

# MULHOLLAND

## WEALTH ADVISORS

### **FIRM BROCHURE** (Part 2A of Form ADV)

**March 31, 2023**

Contact: John Yung, Chief Compliance Officer  
Phone: (310) 272-8185 Fax: (480) 687-7979  
4110 N. Scottsdale Rd., Ste. 125  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
[www.mulhollandwa.com](http://www.mulhollandwa.com)

**Part 2A of Form ADV (the “Brochure”) provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Mulholland Wealth Advisors, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact Mulholland at (310) 272-8187. The information in this Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.**

**Mulholland Wealth Advisors, LLC is registered as an investment adviser with the SEC; however, such registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training and no inference to the contrary should be made.**

**Additional information about Mulholland Wealth Advisors, LLC is also available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).**

## **ITEM 1: COVER PAGE**

Please refer to previous page.

## **ITEM 2: MATERIAL CHANGES**

This Brochure is dated March 31, 2023. Mulholland Wealth Advisors, LLC's ("Mulholland") previous Brochure was dated March 30, 2022. This Brochure will be updated annually or when material changes occur since the previous release of Mulholland Brochure.

No material changes since Mulholland's March 30, 2022 filing.

Mulholland encourages each client to read this Brochure carefully and to contact Mulholland with any questions.

Pursuant to SEC rules, Mulholland will ensure that clients receive a summary of any materials changes to this Brochure, along with an offer to provide a full copy of this Brochure upon request, within 120 days of the close of Mulholland's fiscal year. Additionally, as the Firm experiences material changes in the future, we will either send clients a summary of our "Material Changes" along with an offer to provide the Brochure, or alternatively, deliver the Brochure in its entirety to the client. For more information about Mulholland, please call (310) 272-8187.

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## Item 4: Advisory Business

### A. Description of Firm

Mulholland Wealth Advisors, LLC (“Mulholland”, the “Firm” “we”, “us” or “our”) is an investment advisory firm registered with the SEC and notice filed in various states. As discussed below, Mulholland provides discretionary sub-advisory investment advice as well investment advice to certain individuals, high net worth individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, trusts, estates, and corporations.

Mulholland Wealth Advisors, LLC is wholly owned by Mulholland Holdco, LLC. Mulholland Holdco, LLC is controlled and majority owned by Redwood Investment Holdco, LLC.

### B. Types of Advisory Services Offered

#### Introduction and Overview of Service

Mulholland provides discretionary investment advice, under the following arrangements:

1. As adviser to other non-affiliated third-party advisers (“TPAs”),
2. As adviser to clients with separately managed accounts (“SMAs”) of certain individuals, high net worth individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, trusts, estates, and corporations that have entered into a written investment management agreement (“IMA”) with Mulholland. Mulholland may also manage client sub-accounts contained within a variable annuity/life product owned by an individual client.

Pursuant to the terms within our discretionary IMA, Mulholland determines the securities to be bought or sold within client accounts and makes changes to the asset allocation and/or specific securities holdings without prior consultation with the client. Our investment selections are not limited to any specific product or service offered by a broker-dealer or insurance company and will generally include recommendations to transact in the following types of securities: exchange listed securities, mutual funds and exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”). The specific investment advice provided is in accordance with the client’s IMA and Client Investment Objective form or profile.

In exercising investment discretion, Mulholland will purchase mutual funds or ETFs (“Redwood Funds”), advised by Mulholland’s affiliate Redwood Investment Management, LLC (“Redwood”) when it believes it is appropriate. When this occurs, due to Mulholland’s sub-advisory agreement with Redwood, Redwood will receive a portion of Mulholland’s management fee as the sub-advisor, and Redwood will receive a management fee from the Redwood Funds. This presents a conflict of interest since Redwood will be receiving additional management fees that it would not have otherwise received but for its role as manager of the Redwood Funds. Please refer to Item 5 for additional information regarding fees.

In many cases the custodial account application appoints a third-party registered investment advisor to provide overlay management services (“Overlay Manager”) to Mulholland Clients at the time or after Clients open a custodial account. The Overlay Manager is responsible for assisting with the implementation and coordination of model portfolios set up by Mulholland; billing and trading with the custodian; and other administrative functions.

### C. Mulholland Portfolios

Mulholland seeks to offer clients a variety of unique investment management strategies and/or comprehensive portfolio allocations. Please refer to Item 8 for a description of our methods of analysis and the risks surrounding these portfolios. Mulholland cannot guarantee that the portfolios’ objectives will be met. Furthermore, a client’s assets can fluctuate and at any time be worth more or less than the original amount invested.

It is important to note that specific holdings may differ between clients with similar investment/risk objectives depending on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the size of an account, availability of securities and funds on a custodial platform, total assets under advisement, and institutional fund minimum waivers. Depending on the holdings or securities, results may vary. Furthermore, investment decisions for SMA client account strategies typically are not tailored

to the individualized needs of any particular client. Therefore, SMA clients must consider whether the strategy meets their investment objectives and risk tolerance.

As a part of any of Mulholland's portfolios, Mulholland may at any time move money into a money market fund, government security fund or cash instrument if, in Mulholland's sole discretion, Mulholland believes it is in the best interest of its clients to do so.

**D. Advisory Agreements and Client Needs**

Mulholland and the client will enter into a discretionary investment management agreement. The advisory relationship will continue until terminated by the client or Mulholland in accordance with the provisions of the agreement.

Clients may impose reasonable restrictions on their account. Each client assumes responsibility for informing Mulholland in writing of any restriction or changes to these restrictions or to their overall investment objectives. Risk tolerance levels will be documented in the client profile maintained by the Firm. Mulholland does not and will not assume any responsibility for the accuracy of the information provided by the client. Mulholland reserves the right to not accept and/or terminate management of a client's account if it feels that the client-imposed restrictions would limit or prevent Mulholland from meeting and/or maintaining the account's overall investment strategy.

An agreement for an individually managed account may be terminated at any time, by either party, and for any reason, upon written notice (or telephone/verbal notice, in Mulholland's sole discretion). Upon receipt of notice of termination of any account, Mulholland will commence the process of liquidating and terminating such account, which generally will be completed within five (5) days, but in some cases the process may take longer. Upon termination, any prepaid, unearned fees will be promptly refunded, less any actual costs the Firm incurs upon termination, and any earned, unpaid fees will be due and payable. Additionally, if the client requests the account to be transferred in-kind to another custodian, the client will be responsible for any additional custodial transfer fee. The client will also be responsible for any closure fee charged by the custodian.

**Mulholland and Client Process**

Prior to entering into an investment management agreement with Mulholland, a client should carefully consider:

1. Committing to management only those assets that the client believes will not be needed for current purposes and that can be invested on a long-term basis;
2. That over time the client's assets may fluctuate and at any time be worth more or less than the amount invested;
3. Because market cycles unfold over many months or years, Mulholland's philosophy is designed for investors who practice patience with a time horizon of 5-7 years (e.g., a typical full market cycle).

