fall in values, while a fall in interest rates typically causes a rise in values. Bonds and other fixed income securities generally involve less market risk than stocks. However, the risk of bonds can vary significantly depending upon factors such as the issuer and maturity. For example, the issuer of a security or the counterparty to a contract may default or otherwise become unable to honor a financial obligation. The bonds of some companies may be riskier than the stocks of others.

Foreign Securities

Advisory Clients invest in securities and other instruments of foreign corporations and foreign countries. Investing in such securities involves certain considerations not usually associated with investing in securities of U.S. companies or the U.S. government, including, among other things: political and economic considerations, such as greater risks of expropriation, nationalization and general social, political and economic instability; the smaller size of the securities markets in such countries and the lower volume of trading, resulting in potential lack of liquidity and in price volatility; fluctuations in the rate of exchange between currencies and costs associated with currency conversion; imposition of withholdings and other taxes; and certain government policies that may restrict the Advisory Client's investment opportunities. In addition, accounting and financial reporting standards that prevail in many foreign countries are not equivalent to U.S. standards and, consequently, less information may be available to investors in companies located in foreign countries than is available to investors in companies located in the U.S. There is also less regulation, generally, of the securities markets in many foreign countries, even developed countries, than in the U.S.

Convertible Securities

Advisory Clients invest in convertible securities. Convertible securities provide higher yields than the underlying equity securities, but generally offer lower yields than non-convertible securities of similar quality. The value of convertible securities fluctuates, as do bonds, in relation to changes in interest rates and, in addition, fluctuates in relation to the underlying common stock.

Derivatives

Advisory Clients invest in derivative financial instruments. Derivative financial instruments include futures, options, interest rate swaps, rate locks, forward currency contracts and credit derivatives such as credit default swaps. In addition, Advisory Clients from time to time utilize both exchange-traded and over-the-counter futures, options and contracts for differences, as part of its investment strategy and for hedging purposes, as well as other derivatives. Regulatory restraints may restrict the instruments that an Advisory Client may trade. Such derivative instruments are highly volatile, involve certain special risks and expose investors to a high risk of loss. The low initial margin deposits normally required to establish a position in such instruments permit a high degree of leverage. As a result, a relatively small movement in the price of a contract may result in a profit or a loss which is high in proportion to the amount of funds

actually placed as initial margin and may result in unquantifiable further losses exceeding any margin deposited. Further, when used for hedging purposes there may be an imperfect correlation between these instruments and the investments or market sectors being hedged.

The trading of over-the-counter derivatives subjects an Advisory Client to a variety of risks including: (i) counterparty risk, (ii) basis risk, (iii) interest rate risk, (iv) settlement risk, (v) legal risk, and (vi) operational risk. Counterparty risk is the risk that one of an Advisory Client's counterparties might default on its obligation to pay or perform generally on its obligations. Basis risk is the risk that the normal relationship between two prices might move in opposite directions. Interest rate risk is the general risk associated with movements in interest rates. Settlement risk is the risk that a settlement in a transfer system does not take place as expected. Legal risk is the risk that a transaction proves unenforceable in law or because it has been inadequately documented. Operational risk is the risk of unexpected losses arising from deficiencies in a firm's management information, support and control systems and procedures. Transactions in over-the-counter derivatives may involve other risks as well, as there is no exchange market on which to close out an open position. It may be impossible to liquidate an existing position, to assess the value of a position or to assess the exposure to risk.

Options

Advisory Clients engage in the trading of options. Such trading involves risks substantially similar to those involved in trading margined securities in that options are speculative and highly leveraged. Specific market movements of the securities underlying an option cannot accurately be predicted. The purchaser of an option is subject to the risk of losing the entire purchase price of the option. The writer of an option is subject to the risk of loss resulting from the difference between the premium received for the option and the price of the security underlying the option which the writer must purchase or deliver upon exercise of the option.

Debt Securities

Advisory Clients invest in unrated or below investment grade debt securities which are subject to greater risk of loss of principal and interest than higher-rated debt securities. Advisory Clients invest in debt securities which rank junior to other outstanding securities and obligations of the issuer, all or a significant portion of which may be secured on substantially all of that issuer's assets. Advisory Clients invest in debt securities which are not protected by financial covenants or limitations on additional indebtedness. Lower or unrated securities are more likely to react to developments affecting market and credit risk than are more highly rated securities, which primarily react to movements in the general level of interest rates. Investors should be aware that ratings are relative and subjective and are not absolute standards of quality. Subsequent to its purchase by an Advisory Client, an issue of securities may cease to be rated or its rating may be reduced. Neither event will require sale of such securities by an Advisory Client, although the AssuredIM Group will consider such event in its determination of whether an Advisory Client should continue to hold the securities. The market value of securities in lower-rated categories is more volatile than that of higher quality securities. In addition, an Advisory Client may have difficulty disposing of certain of these securities because there may be a thin trading market. The lack of a liquid secondary market for certain securities may have an adverse impact on an Advisory Client's ability to dispose of such securities and may make it more difficult for an Advisory Client to obtain accurate market quotations for purposes of valuing the Advisory Client and calculating its net asset value.

Loan Participations and Assignments

Advisory Clients invest in fixed- and floating-rate loans, which investments generally are in the form of loan participations and assignments of portions of such loans. Participations and assignments involve credit risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk, and the risks of being a lender. Participations in commercial

loans may be secured or unsecured. Loan participations typically represent direct participation in a loan to a corporate borrower, and generally are offered by banks, other financial institutions, or lending syndicates. Advisory Clients invest in funded term loans through participations and assignments. When purchasing loan participations, an Advisory Client assumes the credit risk associated with the corporate borrower and may assume the credit risk associated with an interposed bank or other financial intermediary, and may only be able to enforce its rights through the lender, and may assume the credit risk of the lender in addition to the borrower. The participation interests in which an Advisory Client invests may not be rated by any nationally recognized rating service.

Investments in loans through a direct assignment of a financial institution's interests with respect to the loan may involve additional risks to an Advisory Client. For example, if a loan is foreclosed, an Advisory Client could become part owner of any collateral, and would bear the costs and liabilities associated with owning and disposing of the collateral. In addition, it is conceivable that, under emerging legal theories of lender liability, an Advisory Client could be held liable as a co-lender. It is unclear whether loans and other forms of direct indebtedness offer securities laws protections against fraud and misrepresentation. In the absence of definitive regulatory guidance, an Advisory Client relies on the AssuredIM Group's research in an attempt to avoid situations where fraud or misrepresentation could adversely affect the Advisory Client.

Insurance-Linked Securities

The performance of insurance-linked securities are tied to the occurrence of various triggering events, including weather and natural catastrophes (such as hurricanes, earthquakes, windstorms, fires and floods), non-natural catastrophes and other specified events that lead to physical or economic loss. If a triggering event occurs involving losses or other metrics exceeding a defined threshold, an invested Advisory Client may lose a portion or all of its investment in such security, including accrued interest and/or principal invested in such security. There is inherent uncertainty as to whether, when or where a triggering event will occur and, because of this uncertainty, insurance-linked securities carry a high degree of risk, exposing Advisory Clients to potential losses. In addition, unexpected events such as natural disasters, pandemics or terrorist attacks could lead to government intervention within the insurance industry and/or the market for insurance-linked securities. Therefore, political, judicial and legal developments affecting the insurance industry and/or the market for insurance-linked securities could create new and expanded theories of liability or other requirements applicable to the holders of insurance-linked securities. Such developments could have an adverse effect on the performance of the Advisory Clients.

