



# Patient Capital Management

Statement of Additional Information  
April 30, 2026

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## Patient Opportunity Trust

Class A	LGOAX
Class C	LMOPX
Class FI	LMOFX
Class I	LMNOX
Class IS	MVISX
Class R	LMORX

**Patient Opportunity Trust**  
**c/o U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC**  
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A series of  
Advisor Managed Portfolios

This Statement of Additional Information (the “SAI”) is not a prospectus and it should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus dated April 30, 2026, as may be supplemented, for the Patient Opportunity Trust (the “Fund”), a series of Advisor Managed Portfolios (the “Trust”). Patient Capital Management, LLC (the “Advisor”) is the Fund’s investment advisor. The Fund’s financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025, are incorporated into this SAI by reference to the Fund’s [annual report](#) on Form N-CSR. A copy of the Prospectus or the annual report may be obtained by contacting the Fund at the address or telephone number above or by visiting the Fund’s website at [www.patientcapitalmanagement.com/opportunity-trust](http://www.patientcapitalmanagement.com/opportunity-trust).

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## The Trust

The Trust is a statutory trust organized under the laws of the State of Delaware on February 16, 2023 and is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) as an open-end management investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”). This SAI relates only to the Patient Opportunity Trust. The Fund is a series of the Trust.

The Trust’s Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the “Declaration of Trust”) permits the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board” or the “Trustees”) to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest, no par value per share, which may be issued in any number of series. The Trust consists of various series that represent separate investment portfolios. The Board may issue other series, the assets and liabilities of which will be separate and distinct from any other series.

Registration with the SEC does not involve supervision of the management or policies of the Fund. The Prospectus, SAI, shareholder reports and other information about the Fund are available free of charge on the EDGAR database on the SEC website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Copies of such information may be obtained from the SEC upon payment of the prescribed fee by electronic request at the following e-mail address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).

The Fund is the successor to Patient Opportunity Trust, a series of Trust for Advised Portfolios, a Delaware statutory trust (the “Predecessor Fund”), as a result of a reorganization that occurred on January 19, 2024 (the “Reorganization”). Prior to the Reorganization, the Fund was a “shell” fund with no assets that had not commenced operations. The Fund adopted the performance history of the Predecessor Fund, which was also advised by the Advisor and had the same investment objective and the same strategies as the Fund. The Predecessor Fund was named “Opportunity Trust” prior to August 21, 2022, and “Miller Opportunity Trust” prior to December 19, 2022. On February 27, 2017, the Predecessor Fund became the successor to the Legg Mason Opportunity Trust (the “Prior Predecessor Fund”), a series of Legg Mason Investment Trust, a Maryland statutory trust. Prior to April 30, 2012, when the Prior Predecessor Fund was redomiciled as a series of Legg Mason Investment Trust, the Prior Predecessor Fund was a series of Legg Mason Investment Trust, Inc. which was an open-end management investment company established as a Maryland corporation. For the period from October 5, 2009 through May 10, 2013, the Fund was known as Legg Mason Capital Management Investment Trust.

## Investment Objective and Policies

The following information supplements the information concerning the Fund’s investment objective, policies and limitations found in the Prospectus.

The Fund’s investment objective is to seek long-term growth of capital. This investment objective is non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval upon 60 days’ prior written notice to shareholders.

The Fund is non-diversified under the 1940 Act, which means that it may invest more of its assets in the securities of a single issuer or a smaller number of issuers than if it were a diversified fund.

## Investment Restrictions

The Trust (on behalf of the Fund) has adopted the following restrictions as fundamental policies, which may not be changed without the affirmative vote of the holders of a “majority of outstanding voting securities” as defined in the 1940 Act. Under the 1940 Act, the “vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities” means the vote of the holders of the lesser of (i) 67% of the shares of the Fund represented at a meeting at which the holders of more than 50% of its outstanding shares are represented or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Fund. In complying with its fundamental and non-fundamental investment restrictions, the Fund will aggregate its direct investments with the Subsidiary’s (defined below) investments when testing for compliance with each investment restriction of the Fund.

The Fund’s fundamental policies are as follows:

1. **Borrowing:** The Fund may not borrow money, except (1) in an amount not exceeding 33 1/3% of the Fund’s total assets (including the amount borrowed) less liabilities (other than borrowings) or (2) by entering into reverse repurchase agreements or dollar rolls;
2. **Underwriting:** The Fund may not engage in the business of underwriting the securities of other issuers, except as permitted by the 1940 Act, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, as such statute, rules, and regulations are amended from time to time or are interpreted from time to time by the SEC or SEC staff or to the extent that the Fund may be permitted to do so by exemptive order or other relief from the SEC or SEC staff (collectively, “1940 Act Laws, Interpretations and Exemptions”). This restriction does not prevent the Fund from engaging in transactions involving the acquisition, disposition or resale of portfolio securities, regardless of whether the Fund may be considered to be an underwriter under the Securities Act of 1933 (the “1933 Act”);

3. Loans: The Fund may not lend money or other assets, except to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act Laws, Interpretations and Exemptions. This restriction does not prevent the Fund from purchasing debt obligations in pursuit of its investment program, or for defensive or cash management purposes, entering into repurchase agreements, loaning its portfolio securities to Financial Intermediaries, institutions or institutional investors, or investing in loans, including assignments and participation interests;

4. Senior Securities: The Fund may not issue senior securities, except as permitted under the 1940 Act Laws, Interpretations and Exemptions;

5. Real Estate: The Fund may not purchase or sell real estate unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other instruments. This restriction does not prevent the Fund from investing in issuers that invest, deal, or otherwise engage in transactions in or hold real estate or interests therein, investing in instruments that are secured by real estate or interests therein, or exercising rights under agreements relating to such securities, including the right to enforce security interests;

6. Commodities: The Fund may not purchase or sell physical commodities unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other instruments. This restriction does not prevent the Fund from engaging in transactions involving foreign currency, futures contracts and options, forward contracts, swaps, caps, floors, collars, securities purchased or sold on a forward-commitment or delayed-delivery basis or other similar financial instruments, or investing in securities or other instruments that are secured by physical commodities;

7. Concentration: The Fund may not make any investment if, as a result, the Fund's investments will be concentrated (as that term may be defined or interpreted by the 1940 Act Laws, Interpretations and Exemptions) in any one industry or group of industries. This restriction does not limit the Fund's investment in securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities and repurchase agreements with respect thereto, or tax exempt municipal securities issued by governments or their political sub divisions, excluding private activities, municipal debt securities whose principal and interest payments are derived principally from the assets and revenues of a of a non-governmental entity.

With respect to the fundamental policy relating to issuing senior securities set forth in (4) above, "senior securities" are defined as Fund obligations that have a priority over the Fund's shares with respect to the payment of dividends or the distribution of Fund assets. As discussed below in the "Senior Securities" section, the 1940 Act prohibits the Fund from issuing senior securities except that the Fund may borrow money in amounts of up to one-third of the Fund's total assets from banks for any purpose. The Fund may also borrow up to 5% of the Fund's total assets from banks or other lenders for temporary purposes, and these borrowings are not considered senior securities. The issuance of senior securities by the Fund can increase the speculative character of the Fund's outstanding shares through leveraging. Leveraging of the Fund's portfolio through the issuance of senior securities magnifies the potential for gain or loss on monies, because even though the Fund's net assets remain the same, the total risk to investors is increased to the extent of the Fund's gross assets. Certain types of transactions involve a commitment by a fund to deliver money or securities in the future, including transactions in when-issued, forward settling, and non-standard settlement cycle securities. Such transactions would be deemed not to involve a senior security (i.e., would not be considered a derivatives transaction), provided that (i) the fund intends to physically settle the transaction and (ii) the transaction will settle within 35 days of its trade date. If such a transaction were considered to be a derivatives transaction, it would be subject to the requirements of Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act. The policy in (4) above will be interpreted not to prevent collateral arrangements with respect to swaps, options, forward or futures contracts or other derivatives, or the posting of initial or variation margin. The Fund will monitor the level of borrowing in its portfolio and will make necessary adjustments to maintain the required asset coverage on an ongoing basis.

With respect to the fundamental policy relating to concentration set forth in (7) above, the 1940 Act does not define what constitutes "concentration" in an industry or group of industries. The SEC has stated that investment of more than 25% of a fund's total assets in one or more issuers conducting their principal activities in the same industry or group of industries constitutes concentration. It is possible that interpretations of concentration could change in the future. A fund that invests a significant percentage of its total assets in a single industry or group of industries may be particularly susceptible to adverse events affecting that industry or group of industries and may be more risky than a fund that does not concentrate in an industry or group of industries. The policy in (7) above will be interpreted to refer to concentration as that term may be interpreted from time to time. The policy also will be interpreted to permit investment without limit in the following: securities of the U.S. Government and its agencies or instrumentalities; and repurchase agreements collateralized by any such obligations. Accordingly, issuers of the foregoing securities will not be considered to be members of any industry or group of industries. The policy also will be interpreted to give broad authority to the Fund as to how to classify issuers within or among industries or a group of industries. A type of investment (e.g., equity securities, fixed-income securities, investment companies, etc.) will not be considered to be an industry or group of industries under the policy. When identifying industries for purposes of its concentration policy, the Fund may rely upon available industry classifications. When determining compliance with its concentration policy, the Fund will consider the investments of any underlying investment companies in which the Fund invests to the extent the Fund has sufficient information about the holdings of such underlying investment companies.

Unless otherwise stated, the Fund's investment policies and limitations are non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval. The following are some of the non-fundamental investment limitations that the Fund currently observes:

1. **Borrowing:** The Fund may not borrow money for investment purposes except from banks in an amount not exceeding 20% of the Fund's net assets. The Fund may not borrow money from a non-bank except for temporary borrowings, including borrowings to facilitate shareholder redemptions, in an amount not exceeding 5% of the Fund's total assets. Temporary borrowings are not considered to be for investment purposes and are separate from the Fund's 20% limitation. Compliance with the 20% limit applicable to borrowing for investment purposes is measured as of the time of the borrowing. Borrowing is subject to compliance with 1940 Act percentage limitations applicable to all borrowing.

2. **Margin Purchases:** The Fund may not buy securities on "margin," except for short-term credits necessary for clearance of portfolio transactions and except that the Fund may make margin deposits in connection with the use of futures contracts, options, forward contracts, swaps, caps, floors, collars, and other financial instruments; nothing in this limitation is intended to limit the extent to which the Fund may utilize bank borrowings for investment purposes.

Except as otherwise stated, if a fundamental or non-fundamental percentage limitation set forth in the Prospectus or this SAI is complied with at the time an investment is made, a later increase or decrease in percentage resulting from a change in the relevant parameters will not be considered to be outside the limitation, unless otherwise noted above. An investment will be deemed to have been made at the time the Fund enters into a binding commitment to complete the investment.

### **Investment in the Subsidiary**

The Fund may invest up to 25% of its assets in a wholly-owned and controlled Cayman Islands subsidiary (the "Subsidiary"). It is expected that the Subsidiary will invest primarily in exchange-traded products that are registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and which invest primarily in cryptocurrencies ("Cryptocurrency ETPs"), commodity futures and options, and other commodity-linked derivative instruments. In addition, the Subsidiary may also invest in financial futures, options and swaps, fixed income securities and structured notes, and other investments intended to serve as margin or collateral for the Subsidiary's derivatives positions. As a result, the Fund may be considered to be investing indirectly in these investments through the Subsidiary. For that reason, and for the sake of convenience, references in this SAI to the Fund may also include the Subsidiary. The Subsidiary's key financial information is presented with that of the Fund in the form of consolidated financial statements included in the Fund's Form N-CSR filings. Copies of the Fund's Financial Statements and Financial Highlights are provided without charge upon request.

The Subsidiary is a company organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands, whose registered office is located at the offices of Maples and Calder, PO Box 309, Umland House, Grand Cayman, KY1-1104, Cayman Islands, Cayman Islands. The Subsidiary's affairs are overseen by its own board of directors consisting of three directors.

The Subsidiary has entered into a separate contract with the Advisor for the management of the Subsidiary's portfolio pursuant to which the Subsidiary pays the Advisor a management fee for its services. The Advisor has contractually agreed to waive the entire management fee it charges to the Subsidiary. As a result, the Fund's investment in the Subsidiary will not result in the Fund paying duplicative management fees. The Subsidiary will bear the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the custody, transfer agency, and audit services that it receives, which are specific to the Subsidiary and its operations and not duplicative of services provided to the Fund. The Fund expects that the expenses borne by its Subsidiary will not be material in relation to the value of the Fund's assets. Please refer to the section in this SAI titled "Tax Treatment of Complex Securities" for information about certain tax aspects of the Fund's investment in the Subsidiary.

The Subsidiary is not registered as an investment company under the 1940 Act, and as a result, the Fund, as the sole shareholder of the Subsidiary, will not have all of the protections offered to investors in registered investment companies. As noted elsewhere in this SAI, however, the Subsidiary has agreed to be subject to certain provisions of the 1940 Act that further investor protection. With respect to its contract with the Subsidiary, the Advisor complies with the provisions of the 1940 Act relating to investment advisory contracts (Section 15). The Subsidiary has agreed to comply with the 1940 Act's restrictions under Section 17 related to custody and Section 18 related to leverage and borrowing. In addition, because the Fund wholly owns and controls the Subsidiary, and the Fund and the Subsidiary are each managed by the Advisor, it is unlikely that the Subsidiary will take action contrary to the interests of the Fund or the Fund's shareholders. The Board has oversight responsibility for the investment activities of the Fund, including its investment in the Subsidiary, and the Fund's role as the sole shareholder of the Subsidiary. Also, in managing the Subsidiary's portfolio, the Advisor will be subject to the same fundamental and certain other investment restrictions (except for the restriction on the purchase and sale of commodities and commodities contracts applicable to the Fund) and will follow substantially the same compliance policies and procedures as the Fund to the extent they are applicable to the activities of the Subsidiary.

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the "CFTC") regulates the trading of commodity interests, including commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures, and swaps (which includes cash-settled currency forwards and swaps).

Changes in the laws of the United States and/or the Cayman Islands, under which the Fund and the Subsidiary are organized, could result in the inability of the Fund and/or the Subsidiary to operate as intended and could negatively affect the Fund and its shareholders. For example, the Cayman Islands do not currently impose any income, corporate or capital gains tax, estate duty, inheritance tax, gift tax or withholding tax on the Subsidiary. If Cayman Islands law changes such that the Subsidiary must pay Cayman Islands taxes, Fund shareholders would likely suffer decreased investment returns.

## **Investment Strategies and Risks**

### **Non-Diversification**

The Fund is non-diversified under the 1940 Act, which means that there is no restriction as to how much the Fund may invest in the securities of any one issuer. However, to qualify for tax treatment as a regulated investment company (“RIC”) under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), the Fund intends to comply, as of the end of each taxable quarter, with certain diversification requirements imposed by the Code such that, at the end of each taxable quarter, (i) at least 50% of the market value of the Fund’s assets is represented by cash, securities of other RICs, U.S. government securities and other securities, with such other securities limited, in respect of any one issuer, to an amount not greater than 5% of the Fund’s assets and not greater than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of its assets is invested, including through corporations in which the Fund owns a 20% or more voting stock interest, in the securities (other than U.S. government securities or securities of other RICs) of any one issuer, in the securities (other than the securities of other RICs) of any two or more issuers that the Fund controls and that are determined to be engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses or related trades or businesses, or in the securities of one or more “qualified publicly traded partnerships.” As a non-diversified investment company, the Fund may be subject to greater risks than diversified companies because of the larger impact of fluctuation in the values of securities of fewer issuers.

### **Percentage Limitations**

Whenever an investment policy or limitation states a maximum percentage of the Fund’s assets that may be invested in any security or other asset, or sets forth a policy regarding quality standards, such standard or percentage limitation will be determined immediately after and as a result of the Fund’s acquisition or sale of such security or other asset. Accordingly, any subsequent change in values, net assets or other circumstances will not be considered in determining whether an investment complies with the Fund’s investment policies and limitations. In addition, if a bankruptcy or other extraordinary event occurs concerning a particular investment by the Fund, the Fund may receive stock, real estate or other investments that the Fund would not, or could not buy. If this happens the Fund would sell such investments as soon as practicable while trying to maximize the return to its shareholders.

The Fund may employ several investment strategies, each of which is subject to certain risks, as discussed below:

### **Illiquid Investments and Restricted Securities**

The Fund may not acquire an illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. If illiquid investments exceed 15% of the Fund’s net assets, certain remedial actions will be taken as required by Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act and the Fund’s policies and procedures.

Restricted securities are securities subject to legal or contractual restrictions on their resale, such as private placements. Such restrictions might prevent the sale of restricted securities at a time when the sale would otherwise be desirable. Under SEC regulations, certain restricted securities acquired through private placements can be traded freely among qualified purchasers. While restricted securities are generally classified as illiquid, the SEC has stated that an investment company’s board of directors, or its investment advisor acting under authority delegated by the board, may determine that a security eligible for trading under this rule is “liquid.” The Fund intends to rely on this rule, to the extent appropriate, to deem specific securities acquired through private placement as “liquid.” The Board has delegated to the Advisor, pursuant to guidelines established by the Board, the responsibility for determining whether a particular security eligible for trading under this rule is “liquid.” Investing in these restricted securities could have the effect of increasing the Fund’s illiquidity if qualified purchasers become, for a time, uninterested in buying these securities.

Restricted securities may be sold only (1) pursuant to SEC Rule 144A or another exemption, (2) in privately negotiated transactions or (3) in public offerings with respect to which a registration statement is in effect under the 1933 Act. Rule 144A securities, although not registered in the U.S., may be sold to qualified institutional buyers in accordance with Rule 144A under the 1933 Act. As noted above, the Advisor, acting pursuant to guidelines established by the Board, may determine that some Rule 144A securities are liquid. Where registration is required, the Fund may be obligated to pay all or part of the registration expenses and a considerable period may elapse between the time of the decision to sell and the time the Fund may be permitted to sell a restricted security under an effective registration statement. If, during such a period, adverse market conditions were to develop, the Fund might obtain a less favorable price than prevailed when it decided to sell.

Illiquid investments may be difficult to value, and the Fund may have difficulty disposing of such investments promptly. The Fund does not consider non-U.S. securities to be restricted if they can be freely sold in the principal markets in which they are traded, even if they are not registered for sale in the U.S.

### **Senior Securities**

The 1940 Act prohibits the issuance of senior securities by a registered open-end fund with one exception. The Fund may borrow from banks provided that immediately after any such borrowing there is an asset coverage of at least 300% for all borrowings of the Fund. The Fund's non-bank borrowings for temporary purposes only, in an amount not exceeding 5% of the value of the total assets of the Fund at the time the borrowing is made, are not deemed to be an issuance of a senior security. To limit the risks attendant to borrowing, the 1940 Act requires the Fund to maintain an "asset coverage" of at least 300% of the amount of its borrowings, provided that in the event that the Fund's asset coverage falls below 300%, the Fund is required to reduce the amount of its borrowings so that it meets the 300% asset coverage threshold within three days (not including Sundays and holidays).

The Fund may utilize various investment techniques that may give rise to an obligation of the Fund to make a future payment. Such investment techniques include, among other things, when-issued securities, futures and forward contracts, short options positions and repurchase agreements. In accordance with Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act, when a fund engages in reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions, the fund may either (i) maintain asset coverage of at least 300% with respect to such transactions and any other borrowings in the aggregate, or (ii) treat such transactions as "derivative transactions" under Rule 18f-4 and comply with Rule 18f-4 with respect to such transactions.

### **Equity Investments**

The Fund may invest in all types of equity securities. Equity securities include exchange-traded and over-the-counter (OTC) common and preferred stocks, warrants and rights, securities convertible into common stocks, and securities of other investment companies and of real estate investment trusts ("REITs"). Equity securities fluctuate in price based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions. The value of a particular security may decline due to factors that affect a particular industry or industries, such as an increase in production costs, competitive conditions or labor shortages; or due to general market conditions, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the general outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates or generally adverse investor sentiment. The value of an equity security can be more volatile than the market as a whole and can perform differently from the value of the market as a whole. The value of a company's equity securities may deteriorate because of a variety of factors, including disappointing earnings reports by the issuer, unsuccessful products or services, loss of major customers, major litigation against the issuer or changes in government regulations affecting the issuer or the competitive environment.

### **Foreign Securities**

The Fund may invest in the securities of foreign issuers, foreign currencies and securities of U.S. issuers with substantial foreign operations (collectively, "foreign investments"). Foreign investments present certain risks, including those resulting from fluctuations in currency exchange rates, revaluation of currencies, future political and economic developments and the possible imposition of currency exchange blockages or other foreign governmental laws or restrictions, reduced availability of public information concerning issuers, and the fact that foreign issuers are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards or other regulatory practices and requirements comparable to those applicable to domestic issuers. These risks are intensified when investing in countries with developing economies and securities markets, also known as "emerging markets." Moreover, securities of many foreign issuers may be less liquid and their prices more volatile than those of comparable domestic issuers and transactions in securities of foreign issuers may be subject to less efficient settlement practices, including extended clearance and settlement periods. In addition, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is the possibility of expropriation, confiscatory taxation, withholding taxes and limitations on the use or removal of funds or other assets.

The costs associated with investment in the securities of foreign issuers, including withholding taxes, brokerage commissions and custodial fees, may be higher than those associated with investment in domestic issuers. In addition, foreign investment transactions may be subject to difficulties associated with the settlement of such transactions. Delays in settlement could result in temporary periods when assets of the Fund are uninvested and no return can be earned thereon. The inability of the Fund to make intended investments due to settlement problems could cause the Fund to miss attractive investment opportunities. Inability to dispose of a portfolio security due to settlement problems could result in losses to the Fund due to subsequent declines in value of the portfolio security or, if the Fund has entered into a contract to sell the security, could result in liability to the purchaser. Some emerging markets have different settlement and clearance procedures. In certain markets there have been times when settlements have been unable to keep pace with the volume of securities transactions, making it difficult to conduct such transactions.

Since the Fund may invest in securities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar and since the Fund may hold foreign currencies, it may be affected favorably or unfavorably by exchange control regulations or changes in exchange rates between such currencies and the U.S. dollar. Changes in the currency exchange rates may influence the value of the Fund's shares, and may also

affect the value of dividends and interest earned by the Fund and gains and losses realized by the Fund. Exchange rates are determined by the forces of supply and demand in the foreign exchange markets. These forces are affected by the international balance of payments, other economic and financial conditions, government intervention, speculation and other factors.

Many emerging market countries have experienced substantial, and in some periods extremely high, rates of inflation for many years. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and may continue to have, very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain emerging markets. Economies in emerging markets generally are heavily dependent upon international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by economic conditions, trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade.

Because of the high levels of foreign-denominated debt owed by many emerging market countries, fluctuating exchange rates can significantly affect the debt service obligations of those countries. This could, in turn, affect local interest rates, profit margins and exports, which are a major source of foreign exchange earnings. Although it might be theoretically possible to hedge for anticipated income and gains, the ongoing and indeterminate nature of the foregoing risks (and the costs associated with hedging transactions) makes it virtually impossible to hedge effectively against such risks.

To the extent an emerging market country faces a liquidity crisis with respect to its foreign exchange reserves, it may increase restrictions on the outflow of any foreign exchange. Repatriation is ultimately dependent on the ability of the Fund to liquidate its investments and convert the local currency proceeds obtained from such liquidation into U.S. dollars. Where this conversion must be done through official channels (usually the central bank or certain authorized commercial banks), the ability to obtain U.S. dollars is dependent on the availability of such U.S. dollars through those channels, and if available, upon the willingness of those channels to allocate those U.S. dollars to the Fund. In such a case, the Fund's ability to obtain U.S. dollars may be adversely affected by any increased restrictions imposed on the outflow of foreign exchange. If the Fund is unable to repatriate any amounts due to exchange controls, it may be required to accept an obligation payable at some future date by the central bank or other governmental entity of the jurisdiction involved. If such conversion can legally be done outside official channels, either directly or indirectly, the Fund's ability to obtain U.S. dollars may not be affected as much by any increased restrictions except to the extent of the price which may be required to be paid for the U.S. dollars.

Many emerging market countries have little experience with the corporate form of business organization and may not have well-developed corporation and business laws or concepts of fiduciary duty in the business context.

The securities markets of emerging markets are substantially smaller, less developed, less liquid and more volatile than the securities markets of the United States and other more developed countries. Disclosure and regulatory standards in many respects are less stringent than in the United States and other major markets. There also may be a lower level of monitoring and regulation of emerging markets and the activities of investors in such markets; enforcement of existing regulations has been extremely limited. Investing in the securities of companies in emerging markets may entail special risks relating to the potential political and economic instability and the risks of expropriation, nationalization, confiscation or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investment, convertibility of currencies into U.S. dollars and on repatriation of capital invested. In the event of such expropriation, nationalization or other confiscation by any country, the Fund could lose its entire investment in any such country.

The risk also exists that an emergency situation may arise in one or more emerging markets as a result of which trading of securities may cease or may be substantially curtailed and prices for the Fund's portfolio securities in such markets may not be readily available.

*Economic, Political and Social Factors.* Certain non-U.S. countries, including emerging markets, may be subject to a greater degree of economic, political and social instability. Such instability may result from, among other things: (i) authoritarian governments or military involvement in political and economic decision making; (ii) popular unrest associated with demands for improved economic, political and social conditions; (iii) internal insurgencies; (iv) hostile relations with neighboring countries; and (v) ethnic, religious and racial disaffection and conflict. Such economic, political and social instability could significantly disrupt the financial markets in such countries and the ability of the issuers in such countries to repay their obligations. In addition, it may be difficult for the Fund to pursue claims against a foreign issuer in the courts of a foreign country. Investing in emerging market countries also involves the risk of expropriation, nationalization, confiscation of assets and property or the imposition of restrictions on foreign investments and on repatriation of capital invested. In the event of such expropriation, nationalization or other confiscation in any emerging market country, the Fund could lose its entire investment in that country. Certain emerging market countries restrict or control foreign investment in their securities markets to varying degrees. These restrictions may limit the Fund's investment in those markets and may increase the expenses of the Fund. In addition, the repatriation of both investment income and capital from certain markets in the region is subject to restrictions such as the need for certain governmental consents. Even where there is no outright restriction on repatriation of capital, the mechanics of repatriation may affect certain aspects of the Fund's operation. Economies in individual non-U.S. countries may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross domestic product, rates of inflation, currency valuation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments positions. Many non-U.S. countries have experienced substantial, and in some cases extremely high, rates of inflation for many years. Inflation and rapid

fluctuations in inflation rates have had, and may continue to have, very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain emerging countries. Economies in emerging countries generally are dependent heavily upon international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. These economies also have been, and may continue to be, affected adversely and significantly by economic conditions in the countries with which they trade. Whether or not the Fund invests in securities of issuers located in or with significant exposure to countries experiencing economic, financial and other difficulties, the value and liquidity of the Fund's investments may be negatively affected by the conditions in the countries experiencing the difficulties.

*Europe—Recent Events.* In January 2020 the United Kingdom left the European Union (“Brexit”), highlighting political divisions within the United Kingdom and between the United Kingdom and European Union. As a consequence of Brexit, there has been uncertainty in both United Kingdom and European markets and the broader world economy. Markets, specifically in the United Kingdom and European Union, may be impacted, leading to increased volatility, lower liquidity, and slower economic growth that could potentially have an adverse effect on the value of the Fund's investments.

### **Foreign Currency Exposure**

The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers which are denominated in foreign currencies and may temporarily hold uninvested cash in bank deposits in foreign currencies. Accordingly, the strength or weakness of the U.S. dollar against such foreign currencies may impact the Fund's investment performance. The rate of exchange between the U.S. dollar and other currencies is determined by several factors, including the supply and demand for particular currencies, central bank efforts to support particular currencies, government intervention, speculation, the relative movement of interest rates, the pace of business activity in other countries and the United States, speculation and other economic and financial conditions affecting the world economy. The Fund may also be affected favorably or unfavorably by exchange control regulations.

A decline in the value of any particular currency against the U.S. dollar will cause a decline in the U.S. dollar value of the Fund's holdings of securities and cash denominated in such currency and, therefore, will cause an overall decline in the Fund's net asset value (“NAV”) and any net investment income and capital gains derived from such securities to be distributed in U.S. dollars to shareholders of the Fund. Moreover, if the value of the foreign currencies in which the Fund receives its income falls relative to the U.S. dollar between receipt of the income and its conversion to U.S. dollars, the Fund may be required to liquidate securities in order to make distributions if it has insufficient cash in U.S. dollars to meet distribution requirements.

Fluctuations in currency exchange rates may affect the performance of emerging market issuers in which the Fund invests without regard to the effect such fluctuations have on income received or gains realized by the Fund. Given the level of foreign-denominated debt owed by many emerging market countries, fluctuating exchange rates significantly affect the debt service obligations of those countries. This could, in turn, affect local interest rates, profit margins and exports which are a major source of foreign exchange earnings. Although it might be theoretically possible to hedge for anticipated income and gains, the ongoing and indeterminate nature of the foregoing risk (and the costs associated with hedging transactions) makes it virtually impossible to hedge effectively against such risks.

### **Debt Securities**

The Fund may invest in the debt securities of governmental or corporate issuers. Corporate debt securities may pay fixed or variable rates of interest, or interest at a rate contingent upon some other factor, such as the price of some commodity. These securities may be convertible into preferred or common equity, or may be bought as part of a unit containing common stock.