**D. Mulholland does not participate in wrap fee programs.**

**E. Amount of Client Assets Managed as of December 31, 2022**

The following represents the amount of client assets under management by Mulholland on a discretionary basis:

Type of Account	Assets Under Management ("AUM")
Discretionary	\$316,435,572
Non-Discretionary	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$316,435,572</b>

**ITEM 5: FEES AND COMPENSATION**

Below is information on the fees paid to Mulholland for the various arrangements listed in Item 4 above.

**A. Portfolio Management Fees for Separately Managed Accounts**

Mulholland provides investment advice on a *fee-only* basis. Mulholland generally charges 1.45% annual management fee. The actual management fee charged to each client by Mulholland will be outlined in the written investment management agreement entered between Mulholland and the client. Our fee schedule is based on the total household account value.

As referenced in Item 4, in exercising investment discretion, Mulholland will purchase mutual funds or ETFs ("Redwood Funds"), advised by Mulholland's affiliate Redwood Investment Management, LLC ("Redwood") when it believes it is appropriate. When this occurs, due to Mulholland's sub-advisory agreement with Redwood, Redwood will receive a portion of Mulholland's management fee as the sub-advisor, and Redwood will receive a management fee from the Redwood Funds. This presents a conflict of interest since Redwood will be receiving additional management fees that it would not have otherwise received but for its role as manager of the Redwood Funds.

Typically, a minimum of \$200,000 of assets under management generally is required to open an account directly with Mulholland. For clients introduced to Mulholland through a Mulholland Investment Advisory Representative, a minimum of \$50,000 of assets under management generally is required. However, accounts less than \$50,000 may be accepted in Mulholland's sole discretion. Please note, Mulholland's annual management fee is inclusive of any sub-advisory fees. Mulholland's annual management fee does not include custodial fees or Overlay Manager fees, which typically range from 0.10% to 0.30% annually and will be provided to clients.

All advisory fees are negotiable in the sole discretion of Mulholland. Mulholland may, from time to time, vary or waive investment management fees in its sole discretion. Clients should understand that lower fees for comparable services may be available from other investment advisory firms.

Advisory fees are billed or deducted in advance at the beginning of each calendar quarter and are based on the total market value of the client's account from the last day of the previous quarter end. Should a client open an account midway through a quarter, a prorated fee is charged from the date of the contribution through the quarter. If Mulholland's services are terminated mid-quarter, any paid, unearned fees will be promptly refunded to the Client. The number of days the Account was managed during the quarter until termination is used to determine the percentage of the Advisory Fee earned (based on the total number of days in the quarter) and the balance is refunded. A prorated fee is charged for any client contributions from the date of the contribution through the quarter end for any significant contributions, defined as \$10,000 or more. For withdrawals during the time period, a prorated portion will be credited back to the client for significant withdrawals, defined as \$10,000 or more. When using certain Overlay Managers, the Overlay Manager may provide for monthly billing whenever an account is opened or closed in the previous month, or for significant additions/withdrawals.

Payment of Mulholland's fees will be deducted from each client's account on a quarterly basis by their custodian and paid directly to Mulholland, unless otherwise directed in writing by a client. The consent for deduction of fees is contained in the written IMA the client enters into with Mulholland.

The custodian will deliver a monthly/quarterly account statement directly to the client, which will include all transactions that took place in the account during the period covered and reflect any fees deducted and paid to Mulholland. Clients should review the fees charged to their account(s) to fully understand the total amount of all fees charged. Clients are encouraged to review their account statements for accuracy and compare them to any reports received by Mulholland.

**B. Sub-Advisory Fees**

Mulholland is a sub-advisor whereby it contracts with a TPA to provide management for that TPA's client accounts. Under these circumstances, Mulholland and the TPA's client do not enter into a direct contract with one another; rather, the contract for sub-advisory services is between Mulholland and the TPA. As part of its sub-advisory services, when it is appropriate for the Sub-advisory Portfolios, Mulholland will purchase or sell shares of funds managed by Mulholland's affiliate, Redwood ("Redwood Funds"). When this occurs, due to Mulholland's sub-advisory agreement with Redwood, Redwood will receive a portion of Mulholland's management fee as the sub-adviser, and Redwood will receive a

management fee from the Redwood Funds. This presents a conflict of interest since Redwood will be receiving additional management fees that it would not have otherwise received but for its role as manager of the Redwood Funds. Moreover, the primary owner and principal of Redwood, Michael Messinger, who also is the majority owner of Mulholland, will be receiving an economic benefit directly. Mulholland, Redwood and Mr. Messinger attempt to mitigate this conflict by only doing what is suitable for the Sub-advisory Portfolios, and ultimately, is in the sub-advisory clients' best interest. Please see Item 10 for additional information.

In addition, Sub-advisory accounts will incur certain fees or charges imposed by third-parties other than Redwood in connection with investments or recommendations made by the Firm. These fees and charges are separate and distinct from the fees or charges stated above and include, but are not be limited to: fund 12b-1 fees, certain deferred sales charges on previously purchased mutual funds and ETFs transferred into the account, other transaction related fees, IRA and Qualified Retirement Plan fees, interest charged on margin borrowing, interest charged on debit balanced, "spreads" imposed by brokers and dealers representing implicit transaction costs, commissions and transfer taxes. Information regarding fees or expenses assessed by any mutual funds and ETFs held in client accounts is available in the appropriate offering documents of these investment products, which should be read carefully prior to purchase. Please refer to those offering documents and Redwood's Form ADV Part 2A for more information. Also see Item 5.B. below for additional information.

#### **B. Other Fees and Important Considerations**

All management fees paid to Mulholland for the services it provides to clients are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by third parties. These separate fees and expenses include, but are not limited to, custodial fees, overlay manager fees, execution costs, and underlying ETF and mutual fund fees and expenses. Client assets may also be subject to transaction fees, retirement plan administration fees (if applicable), trustee fees, 12b-1 fees, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. For mutual funds and exchange-traded funds, a client may be charged internal management fees, distribution fees, redemption fees and other expenses, which are fully described in the applicable fund's prospectus. On occasion, Mulholland may purchase a mutual fund for client accounts that has a short-term redemption fee. If Mulholland or the client sells that fund during the specified redemption period, the sale will result in a fee that is deducted from the sale proceeds.

There can be times, such as during high market volatility, when a money market fund or money market sweep vehicle utilized by Mulholland or a client's custodian for investing client assets will charge a liquidity/redemption fee to their investors upon redemption from the money market fund/vehicle. These funds also have the ability to halt redemptions for up to 10 business days, within any 90-day period. Additionally, certain mutual funds invested in by Mulholland clients also may have the ability to halt redemptions for a period of time. Generally, money market funds and mutual funds do not charge a redemption fee in addition to halting redemption activity. However, it is important that Mulholland clients read each fund's prospectus to fully understand the additional fees paid and redemption restrictions, along with the risks associated with the investments. Please also refer to Item 8 below for further information on the risks pertaining to mutual funds.