Equity Investments

From time to time, an Advisory Client's investment portfolio will include long and short positions in equity securities of U.S. and non-U.S. listed companies. Equity securities fluctuate in value in response to many factors, including, among others, the activities and financial condition of individual companies, the business market in which individual companies compete, industry market conditions, interest rates and general economic environments. In addition, events such as the domestic and international political environments, terrorism, pandemics and natural disasters, may be unforeseeable and contribute to market volatility in ways that may adversely affect the Advisory Clients.

From time to time, Advisory Clients acquire (i) more than 5% of a class of securities of a single issuer which would require the filing of a Schedule 13D or 13G statement with the SEC or (ii) more than 10% of a class of securities of a single issuer which would impose certain limitations on the Advisory Clients' ability to trade in such securities, including the restrictions of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Section 16") (e.g., the requirement to disgorge any profits made from any purchase and sale (or sale and purchase) of such securities within any 6-month period ("Section 16 short swing

profit restrictions’’)). The accumulation of such a significant position in the shares of a single issuer could lead to litigation or disputes in the event the AssuredIM Group desires to influence the issuer. The AssuredIM Group may also seek to challenge the management of a portfolio company through a proxy contest. Such litigation or a proxy contest may result in substantial expense to an affected Advisory Client. In addition, from time to time, senior personnel of the AssuredIM Group serve on the board of directors of one or more companies in which Advisory Clients invest or on the board of directors of one or more companies in which Advisory Clients are not currently invested but which could be suitable as an investment for such Advisory Clients in the future. As a result, the AssuredIM Group will obtain access to material nonpublic information affecting such companies, which may preclude Advisory Clients from acquiring shares or selling its position at a time when the AssuredIM Group otherwise believes it would be appropriate to do so. Such board membership at a portfolio company could cause Advisory Clients to be deemed “insiders” by deputization and therefore to become subject to the trading restrictions of Section 16, including the Section 16 short swing profit restrictions. Moreover, Advisory Clients’ ability to realize value from certain of its investments may depend upon the ability of the AssuredIM Group to influence the management of a portfolio company to take certain actions, including, for example, a recapitalization, restructuring, spin off, sale of the business or change in management. If the AssuredIM Group is incorrect in its assessment of the impact such action will have on the value of a portfolio company, or if it is unsuccessful in persuading the portfolio company’s management to take the desired action, an affected Advisory Client may sustain a loss on its investment in the portfolio company.

Structural Subordination of Equity Interests

Advisory Clients hold equity interests in SPVs, in some cases alongside other Advisory Clients or third party investors. In connection with such investments, the equity interests held by an Advisory Client may not be secured by the assets of the SPVs, and such an Advisory Client will rank behind all known or unknown creditors, whether secured or unsecured, of the SPVs. No person or entity other than the SPV will be required to make any distributions on the equity interests, and payments from the SPV on its common or preferred shares or other equity interests will be subordinate to payments on its debt. Therefore, to the extent that any losses are incurred by the SPV in respect of any collateral, such losses will be borne first by the invested Advisory Client and its co-investors as holders of common or preferred shares or other equity interests.

Cross-Class Liabilities in Connection with Equity Investments

Advisory Clients invest in SPVs alongside other Advisory Clients or third party investors, where such investors hold different classes or series of equity interests that correspond to separate underlying investments. However, in most cases, the SPV will be a single legal entity and there will be no limited recourse protection for any class or series. Accordingly, all of the assets of the SPV will be available to meet all of its liabilities regardless of the class or series to which such assets or liabilities are attributable. In practice, cross-class or cross-series liability is only expected to arise where liabilities referable to one class or series are in excess of the assets referable to such class or series and it is unable to meet all liabilities attributed to it. In such a case, the assets of the SPV attributable to other classes or series may be applied to cover such liability excess and the value of the contributing classes or series will be reduced as a result.

Risk of Early Stage Companies

Certain Advisory Clients invest in companies at an early stage of development, which involves a high degree of business and financial risk. Early-stage companies with little or no operating history may require substantial additional capital to support expansion or to achieve or maintain a competitive position, may produce substantial variations in operating results from period to period or may operate at a loss. Such companies may face intense competition, including competition from companies with greater

financial resources, more extensive development, marketing and service capabilities, and a larger number of qualified management and technical personnel. Such risks may adversely affect the performance of such investments and result in substantial losses.

Advisory Client investors and prospective investors in Advisory Clients are generally provided with a confidential private placement memorandum, offering circular or other offering documents of the respective Advisory Client that provide a detailed description of the material risks related to an investment in the Advisory Client. Such investors are advised to review carefully all risk factors set forth in such documents.

Item 9 – Disciplinary Information

If there are legal or disciplinary events that are material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation of your advisory business or the integrity of your management, disclose all material facts regarding those events.

The AssuredIM Group is obligated to disclose legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of the AssuredIM Group's advisory business or the integrity of its management. The AssuredIM Group does not have any such legal or disciplinary events to report.

In the interests of transparency regardless of materiality, AssuredIM has included the details of a violation charge it received from a Norwegian regulator immediately below.

Finanstilsynet, the Financial Supervisory Authority of Norway (FSA), decided to impose a violation charge on AssuredIM (which was known as BlueMountain Capital Management, LLC at such time) pursuant to section 4-3 and section 17-4 of the Norway Securities Trading Act (NSTA). The violation charge relates to the late notification of a purchase of a Norwegian-listed stock that resulted in the relevant aggregate holdings of such stock across AssuredIM-advised funds (20.06% of shares outstanding) exceeding the 20% reporting threshold. AssuredIM had previously timely made the appropriate filing when it crossed the 15% threshold; however, due to an internal oversight, it was delayed in making the appropriate filing upon crossing the 20% threshold. The 20% threshold was surpassed on December 9, 2014. AssuredIM identified its error on January 9, 2015 and made the requisite filing immediately thereafter. Due to filing after the close of trading on January 9, 2015, the notification was not published until Monday January 12, 2015. The penalty paid to the Norwegian Treasury was 200,000 Norwegian Krone (\$24,198 at the time of payment).

Item 10 – Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

A. If you or any of your *management persons* are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer, disclose this fact.

Neither the AssuredIM Group nor any of their management persons are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.

B. If you or any of your *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, disclose this fact.

AssuredIM is registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) as a commodity pool operator and is a member of the National Futures Association (“NFA”). AssuredIM London is registered as a commodity trading advisor (“CTA”) with the CFTC and is a member of the NFA. In connection with the CFTC registration and NFA membership of AssuredIM and AssuredIM London, certain employees of such entities are listed and/or registered, as appropriate, with the NFA as principals and/or associated persons of such entities and their affiliates.

C. Describe any relationship or arrangement that is material to your advisory business or to your *clients* that you or any of your *management persons* have with any *related person* listed below. Identify the *related person* and if the relationship or arrangement creates a material conflict of interest with *clients*, describe the nature of the conflict and how you address it.