The prices of debt securities fluctuate in response to perceptions of the issuer's creditworthiness and also tend to vary inversely with market interest rates. The value of such securities is likely to decline in times of rising interest rates. Conversely, when rates fall, the value of these investments is likely to rise. The longer the time to maturity the greater are such variations. Shorter maturity portfolios generally will not generate as high a level of total return as longer maturity portfolios (assuming that long-term interest rates are higher than short-term, which is commonly the case).

Many fixed income securities, especially those issued at high interest rates, provide that the issuer may repay them early. Issuers often exercise this right when interest rates are low. Accordingly, holders of callable securities may not benefit fully from the increase in value that other fixed income securities experience when rates decline. Furthermore, the Fund reinvests the proceeds of the payoff at current yields, which are lower than those paid by the security that was paid off.

Certain securities pay interest at variable or floating rates. Variable rate securities reset at specified intervals, while floating rate securities reset whenever there is a change in a specified index rate. In most cases, these reset provisions reduce the effect of market interest rates on the value of the security. However, some securities do not track the underlying index directly, but reset based on formulas that can produce an effect similar to leveraging; others may provide for interest payments that vary inversely with market rates. The market prices of these securities may fluctuate significantly when interest rates change.

The Fund may purchase debt securities from the issuers or may purchase participation interests in pools of these obligations from banks or other financial institutions. Variable and floating rate obligations usually carry demand features that permit the Fund to sell the obligations back to the issuers or to financial intermediaries at par value plus accrued interest upon short notice at any time or prior to specific dates. The inability of the issuer or financial intermediary (banks, brokers, dealers, insurance companies, investment advisors, financial consultants or advisers, mutual fund supermarkets and other financial intermediaries) (each called a “Financial Intermediary”) to repurchase an obligation on demand could affect the liquidity of the Fund’s portfolio. Frequently, obligations with demand features are secured by letters of credit or comparable guarantees. Floating and variable rate obligations which do not carry unconditional demand features that can be exercised within seven days or less are deemed illiquid unless the Board determines otherwise. The Fund’s investment in illiquid floating and variable rate obligations would be limited to the extent that it is not permitted to invest more than 15% of the value of its net assets in illiquid investments.

Fixed income securities are also subject to credit risk, *i.e.*, the risk that an issuer of securities will be unable to pay principal and interest when due, or that the value of the security will suffer because investors believe the issuer is less able to pay. This is broadly gauged by the credit ratings of the securities in which the Fund invests. However, ratings are only the opinions of the agencies issuing them and are not absolute guarantees as to quality. The Fund may also invest without limit in unrated securities.

Generally, debt securities rated below BBB by Standard & Poor’s, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (“S&P”) or Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”), below Baa by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”), and unrated securities of comparable quality, are considered below investment grade, but offer a higher current yield than that provided by higher grade issues, but also involve higher risks. S&P, Moody’s and Fitch are collectively recognized by the Advisor as Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations (“NRSRO”). Such securities are commonly referred to as “junk bonds.” Changes in economic conditions or developments regarding the individual issuer are more likely to cause price volatility and weaken the capacity of such issuers to make principal and interest payments than is the case for issuers of higher grade debt securities. Debt securities rated C by Moody’s, S&P or Fitch are bonds on which no interest is being paid and that can be regarded as having extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing. However, debt securities, regardless of their ratings, generally have a higher priority in the issuer’s capital structure than do equity securities. The ratings of S&P, Moody’s and Fitch represent the opinions of those agencies. Such ratings are relative and subjective, and are not absolute standards of quality. Unrated debt securities are not necessarily of lower quality than rated securities, but they may not be attractive to as many buyers. A description of the ratings assigned to corporate debt obligations by Moody’s, S&P and Fitch is included in Appendix A to this SAI.

The Advisor considers bonds to be below investment grade if they are rated below Baa/BBB by all three NRSROs, or unrated securities determined by the Advisor to be of comparable quality. The Advisor will consider a security’s quality and credit rating when determining whether such security is an appropriate investment. Subject to its investment objective, policies and applicable law, the Fund may purchase a security with the lowest rating.

In addition to ratings assigned to individual bond issues, the Advisor will analyze interest rate trends and developments that may affect individual issuers, including factors such as liquidity, profitability and asset quality. The yields on bonds and other debt securities in which the Fund invests are dependent on a variety of factors, including general money market conditions, general conditions in the bond market, the financial conditions of the issuer, the size of the offering, the maturity of the obligation and its rating. There may be a wide variation in the quality of bonds, both within a particular classification and between classifications. A bond issuer’s obligations are subject to the provisions of bankruptcy, insolvency and other laws affecting the rights and remedies of bond holders or other creditors of an issuer; litigation or other conditions may also adversely affect the power or ability of bond issuers to meet their obligations for the payment of principal and interest. Regardless of rating levels, all debt securities considered for purchase (whether rated or unrated) are analyzed by the Advisor to determine, to the extent possible, that the planned investment is sound.

If an investment grade security purchased by the Fund is subsequently given a rating below investment grade, the Advisor will consider that fact in determining whether to retain that security in the Fund’s portfolio, but is not required to dispose of it.

*Risks of lower-rated securities.* A lower-rated debt security may be callable, *i.e.*, subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a price established in the security’s governing instrument. If a debt security held by the Fund is called for redemption, the Fund will be required to permit the issuer to redeem the security or sell it to a third party. Either of these actions could have an adverse effect on the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective because, for example, the Fund may be able to reinvest the proceeds only in securities with lower yields or may receive a price upon sale that is lower than it would have received in the absence of the redemption. If the Fund experiences unexpected net redemptions, it may be forced to sell its higher-rated securities, resulting in a decline in the overall credit quality of the Fund’s investment portfolio and increasing the exposure of the Fund to the risks of lower-rated securities.

At certain times in the past, the prices of many lower-rated securities declined, indicating concerns that issuers of such securities might experience financial difficulties. At those times, the yields on lower-rated securities rose dramatically, reflecting the risk that holders of such securities could lose a substantial portion of their value as a result of the issuers’ financial restructuring or default. There can be no assurance that such declines will not recur.

The market for lower-rated securities may be thinner and less active than that for higher-rated securities, which can adversely affect the prices at which these securities can be sold, and may make it difficult for the Fund to obtain market quotations daily. If market quotations are not available, these securities will be valued by a method that the Board believes accurately reflects fair value. Judgment may play a greater role in valuing lower-rated debt securities than is the case with respect to securities for which a broader range of dealer quotations and last-sale information is available. Adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may also decrease the values and liquidity of lower-rated securities, especially in a thinly traded market.

Although the prices of lower-rated bonds are generally less sensitive to interest rate changes than are higher-rated bonds, the prices of lower-rated bonds may be more sensitive to adverse economic changes and developments regarding the individual issuer. When economic conditions appear to be deteriorating, medium- to lower-rated securities may decline in value due to heightened concern over credit quality, regardless of the prevailing interest rates. Investors should carefully consider the relative risks of investing in high yield securities and understand that such securities are not generally meant for short-term investing.

Adverse economic developments can disrupt the market for lower-rated securities and severely affect the ability of issuers, especially highly leveraged issuers, to service their debt obligations or to repay their obligations upon maturity, which may lead to a higher incidence of default on such securities. Lower-rated securities are especially affected by adverse changes in the industries in which the issuers are engaged and by changes in the financial condition of the issuers. Highly leveraged issuers may also experience financial stress during periods of rising interest rates. In addition, the secondary market for lower-rated securities, which is concentrated in relatively few market makers, may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities. As a result, the Fund could find it more difficult to sell these securities without adversely affecting the market price, or may be able to sell the securities only at prices lower than if such securities were widely traded.

### **When-Issued Securities**

The Fund may enter into commitments to purchase securities on a when-issued basis. When the Fund purchases securities on a when-issued basis, it assumes the risks of ownership at the time of the purchase, not at the time of receipt. However, the Fund does not have to pay for the obligations until they are delivered to it, and no interest accrues to the Fund until they are delivered. Use of this practice could have a leveraging effect on the Fund.

The Fund may sell the securities underlying a when-issued purchase, which may result in capital gains or losses.

### **Preferred Stock**

The Fund may invest in preferred stock. Preferred stock pays dividends at a specified rate and generally has preference over common stock in the payment of dividends and the liquidation of the issuer's assets, but is junior to the debt securities of the issuer in those same respects. Unlike interest payments on debt securities, dividends on preferred stock are generally payable at the discretion of the issuer's board of directors. Shareholders of preferred stock may suffer a loss of value if dividends are not paid. The market prices of preferred stocks are subject to changes in interest rates and are more sensitive to changes in the issuer's creditworthiness than are the prices of debt securities. Under normal circumstances, preferred stock does not carry voting rights.

### **Warrants and Rights**

The Fund may purchase warrants and rights. Warrants or rights may be acquired separately, or as part of a unit or attached to securities at the time of purchase, and may be deemed to be with or without value. Warrants and rights may be considered speculative in that they have no voting rights, pay no dividends, and have no rights with respect to the assets of the corporation issuing them. Warrants and rights basically are options to purchase equity securities at a specific price valid for a specific period of time. They do not represent ownership of the securities, but only the right to buy them. Warrants and rights differ from call options in that warrants are issued by the issuer of the security which may be purchased on their exercise, whereas call options may be written or issued by anyone. Rights are similar to warrants but typically are issued by a company to existing holders of its stock and provide those holders the right to purchase additional shares of stock at a later date. Rights also normally have a shorter duration than warrants. The prices of warrants and rights do not necessarily move parallel to the prices of the underlying securities. If the market price of the underlying security does not exceed the exercise price of the warrant or right plus the cost thereof before the expiration date, the Fund could sustain losses on transactions in warrants that would require the Fund to forgo a portion or all of the benefits of advantageous change in the market price of the underlying security. Warrants may be purchased with values that vary depending on the change in value of one or more specified indexes ("index warrants"). Index warrants are generally issued by banks or other financial institutions and give the holder the right, at any time during the term of the warrant, to receive upon exercise of the warrant a cash payment from the issuer based on the value of the underlying index at the time of the exercise. The market for warrants or rights may be very limited and it may be difficult to sell them promptly at an acceptable price.

### **Convertible Securities**

A convertible security is a bond, debenture, note, preferred stock or other security that may be converted into or exchanged for a prescribed amount of common stock of the same or a different issuer within a particular period of time at a specified price or formula.

A convertible security entitles the holder to receive interest paid or accrued on debt or the dividend paid on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Before conversion or exchange, convertible securities ordinarily provide a stream of income with generally higher yields than those of common stocks of the same or similar issuers, but lower than the yield of non-convertible debt. Convertible securities are usually subordinated to comparable-tier nonconvertible securities, but rank senior to common stock in a corporation's capital structure.

The value of a convertible security is a function of (1) its yield in comparison with the yields of other securities of comparable maturity and quality that do not have a conversion privilege and (2) its worth, at market value, if converted or exchanged into the underlying common stock. The price of a convertible security often reflects variations in the price of the underlying common stock in a way that nonconvertible debt does not. A convertible security may be subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a price established in the convertible security's governing instrument, which may be less than the ultimate conversion or exchange value. If a convertible security held by the Fund is called for redemption, the Fund will be required to (1) permit the issuer to redeem the security (2) convert it into the underlying common stock or (3) sell it to a third party.

Many convertible securities are rated below investment grade or, if unrated, are considered of comparable quality by the Advisor. Moody's describes securities rated "Ba" as having speculative elements and subject to substantial credit risk.

If a convertible security held by the Fund is called for redemption, the Fund will be required to convert or exchange it into the underlying common stock, sell it to a third party or permit the issuer to redeem the security. Any of these actions could have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to achieve its objective.

### **Asset-Backed Securities ("ABS") and Mortgage-Related and Mortgage-Backed Securities ("MBS")**

The Fund may purchase asset-backed, mortgage-related and MBS. MBS, including collateralized mortgage obligations ("CMOs") and certain stripped MBS, represent a participation in, or are secured by, mortgage loans. ABS are structured like MBS, but instead of mortgage loans or interests in mortgage loans, the underlying assets may include such items as motor vehicle installment sales or installment loan contracts, leases of various types of real and personal property, receivables from credit card agreements, company receivables or other assets. The cash flow generated by the underlying assets is applied to make required payments on the securities and to pay related administrative expenses. The amount of residual cash flow resulting from a particular issue of asset-backed or MBS depends on, among other things, the characteristics of the underlying assets, the coupon rates on the securities, prevailing interest rates, the amount of administrative expenses, and the actual prepayment experience on the underlying assets. The Fund may invest in any such instruments or variations as may be developed, to the extent consistent with its investment objectives and policies and applicable regulatory requirements. In general, the collateral supporting ABS is of a shorter maturity than mortgage loans and is likely to experience substantial prepayments.

Mortgage-backed securities have yield and maturity characteristics corresponding to the underlying assets. Unlike traditional debt securities, which may pay a fixed rate of interest until maturity, when the entire principal amount comes due, payments on certain mortgage-backed securities include both interest and a partial repayment of principal. Besides the scheduled repayment of principal, repayments of principal may result from the voluntary prepayment, refinancing or foreclosure of the underlying mortgage loans. If property owners make unscheduled prepayments of their mortgage loans, these prepayments will result in early payment of the applicable mortgage-backed securities. In that event, the Fund may be unable to invest the proceeds from the early payment of the mortgage-backed securities in an investment that provides as high a yield as the MBS. Consequently, early payment associated with MBS may cause these securities to experience significantly greater price and yield volatility than that experienced by traditional fixed-income securities. The occurrence of mortgage prepayments is affected by factors including the level of interest rates, general economic conditions, the location and age of the mortgage and other social and demographic conditions. During periods of falling interest rates, the rate of mortgage prepayments tends to increase, thereby tending to decrease the life of MBS. During periods of rising interest rates, the rate of mortgage prepayments usually decreases, thereby tending to increase the life of MBS. If the life of a mortgage-backed security is inaccurately predicted, the Fund may not be able to realize the expected rate of return.

Adjustable rate mortgage securities ("ARMs"), like traditional MBS, are interests in pools of mortgage loans that provide investors with payments consisting of both principal and interest as mortgage loans in the underlying mortgage pool are paid off by the borrowers. Unlike fixed-rate MBS, ARMs are collateralized by or represent interests in mortgage loans with variable rates of interest. These interest rates are reset at periodic intervals, usually by reference to an interest rate index or market interest rate. Although the rate adjustment feature may act as a buffer to reduce sharp changes in the value of adjustable rate securities, these securities are still subject to changes in value based on, among other things, changes in market interest rates or changes in the issuer's creditworthiness. Because the interest rates are reset only periodically, changes in the interest rate on ARMs may lag changes in prevailing market interest rates. Also, some ARMs (or the underlying mortgages) are subject to caps or floors that limit the maximum change in the interest rate during a specified period or over the life of the security. As a result, changes in the interest rate on an ARM may not fully reflect changes in prevailing market interest rates during certain periods.

The Fund may also invest in hybrid ARMs, whose underlying mortgages combine fixed-rate and adjustable rate features.

Mortgage-backed and ABS are less effective than other types of securities as a means of locking in attractive long-term interest rates. One reason is the need to reinvest prepayments of principal; another is the possibility of significant unscheduled prepayments resulting from declines in interest rates. These prepayments would have to be reinvested at lower rates. The automatic interest rate adjustment feature of mortgages underlying ARMs likewise reduces the ability to lock-in attractive rates. As a result, mortgage-backed and ABS may have less potential for capital appreciation during periods of declining interest rates than other securities of comparable maturities, although they may have a similar risk of decline in market value during periods of rising interest rates. Prepayments may also significantly shorten the effective maturities of these securities, especially during periods of declining interest rates. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, a reduction in prepayments may increase the effective maturities of these securities, subjecting them to a greater risk of decline in market value in response to rising interest rates than traditional debt securities, and, therefore, potentially increasing the volatility of the Fund.

At times, some mortgage-backed and ABS will have higher than market interest rates and therefore will be purchased at a premium above their par value. Prepayments may cause losses on securities purchased at a premium.

CMOs may be issued by a U.S. Government agency or instrumentality or by a private issuer. Although payment of the principal of, and interest on, the underlying collateral securing privately issued CMOs may be guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities, these CMOs represent obligations solely of the private issuer and are not insured or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities or any other person or entity.

Prepayments could cause early retirement of CMOs. CMOs are designed to reduce the risk of prepayment for certain investors by issuing multiple classes of securities, each having different maturities, interest rates and payment schedules, and with the principal and interest on the underlying mortgages allocated among the several classes in various ways. Payment of interest or principal on some classes or series of CMOs may be subject to contingencies or some classes or series may bear some or all of the risk of default on the underlying mortgages. CMOs of different classes or series are generally retired in sequence as the underlying mortgage loans in the mortgage pool are repaid. If enough mortgages are repaid ahead of schedule, the classes or series of a CMO with the earliest maturities generally will be retired prior to their maturities. Thus, the early retirement of particular classes or series of a CMO would have the same effect as the prepayment of mortgages underlying other MBS. Conversely, slower than anticipated prepayments can extend the effective maturities of CMOs, subjecting them to a greater risk of decline in market value in response to rising interest rates than traditional debt securities, and, therefore, potentially increasing their volatility.

Subprime mortgage loans, which typically are made to less creditworthy borrowers, have a higher risk of default than conventional mortgage loans. Therefore, MBS backed by subprime mortgage loans may suffer significantly greater declines in value due to defaults or the increased risk of default.

The risks associated with other ABS (including in particular the risks of issuer default and of early prepayment) are generally similar to those described for CMOs. In addition, because ABS generally do not have the benefit of a security interest in the underlying assets comparable to a mortgage, ABS present certain additional risks that are not present with MBS. The ability of an issuer of ABS to enforce its security interest in the underlying assets may be limited. For example, revolving credit receivables are generally unsecured and the debtors on such receivables are entitled to the protection of a number of state and federal consumer credit laws, many of which give debtors the right to set-off certain amounts owed, thereby reducing the balance due. Automobile receivables generally are secured, but by automobiles, rather than by real property.

ABS may be collateralized by the fees earned by service providers. The values of ABS may be substantially dependent on the servicing of the underlying asset and are therefore subject to risks associated with the negligence or malfeasance by their servicers and to the credit risk of their servicers. In certain circumstances, the mishandling of related documentation may also affect the rights of the security holders in and to the underlying collateral. The insolvency of entities that generate receivables or that utilize the assets may result in added costs and delays in addition to losses associated with a decline in the value of the underlying assets. For the purposes of the Fund's concentration policy, ABS (a) do not represent interests in any particular "industry"; and (b) will be classified in a consistent manner deemed reasonable by the Fund.

## **Loans**

Loans are negotiated and underwritten by a bank or syndicate of banks and other institutional investors. The Fund may acquire an interest in loans through the primary market by acting as one of a group of lenders of a loan. The primary risk in an investment in loans is that the borrower may be unable to meet its interest and/or principal payment obligations. The occurrence of such a default with regard to a loan in which the Fund had invested would have an adverse effect on the Fund's NAV. In addition, a sudden and significant increase in market interest rates may cause a decline in the value of these investments and in the Fund's NAV. Other factors, such as rating downgrades, credit deterioration, or large downward movement in stock prices, a disparity in supply and demand of certain securities or market conditions that reduce liquidity could reduce the value of loans, impairing the Fund's NAV. Loans in which the Fund may invest may be collateralized or uncollateralized and senior or subordinate. Investments in

uncollateralized and/or subordinate loans entail a greater risk of nonpayment than do investments in loans which hold a more senior position in the borrower's capital structure or that are secured with collateral.

In the case of collateralized senior loans, however, there is no assurance that sale of the collateral would raise enough cash to satisfy the borrower's payment obligation or that the collateral can or will be liquidated. As a result, the Fund might not receive payments to which it is entitled and thereby may experience a decline in the value of its investment and its NAV. In the event of bankruptcy, liquidation may not occur and the court may not give lenders the full benefit of their senior positions. If the terms of a senior loan do not require the borrower to pledge additional collateral, the Fund will be exposed to the risk that the value of the collateral will not at all times equal or exceed the amount of the borrower's obligations under the senior loans. To the extent that a senior loan is collateralized by stock in the borrower or its subsidiaries, such stock may lose all of its value in the event of bankruptcy of the borrower.

The Fund may also acquire an interest in loans by purchasing participations ("Participations") in and/or assignments ("Assignments") of portions of loans from third parties. By purchasing a Participation, the Fund acquires some or all of the interest of a bank or other lending institution in a loan to a borrower. Participations typically will result in the Fund's having a contractual relationship only with the lender and not the borrower. The Fund will have the right to receive payments or principal, interest and any fees to which it is entitled only from the lender selling the Participation and only upon receipt by the lender of the payments from the borrower. In connection with purchasing Participations, the Fund generally will have no right to enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement relating to the loan, nor any rights of set-off against the borrower, and the Fund may not directly benefit from any collateral supporting the loan in which it has purchased the Participation. As a result, the Fund will assume the credit risk of both the borrower and the lender that is selling the Participation.

When the Fund purchases Assignments from lenders, the Fund will acquire direct rights against the borrower on the loan. However, since Assignments are arranged through private negotiations between potential assignees and assignors, the rights and obligations acquired by the Fund as the purchaser of an Assignment may differ from, and be more limited than, those held by the lender from which the Fund is purchasing the Assignments.

Certain of the Participations or Assignments acquired by the Fund may involve unfunded commitments of the lenders or revolving credit facilities under which a borrower may from time to time borrow and repay amounts up to the maximum amount of the facility. In such cases, the Fund would have an obligation to advance its portion of such additional borrowings upon the terms specified in the loan documentation.

The Fund may acquire loans of borrowers that are experiencing, or are more likely to experience, financial difficulty, including loans of borrowers that have filed for bankruptcy protection. Although loans in which the Fund will invest generally will be secured by specific collateral, there can be no assurance that liquidation of such collateral would satisfy the borrower's obligation in the event of nonpayment of scheduled interest or principal, or that such collateral could be readily liquidated. In the event of bankruptcy of a borrower, the Fund could experience delays or limitations with respect to its ability to realize the benefits of the collateral securing a senior loan.

In addition, the Fund may have difficulty disposing of its investments in loans. The liquidity of such securities is limited and the Fund anticipates that such securities could be sold only to a limited number of institutional investors. The lack of a liquid secondary market could have an adverse impact on the value of such securities and on the Fund's ability to dispose of particular loans or Assignments or Participations when necessary to meet the Fund's liquidity needs or in response to a specific economic event, such as a deterioration in the creditworthiness of the borrower. The lack of a liquid secondary market for loans also may make it more difficult for the Fund to assign a value to those securities for purposes of valuing the Fund's investments and calculating its NAV.

### **Structured Notes and Related Instruments**

"Structured" notes and other related instruments are privately negotiated debt obligations where the principal and/or interest is determined by reference to the performance of a benchmark asset, market or interest rate (an "embedded index"), such as selected securities, an index of securities or specified interest rates, or the differential performance of two assets or markets, such as indexes reflecting bonds. Structured instruments may be issued by corporations, including banks, as well as by governmental agencies and frequently are assembled in the form of medium-term notes, but a variety of forms is available and may be used in particular circumstances. The terms of such structured instruments normally provide that their principal and/or interest payments are to be adjusted upwards or downwards (but ordinarily not below zero) to reflect changes in the embedded index while the instruments are outstanding. As a result, the interest and/or principal payments that may be made on a structured product may vary widely, depending on a variety of factors, including the volatility of the embedded index and the effect of changes in the embedded index on principal and/or interest payments. The rate of return on structured notes may be determined by applying a multiplier to the performance or differential performance of the referenced index(es) or other asset(s). Application of a multiplier involves leverage that will serve to magnify the potential for gain and the risk of loss. Investment in indexed securities and structured notes involves certain risks, including the credit risk of the issuer and the normal risks of price changes in response to changes in interest rates. Further, in the case

of certain indexed securities or structured notes, a decline in the reference instrument may cause the interest rate to be reduced to zero, and any further declines in the reference instrument may then reduce the principal amount payable on maturity. Finally, these securities may be less liquid than other types of securities, and may be more volatile than their underlying reference instruments.

### **Stripped Securities**

The Fund may invest in stripped securities. Stripped securities are created by separating bonds into their principal and interest components (commonly referred to as “IOs” and “POs”) and selling each piece separately. Stripped securities are more volatile than other fixed income securities in their response to changes in market interest rates. The value of some stripped securities moves in the same direction as interest rates, further increasing their volatility.

### **Zero Coupon Bonds**

Corporate debt securities and municipal obligations include so-called “zero coupon” bonds. Zero coupon bonds are issued at a significant discount from their principal amount in lieu of paying interest periodically. The value of these types of bonds is subject to greater fluctuation in response to changes in market interest rates than bonds which make regular payments of interest. These types of bonds allow an issuer to avoid the need to generate cash to meet current interest payments. Accordingly, such bonds may involve greater credit risks than bonds which make regular payments of interest. Even though these type of bonds do not pay current interest in cash, the Fund is required to accrue interest income on such investments and may be required to distribute that income at least annually to shareholders. Thus, the Fund could be required at times to liquidate other investments in order to satisfy its dividend requirements.

### **Securities of Other Investment Companies**

The Fund may invest in the securities of other investment companies, including open-end mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, closed-end funds (including, business development companies (“BDCs”)), unit investment trusts, private investment companies and offshore investment companies. An investment in an investment company involves risks similar to those of investing directly in the investment company’s portfolio securities, including the risk that the value of the portfolio securities may fluctuate in accordance with changes in the financial condition of their issuers, the value of stocks and other securities generally, and other market factors.

In addition, investing in the securities of other investment companies involves certain other risks, costs and expenses for the Fund. If the Fund invests in another investment company, the Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of the advisory fees and other operating expenses of such investment company, which are in addition to the advisory fees and other operational expenses incurred by the Fund. In addition, the Fund could incur a sales charge in connection with purchasing an investment company security or a redemption fee upon the redemption of such security. An investment in the shares of a closed-end investment company, including a BDC, may also involve the payment of a substantial premium over, while sales of such shares may be made at a substantial discount from, the NAV of the fund’s assets. BDCs are publicly-traded mezzanine/private equity funds that typically invest in and lend to small and medium-sized private companies that may not have access to public equity markets for capital raising. BDCs invest in such diverse industries as health care, chemical and manufacturing, technology and service companies. BDCs are unique in that at least 70% of their investments must be made in private and certain public U.S. businesses, and BDCs are required to make available significant managerial assistance to their portfolio companies. BDCs carry risks similar to those of a private equity or venture capital fund. BDCs are not redeemable at the option of the shareholder and they may trade in the market at a discount to their net asset value. BDCs may employ the use of leverage in their portfolios through borrowings or the issuance of preferred stock. While leverage often serves to increase the yield of a BDC, this leverage also subjects a BDC to increased risks, including the likelihood of increased volatility and the possibility that a BDC’s common share income will fall if the dividend rate of the preferred shares or the interest rate on any borrowings rises. Closed-end investment companies and BDCs are not taxed on income distributed to their shareholders, provided they comply with the applicable requirements of the Code, and often offer a yield advantage over other types of securities. Shares of closed-end investment companies are traded on exchanges and may trade at either a premium or discount to net asset value. The Fund will pay brokerage commissions in connection with the purchase and sale of shares of closed-end investment companies.

The Fund may also invest in the securities of private investment companies, including “hedge funds” and “private equity funds,” subject to the Fund’s non-fundamental policy prohibiting it from purchasing or otherwise acquiring such securities if, as a result, more than 15% of its net assets would be invested in securities that are illiquid. As with investments in other investment companies, if the Fund invests in a private investment company, the Fund will be charged its proportionate share of the advisory fees including incentive compensation and other operating expenses of such company. These fees, which can be substantial, would be in addition to the advisory fees and other operating expenses incurred by the Fund. In addition, private investment companies are not registered with the SEC and may not be registered with any other regulatory authority. Accordingly, they are not subject to certain regulatory requirements and oversight to which registered issuers are subject. There may be very little public information available about their investments and performance. Moreover, because sales of shares of private investment companies are generally restricted to certain qualified purchasers, such shares may be illiquid and it could be difficult for the Fund to sell its shares at an advantageous price and

time. Finally, because shares of private investment companies are not publicly traded, a fair value for the Fund's investment in these companies typically will have to be determined under policies approved by the Board.

Section 12(d)(1)(A) of the 1940 Act normally prohibits a fund from purchasing (1) more than 3% of the total outstanding voting stock of another fund; (2) securities of another fund having an aggregate value in excess of 5% of the value of the acquiring fund; and (3) securities of the other fund and all other funds having an aggregate value in excess of 10% of the value of the total assets of the acquiring fund. Subject to certain conditions, there are exceptions to these limitations provided by the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder as well as by exemptive relief granted by the SEC.

The Fund will invest in the securities of other investment companies, including private investment companies, when, in the Advisor's judgment, the potential benefits of the investment justify the expense and risk of investing in such investment companies.

### **Securities of Exchange-Traded Funds**

Shares of ETFs are traded on an exchange and hold a portfolio of securities or other financial instruments (the "Underlying Assets"). The Underlying Assets are typically selected to correspond to the securities that comprise a particular broad based sector or international index, or to provide exposure to a particular industry sector or asset class. "Short ETFs" seek a return similar to the inverse, or a multiple of the inverse, of a reference index. Short ETFs carry additional risks because their Underlying Assets may include a variety of financial instruments, including futures and options on futures, options on securities and securities indexes, swap agreements and forward contracts, and may engage in short sales. An ETF's losses on short sales are potentially unlimited; however, the Fund's risk would be limited to the amount it invested in the ETF.

