

5314 River Run Drive, Suite 210 Provo, UT 84604

Telephone: 385-375-8650

August 1, 2022

FORM ADV PART 2A BROCHURE

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of TownSquare Capital, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, contact us at 385-375-8650. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about TownSquare Capital, LLC (CRD/IARD # 288576) is available on the SEC's website at <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>.

TownSquare Capital, LLC is a registered investment adviser. Registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

# Item 2 Summary of Material Changes

Form ADV Part 2 requires registered investment advisers to amend their brochure when information becomes materially inaccurate. If there are any material changes to an adviser's disclosure brochure, the adviser is required to notify you and provide you with a description of the material changes.

Since the filing of our last Annual Updating Amendment, dated March 30, 2022, we have made the following material changes:

- In July 2022, TownSquare Capital, LLC was acquired by Orion Advisor Solutions, Inc. ("Orion") a company controlled by funds affiliated with Genstar Capital Partners LLC and TA Associates (the "Change of Control Transaction"). TownSquare Capital, LLC is a wholly-owned, indirect subsidiary of Orion. We have amended the *Advisory Business* section of this brochure to disclose that Orion is the owner of TownSquare Capital, LLC.
- We are now offering access to a Private Fund, TownSquare Sundance Bay Opportunity I, LLC. Please refer to the Advisory Business, Fees and Compensation, Types of Clients, Code of Ethics, Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations, and Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading sections of this brochure for additional information.
- We have amended Item 10 to disclose new affiliates.

If you would like to receive a full copy of the entire brochure at no charge, please contact us at (385) 375-8650 or via email at <u>contact@townsquarecapital.com</u>.

# Item 3 Table of Contents

Item 1 Cover Page	Page 1
Item 2 Summary of Material Changes	Page 2
Item 3 Table of Contents	Page 3
Item 4 Advisory Business	Page 4
Item 5 Fees and Compensation	Page 7
Item 6 Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management	Page 10
Item 7 Types of Clients	Page 10
Item 8 Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss	Page 10
Item 9 Disciplinary Information	Page 19
Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations	Page 19
Item 11 Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading	Page 21
Item 12 Brokerage Practices	Page 22
Item 13 Review of Accounts	Page 26
Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation	Page 26
Item 15 Custody	Page 27
Item 16 Investment Discretion	Page 28
Item 17 Voting Client Securities	Page 28
Item 18 Financial Information	Page 29
Item 19 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers	Page 29
Item 20 Additional Information	Page 29

# Item 4 Advisory Business

### **Description of Firm**

TownSquare Capital, LLC is a registered investment adviser primarily based in Provo, UT. We are organized as a limited liability company ("LLC") under the laws of the State of Utah. We have been providing investment advisory services since June 2017. In July 2022, TownSquare Capital, LLC was acquired by Orion Advisor Solutions, Inc. ("Orion"), a company controlled by funds affiliated with Genstar Capital Partners LLC and TA Associates (the "Change of Control Transaction"). Therefore, we are primarily owned by Orion Advisor Solutions, Inc.. TownSquare Capital, LLC is a wholly-owned, indirect subsidiary of Orion.

The following paragraphs describe our services and fees. Refer to the description of each investment advisory service listed below for information on how we tailor our advisory services to your individual needs. As used in this brochure, the words "we," "our," and "us" refer to TownSquare Capital, LLC and the words "you," "your," and "client" refer to you as either a client or prospective client of our firm.

### **Asset Management Services**

We offer discretionary asset management services. Our investment advice is tailored to meet our clients' needs and investment objectives.

If you participate in our discretionary asset management services, we require you to grant us discretionary authority to manage your account. Subject to a grant of discretionary authorization, we have the authority and responsibility to formulate investment strategies on your behalf. Discretionary authorization will allow us to determine the specific securities, and the amount of securities, to be purchased or sold for your account without obtaining your approval prior to each transaction. We will also have discretion over the broker or dealer to be used for securities transactions in your account. Discretionary authority is typically granted by the investment advisory agreement you sign with our firm, a power of attorney, or trading authorization forms.

You may limit our discretionary authority (for example, limiting the types of securities that can be purchased or sold for your account) by providing our firm with your restrictions and guidelines in writing.

We may also offer non-discretionary asset management services. If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we must obtain your approval prior to executing any transactions on behalf of your account. You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

As part of our asset management services, in addition to other types of investments (see disclosures below in this section), we may invest your assets according to one or more model portfolios developed by our firm. These models are designed for investors with varying degrees of risk tolerance ranging from a more aggressive investment strategy to a more conservative investment approach. Clients whose assets are invested in model portfolios may not set restrictions on the specific holdings or allocations within the model, nor the types of securities that can be purchased in the model. Nonetheless, clients may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities in their account. In such cases, this may prevent a client from investing in certain models that are managed by our firm.

### **Financial Planning Services**

We offer financial planning services which typically involve providing a variety of advisory services to clients regarding the management of their financial resources based upon an analysis of their individual needs. These services can range from broad-based financial planning to consultative or

single subject planning. If you retain our firm for financial planning services, we will meet with you to gather information about your financial circumstances and objectives. We may also use financial planning software to determine your current financial position and to define and quantify your long-term goals and objectives. Once we specify those long-term objectives (both financial and non-financial), we will develop shorter-term, targeted objectives. Once we review and analyze the information you provide to our firm and the data derived from our financial planning software, we will deliver a written plan to you, designed to help you achieve your stated financial goals and objectives.

We provide the following financial planning services:

- **Financial Planning:** We will collect the pertinent data, conduct personal interviews with you, and present you with a written financial plan.
- **Specific Financial Planning:** We will collect the pertinent data, conduct personal interviews with you, and present selected report(s).
- Hourly Financial Consultation: We will provide financial consulting services on an hourly basis.
- Seminar Training: We will provide educational seminars to our clients on financial industry related matters.

Financial plans are based on your financial situation at the time we present the plan to you, and on the financial information you provide to us. You must promptly notify our firm if your financial situation, goals, objectives, or needs change.

You are under no obligation to act on our financial planning recommendations. Should you choose to act on any of our recommendations, you are not obligated to implement the financial plan through any of our other investment advisory services. Moreover, you may act on our recommendations by placing securities transactions with any brokerage firm.

# Sub-Advisory Services to Registered Investment Advisers

We offer sub-advisory services to unaffiliated third party money managers (the "Primary Investment Adviser") per the terms and conditions of a written Sub-Advisory Agreement. With respect to its subadvisory services, the unaffiliated investment advisers that engage Adviser's sub-advisory services maintain both the initial and ongoing day-to-day relationship with the underlying client, including initial and ongoing determination of client suitability for Adviser's designated investment strategies. Adviser's obligation shall be limited to management of the allocated assets consistent with the objective and/or strategy designated by the Adviser. If the custodian/broker-dealer is determined by the unaffiliated investment adviser, Adviser will be unable to negotiate commissions and/or transaction costs, and/or seek better execution. As a result, client may pay higher commissions or other transaction costs or greater spreads, or receive less favorable net prices, on transactions for the account than would otherwise be the case through alternative clearing arrangements recommended by Adviser. Higher transaction costs adversely impact account performance.

### **Pension Consulting Services**

We offer pension consulting services to employee benefit plans and their fiduciaries based upon the needs of the plan and the services requested by the plan sponsor or named fiduciary. In general, these services may include an existing plan review and analysis, plan-level advice regarding fund selection and investment options, education services to plan participants, investment performance monitoring, and/or ongoing consulting. These pension consulting services will generally be non-discretionary and advisory in nature. The ultimate decision to act on behalf of the plan shall remain with the plan sponsor or other named fiduciary.

We may also assist with participant enrollment meetings and provide investment-related educational seminars to plan participants on such topics as:

- Diversification;
- Asset allocation;
- Risk tolerance; and
- Time horizon

Our educational seminars may include other investment-related topics specific to the particular plan.

We may also provide additional types of pension consulting services to plans on an individually negotiated basis. All services, whether discussed above or customized for the plan based upon requirements from the plan fiduciaries (which may include additional plan-level or participant-level services) shall be detailed in a written agreement and be consistent with the parameters set forth in the plan documents.

Either party to the pension consulting agreement may terminate the agreement upon written notice to the other party in accordance with the terms of the agreement for services. The pension consulting fees will be prorated for the quarter in which the termination notice is given and any unearned fees will be refunded to the client.

## **Pooled Investment Vehicles**

TownSquare Capital, LLC, is the manager for TownSquare WTI Opportunity I, LLC. The Advisors of TownSquare Capital, LLC may potentially offer investment opportunities in debt financings to clients. The Fund is offered to certain sophisticated investors, who meet certain requirements under applicable state and/or federal securities laws. Investors to whom the Fund is offered will receive a private placement memorandum and other offering documents.

TownSquare Capital, LLC, is the manager for TownSquare Sundance Bay Opportunity I, LLC. The Advisors of TownSquare Capital, LLC may potentially offer investment opportunities in debt financings to clients. The Fund is offered to certain sophisticated investors, who meet certain requirements under applicable state and/or federal securities laws. Investors to whom the Fund is offered will receive a private placement memorandum and other offering documents.