- 1. broker-dealer, municipal securities dealer, or government securities dealer or broker**
- 2. investment company or other pooled investment vehicle (including a mutual fund, closed-end investment company, unit investment trust, private investment company or “hedge fund,” and offshore fund)**
- 3. other investment adviser or financial planner**
- 4. futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, or commodity trading advisor**
- 5. banking or thrift institution**
- 6. accountant or accounting firm**
- 7. lawyer or law firm**
- 8. insurance company or agency**
- 9. pension consultant**
- 10. real estate broker or dealer**
- 11. sponsor or syndicator of limited partnerships.**

Affiliates of the AssuredIM Group serve as general partner of Fund Clients organized as limited partnerships. With respect to Fund Clients organized as foreign companies, some members of the board of directors (and in some cases, a majority of such members) of such companies are AssuredIM personnel. Institutional Accounts other than SMA are typically organized as limited partnerships with an affiliate of AssuredIM serving as the general partner of the Institutional Account, or as foreign companies with some members of the board of directors (and in some cases, a majority of such members) of such company being AssuredIM Group personnel.

The AssuredIM Group’s affiliates and employees from time to time purchase interests in certain Fund Clients, and in some situations investments by such parties are subject to, and in other situations investments by such parties are not subject to, the management fees or performance-based fees described in Item 5, above. The offering memorandum of each Fund Client that is provided to each potential investor discloses this fact. In a certain limited number of cases, an Advisory Client holds an interest in another Advisory Client other than in the context of a master feeder relationship.

In certain cases, an Advisory Client (the “Investing Fund”) will invest directly in another Advisory Client or the advisory client of a related investment adviser or BlueMountain Fuji. While such arrangements generally will not subject the Investing Fund to additional management fees, incentive fees or incentive allocations payable to the AssuredIM Group or its affiliates, in certain cases, such fees, allocations and related costs will accrue to the Investing Fund on an incremental and indirect basis.

Assured Healthcare Partners, LLC (“AHP”) is independently registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (the “Advisers Act”) and affiliate of AssuredIM. AHP provides investment advisory services primarily focused on private investments in the healthcare sector. AssuredIM does not consider its relationship with AHP to create a material conflict of interest to AssuredIM’s business.

BlueMountain Fuji is independently registered as an investment adviser with the SEC, and it serves as collateral manager of the Fuji CLOs. With respect to the Fuji CLOs, BlueMountain Fuji typically receives management fees and performance compensation.

Advisory Clients investing directly in Fuji CLOs will bear their proportionate share of any such collateral management fees and performance compensation payable to BlueMountain Fuji.

BlueMountain Fuji has engaged AssuredIM to provide non-discretionary investment advice to the Fuji CLOs as well as certain operational, administrative and compliance related services and personnel to BlueMountain Fuji, including, without limitation, personnel that act as BlueMountain Fuji’s portfolio managers and chief compliance officer, in exchange for a fee. To the extent that an Advisory Client’s Fuji CLO investment is subject to management fees or performance-based fees paid to BlueMountain Fuji, a pro rata portion of the amount of such fees paid to BlueMountain Fuji is subject to rebate or offset by AssuredIM in favor of such Advisory Client.

AssuredIM and BlueMountain Fuji share certain personnel. Investment professionals associated with AssuredIM are actively involved in other investment activities not concerning the Advisory Clients and therefore are not able to devote all of their time to the Advisory Clients’ business and affairs.

From time to time, Advisory Clients invest in other portfolio companies, including (by way of example and without limitation) loan servicing, appraisal, consulting, advisory and management firms, that in turn provide financial services to Advisory Clients and/or investments held by Advisory Clients. While the AssuredIM Group’s investment allocation procedures are intended to ensure that investment opportunities are allocated on a fair and equitable basis between various accounts it advises, a given Advisory Client may receive a greater incremental benefit by virtue of its investment in such a portfolio company than another Advisory Client.

AHP and AssuredIM have entered into a services and secondment agreement, pursuant to which AssuredIM provides certain services associated with the management of AHP Funds to AHP, including office space, back office services, legal and compliance services, and performance of trade executions, in exchange for a services fee and a secondment fee.

AssuredIM London, an affiliate of AssuredIM, serves as adviser to AssuredIM primarily with respect to issuers based in Europe, and is compensated by AssuredIM for its services. AssuredIM London is registered with the Financial Conduct Authority, and is also registered as a CTA with the CFTC and is a member of the NFA.

AssuredIM London is a Relying Adviser. The Relying Adviser’s employees and other persons acting on the Relying Adviser’s behalf (the “Relying Adviser Parties”), are under AssuredIM’s supervision and control. The Relying Adviser’s books and records relating to its advisory business will be made available to the SEC, and the Relying Adviser Parties are subject to and comply with the compliance policies and

procedures of AssuredIM. The Relying Adviser is identified as a “relying adviser” on AssuredIM’s Form ADV Part 1 and is not, and is not required to be, independently registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act. AssuredIM does not consider its relationship with the Relying Adviser to create a material conflict of interest with Advisory Clients.

AssuredIM has a sub-advisory agreement with BlueVirgo, pursuant to which BlueVirgo serves as an adviser to AssuredIM with respect to a limited number of tax liens and related investment products. AssuredIM does not consider its relationship with BlueVirgo to create a material conflict of interest with Advisory Clients.

AGUS is the sole owner of the AssuredIM Companies. The parent company of AGUS is AGL. AGL is a Bermuda-based holding company incorporated in 2003 that provides, through its operating subsidiaries other than the AssuredIM Companies and their subsidiaries, credit protection products to the United States and international public finance (including infrastructure) and structured finance markets. Assured Guaranty is the market leader in the financial guaranty industry.

The AssuredIM Group is led by David A. Buzen in his capacity as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of AssuredIM. Mr. Buzen also serves as Chief Investment Officer and Head of Asset Management at Assured Guaranty.

As such, Mr. Buzen’s responsibilities for Assured Guaranty include asset management, while he also is responsible for asset management with respect to the AssuredIM Group’s Advisory Clients. In addition, certain Assured Guaranty personnel will serve on one or more AssuredIM Group committees and certain AssuredIM Group personnel (including Mr. Buzen) will serve on one or more Assured Guaranty committees. These overlapping roles and responsibilities may create conflicts of interest if and when Mr. Buzen or another AssuredIM Group employee has the opportunity (if not an economic incentive) to benefit Assured Guaranty at the expense of an Advisory Client, or vice versa. Similarly, certain Assured Guaranty personnel may have a conflict of interest if and when such personnel have the opportunity (if not an economic incentive) to benefit Assured Guaranty at the expense of an Advisory Client, or vice versa.

Potential conflicts of interests may also arise out of the activities of Assured Guaranty, the ultimate parent of the AssuredIM Group. Because Advisory Clients may have exposure to issuers or other counterparties to which Assured Guaranty has exposure by virtue of providing credit protection in respect of such issuer or otherwise having exposure to such issuer or counterparty, it is possible that conflicts will arise between an Advisory Client and Assured Guaranty. Conflicts may arise due to the fact that the respective interests of an Advisory Client and Assured Guaranty would be in respect of a different type, seniority or class of security or generally would have different rights or economic interests associated therewith. For example, Assured Guaranty may insure a certain class of debt while an Advisory Client holds a different class of debt of the same issuer. In this case the interests of an Advisory Client advised by the AssuredIM Group could be adverse to those of Assured Guaranty in a restructuring, workout or other distressed scenario. On limited occasions, the holdings of Advisory Clients also could overlap with securities or other instruments held by Assured Guaranty, which could pose similar potential conflicts.