Unlike shares of typical mutual funds or unit investment trusts, shares of ETFs are designed to be traded throughout the trading day, bought and sold based on market prices rather than NAV. Shares can trade at either a premium or discount to NAV. The portfolios held by ETFs are publicly disclosed on each trading day and an approximation of actual NAV is disseminated throughout the trading day. Because of this transparency, the trading prices of ETFs tend to closely track the actual NAV of the Underlying Assets and the Fund will generally gain or lose value depending on the performance of the Underlying Assets. In the future, as new products become available, the Fund may invest in ETFs that do not have this same level of transparency and, therefore, may be more likely to trade at a larger discount or premium to actual NAVs. Gains or losses on the Fund's investment in ETFs will ultimately depend on the purchase and sale price of the ETF. An active trading market for an ETF's shares may not develop or be maintained and trading of an ETF's shares may be halted if the listing exchange's officials deem such action appropriate, the shares are delisted from the exchange or the activation of market-wide "circuit breakers" (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) halts stock trading generally.

An investment in an ETF involves risks similar to investing directly in the Underlying Assets, including the risk that the value of the Underlying Assets may fluctuate in accordance with changes in the financial condition of their issuers, the value of securities and other financial instruments generally, and other market factors.

The performance of an ETF will be reduced by transaction and other expenses, including fees paid by the ETF to service providers. Investors in ETFs are eligible to receive their portion of income, if any, accumulated on the securities held in the portfolio, less fees and expenses of the ETF.

If an ETF is a registered investment company (as defined in the 1940 Act), the limitations applicable to the Fund's ability to purchase securities issued by other investment companies will apply.

### **Real Estate Investment Trusts**

The Fund may invest in U.S. REITs. REITs pool investors' funds for investment primarily in income producing real estate or real estate related loans or interests. An entity qualifying as a REIT under the Code generally is not subject to U.S. federal income tax on net income and gains it distributes to its shareholders if it complies with several requirements relating to its organization, ownership, assets and income and a requirement that it generally distribute to its shareholders at least 90% of its taxable income (other than net capital gain) for each taxable year. REITs can generally be classified as equity REITs, mortgage REITs and hybrid REITs. Equity REITs, which invest the majority of their assets directly in real property, derive their income primarily from rents. Equity REITs can also realize capital gains by selling properties that have appreciated in value. Mortgage REITs, which invest the majority of their assets in real estate mortgages, derive their income primarily from interest payments. Hybrid REITs combine the characteristics of both equity REITs and mortgage REITs.

While the Fund will not invest in real estate directly, to the extent it invests in equity or hybrid REITs it may be subject to risks similar to those associated with the direct ownership of real estate. These risks include declines in the value of real estate, risks related to general and local economic conditions, dependency on management skill, heavy cash flow dependency, possible lack of availability of mortgage funds, overbuilding, extended vacancies of properties, increased competition, increases in property taxes and operating expenses, changes in zoning laws, losses due to costs resulting from the clean-up of environmental problems, liability to third parties for damages resulting from environmental problems, casualty or condemnation losses, limitations on rents, changes in neighborhood values and in the appeal of properties to tenants and changes in interest rates.

REITs (especially mortgage REITs) are subject to interest rate risk. Rising interest rates may cause REIT investors to demand a higher annual yield, which may, in turn, cause a decline in the market price of the equity securities issued by a REIT. Rising interest rates also generally increase the costs of obtaining financing, which could cause the value of the Fund's REIT investments to decline. During periods when interest rates are declining, mortgages are often refinanced. Refinancing may reduce the yield on investments in mortgage REITs. In addition, since REITs depend on payment under their mortgage loans and leases to generate cash to make distributions to their shareholders, investments in REITs may be adversely affected by defaults on such mortgage loans or leases.

In addition to these risks, REITs may be affected by changes in the value of the underlying property owned by the trusts or by the quality of any credit they extend. Further, REITs are dependent upon management skills and generally may not be diversified. REITs are also subject to heavy cash flow dependency, defaults by borrowers and self-liquidation. In addition, REITs could possibly fail to maintain their exemptions from registration under the 1940 Act and U.S. REITs could possibly fail to qualify for the favorable U.S. federal income tax treatment generally available to REITs under the Code. The above factors may also adversely affect a borrower's or a lessee's ability to meet its obligations to the REIT. In the event of a default by a borrower or lessee, the REIT may experience delays in enforcing its rights as a mortgagee or lessor and may incur substantial costs associated with protecting its investments. In addition to the foregoing risks, certain "special purpose" REITs in which the Fund invests may invest their assets in specific real estate sectors, such as hotels, nursing homes or warehouses, and are therefore subject to the risks associated with adverse developments in any such sectors.

It is not uncommon for REITs, after the end of their taxable years, to change the characterization of the net income and gains they have distributed during the preceding year. If this happens, the Fund could be required to issue revised notices to its shareholders changing the character of the Fund's distributions.

The Fund may invest wholly or partially in REITs by investing in ETFs that invest in REITs.

### **Short Sales**

A short sale is effected when it is believed that the price of a particular security will decline, and involves the sale of a security which the Fund does not own in the hope of purchasing the same security at a later date at a lower price. There can be no assurance that the Fund will be able to close out a short position (*i.e.*, purchase the same security) at any particular time or at an acceptable or advantageous price. To make delivery to the buyer, the Fund must borrow the security from a broker/dealer through which the short sale is executed, and the broker/dealer delivers the security, on behalf of the Fund, to the buyer. The broker/dealer is entitled to retain the proceeds from the short sale until the Fund delivers to such broker/dealer the security sold short. In addition, the Fund is required to pay to the broker/dealer the amount of any dividends or interest paid on shares sold short.

The Fund may also enter into a short position through a short derivative position using a futures contract or swap agreement. Using this investment technique subjects the Fund to the same risks and cover requirements as short sales.

The Fund is said to have a short position in the securities sold until it delivers to the broker/dealer the securities sold, at which time the Fund receives the proceeds of the sale. The Fund will normally close out a short position by purchasing on the open market and delivering to the broker/dealer an equal amount of the securities sold short.

The Fund will realize a gain if the price of a security declines between the date of the short sale and the date on which the Fund purchases a security to replace the borrowed security. On the other hand, the Fund will incur a loss if the price of the security increases between those dates. The amount of any gain will be decreased and the amount of any loss increased by any premium or interest that the Fund may be required to pay in connection with a short sale. It should be noted that possible losses from short sales differ from those that could arise from a cash investment in a security in that losses from a short sale may be limitless, while the losses from a cash investment in a security cannot exceed the total amount of the investment in the security.

There is also a risk that a borrowed security will need to be returned to the broker/dealer on short notice. If the request for the return of a security occurs at a time when other short sellers of the security are receiving similar requests, a "short squeeze" can occur, meaning that the Fund might be compelled, at the most disadvantageous time, to replace the borrowed security with a security purchased on the open market, possibly at prices significantly in excess of the proceeds received earlier.

The Fund may also hold short positions "against the box," meaning that at all times when a short position is open the Fund owns an equal amount of such securities or securities convertible into or exchangeable, without payment of further consideration, for securities of the same issue as, and in an amount equal to, the securities sold short. Short positions "against the box" result in a "constructive sale" and require the Fund to recognize any gain unless an exception to the constructive sale rule applies.

The Fund's ability to engage in short sales may be impaired by temporary prohibitions on short selling that may be imposed by domestic and/or foreign government regulators.

## Financial Instruments

*General.* The Fund may utilize options, futures contracts (sometimes referred to as “futures”), options on futures contracts, forward contracts, swaps, caps, floors, collars, indexed securities, various mortgage-related obligations, structured or synthetic financial instruments and other derivative instruments (collectively, “Financial Instruments”). The Fund may use Financial Instruments for any purpose, including as a substitute for other investments, to attempt to enhance its portfolio’s return or yield and to alter the investment characteristics of its portfolio (including to attempt to mitigate risk of loss in some fashion, or “hedge”). Except as otherwise provided in the Prospectus, this SAI or by applicable law, the Fund may purchase and sell any type of Financial Instrument. The Fund may choose not to make use of derivatives for a variety of reasons, and no assurance can be given that any derivatives strategy employed will be successful.

Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act governs the Fund's use of derivative instruments and certain other transactions that create future payment and/or delivery obligations by the Fund. Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act permits the Fund to enter into Derivatives Transactions (as defined below) and certain other transactions notwithstanding the restrictions on the issuance of “senior securities” under Section 18 of the 1940 Act. Section 18 of the 1940 Act, among other things, prohibits open-end funds, including the Fund, from issuing or selling any “senior security,” other than borrowing from a bank (subject to a requirement to maintain 300% “asset coverage”).

Under Rule 18f-4, “Derivatives Transactions” include the following: (1) any swap, security-based swap (including a contract for differences), futures contract, forward contract, option (excluding purchased options), any combination of the foregoing, or any similar instrument, under which the Fund is or may be required to make any payment or delivery of cash or other assets during the life of the instrument or at maturity or early termination, whether as margin or settlement payment or otherwise; (2) any short sale borrowing; (3) reverse repurchase agreements and similar financing transactions (e.g., recourse and non-recourse tender option bonds, and borrowed bonds), if the Fund elects to treat these transactions as Derivatives Transactions under Rule 18f-4; and (4) when-issued or forward-settling securities (e.g., firm and standby commitments, including to-be-announced (“TBA”) commitments, and dollar rolls) and non-standard settlement cycle securities, unless the Fund intends to physically settle the transaction and the transaction will settle within 35 days of its trade date.

Unless the Fund is relying on the Limited Derivatives User Exception (as defined below), the Fund must comply with Rule 18f-4 with respect to its Derivatives Transactions. Rule 18f-4, among other things, requires the Fund adopt and implement a comprehensive written derivatives risk management program (“DRMP”) and comply with a relative or absolute limit on Fund leverage risk calculated based on value-at-risk (“VaR”). The DRMP is administered by a “derivatives risk manager,” who is appointed by the Fund's Board, including a majority of Independent Trustees, and periodically reviews the DRMP and reports to the Board.

Rule 18f-4 provides an exception from the DRMP, VaR limit and certain other requirements if the Fund's “derivatives exposure” (as defined in Rule 18f-4) is limited to 10% of its net assets (as calculated in accordance with Rule 18f-4) and the Fund adopts and implements written policies and procedures reasonably designed to manage its derivatives risks (the “Limited Derivatives User Exception”).

The requirements of Rule 18f-4 may limit the Fund's ability to engage in derivatives transactions as part of its investment strategies. These requirements may also increase the cost of the Fund's investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect the value of the Fund's investments and/or the performance of the Fund. The rule also may not be effective to limit the Fund's risk of loss. In particular, measurements of value at risk rely on historical data and may not accurately measure the degree of risk reflected in the Fund's derivatives or other investments. There may be additional regulation of the use of derivatives by registered investment companies, such as the Fund, which could significantly affect their use. Additional regulation of derivatives may make them more costly, limit their availability or utility, or otherwise adversely affect their performance or disrupt markets.

The use of Financial Instruments may be limited by applicable law and any applicable regulations of the SEC, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “CFTC”), or the exchanges on which some Financial Instruments may be traded. (Note, however, that some Financial Instruments that the Fund may use may not be listed on any exchange and may not be regulated by the SEC or the CFTC.) In addition, the Fund’s ability to use Financial Instruments may be limited by tax considerations.

In addition to the instruments and strategies discussed in this section, the Advisor may discover additional opportunities in connection with Financial Instruments and other similar or related techniques. These opportunities may become available as the Advisor develops new techniques, as regulatory authorities change the types of permitted transactions and as new Financial Instruments or other techniques are developed. The Advisor may utilize these opportunities and techniques to the extent that they are consistent with the Fund’s investment objective and permitted by its investment limitations and applicable regulatory authorities. These opportunities and techniques may involve risks different from or in addition to those summarized herein.

This discussion is not intended to limit the Fund’s investment flexibility, unless such a limitation is expressly stated, and therefore will be construed by the Fund as broadly as possible. Statements concerning what the Fund may do are not intended to limit any other

activity. Also, as with any investment or investment technique, even when the Prospectus or this discussion indicates that the Fund may engage in an activity, it may not actually do so for a variety of reasons, including cost considerations.

*Summary of Certain Risks.* The use of Financial Instruments involves special considerations and risks, certain of which are summarized below, and may result in losses to the Fund. In general, the use of Financial Instruments may increase the volatility of the Fund and may involve a small investment of cash relative to the magnitude of the risk or exposure assumed. Even a small investment in derivatives may magnify or otherwise increase investment losses to the Fund. As noted above, there can be no assurance that any derivatives strategy will succeed.

- Financial Instruments are subject to the risk that the market value of the derivative itself or the market value of underlying instruments will change in a way adverse to the Fund's interest. Many Financial Instruments are complex, and successful use of them depends in part upon the Advisor's ability to forecast correctly future market trends and other financial or economic factors or the value of the underlying security, index, interest rate or, currency or other instrument or measure. Even if the Advisor's forecasts are correct, other factors may cause distortions or dislocations in the markets that result in unsuccessful transactions. Financial Instruments may behave in unexpected ways, especially in abnormal or volatile market conditions.
- The Fund's ability to close out or unwind a position in a Financial Instrument prior to expiration or maturity depends on the existence of a liquid market or, in the absence of such a market, the ability and willingness of the other party to the transaction (the "counterparty") to enter into a transaction closing out the position. If there is no market or the Fund is not successful in its negotiations, the Fund may not be able to sell or unwind the derivative position at a particular time or at an anticipated price. This may also be the case if the counterparty to the Financial Instrument becomes insolvent. The Fund may be required to make delivery of portfolio securities or other assets underlying a Financial Instrument in order to close out a position or to sell portfolio securities or assets at a disadvantageous time or price in order to obtain cash to close out the position. While the position remains open, the Fund continues to be subject to investment risk on the Financial Instrument. The Fund may or may not be able to take other actions or enter into other transactions, including hedging transactions, to limit or reduce its exposure to the Financial Instrument.
- Certain Financial Instruments transactions may have a leveraging effect on the Fund, and adverse changes in the value of the underlying security, index, interest rate, currency or other instrument or measure can result in losses substantially greater than the amount invested in the Financial Instrument itself. When the Fund engages in transactions that have a leveraging effect, the value of the Fund is likely to be more volatile and all other risks also are likely to be compounded. This is because leverage generally magnifies the effect of any increase or decrease in the value of an asset and creates investment risk with respect to a larger pool of assets than the Fund would otherwise have. Certain Financial Instruments have the potential for unlimited loss, regardless of the size of the initial investment.
- Many Financial Instruments may be difficult to value, which may result in increased payment requirements to counterparties or a loss of value to the Fund.
- Liquidity risk exists when a particular Financial Instrument is difficult to purchase or sell. If a derivative transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid, the Fund may be unable to initiate a transaction or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price. Certain Financial Instruments, including certain over-the-counter ("OTC") options and swaps, may be considered illiquid and therefore subject to the Fund's limitation on illiquid investments.
- In a hedging transaction there may be imperfect correlation, or even no correlation, between the identity, price or price movements of a Financial Instrument and the identity, price or price movements of the investments being hedged. This lack of correlation may cause the hedge to be unsuccessful and may result in the Fund incurring substantial losses and/or not achieving anticipated gains. Even if the strategy works as intended, the Fund might have been in a better position had it not attempted to hedge at all.
- Financial Instruments used for non-hedging purposes may result in losses which would not be offset by increases in the value of portfolio holdings or declines in the cost of securities or other assets to be acquired. In the event that the Fund uses a Financial Instrument as an alternative to purchasing or selling other investments or in order to obtain desired exposure to an index or market, the Fund will be exposed to the same risks as are incurred in purchasing or selling the other investments directly, as well as the risks of the transaction itself.
- Certain Financial Instruments involve the risk of loss resulting from the insolvency or bankruptcy of the counterparty or the failure by the counterparty to make required payments or otherwise comply with the terms of the contract. In the event of default by a counterparty, the Fund may have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction, which may be limited by applicable law in the case of the counterparty's bankruptcy.
- Financial Instruments involve operational risk. There may be incomplete or erroneous documentation or inadequate collateral or margin, or transactions may fail to settle. For Financial Instruments not guaranteed by an exchange or clearinghouse, the

Fund may have only contractual remedies in the event of a counterparty default, and there may be delays, costs or disagreements as to the meaning of contractual terms and litigation in enforcing those remedies.

- Certain Financial Instruments transactions, including certain options, swaps, forward contracts, and certain options on foreign currencies, are entered into directly by the counterparties or through financial institutions acting as market makers (OTC derivatives), rather than being traded on exchanges or in markets registered with the CFTC or the SEC. Many of the protections afforded to exchange participants will not be available to participants in OTC derivatives transactions. For example, OTC derivatives transactions are not subject to the guarantee of an exchange, and only OTC derivatives that are either required to be cleared or submitted voluntarily for clearing to a clearinghouse will enjoy the protections that central clearing provides against default by the original counterparty to the trade. In an OTC derivatives transaction that is not cleared, the Fund bears the risk of default by its counterparty. In a cleared derivatives transaction, the Fund is instead exposed to the risk of default of the clearinghouse and the risk of default of the broker through which it has entered into the transaction. Information available on counterparty creditworthiness may be incomplete or outdated, thus reducing the ability to anticipate counterparty defaults.
- Financial Instruments transactions conducted outside the United States may not be conducted in the same manner as those entered into on U.S. exchanges, and may be subject to different margin, exercise, settlement or expiration procedures. Many of the risks of OTC derivatives transactions are also applicable to Financial Instruments used outside the United States. Financial Instruments used outside the United States also are subject to the risks affecting foreign securities, currencies and other instruments.
- Financial Instruments involving currency are subject to additional risks. Currency related transactions may be negatively affected by government exchange controls, blockages, and manipulations. Exchange rates may be influenced by factors extrinsic to a country's economy. Also, there is no systematic reporting of last sale information with respect to foreign currencies. As a result, the information on which trading in currency derivatives is based may not be as complete as, and may be delayed beyond, comparable data for other transactions.
- Use of Financial Instruments involves transaction costs, which may be significant. Use of Financial Instruments also may increase the amount of taxable income to shareholders.

*Financial Instruments and Hedging.* The Fund may use Financial Instruments for hedging purposes. Hedging strategies can be broadly categorized as “short hedges” and “long hedges.” A short hedge is a purchase or sale of a Financial Instrument intended partially or fully to offset potential declines in the value of one or more investments held in the Fund's portfolio. Thus, in a short hedge the Fund takes a position in a Financial Instrument whose price is expected to move in the opposite direction of the price of the investment being hedged.

Conversely, a long hedge is a purchase or sale of a Financial Instrument intended partially or fully to offset potential increases in the acquisition cost of one or more investments that the Fund intends to acquire. Thus, in a long hedge, the Fund takes a position in a Financial Instrument whose price is expected to move in the same direction as the price of the prospective investment being hedged. A long hedge is sometimes referred to as an anticipatory hedge. In an anticipatory hedge transaction, the Fund does not own a corresponding security and, therefore, the transaction does not relate to a security the Fund owns. Rather, it relates to a security that the Fund intends to acquire. If the Fund does not complete the hedge by purchasing the security it anticipated purchasing, the effect on the Fund's portfolio is the same as if the transaction were entered into for speculative purposes.

Financial Instruments on securities generally are used to attempt to hedge against price movements in one or more particular securities positions that the Fund owns or intends to acquire. Financial Instruments on indices, in contrast, generally are used to attempt to hedge against price movements in market sectors in which the Fund has invested or expects to invest. Financial Instruments on debt securities may be used to hedge either individual securities or broad debt market sectors.

*Special Risks.* The use of Financial Instruments involves special considerations and risks, certain of which are described below. In general, these techniques may increase the volatility of the Fund and may involve a small investment of cash relative to the magnitude of the risk assumed. Risks pertaining to particular Financial Instruments are described in the sections that follow.

1) Successful use of most Financial Instruments depends upon the Advisor's ability to predict movements of the overall securities, currency and interest rate markets, which requires different skills than predicting changes in the prices of individual securities. There can be no assurance that any particular strategy will succeed, and use of Financial Instruments could result in a loss, regardless of whether the intent was to reduce risk or increase return.

2) When Financial Instruments are used for hedging purposes, there might be an imperfect correlation, or even no correlation, between price movements of a Financial Instrument and price movements of the investments being hedged. For example, if the value of a Financial Instrument used in a short hedge increased by less than the decline in value of the hedged investment, the hedge would not be fully successful. Such a lack of correlation might occur due to factors unrelated to the value of the investments being hedged,

such as speculative or other pressures on the markets in which Financial Instruments are traded. The effectiveness of hedges using Financial Instruments on indices will depend on the degree of correlation between price movements in the index and price movements in the securities or other assets being hedged.

Because there are a limited number of types of exchange-traded Financial Instruments, it is likely that the standardized contracts available will not match the Fund's current or anticipated investments exactly. The Fund may invest in Financial Instruments based on securities with different issuers, maturities or other characteristics from the securities in which it typically invests, which involves a risk that the position in Financial Instruments will not track the performance of the Fund's other investments.

Prices of Financial Instruments can also diverge from the prices of their underlying instruments, even if the underlying instruments match the Fund's investments well. Prices of Financial Instruments are affected by such factors as current and anticipated short-term interest rates, changes in volatility of the underlying instrument and the time remaining until expiration of the contract, which may not affect security prices the same way. Imperfect correlation may also result from differing levels of demand in the markets for Financial Instruments and the securities markets, from structural differences in how Financial Instruments and securities are traded, or from the imposition of daily price fluctuation limits or trading halts. The Fund may purchase or sell Financial Instruments with a greater or lesser value than the securities it wishes to hedge or intends to purchase in order to attempt to compensate for differences in volatility between the contract and the securities, although this may not be successful in all cases. If price changes in the Fund's positions in Financial Instruments are poorly correlated with its other investments, the positions may fail to produce anticipated gains or result in losses that are not offset by gains in other investments.

3) If successful, the above-discussed hedging strategies can reduce risk of loss by wholly or partially offsetting the negative effect of unfavorable price movements. However, such strategies can also reduce opportunity for gain by offsetting the positive effect of favorable price movements. For example, if the Fund entered into a short hedge because its Advisor projected a decline in the price of a security in the Fund's portfolio, and the price of that security increased instead, the gain from that increase might be wholly or partially offset by a decline in the price of the Financial Instrument. Moreover, if the price of the Financial Instrument declined by more than the increase in the price of the security, the Fund could suffer a loss. In either such case, the Fund would have been in a better position had it not attempted to hedge at all.

The Fund's ability to close out a position in a Financial Instrument prior to expiration or maturity depends on the existence of a liquid secondary market or, in the absence of such a market, the ability and willingness of the other party to the transaction (the "counterparty") to enter into a transaction closing out the position. Therefore, there is no assurance that any position can be closed out at a time and price that is favorable to the Fund.

*Cover.* Transactions using Financial Instruments, other than purchased options, expose the Fund to an obligation to another party. The Fund will not enter into any such transactions unless it owns an offsetting ("covering") position in securities, currencies or other options, futures contracts or forward contracts.

Assets used as cover cannot be sold while the position in the corresponding Financial Instrument is open, unless they are replaced with other appropriate assets. As a result, the commitment of a large portion of the Fund's assets for cover could impede portfolio management or the Fund's ability to meet redemption requests or other current obligations.

## **Options**

A call option gives the purchaser the right to buy, and obligates the writer to sell, the underlying investment at the agreed-upon price during the option period. A put option gives the purchaser the right to sell, and obligates the writer to buy, the underlying investment at the agreed-upon price during the option period. Purchasers of options pay an amount, known as a premium, to the option writer in exchange for the right under the option contract.

The purchase of call options can serve as a long hedge, and the purchase of put options can serve as a short hedge. Writing put or call options can enable the Fund to enhance income or yield by reason of the premiums paid by the purchasers of such options. However, the Fund may also suffer a loss as the result of writing options. For example, if the market price of the security underlying a put option declines to less than the exercise price of the option, minus the premium received, the Fund would suffer a loss.

Writing call options can serve as a limited short hedge, because declines in the value of the hedged investment would be offset to the extent of the premium received for writing the option. However, if the security or currency appreciates to a price higher than the exercise price of the call option, it can be expected that the option will be exercised and the Fund will be obligated to sell the security or currency at less than its market value. If the call option is an OTC option, the securities or other assets used as cover may be considered illiquid.

Writing put options can serve as a limited long hedge because increases in the value of the hedged investment would be offset to the extent of the premium received for writing the option. However, if the security or currency depreciates to a price lower than the exercise price of the put option, it can be expected that the put option will be exercised and the Fund will be obligated to purchase the

security or currency at more than its market value. If the put option is an OTC option, the securities or other assets used as cover may be considered illiquid.

The value of an option position will reflect, among other things, the current market value of the underlying investment, the time remaining until expiration, the relationship of the exercise price to the market price of the underlying investment, the historical price volatility of the underlying investment and general market conditions. The exercise price of the options may be below, equal to or above the current market value of the underlying security or other instrument. Options that expire unexercised have no value, and the Fund will realize a loss in the amount of the premium paid and any transaction costs.

The Fund may effectively terminate its right or obligation under an option by entering into a closing transaction. For example, the Fund may terminate its obligation under a call or put option that it had written by purchasing an identical call or put option; this is known as a closing purchase transaction. Conversely, the Fund may terminate a position in a put or call option it had purchased by writing an identical put or call option; this is known as a closing sale transaction. Closing transactions permit the Fund to realize profits or limit losses on an option position prior to its exercise or expiration.

A type of put that the Fund may purchase is an “optional delivery standby commitment,” which is entered into by parties selling debt securities to the Fund. An optional delivery standby commitment gives the Fund the right to sell the security back to the seller on specified terms. This right is provided as an inducement to purchase the security.

The Fund may purchase and write covered straddles on securities, currencies or bond indices. A long straddle is a combination of a call and a put option purchased on the same security, index or currency where the exercise price of the put is less than or equal to the exercise price of the call. The Fund would enter into a long straddle when its Advisor believes that it is likely that interest rates or currency exchange rates will be more volatile during the term of the options than the option pricing implies. A short straddle is a combination of a call and a put written on the same security, index or currency where the exercise price of the put is less than or equal to the exercise price of the call. In a covered short straddle, the same issue of security or currency is considered cover for both the put and the call that the Fund has written. The Fund would enter into a short straddle when the Advisor believes that it is unlikely that interest rates or currency exchange rates will be as volatile during the term of the options as the option pricing implies. In such cases, the Fund will appropriate liquid securities equivalent in value to the amount, if any, by which the put is “in-the-money,” that is, the amount by which the exercise price of the put exceeds the current market value of the underlying security. Straddles involving currencies are subject to the same risks as other foreign currency options.

*Risks of Options on Securities.* Options offer large amounts of leverage, which will result in the Fund’s NAV being more sensitive to changes in the value of the related instrument. The Fund may purchase or write both exchange-traded and OTC options. Exchange-traded options in the United States are issued by a clearing organization affiliated with the exchange on which the option is listed that, in effect, guarantees completion of every exchange-traded option transaction. In contrast, OTC options are contracts between the Fund and its counterparty (usually a securities dealer or a bank) with no clearing organization guarantee. Thus, when the Fund purchases an OTC option, it relies on the counterparty from whom it purchased the option to make or take delivery of the underlying investment upon exercise of the option. Failure by the counterparty to do so would result in the loss of any premium paid by the Fund as well as the loss of any expected benefit of the transaction.

The Fund’s ability to establish and close out positions in exchange-listed options depends on the existence of a liquid market. However, there can be no assurance that such a market will exist at any particular time. Closing transactions can be made for OTC options only by negotiating directly with the counterparty, or by a transaction in the secondary market if any such market exists. There can be no assurance that the Fund will in fact be able to close out an OTC option position at a favorable price prior to expiration. In the event of insolvency of the counterparty, the Fund might be unable to close out an OTC option position at any time prior to its expiration, if at all.

If the Fund were unable to effect a closing transaction for an option it had purchased, due to the absence of a secondary market, the imposition of price limits or otherwise, it would have to exercise the option to realize any profit. The inability to enter into a closing transaction for a covered call option written by the Fund could leave the Fund unable to prevent material losses because the Fund would be unable to sell the investment used as cover for the written option until the option expires or is exercised.

*OTC Options.* Unlike exchange-traded options, which are standardized with respect to the underlying instrument, expiration date, contract size and strike price, the terms of OTC options (options not traded on exchanges) generally are established through negotiation with the other party to the option contract. While this type of arrangement allows the Fund great flexibility to tailor the option to its needs, OTC options generally involve greater risk than exchange-traded options, which are guaranteed by the clearing organization of the exchanges where they are traded. Assets used as cover for OTC options may be considered illiquid as described under “Illiquid Investments and Restricted Securities.”

European-style options are only exercisable immediately prior to their expiration. This is in contrast to American-style options, which are exercisable at any time prior to the expiration date of the option.

*Options on Indices.* Puts and calls on indices are similar to puts and calls on securities or futures contracts except that all settlements are in cash and gain or loss depends on changes in the index in question rather than on price movements in individual securities or futures contracts. When the Fund writes a call on an index, it receives a premium and agrees that, prior to the expiration date, the purchaser of the call, upon exercise of the call, will receive from the Fund an amount of cash if the closing level of the index upon which the call is based is greater than the exercise price of the call. The amount of cash is equal to the difference between the closing price of the index and the exercise price of the call times a specified multiple (“multiplier”), which determines the total dollar value for each point of such difference. When the Fund buys a call on an index, it pays a premium and has the same rights as to such call as are indicated above. When the Fund buys a put on an index, it pays a premium and has the right, prior to the expiration date, to require the seller of the put, upon the Fund’s exercise of the put, to deliver to the Fund an amount of cash if the closing level of the index upon which the put is based is less than the exercise price of the put, which amount of cash is determined by the multiplier, as described above for calls. When the Fund writes a put on an index, it receives a premium and the purchaser of the put has the right, prior to the expiration date, to require the Fund to deliver to it an amount of cash equal to the difference between the closing level of the index and exercise price times the multiplier if the closing level is less than the exercise price.