### Types of Investments

We offer advice on equity securities, warrants, corporate debt securities (other than commercial paper), commercial paper, certificates of deposit, municipal securities, variable life insurance, variable annuities, mutual fund shares, United States government securities, options contracts on securities, options contracts on commodities, futures contracts on tangibles, futures contracts on intangibles, money market funds, real estate, REITs, PIPEs, derivatives, structured notes, ETFs, private placements, interests in partnerships investing in real estate, oil and gas.

Additionally, we may advise you on various types of investments based on your stated goals and objectives. We may also provide advice on any type of investment held in your portfolio at the inception of our advisory relationship.

# Wrap Fee Programs

In the event that Adviser is engaged to provide investment advisory services as part of an unaffiliated wrap-fee program, Adviser will be unable to negotiate commissions and/or transaction costs. Under a wrap program, the wrap program sponsor arranges for the investor participant to receive investment advisory services, the execution of securities brokerage transactions, custody and reporting services for a single specified fee. Participation in a wrap program may cost the participant more or less than purchasing such services separately.

## **IRA Rollover Recommendations**

Effective December 20, 2021 (or such later date as the US Department of Labor ("DOL") Field Assistance Bulletin 2018-02 ceases to be in effect), for purposes of complying with the DOL's Prohibited Transaction Exemption 2020-02 ("PTE 2020-02") where applicable, we are providing the following acknowledgment to you. When we provide investment advice to you regarding your retirement plan account or individual retirement account, we are fiduciaries within the meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and/or the Internal Revenue Code, as applicable, which are laws governing retirement accounts. The way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests, so we operate under a special rule that requires us to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. Under this special rule's provisions, we must:

- Meet a professional standard of care when making investment recommendations (give prudent advice);
- Never put our financial interests ahead of yours when making recommendations (give loyal advice);
- · Avoid misleading statements about conflicts of interest, fees, and investments;
- Follow policies and procedures designed to ensure that we give advice that is in your best interest;
- Charge no more than is reasonable for our services; and
- Give you basic information about conflicts of interest.

We benefit financially from the rollover of your assets from a retirement account to an account that we manage or provide investment advice, because the assets increase our assets under management and, in turn, our advisory fees. As a fiduciary, we only recommend a rollover when we believe it is in your best interest.

### Assets Under Management

As of December 31, 2021, we provide continuous management services for \$6,016,244,124 in client assets on a discretionary basis, and \$0 in client assets on a non-discretionary basis.

# **Item 5 Fees and Compensation**

### Asset Management Services

Our annual fee for asset management services varies between 0.10% and 2.0% depending upon the market value of your assets under our management and the scope of the services we provide to you. These fees are negotiable. Assets in each of your account(s) are included in the fee assessment unless specifically identified in writing for exclusion.

Our annual asset management fee is billed and payable, quarterly in advance, based on the balance at end of billing period.

If the asset management agreement is executed at any time other than the first day of a calendar quarter, our fees will apply on a pro rata basis, which means that the advisory fee is payable in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. Our advisory fee is negotiable, depending on individual client circumstances.

At our discretion, we will combine the account values of family members living in the same household to determine the applicable advisory fee. For example, we will combine account values for you and your minor children, joint accounts with your spouse, and other types of related accounts. Combining account values may increase the asset total, which may result in your paying a reduced advisory fee based on the available breakpoints in our fee schedule stated above.

We will deduct our fee directly from your account through the qualified custodian holding your funds and securities. We will deduct our advisory fee only when you have given our firm written authorization permitting the fees to be paid directly from your account. Further, the qualified custodian will deliver an account statement to you at least quarterly. These account statements will show all disbursements from your account. You should review all statements for accuracy.

You may terminate the asset management agreement upon written notice. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the asset management agreement, which means you will incur advisory fees only in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. If you have pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees.

## **Financial Planning Services**

We charge an hourly fee ranging from \$100 - \$350 for financial planning services, which is negotiable depending on the scope and complexity of the plan, your situation, and your financial objectives. An estimate of the total time/cost will be determined at the start of the advisory relationship. In limited circumstances, the cost/time could potentially exceed the initial estimate. In such cases, we will notify you and request that you approve the additional fee. Depending on the arrangements made at the inception of the engagement, we may also charge a fixed fee for financial planning services. Fixed fees range from \$150 - \$25,000. Fees for financial planning services are payable half upfront with the remainder due upon completion of the plan. Depending on the arrangements made at the inception of the engagement, financial planning fees may also be paid quarterly, as invoiced. We do not charge clients for seminar training.

We also offer advice on single subject financial planning/general consulting services at the same hourly rate.

We will not require prepayment of a fee more than six months in advance and in excess of \$1,200.

You may terminate the financial planning agreement upon 30 days written notice to our firm. Since fees are payable in arrears, you will be responsible for a prorated fee based on services performed.

# Sub-Advisory Services for Registered Investment Advisers

Fees and payment arrangements are negotiable and will vary on a case-by-case basis.

You may terminate the agreement upon written notice to our firm. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the agreement, which means you will incur advisory fees only in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. If you have pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees.

### **Pension Consulting Services**

Our advisory fees for these customized services will be negotiated with the plan sponsor or named fiduciary on a case-by-case basis.

You may terminate the pension consulting services agreement upon written notice to our firm. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the agreement, which means you will incur advisory fees only in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. If you have pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees.

### **Pooled Investment Vehicles**

The fees charged by TownSquare WTI Opportunity I, LLC and TownSquare Sundance Bay Opportunity I, LLC are separate and apart from our advisory fees. You should refer to the offering documents for a complete description of the fees, investment objectives, risks and other relevant information associated with investing in each Fund. Persons affiliated with our firm may have made an investment in the Fund. See Item 10 below (Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations) for more information.

### **Additional Fees and Expenses**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may invest, or recommend that you invest, in mutual funds and exchange traded funds, as well as exchange traded equities. The fees that you pay to our firm for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange traded funds (described in each fund's prospectus) to their shareholders. These fees will generally include a management fee and other fund expenses. You will also incur transaction charges and/or brokerage fees when purchasing or selling securities, including but not limited to stocks or equities, bonds, exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), options, and mutual funds. These charges and fees are typically imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian through whom your account transactions are executed. We do not share in any portion of the brokerage fees/transaction charges imposed by the broker-dealer or custodian. To fully understand the total cost you will incur, you should review all the fees charged by mutual funds, exchange traded funds, our firm, and others. For information on our brokerage practices, refer to the *Brokerage Practices* section of this brochure.

We may trade client accounts on margin. Each client must sign a separate margin agreement before margin is extended to that client account. Fees for advice and execution on these securities are based on the total asset value of the account, which includes the value of the securities purchased on margin. While a negative amount may show on a client's statement for the margined security as the result of a lower net market value, the amount of the fee is based on the absolute market value. This creates a conflict of interest where we have an incentive to encourage the use of margin to create a higher market value and therefore receive a higher fee. The use of margin may also result in interest charges in addition to all other fees and expenses associated with the security involved.

#### **Compensation for the Sale of Securities or Other Investment Products**

Some of the persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are registered representatives with DFPG Investments, LLC, securities broker-dealer, and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. In addition, some of the persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are registered representatives with Weild & Co., LLC, securities broker-dealer, and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. In their capacity as registered representatives, these persons receive compensation in connection with the purchase and sale of securities or other investment products, including asset-based sales charges, service fees or 12b-1 fees, for the sale or holding, of mutual funds. Compensation earned by these persons in their capacities as registered representatives is separate and in addition to our advisory fees. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice to advisory clients on behalf of our firm who are registered representatives have an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received rather than solely based on your needs. Persons providing investment advice to advisory clients on behalf of our firm can select or recommend, and in many instances will select or recommend, mutual fund investments in share classes that pay 12b-1 fees when clients are eligible to purchase share classes of the same funds that do not pay such fees and are less expensive. This

presents a conflict of interest. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to purchase securities products through any person affiliated with our firm who receives compensation described above.

Persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are licensed as independent insurance agents. These persons will earn commission-based compensation for selling insurance products, including insurance products they sell to you. Insurance commissions earned by these persons are separate and in addition to our advisory fees. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm who are insurance agents have an incentive to recommend insurance products to you for the purpose of generating commissions rather than solely based on your needs. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to purchase insurance products through any person affiliated with our firm.

# Item 6 Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management

We do not accept performance-based fees or participate in side-by-side management. Performancebased fees are fees that are based on a share of a capital gains or capital appreciation of a client's account. Side-by-side management refers to the practice of managing accounts that are charged performance-based fees while at the same time managing accounts that are not charged performancebased fees. Our fees are calculated as described in the *Fees and Compensation* section above, and are not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains upon, or capital appreciation of, the funds in your advisory account.

# **Item 7 Types of Clients**

We offer investment advisory services to individuals, high net worth individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, charitable organizations, state or municipal government entities, other investment advisers and corporations or other businesses not listed above.

In general, we do not require a minimum dollar amount to open and maintain an advisory account; however, we have the right to terminate your Account if it falls below a minimum size which, in our sole opinion, is too small to manage effectively. We may also combine account values for you and your minor children, joint accounts with your spouse, and other types of related accounts to meet the stated minimum.