As part of its business, Assured Guaranty from time to time provides credit protection in respect of certain tranches of collateralized loan obligations. To the extent Assured Guaranty provides such credit protection on any tranche(s) of a CLO, Assured Guaranty may have interests with respect to certain tranches of the CLO that are adverse to interests of holders of other tranches within such CLO. Similarly, an Advisory Client may hold debt of issuers that have issued debt of another class that is insured by Assured Guaranty. To address these potential conflicts of interests, Assured Guaranty conducts its operations separately from the AssuredIM Group such that it does not exert influence over AssuredIM

Group personnel providing advisory services to Advisory Clients, and the AssuredIM Group, subject to its policy on conflicts of interests, seeks to act in the best interests of its Advisory Clients.

The AssuredIM Group and Assured Guaranty have implemented compliance policies and procedures designed to control the flow of information between Assured Guaranty and the AssuredIM Group and otherwise mitigate or eliminate conflicts of interest that could arise from the integration or other business relationships between Assured Guaranty and the AssuredIM Group. Such measures include, without limitation, subjecting certain Assured Guaranty personnel to the compliance policies and procedures (including the Code of Ethics) adopted by the AssuredIM Group. Further, in the event that any AssuredIM Group Covered Person becomes aware of a material conflict of interest between the AssuredIM Group and/or its Advisory Clients on one hand and Assured Guaranty on the other hand, such Covered Person is required to inform the Chief Compliance Officer of such conflict, and the Chief Compliance Officer then determines the appropriate course of action.

In addressing certain of the potential conflicts of interest which may arise between Assured Guaranty and either an Advisory Client or the AssuredIM Group, the AssuredIM Group may, but shall not be obligated to, take one or more actions on behalf of an Advisory Client, including any one or more of the following: (i) causing an Advisory Client to remain passive in a situation in which it is otherwise entitled to vote or take other action; (ii) consulting with the Advisory Client on such matter or otherwise requesting that the governing board of the Advisory Client approve such matter; (iii) establishing ethical screens or information barriers to separate investment professionals or assigning different teams of investment professionals, supported by legal counsel and other advisers, as the AssuredIM Group deems appropriate, to act independently of each other in representing different Advisory Clients or Advisory Clients that hold different classes, series or tranches of an issuer's capital structure; (iv) causing an Advisory Client to divest itself of a security or financial instrument or particular class, series or tranche of an issuer's capital structure it might otherwise have held on to, or to refrain from selling a security or other financial instrument it might otherwise sell. There can be no assurance that any of these measures will be feasible or effective in any particular situation, and it is possible that the outcome for the Advisory Client will be less favorable than might otherwise have been the case in the absence of such conflicts.

From time to time, an Advisory Client or the AssuredIM Group may engage an affiliate of the AssuredIM Group to provide certain research and other services to the Advisory Client or the AssuredIM Group, as the case may be; provided that the compensation therefor is competitive with the compensation paid (or payable) to other persons in the area engaged in the business of rendering comparable services which could reasonably be made available to the Advisory Client or the AssuredIM Group, as the case may be.

With respect to Item 10.C.11, the AssuredIM Group and its related persons have established a number of limited partnerships and companies suitable for investment by sophisticated individuals and entities meeting certain eligibility requirements.

D. If you recommend or select other investment advisers for your *clients* and you receive compensation directly or indirectly from those advisers that creates a material conflict of interest, or if you have other business relationships with those advisers that create a material conflict of interest, describe these practices and discuss the material conflicts of interest these practices create and how you address them.

Not applicable.

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

A. If you are an SEC-registered adviser, briefly describe your code of ethics adopted pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1 or similar state rules. Explain that you will provide a copy of your code of ethics to any *client* or prospective *client* upon request.

The AssuredIM Group has established a variety of restrictions, procedures and disclosures designed to address potential conflicts of interest arising between and among Advisory Client accounts as well as between Advisory Client accounts and the AssuredIM Group and its personnel. In addition, certain Assured Guaranty personnel that serve the AssuredIM Group in various capacities are subject to the AssuredIM Group's compliance policies and procedures.

The AssuredIM Group strives to adhere to the highest industry standards of integrity, professionalism and trust. To this end, the AssuredIM Group has adopted a Code of Ethics (the "Code") that generally requires AssuredIM Group Covered Persons to comply with all applicable federal securities laws, place the interests of clients first, avoid conflicts of interest, not take inappropriate advantage of the Covered Person's position, adhere to certain restrictions with respect to the receipt and giving of gifts and safeguard confidential information. Each such Covered Person is required to report to the Chief Compliance Officer or General Counsel any known or suspected violations of the Code or law.

Each newly hired Covered Person receives a copy of the Code and is required to certify that he or she has read and understands it. Training is provided for Covered Persons with respect to the Code and their duties under it. On an annual basis, each such Covered Person must certify that he or she has read and understands the Code, has complied with its provisions and has disclosed, pre-cleared and arranged for the reporting of all transactions in securities consistent with the requirements of the Code. The Code governs the conduct of the AssuredIM Group and its personnel.

Personal Trading

The Code also places restrictions on the personal trading of Covered Persons, including the requirement that Covered Persons arrange to have duplicates of certain brokerage statements or a quarterly holdings report provided to the AssuredIM Group. The Chief Compliance Officer (or her designee) reviews and compares all reported personal securities transactions against transactions indicated on the Covered Person's brokerage statements or holdings reports and the transactions of the Advisory Clients (as well as the Fuji CLOs) in an effort to ensure that personal trading by Covered Persons is being conducted in a manner consistent with the Code. The Chief Compliance Officer must make available duplicate copies of her brokerage statements or a quarterly holdings report for review by the General Counsel or members of the AssuredIM Group's compliance staff. Except with respect to certain exempted transactions, no AssuredIM Group Covered Person may purchase or sell any security without first obtaining pre-clearance pursuant to the approval process set forth in the Code. Certain pre-clearance requests meeting written standards set forth in the Code will generally be approved on the business day following the date of request. Requests which do not qualify for automatic approval are reviewed by the Chief Compliance Officer in consultation with the personal account trade approval panel (the "PA Approval Panel") typically on a weekly basis. Each Covered Person may submit no more than twenty pre-clearance requests per calendar month (a maximum of six of which can be trades requiring review by the Chief Compliance Officer in consultation with the PA Approval Panel); once a Covered Person has submitted the maximum number of pre-clearance requests, typically no further requests will be entertained from that individual until the following calendar month. The PA Approval Panel reviews the requests submitted to it, and any approved request is subject to certain restrictions on the timing of execution. In addition, the AssuredIM Group enforces a 30-day minimum holding period for covered personal securities transactions.

The AssuredIM Group monitors adherence to the personal trading policy via an automated system that seeks to compare personal trading activity with the submission and approval of pre-clearance requests. The AssuredIM Group cross-checks the personal account statements with the approved trades list to ensure that all executed trades requiring pre-clearance were pre-approved.