*Risks of Options on Indices.* The risks of investment in options on indices may be greater than options on securities. Because index options are settled in cash, when the Fund writes a call on an index it cannot provide in advance for its potential settlement obligations by acquiring and holding the underlying securities. The Fund can offset some of the risk of writing a call index option by holding a diversified portfolio of securities similar to those on which the underlying index is based. However, the Fund cannot, as a practical matter, acquire and hold a portfolio containing exactly the same securities as underlie the index and, as a result, bears a risk that the value of the securities held will vary from the value of the index.

Even if the Fund could assemble a portfolio that exactly reproduced the composition of the underlying index, it still would not be fully covered from a risk standpoint because of the “timing risk” inherent in writing index options. When an index option is exercised, the amount of cash that the holder is entitled to receive is determined by the difference between the exercise price and the closing index level on the date when the option is exercised. As with other kinds of options, the Fund as the call writer will not learn that the Fund has been assigned until the next business day at the earliest. The time lag between exercise and notice of assignment poses no risk for the writer of a covered call on a specific underlying security, such as common stock, because there the writer’s obligation is to deliver the underlying security, not to pay its value as of a fixed time in the past. So long as the writer already owns the underlying security, it can satisfy its settlement obligations by simply delivering it, and the risk that its value may have declined since the exercise date is borne by the exercising holder. In contrast, even if the writer of an index call holds securities that exactly match the composition of the underlying index, it will not be able to satisfy its assignment obligations by delivering those securities against payment of the exercise price. Instead, it will be required to pay cash in an amount based on the closing index value on the exercise date. By the time it learns that it has been assigned, the index may have declined, with a corresponding decline in the value of its portfolio. This “timing risk” is an inherent limitation on the ability of index call writers to cover their risk exposure by holding securities positions.

If the Fund has purchased an index option and exercises it before the closing index value for that day is available, it runs the risk that the level of the underlying index may subsequently change. If such a change causes the exercised option to fall out-of-the-money, the Fund will be required to pay the difference between the closing index value and the exercise price of the option (times the applicable multiplier) to the assigned writer.

### **Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts**

A financial futures contract sale creates an obligation by the seller to deliver the type of Financial Instrument called for in the contract in a specified delivery month for a stated price. A financial futures contract purchase creates an obligation by the purchaser to take delivery of the type of Financial Instrument called for in the contract in a specified delivery month at a stated price. Options on futures give the purchaser the right to assume a position in a futures contract at the specified option exercise price at any time during the period of the option. The purchase of futures or call options on futures can serve as a long hedge, and the sale of futures or the purchase of put options on futures can serve as a short hedge. Writing call options on futures contracts can serve as a limited short hedge, using a strategy similar to that used for writing call options on securities or indices. Similarly, writing put options on futures contracts can serve as a limited long hedge. Futures contracts and options on futures contracts can also be purchased and sold to attempt to enhance income or yield.

In addition, futures strategies can be used to manage the average duration of the Fund’s fixed income portfolio. If the Advisor wishes to shorten the average duration of the Fund’s fixed income portfolio, the Fund may sell a debt futures contract or a call option thereon, or purchase a put option on that futures contract. If the Advisor wishes to lengthen the average duration of the Fund’s fixed income portfolio, the Fund may buy a debt futures contract or a call option thereon, or sell a put option thereon.

No price is paid upon entering into a futures contract. Instead, at the inception of a futures contract the Fund is required to deposit “initial margin” in an amount generally equal to 10% or less of the contract value. Margin must also be deposited when writing a call or put option on a futures contract, in accordance with applicable exchange rules. Unlike margin in securities transactions, initial margin on futures contracts does not represent a borrowing, but rather is in the nature of a performance bond or good-faith deposit that

is returned to the Fund at the termination of the transaction if all contractual obligations have been satisfied. Under certain circumstances, such as periods of high volatility, the Fund may be required by an exchange to increase the level of its initial margin payment, and initial margin requirements might be increased generally in the future by regulatory action. Because of the low margin deposits required, futures trading involves an extremely high degree of leverage; as a result, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in immediate and substantial loss, or gain, to the investor.

Initial margin with respect to a futures or option on futures contract is the amount of assets that must be deposited by the Fund with, or for the benefit of, a futures commission merchant to initiate the Fund's futures or option positions. Initial margin is the margin deposit made by the Fund when it enters into a futures or option contract; it is intended to assure performance of the contract by the Fund. If the value of the Fund's account declines by a specified amount, the Fund will receive a margin call and be required to post assets sufficient to restore the equity in the account to the initial margin level. This is sometimes referred to as "variation margin." Subsequent "variation margin" payments are made to and from the futures commission merchant as the value of the account varies, a process known as "marking-to-market." Variation margin does not involve borrowing, but rather represents a settlement of the Fund's obligations to or from a futures commission merchant. When the Fund purchases an option on a futures contract, the premium paid plus transaction costs is all that is at risk. However, there may be circumstances when the purchase of an option on a futures contract would result in a loss to the Fund when the use of a futures contract would not, such as when there is no movement in the value of the securities or currencies being hedged. In contrast, when the Fund purchases or sells a futures contract or writes a call or put option thereon, it is subject to daily variation margin calls that could be substantial in the event of adverse price movements. If the Fund has insufficient cash to meet daily variation margin requirements, it might need to sell securities at a time when such sales are disadvantageous.

Purchasers and sellers of futures contracts and options on futures can enter into offsetting closing transactions, similar to closing transactions on options, by selling or purchasing, respectively, an instrument identical to the instrument purchased or sold. Positions in futures and options on futures may be closed only on an exchange or board of trade that provides a secondary market. However, there can be no assurance that a liquid secondary market will exist for a particular contract at a particular time. In such event, it may not be possible to close a futures contract or options position.

Under certain circumstances, futures exchanges may establish daily limits on the amount that the price of a futures contract or an option on a futures contract can vary from the previous day's settlement price; once that limit is reached, no trades may be made that day at a price beyond the limit. Daily price limits do not limit potential losses because prices could move to the daily limit for several consecutive days with little or no trading, thereby preventing liquidation of unfavorable positions.

If the Fund were unable to liquidate a futures contract or an option on a futures position due to the absence of a liquid secondary market, the imposition of price limits or otherwise, it could incur substantial losses. The Fund would continue to be subject to market risk with respect to the position. In addition, except in the case of purchased options, the Fund would continue to be required to make daily variation margin payments and might be required to maintain the position being hedged by the future or option.

*Risks of Futures Contracts and Options Thereon.* Successful use of futures contracts and related options depends upon the ability of the Advisor to assess movements in the direction of overall securities and interest rates, which requires different skills and techniques than assessing the value of individual securities. Moreover, futures contracts relate not to the current price level of the underlying instrument, but to the anticipated price level at some point in the future; trading of stock index futures may not reflect the trading of the securities that are used to formulate the index or even actual fluctuations in the index itself. There is, in addition, the risk that movements in the price of the futures contract will not correlate with the movements in the prices of the securities being hedged. Price distortions in the marketplace, such as resulting from increased participation by speculators in the futures market, may also impair the correlation between movements in the prices of futures contracts and movements in the prices of the hedged securities. If the price of the futures contract moves less than the price of securities that are the subject of the hedge, the hedge will not be fully effective; but if the price of the securities being hedged has moved in an unfavorable direction, the Fund would be in a better position than if it had not hedged at all. If the price of the securities being hedged has moved in a favorable direction, this advantage may be partially offset by losses on the futures position.

Options have a limited life and thus can be disposed of only within a specific time period. Positions in futures contracts may be closed out only on an exchange or board of trade that provides a secondary market for such futures contracts. Although the Fund intends to purchase and sell futures only on exchanges or boards of trade where there appears to be a liquid secondary market, there is no assurance that such a market will exist for any particular contract at any particular time. In such event, it may not be possible to close a futures position and, in the event of adverse price movements, the Fund would continue to be required to make variation margin payments.

Purchasers of options on futures contracts pay a premium in cash at the time of purchase which, in the event of adverse price movements, could be lost. Sellers of options on futures contracts must post initial margin and are subject to additional margin calls that could be substantial in the event of adverse price movements. Because of the low margin deposits required, futures trading involves an extremely high degree of leverage; as a result, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in immediate and substantial loss, or gain, to the investor.

The exchanges may impose limits on the amount by which the price of a futures contract or related option is permitted to change in a single day. If the price of a contract moves to the limit for several consecutive days, the Fund may be unable during that time to close its position in that contract and may have to continue making payments of variation margin. The Fund may also be unable to dispose of securities or other instruments being used as “cover” during such a period.

*Index Futures.* The Fund may invest in index futures to attempt to increase its return or to attempt to hedge its investments. When index futures are used for hedging purposes, the risk of imperfect correlation between movements in the price of index futures and movements in the price of the securities that are the subject of the hedge increases as the composition of the Fund’s portfolio diverges from the securities included in the applicable index. The price of the index futures may move more than or less than the price of the securities being hedged. If the price of the index futures moves less than the price of the securities that are the subject of the hedge, the hedge will not be fully effective but, if the price of the securities being hedged has moved in an unfavorable direction, the Fund would be in a better position than if it had not hedged at all. If the price of the securities being hedged has moved in a favorable direction, this advantage will be partially offset by the futures contract. If the price of the futures contract moves more than the price of the securities, the Fund will experience either a loss or a gain on the futures contract that will not be completely offset by movements in the price of the securities that are the subject of the hedge. To compensate for the imperfect correlation of movements in the price of the securities being hedged and movements in the price of the index futures, the Fund may buy or sell index futures in a greater dollar amount than the dollar amount of the securities being hedged if the historical volatility of the prices of such securities being hedged is more than the historical volatility of the prices of the securities included in the index. It is also possible that, where the Fund has sold index futures contracts to hedge against decline in the market, the overall market may advance and the value of the particular securities held in the Fund’s portfolio may decline. If this occurred, the Fund would lose money on the futures contract and also experience a decline in value of its portfolio securities. However, while this could occur for a very brief period or to a very small degree, over time the value of a diversified portfolio of securities will tend to move in the same direction as the market indices on which the futures contracts are based.

Where index futures are purchased to hedge against a possible increase in the price of securities before the Fund is able to invest in them in an orderly fashion, it is possible that the market may decline instead. If the Fund then concludes not to invest in them at that time because of concern as to possible further market decline or for other reasons, it will realize a loss on the futures contract that is not offset by a reduction in the price of the securities it had anticipated purchasing.

#### **Additional Risks of Financial Instruments Traded on Foreign Exchanges**

Financial Instruments may be traded on foreign exchanges. Such transactions may not be regulated as effectively as similar transactions in the United States, may not involve a clearing mechanism and related guarantees and are subject to the risk of governmental actions affecting trading in, or the price of, foreign securities. The value of such positions also could be adversely affected by (1) other complex foreign political, legal and economic factors, (2) lesser availability than in the United States of data on which to make trading decisions, (3) delays in the Fund’s ability to act upon economic events occurring in foreign markets during non-business hours in the United States, (4) the imposition of different exercise and settlement terms and procedures and margin requirements than in the United States and (5) lesser trading volume.

#### **Commodity Exchange Act**

The Advisor, on behalf of the Fund, has claimed an exclusion, granted to operators of registered investment companies like the Fund, from registration as a “commodity pool operator” with respect to the Fund under the Commodity Exchange Act (the “CEA”), and, therefore, are not subject to registration or regulation with respect to the Fund under the CEA. As a result, the Fund is limited in its ability to trade instruments subject to the CFTC’s jurisdiction, including commodity futures (which include futures on broad-based securities indexes, interest rate futures and currency futures), options on commodity futures, certain swaps or other investments (whether directly or indirectly through investments in other investment vehicles).

Under this exclusion, the Fund must satisfy one of the following two trading limitations whenever it enters into a new commodity trading position: (1) the aggregate initial margin and premiums required to establish the Fund’s positions in CFTC-regulated instruments may not exceed 5% of the liquidation value of the Fund’s portfolio (after accounting for unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such investments); or (2) the aggregate net notional value of such instruments, determined at the time the most recent position was established, may not exceed 100% of the liquidation value of the Fund’s portfolio (after accounting for unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions). The Fund would not be required to consider its exposure to such instruments if they were held for “bona fide hedging” purposes, as such term is defined in the rules of the CFTC. In addition to meeting one of the foregoing

trading limitations, the Fund may not market itself as a commodity pool or otherwise as a vehicle for trading in the markets for CFTC-regulated instruments.

### **Repurchase Agreements**

When cash is temporarily available, or for temporary defensive purposes, the Fund may invest without limit in repurchase agreements and money market instruments, including high-quality short-term debt securities. A repurchase agreement is an agreement under which either U.S. Government obligations or other high-quality liquid debt securities are acquired from a securities dealer or bank subject to resale at an agreed-upon price and date. The securities are held for the Fund by a custodian bank as collateral until resold and will be supplemented by additional collateral if necessary to maintain a total value equal to or in excess of the value of the repurchase agreement. The Fund bears a risk of loss if the other party to a repurchase agreement defaults on its obligations and the Fund is delayed or prevented from exercising its rights to dispose of the collateral securities, which may decline in value in the interim. The Fund will enter into repurchase agreements only with financial institutions determined by the Advisor to present minimal risk of default during the term of the agreement.

Repurchase agreements are usually for a term of one week or less but may be for longer periods. Repurchase agreements maturing in more than seven days may be considered illiquid.

Repurchase agreements maturing in more than seven days are considered to be illiquid.

### **Cryptocurrency Investments**

Cryptocurrencies (also referred to as “virtual currencies” and “digital currencies”) are digital currencies designed to act as a medium of exchange. Although cryptocurrency is an emerging asset class, there are thousands of cryptocurrencies, the most well-known of which is bitcoin. The Fund may seek investment exposure to cryptocurrencies (i.e. Bitcoin or Ether) indirectly by investing up to 15% of its net assets in Cryptocurrency ETPs. Investments in the Subsidiary may exceed this 15% limit to the extent that the Subsidiary holds other non-cryptocurrency assets. Cryptocurrency ETPs are exchange-traded investment vehicles registered under the Securities Act of 1933 that invest in cryptocurrency. The Subsidiary is a wholly-owned Fund that is organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands. Except for its investments in Cryptocurrency ETPs, the Fund will not invest (i) directly in Bitcoin, Ether or any other type of cryptocurrency or (ii) indirectly through any cryptocurrency derivative instrument (e.g. Bitcoin futures).

In addition to the general risks of investing in other investment vehicles, the value of the Fund’s indirect investments in cryptocurrency is subject to fluctuations in the value of the cryptocurrency, which can be highly volatile. The value of cryptocurrencies is determined by the supply and demand for cryptocurrency in the global market for the trading of cryptocurrency, which consists primarily of transactions on electronic exchanges. The price of a cryptocurrency could drop precipitously (including to zero) for a variety of reasons including but not limited to regulatory changes, a crisis of confidence in the cryptocurrency network or a change in user preference to competing cryptocurrencies. The Fund’s exposure to cryptocurrency can result in substantial losses to the Fund.

Cryptocurrency facilitates decentralized, peer-to-peer financial exchange and value storage that is used like money, without the oversight of a central authority or banks. The value of cryptocurrency is not backed by any government, corporation, or other identified body. Similar to fiat currencies (i.e., a currency that is backed by a central bank or a national, supra-national or quasi-national organization), cryptocurrencies are susceptible to theft, loss and destruction. Accordingly, the cryptocurrency held by Cryptocurrency ETPs (and the Fund’s indirect exposure to such holdings) is also susceptible to these risks.

Cryptocurrencies trade on exchanges, which are largely unregulated and may therefore be more exposed to fraud and failure than established, regulated exchanges for securities, derivatives and other currencies. These exchanges can cease operating temporarily or even permanently, resulting in the potential loss of users’ cryptocurrency or other market disruptions. Cryptocurrency exchanges may be more exposed to the risk of market manipulation than exchanges for more traditional assets. Cryptocurrency exchanges that are regulated typically must comply with minimum net worth, cybersecurity, and anti-money laundering requirements, but are not typically required to protect customers or their markets to the same extent that regulated securities exchanges or futures exchanges are required to do so. Furthermore, many cryptocurrency exchanges lack certain safeguards established by more traditional exchanges to enhance the stability of trading on the exchange, such as measures designed to prevent sudden drops in value of items traded on the exchange (i.e., “flash crashes”). As a result, the prices of cryptocurrencies on exchanges may be subject to larger and more frequent sudden declines than assets traded on more traditional exchanges.

Shares of Cryptocurrency ETPs may trade, at a significant premium or discount to net asset value. If a Cryptocurrency ETP trades at a premium to its NAV, the value of the investment in the respective Cryptocurrency ETP could decrease, even if the value of the Cryptocurrency ETP’s underlying holdings in the cryptocurrency did not decrease. In addition, the Fund’s investment in Cryptocurrency ETPs will be subject to the operating expenses associated with the respective exchange-traded product. If Cryptocurrency ETPs incur expenses in U.S. dollars, they would be required to sell cryptocurrency to pay these expenses. The sale of

a Cryptocurrency ETP to pay expenses in U.S. dollars at a time of low cryptocurrency prices could adversely affect the value of an investment in the Fund.

Factors affecting the further development of cryptocurrency include, but are not limited to, continued worldwide growth or possible cessation or reversal in the adoption and use of cryptocurrency and other cryptocurrencies; government and quasi-government regulation or restrictions on or regulation of access to and operation of cryptocurrency networks; changes in consumer demographics and public preferences; maintenance and development of open-source software protocol; availability and popularity of other forms or methods of buying and selling goods and services; the use of the networks supporting cryptocurrencies, such as those for developing smart contracts and distributed applications; general economic conditions and the regulatory environment relating to cryptocurrencies; negative consumer or public perception; and general risks tied to the use of information technologies, including cyber risks. A hack or failure of one cryptocurrency may lead to a loss in confidence in, and thus decreased usage or and or value of, other cryptocurrencies.

Currently, there is relatively limited use of cryptocurrency in the retail and commercial marketplace, which contributes to price volatility. A lack of expansion by cryptocurrencies into retail and commercial markets, or a contraction of such use, may result in increased volatility or a reduction in the value of cryptocurrencies, either of which could adversely impact the Fund's investment. In addition, to the extent market participants develop a preference for one cryptocurrency over another, the value of the less preferred cryptocurrency would likely be adversely affected.

The Fund's exposure to cryptocurrency may change over time and, accordingly, such exposure may not be represented in the Fund's portfolio at any given time. Many significant aspects of the tax treatment of investments in cryptocurrency are uncertain, and a direct or indirect investment in cryptocurrency may produce non-qualifying income. Cryptocurrency is a new technological innovation with a limited history; it is a highly speculative asset and future regulatory actions or policies may limit, perhaps to a materially adverse extent, the value of the Fund's indirect investment in cryptocurrency and the ability to exchange a cryptocurrency or utilize it for payments.

### **Subsidiary Risk**

The Fund makes investments through the Subsidiary, a wholly-owned and controlled subsidiary of the Fund. Investment in the Subsidiary provides the Fund with exposure to cryptocurrency and commodity markets within the limitations of the Code. The Subsidiary is organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands. The Fund is the sole shareholder of the Subsidiary, and it is not currently expected that shares of the Subsidiary will be sold or offered to other investors.

The Subsidiary will invest primarily in Cryptocurrency ETPs. The Subsidiary may also invest in other derivative instruments, such as, commodity futures, other commodity-linked derivative instruments, financial futures, options, swaps, and fixed income securities, and other investments intended to serve as margin or collateral for the Subsidiary's derivative positions. Although the Fund may enter into these commodity-linked derivative instruments directly, the Fund will likely gain exposure to these derivative instruments indirectly by investing in the Subsidiary. The Fund's investment in the Subsidiary may vary depending on the types of instruments selected by the Advisor to gain exposure to the cryptocurrency and commodities markets. To the extent that the Fund invests in the Subsidiary, the Fund may be subject to the risks associated with the Cryptocurrency ETPs and the derivative instruments and other securities mentioned above.

While the Subsidiary may be considered similar to an investment company, it is not registered under the 1940 Act and, unless otherwise noted in the Prospectus and this SAI, is not subject to all of the investor protections of the 1940 Act and other U.S. regulations. Although the Subsidiary is not registered under the 1940 Act, the Advisor complies with the provisions of the 1940 Act relating to investment advisory contracts with respect to the Subsidiary. Changes in the laws of the United States and/or the Cayman Islands could result in the inability of the Fund and/or the Subsidiary to operate as intended and could negatively affect the Fund and its shareholders.

### **Leverage**

In accordance with its fundamental and non-fundamental policies, the Fund may employ "leverage" by borrowing money and using it to purchase additional securities. Leverage increases both investment opportunity and investment risk. If the investment gains on the securities purchased with borrowed money exceed the interest and other costs of borrowing, the NAV of the Fund's shares will rise faster than would otherwise be the case. On the other hand, if the investment gains fail to cover the cost of borrowings, or if there are losses, the NAV of the Fund's shares will decrease faster than would otherwise be the case. To reduce its borrowing, the Fund might be required to sell securities at a disadvantageous time. The Fund will incur interest expense on any money borrowed, and the Fund may therefore have little or no investment income during periods of substantial borrowings. The Fund will leverage its assets when, in the Advisor's judgment, the potential benefits of the borrowing outweigh the risk and expense of the borrowing.

### **Redemption Risk**

*Investments by Other Funds and by Other Significant Investors.* Certain investment companies may invest in the Fund and may at times have substantial investments in the Fund. Other investors also may at times have substantial investments in the Fund. From time

to time, the Fund may experience relatively large redemptions or investments due to transactions in Fund shares by the Fund or other significant investor. The effects of these transactions could adversely affect the Fund's performance. In the event of such redemptions or investments, the Fund could be required to sell securities or to invest cash at a time when it is not advantageous to do so. Such transactions may increase brokerage and/or other transaction costs of the Fund. A large redemption could cause the Fund's expenses to increase and could result in the Fund becoming too small to be economically viable. Redemptions of Fund shares could also accelerate the realization of taxable capital gains in the Fund if sales of securities result in capital gains. The impact of these transactions is likely to be greater when the Fund or other significant investor purchases, redeems, or owns a substantial portion of the Fund's shares.

The Fund may experience periods of heavy redemptions that could cause the Fund to liquidate its assets at inopportune times or at a loss or depressed value, particularly during periods of declining or illiquid markets. Redemption risk is greater to the extent that the Fund has investors with large shareholdings, short investment horizons, or unpredictable cash flow needs. In addition, redemption risk is heightened during periods of overall market turmoil. The redemption by one or more large shareholders of their holdings in the Fund could hurt performance and/or cause the remaining shareholders in the Fund to lose money. Further, if one decision maker has control of Fund shares owned by separate Fund shareholders, redemptions by these shareholders may further increase the Fund's redemption risk. If the Fund is forced to liquidate its assets under unfavorable conditions or at inopportune times, the value of your investment could decline.

### **Cyber-Security Risk**

Investment companies, such as the Fund, and its service providers may be subject to operational and information security risks resulting from cyber-attacks. Cyber-attacks include, among other behaviors, stealing or corrupting data maintained online or digitally, denial of service attacks on websites, the unauthorized release of confidential information or various other forms of cyber security breaches. Cyber-attacks affecting the Fund or the Advisor, custodian, transfer agent, intermediaries and other third-party service providers may adversely impact the Fund. For instance, cyber-attacks may interfere with the processing of shareholder transactions, impact the Fund's ability to calculate its net asset value, cause the release of private shareholder information or confidential company information, impede trading, subject the Fund to regulatory fines or financial losses, and cause reputational damage. The Fund may also incur additional costs for cyber security risk management purposes. Similar types of cyber security risks are also present for issuers of securities in which the Fund invests, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers, and may cause the Fund's investment in such portfolio companies to lose value.

Subject to prior disclosure to shareholders, the Board may, in the future, authorize the Fund to invest in securities other than those listed here and in the Prospectus, provided that such investment would be consistent with the Fund's investment objective and that it would not violate any fundamental investment policies or restrictions applicable to the Fund.

### **Portfolio Turnover**

Portfolio securities may be sold without regard to the length of time they have been held when, in the opinion of the Advisor, investment considerations warrant such action. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing (1) the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the fiscal year by (2) the monthly average of the value of portfolio securities owned during the fiscal year. A 100% turnover rate would occur if all the securities in the Fund's portfolio, with the exception of securities whose maturities at the time of acquisition were one year or less, were sold and either repurchased or replaced within one year. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or more) generally leads to higher transaction costs and generally reflects a greater number of taxable transactions. High portfolio turnover may result in larger amounts of short-term capital gains which, when distributed to shareholders, are generally taxed at ordinary income tax rates.

The table below shows the Fund's portfolio turnover rate for the following fiscal years:

	<b>Portfolio Turnover Rate</b>
For the year ended December 31, 2025	27%
For the year ended December 31, 2024	31%

### **Portfolio Holdings Policy**

The Fund maintains portfolio holdings disclosure policies that govern the timing and circumstances of disclosure to shareholders and third parties of information regarding the portfolio investments held by the Fund. These portfolio holdings disclosure policies have been approved by the Board. Disclosure of the Fund's complete holdings is required to be made quarterly within 60 days of the end of each fiscal quarter in the annual report and semi-annual report to Fund shareholders and in the quarterly holdings report as an exhibit to its reports on Form N-PORT. These reports are available, free of charge, on the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

Pursuant to the Trust's portfolio holdings disclosure policies, non-public information about the Fund's portfolio holdings generally is not distributed to any person, unless by explicit agreement or by virtue of their respective duties to the Fund, such persons are subject to a duty to maintain the confidentiality of the information disclosed and have a duty not to trade on non-public information. Examples of disclosure by the Trust include instances in which:

- The disclosure is required pursuant to a regulatory request, court order or is legally required in the context of other legal proceedings;
- The disclosure is made to a mutual fund rating and/or ranking organization, or person performing similar functions;
- The disclosure is made to internal parties involved in the investment process, administration, operation or custody of the Fund, including, but not limited to the Fund's administrator, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services ("Global Fund Services") and the Trust's Board, attorneys, auditors or independent registered public accounting firm;
- The disclosure is made: (a) in connection with a quarterly, semi-annual or annual report that is available to the public; or (b) relates to information that is otherwise available to the public; or
- The disclosure is made with the prior written approval of either the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer or his or her designee.

Certain of the persons listed above receive information about the Fund's portfolio holdings on an ongoing basis as part of the normal investment activities of the Fund. The Fund believes that these third parties have legitimate objectives in requesting such portfolio holdings information and operate in the best interest of the Fund's shareholders. These persons include internal parties involved in the investment process, administration, operation or custody of the Fund, specifically: Global Fund Services; the Trust's Board; and the Trust's attorneys and independent registered public accounting firm (currently, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP and Cohen & Company, Ltd., respectively), all of which typically receive such information after it is generated. In no event shall the Advisor, its affiliates or employees, the Fund, or any other party receive any direct or indirect compensation in connection with the disclosure of information about the Fund's holdings.

Portfolio holdings information posted on the Fund's website may be separately provided to any person, after it is first published on the Fund's website. Shareholders can access the Fund's website at [www.patientcapitalmanagement.com/opportunity-trust](http://www.patientcapitalmanagement.com/opportunity-trust) for additional information about the Fund, including, without limitation, the periodic disclosure of its portfolio holdings.

Any disclosures to additional parties not described above is made with the prior written approval of either the Trust's Chief Compliance Officer or his or her designee, pursuant to the Trust's Policy on Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings.

The Chief Compliance Officer or designated officer of the Trust will approve the furnishing of non-public portfolio holdings to a third party only if they consider the furnishing of such information to be in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders and if no material conflict of interest exists regarding such disclosure between shareholders interest and those of the Advisor, Quasar Distributors, LLC, or any affiliated person of the Fund. No consideration may be received by the Fund, the Advisor, any affiliate of the Advisor or their employees in connection with the disclosure of portfolio holdings information. The Board receives and reviews annually a list of the persons who receive non-public portfolio holdings information and the purpose for which it is furnished.

## **Trustees and Executive Officers**

The overall management of the Trust's business and affairs is invested with its Board. The Board approves all significant agreements between the Trust and persons or companies furnishing services to it, including the agreements with the Advisor, administrator, custodian and transfer agent, each as discussed below. The day-to-day operations of the Trust are delegated to its officers, subject to

the Fund's investment objective, strategies and policies and to the general oversight of the Board. Information about the Trustees and officers of the Trust is set forth in the table below.