Prospective investors in the TownSquare WTI Opportunity I, LLC Fund should refer to the Fund offering documents and/or organizational documents for information regarding the Fund's minimum required capital commitment and any additional qualifications required for investment.

Prospective investors in the TownSquare Sundance Bay Opportunity I, LLC Fund should refer to the Fund offering documents and/or organizational documents for information regarding the Fund's minimum required capital commitment and any additional qualifications required for investment.

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

### **Our Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies**

We may use one or more of the following methods of analysis or investment strategies when providing investment advice to you:

**Charting Analysis** - involves the gathering and processing of price and volume pattern information for a particular security, sector, broad index or commodity. This price and volume pattern information is analyzed. The resulting pattern and correlation data is used to detect departures from expected performance and diversification and predict future price movements and trends.

**Risk:** Our charting analysis may not accurately detect anomalies or predict future price movements. Current prices of securities may reflect all information known about the security and day-to-day changes in market prices of securities may follow random patterns and may not be predictable with any reliable degree of accuracy.

**Technical Analysis** - involves studying past price patterns, trends and interrelationships in the financial markets to assess risk-adjusted performance and predict the direction of both the overall market and specific securities.

**Risk:** The risk of market timing based on technical analysis is that our analysis may not accurately detect anomalies or predict future price movements. Current prices of securities may reflect all information known about the security and day-to-day changes in market prices of securities may follow random patterns and may not be predictable with any reliable degree of accuracy.

**Fundamental Analysis** - involves analyzing individual companies and their industry groups, such as a company's financial statements, details regarding the company's product line, the experience and expertise of the company's management, and the outlook for the company and its industry. The resulting data is used to measure the true value of the company's stock compared to the current market value.

**Risk:** The risk of fundamental analysis is that information obtained may be incorrect and the analysis may not provide an accurate estimate of earnings, which may be the basis for a stock's value. If securities prices adjust rapidly to new information, utilizing fundamental analysis may not result in favorable performance.

**Cyclical Analysis** - a type of technical analysis that involves evaluating recurring price patterns and trends. Economic/business cycles may not be predictable and may have many fluctuations between long-term expansions and contractions.

**Risk:** The lengths of economic cycles may be difficult to predict with accuracy and therefore the risk of cyclical analysis is the difficulty in predicting economic trends and consequently the changing value of securities that would be affected by these changing trends.

**Modern Portfolio Theory** - a theory of investment which attempts to maximize portfolio expected return for a given amount of portfolio risk, or equivalently minimize risk for a given level of expected return, by carefully diversifying the proportions of various assets.

**Risk:** Market risk is that part of a security's risk that is common to all securities of the same general class (stocks and bonds) and thus cannot be eliminated by diversification.

**Long-Term Purchases** - securities purchased with the expectation that the value of those securities will grow over a relatively long period of time, generally greater than one year.

**Risk:** Using a long-term purchase strategy generally assumes the financial markets will go up in the long-term which may not be the case. There is also the risk that the segment of the market that you are invested in or perhaps just your particular investment will go down over time even if

the overall financial markets advance. Purchasing investments long-term may create an opportunity cost - "locking-up" assets that may be better utilized in the short-term in other investments.

**Short-Term Purchases** - securities purchased with the expectation that they will be sold within a relatively short period of time, generally less than one year, to take advantage of the securities' short-term price fluctuations.

**Risk:** Using a short-term purchase strategy generally assumes that we can predict how financial markets will perform in the short-term which may be very difficult and will incur a disproportionately higher amount of transaction costs compared to long-term trading. There are many factors that can affect financial market performance in the short-term (such as short-term interest rate changes, cyclical earnings announcements, etc.) but may have a smaller impact over longer periods of times.

**Short Sales** - Unlike a straightforward investment in stocks where you buy shares with the expectation that their price will increase so you can sell at a profit, in a "short sale" you borrow stocks from your brokerage firm and sell them immediately, hoping to buy them later at a lower price. Thus, a short seller hopes that the price of a stock will go down in the near future. A short seller thus uses declines in the market to his advantage. The short seller makes money when the stock prices fall and loses when prices go up. The SEC has strict regulations in place regarding short selling.

**Risk:** Short selling is very risky. Investors should exercise extreme caution before short selling is implemented. A short seller will profit if the stock goes down in price, but if the price of the shares increase, the potential losses are unlimited because the stock can keep rising forever. There is no ceiling on how much a short seller can lose in a trade. The share price may keep going up and the short seller will have to pay whatever the prevailing stock price is to buy back the shares. However, gains have a ceiling level because the stock price cannot fall below zero.

**Risks:** A short seller has to undertake to pay the earnings on the borrowed securities as long as the short seller chooses to keep the short position open. If the company declares huge dividends or issues bonus shares, the short seller will have to pay that amount to the lender. Any such occurrence can skew the entire short investment and make it unprofitable. The broker can use the funds in the short seller's margin account to buy back the loaned shares or issue a "call away" to get the short seller to return the borrowed securities. If the broker makes this call when the stock price is much higher than the price at the time of the short sale, then the investor can end up taking huge losses.

**Risk:** Margin interest can be a significant expense. Since short sales can only be undertaken in margin accounts, the interest payable on short trades can be substantial, especially if short positions are kept open over an extended period.

**Risk:** Shares that are difficult to borrow – because of high short interest, limited float, or any other reason – have "hard-to-borrow" fees. These fees are based on an annualized rate that can range from a small fraction of a percent to more than 100% of the value of the short trade. The hard-to-borrow rate can fluctuate substantially on a daily basis; therefore, the exact dollar amount of the fee may not be known in advance, and may be substantial.

**Margin Transactions** - a securities transaction in which an investor borrows money to purchase a security, in which case the security serves as collateral on the loan.

**Risk:** If the value of the shares drops sufficiently, the investor will be required to either deposit more cash into the account or sell a portion of the stock in order to maintain the margin requirements of the account. This is known as a "margin call." An investor's overall risk includes the amount of money invested plus the amount that was loaned to them.

**Option Writing** - a securities transaction that involves selling an option. An option is a contract that gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a particular security at a specified price on or before the expiration date of the option. When an investor sells a call option, he or she must deliver to the buyer a specified number of shares if the buyer exercises the option. When an investor sells a put option, he or she must pay the strike price per share if the buyer exercises the option, and will receive the specified number of shares. The option writer/seller receives a premium (the market price of the option at a particular time) in exchange for writing the option.

**Risk:** Options are complex investments and can be very risky, especially if the investor does not own the underlying stock. In certain situations, an investor's risk can be unlimited.

**Trading** - We may use frequent trading (in general, selling securities within 30 days of purchasing the same securities) as an investment strategy when managing your account(s). Frequent trading is not a fundamental part of our overall investment strategy, but we may use this strategy occasionally when we determine that it is suitable given your stated investment objectives and tolerance for risk. This may include buying and selling securities frequently in an effort to capture significant market gains and avoid significant losses.

**Risk:** When a frequent trading policy is in effect, there is a risk that investment performance within your account may be negatively affected, particularly through increased brokerage and other transactional costs and taxes.

Our investment strategies and advice may vary depending upon each client's specific financial situation. As such, we determine investments and allocations based upon your predefined objectives, risk tolerance, time horizon, financial information, liquidity needs and other various suitability factors. Your restrictions and guidelines may affect the composition of your portfolio. It is important that you notify us immediately with respect to any material changes to your financial circumstances, including for example, a change in your current or expected income level, tax circumstances, or employment status.

We will not perform quantitative or qualitative analysis of individual securities. Instead, we will advise you on how to allocate your assets among various classes of securities or third party money managers. We primarily rely on investment model portfolios and strategies developed by the third party money managers and their portfolio managers. We may replace/recommend replacing a third party money manager if there is a significant deviation in characteristics or performance from the stated strategy and/or benchmark.

### **Tax Considerations**

Our strategies and investments may have unique and significant tax implications. However, unless we specifically agree otherwise, and in writing, tax efficiency is not our primary consideration in the management of your assets. Regardless of your account size or any other factors, we strongly recommend that you consult with a tax professional regarding the investing of your assets.

Moreover, custodians and broker-dealers must report the cost basis of equities acquired in client accounts on or after January 1, 2011. Your custodian will default to the First-In First-Out ("FIFO") accounting method for calculating the cost basis of your investments. You are responsible for contacting your tax advisor to determine if this accounting method is the right choice for you. If your tax

advisor believes another accounting method is more advantageous, provide written notice to our firm immediately and we will alert your account custodian of your individually selected accounting method. Decisions about cost basis accounting methods will need to be made before trades settle, as the cost basis method cannot be changed after settlement.

## **Risk of Loss**

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that you should be prepared to bear. We do not represent or guarantee that our services or methods of analysis can or will predict future results, successfully identify market tops or bottoms, or insulate clients from losses due to market corrections or declines. We cannot offer any guarantees or promises that your financial goals and objectives will be met. Past performance is in no way an indication of future performance.

## **Other Risk Considerations**

When evaluating risk, financial loss may be viewed differently by each client and may depend on many different risks, each of which may affect the probability and magnitude of any potential loses. The following risks may not be all-inclusive, but should be considered carefully by a prospective client before retaining our services.