Insider Trading/Material Non-Public Information; Privacy

The AssuredIM Group maintains an Insider Trading Policy that includes policies and procedures prohibiting the use of material non-public information that are designed to prevent the misuse of material nonpublic information by the AssuredIM Group and its Covered Persons. In accordance with these policies, to prevent trading of public securities based on material non-public information, the AssuredIM Group maintains, regularly updates and makes available on its intranet site a “restricted” securities list of companies about which non-compliance Covered Persons have, or are expected to have, material non-public information or which are otherwise restricted. Generally all AssuredIM Group Covered Persons and Advisory Clients are prohibited from trading securities included on the restricted securities list.

In addition, generally all AssuredIM Group Covered Persons are subject to the Assured Guaranty Policy on Trading (the “Assured Guaranty Trading Policy”). The Assured Guaranty Trading Policy broadly prohibits the use of material non-public information, and also imposes restrictions on the trading of securities issued by Assured Guaranty or issued by certain issuers in respect of which Assured Guaranty has provided credit protection.

The AssuredIM Group has a separate privacy and data security policy, including a cybersecurity policy, designed to protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of non-public, personal information of its clients and investors in such clients.

Political Contributions

The AssuredIM Group has policies in effect which generally restrict political contributions and related activities by its covered associates. In order to ensure compliance with applicable SEC rules and other applicable legal and regulatory requirements, a covered associate generally must obtain pre-clearance from the Chief Compliance Officer before the covered associate makes a contribution (whether it be a monetary contribution or a contribution of goods or services) to a political candidate, government official, political party or political action committee.

The AssuredIM Group will provide a complete copy of the Code to any investor in or prospective investor in an Advisory Client upon request. Such requests may be addressed to Dave Ray, Chief Compliance Officer, at 212-905-3900 and/or LegalNotices@assuredim.com.

B. If you or a *related person* recommends to *clients*, or buys or sells for *client* accounts, securities in which you or a *related person* has a material financial interest, describe your practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. Describe generally how you address conflicts that arise.

Examples: (1) You or a *related person*, as principal, buys securities from (or sells securities to) your *clients*; (2) you or a *related person* acts as general partner in a partnership in which you solicit *client* investments; or (3) you or a *related person* acts as an investment adviser to an investment company that you recommend to *clients*.

As described above in Item 10, the AssuredIM Group serves as the investment manager to its Advisory Clients, and its related person serves, directly or through a controlled subsidiary, as general partner of Advisory Clients organized as limited partnerships. With respect to each Advisory Client organized as a foreign company, the AssuredIM Group’s personnel typically serve on the board of directors of such company.

The AssuredIM Group may from time to time recommend that certain of its Advisory Clients invest a portion of their investable assets in other Advisory Clients, typically in connection with a master-feeder (or mini-master) fund structure. Such arrangements are described in the offering memoranda or other governing documents of Advisory Clients. The AssuredIM Group and its related persons also recommend interests in Advisory Clients to prospective investors.

From time to time, the AssuredIM Group causes an Advisory Client to buy or sell securities directly from or to another Advisory Client. With respect to any such transaction (i) the transaction must be effected at a price that is fair to Advisory Clients on both sides of the trade, (ii) neither the AssuredIM Group nor any of its affiliates may receive any compensation for effecting the trade and (iii) the trade must be in the best interests of both Advisory Clients. It is the AssuredIM Group's policy to provide notice of any such transaction to the governing board of the Advisory Clients involved therein.

The AssuredIM Group's employees or other related persons from time to time purchase interests in one or more Fund Clients, and in some situations investments by such parties are subject to, and in other situations investments by such parties are not subject to, the management fees and performance-based fees described above in Item 5. The offering memorandum of the applicable Fund Client provided to each potential investor discloses this fact.

From time to time, the AssuredIM Group engages in principal transactions (i.e., transactions where an adviser, acting as principal for its own account or that of an affiliate deemed proprietary to the AssuredIM Group, buys from or sells any security to a client's account). Under certain circumstances, a cross trade with a fund in which the AssuredIM Group and/or its controlling persons hold in excess of 25% of the interests may be deemed to be a principal transaction under Section 206(3) of the Advisers Act. The Chief Compliance Officer (or his designee) may approve such deemed principal transactions provided that any such transaction is effected in compliance with Section 206(3) of the Advisers Act. With respect to any such transaction, prior to its completion, the AssuredIM Group must disclose to the client in writing the capacity in which the AssuredIM Group is acting (and any other requisite disclosures pursuant to Section 206(3) of the Advisers Act) and obtain the client's consent to the transaction. In cases where the client is an Advisory Client, such disclosure may be made to, and consent to the transaction may be obtained from, (i) the board of directors or board of managers of the Advisory Client (or general partner of the Fund Client), as applicable, provided that (a) the applicable board includes one or more members who are independent of the AssuredIM Group, and (b) the consent of the board includes the unanimous consent of all such independent members; or (ii) if the Advisory Client does not have a board of directors or board of managers, an independent third-party and/or advisory committee made up of certain investors in such Advisory Client (or the representatives of such investors). In addition to the foregoing, with respect to certain Advisory Clients, (i) a committee made up of representatives of certain investors in each such Advisory Client is authorized to consider and consent to certain transactions set forth in the offering documents of each such Advisory Client, and (ii) the offering documents of each such Advisory Client specifically set forth certain transactions which are approved by each investor in such Advisory Client at the time of its investment in the Advisory Client. It is the AssuredIM Group's policy that it will not effect any agency cross transactions for client accounts.

For CLOs intended to comply with the EU/UK Risk Retention and Due Diligence Requirements, the AssuredIM Group intends to originate a portion of the loans which are ultimately held by the CLOs. For purposes of the foregoing, the origination of a loan includes (i) loans with respect to which the AssuredIM Group was directly or indirectly involved in the original agreement which created such loans and (ii) loans that the AssuredIM Group agreed to purchase from the relevant CLO in the event that such loan failed to meet the applicable eligibility criteria during a specified seasoning period for a price equal to that which the CLO committed to pay to purchase such loan. It is expected that such purchases by the AssuredIM Group will constitute principal transactions and will be subject to the restrictions on principal transactions discussed above. Further, pursuant to the U.S. Risk Retention Rules and the EU/UK Risk

Retention and Due Diligence Requirements, the AssuredIM Group owns an interest in each CLO it advises to the extent required by such rules.

The fact that the AssuredIM Group's related persons, in their capacities as general partners of certain Advisory Clients, and the AssuredIM Group's employees and other related persons (including Assured Guaranty) have significant financial ownership interests in certain Advisory Clients creates a potential conflict in that it could cause the AssuredIM Group to make different investment decisions than it would if such parties did not have such financial ownership interests. The AssuredIM Group may have an incentive to favor accounts in which such persons have an interest with respect to trading opportunities, trade allocation and allocation of investment opportunities.

The AssuredIM Group causes Advisory Clients to buy or sell securities in which BlueMountain Fuji has a material interest, including the Fuji CLOs. The AssuredIM Group may cause certain Advisory Clients to have exposure to issuers to which Assured Guaranty has exposure. These issuers may include the CLOs, the Fuji CLOs as well as third-party issuers. The insurance-related activities of Assured Guaranty and the investment management activities of the AssuredIM Group are conducted independently of one another such that investment management activities do not take into account the exposure that Assured Guaranty may have with respect to any given issuer; provided however, that AssuredIM may be required to take certain actions, including divesting of the relevant securities, or refrain from taking certain actions in the event a material conflict arises with Assured Guaranty. Subject to its policy with respect to conflicts of interests, in each such case, the AssuredIM Group shall seek to act in the best interests of the Advisory Clients.