Name, Address and Age	Position(s) Held with Trust	Term of Office <sup>(1)</sup> and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex <sup>(2)</sup> Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships <sup>(3)</sup> Held During Past 5 Years by Trustee
<b>Independent Trustees<sup>(4)</sup></b>					
Russell Emery 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Year of birth: 1962	Trustee	Indefinite. Since 2023	Chief Compliance Officer, The SEI Mutual Funds (2006 to 2022); Chief Compliance Officer, Advisors' Inner Circle Fund I, II, and III (2006 to 2022)	1	Trustee, Man Alternative Income Fund (1 Portfolio) (2025 to present)
Brian S. Ferrie 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Year of birth: 1958	Trustee	Indefinite. Since 2023	Chief Compliance Officer, Treasurer, The Jensen Quality Growth Fund (2004 to 2020); Treasurer, Jensen Investment Management (2003 to 2020)	1	Trustee, Trust for Advised Portfolios (1 portfolio) (2020 to present)
Wan-Chong Kung 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Year of birth: 1960	Trustee	Indefinite. Since 2023	Senior Fund Manager, Nuveen Asset Management (FAF Advisors/ First American Funds) (2011 to 2019)	1	Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (2022 to present); Trustee, Securian Funds Trust (12 portfolios) (2022 to present); Trustee, Trust for Advised Portfolios (1 portfolio) (2020 to present)

Name, Address and Age	Position(s) Held with Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
<b>Officers</b>			
Russell B. Simon 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Year of birth: 1980	President and Principal Executive Officer	Indefinite. Since 2023	Vice President, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC (2011 to present)
Christopher E. Kashmerick 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Year of birth: 1974	Vice President	Indefinite. Since 2025	Senior Vice President, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC (2011 to present)
JJ Richie 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Year of birth: 1973	Chief Compliance Officer and AML Officer	Indefinite. Since 2026	Vice President, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC (since December 2025); Chief Compliance Officer, Ivy Investment Management Company (2015 to 2022)
Eric T. McCormick 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Year of birth: 1971	Treasurer and Principal Financial Officer	Indefinite. Since 2023	Vice President, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC (2005 to present)
Ryan M. Charles 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 Year of birth: 1978	Secretary	Indefinite. Since 2023	Vice President, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC (2021 to present); General Counsel, Davis Selected Advisers, L.P. (2014 to 2021)

- (1) Each Trustee serves an indefinite term; however, under the terms of the Board’s retirement policy, a Trustee shall retire at the end of the calendar year in which he or she reaches the age of 75. A retiring Trustee may request annually, for no more than three consecutive years, that the Board extend such Trustee’s term for an additional year. Each officer serves an indefinite term until the election of a successor.
- (2) The Trust is composed of numerous series managed by unaffiliated investment advisors. The term “Fund Complex” applies to the Fund. The Fund does not hold itself out as related to any other series of the Trust for purposes of investment and investor services, nor does it share the same investment advisor with any other series of the Trust.
- (3) “Other Directorships Held” includes only directorships of companies required to register or file reports with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (that is, “public companies”), or other investment companies registered under the 1940 Act.
- (4) The Trustees of the Trust are not “interested persons” of the Trust as defined under the 1940 Act (“Independent Trustees”).

#### **Additional Information Concerning Our Board of Trustees**

*Board Leadership Structure.* The Board has general oversight responsibility with respect to the operation of the Trust and the Fund. The Board has engaged the Advisor to manage the Fund and is responsible for overseeing the Advisor and other service providers to the Trust and the Fund in accordance with the provisions of the 1940 Act and other applicable laws. The Board has established an Audit Committee to assist the Board in performing its oversight responsibilities.

The Trust’s Board is composed entirely of independent trustees and does not have a lead independent trustee. The Trust has determined that its leadership structure is appropriate in light of, among other factors, the asset size and nature of the Trust, the arrangements for the conduct of the Trust’s operations, the number of Trustees, and the responsibilities of the Board.

*Board Oversight of Risk Management.* Through its direct oversight role, and indirectly through the Audit Committee and officers of the Trust and service providers, the Board performs a risk oversight function for the Fund. To effectively perform its risk oversight function, the Board, among other things, performs the following activities: receives and reviews reports related to the performance and operations of the Fund; reviews and approves, as applicable, the compliance policies and procedures of the Fund; approves the Fund’s principal investment policies; adopts policies and procedures designed to deter market timing; meets with representatives of various service providers, including the Advisor, to review and discuss the activities of the Fund and to provide direction with respect thereto; and appoints a chief compliance officer of the Fund who oversees the implementation and testing of the Fund’s compliance program and reports to the Board regarding compliance matters for the Fund and its service providers.

Not all risks that may affect the Fund can be identified nor can controls be developed to eliminate or mitigate their occurrence or effects. It may not be practical or cost effective to eliminate or mitigate certain risks, the processes and controls employed to address certain risks may be limited in their effectiveness, and some risks are simply beyond the reasonable control of the Advisor or other

service providers. Moreover, it is necessary to bear certain risks (such as investment-related risks) to achieve the Fund's goals. As a result of the foregoing and other factors, the Fund's ability to manage risk is subject to substantial limitations.

As part of its oversight function, the Board receives and reviews various risk management reports and assessments and discusses these matters with appropriate management and other personnel. Because risk management is a broad concept comprised of many elements (such as, for example, investment risk, issuer and counterparty risk, compliance risk, operational risks, business continuity risks, etc.), the oversight of different types of risks is handled in different ways. For example, the Board meets regularly with the Chief Compliance Officer to discuss compliance and operational risks and the Audit Committee meets with the Treasurer and the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm to discuss, among other things, the internal control structure of the Trust's financial reporting function. The Board also receives reports from the Advisor and portfolio managers as to investment risks as well as other risks.

*Trust Committees.* The Trust has two standing committees: the Audit Committee, which also serves as the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee ("QLCC"), and the Governance and Nominating Committee (the "Nominating Committee").

The Audit Committee, composed entirely of the Independent Trustees, is chaired by Mr. Ferrie. The primary functions of the Audit Committee are to select the independent registered public accounting firm to be retained to perform the annual audit of the Fund, to review the results of the audit, to review the Fund's internal controls, to approve in advance all permissible non-audit services performed by the independent auditors and to review certain other matters relating to the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm and financial records. In its role as the QLCC, the committee's function is to receive reports from an attorney retained by the Trust of evidence of a material violation by the Trust or by any officer, director, employee or agent of the Trust.

During the fiscal period ended December 31, 2025, the Audit Committee met twice in regard to the Fund.

The Nominating Committee, composed entirely of the Independent Trustees, is chaired by Ms. Kung, and is responsible for seeking and reviewing candidates for consideration as nominees for Trustees and meets only as necessary. The Nominating Committee will consider nominees nominated by shareholders. Recommendations by shareholders for consideration by the Nominating Committee should be sent to the President of the Trust in writing together with the appropriate biographical information concerning each such proposed nominee, and such recommendation must comply with the notice provisions set forth in the Trust By-Laws. In general, to comply with such procedures, such nominations, together with all required biographical information, must be delivered to and received by the President of the Trust at the principal executive offices of the Trust not later than 120 days and no more than 150 days prior to the shareholder meeting at which any such nominee would be voted on.

During the fiscal year period December 31, 2025, the Nominating Committee did not meet in regard to the Fund.

The Board has designated the Advisor to perform fair value determinations (the "Valuation Designee"). The Valuation Designee is subject to Board oversight and certain reporting and other requirements designed to facilitate the Board's ability to effectively oversee the Valuation Designee's fair value determinations.

### **Information about Each Trustee's Qualification, Experience, Attributes or Skills**

In addition to the information provided in the table above, below is certain additional information concerning each particular Trustee and certain of their trustee attributes. The information provided below, and in the table above, is not all-inclusive. Many trustee attributes involve intangible elements, such as intelligence, integrity, work ethic, the ability to work together, the ability to communicate effectively, the ability to exercise judgment, the ability to ask incisive questions, and commitment to shareholder interests. In conducting its annual self-assessment, the Board has determined that the Trustees have the appropriate attributes and experience to continue to serve effectively as Trustees of the Trust.

Russell Emery's experience in compliance, accounting, investment management and corporate finance gives him an extensive understanding of regulatory requirements, accounting requirements, investment operations and governance requirements of operating mutual funds and series trusts. He brings a unique perspective to the Board from having over 16 years of experience serving as the Chief Compliance Officer to several investment companies operating as series trusts.

Brian S. Ferrie's experience in accounting, finance, and compliance in the mutual fund industry gives him a strong understanding of the regulatory requirements of operating a mutual fund. He also understands the complex nature of the accounting and financial requirements, both from a regulatory and operational perspective, of managing a mutual fund. Mr. Ferrie's background and experience provide a unique perspective to the Board.

Wan-Chong Kung's experience managing fixed income mutual funds, with specific experience in commodities provides a diverse point-of-view for the Board. Ms. Kung also has unique experience in education as she advised student-managed bond and equity funds.

Each of the Trustees takes a conservative and thoughtful approach to addressing issues facing the Fund. The combination of skills and attributes discussed above led to the conclusion that each of Messrs. Emery and Ferrie and Ms. Kung should serve as a Trustee.

## Trustee Ownership of Fund Shares and Other Interests

As of December 31, 2025, Mr. Ferrie beneficially owned shares of the Fund as follows:

Trustee	Dollar Range of Shares Owned in the Fund	Aggregate Dollar Range of Shares of the Fund Family
Brian S. Ferrie	[over \$100,000]	[over \$100,000]

As of the end of the most recently completed calendar year, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, own securities beneficially or of record in the Advisor, the distributor (defined below), or an affiliate of the Advisor, or distributor. Accordingly, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, have direct or indirect interest, the value of which exceeds \$120,000, in the Advisor, the distributor or any of their affiliates. In addition, during the two most recently completed calendar years, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate families have conducted any transactions (or series of transactions) in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and to which the Advisor, the distributor or any affiliate thereof was a party.

As of December 31, 2025, the Trustees and officers of the Trust as a group did not own more than 1% of the Fund's outstanding shares.

## Compensation

Set forth below is the compensation received by the Independent Trustees from the Fund for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025. Effective January 1, 2026, for their services to the Trust, the Independent Trustees each receive an annual retainer of \$92,000, a \$2,000 per regular meeting fee, and a \$2,000 special meeting fee. In addition, the Audit Committee chair receives a \$4,000 annual fee and the Nominating and Governance Committee chair receives a \$2,000 annual fee. The Independent Trustees also receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with attendance at meetings. The Trust has no pension or retirement plan for the Independent Trustees.

	Aggregate Compensation from the Predecessor Fund	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of Fund Expenses	Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation from Fund Complex Paid to Trustees <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Independent Trustees</b>				
Russell Emery	\$5,156	None	None	\$5,156
Brian S. Ferrie	\$5,390	None	None	\$5,390
Wan-Chong Kung	\$5,273	None	None	\$5,273

<sup>(1)</sup> There are currently multiple portfolios comprising the Trust. The term "Fund Complex" applies only to the Fund.

## General Trust Information

The Declaration of Trust permits the Trustees to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest and to divide or combine the shares into a greater or lesser number of shares without thereby changing the proportionate beneficial interest in the Fund. Each share represents an interest in the Fund proportionately equal to the interest of each other share. Upon the Fund's liquidation, all shareholders would share pro rata in the net assets of the Fund available for distribution to shareholders.

With respect to the Fund, the Trust may offer more than one class of shares. The Trust reserves the right to create and issue additional series or classes. Each share of a series or class represents an equal proportionate interest in that series or class with each other share of that series or class. Currently, the Patient Opportunity Trust offers six share classes: Class A, Class C, Class FI, Class I, Class IS, and Class R shares.

The Trust is not required to hold annual meetings of shareholders but will hold special meetings of shareholders of a series or class when, in the judgment of the Trustees, it is necessary or desirable to submit matters for a shareholder vote. Shareholders have, under certain circumstances, the right to communicate with other shareholders in connection with requesting a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of removing one or more Trustees. Shareholders also have, in certain circumstances, the right to remove one or more Trustees without a meeting. No material amendment may be made to the Declaration of Trust without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of each portfolio affected by the amendment. The Declaration of Trust provides that, at

any meeting of shareholders of the Trust or of any series or class, a Shareholder Servicing Agent may vote any shares as to which such Shareholder Servicing Agent is the agent of record and which are not represented in person or by proxy at the meeting, proportionately in accordance with the votes cast by holders of all shares of that portfolio otherwise represented at the meeting in person or by proxy as to which such Shareholder Servicing Agent is the agent of record. Any shares so voted by a Shareholder Servicing Agent will be deemed represented at the meeting for purposes of quorum requirements. Any series or class may be terminated (i) upon the merger or consolidation with, or the sale or disposition of all or substantially all of its assets to, another entity, if approved by the vote of the holders of two thirds of its outstanding shares, except that if the Board recommends such merger, consolidation or sale or disposition of assets, the approval by vote of the holders of a majority of the series' or class's outstanding shares will be sufficient, or (ii) by the vote of the holders of a majority of its outstanding shares, or (iii) by the Board by written notice to the series' or class's shareholders. Unless each series and class is so terminated, the Trust will continue indefinitely.

The Declaration of Trust also provides that the Trust shall maintain appropriate insurance (for example, fidelity bonding and errors and omissions insurance) for the protection of the Trust, its shareholders, Trustees, officers, employees and agents covering possible tort and other liabilities. Thus, the risk of a shareholder incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which both inadequate insurance existed and the Trust itself was unable to meet its obligations.

The Declaration of Trust does not require the issuance of stock certificates. If stock certificates are issued, they must be returned by the registered owners prior to the transfer or redemption of shares represented by such certificates.

Rule 18f-2 under the 1940 Act provides that as to any investment company which has two or more series outstanding and as to any matter required to be submitted to shareholder vote, such matter is not deemed to have been effectively acted upon unless approved by the holders of a "majority" (as defined in the Rule) of the voting securities of each series affected by the matter. Such separate voting requirements do not apply to the election of Trustees or the ratification of the selection of accountants. The Rule contains special provisions for cases in which an advisory contract is approved by one or more, but not all, series. A change in investment policy may go into effect as to one or more series whose holders so approve the change even though the required vote is not obtained as to the holders of other affected series.

## **Codes of Ethics**

The Trust and the Advisor have each adopted separate Codes of Ethics under Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act. These Codes permit, subject to certain conditions, access persons of the Advisor to invest in securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund. The distributor relies on the principal underwriter exception under Rule 17j-1(c)(3) from the requirement to adopt a code of ethics pursuant to Rule 17j-1 because the distributor is not affiliated with the Trust or the Advisor, and no officer, director, or general partner of the distributor serves as an officer or director of the Trust or the Advisor.

## **Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures**

The Board has adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (the "Policies") on behalf of the Trust which delegate the responsibility for voting proxies to the Advisor, subject to the Board's continuing oversight. The Policies require that the Advisor vote proxies received in a manner consistent with the best interests of the Fund and its shareholders. The Policies also require the Advisor to present to the Board, at least annually, the Advisor's Policies and a record of each proxy voted by the Advisor on behalf of the Fund, including a report on the resolution of all proxies identified by the Advisor as involving a conflict of interest.

A copy of the Advisor's policies and procedures used to determine how to vote proxies related to portfolio securities can be found in **Appendix B**.

The Trust is required to file a Form N-PX, with the Fund's complete proxy voting record for the 12 months ended June 30, no later than August 31 of each year. The Fund's proxy voting record will be available without charge, upon request, by calling toll-free 800-655-0324, and on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## **Control Persons and Principal Shareholders**

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund. A control person is one who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. If the control person is a company, the jurisdiction under the laws of which it is organized is listed. Shareholders with a controlling interest could affect the outcome of voting or the direction of management of the Fund.

As of March 31, 2026, the following persons owned beneficially or of record more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the Fund:

**Class A**

Name and Address	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS 1 NEW YORK PLZ FL 12 NEW YORK NY 10004-1965	46.35%	Record
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS 211 MAIN ST SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105-1901	14.62%	Record

**Class C**

Name and Address	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS 1 NEW YORK PLZ FL 12 NEW YORK NY 10004-1965	24.21%	Record
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS 211 MAIN ST SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105-1901	21.04%	Record
RBC CAPITAL MARKETS LLC MUTUAL FUND OMNIBUS PROCESSING OMNIBUS ATTN MUTUAL FUND OPS MANAGER 250 NICOLLET MALL STE 1800 MINNEAPOLIS MN 55401-7583	10.44%	Record
VANGUARD BROKERAGE SERVICES 100 VANGUARD BLVD MALVERN PA 19355-2331	7.52%	Record
WELLS FARGO CLEARING SERVICES LLC SPECIAL CUSTODY ACCT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF CUSTOMER 2801 MARKET STREET SAINT LOUIS MO 63103-2523	7.3%	Record
ASCENSUS TRUST COMPANY FBO H&C, INC. 401(K) RETIREMENT SAVINGS PO BOX 10758 FARGO ND 58106-0758	5.03%	Record

**Class FI**

Name and Address	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT 4TH FL 499 WASHINGTON BLVD JERSEY CITY NJ 07310-1995	50.65%	Record
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS 211 MAIN ST SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105-1901	36.44%	Record
VANGUARD BROKERAGE SERVICES 100 VANGUARD BLVD MALVERN PA 19355-2331	6.92%	Record
MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS 1 NEW YORK PLZ FL 12 NEW YORK NY 10004-1965	3.43%	Record

**Class I**

Name and Address	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS 1 NEW YORK PLZ FL 12 NEW YORK NY 10004-1965	35.86%	Record
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO INC SPECIAL CUSTODY A/C FBO CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS 211 MAIN ST SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105-1901	16.87%	Record
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT 4TH FL 499 WASHINGTON BLVD JERSEY CITY NJ 07310-1995	8.95%	Record
RAYMOND JAMES OMNIBUS FOR MUTUAL FUNDS HOUSE ACCT FIRM ATTN COURTNEY WALLER 880 CARILLON PKWY ST PETERSBURG FL 33716-1100	7.55%	Record
JP MORGAN SECURITIES LLC 575 WASHINGTON BLVD FL 12TH JERSEY CITY NJ 07310-1616	6.43%	Record

**Class IS**

Name and Address	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF OUR CUSTOMERS ATTN MUTUAL FUNDS DEPT 4TH FL 499 WASHINGTON BLVD JERSEY CITY NJ 07310-1995	69.52%	Record
PERSHING LLC 1 PERSHING PLZ JERSEY CITY NJ 07399-0001	18.62%	Record
WILLIAM H MILLER III LIVING TRUST WILLIAM H MILLER III TR BROOKLANDVILLE MD 21022-0439	5.66%	Beneficial

**Class R**

Name and Address	% Ownership	Type of Ownership
MORGAN STANLEY SMITH BARNEY LLC FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF ITS CUSTOMERS 1 NEW YORK PLZ FL 12 NEW YORK NY 10004-1965	45.54%	Record
MG TRUST COMPANY CUST FBO QUIGLEY MOTOR COMPANY 401(K) PLAN 717 17TH ST STE 1300 DENVER CO 80202-3304	11.71%	Record
ASCENSUS TRUST COMPANY FBO J.R.D. INC 401(K) PLAN PO BOX 10758 FARGO ND 58106-0758	11.71%	Record
PENTEGRA TRUST COMPANY AS CUSTODIAN FBO ALLEGANY COUNTY BOE TSA C/O RETIREMENT SYSTEM CONSULTANTS 2 ENTERPRISE DR STE 408 SHELTON CT 06484-4657	9.94%	Record
EMPOWER TRUST COMPANY LLC FBO PLANPREMIER RTMT PLANS OMNIBUS 8515 E ORCHARD RD 2T2 GREENWOOD VILLAGE CO 80111-5002	9.33%	Record

**The Fund's Investment Advisor**

Patient Capital Management, LLC, located at One South Street, Suite 2550, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, acts as investment advisor to the Fund pursuant to an investment advisory agreement (the "Advisory Agreement") with the Trust. Samantha McLemore owns more than 25% of the Advisor and is therefore a control person of the Advisor.

The Predecessor Fund's shareholders approved Patient Capital Management, LLC as the investment advisor to the Predecessor Fund effective May 26, 2023. The same portfolio managers of the Predecessor Fund employed by Miller Value Partners, LLC, the Predecessor Fund's previous investment advisor (the "Previous Advisor"), continue to serve as portfolio managers of the Fund, now as employees of the Advisor.

In consideration of the services to be provided by the Advisor pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Advisor is entitled to receive from the Fund an investment advisory fee computed daily and payable monthly, based on the following fee schedule: 1.00% of assets on the first \$100 million; 0.75% of assets on the next \$1.4 billion; 0.60% on amounts over \$1.5 billion. Prior to January 1, 2024, the

Predecessor Fund paid an investment advisory fee computed daily and payable monthly, based on the following fee schedule: 1.00% of assets for the first \$100 million; 0.75% of assets on the next \$2.5 billion; 0.70% of assets on the next \$2.5 billion; 0.675% of assets on the next \$2.5 billion and 0.65% on amounts over \$7.6 billion. The Advisor also serves as the investment advisor to the Subsidiary pursuant to a separate investment advisory agreement. The Subsidiary is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fund organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands as an exempted company. The Advisor has contractually agreed to waive the entire management fee it charges to the Subsidiary. This undertaking will continue in effect for so long as the Fund invests in the Subsidiary and may be terminated only with the approval of the Board.

The Advisory Agreement continues in effect for successive annual periods so long as such continuation is specifically approved at least annually by the vote of (1) the Board (or a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund), and (2) a majority of the Trustees who are not interested persons of any party to the Advisory Agreement, in each case, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Advisory Agreement may be terminated at any time, without penalty, by either party to the Advisory Agreement upon a 60-day written notice and is automatically terminated in the event of its “assignment,” as defined in the 1940 Act.

In addition to the management fees payable to the Advisor, the Fund is responsible for its own operating expenses, including: fees and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance, registration and transfer of its shares; brokerage and commission expenses; all expenses of transfer, receipt, safekeeping, servicing and accounting for the cash, securities and other property of the Trust for the benefit of the Fund including all fees and expenses of its custodian and accounting services agent; interest charges on any borrowings; costs and expenses of pricing and calculating its daily NAV per share and of maintaining its books of account required under the 1940 Act; taxes, if any; a pro rata portion of expenditures in connection with meetings of the Fund’s shareholders and the Trust’s Board that are properly payable by the Fund; salaries and expenses of officers and fees and expenses of members of the Board or members of any advisory board or committee who are not members of, affiliated with or interested persons of the Advisor or Administrator; insurance premiums on property or personnel of the Fund which inure to their benefit, including liability and fidelity bond insurance; the cost of preparing and printing reports, proxy statements, prospectuses and the statement of additional information of the Fund or other communications for distribution to existing shareholders; legal counsel, auditing and accounting fees; trade association membership dues (including membership dues in the Investment Company Institute allocable to the Fund); fees and expenses (including legal fees) of registering and maintaining registration of its shares for sale under federal and applicable state and foreign securities laws; all expenses of maintaining shareholder accounts, including all charges for transfer, shareholder recordkeeping, dividend disbursing, redemption, and other agents for the benefit of the Fund, if any; and all other charges and costs of its operation plus any extraordinary and non-recurring expenses, except as otherwise prescribed in the Advisory Agreement.

The Advisor has contractually agreed to waive fees and/or reimburse operating expenses (other than front-end or contingent deferred loads, taxes, interest expense, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses (does not include fees and expenses of the Patient Opportunity Cayman Ltd.), expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization, portfolio transaction expenses, dividends paid on short sales, extraordinary expenses such as litigation, Rule 12b-1 fees, intermediary servicing fees, or any other class-specific expenses) in order to limit the total annual fund operating expenses (after fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements) to 0.88% of average daily net assets for all share classes of the Fund. This contractual limit may be referred to as the “Expense Cap.” The Advisor may request recoupment from the Fund of previously waived fees and reimbursed expenses under the Expense Cap for three years from the date such fees and expenses were waived or paid, provided that such recoupment does not cause the Fund’s expense ratio (after recoupment is taken into account) to exceed the lower of: (1) the Expense Cap in place at the time such amounts were waived or paid, or (2) the Fund’s Expense Cap at the time of the recoupment. The Expense Cap will remain in effect through at least April 30, 2027.

The Advisor has also contractually agreed to reimburse operating expenses applicable to Class I (other than management fees, front-end or contingent deferred loads, taxes, interest expense, brokerage commissions, acquired fund fees and expenses (does not include fees and expenses of the Patient Opportunity Cayman Ltd.), expenses incurred in connection with any merger or reorganization, portfolio transaction expenses, dividends paid on short sales, or extraordinary expenses such as litigation) in order to limit the total annual fund operating expenses for Class I (after fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements) to 0.93% of average daily net assets attributable to Class I shares. This contractual limit may be referred to as the “Class I Expense Cap.” The Advisor may request recoupment from Class I of previously waived fees and reimbursed expenses under the Class I Expense Cap for three years from the date such fees and expenses were waived or paid, provided that such recoupment does not cause the Class I expense ratio (after recoupment is taken into account) to exceed the lower of: (1) the Class I Expense Cap in place at the time such amounts were waived or paid, or (2) the Class I Expense Cap at the time of the recoupment. The Class I Expense Cap will remain in effect through at least April 30, 2027.

The agreement related to the Expense Cap and the Class I Expense Cap may be terminated at any time by the Board upon 60 days’ written notice to the Advisor, or by the Advisor with the consent of the Board.

For the fiscal years ended December 31, 2023, 2024, and 2025, the Fund paid the following management fees (amounts prior to January 19, 2024 were paid by the Predecessor Fund):

Year	Gross Management Fees	Management Fees Waived/Expense Reimbursements	Management Fees Recouped	Net Management Fees (After Waivers/Expense Reimbursements)
2025	\$12,250,357	(\$370,985)	\$114,184	\$11,993,556
2024	\$11,166,812	(\$426,966)	\$0	\$10,739,846
5/26/23 - 12/31/23	\$5,865,236	(\$208,827)	\$0	\$5,656,409
1/1/23 - 5/25/23*	\$3,760,051	(\$59,062)	\$0	\$3,700,989

\*Paid to the Previous Advisor.

## Portfolio Managers

The tables below identify the portfolio managers, the number of accounts for which each portfolio manager has day-to-day management responsibilities and the total assets in such accounts, within each of the following categories: registered investment companies, other pooled investment vehicles, other accounts and, if applicable, the number of accounts and total assets in the accounts where fees are based on performance.

**Samantha McLemore** - As of December 31, 2025:

Type of Account	Number of Accounts Managed	Total Assets Managed	Number of Accounts Managed for which Advisory Fee is Performance-Based	Assets Managed for which Advisory Fee is Performance-Based
Registered Investment Companies	N/A	\$0	N/A	\$0
Other pooled investment vehicles	1	\$207,190,188	1	\$207,190,188
Other accounts	3	\$385,931,084	N/A	\$0

**Christina Malbon** - As of December 31, 2025:

Type of Account	Number of Accounts Managed	Total Assets Managed	Number of Accounts Managed for which Advisory Fee is Performance-Based	Assets Managed for which Advisory Fee is Performance-Based
Registered Investment Companies	N/A	\$0	N/A	\$0
Other pooled investment vehicles	1	\$207,190,188	1	\$207,190,188
Other accounts	3	\$385,931,084	N/A	\$0

The fee schedule for the Fund does not contain the same breakpoints that apply to certain of the other accounts managed by the portfolio managers; therefore, the effective fee paid by the Fund may be higher than the effective fee paid by the other accounts described above.

In the opinion of the Advisor for the Fund, the portfolio manager's simultaneous management of the Fund and the accounts included in the tables above do not create any material conflicts of interests.

The portfolio managers have day-to-day management responsibility for other accounts. Ms. McLemore also serves as portfolio manager for a private fund and additional separate accounts managed by the Advisor, some of which may follow the same or similar investment strategies as the Fund. The management of multiple accounts by portfolio managers may create the potential for conflicts to arise. For example, the portfolio managers make investment decisions for each account based on the investment guidelines, cash flows and other factors that the portfolio managers believe are applicable to that account. Consequently, the portfolio managers may

purchase (or sell) the same security for multiple accounts at different times. The portfolio managers may also manage accounts whose style, objectives and policies differ from those of the Fund. Trading activity appropriate for one account managed by the portfolio managers may have adverse consequences for another account managed by the portfolio managers. For example, if a portfolio manager were to cause an account to sell a significant position in a security, that sale could cause the market price of the security to decrease, while other accounts, including the Fund, continue to maintain a position in the security. A potential conflict may also arise since the portfolio managers are responsible for accounts that have different advisory fees – the difference in the fees may create an incentive for a portfolio manager to favor one account over another, for example, in terms of access to investment opportunities of limited availability. This potential conflict may be heightened where an account is subject to a performance-based fee. As noted above, Ms. McLemore serves as portfolio manager for a private fund managed by the Advisor. This private fund is structured to pay a performance fee to an entity affiliated with the Advisor when the fund outperforms its index. Ms. McLemore has an ownership interest in the Advisor and the affiliated entity that may receive a performance fee. This performance fee structure has the potential to create a conflict of interests. The portfolio managers’ personal investing may also give rise to potential conflicts of interest. The Advisor has adopted brokerage, trade allocation, personal investing and other policies and procedures that it believes are reasonably designed to address the potential conflicts of interest described above. In addition, if contemporaneously placed orders to buy or sell a security for multiple accounts at approximately the same time are executed at different prices or commissions, the transactions will generally be allocated to each account at the average execution price and commission. In circumstances where an order is not completely filled, each account will normally receive a pro-rated portion of the securities based upon its level of participation in the order. In circumstances where a portfolio manager is making a decision to acquire an investment in an initial public offering, the investment must be allocated to participating clients on a pro rata basis (based upon account size) unless otherwise approved by the Chief Compliance Officer or a delegate. Employees of the Advisor may from time to time buy or sell securities for their own accounts that are also purchased and/or sold for the Fund or other clients. This has the potential to create a conflict of interest between employees of the Advisor and clients. In order to address this potential conflict of interest, the Advisor’s Code of Ethics establishes policies and procedures relating to trading by employees. The Code of Ethics is based on the principle that employees owe a fiduciary duty to clients and must avoid activities, interests and relationships that might interfere with making decisions in the best interests of any client. Among other things, the Code of Ethics generally requires employees to receive pre-clearance for any securities transaction in which they have or acquire a beneficial interest.

*Portfolio Managers Compensation*

Samantha McLemore serves as a portfolio manager and is the majority owner and sole managing member of the Advisor. Ms. McLemore receives a salary and bonus based on revenues of the Advisor and is entitled to a portion of the Advisor’s profits. Ms. McLemore is also eligible to receive from the Advisor employee benefits, including, but not limited to, health care and other insurance benefits, participation in a 401(k) program, and participation in other deferred compensation plans.