Liquidity Risk: The risk of being unable to sell your investment at a fair price at a given time due to high volatility or lack of active liquid markets. You may receive a lower price or it may not be possible to sell the investment at all.

Credit Risk: Credit risk typically applies to debt investments such as corporate, municipal, and sovereign fixed income or bonds. A bond issuing entity can experience a credit event that could impair or erase the value of an issuer's securities held by a client.

Inflation and Interest Rate Risk: Security prices and portfolio returns will likely vary in response to changes in inflation and interest rates. Inflation causes the value of future dollars to be worth less and may reduce the purchasing power of a client's future interest payments and principal. Inflation also generally leads to higher interest rates which may cause the value of many types of fixed income investments to decline.

Horizon and Longevity Risk: The risk that your investment horizon is shortened because of an unforeseen event, for example, the loss of your job. This may force you to sell investments that you were expecting to hold for the long term. If you must sell at a time that the markets are down, you may lose money. Longevity Risk is the risk of outliving your savings. This risk is particularly relevant for people who are retired, or are nearing retirement.

# **Recommendation of Particular Types of Securities**

We recommend various types of securities and we do not primarily recommend one particular type of security over another since each client has different needs and different tolerance for risk. Each type of security has its own unique set of risks associated with it and it would not be possible to list here all of the specific risks of every type of investment. Even within the same type of investment, risks can vary widely. However, in very general terms, the higher the anticipated return of an investment, the higher the risk of loss associated with the investment. A description of the types of securities we may recommend to you and some of their inherent risks are provided below.

**Money Market Funds:** A money market fund is technically a security. The fund managers attempt to keep the share price constant at \$1/share. However, there is no guarantee that the share price will stay at \$1/share. If the share price goes down, you can lose some or all of your principal. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") notes that "While investor losses in money market funds have been rare, they are possible." In return for this risk, you should earn a greater return on

your cash than you would expect from a Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insured savings account (money market funds are not FDIC insured). Next, money market fund rates are variable. In other words, you do not know how much you will earn on your investment next month. The rate could go up or go down. If it goes up, that may result in a positive outcome. However, if it goes down and you earn less than you expected to earn, you may end up needing more cash. A final risk you are taking with money market funds has to do with inflation. Because money market funds are considered to be safer than other investments like stocks, long-term average returns on money market funds tends to be less than long term average returns on riskier investments. Over long periods of time, inflation can eat away at your returns.

**Certificates of Deposit:** Certificates of deposit are generally the safest type of investment since they are insured by the federal government up to a certain amount. However, because the returns are generally very low, it is possible for inflation to outpace the return. Likewise, U.S. government securities are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government but it is also possible for the rate of inflation to exceed the returns.

**Municipal Securities:** Municipal securities, while generally thought of as safe, can have significant risks associated with them including, but not limited to: the credit worthiness of the governmental entity that issues the bond; the stability of the revenue stream that is used to pay the interest to the bondholders; when the bond is due to mature; and, whether or not the bond can be "called" prior to maturity. When a bond is called, it may not be possible to replace it with a bond of equal character paying the same amount of interest or yield to maturity.

**Bonds:** Corporate debt securities (or "bonds") are typically safer investments than equity securities, but their risk can also vary widely based on: the financial health of the issuer; the risk that the issuer might default; when the bond is set to mature; and, whether or not the bond can be "called" prior to maturity. When a bond is called, it may not be possible to replace it with a bond of equal character paying the same rate of return.

**Stocks:** There are numerous ways of measuring the risk of equity securities (also known simply as "equities" or "stock"). In very broad terms, the value of a stock depends on the financial health of the company issuing it. However, stock prices can be affected by many other factors including, but not limited to the class of stock (for example, preferred or common); the health of the market sector of the issuing company; and, the overall health of the economy. In general, larger, better established companies ("large cap") tend to be safer than smaller start-up companies ("small cap") are but the mere size of an issuer is not, by itself, an indicator of the safety of the investment.

**Mutual Funds and Exchange Traded Funds:** Mutual funds and exchange traded funds ("ETF") are professionally managed collective investment systems that pool money from many investors and invest in stocks, bonds, short-term money market instruments, other mutual funds, other securities, or any combination thereof. The fund will have a manager that trades the fund's investments in accordance with the fund's investment objective. While mutual funds and ETFs generally provide diversification, risks can be significantly increased if the fund is concentrated in a particular sector of the market, primarily invests in small cap or speculative companies, uses leverage (i.e., borrows money) to a significant degree, or concentrates in a particular type of security (i.e., equities) rather than balancing the fund with different types of securities. ETFs differ from mutual funds since they can be bought and sold throughout the day like stock and their price can fluctuate throughout the day. The returns on mutual funds and ETFs can be reduced by the costs to manage the funds. Also, while some mutual funds are "no load" and charge no fee to buy into, or sell out of, the fund, other types of mutual funds do charge such fees which can also reduce returns. Mutual funds can also be "closed end" or "open

end". So-called "open end" mutual funds continue to allow in new investors indefinitely whereas "closed end" funds have a fixed number of shares to sell which can limit their availability to new investors.

ETFs may have tracking error risks. For example, the ETF investment adviser may not be able to cause the ETF's performance to match that of its Underlying Index or other benchmark, which may negatively affect the ETF's performance. In addition, for leveraged and inverse ETFs that seek to track the performance of their Underlying Indices or benchmarks on a daily basis, mathematical compounding may prevent the ETF from correlating with performance of its benchmark. In addition, an ETF may not have investment exposure to all of the securities included in its Underlying Index, or its weighting of investment exposure to such securities may vary from that of the Underlying Index. Some ETFs may invest in securities or financial instruments that are not included in the Underlying Index, but which are expected to yield similar performance.

**Commercial Paper:** Commercial paper ("CP") is, in most cases, an unsecured promissory note that is issued with a maturity of 270 days or less. Being unsecured the risk to the investor is that the issuer may default. There is a less risk in asset based commercial paper (ABCP). The difference between ABCP and CP is that instead of being an unsecured promissory note representing an obligation of the issuing company, ABCP is backed by securities. Therefore, the perceived quality of the ABCP depends on the underlying securities.

Variable Annuities: A variable annuity is a form of insurance where the seller or issuer (typically an insurance company) makes a series of future payments to a buyer (annuitant) in exchange for the immediate payment of a lump sum (single-payment annuity) or a series of regular payments (regularpayment annuity). The payment stream from the issuer to the annuitant has an unknown duration based principally upon the date of death of the annuitant. At this point, the contract will terminate and the remainder of the funds accumulated forfeited unless there are other annuitants or beneficiaries in the contract. Annuities can be purchased to provide an income during retirement. Unlike fixed annuities that make payments in fixed amounts or in amounts that increase by a fixed percentage, variable annuities, pay amounts that vary according to the performance of a specified set of investments, typically bond and equity mutual funds. Many variable annuities typically impose asset-based sales charges or surrender charges for withdrawals within a specified period. Variable annuities may impose a variety of fees and expenses, in addition to sales and surrender charges, such as mortality and expense risk charges; administrative fees; underlying fund expenses; and charges for special features, all of which can reduce the return. Earnings in a variable annuity do not provide all the tax advantages of 401(k)s and other before-tax retirement plans. Once the investor starts withdrawing money from their variable annuity, earnings are taxed at the ordinary income rate, rather than at the lower capital gains rates applied to other non-tax-deferred vehicles which are held for more than one year. Proceeds of most variable annuities do not receive a "step-up" in cost basis when the owner dies like stocks, bonds and mutual funds do. Some variable annuities offer "bonus credits." These are usually not free. In order to fund them, insurance companies typically impose mortality and expense charges and surrender charge periods. In an exchange of an existing annuity for a new annuity (so-called 1035 exchanges), the new variable annuity may have a lower contract value and a smaller death benefit; may impose new surrender charges or increase the period of time for which the surrender charge applies: may have higher annual fees; and provide another commission for the broker.

**Real Estate:** Real estate is increasingly being used as part of a long-term core strategy due to increased market efficiency and increasing concerns about the future long-term variability of stock and bond returns. In fact, real estate is known for its ability to serve as a portfolio diversifier and inflation hedge. However, the asset class still bears a considerable amount of market risk. Real estate has shown itself to be very cyclical, somewhat mirroring the ups and downs of the overall economy. In addition to employment and demographic changes, real estate is also influenced by changes in

interest rates and the credit markets, which affect the demand and supply of capital and thus real estate values. Along with changes in market fundamentals, investors wishing to add real estate as part of their core investment portfolios need to look for property concentrations by area or by property type. Because property returns are directly affected by local market basics, real estate portfolios that are too heavily concentrated in one area or property type can lose their risk mitigation attributes and bear additional risk by being too influenced by local or sector market changes.

**Real Estate Investment Trust:** A real estate investment trust ("REIT") is a corporate entity which invests in real estate and/or engages in real estate financing. A REIT reduces or eliminates corporate income taxes. REITs can be publicly or privately held. Public REITs may be listed on public stock exchanges. REITs are required to declare 90% of their taxable income as dividends, but they actually pay dividends out of funds from operations, so cash flow has to be strong or the REIT must either dip into reserves, borrow to pay dividends, or distribute them in stock (which causes dilution). After 2012, the IRS stopped permitting stock dividends. Most REITs must refinance or erase large balloon debts periodically. The credit markets are no longer frozen, but banks are demanding, and getting, harsher terms to re-extend REIT debt. Some REITs may be forced to make secondary stock offerings to repay debt, which will lead to additional dilution of the stockholders. Fluctuations in the real estate market can affect the REIT's value and dividends.