Assured Guaranty serves as financial guarantor of certain U.S. municipal bonds. From time to time, Advisory Clients may seek to purchase (either in a primary issuance or on the secondary market) (i) securities which are guaranteed by Assured Guaranty or (ii) securities which are not guaranteed by Assured Guaranty but are issued in the same issuance with securities that are so guaranteed. To guard against potential conflicts of interests in such situations, an Advisory Client will only effect such a purchase if it is in the best interests of the Advisory Client as determined in the sole discretion of the AssuredIM Group. An Advisory Client may seek to obtain financial guarantee insurance issued by Assured Guaranty on municipal bonds held in its portfolio; provided that such insurance shall not be purchased without the prior written consent of the Advisory Client's governing board. Furthermore, there may be regulatory considerations for Assured Guaranty in such circumstances, which could lead to additional delays or expense in pursuing these strategies.

The AssuredIM Group has adopted a policy intended to detect and prevent conflicts of interest that arise when the AssuredIM Group's related persons own, buy or sell securities. The AssuredIM Group's personal securities transaction pre-clearance and reporting requirements are described in Item 11.A.

Additional conflicts are present in connection with the receipt by the AssuredIM Group or an affiliate of management and performance-based fees. Except inasmuch as performance affects asset size and thus the amount of the management fee, management fees are payable without regard to the overall success or income earned by Advisory Clients and therefore may create an incentive on the part of the AssuredIM Group to raise or otherwise increase assets under management to a higher level than would be the case if the AssuredIM Group were receiving a lower or no management fee. Performance-based fees also create certain inherent conflicts of interest with respect to the AssuredIM Group's management of assets. Specifically, the AssuredIM Group's entitlement to a performance-based fee in managing one or more accounts may create an incentive for it to make investments that are riskier or more speculative than would be the case in the absence of such performance-based compensation.

C. If you or a *related person* invests in the same securities (or related securities, e.g., warrants, options or futures) that you or a *related person* recommends to *clients*, describe your practice and

discuss the conflicts of interest this presents and generally how you address the conflicts that arise in connection with personal trading.

The AssuredIM Group's Covered Persons are permitted to make securities transactions in their personal accounts, subject to certain limitations (including those discussed above in Item 11.A). This presents potential conflicts in that a Covered Person could make improper use of information regarding an Advisory Client's holdings or future transactions or research paid for by the Advisory Clients. The AssuredIM Group manages the potential conflicts of interest inherent in Covered Person trading by strict enforcement of the Code, which includes pre-clearance and reporting requirements as described above in Item 11.A.

As described above in Item 10, on limited occasions, the holdings of Advisory Clients also could overlap with securities or other instruments held by Assured Guaranty. The AssuredIM Group and Assured Guaranty have implemented compliance policies and procedures designed to control the flow of information between Assured Guaranty and the AssuredIM Group and otherwise mitigate or eliminate conflicts of interest that could arise from the integration or other business relationships between Assured Guaranty and the AssuredIM Group. Such measures include, without limitation, subjecting certain Assured Guaranty personnel to the compliance policies and procedures (including the Code of Ethics) adopted by the AssuredIM Group. Further, in the event that any AssuredIM Group Covered Person becomes aware of a material conflict of interest between the AssuredIM Group and/or its Advisory Clients on one hand and Assured Guaranty on the other hand, such Covered Person is required to inform the Chief Compliance Officer of such conflict, and the Chief Compliance Officer then determines the appropriate course of action.

D. If you 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 your own (or the *related person's* own) account, describe your practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. Describe generally how you address conflicts that arise.

Please refer to Items 11.A, 11.B and 11.C.

Item 12 – Brokerage Practices

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

1. Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits. If you receive 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”), disclose your practices and discuss the conflicts of interest they create.

a. Explain that when you use *client* brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) to obtain research or other products or services, you receive a benefit because you do not have to produce or pay for the research, products or services.

b. Disclose that you may have an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on your interest in receiving the research or other products or services, rather than on your *clients’* interest in receiving most favorable execution.

c. If you may cause *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), disclose this fact.

d. Disclose whether you use soft dollar benefits to service all of your *clients’* accounts or only those that paid for the benefits. Disclose whether you seek to allocate soft dollar benefits to *client* accounts proportionately to the soft dollar credits the accounts generate.

e. Describe the types of products and services you or any of your *related persons* acquired with *client* brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) within your last fiscal year.

f. Explain the procedures you used during your last fiscal year to direct client transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for soft dollar benefits you received.

The AssuredIM Group has authority for selecting the broker-dealer used in each transaction for Advisory Clients and for negotiating the fees to be paid to the broker-dealer in connection with such transactions. In choosing brokers and dealers, the AssuredIM Group is not required to consider any particular criteria. For the most part, the AssuredIM Group seeks the best combination of brokerage expenses and execution quality but, as discussed below, the AssuredIM Group is not required to select the broker or dealer that charges the lowest transaction cost, even if that broker provides execution quality comparable to other brokers or dealers. In evaluating “execution quality,” historical net prices (after markups, markdowns or other transaction-related compensation) on other transactions is a principal factor, but other factors are also relevant, including: the execution, clearance, and settlement and error correction capabilities of the broker or dealer generally and in connection with securities of the type and in the amounts to be bought or sold; the broker’s or dealer’s willingness to commit capital; reliability, responsiveness and financial stability of the broker dealer; the size of the transaction; availability of securities to borrow for short sales; and the market for the security. In addition to execution quality, the AssuredIM Group may consider whether a broker or dealer may provide access to management of companies in which the AssuredIM Group has invested or is considering investing on behalf of its clients, though such considerations are not typically a part of the AssuredIM Group’s selection process. Advisory Clients may pay commissions to such firms in an amount greater than the amount another firm might charge.

In addition to execution quality and access to management, the AssuredIM Group may consider the value of various research products or services, beyond execution, that a broker-dealer provides to Advisory

Clients or the AssuredIM Group. Selecting a broker-dealer in recognition of such other services or products is known as paying for those services or products with “soft dollars.” Because such research products or services could benefit the AssuredIM Group or its affiliates, the AssuredIM Group may have a conflict of interest in allocating Advisory Client brokerage business. The AssuredIM Group currently maintains no formalized “soft dollar” arrangements with broker-dealers but may do so in the future. With respect to any research products or services the AssuredIM Group may receive from broker-dealers, and in the event that the AssuredIM Group enters into any formalized “soft dollar” arrangements, the AssuredIM Group intends to keep the use of “soft dollars” within the parameters of Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Research that is received by the AssuredIM Group or one of its affiliates may be used by personnel of the AssuredIM Group or its affiliates, regardless of the investment strategy to which the research was initially intended to be applicable.

AssuredIM London allocates to broker-dealers certain securities transactions on behalf of the AssuredIM Group. However, under the European Union directive and regulation Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (referred to as “MiFID II”), AssuredIM London is prohibited from receiving from a third party any fees, commissions or monetary or non-monetary benefits (except, in the case of non-monetary benefits, where such benefits are “minor” in nature). Under MiFID II, non-monetary benefits include investment research. AssuredIM London may not utilize “soft dollar” arrangements or receive bundled commission rates to obtain investment research from those broker-dealers. Accordingly, investment research utilized by AssuredIM London is paid by the AssuredIM Group or AssuredIM London and then charged *pro rata* to the Advisory Clients that share in the benefit of such research.