Christina Malbon serves as an assistant portfolio manager for the Advisor and is paid a fixed base salary and a discretionary bonus. Bonus compensation is reviewed annually and is determined by a number of factors, including the total value of the assets she manages and the net revenues associated with those assets, the annual performance of accounts relative to the S&P 500 Composite Stock Index (with dividends reinvested), her performance over various other time periods, her contribution to the Advisor’s research process, the profitability of the Advisor and Ms. Malbon’s contribution to profitability, and trends in industry compensation levels and practices. Ms. Malbon is also eligible to participate in a long term incentive plan based on the weighted average return of accounts relative to the S&P 500 total return over a five year period. In addition, Ms. Malbon is eligible to receive from the Advisor employee benefits, including, but not limited to, health care and other insurance benefits, participation in a 401(k) program, Firm profit sharing plan, and participation in other deferred compensation plans.

As of December 31, 2025, the Portfolio Managers beneficially owned shares of the Fund as follows:

<b>Name of Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Fund</b>
Christina Malbon	\$100,001 - \$500,000
Samantha McLemore	Over \$1,000,000

**Other Service Providers**

**Fund Administrator, Transfer Agent and Fund Accountant**

Pursuant to a fund servicing agreement, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (“Global Fund Services”), 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, acts as the administrator, transfer agent and fund accountant to the Fund. Global Fund Services provides certain services to the Fund including, among other responsibilities, coordinating the negotiation of contracts and fees with, and the monitoring of performance and billing of, the Fund’s independent

contractors and agents; preparation for signature by an officer of the Trust of all documents required to be filed for compliance by the Trust and the Fund with applicable laws and regulations, excluding those of the securities laws of various states; arranging for the computation of performance data, including NAV per share and yield; responding to shareholder inquiries; arranging for the maintenance of books and records of the Fund, and providing, at its own expense, office facilities, equipment and personnel necessary to carry out its duties. In this capacity, Fund Services does not have any responsibility or authority for the management of the Fund, the determination of investment policy, or for any matter pertaining to the distribution of Fund shares.

Pursuant to the fund servicing agreement, Global Fund Services receives a fee for its services to the Fund as part of a bundled-fee agreement for services performed as administrator and fund accountant and separately as the transfer agent and dividend disbursing agent (the “Transfer Agent”). Additionally, Global Fund Services provides chief compliance officer services to the Trust under a separate agreement. The cost for the chief compliance officer services is charged to the Fund and approved by the Board annually.

For the fiscal years shown below, the Fund paid the following administration fees to Global Fund Services (fees prior to January 19, 2024 were paid by the Predecessor Fund):

	<b>Administration Fees</b>
December 31, 2025	\$1,091,483
December 31, 2024	\$989,253
December 31, 2023	\$726,169

### **Custodian**

Pursuant to a Custody Agreement between the Trust and U.S. Bank National Association, located at 1555 North RiverCenter Drive, Suite 302, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212 (the “Custodian”), the Custodian serves as the custodian of the Fund’s assets, holds the Fund’s portfolio securities in safekeeping, and keeps all necessary records and documents relating to its duties. The Custodian is compensated with an asset-based fee plus transaction fees and is reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

The Custodian and Administrator do not participate in decisions relating to the purchase and sale of securities by the Fund. The Administrator, Transfer Agent, and Custodian are affiliated entities under the common control of U.S. Bancorp. The Custodian and its affiliates may participate in revenue sharing arrangements with the service providers of mutual funds in which the Fund may invest. The Custodian also serves as custodian for the Subsidiary.

### **Distributor**

The Trust has entered into a distribution agreement with Quasar Distributors, LLC, a wholly-owned broker-dealer subsidiary of Foreside Financial Group, LLC, located at 190 Middle Street, Suite 301, Portland, Maine 04101 (“Quasar” or the “Distributor”) pursuant to which the Distributor acts as the Fund’s distributor, provides certain administration services and promotes and arranges for the sale of Fund shares. The offering of the Fund’s shares is continuous. The Distributor is a registered broker-dealer and member of FINRA.

The distribution agreement has an initial term of up to two years and will continue in effect only if such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board or by vote of a majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities and, in either case, by a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the distribution agreement or “interested persons” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of any such party. The Distribution Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Trust on behalf of the Fund’s on 60 days’ written notice when authorized either by a majority vote of the Fund’s shareholders or by vote of a majority of the Board, including a majority of the Trustees who are not “interested persons” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust, or by the Distributor on 60 days’ written notice, and will automatically terminate in the event of its “assignment” (as defined in the 1940 Act).

### **Initial Sales Charges**

The aggregate dollar amounts of initial sales charge received on Class A shares of the Fund and the Predecessor Fund and retained by the Distributor were as follows:\*

<b>Class A Shares For the fiscal years ended December 31</b>	<b>Aggregate Commissions</b>	<b>Amounts Retained by Distributor</b>
2025	\$69,821	\$0
2024	\$37,489	\$0
2023	\$64,747	\$0

\* The amounts received prior to January 19, 2024, were attributable to the Predecessor Fund.

## Contingent Deferred Sales Charges

The aggregate dollar amounts of contingent deferred sales charges received on Class A and Class C shares of the Fund and the Predecessor Fund and retained by the Distributor were as follows:\*

<b>Class A Shares For the fiscal years ended December 31</b>	<b>Aggregate Commissions</b>	<b>Amounts Retained by Distributor</b>
2025	\$0	\$0
2024	\$0	\$0
2023	\$0	\$0

<b>Class C Shares For the fiscal years ended December 31</b>	<b>Aggregate Commissions</b>	<b>Amounts Retained by Distributor</b>
2025	\$3,019	\$0
2024	\$428	\$0
2023	\$674	\$0

\* The amounts received prior to January 19, 2024, were attributable to the Predecessor Fund.

## Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Cohen & Company, Ltd., 1835 Market Street, Suite 310, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, serves as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Trust. Its services include auditing the Trust's financial statements. Cohen & Co Advisory, LLC, an affiliate of Cohen & Company, Ltd., provides tax services as requested.

## Legal Counsel

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004, serves as legal counsel to the Trust.

Maples and Calder, PO Box 309, Ugland House, Grand Cayman, KY1-1104, Cayman Islands, serves as legal counsel to the Subsidiary.

## Execution of Portfolio Transactions

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Advisor determines which securities are to be purchased and sold by the Fund and which broker-dealers are eligible to execute the Fund's portfolio transactions. Purchases and sales of securities in the OTC market will generally be executed directly with a "market-maker" unless, in the opinion of the Advisor, a better price and execution can otherwise be obtained by using a broker for the transaction.

Purchases of portfolio securities for the Fund also may be made directly from issuers or from underwriters. Where possible, purchase and sale transactions will be effected through dealers (including banks) which specialize in the types of securities which the Fund will be holding, unless better executions are available elsewhere. Dealers and underwriters usually act as principal for their own accounts. Purchases from underwriters will include a concession paid by the issuer to the underwriter and purchases from dealers will include the spread between the bid and the asked price. If the execution and price offered by more than one dealer or underwriter are comparable, the order may be allocated to a dealer or underwriter that has provided research or other services as discussed below.

In placing portfolio transactions, the Advisor will seek best execution. The full range and quality of services available will be considered in making these determinations, such as the size of the order, the difficulty of execution, the operational facilities of the firm involved, the firm's risk in positioning a block of securities and other factors. In those instances where it is reasonably determined that more than one broker-dealer can offer the services needed to obtain the most favorable price and execution available, consideration may be given to those broker-dealers which furnish or supply research and statistical information to the Advisor that it may lawfully and appropriately use in its investment advisory capacities, as well as provide other services in addition to execution services. The Advisor considers such information, which is in addition to and not in lieu of the services required to be performed by it under its Agreement with the Fund, to be useful in varying degrees, but of indeterminable value. Portfolio transactions may be placed with broker-dealers who sell shares of the Fund subject to rules adopted by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") and the SEC.

While it is the Advisor's general policy to first seek to obtain the most favorable price and execution available in selecting a broker-dealer to execute portfolio transactions for the Fund, in accordance with Section 28(e) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934,

when it is determined that more than one broker can deliver best execution, weight is also given to the ability of a broker-dealer to furnish brokerage and research services to the Fund or to the Advisor, even if the specific services are not directly useful to the Fund and may be useful to the Advisor in advising other clients. In negotiating commissions with a broker or evaluating the spread to be paid to a dealer, the Fund may therefore pay a higher commission or spread than would be the case if no weight were given to the furnishing of these supplemental services, provided that the amount of such commission or spread has been determined in good faith by the Advisor to be reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and/or research services provided by such broker-dealer.

Investment decisions for the Fund are made independently from those of other client accounts or mutual funds managed or advised by the Advisor. Nevertheless, it is possible that at times identical securities will be acceptable for both the Fund and one or more of such client accounts or mutual funds. In such event, the position of the Fund and such client account(s) or mutual funds in the same issuer may vary and the length of time that each may choose to hold its investment in the same issuer may likewise vary. However, to the extent any of these client accounts or mutual funds seek to acquire the same security as the Fund at the same time, the Fund may not be able to acquire as large a portion of such security as it desires, or it may have to pay a higher price or obtain a lower yield for such security. Similarly, the Fund may not be able to obtain as high a price for, or as large an execution of, an order to sell any particular security at the same time. If one or more of such client accounts or mutual funds simultaneously purchases or sells the same security that the Fund is purchasing or selling, each day's transactions in such security will be allocated between the Fund and all such client accounts or mutual funds in a manner deemed equitable by the Advisor, taking into account the respective sizes of the accounts and the amount of cash available for investment, the investment objective of the account, and the ease with which a client's appropriate amount can be bought, as well as the liquidity and volatility of the account and the urgency involved in making an investment decision for the client. It is recognized that in some cases this system could have a detrimental effect on the price or value of the security insofar as the Fund is concerned. In other cases, however, it is believed that the ability of the Fund to participate in volume transactions may produce better executions for the Fund.

For the fiscal years ended December 31, the Fund paid the following brokerage commissions (commissions prior to January 19, 2024 were paid by the Predecessor Fund):

<b>Year</b>	<b>Brokerage Commissions Paid</b>
2025	\$1,890,043
2024	\$1,278,816
2023	\$1,952,427

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025, the Fund directed brokerage transactions to brokers that provide research services as follows:

<b>Dollar Value of Securities Traded</b>	<b>Total Dollar Amount of Brokerage Commissions Paid on Transactions Related to Research</b>
\$738,143,113	\$667,026

As of December 31, 2025, the Fund owned equity securities of regular broker/dealers or their parent companies as follows:

<b>Entity</b>	<b>Market Value of Shares Held</b>
Citigroup Inc	\$116,690,000
UBS Group AG	\$41,679,000

## Additional Purchase, Redemption, Exchange, and Conversion Information

The information provided below supplements the information contained in the Prospectus regarding the purchase and redemption of Fund shares.

### How to Buy Shares

A Financial Intermediary may offer Fund shares subject to variations in or elimination of the Fund's sales charges ("variations"), provided such variations are described in the Fund's Prospectus. For the variations applicable to shares offered through specific Financial Intermediaries, please see Appendix A to the Fund's Prospectus - Financial Intermediary Sales Charge Variations ("Appendix A to the Fund's Prospectus"). Sales charge variations may apply to purchases, sales, exchanges and reinvestments of Fund shares and a shareholder transacting in Fund shares through the Financial Intermediary identified in Appendix A to the Fund's Prospectus should read those terms and conditions carefully. A variation that is specific to the Financial Intermediary is not applicable to shares held directly with the Fund or through another intermediary. Please consult the Financial Intermediary with respect to any variations listed on Appendix A to the Fund's Prospectus.

You may purchase shares of the Fund from Financial Intermediaries. Investors should contact their Financial Intermediary directly for appropriate instructions, as well as information pertaining to accounts and any service or transaction fees that may be charged. The Fund may enter into arrangements with certain Financial Intermediaries whereby such Financial Intermediaries are authorized to accept your order on behalf of the Fund. If you transmit your order to these Financial Intermediaries before the close of regular trading (generally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time) on a day that the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") is open for business, shares will be purchased at the appropriate per share price next computed after it is received by the Financial Intermediary. Investors should check with their Financial Intermediary to determine if it participates in these arrangements.

The public offering price of Fund shares is the NAV per share, plus any applicable sales charge. Shares are purchased at the public offering price next determined after the Transfer Agent receives your order in good order (*i.e.*, the purchase request includes the name of the Fund and share class; the dollar amount of shares to be purchased; your account application or investment stub; and a check payable to the Fund). In most cases, in order to receive that day's public offering price, the Transfer Agent must receive your order in good order before the close of regular trading on the NYSE, normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

The Trust reserves the right in its sole discretion (i) to suspend the continued offering of the Fund's shares and (ii) to reject purchase orders in whole or in part when in the judgment of the Advisor or the Distributor such rejection is in the best interest of the Fund. The Advisor has the right to reduce or waive the minimum for initial and subsequent investments for certain fiduciary accounts or under circumstances where certain economies can be achieved in sales of the Fund's shares.

In addition to cash purchases, Fund shares may be purchased by tendering payment in-kind in the form of shares of stock, bonds or other securities. Any securities used to buy Fund shares must be readily marketable; their acquisition consistent with the Fund's objective and otherwise acceptable to the Advisor and the Board.

**Class I and Class IS shares.** The following persons are eligible to purchase Class I and Class IS shares directly from the Fund: (i) current employees of the Fund's Advisor and its affiliates; (ii) former employees of the Fund's Advisor and its affiliates with existing accounts; (iii) current and former board members of Trust for Advised Portfolios; and (iv) the immediate families of such persons. Immediate families are such person's spouse (and, in the case of a deceased board member, the surviving spouse), and parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren (including step-relationships). For such investors, the minimum initial investment is \$1,000 and the minimum for each purchase of additional shares is \$50. Current employees may purchase additional Class I and Class IS shares through a systematic investment plan.

Under certain circumstances, an investor who purchases Fund shares pursuant to a fee-based advisory account program of an Eligible Financial Intermediary as authorized by the Advisor may be afforded an opportunity to make a conversion between one or more share classes owned by the investor in the same fund to Class I or Class IS shares of that fund. Such a conversion in these particular circumstances does not cause the investor to realize taxable gain or loss.

**Automatic Investment Plan ("AIP").** Shareholders may make additions to their accounts at any time by purchasing shares through a service known as the Automatic Investment Plan. Under the AIP, the Transfer Agent is authorized through preauthorized transfers of at least \$50 on a monthly, quarterly, every alternate month, semi-annual or annual basis to charge the shareholder's account held with a bank or other financial institution as indicated by the shareholder, to provide for systematic additions to the shareholder's Fund account. If you wish to enroll in the AIP, complete the appropriate section on the Account application. Your signed Account application must be received at least 7 business days prior to the initial transaction. A \$25 fee will be imposed if your AIP transaction is returned for any reason. The Fund may terminate or modify this privilege at any time. You may terminate your participation in the AIP at any time by notifying the Transfer Agent sufficiently in advance of the next withdrawal. Please contact your financial institution to determine if it is an ACH member. Your financial institution must be an ACH member in order for you to participate in the AIP.

The AIP is a method of using dollar cost averaging as an investment strategy that involves investing a fixed amount of money at regular time intervals. However, a program of regular investment cannot ensure a profit or protect against a loss as a result of declining markets. By continually investing the same amount, you will be purchasing more shares when the price is low and fewer shares when the price is high. Please call 800-655-0324 for additional information regarding the Fund's AIP.

### **Sales Charge Alternatives**

The following classes of shares are available for purchase. See the Prospectus for a discussion of who is eligible to purchase certain classes and of factors to consider in selecting which class of shares to purchase.

**Class A.** Class A shares are sold to investors at the public offering price, which is the NAV plus an initial sales charge, as described in the Prospectus.

Sales charges are calculated based on the aggregate of purchases of Class A shares of the Fund made at one time by any "person," which includes an individual and his or her spouse and children under the age of 21, or a trustee or other fiduciary of a single trust estate or single fiduciary account. For additional information regarding sales charge reductions, see "Sales Charge Waivers and Reductions" below.

Purchases of Class A shares of \$1 million or more will be made at NAV without any initial sales charge, but are subject to a contingent deferred sales charge of 1.00% on redemptions made within 18 months of purchase. The contingent deferred sales charge is waived in the same circumstances in which the contingent deferred sales charge applicable to Class C shares is waived. See "Contingent Deferred Sales Charge Provisions" and "Waivers of Contingent Deferred Sales Charge" below.

**Class C.** Class C shares are sold without an initial sales charge but are subject to a contingent deferred sales charge of 1.00% on certain redemptions made within 12 months of purchase. See "Contingent Deferred Sales Charge Provisions" below.

**Class FI, Class I, Class IS, and Class R.** Class FI, Class I, Class IS, and Class R shares are sold at NAV with no initial sales charge on purchases and no contingent deferred sales charge upon redemption.

### **Sales Charge Waivers and Reductions**

**Initial Sales Charge Waivers.** Purchases of Class A shares may be made at NAV without an initial sales charge in the following circumstances:

- (a) Investors purchasing shares directly through the Fund;
- (b) sales to (i) current and retired Board Members, (ii) current employees of the Advisor and its subsidiaries, (iii) the "immediate families" of such persons ("immediate families" are such person's spouse, including the surviving spouse of a deceased Board Member, and children under the age of 21) and (iv) a pension, profit-sharing or other benefit plan for the benefit of such persons;
- (c) sales to any employees of Financial Intermediaries having dealer, service or other selling agreements with the Fund's distributor or otherwise having an arrangement with any such Financial Intermediary with respect to sales of Fund shares, and by the immediate families of such persons or by a pension, profit-sharing or other benefit plan for the benefit of such persons (providing the purchase is made for investment purposes and such securities will not be resold except through redemption or repurchase);
- (d) offers of Class A shares to any other investment company to effect the combination of such company with the Fund by merger, acquisition of assets or otherwise;
- (e) purchases by shareholders who have redeemed Class A shares in the Fund (or Class A shares of another Fund sold by the Advisor that is offered with a sales charge) and who wish to reinvest their redemption proceeds in the Fund, provided the reinvestment is made within 365 calendar days of the redemption;
- (f) purchases by certain separate accounts used to fund unregistered variable annuity contracts;
- (g) purchases by investors participating in "wrap fee" or asset allocation programs or other fee-based arrangements sponsored by broker/dealers and other financial institutions that have entered into agreements with the Advisor;
- (h) purchases by direct retail investment platforms through mutual fund "supermarkets," where the sponsor links its client's account (including IRA accounts on such platforms) to a master account in the sponsor's name; and
- (i) sales through Financial Intermediaries who have entered into an agreement with the Advisor to offer shares to self-directed investment brokerage accounts that may or may not charge a transaction fee to their customers.

In order to obtain such discounts, the purchaser must provide sufficient information at the time of purchase to permit verification that the purchase qualifies for the elimination of the sales charge.

All existing retirement plan shareholders who purchased Class A shares at NAV prior to November 20, 2006, are permitted to purchase additional Class A shares at NAV. Certain existing programs for current and prospective retirement plan investors sponsored by Financial Intermediaries approved by the Advisor prior to November 20, 2006 will also remain eligible to purchase Class A shares at NAV.

In order to take advantage of reductions in sales charges that may be available to you when you purchase Fund shares, you must inform your Financial Intermediary or the Fund if you are eligible for a letter of intent or a right of accumulation. Certain records, such as account statements, may be necessary in order to verify your eligibility for a reduced sales charge.

For the sales charge variations applicable to shares offered through specific Financial Intermediaries, please see Appendix A to the Fund's Prospectus.

**Rights of Accumulation Privilege.** You may combine your new purchase of Class A shares with other Fund shares you currently own for the purpose of qualifying for the lower initial sales charge rates that apply to larger purchases. The applicable sales charge for the new purchase is based on the total of your current purchase and the current value, calculated using the current day public offering price of all other shares you own. You may also combine the account value of your spouse and children under the age of 21. Only the shares held at the Financial Intermediary or the transfer agent at which you are making the current purchase can be used for the purposes of a lower sales charge based on Rights of Accumulation.

If you hold Fund shares in accounts at two or more Financial Intermediaries, please contact your Financial Intermediaries to determine which shares may be combined.

**Letters of Intent ("LOI").** By signing a LOI you can reduce your Class A sales charge. Your individual purchases will be made at the applicable sales charge based on the amount you intend to invest over a 13-month period. The LOI will apply to all purchases of Fund shares. You have a choice of seven Asset Level Goal amounts, as follows:

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| (1) \$25,000  | (5) \$500,000   |
| (2) \$50,000  | (6) \$750,000   |
| (3) \$100,000 | (7) \$1,000,000 |
| (4) \$250,000 |                 |

Any shares purchased within 90 days of the date you sign the letter of intent may be used as credit toward completion, but the reduced sales charge will only apply to new purchases made on or after that date. Purchases resulting from the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains do not apply toward fulfillment of the LOI. Shares equal to 5.75% of the amount of the LOI will be held in escrow during the 13-month period. If, at the end of that time the total amount of purchases made is less than the amount intended, you will be required to pay the difference between the reduced sales charge and the sales charge applicable to the individual purchases had the LOI not been in effect. This amount will be obtained from redemption of the escrow shares. Any remaining escrow shares will be released to you.

If you establish an LOI with the Fund you can aggregate your accounts as well as the accounts of your spouse and children under age 21. You will need to provide written instruction with respect to the other accounts whose purchases should be considered in fulfillment of the LOI. Only the accounts held at the Financial Intermediary or the Transfer Agent at which you are making the purchase can be used toward fulfillment of the LOI.

**Sales and Redemptions.** Shares acquired pursuant to a LOI, other than escrowed shares, may be sold or redeemed at any time, although any shares that are redeemed prior to meeting your Asset Level Goal will no longer count towards meeting your Asset Level Goal. However, complete liquidation of purchases made under a LOI prior to meeting the Asset Level Goal will result in the cancellation of the LOI. See "Failure to Meet Asset Level Goal" below.

**Cancellation of Letter of Intent.** You may cancel a LOI by notifying your Financial Intermediary in writing, or if you purchase your shares directly through the Fund, by notifying the Fund in writing. The LOI will be automatically cancelled if all shares are sold or redeemed as set forth above. See "Failure to Meet Asset Level Goal" below.

**Failure to Meet Asset Level Goal.** If the total assets under your LOI within its 13-month term are less than your Asset Level Goal or you elect to liquidate all of your holdings or otherwise cancel the LOI before reaching your Asset Level Goal, you will be liable for the difference between: (a) the sales charge actually paid and; (b) the sales charge that would have applied if you had not entered into the LOI. You may, however, be entitled to any breakpoints that would have been available to you under the accumulation privilege. An appropriate number of shares in your account will be redeemed to realize the amount due. For these purposes, by entering into a LOI, you irrevocably appoint your Financial Advisor, or if you purchase your shares directly through the Fund, the Fund, as your attorney-in-fact for the purposes of holding the escrowed shares and surrendering shares in your account for redemption. If there are insufficient assets in your account, you will be liable for the difference. Any escrowed shares remaining after such redemption will be released to your account.

Shareholders purchasing shares at a reduced sales charge under a LOI indicate their acceptance of these terms and those in the Prospectus with their first purchase.

### **Contingent Deferred Sales Charge Provisions**

The “Contingent Deferred Sales Charge Shares” are: (a) Class C shares; and (b) Class A that were purchased without an initial sales charge but are subject to a contingent deferred sales charge. A contingent deferred sales charge may be imposed on certain redemptions of these shares.

Any applicable contingent deferred sales charge will be assessed on the NAV at the time of purchase or redemption, whichever is less.

Class C shares are subject to a 1.00% contingent deferred sales charge if redeemed within 12 months of purchase.

Class A shares that are Contingent Deferred Sales Charge Shares are subject to a 1.00% contingent deferred sales charge if redeemed within 18 months of purchase.

In determining the applicability of any contingent deferred sales charge, it will be assumed that a redemption is made first of shares representing capital appreciation, next of shares representing the reinvestment of dividends and capital gain distributions, next of shares that are not subject to the contingent deferred sales charge and finally of other shares held by the shareholder for the longest period of time. For federal income tax purposes, the amount of the contingent deferred sales charge will reduce the gain or increase the loss, as the case may be, on the amount realized on the redemption.

### **Waivers of Contingent Deferred Sales Charge**

The contingent deferred sales charge will be waived on: (a) automatic cash withdrawals in amounts equal to or less than 2.00% of the shareholder’s account balance at the time the withdrawals commence, up to a maximum of 12.00% in one year (see “Systematic Withdrawal Plan”); (b) redemptions of shares within 12 months following the death or disability (as defined in the Code) of the shareholder; (c) mandatory post-retirement distributions from retirement plans or individual retirement accounts (“IRAs”) commencing on or after attainment of the qualified age based on the Code or regulations thereunder; (except that shareholders of certain retirement plans or IRA accounts established prior to May 23, 2005, will be eligible to obtain a waiver of the contingent deferred sales charge on all funds held in those accounts at age 59 ½ and may be required to demonstrate such eligibility at the time of redemption); (d) involuntary redemptions; (e) redemptions of shares to effect a combination of the Fund with any investment company by merger, acquisition of assets or otherwise; (f) tax-free returns of an excess contribution to any retirement plan; and (g) certain redemptions of shares of the Fund in connection with lump-sum or other distributions made by eligible retirement plans or redemption of shares by participants in certain “wrap fee” or asset allocation programs sponsored by broker/dealers and other financial institutions that have entered into agreements with the Distributor or the Advisor.

The contingent deferred sales charge is waived on new Class C shares purchased by retirement plan omnibus accounts held on the books of the Fund.

For the contingent deferred sales charge variations applicable to shares offered through specific Financial Intermediaries, please see Appendix A to the Fund’s Prospectus.

## **Additional Redemption Information**

### **How to Sell Shares and Delivery of Redemption Proceeds**

You can sell your Fund shares any day the NYSE is open for regular trading, either directly to the Fund or through your Financial Intermediary.

Payments to shareholders for shares of the Fund redeemed directly from the Fund will be made as promptly as possible, but no later than seven calendar days after receipt by the Transfer Agent of the written request in proper form, with the appropriate documentation as stated in the Prospectus, except that the Fund may suspend the right of redemption or postpone the date of payment during any period when (a) trading on the NYSE is restricted as determined by the SEC or the NYSE is closed for other than weekends and holidays; (b) an emergency exists as determined by the SEC making disposal of portfolio securities or valuation of net assets of the Fund not reasonably practicable; or (c) for such other period as the SEC may permit for the protection of the Fund’s shareholders. Under these circumstances, the Fund may suspend redemptions, or postpone payment for more than seven calendar days, but only as authorized by SEC rules.

The value of shares on redemption or repurchase may be more or less than the investor’s cost, depending upon the market value of the Fund’s portfolio securities at the time of redemption or repurchase.

### **Telephone Redemptions**

Shareholders with telephone transaction privileges established on their account may redeem Fund shares by telephone. Upon receipt of any instructions or inquiries by telephone from the shareholder, the Fund or its authorized agents may carry out the instructions and/or

respond to the inquiry consistent with the shareholder's previously established account service options. For joint accounts, instructions or inquiries from either party will be carried out without prior notice to the other account owners. In acting upon telephone instructions, the Fund and its agents use procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that such instructions are genuine. These include recording all telephone calls, requiring pertinent information about the account and sending written confirmation of each transaction to the registered owner.

The Transfer Agent will employ reasonable procedures to confirm that instructions communicated by telephone are genuine. If the Transfer Agent fails to employ reasonable procedures, the Fund and the Transfer Agent may be liable for any losses due to unauthorized or fraudulent instructions. If these procedures are followed, however, to the extent permitted by applicable law, neither the Fund nor its agents will be liable for any loss, liability, cost or expense arising out of any redemption request, including any fraudulent or unauthorized request. For additional information, contact the Transfer Agent.

### **Systematic Withdrawal Plan ("SWP")**

The Systematic Withdrawal Plan is available to those shareholders who own shares directly with the Fund, excluding those shares held in IRAs or Coverdell education savings accounts ("Coverdell ESAs"). You should contact your Financial Advisor to determine if it offers a similar service.

*Class A and Class C Shareholders* Class A and Class C shareholders having an account with a balance of \$10,000 or more (\$5,000 or more for Retirement Accounts) may elect to make withdrawals of a minimum of \$50 on a monthly, every alternate month, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis. If you elect this method of redemption, the Fund will send a check directly to your address of record or will send the payment directly to your bank account via electronic funds transfer through the ACH network. You may change the monthly, every alternate month, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual amount to be paid to you without charge by notifying the Fund. You may terminate the SWP at any time, without charge or penalty, by contacting the Fund. The Fund, the Fund's Transfer Agent, and the Advisor reserve the right to modify or terminate the SWP at any time. See "Waivers of Contingent Deferred Sales Charge," above, for information about application of the contingent deferred sales charge to withdrawals under the Systematic Withdrawal Plan.

#### *Class FI, Class I and Class IS Shareholders*

Certain shareholders of the Fund's Class FI, Class I or Class IS may be eligible to participate in the SWP. If you elect this method of redemption, the Fund will send a check directly to your address of record or will send the payment directly to your bank account via electronic funds transfer through the ACH network. Requests must be made in writing to the Fund or a Financial Intermediary to participate in, change or discontinue the SWP. You may change the monthly amount to be paid to you or terminate the SWP at any time, without charge or penalty, by notifying the Fund at 800-655-0324. The Fund, its Transfer Agent and the Advisor also reserve the right to modify or terminate the SWP at any time.

### **Redemptions In-Kind**

The Fund has reserved the right to pay the redemption price of its shares, either totally or partially by a distribution in-kind of portfolio securities (instead of cash). The securities so distributed would be valued at the same amount as that assigned to them in calculating the NAV per share for the shares being sold. If a shareholder receives a distribution in-kind, the shareholder could incur brokerage or other charges in converting the securities to cash.