Clients should review the fees charged to their account(s) to fully understand the total amount of all fees charged. Clients should understand that lower fees for comparable services may be available from other investment advisory firms.

It is important for clients to realize that certain employees of Mulholland enjoy economic benefits as a result of their membership interest in Mulholland. This means that the more profitable Mulholland is, the greater the amount of additional remuneration that will be received by such members in the form of distributions. This represents a conflict of interest as this ownership interest could incentivize the member to more aggressively sell Mulholland, when other like or similar advisory services are available; (see also Item 10 and Forms ADV Part 2Bs).

In accordance with Rule 204-3 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended ("Advisers Act"), Mulholland will provide a current copy of Form ADV Part 2A and relevant brochure supplements to each client or prospective client prior to or the same time as the execution of a written investment management agreement with Mulholland. After that, the

written agreement between Mulholland and the client will continue in effect until terminated by either party pursuant to the terms of the agreement and fees will be due or refunded, as applicable.

Neither Mulholland nor the client may assign the written investment management agreement without the consent of the other party. Transactions that do not result in a change of actual control or management of Mulholland shall not be considered an assignment. Please see Item 12 for more information on Brokerage Practices.

Mulholland reserves the right to waive or reduce the account minimums and/or management fee with respect to any client, including but not limited to accounts for Mulholland employees and/or family members. In addition, Mulholland may negotiate fees with future clients and/or investors that are different than the fees discussed herein. Some of the factors relevant to charging different fees to those fees stated herein are account size, the investment strategy and the nature of the relationship between the potential client and Mulholland.

## **ITEM 6: PERFORMANCE-BASED FEES AND SIDE-BY-SIDE MANAGEMENT**

Mulholland does not charge performance-based fees (*i.e.*, fees calculated based on a share of capital gains upon or capital appreciation of the funds or any portion of the funds of an advisory client). Additionally, Mulholland does not engage in side-by-side management of accounts.

## **ITEM 7: TYPES OF CLIENTS**

Mulholland provides discretionary investment advice to certain individuals, high net worth individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, trusts, estates, and corporations. Mulholland primarily provides discretionary sub-advisory investment advice. For additional information on clients please see Items 4 and 5 above.

As an investment adviser, Mulholland has special and additional fiduciary responsibilities under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”) and the Internal Revenue Code Section 4975 (“IRC 4975”). On April 10, 2016, the DOL changed the definition of a fiduciary to greatly expand the scope as well as the timing upon which fiduciary status is conferred. Under ERISA, a Fiduciary is anyone who makes a “*recommendation*” to a “*retirement investor*” and receives any “*direct or indirect compensation*.” Fiduciary status is conferred upon making the recommendation to a prospective new client. The definition of a “retirement investor” includes participants and beneficiaries of an ERISA plan, owners of solo-participant plans such as IRAs, and fiduciaries to a solo-participant or ERISA plan such as plan fiduciaries. The definition also includes Health Savings Accounts (“HSAs”), Medical Savings Accounts (“MSAs”) and Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (“Educational IRAs”).

As a fiduciary and party-in-interest to a retirement investor, Mulholland has developed written policies and procedures to follow certain standards of conduct, including compliance with any applicable prohibited transaction rules governing its relationship to the retirement investor. Generally, these disclosures are contained in this Form ADV Part 2A, the client agreement and/or in separate ERISA disclosure documents, which are designed to enable the ERISA plan’s fiduciary to: (1) determine the reasonableness of all compensation received by Ascension; (2) identify any potential conflicts of interests; and (3) satisfy reporting and disclosure requirements to plan participants.

## **ITEM 8: METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISKS**

The following are methods of analysis that Mulholland, and its affiliated firm, Redwood, may use in providing investment advice.

### **A. Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies**

Utilization of quantitative analysis in construction and implementation of strategies and portfolio allocations. To help develop its strategies and recommendations, Mulholland and/or its affiliated firm Redwood primarily use in-house



analysts and in-house portfolio managers, using commercially available services, financial publications and information services dealing with investment research. Such information may be obtainable in print, on computer media, via the Internet or via some other electronic means. Company prepared materials (particularly prospectuses) and research releases prepared by others are utilized. These research products provide a comprehensive quantitative analysis tool, which allow us to analyze performance and risk measurements to aid in constructing portfolios consistent with portfolio objectives.

Mulholland's goal is to construct diversified, multi-asset class, multi-strategy portfolios utilizing a blend of tactical and strategic solutions in equities and fixed-income.

Active Management - For a number of Mulholland portfolios, Mulholland will at any time move money into a money market fund, government security fund or cash instrument if, in Mulholland's sole discretion, Mulholland believes it is in the best interest of its clients to do so. Active management does not ensure a profit and may not protect against loss in declining markets.

Diversification – Mulholland attempts to create comprehensively diversified portfolios as a means to reduce the risks associated with concentrated portfolios. It should be noted that while diversification seeks to reduce risk, a properly diversified portfolio will normally contain positions which will perform at variance to other positions. Diversification does not ensure a profit and may not protect against loss in declining markets.

## **B. Risks**

Mulholland's investment recommendations are subject to various markets, currency, economic, political and business risks, and such investment decisions may not always be profitable. Clients should be aware that there may be a loss or depreciation to the value of the client's account, which the client should be prepared to bear. When investing in Mulholland's portfolios, the Client is aware that Mulholland may (and in certain cases will) heavily overweight specific sectors in adherence to the specific strategy philosophy. Mulholland does not represent, guarantee or imply that the services or methods of analysis employed can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate clients from losses due to market corrections or declines. In addition, there is no assurance that a mutual fund, an ETF, or any security will achieve its investment objective.

The principal risks of investing in any security, mutual fund or ETF include, but are not limited to, market risk: the chance the stock market as a whole, or the value of an individual security or fund value will decline; equity market risk: common stocks are susceptible to general stock market fluctuations and to volatile increases and decreases in value as market confidence in, and perceptions of, their issuers change; fixed income risk: when investing in bonds, there is the risk that an issuer will default on the bond and be unable to make payments – additionally there is a risk that inflation may erode spending power for those that depend on a set amount of periodically paid income; diversification risk: the chance an investment's performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of an investment's holdings – the use of indexed funds is not guaranteed to track an intended market and may carry additional product risks; sector risk: the chance that significant problems will affect a particular sector, or that returns from that sector will trail returns from the overall market; and style risk (for example growth investing risk and mid-cap company risk).

Additional risks when investing in a mutual fund are investment company risk of the mutual fund itself and additional fees. Additional risks when investing in ETFs are the following: ETF share prices may significantly fluctuate from their underlying net asset value leading to receiving more or less than the net asset value when those shares are sold; trading may be halted by (1) the activation of individual or market wide "circuit breakers" (which halt trading for a specific period of time when the price of a particular security or overall market prices decline by a specified percentage), (2) if the shares are delisted without first being listed on another exchange, or (3) exchange officials determine that such action is appropriate in the interest of a fair and orderly market or to protect investors.