On at least a semi-annual basis, the Chief Compliance Officer (or its designee) reviews the quality of the AssuredIM Group’s execution and the effectiveness of its order execution arrangements and execution policy.

2. Brokerage for *Client* Referrals. If you consider, in selecting or recommending broker-dealers, whether you or a *related person* receives *client* referrals from a broker-dealer or third party, disclose this practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it creates.

a. Disclose that you may have an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on your interest in receiving *client* referrals, rather than on your *clients’* interest in receiving most favorable execution.

b. Explain the procedures you used during your last fiscal year to direct *client* transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for *client* referrals.

In selecting broker-dealers and negotiating the fees to be paid to them, the AssuredIM Group takes into consideration the factors described in Item 12.A.1 above. The AssuredIM Group does not consider, in selecting or recommending broker-dealers, whether the AssuredIM Group or its related persons receive client referrals from a broker-dealer or third party.

As part of its broker selection analysis, the AssuredIM Group considers a broker-dealer’s ability to provide the AssuredIM Group with the opportunity to participate in capital introduction events sponsored by the broker-dealer and to refer investors to Fund Clients. The AssuredIM Group does not, however, select broker-dealers solely, or even largely, based upon such factors and does not direct Advisory Client transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for referrals. The AssuredIM Group recognizes that it may have an incentive to favor broker-dealers that provide capital introduction services to the AssuredIM Group or refer investors to Fund Clients. The AssuredIM Group receives asset-based fees and accordingly would receive a financial benefit from the increase in assets under management that results from capital introduction services and investor referrals. Similarly, the AssuredIM Group receives a performance-based fee and accordingly could receive a larger performance-based fee in any given profit

period as a result of an increase in assets under management that results from capital introduction services and investor referrals. The potential for higher fees presents a potential conflict in that the AssuredIM Group has an incentive to favor broker-dealers that provide services that have a direct impact on fees even if those broker-dealers rate unfavorably in other categories that are part of the AssuredIM Group's broker selection analysis. The AssuredIM Group addresses this potential conflict through its broker selection review process, which requires that key AssuredIM Group individuals look at a broker-dealer's performance in a wide variety of categories. Such reviews allow the AssuredIM Group to determine when broker-dealers that outperform in capital introduction and investor referrals underperform in other areas. In such situations, the AssuredIM Group may provide heightened scrutiny to a relationship with a broker-dealer.

3. Directed Brokerage.

a. If you routinely recommend, request or require that a *client* direct you to execute transactions through a specified broker-dealer, describe your practice or policy. Explain that not all advisers require their *clients* to direct brokerage. If you and the broker-dealer are affiliates or have another economic relationship that creates a material conflict of interest, describe the relationship and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. Explain that by directing brokerage you may be unable to achieve most favorable execution of *client* transactions, and that this practice may cost *clients* more money.

b. If you permit a *client* to direct brokerage, describe your practice. If applicable, explain that you may be unable to achieve most favorable execution of *client* transactions. Explain that directing brokerage may cost *clients* more money. For example, in a directed brokerage account, the *client* may pay higher brokerage commissions because you may not be able to aggregate orders to reduce transaction costs, or the *client* may receive less favorable prices.

The AssuredIM Group has no directed brokerage arrangements.

B. Discuss whether and under what conditions you aggregate the purchase or sale of securities for various *client* accounts. If you do not aggregate orders when you have the opportunity to do so, explain your practice and describe the costs to *clients* of not aggregating.

From time to time, the AssuredIM Group combines, but is under no obligation to combine, orders on behalf of Advisory Clients with orders for other accounts for which it or its affiliates have trading authority, or in which it or its affiliates have an economic interest. In such cases, the AssuredIM Group allocates the securities or proceeds arising out of those transactions (and the related transaction expenses) in accordance with its allocation guidelines. Such allocation guidelines are intended to ensure fair and equitable treatment of all Advisory Clients (as well as the Fuji CLOs).

The AssuredIM Group will not aggregate transactions unless it believes that aggregation is consistent with its duty to seek best execution and is consistent with the terms of the investment guidelines and restrictions for each Advisory Client for which trades are being aggregated. The AssuredIM Group will not receive any additional compensation or remuneration of any kind as a result of the proposed aggregation. While the AssuredIM Group believes combining orders in this way is, over time, advantageous to all participants, in particular cases the average price could be less advantageous to one Advisory Client than if such Advisory Client had been the only account effecting the transaction or had completed its transaction before the other participants.

Please see Item 6 for additional information regarding the AssuredIM Group's policy with respect to allocation of investment opportunities.

Item 13 – Review of Accounts

A. Indicate whether you periodically review *client* accounts or financial plans. If you do, describe the frequency and nature of the review, and the titles of the *supervised persons* who conduct the review.

A portfolio manager of the AssuredIM Group generally reviews the portfolios of each Advisory Client on a regular and ongoing basis to determine if they are consistent with applicable investment objectives and restrictions. The portfolio managers will also consider whether the portfolio should change investments based on various factors, including but not limited to, changes in company fundamentals, advisers, key industry personnel, analysts, news and press releases, general market conditions and assessment of the financial consequences of world events derived from general information or such other material as is appropriate under the particular circumstances.

B. If you review *client* accounts on other than a periodic basis, describe the factors that trigger a review.

Please see Item 13.A.

C. Describe the content and indicate the frequency of regular reports you provide to *clients* regarding their accounts. State whether these reports are written.

Shareholders and limited partners of Fund Clients generally receive unaudited monthly or quarterly written reports describing the performance of such Fund Clients and annual reports containing audited financial statements and other indicia of performance. Investors in the CLOs generally receive reports at such frequency and including such information as is required in the applicable governing documents of such CLOs. The content and frequency of written reports received by Institutional Accounts is as mutually agreed by such Institutional Account and the AssuredIM Group.

Advisory Client investors and prospective investors in Advisory Clients should refer to the private placement memorandum, offering circular or other offering documents of the respective Advisory Client for detailed information with respect to the reports they will receive in connection with an investment in such Advisory Client. The information contained herein is a summary only and is qualified in its entirety by such documents.

Item 14 – Client Referrals and other Compensation

A. If someone who is not a *client* provides an economic benefit to you for providing investment advice or other advisory services to your *clients*, generally describe the arrangement, explain the conflicts of interest, and describe how you address the conflicts of interest. For purposes of this Item, economic benefits include any sales awards or other prizes.

The AssuredIM Group does not receive any monetary compensation or other economic benefit from a non-client in connection with the provision of investment advisory services.

B. If you or a *related person* directly or indirectly compensates any *person* who is not your *supervised person* for *client* referrals, describe the arrangement and the compensation.

From time to time the AssuredIM Group enters into arrangements with third party marketers whereby the AssuredIM Group compensates third parties who introduce Fund Client investors to the AssuredIM Group. Such compensation typically takes the form of a percentage of the management fees, performance fees and performance allocations received by the AssuredIM Group or its affiliates from such investors. The fees paid to such marketers are borne by the AssuredIM Group, and are not borne by Fund Clients, and in any event such fee arrangements are disclosed to applicable Fund Clients and investors therein. The terms that third party marketer-sourced investors receive are similar to the standard terms that internally-sourced investors receive. Such arrangements are considered endorsements and are conducted in a manner that is consistent with Rule 206(4)-1, the new “Marketing Rule” under the Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and relevant SEC guidance. With respect to each CLO, one or more parties may act as an “initial purchaser” or “placement agent” with respect to such vehicle’s issuance; however, such role terminates at the closing of the CLO, and no compensation paid in connection with such relationship is paid for client referrals.