In the event the Fund were to elect to make an in-kind redemption, the Fund would generally make such distribution by way of a pro rata distribution of securities that are traded on a public securities market or are otherwise considered liquid pursuant to the Fund's liquidity policies and procedures. In certain instances, where the Advisor believes that a non-pro rata distribution is advantageous to the Fund and its shareholders, the Advisor may seek the Board's approval for an exception to the pro rata requirement. Except as otherwise may be approved by the Trustees, the Fund would not include the following securities in an in-kind distribution: (1) unregistered securities which, if distributed, would be required to be registered under the 1933 Act; (2) securities issued by entities in countries which (a) restrict or prohibit the holding of securities by non-nationals other than through qualified investment vehicles, such as a fund, or (b) permit transfers of ownership of securities to be effected only by transactions conducted on a local stock exchange; and (3) certain securities that, although they may be liquid and marketable, must be traded through the marketplace or with the counterparty to the transaction in order to effect a change in beneficial ownership. On the same redemption date, some shareholders may be paid in whole or in part in securities, while other shareholders may be paid entirely in cash.

### **Grandfathered Retirement Program with Exchange Features**

Certain retirement plan programs with exchange features in effect prior to November 20, 2006 (collectively, the "Grandfathered Retirement Program,") that are authorized by the distributor to offer eligible retirement plan investors the opportunity to exchange all of their Class C shares for Class A shares of the Fund, are permitted to maintain such share class exchange feature for current and prospective retirement plan investors. Under the Grandfathered Retirement Program, Class C shares of the Fund may be purchased by plans investing less than \$3 million. Class C shares are eligible for exchange into Class A shares not later than eight years after the plan joins the program. They are eligible for exchange in the following circumstances:

For participating plans established with the Fund prior to June 2, 2003, if such plan's total Class C holdings in all non-money market funds equal at least \$1,000,000 at the end of the fifth year after the date the participating plan enrolled in the Grandfathered Retirement Program, the participating plan will be permitted to exchange all of its Class C shares for Class A shares of the Fund. For participating plans established with the Fund on or after June 2, 2003, if such plan's total Class C holdings in all non-money market funds equal at least \$3,000,000 at the end of the fifth year after the date the participating plan enrolled in the Grandfathered Retirement Program, the participating plan will be permitted to exchange all of its Class C shares for Class A shares of the Fund.

Unless the exchange offer has been rejected in writing, the exchange will automatically occur within approximately 30 days after the fifth anniversary date. If the participating plan does not qualify for the five-year exchange to Class A shares, a review of the participating plan's holdings will be performed each quarter until either the participating plan qualifies or the end of the eighth year.

Any participating plan that has not previously qualified for an exchange into Class A shares will be offered the opportunity to exchange all of its Class C shares for Class A shares of the same Fund regardless of asset size at the end of the eighth year after the date the participating plan enrolled in the Grandfathered Retirement Program. Unless the exchange has been rejected in writing, the exchange will automatically occur on or about the eighth anniversary date. Once an exchange has occurred, a participating plan will not be eligible to acquire additional Class C shares, but instead may acquire Class A shares of the same Fund. Any Class C shares not converted will continue to be subject to the distribution fee.

For further information regarding the Grandfathered Retirement Program, contact your Financial Intermediary or the Transfer Agent. Participating plans that enrolled in the Grandfathered Retirement Program prior to June 2, 2003 should contact the Transfer Agent for information regarding Class C exchange privileges applicable to their plan.

### **Conversion Privilege**

Under certain circumstances, an investor who purchases or holds Fund shares pursuant to a fee-based advisory or brokerage account program of an Eligible Financial Intermediary or through a no-load network or platform as authorized by the Advisor, may be afforded an opportunity to make a conversion between one or more share classes owned by the investor in the Fund to another class of shares of the Fund. The aggregate dollar value of the shares of the class received upon any such conversion will equal the aggregate dollar value of the converted shares on the date of the conversion. An investor whose Fund shares are converted from one class to another class will not realize taxable gain or loss as a result of the conversion. Please refer to the section of the Prospectus titled "Retirement Plans, Clients of Eligible Financial Intermediaries and Institutional Investors" or contact your Financial Intermediary for more information.

## Distribution Plan

The Fund has adopted a Distribution Plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 (“12b-1 Plan”) under the 1940 Act under which the Fund’s classes pay the Distributor an amount which is accrued daily and paid quarterly, at the following rates of the average daily net assets of the Fund:

Class A	Class C	Class FI	Class I	Class IS	Class R
0.25%	1.00%	0.25%	N/A	N/A	0.50%

Amounts paid under the 12b-1 Plan, by the Fund, are paid to the Distributor to reimburse it for costs of the services it provides and the expenses it bears in the distribution of the Fund’s shares, including overhead and telephone expenses; printing and distribution of prospectuses and reports used in connection with the offering of the Fund’s shares to prospective investors; and preparation, printing and distribution of sales literature and advertising materials. Such fee is paid to the Distributor each year only to the extent of such costs and expenses of the Distributor under the 12b-1 Plan actually incurred in that year. In addition, payments to the Distributor under the 12b-1 Plan reimburse the Distributor for payments it makes to selected dealers and administrators which have entered into Service Agreements with the Distributor of periodic fees for services provided to shareholders of the Fund. The services provided by selected dealers pursuant to the 12b-1 Plan are primarily designed to promote the sale of shares of the Fund and include the furnishing of office space and equipment, telephone facilities, personnel and assistance to the Fund in servicing such shareholders. The services provided by the administrators pursuant to the 12b-1 Plan are designed to provide support services to the Fund and include establishing and maintaining shareholders’ accounts and records, processing purchase and redemption transactions, answering routine client inquiries regarding the Fund and providing other services to the Fund as may be required.

Under the 12b-1 Plan, the Trustees will be furnished quarterly with information detailing the amount of expenses paid under the Plan and the purposes for which payments were made. The 12b-1 Plan may be terminated at any time by vote of a majority of the Trustees of the Trust who are not interested persons. Continuation of the 12b-1 Plan is considered by such Trustees no less frequently than annually. With the exception of the Distributor and the Advisor, in their capacities as the Fund’s principal underwriter and distribution coordinator, respectively, no interested person has or had a direct or indirect financial interest in the Plan or any related agreement.

While there is no assurance that the expenditures of the Fund’s assets to finance distribution of shares will have the anticipated results, the Board believes there is a reasonable likelihood that one or more of such benefits will result, and because the Board is in a position to monitor the distribution expenses, it is able to determine the benefit of such expenditures in deciding whether to continue the Plan.

Any material amendment to the 12b-1 Plan must be approved by the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, or by a vote of a “majority” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the applicable class or classes. The 12b-1 Plan may be terminated, with respect to a class or classes of the Fund, without penalty at any time: (1) by vote of a majority of the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees; or (2) by a vote of a “majority” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the applicable class or classes.

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025, the Fund paid distribution expenses for advertising, printing and mailing prospectuses, support services and overhead expenses and compensation to Financial Intermediaries and third parties as shown in the following table.

Class	Advertising	Printing/ Mailing	Compensation to Underwriter	Compensation to Broker-Dealer	Compensation to Sales Personnel	Interest, carrying or other financing charges	Financial Consultant Compensation (Amortized)	Total
Class A	\$234,555	\$0	\$0	\$1,693,684	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,928,239
Class C	\$34,694	\$0	\$0	\$594,293	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$628,987
Class FI	\$11,839	\$0	\$0	\$9,734	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$21,573
Class R	\$258	\$0	\$0	\$17,824	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$18,082

### Sub-Accounting Service Fees

In addition to the fees that the Fund may pay to its Transfer Agent, the Board has authorized the Fund to pay service fees, at the annual rate of up to 0.15% of applicable average net assets or \$20 per account, to intermediaries such as banks, broker-dealers, financial advisers or other financial institutions for sub administration, sub-transfer agency, recordkeeping (collectively, “sub-accounting services”) and other shareholder services associated with shareholders whose shares are held of record in omnibus, networked, or other group accounts or accounts traded through registered securities clearing agents. Unless the Fund has adopted a specific shareholder servicing plan which is broken out as a separate expense, a sub-accounting fee paid by the Fund is included in the total amount of “Other Expenses” listed in the Fund’s Fees and Expenses table in the Prospectus.

## Determination of Share Price

The NAV of the Fund is determined as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (generally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time), each day the NYSE is open for trading. However, the Fund's NAV may be calculated earlier if trading on the NYSE is restricted or as permitted by the SEC. The NYSE annually announces the days on which it will not be open for trading. It is expected that the NYSE will not be open for trading on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Washington's Birthday/Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. The NAV will not be calculated on days when the NYSE is closed for trading.

NAV is calculated by adding the value of all securities and other assets attributable to the Fund (including interest and dividends accrued, but not yet received), then subtracting liabilities attributable to the Fund (including accrued expenses).

Securities primarily traded in the Nasdaq Global Market® for which market quotations are readily available shall be valued using the Nasdaq ® Official Closing Price ("NOCP"). If the NOCP is not available, such securities shall be valued at the last sale price on the day of valuation, or if there has been no sale on such day, at the mean between the bid and asked prices. OTC securities which are not traded in the Nasdaq Global Market® shall be valued at the most recent sales price. Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available (including restricted securities which are subject to limitations as to their sale) are valued at fair value as determined in good faith under procedures adopted by the Advisor, subject to oversight by the Board.

Short-term debt obligations with remaining maturities in excess of 60 days are valued at current market prices, as discussed above.

The Fund's securities, including American depositary receipts, which are traded on securities exchanges are valued at the last sale price on the exchange on which such securities are traded, as of the close of business on the day the securities are being valued or, lacking any reported sales, at the mean between the last available bid and asked price. Securities that are traded on more than one exchange are valued on the exchange determined by the Advisor to be the primary market.

Debt securities and bank loans are valued in accordance with prices supplied by an approved pricing service. Pricing services may use various valuation methodologies such as the mean between the bid and asked prices, matrix pricing and other analytical pricing models as well as market transactions and dealer quotations.

Fixed income debt instruments, such as commercial paper, bankers' acceptances and U.S. Treasury Bills, having a maturity of less than 60 days are valued at amortized cost. Any discount or premium is accreted or amortized on a straight-line basis until maturity.

In the case of foreign securities, the occurrence of certain events after the close of foreign markets, but prior to the time the Fund's NAV is calculated (such as a significant surge or decline in the U.S. or other markets) often will result in an adjustment to the trading prices of foreign securities when foreign markets open on the following business day. If such events occur, the Fund will value foreign securities at fair value, taking into account such events, in calculating the NAV. In such cases, use of fair valuation can reduce an investor's ability to seek to profit by estimating the Fund's NAV in advance of the time the NAV is calculated. The Advisor anticipates that the Fund's portfolio holdings will be fair valued only if market quotations for those holdings are considered unreliable or are unavailable.

An option that is written or purchased by the Fund shall be valued using composite pricing via the National Best Bid and Offer quotes. Composite pricing looks at the last trade on the exchange where the option is traded. If there are no trades for an option on a given business day, as of closing, the Advisor will value the option at the mean of the highest bid price and lowest ask price across the exchanges where the option is traded. For options where market quotations are not readily available, fair value shall be determined by the Fund's Advisor subject to Board oversight.

All other assets of the Fund are valued in such manner as the Advisor in good faith deems appropriate to reflect their fair value.

## Tax Information

The following is only a summary of certain additional U.S. federal income tax considerations generally affecting the Fund and its shareholders that is intended to supplement the discussion contained in the Fund's prospectus. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of the tax treatment of the Fund or its shareholders, and the discussion here and in the Fund's prospectus is not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning.

Fund shares held in a tax-qualified retirement account will generally not be subject to federal taxation on income and capital gains distributions from the Fund until a shareholder begins receiving payments from their retirement account. Because each shareholder's

tax situation is different, shareholders should consult their tax advisers with specific reference to their own tax situations, including their state, local, and foreign tax liabilities.

The following general discussion of certain federal income tax consequences is based on the Code and the regulations issued thereunder as in effect on the date of this SAI. New legislation, as well as administrative changes or court decisions, may significantly change the conclusions expressed herein, and may have a retroactive effect with respect to the transactions contemplated herein.

### **Qualification as a Regulated Investment Company**

The Fund has elected and intends to qualify each year to be treated, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. To qualify as a RIC, the Fund must, among other things: (a) derive at least 90% of its gross income in each taxable year from dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of stock or securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including, but not limited to, gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies, and net income derived from interests in “qualified publicly traded partnerships” (*i.e.*, partnerships that are traded on an established securities market or tradable on a secondary market, other than partnerships that derive 90% of their income from interest, dividends, capital gains, and other traditionally permitted mutual fund income) (the “Qualifying Income Test”); and (b) diversify its holdings so that, at the end of each quarter of the Fund’s taxable year, (i) at least 50% of the market value of the Fund’s assets is represented by cash, securities of other RICs, U.S. government securities and other securities, with such other securities limited, in respect of any one issuer, to an amount not greater than 5% of the Fund’s assets and not greater than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of its assets is invested, including through corporations in which the Fund owns a 20% or more voting stock interest, in the securities (other than U.S. government securities or securities of other RICs) of any one issuer, in the securities (other than the securities of other RICs) of any two or more issuers that the Fund controls and that are determined to be engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses or related trades or businesses, or in the securities of one or more “qualified publicly traded partnerships” (the “Asset Test”).

As a RIC, the Fund will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the portion of its taxable investment income and capital gains that it timely distributes to its shareholders, provided that it satisfies a minimum distribution requirement. To satisfy the minimum distribution requirement, the Fund must distribute to its shareholders at least the sum of (i) 90% of its “investment company taxable income” (*i.e.*, generally, its taxable income other than its net capital gain, computed without regard to the dividends-paid deduction, plus or minus certain other adjustments), and (ii) 90% of its net tax-exempt income for the taxable year. The Fund will be subject to income tax at the regular corporate income tax rate (currently 21%) on any taxable income or gains that it does not distribute to its shareholders. The Fund’s policy is to distribute to its shareholders all of its investment company taxable income (computed without regard to the dividends-paid deduction) and any net realized long-term capital gains for each fiscal year in a manner that complies with the distribution requirements of the Code, so that the Fund will not be subject to any federal income or excise taxes. However, the Fund can give no assurances that distributions will be sufficient to eliminate all taxes.

If, for any taxable year, the Fund was to fail to qualify as a RIC under the Code or were to fail to meet the distribution requirement, it would be taxed in the same manner as an ordinary corporation at the regular corporate income tax rate (currently 21%) and distributions to its shareholders would not be deductible by the Fund in computing its taxable income. In addition, in the event of a failure to qualify, the Fund’s distributions, to the extent derived from the Fund’s current and accumulated earnings and profits, including any distributions of net tax-exempt interest income and net long-term capital gains, would be taxable to shareholders as ordinary dividend income for federal income tax purposes. However, such dividends would be eligible, subject to any generally applicable limitations, (i) to be treated as qualified dividend income in the case of shareholders taxed as individuals and (ii) for the dividends-received deduction in the case of corporate shareholders. Moreover, if the Fund were to fail to qualify as a RIC in any year, it would be required to pay out its earnings and profits accumulated in that year in order to qualify again as a RIC. Under certain circumstances, the Fund may cure a failure to qualify as a RIC, but in order to do so the Fund may incur significant Fund-level taxes and may be forced to dispose of certain assets. If the Fund failed to qualify as a RIC for a period greater than two taxable years, the Fund would generally be required to recognize, and would generally be subject to a corporate-level tax with respect to, any net built-in gains with respect to certain of its assets upon a disposition of such assets within five years of qualifying as a RIC in a subsequent year.

### **Federal Excise Tax**

The Fund will be subject to a nondeductible 4% federal excise tax to the extent it fails to distribute by the end of the calendar year at least 98% of its ordinary income and 98.2% of its capital gain net income (the excess of short- and long-term capital gains over short- and long-term capital losses) for the one-year period ending on October 31 of such year (including any retained amount from the prior calendar year on which the Fund paid no federal income tax).

The Fund intends to make sufficient distributions to avoid liability for federal excise tax, but can make no assurances that such tax will be completely eliminated. For example, the Fund may receive delayed or corrected tax reporting statements from its investments that cause the Fund to accrue additional income and gains after the Fund has already made its excise tax distributions for the year. In such a situation, the Fund may incur an excise tax liability resulting from such delayed receipt of such tax information statements. In

addition, the Fund may in certain circumstances be required to liquidate Fund investments in order to make sufficient distributions to avoid federal excise tax liability at a time when the investment adviser might not otherwise have chosen to do so, and liquidation of investments in such circumstances may affect the ability of the Fund to satisfy the requirements for qualification as a RIC.

**Capital Losses.** The Fund may elect to treat part or all of any “qualified late year loss” as if it had been incurred in the succeeding taxable year in determining the Fund’s taxable income, net capital gain, net short-term capital gain, and earnings and profits. The effect of this election is to treat any such “qualified late year loss” as if it had been incurred in the succeeding taxable year in characterizing Fund distributions for any calendar year. A “qualified late year loss” generally includes net capital loss, net long-term capital loss, or net short-term capital loss incurred after October 31 of the current taxable year (commonly referred to as “post-October losses”) and certain other late-year losses.

The treatment of capital loss carryovers for the Fund is similar to the rules that apply to capital loss carryovers of individuals, which provide that such losses are carried over indefinitely. Thus, if the Fund has a “net capital loss” (that is, capital losses in excess of capital gains) the excess of the Fund’s net short-term capital losses over its net long-term capital gains is treated as a short-term capital loss arising on the first day of the Fund’s next taxable year, and the excess (if any) of the Fund’s net long-term capital losses over its net short-term capital gains is treated as a long-term capital loss arising on the first day of the Fund’s next taxable year. In addition, the carryover of capital losses may be limited under the general loss limitation rules if the Fund experiences an ownership change as defined in the Code.

At December 31, 2025, the Fund had capital loss carryforwards, which reduce the Fund's taxable income arising from future net realized gains on investments, if any, to the extent permitted by the Code, and thus will reduce the amount of distributions to shareholders which would otherwise be necessary to relieve the Fund of any liability for federal tax. Pursuant to the Code, the character of such capital loss carryforwards is as follows:

Not Subject to Expiration		
Short-Term	Long-Term	Total
\$35,961,866	\$0	\$35,961,866

#### Distributions to Shareholders

The Fund receives income generally in the form of dividends and interest on investments. This income, plus net short-term capital gains, if any, less expenses incurred in the operation of the Fund, constitutes the Fund’s net investment income from which dividends may be paid to you. Net realized capital gains for a fiscal period are computed by taking into account any capital loss carryforward of the Fund. Taxable dividends and distributions are subject to tax whether you receive them in cash or in additional shares.

Distributions of net investment income including distributions of net short-term capital gains are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income or, for non-corporate shareholders, as qualified dividend income. Distributions from the Fund’s net capital gain (*i.e.*, the excess of the Fund’s net long-term capital gains over its net short-term capital losses) are taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains regardless of the length of time shares have been held. In general, to the extent that the Fund receives qualified dividend income, the Fund may report a portion of the dividends it pays as qualified dividend income, which for non-corporate shareholders is subject to U.S. federal income tax rates of up to 20%. Qualified dividend income is, in general, dividend income from taxable domestic corporations and certain foreign corporations (*i.e.*, foreign corporations incorporated in a possession of the United States or in certain countries with a comprehensive tax treaty with the United States, and foreign corporations if the stock with respect to which the dividend was paid is readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States). A dividend will not be treated as qualified dividend income to the extent that (i) the shareholder has not held the shares on which the dividend was paid for more than 60 days during the 121-day period that begins on the date that is 60 days before the date on which the shares become “ex-dividend” with respect to such dividend, (ii) the shareholder is under an obligation (whether pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to substantially similar or related property, or (iii) the shareholder elects to treat such dividend as investment income under section 163(d)(4)(B) of the Code. The holding period requirements described in this paragraph apply to shareholders’ investments in the Fund and to the Fund’s investments in underlying dividend-paying stocks. Distributions received by the Fund from an underlying fund taxable as a RIC or from a REIT will be treated as qualified dividend income only to the extent so reported by such underlying fund or REIT. If 95% or more of the Fund’s gross income (calculated without taking into account net capital gain derived from sales or other dispositions of stock or securities) consists of qualified dividend income, the Fund may report all distributions of such income as qualified dividend income. The Fund’s investment strategies may limit its ability to distribute dividends eligible to be treated as qualified dividend income.

Dividends paid by the Fund that are attributable to dividends received by the Fund from domestic corporations may qualify for the dividends-received deduction for corporate shareholders of the Fund. The Fund’s investment strategies may limit its ability to distribute dividends eligible for the dividends received deduction.

A RIC that receives business interest income may pass through its net business interest income for purposes of the tax rules applicable to the interest expense limitations under Section 163(j) of the Code. A RIC's total "Section 163(j) Interest Dividend" for a tax year is limited to the excess of the RIC's business interest income over the sum of its business interest expense and its other deductions properly allocable to its business interest income. A RIC may, in its discretion, designate all or a portion of ordinary dividends as Section 163(j) Interest Dividends, which would allow the recipient shareholder to treat the designated portion of such dividends as interest income for purposes of determining such shareholder's interest expense deduction limitation under Section 163(j) of the Code. This can potentially increase the amount of a shareholder's interest expense deductible under Section 163(j) of the Code. In general, to be eligible to treat a Section 163(j) Interest Dividend as interest income, you must have held your shares in the Fund for more than 180 days during the 361-day period beginning on the date that is 180 days before the date on which the share becomes ex-dividend with respect to such dividend. Section 163(j) Interest Dividends, if so designated by the Fund, will be reported to your financial intermediary or otherwise in accordance with the requirements specified by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS").

To the extent that the Fund makes a distribution of income received by the Fund in lieu of dividends (a "substitute payment") with respect to securities on loan pursuant to a securities lending transaction, such income will not constitute qualifying dividend income to individual shareholders and will not be eligible for the dividends received deduction for corporate shareholders.

If the Fund's distributions exceed its earnings and profits, all or a portion of the distributions may be treated as a return of capital to shareholders. A return of capital distribution generally will not be taxable but will reduce each shareholder's tax basis, resulting in a higher capital gain or lower capital loss when the shares on which the distribution was received are sold. After a shareholder's tax basis in the shares has been reduced to zero, distributions in excess of earnings and profits will be treated as gain from the sale of the shareholder's shares.

Each shareholder who receives taxable distributions in the form of additional shares will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as if receiving a distribution in an amount equal to the amount of money that the shareholder would have received if he or she had instead elected to receive cash distributions. The shareholder's aggregate tax basis in shares of the Fund will be increased by such amount.

A dividend or distribution received shortly after the purchase of shares reduces the net asset value of the shares by the amount of the dividend or distribution and, although in effect a return of capital, will be taxable to the shareholder. If the net asset value of shares were reduced below the shareholder's cost by dividends or distributions representing gains realized on sales of securities, such dividends or distributions would be a return of investment though taxable to the shareholder in the same manner as other dividends or distributions. This is known as "buying a dividend" and generally should be avoided by taxable investors.

A dividend or other distribution by the Fund is generally treated under the Code as received by the shareholders at the time the dividend or distribution is made. However, distributions declared in October, November or December to shareholders of record on a date in such a month and paid the following January are taxable as if received on December 31. Distributions are includable in alternative minimum taxable income of non-corporate shareholders in computing such shareholder's liability for the alternative minimum tax. Shareholders should note that the Fund may make taxable distributions of income and capital gains even when share values have declined.

The Fund (or its administrative agent) will inform you of the amount of your ordinary income dividends, qualified dividend income and capital gain distributions, if any, and will advise you of their tax status for federal income tax purposes shortly after the close of each calendar year. If you have not held your shares for a full year, the Fund may designate and distribute to you, as ordinary income, qualified dividend income or capital gain, a percentage of income that is not equal to the actual amount of such income earned during the period of your investment in the Fund.

### **Sales or Redemptions**

Any gain or loss recognized on a sale or redemption of shares of the Fund by a shareholder who holds Fund shares as capital assets securities will generally be treated as a long-term capital gain or loss if the shares have been held for more than twelve months and otherwise will be treated as a short-term capital gain or loss.

A shareholder may recognize a taxable gain or loss on a redemption of Fund shares. Any loss realized upon redemption of shares within six months from the date of their purchase will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any amounts treated as distributions of long-term capital gains during such six-month period. Any loss realized upon a redemption may be disallowed under certain wash sale rules to the extent shares of the Fund are purchased (through reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within 30 days before or after the redemption.

A 3.8% tax generally applies to all or a portion of the net investment income of a shareholder who is an individual and not a nonresident alien for federal income tax purposes and who has adjusted gross income (subject to certain adjustments) that exceeds a threshold amount (\$250,000 if married filing jointly or if considered a "surviving spouse" for federal income tax purposes, \$125,000 if married filing separately, and \$200,000 in other cases). This 3.8% tax also applies to all or a portion of the undistributed net

investment income of certain shareholders that are estates and trusts. For these purposes, dividends, interest and certain capital gains (among other categories of income) are generally taken into account in computing a shareholder's net investment income.

The Fund will be required to report to the IRS all distributions of taxable income and capital gains as well as gross proceeds from the redemption of Fund shares, except in the case of exempt shareholders, which includes most corporations. The Fund will also be required to report tax basis information for such shares and indicate whether these shares had a short-term or long-term holding period. If a shareholder has a different basis for different shares of the Fund in the same account (e.g., if a shareholder purchased shares in the same account at different times for different prices), the Fund will calculate the basis of the shares sold using its default method unless the shareholder has properly elected to use a different method. The Fund's default method for calculating basis will be the average basis method, under which the basis per share is reported as the average of the bases of all the shareholder's Fund shares in the account. A shareholder may elect, on an account-by-account basis, to use a method other than average basis by following procedures established by the Fund or its administrative agent. If such an election is made on or prior to the date of the first redemption of shares in the account and on or prior to the date that is one year after the shareholder receives notice of the Fund's default method, the new election will generally apply as if the average basis method had never been in effect for such account. If such an election is not made on or prior to such dates, the shares in the account at the time of the election will retain their averaged bases. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers concerning the tax consequences of applying the average basis method or electing another method of basis calculation.

### **Tax Treatment of Complex Securities**

The Fund may invest in complex securities and these investments may be subject to numerous special and complex tax rules. These rules could affect the Fund's ability to qualify as a RIC, affect whether gains and losses recognized by the Fund are treated as ordinary income or capital gain, accelerate the recognition of income to the Fund and/or defer the Fund's ability to recognize losses, and, in limited cases, subject the Fund to U.S. federal income tax on income from certain of its foreign securities. In turn, these rules may affect the amount, timing or character of the income distributed to you by the Fund.

Certain derivative investment by the Fund, such as OTC derivatives may not produce qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test described above, which must be met in order for the Fund to maintain its status as a RIC under the Code. In addition, the determination of the value and the identity of the issuer of such derivative investments are often unclear for purposes of the Asset Test described above. The Fund intends to carefully monitor such investments to ensure that any non-qualifying income does not exceed permissible limits and to ensure that they are adequately diversified under the Asset Test. The Fund, however, may not be able to accurately predict the non-qualifying income from these investments and there are no assurances that the IRS will agree with the Fund's determination of the Asset Test with respect to such derivatives.

Any security or other position entered into or held by the Fund that substantially diminishes the Fund's risk of loss from any other position held by the Fund may constitute a "straddle" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In general, straddles are subject to certain rules that may affect the amount, character and timing of the Fund's gains and losses with respect to straddle positions by requiring, among other things, that the loss realized on disposition of one position of a straddle be deferred until gain is realized on disposition of the offsetting position; that the Fund's holding period in certain straddle positions not begin until the straddle is terminated (possibly resulting in the gain being treated as short-term capital gain rather than long-term capital gain); and that losses recognized with respect to certain straddle positions, which would otherwise constitute short-term capital losses, be treated as long-term capital losses. Different elections are available to the Fund that may mitigate the effects of the straddle rules.

The Fund is required for federal income tax purposes to mark-to-market and recognize as income for each taxable year its net unrealized gains and losses on certain futures and options contracts subject to section 1256 of the Code ("Section 1256 Contracts") as of the end of the year as well as those actually realized during the year. Gain or loss from Section 1256 Contracts on broad-based indexes required to be marked to market will be 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss. Application of this rule may alter the timing and character of distributions to shareholders. The Fund may be required to defer the recognition of losses on Section 1256 Contracts to the extent of any unrecognized gains on offsetting positions held by the Fund. These provisions may also require the Fund to mark-to-market certain types of positions in its portfolios (i.e., treat them as if they were closed out), which may cause the Fund to recognize income without receiving cash with which to make distributions in amounts necessary to satisfy the RIC distribution requirement and for avoiding the excise tax discussed above. Accordingly, in order to avoid certain income and excise taxes, the Fund may be required to liquidate its investments at a time when the investment adviser might not otherwise have chosen to do so.

With respect to investments in STRIPS, Treasury Receipts, and other zero coupon securities which are sold at original issue discount and thus do not make periodic cash interest payments, the Fund will be required to include as part of its current income the imputed interest on such obligations even though the Fund has not received any interest payments on such obligations during that period. Because the Fund intends to distribute all of its net investment income to its shareholders, the Fund may have to sell Fund securities to distribute such imputed income which may occur at a time when the Advisor would not have chosen to sell such securities and which may result in taxable gain or loss.

Any market discount recognized on a bond is taxable as ordinary income. A market discount bond is a bond acquired in the secondary market at a price below redemption value or adjusted issue price if issued with original issue discount. Absent an election by the Fund to include the market discount in income as it accrues, gain on the Fund's disposition of such an obligation will be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gain to the extent of the accrued market discount.