To the extent that a mutual fund or ETF invests in foreign securities or debt securities, a fund would be subject to foreign exposure risk, currency risk, interest rate risk and credit risk. A fund may invest in derivative instruments that carry derivative instruments risk. A principal risk is the risk that the value of securities may decline. Although a mutual fund or ETF may be a diversified fund, it may invest in securities of a limited number of issuers to achieve a potentially greater

investment return than a fund that invests in a larger number of issuers. As a result, price movements of a single issuer's securities will have a greater impact on this fund's net asset value causing it to fluctuate more than that of a more widely diversified fund. These and other risk considerations are discussed in a fund's prospectus. Past performance of investments is no guarantee of future results.

Mutual funds reserve the right to reject purchases or delay redemptions, sometimes after the "Purchase decision" is made. These rights may affect Mulholland's efforts to manage risk for the client. In addition, it is possible for the value of a mutual fund to fall (or to rise more slowly than the stock market as a whole) even when stock prices in general are rising. Risk is involved in fund selection as well as in the timing of trades. The number of mutual funds that allow for unrestricted trading is limited, and the selection of mutual funds in which Mulholland can invest in accordance with its trading strategies is therefore limited to that extent. Mutual funds with which Mulholland trade may underperform other mutual funds that have trading restrictions. On occasion, Mulholland may purchase a mutual fund for client accounts that has a short-term redemption fee. If Mulholland or the client sells that fund during the specified redemption period, the sale will result in a fee that is deducted directly from the client's account.

Mulholland uses its best judgment and good faith efforts in providing advisory services to clients. Not every investment decision or recommendation made by Mulholland will be profitable. Investments in securities are subject to various market, currency, inflation, economic, political and business risks.

If margin is used to purchase additional securities, the total value of account assets increases, as does the asset-based fee. In addition, the account is charged margin interest on the debit balance in the account. Notably, the increased asset-based fee presents a potential conflict since there may be an incentive for Mulholland to implement the use of margin. Additionally, the use of margin increases leverage in an account and therefore increases overall risk.

To the extent that Mulholland invests clients in particular types of asset classes, securities and/or debt instruments, certain risks exist which clients should be aware of. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- **Market Risk:** The price of the security can drop in reaction to tangible and intangible events and conditions. This type of risk is caused by external factors independent of a security's particular underlying circumstances. Local, state, regional, national or global events such as war, acts of terrorism, a pandemic in the spread of infectious illness or other public health issues, such as what was experienced during the COVID 19 pandemic, recessions, or other events could have a significant impact on one's portfolio and its investments and could result in decreases to an investor's portfolio value.
- **Management Risk:** The risk that investment strategies employed by the Adviser in selecting investments may not result in an increase in the value of your investment or in overall performance equal to other similar investment vehicles having similar investment strategies. Management risk includes the risk that the quantitative model used by the Adviser may not perform as expected, particularly in volatile markets. In addition, the tactical asset allocations strategy may be unsuccessful and may cause the portfolio to miss attractive investment opportunities while in a defensive position.
- **Equity Risk:** Historically, the equity markets have moved in cycles, and the value of equity securities can fluctuate significantly from day-to-day. Individual companies may report poor results or be negatively affected by industry and/or economic trends and developments. The prices of securities issued by such companies can suffer a decline in response. These factors contribute to price volatility.
- **Business Risk:** This risk is associated with a particular industry or a particular company within an industry. For example, oil-drilling companies depend on finding oil and then refining it, a lengthy process, before they can generate a profit. They carry a higher risk of profitability than an electric company, which generates its income from a steady stream of customers who buy electricity no matter what the economic environment is like.
- **Foreign Risk:** Investments in foreign securities pose special risks, including currency fluctuation and political risks, and such investments can be more volatile than that of a U.S. only investment. The risks are generally intensified for investments in emerging markets.

- **Currency Risk:** Foreign investments are subject to fluctuations in the value of the dollar against the currency of the investment's originating country. This is also referred to as exchange rate risk.
- **Political and Legislative Risk:** Companies face a complex set of laws and circumstances in each country in which they operate. The political and legal environment can change rapidly and without warning, with significant impact, especially for companies operating outside of the United States or those companies who conduct a substantial amount of their business outside of the United States.
- **Model Risk:** Model-based strategies that may not be successful on an ongoing basis or could contain unknown errors. In addition, the data used in models may be inaccurate.
- **Credit Risk:** The risk that principal and/or interest on a fixed income investment will not be paid in a timely manner or in full due to changes in the financial condition of the issuer. Generally, the higher the perceived credit risk, the higher the rate of interest investors will receive on their investment.
- **Interest Rate Risk:** The risk that the value of an interest-bearing investment will change due to changes in the general level of interest rates in the market. The market value of a bond fluctuates inversely to the change in interest rates; that is, as interest rates rise, bond prices fall and vice versa.

Interest rate risk is commonly measured by a bond's duration; the greater a bond's duration, the greater the impact on price from a change in interest rates. Investors can incur a gain or loss from bonds sold prior to the final maturity date. Many bonds are rated by a third party Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization (NRSRO), for example, Moody's Investor Services or Standard & Poor's Inc. While ratings may assist investors to determine the creditworthiness of the issuer, they are not a guarantee of performance. U.S. Treasury bills, notes and bonds are guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the United States and therefore are deemed to carry no risk of default.

- **Reinvestment Risk:** The risk that interest and principal payments from a bond will be reinvested at a lower yield than that received on the original bond. During periods of declining interest rates, bond payments may be invested at lower rates; during periods of rising rates, bond payments may be invested at higher rates.
- **Call Risk:** The risk that a bond will be called by its issuer. A callable bond has a provision which allows the issuer to purchase the bond back from the bondholders at a predetermined price. Generally, issuers call bonds when prevailing rates are lower than the cost of the outstanding bond. Call provisions allow an issuer to retire high-rate bonds on a predefined call schedule.
- **Prepayment Risk:** Some types of bonds are subject to prepayment risk. Similar to call risk, prepayment risk is the risk that the issuer of a security will repay principal prior to the bond's maturity date, thereby changing the expected payment schedule of the bonds. Prepayment risk is particularly prevalent in the mortgage-backed bond market, where a drop with interest rates can trigger a refinancing wave. When investors in a bond comprised of the underlying pool of mortgages receive principal back sooner than expected, they may be forced to reinvest at prevailing, lower rates.
- **Liquidity Risk:** The risk stemming from the lack of marketability of an investment that cannot be bought or sold quickly enough to prevent or minimize a loss. Liquidity risk is typically reflected in a wide bid-ask spread or large price movements.
- **Inflation Risk:** When any type of inflation is present, a dollar today will not buy as much as a dollar next year, because purchasing power is eroding at the rate of inflation.
- **Opportunity Cost Risk:** The risk that an investor can forego profits or returns from other investments.
- **Financial Risk:** Excessive borrowing to finance a business' operations increases the risk of profitability, because the company must meet the terms of its obligations in good times and bad. During periods of financial stress, the inability to meet loan obligations may result in bankruptcy and/or a declining market value.
- **Derivative Risk:** Derivatives can be riskier than other types of investments because they may be more sensitive to changes in economic or market conditions than other types of investments and could result in losses that

significantly exceed the original investment. The use of derivatives may not be successful, resulting in investment losses, and the cost of such strategies may reduce investment returns.