**Limited Partnerships:** A limited partnership is a financial affiliation that includes at least one general partner and a number of limited partners. The partnership invests in a venture, such as real estate development or oil exploration, for financial gain. The general partner does not usually invest any capital, but has management authority and unlimited liability. That is, the general partner runs the business and, in the event of bankruptcy, is responsible for all debts not paid or discharged. The limited partners have no management authority and confine their participation to their capital investment. That is, limited partners invest a certain amount of money and have nothing else to do with the business. However, their liability is limited to the amount of the investment. In the worst-case scenario for a limited partner, he/she loses what he/she invested. Profits are divided between general and limited partners according to an arrangement formed at the creation of the partnership.

**Warrants:** A warrant is a derivative (security that derives its price from one or more underlying assets) that confers the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a security – normally an equity – at a certain price before expiration. The price at which the underlying security can be bought or sold is referred to as the exercise price or strike price. Warrants that confer the right to buy a security are known as call warrants; those that confer the right to sell are known as put warrants. Warrants are in many ways similar to options. The main difference between warrants and options is that warrants are issued and guaranteed by the issuing company, whereas options are traded on an exchange and are not issued by the company. Also, the lifetime of a warrant is often measured in years, while the lifetime of a typical option is measured in months. Warrants do not pay dividends or come with voting rights.

**Options Contracts:** Options are complex securities that involve risks and are not suitable for everyone. Option trading can be speculative in nature and carry substantial risk of loss. It is generally recommended that you only invest in options with risk capital. An option is a contract that gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell an underlying asset at a specific price on or before a certain date (the "expiration date"). The two types of options are calls and puts:

A call gives the holder the right to buy an asset at a certain price within a specific period of time. Calls are similar to having a long position on a stock. Buyers of calls hope that the stock will increase substantially before the option expires.

A put gives the holder the right to sell an asset at a certain price within a specific period of time. Puts are very similar to having a short position on a stock. Buyers of puts hope that the price of the stock will fall before the option expires.

Selling options is more complicated and can be even riskier.

The option trading risks pertaining to options buyers are:

- Risk of losing your entire investment in a relatively short period of time.
- The risk of losing your entire investment increases if, as expiration nears, the stock is below the strike price of the call (for a call option) or if the stock is higher than the strike price of the put (for a put option).
- European style options which do not have secondary markets on which to sell the options prior to expiration can only realize its value upon expiration.
- Specific exercise provisions of a specific option contract may create risks.
- Regulatory agencies may impose exercise restrictions, which stops you from realizing value.

The option trading risks pertaining to options sellers are:

- Options sold may be exercised at any time before expiration.
- Covered Call traders forgo the right to profit when the underlying stock rises above the strike price of the call options sold and continues to risk a loss due to a decline in the underlying stock.
- Writers of Naked Calls risk unlimited losses if the underlying stock rises.
- Writers of Naked Puts risk unlimited losses if the underlying stock drops.
- Writers of naked positions run margin risks if the position goes into significant losses. Such risks may include liquidation by the broker.
- Writers of call options could lose more money than a short seller of that stock could on the same rise on that underlying stock. This is an example of how the leverage in options can work against the option trader.
- Writers of Naked Calls are obligated to deliver shares of the underlying stock if those call options are exercised.
- Call options can be exercised outside of market hours such that effective remedy actions cannot be performed by the writer of those options.
- Writers of stock options are obligated under the options that they sold even if a trading market is not available or that they are unable to perform a closing transaction.
- The value of the underlying stock may surge or ditch unexpectedly, leading to automatic exercises.

Other option trading risks are:

- The complexity of some option strategies is a significant risk on its own.
- Option trading exchanges or markets and option contracts themselves are open to changes at all times.
- Options markets have the right to halt the trading of any options, thus preventing investors from realizing value.
- Risk of erroneous reporting of exercise value.
- If an options brokerage firm goes insolvent, investors trading through that firm may be affected.
- Internationally traded options have special risks due to timing across borders.

Risks that are not specific to options trading include market risk, sector risk and individual stock risk. Option trading risks are closely related to stock risks, as stock options are a derivative of stocks.

**Private Placements:** A private placement (non-public offering) is an illiquid security sold to qualified investors and are not publicly traded nor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**Risk:** Private placements generally carry a higher degree of risk due to illiquidity. Most securities that are acquired in a private placement will be restricted securities and must be held for an extended amount of time and therefore cannot be sold easily. The range of risks are dependent on the nature of the partnership and are disclosed in the offering documents.

# **Item 9 Disciplinary Information**

We are required to disclose the facts of any legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management. We do not have any required disclosures under this item.

# Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

Associated persons and/or executive officers of our firm may offer investments in the TownSquare WTI Opportunity I, LLC Fund and/or in the TownSquare Sundance Bay Opportunity I, LLC Fund to you if suitable and in your best interest. See the Subscription Agreements and organizational documents of the investment pooled vehicles more information.

# **Registrations with Broker-Dealers**

Some of the persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are registered representatives with DFPG Investments, LLC, a securities broker-dealer, and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. See the *Fees and Compensation* section in this brochure for more information on the compensation received by registered representatives who are affiliated with our firm.

In addition, some of the persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are registered representatives with Weild & Co., a securities broker-dealer, and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. See the *Fees and Compensation* section in this brochure for more information on the compensation received by registered representatives who are affiliated with our firm.

### **Accounting Firms**

We do not render accounting services to clients. In the event a client requires accounting services, the firm may recommend a certified public accountant. At times, the Firm may recommend the services of certified public accounting firms where Supervised Persons of the Firm are affiliated (the "Accounting Firms"). These services are rendered independent of TownSquare Capital, LLC and pursuant to a separate agreement between the client and the Accounting Firms and does not receive a referral fee in connection with the accounting services rendered to its clients. The Accounting Firms may also refer certain of their clients to TownSquare Capital, LLC for advisory services. Because of the affiliation of certain Supervised Persons with the Accounting Firms there exists a conflict of interest to the extent that the Firm recommends the accounting services of the Accounting Firms or those Accounting Firms recommend TownSquare Capital, LLC. No TownSquare Capital, LLC client is obligated to use the Accounting Firms for any accounting services as none of the Accounting Firm clients are obligated to use TownSquare Capital, LLC for advisory services.

Hughes and Associates, Hurst and Company, Larson CPA, Saunders Nydegger, Jeff Wangsgard and The Jensen Group: The services provided and fees charged by these accounting firms for accounting services are separate and apart from the services provided by and fees charged by TownSquare Capital, LLC for advisory services.

# **Recommendation of Other Advisers**

We may recommend that you use a third party money manager ("TPMM") based on your needs and suitability. We will not receive separate compensation, directly or indirectly, from the TPMM for recommending that you use their services. Moreover, we do not have any other business relationships with the recommended TPMM(s). Refer to the *Advisory Business* section above for additional disclosures on this topic.

## **Transactions with Orion Affiliates**

As discussed above, TownSquare Capital , LLC is a wholly-owned, indirect subsidiary of Orion. The following direct and indirect subsidiaries of Orion are affiliates of TownSquare Capital: Advizr, Inc., Orion Advisor Technology, LLC ("OAT"), Orion Portfolio Solutions, LLC ("OPS"), Constellation Trust Company ("CTC"), Destinations Funds Trust ("Destinations Funds), GXWorks, LLC d/b/a HiddenLevers, and BasisCode. Certain of our executive officers also serve as officers and directors of these affiliates.

- Orion Advisor Technology, LLC ("OAT"), Advizr Inc., and HiddenLevers. TownSquare Capital utilizes the back-office system provided by OAT for trade processing, account management, and performance reporting for certain Programs. TownSquare Capital also makes available to its clients financial planning tools from Advizr and risk analytics tolls from HiddenLevers. TownSquare Capital believes that the utilization of OAT, Advizr and HiddenLevers do not create a conflict of interest.
- Orion Portfolio Solutions, LLC ("OPS"). OPS is an investment adviser registered with the SEC. OPS provides a fee-based investment platform that allows investment advisors the ability to develop their own model portfolios or utilize models provided by institutional portfolio strategists. TownSquare Capital makes certain strategies and model portfolios available through OPS. Additionally, certain operational services, such as trading and fee billing, for client accounts are performed by employees of OPS.

A portion of the advisory fee TownSquare Capital charges clients investing in TownSquare Capital's Programs is used to compensate OPS for these services; the client is not charged a separate fee by OPS. OPS services are described in its own Form ADV, Part 2A, which can be obtained on the OPS website: <u>www.orionportfoliosolutions.com</u>.