Item 15 – Custody

If you have *custody* of *client* funds or securities and a qualified custodian sends quarterly, or more frequent, account statements directly to your *clients*, explain that *clients* will receive account statements from the broker-dealer, bank or other qualified custodian and that *clients* should carefully review those statements. If your *clients* also receive account statements from you, your explanation must include a statement urging *clients* to compare the account statements they receive from the qualified custodian with those they receive from you.

Most of the AssuredIM Group's Advisory Client relationships are structured so that the AssuredIM Group is deemed to have custody of the assets of such Advisory Clients under federal securities laws. In those situations, the AssuredIM Group does not have actual physical custody of such Advisory Clients' assets; rather, all such assets are held in the name of such Advisory Client by an independent qualified custodian. Each such Advisory Client (other than the SMA) is audited annually, and each such Advisory Client investor in such Advisory Client timely receives annual financial statements within 120-days of year-end.

The CLOs, which are trusts, present an exception to this presumption of custody for purposes of federal securities laws because their assets are held in the custody of their respective trustees.

Item 16 – Investment Discretion

If you accept *discretionary authority* to manage securities accounts on behalf of *clients*, disclose this fact and describe any limitations *clients* may (or customarily do) place on this authority. Describe the procedures you follow before you assume this authority (e.g., execution of a power of attorney).

The AssuredIM Group provides investment management and supervisory services primarily on a discretionary basis on behalf of its Advisory Clients; provided that with respect to certain Institutional Accounts, one or more investors therein has a consent right in respect of certain investments. In addition, the AssuredIM Group provides non-discretionary investment management and supervisory services to BlueMountain Fuji. As described in Item 4.C, the advisory services provided by the AssuredIM Group are tailored to the investment objectives, investment strategy and investment restrictions, if any, as set forth in the governing documents of Advisory Clients and/or the investment management agreement entered into by the AssuredIM Group with such clients. With respect to Fund Clients, the AssuredIM Group does not tailor its advisory services to the individual needs of investors in the Fund Client and, except as specifically provided in a Side Letter, as described in Item 4.C, does not accept investment restrictions imposed by such Fund Client investors. With respect to Institutional Accounts, the terms of such relationship, including any investment restrictions, are individually negotiated.

Certain Side Letters permit the excuse and/or exclusion of a particular investor from participating in a particular investment in certain limited circumstances. Advisory Client investors typically execute a subscription agreement and governing documents of the Advisory Client in connection with their investment in the Fund Client that each contain a power of attorney that generally grants an affiliate of the AssuredIM Group certain powers related to the orderly administration of the affairs of the Fund Client.

Please see Item 4 for additional information regarding the AssuredIM Group's advisory services.

Item 17 – Voting Client Securities

A. If you have, or will accept, authority to vote *client* securities, briefly describe your voting policies and procedures, including those adopted pursuant to SEC rule 206(4)-6. Describe whether (and, if so, how) your *clients* can direct your vote in a particular solicitation. Describe how you address conflicts of interest between you and your *clients* with respect to voting their securities. Describe how *clients* may obtain information from you about how you voted their securities. Explain to *clients* that they may obtain a copy of your proxy voting policies and procedures upon request.

From time to time, an issuer of an equity security that is owned by an Advisory Client will conduct a proxy solicitation of its shareholders to vote on various matters. The AssuredIM Group has adopted policies and procedures for voting proxies received by Advisory Clients. As a general rule, Advisory Clients delegate the power to vote such proxies to the AssuredIM Group or the Advisory Client's general partner (as applicable), although certain Advisory Clients, such as certain Institutional Accounts, may retain proxy voting rights or issue guidelines with respect to the voting of such proxies by the AssuredIM Group. Investors in Fund Clients do not have the ability to direct proxy votes.

Unless the power to vote proxies for an Advisory Client is reserved to that client, AssuredIM's Chief Investment Officer (or his designee) is responsible for voting proxies. The AssuredIM Group utilizes Broadridge Financial Solutions Inc. (the "Proxy Agent") to facilitate the voting of proxies through its ProxyEdge electronic voting platform. The Proxy Agent provides access to corporate governance voting recommendations provided by a third party provider ("Glass Lewis Recommendations") and enables the AssuredIM Group to vote proxies related to securities held by an Advisory Client in a manner in the best interest of such Advisory Client. As such, proxy votes generally will be cast in favor of proposals that maintain or strengthen the shared interests of shareholders and management and increase shareholder value. These goals are typically met through the AssuredIM Group's general mandate to the Proxy Agent to cast proxy votes in favor of the Glass Lewis Recommendations. If the Glass Lewis Recommendations recommend voting against a management proposal, the AssuredIM Group generally directs the Proxy Agent to vote against such a proposal. In certain instances, after careful evaluation of the issue presented on the ballot, the AssuredIM Group may direct the Proxy Agent to vote against the Glass Lewis Recommendations.

If the Chief Investment Officer (or his designee) or the Proxy Agent determines that a material conflict may exist between (i) an Advisory Client's interests and the interests of the AssuredIM Group or Assured Guaranty or (ii) two or more Advisory Clients' interests, the Chief Investment Officer (or his designee) is required to inform the Chief Compliance Officer of such material conflict, and the Chief Compliance Officer then determines the appropriate course of action.

Information regarding how Advisory Clients' proxies have been voted in the past and a copy of the AssuredIM Group's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures will be provided by the AssuredIM Group to its clients upon request. The AssuredIM Group's compliance team may be contacted at LegalNotices@assuredim.com.

B. If you do not have authority to vote *client* securities, disclose this fact. Explain whether *clients* will receive their proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian or a transfer agent or from you, and discuss whether (and, if so, how) *clients* can contact you with questions about a particular solicitation.

As a general rule, Advisory Clients delegate the power to vote such proxies to the AssuredIM Group or the Advisory Client's general partner (as applicable), although certain Institutional Accounts may retain proxy voting rights or issue guidelines with respect to the voting of such proxies by the AssuredIM Group.

Item 18 – Financial Information

A. If you require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance, include a balance sheet for your most recent fiscal year.

1. The balance sheet must be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, audited by an independent public accountant, and accompanied by a note stating the principles used to prepare it, the basis of securities included, and any other explanations required for clarity.

2. Show parenthetically the market or fair value of securities included at cost.

3. Qualifications of the independent public accountant and any accompanying independent public accountant's report must conform to Article 2 of SEC Regulation S-X.

Not applicable.

B. If you have *discretionary authority* or *custody* of *client* funds or securities, or you require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance, disclose any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair your ability to meet contractual commitments to *clients*.

The AssuredIM Group is not currently aware of any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair its ability to meet contractual commitments to its Advisory Clients.

C. If you have been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years, disclose this fact, the date the petition was first brought, and the current status.

No member of the AssuredIM Group has been the subject of a bankruptcy petition at any time during the past ten years (or at any time since inception).