- **Options Risk:** An option is a contract to buy or sell a specific financial product officially known as the option's underlying instrument or underlying interest. For equity options, the underlying instrument is a stock, ETF, or similar product. The contract itself is very precise. It establishes a specific price, called the strike price, at which the contract may be exercised, or acted on. It also has an expiration date. When an option expires, it no longer has value and no longer exists. Options come in two varieties, calls and puts, and you can buy or sell either type. Call contracts will expire worthless if the underlying security closes below the strike price on expiration. Put contracts will expire worthless if the underlying security closes above the strike price on expiration. Selling a covered call may limit the upside if the underlying security closes above the strike price on expiration. Special tax rules may apply, depending on the outcome. In order to trade options in accounts, a client must utilize margin in their account. Please note that using margin is not suitable for all investors; the use of margin increases leverage in a client's account and therefore increases overall risk. Therefore, a client should read the options disclosure document, "Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options," which can be obtained from any exchange on which options are traded, on the internet at [www.optionsclearing.com](http://www.optionsclearing.com) or by contacting The Options Clearing Corporation at 1-888-OPTIONS.
- **Credit Default Swaps ("CDS"):** CDS can be used to hedge a portion of the default risk on a single corporate bond or a portfolio of bonds. Credit default swaps involve risks because they are difficult to value, are highly susceptible to liquidity and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty). The portfolio bears the loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap counterparty. The maximum risk of loss for sell protection on a credit default swap is the notional value of the total underlying amount of the swap. The CDS market in high yield securities is comparatively new and rapidly evolving compared to the CDS market for more seasoned and liquid investment grade securities. Swap transactions dependent upon credit events are priced incorporating many variables including the pricing and volatility of the common stock, potential loss upon default and the shape of the U.S. Treasury Yield curve, among other factors. As such, there are many factors upon which market participants may have divergent views. Redwood may also enter into CDS transactions, even if the credit outlook is positive, if it believes that participants in the marketplace have incorrectly valued the components which determine the value of a swap. Investments in CDS involve a high degree of risk.
- **Credit Default Swap Index ("CDX"):** CDX is a benchmark financial instrument made up of credit default swaps (CDS) that have been issued by North American or emerging market companies. Credit default swaps involve risks because they are difficult to value, are highly susceptible to liquidity and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty). The portfolio bears the loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap counterparty. The maximum risk of loss for sell protection on a credit default swap is the notional value of the total underlying amount of the swap.
- **Counterparty Risk:** The stability and liquidity of many derivative transactions depends in large part on the creditworthiness of the parties to the transactions. If a counterparty to such a transaction defaults, exercising contractual rights may involve delays or costs for a fund. Furthermore, there is a risk that a counterparty could become the subject of insolvency proceedings, and that the recovery of securities and other assets from such counterparty will be delayed or be of a value less than the value of the securities or assets originally entrusted to such counterparty.
- **ESG Investment Strategy Risk:** ESG investment strategy limits the types and number of investment opportunities available to the strategy and, as a result, the strategy may underperform other funds that do not have an ESG focus. ESG investment strategy may result in investing in securities or industry sectors that underperform the market as a whole or underperform other funds screened for ESG standards. The companies selected for demonstrating ESG characteristics may not be the same companies selected by index providers that use similar ESG screens. In addition, entities selected by the manager may not exhibit positive or favorable ESG characteristics.

## ITEM 9: DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION

Registered investment advisers such as Mulholland are required to disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of Mulholland or the integrity of its management. Mulholland, and its affiliates, do not have any such legal or disciplinary events and thus has no information to disclose with respect to this Item.

## ITEM 10: OTHER FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS

Neither Mulholland, or its representatives, are registered or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.

Mulholland generally recommends a qualified custodian to clients for custody and brokerage services with regards to separately managed accounts. There is no direct link between Mulholland's participation with the custodians and the investment advice it gives to its clients. Please refer to Item 12 for further information.

As described above, Mulholland is affiliated with Redwood, an SEC registered investment adviser. Mulholland has entered into a sub-advisory agreement with Redwood, whereby Redwood provides sub-advisory investment advice and administrative services to Mulholland. Mulholland and Redwood are under the same common control with similar ownership. Michael Messinger is the Principal/Portfolio Manager of Redwood as well as Managing Member and Chief Executive Officer of Mulholland. Mr. Messinger has an indirect ownership of greater than 25% in both Redwood and Mulholland through various trusts he controls. Therefore, it is important for clients to understand that whenever Redwood is serving as sub-adviser to Mulholland and Mulholland collects and investment advisory fee, Mr. Messinger receives remuneration from both Redwood as well as Mulholland. Finally, Mr. Messinger and certain representatives of Mulholland also may be investment advisory representatives of Redwood. Consequently, if the interest of the advisers do not align, there will be a conflict. Again, this is mitigated through the development of policies and procedures, including due diligence on Redwood by Mulholland. Finally, Redwood has the ability to be reimbursed from Mulholland for certain administrative costs and business expenses.

Redwood serves as the investment adviser to the Redwood Funds, which are affiliated open-end investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Whenever Redwood recommends the Redwood Funds in its separately managed accounts, TPA Model portfolios or Sub-advisory portfolios, a conflict of interest exists because Mr. Messinger and Redwood are compensated both for its role as manager to these portfolios as well as a management fee as the manager of the Redwood Funds. Moreover, similar mutual fund and ETF products could be available for less overall expenses to clients.

Redwood also serves as the investment manager to the Redwood Managed Risk Plus, L.P, a private hedge fund, and is the owner and managing member to the Private Fund's general partner, Redwood Managed Risk GP, LLC ("Redwood GP"). As of March 22, 2023, the Private Fund is in the process of being closed and is not accepting any new investors.

To address these conflicts of interest noted above, Mulholland has adopted certain procedures designed to mitigate the effects of these conflicts. First, as part of Mulholland's fiduciary duty to clients, Mulholland and its representatives will endeavor at all times to put the interests of the clients first, and recommendations will only be made to the extent that they are reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the client. Additionally, the conflicts presented by these practices are disclosed to clients at the time of entering into an IMA, mainly through the delivery of this disclosure Brochure (Form ADV Part 2A) and Supplemental Brochures (Form ADV Part 2B). Please refer to Items 5, 6, 8, 12, & 15 for detailed information regarding these conflicts and how they are addressed.