- Constellation Trust Company ("CTC"). CTC is a Nebraska chartered trust company and a subsidiary of TownSquare Capital. Some of Orion's executive officers also serve as officers and directors of CTC. CTC's custodial services facilitate certain Program clients who desire a thirdparty investment adviser such as us to manage their account(s). Orion and its affiliates may recommend CTC, among other custodians, to our clients. CTC has established electronic interfaces and capabilities necessary to maintain and aggregate custodial records and reporting for clients invested across various investment platforms.-
- BasisCode is an end-to-end compliance management solution owned by Orion, built upon an always audit-ready reporting infrastructure. The cloud-based software platform provides core compliance functions and personal trading and insider trading solutions for firms with mobile accessibility. BasisCode combines the core data available through Orion with the analytics available through BasisCode and HiddenLevers, to help new tools for the advisor communities.

- Focus Orion Solutions, LLC is a joint venture between OAT and Focus Financial Partners Inc., which offers an array of cash and credit solutions and related services developed by Focus Client Solutions ("FCS") through the OAT WealthTech platform. OAT will receive a fee for referring clients to FCS. Financial advisors that utilize Brinker have access to FCS's financial institution partners that offer the lending- and deposit-related products listed below (collectively, the "Financial Products"). In each case, access to the Financial Products is made available to a financial advisor so that the financial advisor may identify one or more selected banking institutions that can offer to financial advisor's clients certain Financial Products desired by those clients. Such Financial Products currently consist of the following:
  - a. **Mortgage Loans**—Loans relating to residential purchases, refinancing, HELOC, and construction loans;
  - b. **Working Capital**—Corporate, commercial, and business working capital, expansion and acquisition lines of credit and loans;
  - c. **Commercial Real Estate**—Commercial real estate, multifamily and other owned occupied properties;
  - d. Securities Backed Lines of Credit (SBLOC)—Automated and highly competitively priced non-purpose securities backed lines along with lines secured by selective private and alternative investments;
  - e. **Specialty Lending**—Premium financing, fund call and operating lines of credit, along with others;
  - f. **Watercraft and Aircraft Lending**—New and used watercraft and/or aircraft purchases and refinancing; and
  - g. FDIC Insured Deposit Program—In-portfolio cash balances, held away debit/transactional cash and outside client cash savings with \$2 to \$100 million of insurance per tax ID.

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

# **Description of Our Code of Ethics**

We strive to comply with applicable laws and regulations governing our practices. Therefore, our Code of Ethics includes guidelines for professional standards of conduct for persons associated with our firm. Our goal is to protect your interests at all times and to demonstrate our commitment to our fiduciary duties of honesty, good faith, and fair dealing with you. All persons associated with our firm are expected to adhere strictly to these guidelines. Persons associated with our firm are also required to report any violations of our Code of Ethics. Additionally, we maintain and enforce written policies reasonably designed to prevent the misuse or dissemination of material, non-public information about you or your account holdings by persons associated with our firm.

Clients or prospective clients may obtain a copy of our Code of Ethics by contacting us at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure.

### Participation or Interest in Client Transactions

TownSquare Capital, LLC serves as the Manager of two separate private funds, TownSquare WTI Opportunity I, LLC and TownSquare Bay Opportunity I, LLC, private funds (private pooled investment vehicles) in which you may be approached to invest, if suitable and in your best interest. Our Company, certain members of its management, and other knowledgeable employees may acquire, directly or indirectly, investment interests in our fund or have other financial interests (e.g. General Partner, Officers, Board Members, etc.) in the funds. This presents a conflict of interest because we have investments in the private funds. Conflicts that arise are mitigated through our Company's fiduciary obligation to act in the best interest of our clients, contractual limitations that govern our

activities as Manager, as applicable, and the requirement of our Company not to place its interests before its clients' interests when managing the funds. If you are an investor in either of the private funds, refer to the private fund's offering documents for detailed disclosures regarding the private fund.

## **Personal Trading Practices**

Our firm or persons associated with our firm may buy or sell the same securities that we recommend to you or securities in which you are already invested. A conflict of interest exists in such cases because we have the ability to trade ahead of you and potentially receive more favorable prices than you will receive. To mitigate this conflict of interest, it is our policy that neither our firm nor persons associated with our firm shall have priority over your account in the purchase or sale of securities.

# **Block Trading**

Our firm or persons associated with our firm may buy or sell securities for you at the same time we or persons associated with our firm buy or sell such securities for our own account. We may also combine our orders to purchase securities with your orders to purchase securities ("block trading"). Refer to the *Brokerage Practices* section in this brochure for information on our block trading practices.

A conflict of interest exists in such cases because we have the ability to trade ahead of you and potentially receive more favorable prices than you will receive. To eliminate this conflict of interest, it is our policy that neither our firm nor persons associated with our firm shall have priority over your account in the purchase or sale of securities.

# Item 12 Brokerage Practices

We have arrangements with and typically recommend the brokerage and custodial services of TD Ameritrade, Inc., Raymond James & Associates, Inc., member New York Stock Exchange/SIPC, Trade-PMR, Inc. and/or Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("CS&Co"), collectively your ("Custodian").

In all cases, the recommended Custodian is a securities broker-dealer and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation ("SIPC"). We believe that the recommended Custodian provides quality execution services for you at competitive prices. Price is not the sole factor we consider in evaluating best execution. We also consider the quality of the brokerage services provided by the Custodian, including the value of the Custodian's reputation, execution capabilities, commission rates, and responsiveness to our clients and our firm. In recognition of the value of the services the Custodian provides, you may pay higher commissions and/or trading costs than those that may be available elsewhere.

# **TD** Ameritrade Institutional

We participate in the institutional advisor program (the "Program") offered by TD Ameritrade Institutional. TD Ameritrade Institutional is a division of TD Ameritrade Inc., member FINRA/SIPC ("TD Ameritrade "), an unaffiliated SEC-registered broker-dealer and FINRA member. TD Ameritrade offers to independent investment advisors services which include custody of securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions. We receive some benefits from TD Ameritrade through our participation in the Program.

As disclosed above, we participate in TD Ameritrade's institutional customer program and we may recommend TD Ameritrade to you for custody and brokerage services. There is no direct link between our participation in the Program and the investment advice we give you, although we receive economic benefits through our participation in the Program that are typically not available to TD Ameritrade retail investors. These benefits include the following products and services (provided without cost or at a discount): receipt of duplicate Client statements and confirmations; research related products and

tools; consulting services; access to a trading desk serving our participants; access to block trading (which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions for execution and then allocate the appropriate shares to your accounts); the ability to have advisory fees deducted directly from your accounts; access to an electronic communications network for order entry and account information; access to mutual funds with no transaction fees and to certain institutional money managers; and discounts on compliance, marketing, research, technology, and practice management products or services provided to us by third party vendors. TD Ameritrade may also have paid for business consulting and professional services received by our related persons. Some of the products and services made available by TD Ameritrade through the Program may benefit us but may not benefit your accounts. These products or services may assist us in managing and administering your accounts, including accounts not maintained at TD Ameritrade. Other services made available by TD Ameritrade are intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. The benefits received by us or our personnel through participation in the Program do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to TD Ameritrade. As part of our fiduciary duties to you, we endeavor at all times to put your interests first. You should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by us or our related persons in and of itself creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence our choice of TD Ameritrade for custody and brokerage services.

### Trade-PMR, Inc.

We utilize Trade-PMR, Inc. ("Trade-PMR") for brokerage and trade execution services. Trade-PMR clears trades and custodies assets with First Clearing, FINRA member broker-dealers. First Clearing is a trade name used by Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC., a non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company. Trade-PMR acts as an introducing broker dealer on a fully disclosed basis. Trade-PMR and First Clearing are members of SIPC and are unaffiliated registered broker dealers and FINRA members. The brokerage commissions and/or transaction fees charged by Trade-PMR or any other designated broker-dealer are exclusive of and in addition to our fee. We regularly review these programs to seek to ensure that its recommendation is consistent with its fiduciary duty. Factors which we consider in recommending Trade-PMR and First Clearing or any other broker-dealer or custodian to clients include their respective financial strength, reputation, execution, pricing, research, and service. The commissions and/or transaction fees charged by these brokers may be higher or lower than those charged by other broker-dealers.

In addition, Trade-PMR provides us with access to its institutional trading and custody services, which are typically not available to retail investors. These brokerage services include the execution of securities transactions, 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.

Additionally, we may receive the following benefits from Trade-PMR: receipt of duplicate client confirmations and bundled duplicate statements; access to a trading desk that exclusively services its participants; access to block trading which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions and then allocates the appropriate shares to client accounts; and access to an electronic communication network for client order entry and account information.

### **Schwab Advisor Services**

We believe that CS&Co provides quality execution services for you at competitive prices. Price is not the sole factor we consider in evaluating best execution. We also consider the quality of the brokerage services provided by Schwab Institutional, including the value of research provided, the firm's reputation and financial stability, execution capabilities, commission rates, and responsiveness to our clients and our firm.