## **ITEM 11: CODE OF ETHICS, PARTICIPATION OR INTEREST IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS AND PERSONAL TRADING**

### **A. Code of Ethics Summary**

The Investment Advisers Act of 1940 imposes a fiduciary duty on all investment advisers to act in the best interest of its clients. Mulholland's clients therefore entrust the Firm to use the highest standards of integrity when dealing with their assets and making investments that impact their financial future. Mulholland's fiduciary duty compels all Mulholland associated persons (defined as owners, managers, officers, independent contractors, and associated persons) to act with integrity in all Mulholland dealings. Because Mulholland's investment professionals may purchase or sell securities that the Firm also recommends to clients, it is important to mitigate potential conflicts of interest. To that end, Mulholland has adopted personal securities transaction policies in the form of a Code of Ethics ("Code"), which all Mulholland associated persons must follow. Mulholland's Code generally sets the standard of business that Mulholland requires of its associated persons, requires associated persons to comply with applicable federal securities laws, and sets forth provisions regarding personal securities transactions by associated persons. Additionally, the Code sets forth Mulholland's policies and procedures with respect to material, non-public information and other confidential information, and the fiduciary duties that Mulholland and each of its associated persons has to each client. Mulholland obtains information from a wide variety of publicly available resources. As a result, Mulholland and its personnel do not have, nor claim to have, insider or private knowledge. The Code is circulated at least annually to all associated persons, and each associated person, at least annually, must certify in writing that he or she has received and followed the Code and any amendments thereto. Mulholland will provide a copy of the Code to any client or prospective client upon written request.

To ensure insider trading does not take place and to address the conflict of interest regarding obtaining confidential information, Mulholland has adopted a firm wide policy statement outlining insider-trading compliance by Mulholland and its associated persons. This statement has been distributed to all associated persons of Mulholland.

### **B. Participation or Interest in Client Transactions**

Mulholland recognizes that the personal securities transactions of its members and associated persons demand the application of a high code of ethics, and Mulholland requires that all such transactions be carried out in a way that does not endanger the interest of the client. At the same time, Mulholland believes that if investment goals are similar for clients and for associated persons of Mulholland, it is logical and even desirable that there be common ownership of some securities. Therefore, in order to address conflicts of interest, Mulholland has adopted a set of procedures, including its Code, with respect to transactions executed by its associated persons for their personal accounts. If the possibility of a conflict of interest occurs, the client's interest prevails. If a Mulholland managed associated persons or proprietary account executes at a common custodian a trade on the same day and in the same security but at a different price, then it is Mulholland's policy that priority will always be given to the client's order over the order of Mulholland associated persons.

Also, in order to monitor compliance with its personal trading policy, Mulholland has adopted a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all associated persons. Because the Code would permit associated persons of Mulholland to invest in the same securities as clients, there is a possibility that a Mulholland associated person could benefit from market activity by a client in a security held by that person. Employee trading is continually monitored under the Code, with an eye to reasonably prevent conflicts of interest between Mulholland and its clients.

Mulholland does not affect any principal or agency cross securities transactions for client accounts, nor does it affect cross-trades between client accounts. Principal transactions are generally defined as transactions where an adviser, acting as principal for its own account or the account of an affiliated broker-dealer, buys from or sells any security to any advisory client. An agency cross transaction is defined as a transaction where a person acts as an investment adviser in relation to a transaction in which the investment adviser, or any person controlled by or under common control with the investment adviser, acts as broker for both the advisory client and for another person on the other side of the transaction. Should Mulholland ever decide to affect principal trades or cross-trades in client accounts, it will comply with the provisions of Rule 206(3) of the Advisers Act and update this ADV Part 2A accordingly.

As described above, Mulholland will recommend, when it believes it to be in the client's best interest, that its clients purchase or sell shares of the Redwood Funds. This creates a conflict of interest as Mulholland is incentivized to recommend the Redwood Funds. Mulholland takes steps to mitigate this conflict as described in Item 5.D above.

### **C. Similar Securities**

Certain associates of Mulholland are also investment adviser representatives of Redwood and must comply with its Code of Ethics. More specifically, Redwood may, from time to time, purchase the same or similar securities for the Redwood Funds at the same time as it affects transactions for other Redwood clients. This could deem associated persons to be indirectly trading before other Redwood clients during times when the Firm aggregates trades for clients, including the Redwood Funds. This creates a potential conflict of interest. To address this conflict of interest, Redwood has written policies and procedures regarding aggregation and allocation of trades. Please refer to Item 12 for further information.

## **ITEM 12: BROKERAGE PRACTICES**

### **A. Selection Criteria**

Through Mulholland's sub-advisory arrangements with TPAs, TPAs assign discretionary trading authority to Mulholland on behalf of a particular portion of the TPA clients' assets. Mulholland does not have the ability to choose and determine: (1) the custodian or broker-dealer for the Advisory Client's account; or (2) program and transaction cost pricing.

Therefore, Mulholland is unable to control or confirm best execution for account transactions. Details regarding the TPA's brokerage selection criteria are outlined in each TPA's Form ADV Part 2A.

For SMAs, in selecting a broker or dealer to execute each particular transaction, the Firm will take the following into consideration:

- The best net price available;
- The reliability, integrity and financial condition of the broker or dealer;
- The size of and difficulty in executing the order;
- The value of the expected contribution of the broker or dealer to the investment performance of client accounts on a continuing basis; and
- The value of the research, and other services provided.

Mulholland clients may pay higher commissions or transaction fees to brokers or dealers executing portfolio transactions on behalf of Mulholland clients if Mulholland determines in good faith that such commissions/transaction fees are reasonable in relation to the value of brokerage, research and other services provided.

Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Section 28(e)" or ("28(e)") provides a safe harbor to investment advisors who use the commission dollars of their advised accounts to obtain investment research and brokerage services, provided that all of the conditions in Section 28(e) are met. The primary condition is that the investment advisor determines in good faith that the amount of the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided. In addition, 28(e) permits advisers to use the research and brokerage services provided by brokers to service any or all of the adviser's clients, and the services may be used in connection with clients other than those making the payment of commissions. From time to time, some of the services received as the result of transactions on behalf of certain Mulholland clients may benefit accounts other than those participating in such transactions.

Importantly, clients should understand that the use of soft dollars by Mulholland may be deemed to be an indirect economic benefit to Mulholland, which would create a conflict of interest between Mulholland and its clients. To address this potential conflict, Mulholland has adopted certain procedures designed to mitigate the effects of these conflicts. For

example, as part of Mulholland's fiduciary duty to clients, Mulholland and its associated persons will endeavor at all times to put the interests of Mulholland's clients first. Additionally, Mulholland has adopted various trading and best execution review procedures to determine in good faith that the amount of commissions is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided.

In addition, specific mutual fund and ETF holdings may differ depending on the custodian platform. Depending on the mutual funds and ETFs or variable annuity sub-accounts used, performance results will vary.

#### **B. Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits**

Section 28(e) also permits advisers to use the research services provided by brokers to service any or all of the adviser's clients, and the services also may be used in connection with clients other than those making the payment of commissions. Importantly, clients should understand that the use of soft dollars by Mulholland may be deemed to be an indirect economic benefit to Mulholland, which creates a conflict of interest between Mulholland and its clients. To address these conflicts, Mulholland has adopted certain procedures designed to mitigate the effects of these conflicts. For example, as part of Mulholland's fiduciary duty to clients, Mulholland and its associated persons will endeavor at all times to put the interests of Mulholland's clients first. Additionally, Mulholland has adopted various trading and best execution review procedures to help ensure clients are receiving the best overall deal at the time of the transaction.

Mulholland may select a broker-dealer in recognition of the value of various services or products, beyond transaction execution, that such broker-dealer provides where, considering all relevant factors, it believes the broker-dealer can provide best execution. Selecting a broker-dealer in recognition of the provision of services or products other than transaction execution is known as paying for those services or products with "soft dollars." The amount of compensation paid to such a broker-dealer generally is higher than what another, equally capable broker-dealer might charge. The following discussion is intended to provide clients with certain important information regarding such practices, including the conflicts of interest that arise under soft dollar arrangements.

The receipt of such research and other services benefit Mulholland, because Mulholland does not have to produce or pay for the research or other products or services when it obtains such products and services by using client commissions. Although customary, these arrangements present potential conflicts of interest in allocating securities transactional business to broker-dealers in exchange for soft dollar benefits, including an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on Mulholland's interest in receiving the research or other products or services, rather than on clients' interest in receiving most favorable execution. Additionally, Mulholland may have an incentive to execute more transactions than might otherwise be the case in order to obtain those benefits. The agreements between Mulholland and its clients generally authorize Mulholland to use client soft dollars for a wide range of purposes. The extent of any such conflict depends in large part on the nature and uses of the services and products acquired with soft dollars.

Section 28(e) recognizes the potential and actual conflict of interest involved in this activity but allows investment advisers to use client commissions to pay for certain research and brokerage products and services under certain circumstances without breaching their fiduciary duties to clients. For these purposes, "research" means services or products used to provide lawful and appropriate assistance to Mulholland in making investment decisions for its clients. "Brokerage" services and products are those used to effect securities transactions for Mulholland's clients or to assist in effecting those transactions.

Consistent with obtaining best execution, brokerage transactions may be directed to a broker-dealer in return for investment research and brokerage products and services which assist Mulholland in its investment decision-making process. Mulholland may cause clients to pay commissions that are higher than those that another qualified broker-dealer might charge to execute the same transaction where Mulholland determines, in good faith, that the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services received.

Research and other products and services purchased with soft dollars will generally be used to service all of Mulholland's clients, but brokerage commissions paid by one client may be used to pay for research that is not used in managing that



client's portfolio, as permitted by Section 28(e). In other words, there may be certain client accounts that benefit from the research services, which did not make the payment of commissions to the broker-dealer providing the services.

Brokerage services obtained with soft dollars may include, for example, quotation and communication equipment and services, other order management systems that provide trading software or provide connectivity to such software, trade analysis software, on-line pricing services, communication services relating to execution, clearing and settlement and message services used to transmit orders.

Research and related services furnished by brokers may include, but are not limited to, written information and analyses concerning specific securities, companies or sectors; market, financial and economic studies and forecasts; financial publications; recommendations as to specific securities; portfolio evaluation services; financial database software and services; computerized news, pricing and statistical services; and discussions with research personnel, along with software, data bases and other technical services utilized in the investment management process. Research received by Mulholland under such soft dollar arrangements may include both proprietary research (created or developed by the broker-dealer) and research created or developed by a third party.

As stated above, Mulholland may recommend that clients establish brokerage accounts with a qualified custodian to maintain custody of clients' assets and to effect trades for their accounts. There is no direct link between the investment advice given to clients and Mulholland's recommendation to use the custodial or brokerage services of these custodians, certain benefits are received by Mulholland due to this arrangement, as outlined above and in Item 14 below.

Additionally, such custodians provide Mulholland with access to their institutional trading and custody services, which are typically not available to retail investors. These services generally are available to independent investment advisers on an unsolicited basis, at no charge to them so long as a minimum dollar amount of the advisor's clients' assets are maintained in accounts at the custodian. The services provided to clients under these custodian arrangements include the execution of securities transactions, custody, research, and access to mutual funds and other investments that are otherwise generally available only to institutional investors or would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment. For Mulholland client accounts maintained with recommended custodians under these arrangements, the clients are usually not charged separately for custody services since the transactions are generally placed with the brokerage division of each custodian. Since the benefits received by both the client and Mulholland are paid for with client's commissions/transactions fees, they are deemed to be soft dollar benefits.

### **C. Brokerage for Client Referrals**

Mulholland does direct trade activity to brokers in exchange for client referrals. See Item 14(B), regarding Mulholland generally recommending that clients use a qualified custodian, as their custodian and broker of record.

### **D. Directed Brokerage**

Mulholland does not generally accept directed brokerage arrangements (when a client requires that account transactions be executed through a specific broker-dealer). In such client directed arrangements, the client will negotiate terms and arrangements for their account with that broker-dealer, and Mulholland will not seek better execution services or prices from other broker-dealers or be able to "batch" the client's transactions for execution through other broker-dealers with orders for other accounts managed by Mulholland. As a result, the client may pay higher transaction costs and/or receive less favorable executions on transactions for the account than would otherwise be the case through alternative arrangements that may be available through Mulholland.

### **E. Order Aggregation**

Mulholland may determine that the purchase or sale of a particular security is appropriate for multiple advisory client accounts, based on a variety of reasons. When this happens, Mulholland may determine that it is in these clients' best interest to attempt to execute the trade orders as one or more block trades (*i.e.*, aggregate the individual trade for each account into one or more trade orders). These circumstances may, in turn, give rise to actual or potential conflicts of interest among the accounts for whom the security purchase or sale is appropriate, and among the subset of those accounts actually participating in a block trade, especially if the block trade order results in a partial fill. In order to address these

conflicts, Mulholland has adopted certain policies and procedures that it follows when aggregating trades in an effort to provide an objective and equitable method of trade allocation so that all clients are treated fairly.

#### **F. Trade Errors**

Trade Errors detected in a managed account must be corrected so as not to harm any client. The goal of error correction is to make the client “whole.” The Firm cannot correct a trade error made in a client’s account by using soft dollar credits or by allocating the trade to a different account, unless that account was meant to receive the trade in the first place.

### **ITEM 13: REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

Accounts are reviewed quarterly by Mulholland’s Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”), or a Mulholland employee delegated by the CCO and upon request of the client. In addition, reviews may be triggered by changes in an account holder’s personal, tax or financial status. Other events that may trigger a review of an account are material changes in market conditions as well as macroeconomic and company-specific events. Clients are encouraged to notify Mulholland and its advisory representatives of any changes in their personal financial situation that might affect their investment needs, objectives, or time horizon.