Schwab Advisor Services (formerly called Schwab Institutional) is Schwab's business serving independent investment advisory firms like us. Through Schwab Advisor Services. CS&Co provides us and our clients, with access to its institutional brokerage services - trading, custody, reporting and related services – many of which are not typically available to CS&Co retail customers. CS&Co also makes available various support services. The availability to us of CS&Co's products and services is not based on us giving particular investment advice, such as buying particular securities for our clients. CS&Co's institutional brokerage services include access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of client assets. The investment products available through Schwab include some to which we might not otherwise have access or that would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment by our clients. CS&Co's services described in this paragraph generally benefit the client and the client's account. CS&Co also makes available to us other products and services that benefit us but may not directly benefit the client or its account. These products and services assist us in managing and administering our clients' accounts. They include investment research, both Schwab's own and that of third parties. We may use this research to service all or some substantial number of our clients' accounts, including accounts not maintained at CS&Co. In addition to investment research, CS&Co also makes available software and other technology that:

- provide access to client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements);
- · facilitate trade execution and allocate aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts;
- provide pricing and other market data;
- · facilitate payment of our fees from our clients' accounts; and
- assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping and client reporting.

CS&Co also offers other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. The availability of the foregoing products and services is not contingent upon us committing to CS&Co any specific amount of business (assets in custody or trading). Our firm receives PortfolioCenter software solutions that are provided by Schwab Performance Technologies.

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

We do not have any soft dollar arrangements.

### **Economic Benefits**

As a registered investment adviser, we have access to the institutional platforms of your account custodian. As such, we will also have access to research products and services from your account custodian and/or other brokerage firm. These products may include financial publications, information about particular companies and industries, research software, and other products or services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities. Such research products and services are provided to all investment advisers that utilize the institutional services platforms of these firms, and are not considered to be paid for with soft dollars. However, you should be aware that the commissions charged by a particular broker for a particular transaction or set of transactions may be greater than the amounts another broker who did not provide research services or products might charge.

# **Recommendation of Prime Broker**

In some circumstances, where a client has not previously made custodial arrangements, we may suggest that the client use a particular broker-dealer to act as custodian for the funds and securities we manage. In those cases, we generally only recommend broker-dealers capable of acting as a "prime broker." Under "prime broker" arrangements, the firm may, on a transaction-by-transaction basis, either use the "prime broker"/custodian or select other broker-dealers, who will execute transactions for settlement into the client's "prime brokerage" account. In making suggestions as to "prime broker"/custodians, we will consider, among other things, the clearance and settlement capabilities of the broker-dealer where other broker-dealers execute transactions, the broker-dealer's ability to provide effective and efficient reporting to the client and our firm, the broker-dealer's reliability and financial stability, and the likelihood that the broker-dealer will often be chosen as executing broker-dealer will provide valuable research services and products.

# **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

We do not receive client referrals from broker-dealers in exchange for cash or other compensation, such as brokerage services or research.

# **Directed Brokerage**

Some of the persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm who are registered representatives of DFPG Investments, LLC or Weild & Co. will recommend DFPG Investments, LLC or Weild & Co., respectively, to you for brokerage services. These individuals are subject to applicable rules that restrict them from conducting securities transactions away from their broker-dealer unless their broker-dealer provides the representative with written authorization to do so. Therefore, these individuals are generally limited to conducting securities transactions through their broker-dealer. It may be the case that DFPG Investments, LLC and Weild & Co. charges higher transactions costs and/or custodial fees than another broker charges for the same types of services. If transactions are executed through DFPG Investment. LLC or Weild & Co., these individuals (in their separate capacities as registered representatives) may earn commission-based compensation as result of placing the recommended securities transactions through their broker-dealer. This practice presents a conflict of interest because these registered representatives have an incentive to effect securities transactions for the purpose of generating commissions rather than solely based on your needs. You may utilize the broker-dealer of your choice and have no obligation to purchase or sell securities through such broker as, we recommend. However, if you do not use DFPG Investments, LLC or Weild & Co. we may not be able to accept your account. See the Fees and Compensation section in this brochure for more information on the compensation received by registered representatives who are affiliated with our firm.

In limited circumstances, and at our discretion, some clients may instruct our firm to use one or more particular brokers for the transactions in their accounts. If you choose to direct our firm to use a particular broker, you should understand that this might prevent our firm from aggregating trades with other client accounts or from effectively negotiating brokerage commissions on your behalf. This practice may also prevent our firm from obtaining favorable net price and execution. Thus, when directing brokerage business, you should consider whether the commission expenses, execution, clearance, and settlement capabilities that you will obtain through your broker are adequately favorable in comparison to those that we would otherwise obtain for you.

# **Block Trades**

We combine multiple orders for shares of the same securities purchased for discretionary advisory accounts we manage (this practice is commonly referred to as "block trading"). We will then distribute a portion of the shares to participating accounts in a fair and equitable manner. Generally, participating accounts will pay a fixed transaction cost regardless of the number of shares transacted. In certain

cases, each participating account pays an average price per share for all transactions and pays a proportionate share of all transaction costs on any given day. In the event an order is only partially filled, the shares will be allocated to participating accounts in a fair and equitable manner, typically in proportion to the size of each client's order. Accounts owned by our firm or persons associated with our firm may participate in block trading with your accounts; however, they will not be given preferential treatment.

We do not block trade for non-discretionary accounts. Accordingly, non-discretionary accounts may pay different costs than discretionary accounts pay. If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we may not be able to buy and sell the same quantities of securities for you and you may pay higher commissions, fees, and/or transaction costs than clients who enter into discretionary arrangements with our firm.

# **Item 13 Review of Accounts**

Your advisory representative will monitor your accounts on an ongoing basis and will conduct account reviews at least annual, to ensure the advisory services provided to you are consistent with your investment needs and objectives. Additional reviews may be conducted based on various circumstances, including, but not limited to: contributions and withdrawals, year-end tax planning, market moving events, security specific events, and/or, changes in your risk/return objectives.

The individuals conducting reviews may vary from time to time, as personnel join or leave our firm.

We will not provide you with additional or regular written reports. You will receive trade confirmations and monthly or quarterly statements from your account custodian(s).

While reviews and updates to the financial plan are not part of the contracted services, at your request we will review your financial plan to determine if the investment advice provided is consistent with your investment needs and objectives. We will also update the financial plan at your request. At our sole discretion, reviews and updates may be subject to our then current hourly rate. If you implement the financial planning advice provided by our firm, you will receive trade confirmations and monthly or quarterly statements from relevant custodians.

# Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation

As disclosed under the *Fees and Compensation* section in this brochure, some of the persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm are licensed insurance agents, and are registered representatives with DFPG Investments, LLC or Weild & Co., securities broker-dealers, and members of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the Securities Investor Protection Corporation. For information on the conflicts of interest this presents, and how we address these conflicts, refer to the *Fees and Compensation* section.

As noted in Item 12 - Brokerage Practices, we will receive additional benefits from Trade-PMR which includes electronic systems that assist in the management of our client accounts, access to research, the ability to directly debit client fees, software and other technology that provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements), facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts), pricing information and other market data, assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping and client reporting.

### **Other Compensation**

We receive compensation from Foresight Wealth Management, LLC for referring clients to them. This arrangement will not cause you to pay more in advisory fees than you would otherwise pay had there been no solicitor's compensation. All referral fees paid to our firm represent a portion of the fees actually charged to you by Foresight Wealth Management for investment advisory services. There is no differential between the amount or level of investment advisory fees that Foresight Wealth Management, LLC will charge for managing the client account(s) in excess of that which they would customarily charge for managing any other new client's account with similar assets and which was not referred to by our firm.

Additionally, we directly compensate non-employee (outside) consultants, individuals, and/or entities (solicitors) for client referrals. In order to receive a cash referral fee from us, solicitors must comply with the requirements of the jurisdictions in which they operate. If you were referred to us by a solicitor, you should have received a copy of this brochure along with the solicitor's disclosure statement at the time of the referral. If you become a client, the solicitor that referred you to us will receive a percentage of the advisory fee you pay us for as long as you are our client, or until such time as our agreement with the solicitor expires. You will not pay additional fees because of this referral arrangement. Referral fees paid to a solicitor are contingent upon your entering into an advisory agreement with us. Therefore, a solicitor has a financial incentive to recommend us to you for advisory services. This creates a conflict of interest; however, you are not obligated to retain us for advisory services. Comparable services and/or lower fees may be available through other firms.

Solicitors that refer business to more than one investment adviser may have a financial incentive to recommend advisers with more favorable compensation arrangements. We request that our solicitors disclose to you whether multiple referral relationships exist and that comparable services may be available from other advisers for lower fees and/or where the Solicitor's compensation is less favorable.

# Item 15 Custody

As paying agent for our firm, your independent custodian will directly debit your account(s) for the payment of our advisory fees. This ability to deduct our advisory fees from your accounts causes our firm to exercise limited custody over your funds or securities. We do not have physical custody of any of your funds and/or securities. Your funds and securities will be held with a bank, broker-dealer, or other qualified custodian. You will receive account statements from the qualified custodian(s) holding your funds and securities at least quarterly. The account statements from your custodian(s) will indicate the amount of our advisory fees deducted from your account(s) each billing period. You should carefully review account statements for accuracy.

All funds and securities, where applicable, are held with the qualified custodian, and all asset movements are processed through the Fund Administrator. We adhere to the applicable requirements of Rule 206(4)-2 under the Advisers Act (the "Custody Rule") for Private Fund Advisers as stated: Our Chief Compliance Officer will be responsible for arranging for the annual independent audit of each Fund by an independent auditor in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and for delivery of the Fund's audited financial statements to the investors in such Funds within 120 days of such Fund's fiscal year end, as required under the Custody Rule. If you are a Fund investor and have questions regarding the financial statements or if you did not receive a copy, contact us directly at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure.

# Wire Transfer and/or Standing Letter of Authorization

Our firm, or persons associated with our firm, may effect wire transfers from client accounts to one or more third parties designated, in writing, by the client without obtaining written client consent for each separate, individual transaction, as long as the client has provided us with written authorization to do so. Such written authorization is known as a Standing Letter of Authorization. An adviser with authority to conduct such third party wire transfers has access to the client's assets, and therefore has custody of the client's assets in any related accounts.

However, we do not have to obtain a surprise annual audit, as we otherwise would be required to by reason of having custody, as long as we meet the following criteria:

- 1. You provide a written, signed instruction to the qualified custodian that includes the third party's name and address or account number at a custodian;
- 2. You authorize us in writing to direct transfers to the third party either on a specified schedule or from time to time;
- 3. Your qualified custodian verifies your authorization (e.g., signature review) and provides a transfer of funds notice to you promptly after each transfer;
- 4. You can terminate or change the instruction;
- 5. We have no authority or ability to designate or change the identity of the third party, the address, or any other information about the third party;
- 6. We maintain records showing that the third party is not a related party to us nor located at the same address as us; and
- 7. Your qualified custodian sends you, in writing, an initial notice confirming the instruction and an annual notice reconfirming the instruction.

In the event we do not meet the above criteria, we will obtain a surprise annual audit on those client's assets.

# Item 16 Investment Discretion

Before we can buy or sell securities on your behalf, you must first sign our discretionary management agreement and the appropriate trading authorization forms.

If you enter into non-discretionary arrangements with our firm, we will obtain your approval prior to the execution of any transactions for your account(s). You have an unrestricted right to decline to implement any advice provided by our firm on a non-discretionary basis.

# **Item 17 Voting Client Securities**

We will determine how to vote proxies based on our reasonable judgment of the vote most likely to produce favorable financial results for you. Proxy votes generally will be cast in favor of proposals that maintain or strengthen the shared interests of shareholders and management, increase shareholder value, maintain or increase shareholder influence over the issuer's board of directors and management, and maintain or increase the rights of shareholders. Generally, proxy votes will be cast against proposals having the opposite effect. However, we will consider both sides of each proxy issue. Unless we receive specific instructions from you, we will not base votes on social considerations.

In the event you wish to direct our firm on voting a particular proxy, you should contact our main office at the phone number on the cover page of this brochure with your instruction.

Conflicts of interest between you and our firm, or a principal of our firm, regarding certain proxy issues could arise. If we determine that a material conflict of interest exists, we will take the necessary steps to resolve the conflict before voting the proxies. For example, we may disclose the existence and nature of the conflict to you, and seek direction from you as to how to vote on a particular issue; we may abstain from voting, particularly if there are conflicting interests for you (for example, where your account(s) hold different securities in a competitive merger situation); or, we will take other necessary steps designed to ensure that a decision to vote is in your best interest and was not the product of the conflict.

We keep certain records required by applicable law in connection with our proxy voting activities. You may obtain information on how we voted proxies and/or obtain a full copy of our proxy voting policies and procedures by making a written or oral request to our firm.

# **Item 18 Financial Information**

Our firm does not have any financial condition or impairment that would prevent us from meeting our contractual commitments to you. We do not take physical custody of client funds or securities, or serve as trustee or signatory for client accounts, and, we do not require the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees six or more months in advance. Therefore, we are not required to include a financial statement with this brochure.

We have not filed a bankruptcy petition at any time in the past ten years.

# Item 19 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

We are a federally registered investment adviser; therefore, we are not required to respond to this item.

# **Item 20 Additional Information**

### **Your Privacy**

We view protecting your private information as a top priority. Pursuant to applicable privacy requirements, we have instituted policies and procedures to ensure that we keep your personal information private and secure.

We do not disclose any non-public personal information about you to any non-affiliated third parties, except as permitted by law. In the course of servicing your account, we may share some information with our service providers, such as transfer agents, custodians, broker-dealers, accountants, consultants, and attorneys.

We restrict internal access to non-public personal information about you to employees, who need that information in order to provide products or services to you. We maintain physical and procedural safeguards that comply with regulatory standards to guard your non-public personal information and to ensure our integrity and confidentiality. We will not sell information about you or your accounts to anyone. We do not share your information unless it is required to process a transaction, at your request, or required by law.

You will receive a copy of our privacy notice prior to or at the time you sign an advisory agreement with our firm. Thereafter, we will deliver a copy of the current privacy policy notice to you on an annual basis. Contact our main office at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure if you have any questions regarding this policy.

If you decide to close your account(s) we will adhere to our privacy policies, which may be amended from time to time.

If we make any substantive changes in our privacy policy that would further permit or require disclosures of your private information, we will provide written notice to you. Where the change is based on permitted disclosures, you will be given an opportunity to direct us as to whether such disclosure is acceptable. Where the change is based on required disclosures, you will only receive written notice of the change. You may not opt out of the required disclosures.

If you have questions about our privacy policies contact our main office at the telephone number on the cover page of this brochure and ask to speak to the Chief Compliance Officer.

# **Trade Errors**

In the event a trading error occurs in your account, our policy is to restore your account to the position it should have been in had the trading error not occurred. Depending on the circumstances, corrective actions may include canceling the trade, adjusting an allocation, and/or reimbursing the account.

## **Class Action Lawsuits**

We do not determine if securities held by you are the subject of a class action lawsuit or whether you are eligible to participate in class action settlements or litigation nor do we initiate or participate in litigation to recover damages on your behalf for injuries as a result of actions, misconduct, or negligence by issuers of securities held by you.

## **IRA Rollover Considerations**

As part of our investment advisory services to you, we may recommend that you withdraw the assets from your employer's retirement plan and roll the assets over to an individual retirement account ("IRA") that we will manage on your behalf. If you elect to roll the assets to an IRA that is subject to our management, we will charge you an asset based fee as set forth in the agreement you executed with our firm. This practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice on our behalf have an incentive to recommend a rollover to you for the purpose of generating fee based compensation rather than solely based on your needs. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to complete the rollover. Moreover, if you do complete the rollover, you are under no obligation to have the assets in an IRA managed by our firm.

Many employers permit former employees to keep their retirement assets in their company plan. Also, current employees can sometimes move assets out of their company plan before they retire or change jobs. In determining whether to complete the rollover to an IRA, and to the extent the following options are available, you should consider the costs and benefits of:

- 1. Leaving the funds in your employer's (former employer's) plan.
- 2. Moving the funds to a new employer's retirement plan.
- 3. Cashing out and taking a taxable distribution from the plan.
- 4. Rolling the funds into an IRA rollover account.

Each of these options has advantages and disadvantages and before making a change we encourage you to speak with your CPA and/or tax attorney.

If you are considering rolling over your retirement funds to an IRA for us to manage here are a few points to consider before you do so:

1. Determine whether the investment options in your employer's retirement plan address your

needs or whether you might want to consider other types of investments.

- a. Employer retirement plans generally have a more limited investment menu than IRAs.
- b. Employer retirement plans may have unique investment options not available to the public such as employer securities, or previously closed funds.
- 2. Your current plan may have lower fees than our fees.
  - a. If you are interested in investing only in mutual funds, you should understand the cost structure of the share classes available in your employer's retirement plan and how the costs of those share classes compare with those available in an IRA.
  - b. You should understand the various products and services you might take advantage of at an IRA provider and the potential costs of those products and services.
- 3. Our strategy may have higher risk than the option(s) provided to you in your plan.
- 4. Your current plan may also offer financial advice.
- 5. If you keep your assets titled in a 401k or retirement account, you could potentially delay your required minimum distribution beyond age 72.
- 6. Your 401k may offer more liability protection than a rollover IRA; each state may vary.
  - a. Generally, federal law protects assets in qualified plans from creditors. Since 2005, IRA assets have been generally protected from creditors in bankruptcies. However, there can be some exceptions to the general rules so you should consult with an attorney if you are concerned about protecting your retirement plan assets from creditors.
- 7. You may be able to take out a loan on your 401k, but not from an IRA.
- 8. IRA assets can be accessed any time; however, distributions are subject to ordinary income tax and may also be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty unless they qualify for an exception such as disability, higher education expenses or the purchase of a home.
- 9. If you own company stock in your plan, you may be able to liquidate those shares at a lower capital gains tax rate.
- 10. Your plan may allow you to hire us as the manager and keep the assets titled in the plan name.

It is important that you understand the differences between these types of accounts and to decide whether a rollover is best for you. Prior to proceeding, if you have questions contact your investment adviser representative, or call our main number as listed on the cover page of this brochure.

You may terminate the asset management agreement upon written notice. You will incur a pro rata charge for services rendered prior to the termination of the asset management agreement, which means you will incur advisory fees only in proportion to the number of days in the quarter for which you are a client. If you have pre-paid advisory fees that we have not yet earned, you will receive a prorated refund of those fees.