The custodian will provide written confirmation to each client of each transaction, typically within five (5) business days. Each client can opt to receive trade confirmations and/or monthly statements by email instead of U.S. mail. The custodian also provides a monthly/quarterly statement to each client, showing all current holdings and recent transactions. Additionally, each client can view its account online. Variable annuity and mutual fund families provide similar monthly/quarterly statements showing activity in the account. Clients should review the fees charged to their account to fully understand all fees charged. Clients are encouraged to review their account statements received from the account custodian for accuracy and compare them to any reports received from Mulholland.

### **ITEM 14: CLIENT REFERRALS AND OTHER COMPENSATION**

#### **A. Compensation for Client Referrals**

Mulholland, from time to time, enters into agreements with individuals and organizations that refer clients to Mulholland (“promoters”). All such agreements will be in writing and comply with the requirements of Rule 206(4)-1 of the Advisers Act. If a client is introduced to Mulholland by a promoter, Mulholland pays that promoter a fee in accordance with the requirements of Rule 206(4)-1 of the Advisers Act and any corresponding state securities law requirements. While the specific terms of each agreement may differ, generally the compensation will be based upon Mulholland’s engagement of new clients and the retention of those clients, and is calculated using a varying percentage of the fees paid to Mulholland by such clients. Any such fee shall be paid solely from Mulholland’s management fees, and shall not result in any additional charge to the client.

Each prospective client who is referred to Mulholland under such an arrangement will receive a copy of Mulholland’s Form ADV Part 2 and a separate written disclosure document disclosing the nature of the relationship between the promoter and Mulholland and the amount of compensation that will be paid by Mulholland to the promoter. The promoter is required to obtain the client’s signature acknowledging receipt of promoter’s written disclosure statement.

#### **B. Other Compensation**

As discussed more fully under Item 12, Mulholland may enter into “soft dollar” arrangements whereby brokerage transactions are directed to certain broker-dealers in return for investment research products and/or services which assist Mulholland in its investment decision-making process. The receipt of such services may be deemed to be the receipt of an economic benefit by Mulholland, and although customary, these arrangements give rise to potential conflicts of interest, including the incentive to allocate securities transactional business to broker-dealers based on the receipt of such benefits rather than on a client’s interest in receiving most favorable execution.

Additionally, Mulholland generally recommends that clients use of a qualified custodian as the broker of record. While there is no direct link between the investment advice given to clients and Mulholland's recommendation to use a qualified custodian, certain benefits are received by Mulholland due to these arrangements. The qualified custodian may make available to Mulholland research and other products and services that benefit Mulholland but may not benefit its clients' accounts. Some of these other products and services assist Mulholland in managing and administering clients' accounts.

Mulholland or its affiliate may in the future receive client referrals from brokerages. These circumstances may, in turn, give rise to actual or potential conflicts of interest whereby a firm would then have a preference to place a client with at brokerage firm providing referrals over another broker. To monitor this conflict, Mulholland's best execution review process will take into consideration the referral benefits in evaluating overall execution service. Please also see Item 14(B) regarding Mulholland generally recommending that clients use a qualified custodian as the broker of record.

While as a fiduciary, Mulholland endeavors to act in its clients' best interests, Mulholland's recommendation that clients maintain their assets in accounts at a qualified custodian may be based in part on the benefit to Mulholland of the availability of some of the products and services provided and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and brokerage services provided by a qualified custodian, which may create a potential conflict of interest. Please refer to Item 12 above for further details.

## ITEM 15: CUSTODY

Pursuant to Rule 206(4)-2 of the Advisers Act, Mulholland is deemed to have custody of client funds because the Firm has the authority and ability to debit its fees directly from clients' accounts. To mitigate any potential conflicts of interests, all Mulholland client account assets will be maintained with an independent qualified custodian. Notably, in most cases a client's broker-dealer may also act as the custodian of the client's assets for little or no extra cost. Clients should be aware, however, of the differences between having their assets custodied at a broker-dealer versus at a bank or trust company. Some of these differences include, but are not limited to, custodian costs, trading issues, security of assets, client reporting and technology. Mulholland will only implement its investment management recommendations after the client has arranged for and furnished Mulholland with all information and authorization regarding its accounts held at the designated qualified custodian. Clients will receive statements on at least a quarterly basis directly from the qualified custodian that holds and maintains their assets. Clients are urged to carefully review all custodial statements and compare the statements to any reports received by Mulholland. Should there be a conflict between custodial statements and reports by Mulholland, the custodial statement is the official statement. Mulholland shall never serve as a qualified custodian of any client funds or securities, as that service will be provided by an independent third-party custodian.

## ITEM 16: INVESTMENT DISCRETION

### **A. Discretionary Authority; Limitations**

Mulholland will have discretionary authority via a written investment management agreement to make the following determinations without obtaining the consent of the client before the transactions are executed:

1. The securities that are to be bought or sold;
2. The total amount of the securities to be bought or sold; and
3. The selection of third-party managers;
4. The broker-dealer/custodian to be used and transaction fees paid. Mulholland has selected the custodian based on reasonable transaction costs, industry reputation, and advanced technology.

Third-party manager(s) investing client assets will also have full discretionary authority over the portion of the client's account they manage.

Such discretion is to be exercised in a manner consistent with Mulholland's strategies. In addition, Mulholland's authority to trade securities may be limited in certain circumstances by applicable legal and regulatory requirements. Clients are

permitted to impose reasonable limitations on Mulholland's discretionary authority, including restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities. All such limitations, restrictions, and investment guidelines must be provided to Mulholland in writing.

**B. Limited Power of Attorney**

By signing Mulholland's investment management agreement, clients authorize Mulholland to exercise limited discretionary authority with respect to all investment transactions involving the client's account. Pursuant to such agreement, Mulholland is designated as the client's attorney-in-fact with discretionary authority to only effect investment transactions in the client's account.

**ITEM 17: VOTING CLIENT SECURITIES**

Mulholland has a general policy of voting proxies on behalf of separately managed account clients for any securities held in a client's account.

Proxy voting for plans governed by ERISA must conform to the plan document in effect. In cases where the investment manager is listed as the fiduciary responsible for voting proxies, the responsibility will be designated to another fiduciary and reflected in the plan document.

Mulholland shall not be deemed to have proxy-voting authority solely as a result of providing advice or information about a particular proxy vote to a client, but clients may contact Mulholland with any questions concerning a proxy solicitation. Mulholland typically does not advise or act for clients with respect to any legal matters, including bankruptcies and class actions, for the securities held in clients' accounts.

**ITEM 18: FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Mulholland does not require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200.00 in fees per client, six months or more in advance and therefore is not required to provide, and has not provided, a balance sheet. Mulholland does not have any financial commitments that impair its ability to meet contractual and fiduciary obligations to clients, and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.

**Mulholland's Chief Compliance Officer, John Yung, remains available to address any questions that a client or prospective client may have regarding the above arrangement.**