The Fund may invest in, or hold, debt obligations that are in the lowest rating categories or that are unrated, including debt obligations of issuers not currently paying interest or that are in default. Investments in debt obligations that are at risk of or are in default present special tax issues for the Fund. Federal income tax rules are not entirely clear about issues such as when the Fund may cease to accrue interest, original issue discount or market discount, when and to what extent deductions may be taken for bad debts or worthless securities, how payments received on obligations in default should be allocated between principal and interest and whether certain exchanges of debt obligations in a workout context are taxable. These and other issues will be addressed by the Fund, in the event it invests in or holds such securities, in order to seek to ensure that it distributes sufficient income to preserve its status as a RIC and does not become subject to U.S. federal income or excise tax.

In general, for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test described above, income derived from a partnership will be treated as qualifying income only to the extent such income is attributable to items of income of the partnership that would be qualifying income if realized directly by the Fund. However, 100% of the net income derived from an interest in a "qualified publicly traded partnership" (generally, a partnership (i) interests in which are traded on an established securities market or are readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial equivalent thereof, (ii) that, in general, derives at least 90% of its income from the passive income sources specified in Code section 7704(d), and (iii) that generally derives less than 90% of its income from the same sources as described in the Qualifying Income test) will be treated as qualifying income. In addition, although in general the passive loss rules of the Code do not apply to RICs, such rules do apply to a RIC with respect to items attributable to an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership.

The Fund may invest in certain MLPs which may be treated as qualified publicly traded partnerships. Income from qualified publicly traded partnerships is qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test, but the Fund's investment in one or more of such qualified publicly traded partnerships is limited under the Asset Test to no more than 25% of the value of the Fund's assets. The Fund will monitor its investment in such qualified publicly traded partnerships in order to ensure compliance with the Qualifying Income and Asset Tests. MLPs and other partnerships that the Fund may invest in will deliver Schedules K-1 to the Fund to report its share of income, gains, losses, deductions and credits of the MLP or other partnership. These Schedules K-1 may be delayed and may not be received until after the time that the Fund issues its tax reporting statements. As a result, the Fund may at times find it necessary to reclassify the amount and character of its distributions to you after it issues your tax reporting statement.

"Qualified publicly traded partnership income" within the meaning of Section 199A(e)(5) of the Code is eligible for a 20% deduction by non-corporate taxpayers. Qualified publicly traded partnership income is generally income of a "publicly traded partnership" that is not treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes that is effectively connected with such entity's trade or business, but does not include certain investment income. A "publicly traded partnership" for purposes of this deduction is not the same as a "qualified publicly traded partnership" as defined in the immediately preceding paragraphs. This deduction, if allowed in full, equates to a maximum effective tax rate of 29.6% (37% top rate applied to income after 20% deduction). A RIC, such as the Fund, is currently not permitted to pass the special character of this income through to its shareholders. Currently, direct investors in entities that generate "qualified publicly traded partnership income" will enjoy the lower rate, but investors in RICs that invest in such entities will not.

The Fund may invest in U.S. REITs. Investments in REIT equity securities may require the Fund to accrue and distribute income not yet received. To generate sufficient cash to make the requisite distributions, the Fund may be required to sell securities in its portfolio (including when it is not advantageous to do so) that it otherwise would have continued to hold. The Fund's investments in REIT equity securities may at other times result in the Fund's receipt of cash in excess of the REIT's earnings; if the Fund distributes these amounts, these distributions could constitute a return of capital to the Fund's shareholders for federal income tax purposes. Dividends paid by a REIT, other than capital gain distributions, will be taxable as ordinary income up to the amount of the REIT's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Capital gain dividends paid by a REIT to the Fund will be treated as long-term capital gains by the Fund and, in turn, may be distributed by the Fund to its shareholders as a capital gain distribution. Dividends received by the Fund from a REIT generally will not constitute qualified dividend income or qualify for the dividends received deduction. If a REIT is operated in a manner such that it fails to qualify as a REIT, an investment in the REIT would become subject to double taxation, meaning the taxable income of the REIT would be subject to federal income tax at the regular corporate rate without any deduction for dividends paid to shareholders and the dividends would be taxable to shareholders as ordinary income (or possibly as qualified dividend income) to the extent of the REIT's current and accumulated earnings and profits.

"Qualified REIT dividends" (*i.e.*, ordinary REIT dividends other than capital gain dividends and portions of REIT dividends designated as qualified dividend income eligible for capital gain tax rates) are eligible for a 20% deduction by non-corporate taxpayers. This deduction, if allowed in full, equates to a maximum effective tax rate of 29.6% (37% top rate applied to income after

20% deduction). Distributions by the Fund to its shareholders that are attributable to qualified REIT dividends received by the Fund and which the Fund properly reports as “section 199A dividends,” are treated as “qualified REIT dividends” in the hands of non-corporate shareholders. A section 199A dividend is treated as a qualified REIT dividend only if the shareholder receiving such dividend holds the dividend-paying RIC shares for at least 46 days of the 91-day period beginning 45 days before the shares become ex-dividend, and is not under an obligation to make related payments with respect to a position in substantially similar or related property. The Fund is permitted to report such part of its dividends as section 199A dividends as are eligible, but is not required to do so.

REITs in which the Fund invests often do not provide complete and final tax information to the Fund until after the time that the Fund issues a tax reporting statement. As a result, the Fund may at times find it necessary to reclassify the amount and character of its distributions to you after it issues your tax reporting statement. When such reclassification is necessary, the Fund (or its administrative agent) will send you a corrected, final Form 1099-DIV to reflect the reclassified information. If you receive a corrected Form 1099-DIV, use the information on this corrected form, and not the information on the previously issued tax reporting statement, in completing your tax returns.

The Fund may invest directly in a Cryptocurrency ETP, which is expected to be treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and, therefore, an investment by the Fund in a Cryptocurrency ETP will generally be treated as a direct investment by the Fund in an undivided interest in the cryptocurrency for such purposes. Many significant aspects of the U.S. federal income tax treatment of investments in cryptocurrency are uncertain and an investment in cryptocurrency may produce income that if directly earned by a RIC would not be treated as qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test (as described above) necessary for the Fund to qualify as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. To the extent the Fund invests in Cryptocurrency ETPs, it will seek to restrict its income from such investments to a maximum of 10% of its gross income (when combined with its other investments that produce non-qualifying income) to comply with the Qualifying Income Test (as described above) necessary for the Fund to qualify as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. However, the Fund may generate more non-qualifying income than anticipated, may not be able to generate qualifying income in a particular taxable year at levels sufficient to meet the Qualifying Income Test (as described above), or may not be able to accurately predict the non-qualifying income from these investments. Accordingly, the extent to which the Fund invests in Cryptocurrency ETPs directly may be limited by the Qualifying Income Test (as described above), which the Fund must continue to satisfy to maintain its status as a RIC. Failure to comply with the Qualifying Income Test (as described above) would have significant negative tax consequences to Fund shareholders.

Similarly, to the extent the Fund directly invests in commodity-linked derivative instruments and other similar instruments it may be subject to the risk that such instruments will not generate qualifying income and may compromise the Fund’s ability to qualify as a RIC. The Fund may be unable to determine the percentage of qualifying income it has derived for a taxable year until after year-end, may generate more non-qualifying income than anticipated or may be unable to generate qualifying income in a particular taxable year at levels sufficient to limit its non-qualifying income to 10% of its gross income. If the Fund were to fail to meet the Qualifying Income Test for qualification as a RIC, it would be taxed in the same manner as an ordinary corporation, and distributions to its shareholders would not be deductible by the Fund in computing its taxable income, unless certain relief provisions are available (which would generally require the Fund to pay certain Fund-level taxes). In addition, the Fund may determine not to make an investment that it otherwise would have made, or may dispose of an investment it otherwise would have retained, in an effort to meet the Qualifying Income Test described above.

The Fund’s investment in the Subsidiary is expected to provide the Fund with exposure to certain securities, such as Cryptocurrency ETPs and commodity-linked derivative instruments, within the limitations of the federal tax requirements of Subchapter M of the Code. The “Subpart F” income (defined in Section 951 of the Code to include passive income, including from commodity-linked derivatives) of the Fund attributable to its investment in the Subsidiary is “qualifying income” to the Fund to the extent that such income is derived with respect to the Fund’s business of investing in stock, securities or currencies. The Fund expects its “Subpart F” income attributable to its investment in the Subsidiary to be treated as “qualifying income.” The Advisor intends to conduct the Fund’s investments in the Subsidiary in a manner consistent with the terms and conditions of applicable Code provisions, and will monitor the Fund’s investments in the Subsidiary to ensure that no more than 25% of the Fund’s assets are invested in the Subsidiary.

A U.S. person, including the Fund, who owns (directly or indirectly) 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of 10% or more of the total value of shares of all classes of stock of a foreign corporation is a “United States Shareholder” for purposes of the controlled foreign corporation (“CFC”) provisions of the Code. A CFC is a foreign corporation that, on any day of its taxable year, is owned (directly, indirectly, or constructively) more than 50% (measured by voting power or value) by U.S. Shareholders. The Fund expects that the Subsidiary will be treated as a CFC and that, under the CFC rules, the Fund will be treated as a “U.S. shareholder” of the Subsidiary. As a “U.S. shareholder” of the Subsidiary, the Fund will be required to include in its gross income the Subsidiary’s “Subpart F income” (described below) and any net CFC tested income (“NCTI”) for the CFC’s taxable year ending within the Fund’s taxable year regardless of whether corresponding cash amounts are distributed to the Fund in a given year. “Subpart F income” generally includes interest, original issue discount, dividends, net gains from the disposition of stocks or

securities, receipts with respect to securities loans and net payments received with respect to equity swaps and similar derivatives. “Subpart F income” also includes the excess of gains over losses from transactions (including futures, forward and similar transactions) in any commodities. The “Subpart F income” of the Fund attributable to its investment in the Subsidiary is “qualifying income” to the Fund for purposes of the Qualifying Income Test described above to the extent that such income is derived with respect to the Fund’s business of investing in stock, securities or currencies. NCTI generally includes the active operating profits of the CFC.

Subpart F income and NCTI are treated as ordinary income, regardless of the character of the CFC’s underlying income. Net losses incurred by a CFC during a tax year do not flow through to the Fund and thus will not be available to offset income or capital gain generated from the Fund’s other investments. In addition, net losses incurred by a CFC during a tax year generally cannot be carried forward by the CFC to offset gains realized by it in subsequent taxable years. To the extent the Fund invests in the Subsidiary and recognizes “Subpart F” income” or NCTI in excess of actual cash distributions from the Subsidiary, if any, it may be required to sell assets (including when it is not advantageous to do so) to generate the cash necessary to distribute as dividends to its shareholders all of its income and gains and therefore to eliminate any tax liability at the Fund level. “Subpart F” income” also includes the excess of gains over losses from transactions (including futures, forward and other similar transactions) in commodities.

The Fund’s recognition of any “Subpart F” income” or NCTI from an investment in the Subsidiary will increase the Fund’s tax basis in the Subsidiary. Distributions by the Subsidiary to the Fund, including in redemption of the Subsidiary’s shares, will be tax free, to the extent of the Subsidiary’s previously undistributed “Subpart F” income” or NCTI, and will correspondingly reduce the Fund’s tax basis in the Subsidiary, and any distributions in excess of the Fund’s tax basis in the Subsidiary will be treated as realized gain. Any losses with respect to the Fund’s shares of the Subsidiary will not be currently recognized. The Fund’s investment in the Subsidiary will potentially have the effect of accelerating the Fund’s recognition of income and causing its income to be treated as ordinary income, regardless of the character of the Subsidiary’s income. If a net loss is realized by the Subsidiary, such loss is generally not available to offset the income earned by the Fund. In addition, the net losses incurred during a taxable year by the Subsidiary cannot be carried forward by the Subsidiary to offset gains realized by it in subsequent taxable years. The Fund will not receive any credit in respect of any non-U.S. tax borne by the Subsidiary.

A foreign corporation, such as the Subsidiary, is generally not subject to U.S. federal income taxation on a net income basis unless it is deemed to be engaged in a U.S. trade or business. A foreign corporation generally will not be treated as engaged in a U.S. trade or business if it only trades in stocks, securities and certain commodities through a resident broker, commission agent, custodian or other independent agent. The Fund expects that the Subsidiary will fall within this exception and therefore will not be subject to tax on a net income basis in the U.S. If, however, the Subsidiary were to engage in activities outside of the exception, then the Subsidiary might be subject to tax on its net income that is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the U.S.

The Subsidiary may be subject to a 30% withholding tax, even if it is not deemed to be engaged in a U.S. trade or business, if it realizes certain types of income from U.S. sources. The Fund does not expect the Subsidiary will earn income that will be subject to the 30% withholding tax.

If the Fund owns shares in certain foreign investment entities, referred to as “passive foreign investment companies” or “PFICs,” the Fund will generally be subject to one of the following special tax regimes: (i) the Fund may be liable for U.S. federal income tax, and an additional interest charge, on a portion of any “excess distribution” from such foreign entity or any gain from the disposition of such shares, even if the entire distribution or gain is paid out by the Fund as a dividend to its shareholders; (ii) if the Fund were able and elected to treat a PFIC as a “qualified electing fund” or “QEF,” the Fund would be required each year to include in income, and distribute to shareholders in accordance with the distribution requirements set forth above, the Fund’s pro rata share of the ordinary earnings and net capital gains of the PFIC, whether or not such earnings or gains are distributed to the Fund; or (iii) the Fund may be entitled to mark-to-market annually shares of the PFIC, and in such event would be required to distribute to shareholders any such mark-to-market gains in accordance with the distribution requirements set forth above. The Fund intends to make the appropriate tax elections, if possible, and take any additional steps that are necessary to mitigate the effect of these rules. Amounts included in income each year by the Fund arising from a QEF election will be “qualifying income” under the Qualifying Income Test (as described above) even if not distributed to the Fund, if the Fund derives such income from its business of investing in stock, securities or currencies.

The Fund may be subject to foreign withholding taxes on dividends and interest earned with respect to securities of foreign corporations. Tax conventions between certain countries and the U.S. may reduce or eliminate such taxes in some cases. Foreign countries generally do not impose taxes on capital gains with respect to investments by foreign investors. If more than 50% of the value of the Fund’s total assets at the close of their taxable year consists of stocks or securities of foreign corporations, the Fund will be eligible to and intends to file an election with the IRS that may enable shareholders, in effect, to receive either the benefit of a foreign tax credit, or a deduction from such taxes, with respect to any foreign and U.S. possessions income taxes paid by the Fund, subject to certain limitations, which may result in a shareholder not receiving full credit or deduction (if any) for the amount of such taxes.

In particular, shareholders must hold their Fund shares (without protection from risk of loss) on the ex-dividend date and for at least 15 additional days during the 30-day period surrounding the ex-dividend date to be eligible to claim a foreign tax credit with respect to a

given dividend. Shareholders who do not itemize deductions on their federal income tax returns may claim a credit (but no deduction) for such foreign taxes. Even if the Fund were eligible to make such an election for a given year, it may determine not to do so. Shareholders that are not subject to U.S. federal income tax, and those who invest in the Fund through tax-advantaged accounts (including those who invest through individual retirement accounts or other tax-advantaged retirement plans), generally will receive no benefit from any tax credit or deduction passed through by the Fund.

### **Tax Shelter Reporting Regulations**

Under Treasury regulations, if a shareholder recognizes a loss with respect to the Fund's shares of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder, or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder, in any single year (or certain greater amounts over a combination of years), the shareholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on IRS Form 8886. Direct shareholders of portfolio securities are in many cases excepted from this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, shareholders of a RIC are not excepted. A shareholder who fails to make the required disclosure to the IRS may be subject to substantial penalties. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders should consult their tax advisers to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

### **Backup Withholding**

Pursuant to the backup withholding provisions of the Code, distributions of any taxable income and capital gains and proceeds from the redemption of Fund shares may be subject to withholding of federal income tax at the rate of 24% in the case of non-exempt shareholders who fail to furnish the Fund with their taxpayer identification numbers or with required certifications regarding their status under the federal income tax law, or if the IRS notifies the Fund that such backup withholding is required. If the withholding provisions are applicable, any such distributions and proceeds, whether taken in cash or reinvested in additional shares, will be reduced by the amounts required to be withheld. Corporate and other exempt shareholders should provide the Fund with their taxpayer identification numbers or certify their exempt status in order to avoid possible erroneous application of backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax and any amounts withheld may be credited against a shareholder's ultimate federal income tax liability if proper documentation is provided. The Fund reserves the right to refuse to open an account for any person failing to provide a certified taxpayer identification number.

### **Tax-Exempt Shareholders**

Certain tax-exempt shareholders, including qualified pension plans, IRAs, salary deferral arrangements, 401(k)s, and other tax-exempt entities, generally are exempt from federal income taxation except with respect to their unrelated business taxable income ("UBTI"). Tax-exempt entities are not permitted to offset losses from one trade or business against the income or gain of another trade or business. Certain net losses incurred prior to January 1, 2018 are permitted to offset gain and income created by an unrelated trade or business, if otherwise available. Under current law, the Fund generally serves to block UBTI from being realized by tax-exempt shareholders. However, notwithstanding that the Fund generally blocks UBTI, a tax-exempt shareholder could realize UBTI by virtue of an investment in the Fund where, for example: (i) the Fund invests in residual interests of Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduits ("REMICs"), (ii) the Fund invests in a REIT that is a taxable mortgage pool ("TMP") or that has a subsidiary that is a TMP or that invests in the residual interest of a REMIC, or (iii) shares in the Fund constitute debt-financed property in the hands of the tax-exempt shareholder within the meaning of section 514(b) of the Code. Charitable remainder trusts are subject to special rules and should consult their tax adviser. The IRS has issued guidance with respect to these issues and prospective shareholders, especially charitable remainder trusts, are strongly encouraged to consult their tax advisers regarding these issues.

The Fund's shares held in a tax-qualified retirement account will generally not be subject to federal taxation on income and capital gains distributions from the Fund until a shareholder begins receiving payments from their retirement account. Because each shareholder's tax situation is different, shareholders should consult their tax adviser about the tax implications of an investment in the Fund.

### **Non-U.S. Investors**

Any non-U.S. investors in the Fund may be subject to U.S. withholding and estate tax and are encouraged to consult their tax advisers prior to investing in the Fund. Foreign shareholders (*i.e.*, nonresident alien individuals and foreign corporations, partnerships, trusts and estates) are generally subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30% (or a lower tax treaty rate) on distributions derived from taxable ordinary income. The Fund may, under certain circumstances, report all or a portion of a dividend as an "interest-related dividend" or a "short-term capital gain dividend," which would generally be exempt from this 30% U.S. withholding tax, provided certain other requirements are met. Short-term capital gain dividends received by a nonresident alien individual who is present in the U.S. for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the taxable year are not exempt from this 30% withholding tax. Gains realized by foreign shareholders from the sale or other disposition of shares of the Fund generally are not subject to U.S. taxation, unless the recipient is an individual who is physically present in the U.S. for 183 days or more per year. Foreign shareholders who fail to provide an applicable IRS form may be subject to backup withholding on certain payments from the Fund. Backup

withholding will not be applied to payments that are subject to the 30% (or lower applicable treaty rate) withholding tax described in this paragraph. Different tax consequences may result if the foreign shareholder is engaged in a trade or business within the United States. In addition, the tax consequences to a foreign shareholder entitled to claim the benefits of a tax treaty may be different than those described above.

Under legislation generally known as “FATCA” (the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act), the Fund is required to withhold 30% of certain ordinary dividends it pays to shareholders that fail to meet prescribed information reporting or certification requirements. In general, no such withholding will be required with respect to a U.S. person or non-U.S. person that timely provides the certifications required by the Fund or its agent on a valid IRS Form W-9 or applicable series of IRS Form W-8, respectively. Shareholders potentially subject to withholding include foreign financial institutions (“FFIs”), such as non-U.S. investment funds, and non-financial foreign entities (“NFFEs”). To avoid withholding under FATCA, an FFI generally must enter into an information sharing agreement with the IRS in which it agrees to report certain identifying information (including name, address, and taxpayer identification number) with respect to its U.S. account holders (which, in the case of an entity shareholder, may include its direct and indirect U.S. owners), and an NFFE generally must identify and provide other required information to the Fund or other withholding agent regarding its U.S. owners, if any. Such non-U.S. shareholders also may fall into certain exempt, excepted or deemed compliant categories as established by regulations and other guidance. A non-U.S. shareholder resident or doing business in a country that has entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the U.S. to implement FATCA will be exempt from FATCA withholding provided that the shareholder and the applicable foreign government comply with the terms of the agreement.

A non-U.S. entity that invests in the Fund will need to provide the Fund with documentation properly certifying the entity’s status under FATCA in order to avoid FATCA withholding. Non-U.S. investors in the Fund should consult their tax advisers in this regard.

### **State Taxes**

Depending upon state and local law, distributions by the Fund to its shareholders and the ownership of such shares may be subject to state and local taxes. Rules of state and local taxation of dividend and capital gains distributions from RICs often differ from the rules for federal income taxation described above. It is expected that the Fund will not be liable for any corporate excise, income or franchise tax in Delaware if it qualifies as a RIC for federal income tax purposes.

Many states grant tax-free status to dividends paid to you from interest earned on direct obligations of the U.S. government, subject in some states to minimum investment requirements that must be met by the Fund. Investment in Ginnie Mae or Fannie Mae securities, banker’s acceptances, commercial paper, and repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. government securities do not generally qualify for such tax-free treatment. The rules on exclusion of this income are different for corporate shareholders. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisers regarding state and local taxes applicable to an investment in the Fund.

This discussion and the related discussion in the Prospectus have been prepared by Fund management. The information above is only a summary of some of the federal income tax considerations generally affecting the Fund and its shareholders. No attempt has been made to discuss individual tax consequences and this discussion should not be construed as applicable to all shareholders’ tax situations. Investors should consult their own tax advisers to determine the suitability of the Fund and the applicability of any federal, state, local or foreign taxation.

### **Tax-Deferred Qualified Plans—Class A and Class C Shares**

Investors may invest in Class A and Class C shares of the Fund through IRAs, simplified employee pension plans (“SEPs”), savings incentive match plans for employees (“SIMPLES”), other qualified retirement plans and Coverdell ESAs (collectively, “qualified plans”). In general, income earned through the investment of assets of qualified plans is not taxed to their beneficiaries until the income is distributed to those beneficiaries (or, in the case of Roth IRAs and Coverdell ESAs, not at all if certain conditions are satisfied). Investors who are considering establishing a qualified plan should consult their attorneys or other tax advisers with respect to individual tax questions. Please consult your financial adviser for further information with respect to these plans.

### **Individual Retirement Account—IRA**

**TRADITIONAL IRA.** Certain Class A and Class C shareholders who receive compensation, including earnings from self-employment, may establish and make contributions to an IRA. Your IRA contributions can be tax-deductible if neither you nor your spouse is an active participant in a qualified employer or government retirement plan. If you or your spouse is an active participant in such a plan, your IRA contribution may be deductible, in whole or in part, depending on the amount of your and your spouse’s combined adjusted gross income. In addition, all earnings grow tax-deferred until withdrawn, at which point distributions are taxed as ordinary income to you, usually after age 59 1/2, when you may be in a lower tax bracket. Withdrawals made before age 59 1/2 are generally subject to a 10% penalty.

**ROTH IRA.** Unlike a traditional IRA, a Roth IRA is only available to individuals who meet certain “modified adjusted gross income” (MAGI) limitations. Under certain circumstances, a traditional IRA may be converted to a Roth IRA; these conversions are, however, subject to federal income tax.

Contributions to a Roth IRA are not deductible; however, earnings accumulate tax-free in a Roth IRA, and withdrawals of earnings are not subject to federal income tax if the account has been held for at least five years (or, in the case of earnings attributable to a conversion of a traditional IRA, the conversion occurred more than five years before the withdrawal) and the account holder has reached age 59 1/2 (or certain other conditions apply).

#### **Simplified Employee Pension Plan—SEP**

The Advisor makes available to corporate and other employers a SEP for investment in Class A and Class C shares of the Fund.

#### **Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees—SIMPLE**

An employer with no more than 100 employees that does not maintain another qualified retirement plan may establish a SIMPLE, either as a plan using separate IRAs or as part of a Code section 401(k) plan. A SIMPLE, which is not subject to the complicated nondiscrimination rules that generally apply to other qualified retirement plans, allows certain employees to make elective contributions of up to certain amounts each year and requires the employer to make matching contributions of up to 3% of each such employee's salary or a 2% non-elective contribution.

#### **Coverdell Education Savings Account—Coverdell ESA**

A Coverdell ESA provides a vehicle for saving for a child's education. A Coverdell ESA may be established for the benefit of any minor, and any person whose MAGI does not exceed certain levels may contribute to a Coverdell ESA, subject to certain annual limits on contributions. Contributions are not deductible and may not be made after the beneficiary reaches age 18; however, earnings accumulate tax-free, and withdrawals are not subject to tax if used to pay the qualified education expenses of the beneficiary (or a qualified family member).

For further information regarding any of the above qualified plans, including MAGI limitations, contact your financial adviser or the Fund at 800-655-0324.

#### **Withholding**

Withholding at the rate of 20% is required for federal income tax purposes on certain distributions (excluding, for example, certain periodic payments) from qualified retirement plans (except IRAs and SEPs), unless the recipient transfers the distribution directly to an "eligible retirement plan" (including an IRA or other qualified retirement plan) that accepts those distributions. Other distributions generally are subject to regular wage withholding or to withholding at the rate of 10% (depending on the type and amount of the distribution), unless the recipient elects not to have any withholding apply. Investors should consult their plan administrator or tax adviser for further information.

This discussion and the related discussion in the Prospectus have been prepared by Fund management. The information above is only a summary of some of the tax considerations generally affecting the Fund and its shareholders. No attempt has been made to discuss individual tax consequences and this discussion should not be construed as applicable to all shareholders' tax situations. Investors should consult their own tax advisers to determine the suitability of the Fund and the applicability of any state, local or foreign taxation.

#### **Marketing and Support Payments**

The Advisor, out of its own resources and without additional cost to the Fund or its shareholders, may provide additional cash payments or other compensation to certain Financial Intermediaries who sell shares of the Fund. Such payments may be divided into categories as follows:

*Support Payments.* Payments may be made by the Advisor to certain Financial Intermediaries in connection with the eligibility of the Fund to be offered in certain programs and/or in connection with meetings between the Fund's representatives and Financial Intermediaries and its sales representatives. Such meetings may be held for various purposes, including providing education and training about the Fund and other general financial topics to assist Financial Intermediaries' sales representatives in making informed recommendations to, and decisions on behalf of, their clients.

*Entertainment, Conferences and Events.* The Advisor also may pay cash or non-cash compensation to sales representatives of Financial Intermediaries in the form of (i) occasional gifts; (ii) occasional meals, tickets or other entertainments; and/or (iii) sponsorship support for the Financial Intermediary's client seminars and cooperative advertising. In addition, the Advisor pays for exhibit space or sponsorships at regional or national events of Financial Intermediaries.

The prospect of receiving, or the receipt of additional payments or other compensation as described above by Financial Intermediaries may provide such intermediaries and/or their salespersons with an incentive to favor sales of shares of the Fund, and other mutual funds whose affiliates make similar compensation available, over sale of shares of mutual funds (or non-mutual fund investments) not

making such payments. You may wish to take such payment arrangements into account when considering and evaluating any recommendations relating to the Fund shares.

## **Financial Statements**

The Fund's [Form N-CSR](#) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025 is a separate document and the financial statements, accompanying notes and report of the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm, Cohen & Company, Ltd., appearing therein are incorporated by reference into this SAI. You can obtain the Fund's financial statements without charge on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov), upon written request by contacting the Fund at 1-888-593-5110, or by visiting the Fund's website at [www.patientcapitalmanagement.com/opportunity-trust](http://www.patientcapitalmanagement.com/opportunity-trust).

## Appendix A Description of Securities Ratings

### Short-Term Credit Ratings

A *Standard & Poor's* short-term issue credit rating is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation having an original maturity of no more than 365 days. The following summarizes the rating categories used by Standard & Poor's for short-term issues:

“A-1” – A short-term obligation rated “A-1” is rated in the highest category and indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on these obligations is extremely strong.

“A-2” – A short-term obligation rated “A-2” is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is satisfactory.

“A-3” – A short-term obligation rated “A-3” exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“B” – A short-term obligation rated “B” is regarded as vulnerable and has significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

“C” – A short-term obligation rated “C” is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“D” – A short-term obligation rated “D” is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the “D” rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless Standard & Poor's believes that such payments will be made within any stated grace period. However, any stated grace period longer than five business days will be treated as five business days. The “D” rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation's rating is lowered to “D” if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.

Local Currency and Foreign Currency Risks – Standard & Poor's issuer credit ratings make a distinction between foreign currency ratings and local currency ratings. An issuer's foreign currency rating will differ from its local currency rating when the obligor has a different capacity to meet its obligations denominated in its local currency, vs. obligations denominated in a foreign currency.

*Moody's Investors Service (“Moody's”)* short-term ratings are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments. Ratings may be assigned to issuers, short-term programs or to individual short-term debt instruments.

Moody's employs the following designations to indicate the relative repayment ability of rated issuers:

“P-1” – Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

“P-2” – Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 have a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

“P-3” – Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-3 have an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations.

“NP” – Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

*Fitch, Inc. / Fitch Ratings Ltd. (“Fitch”)* short-term issuer or obligation rating is based in all cases on the short-term vulnerability to default of the rated entity or security stream and relates to the capacity to meet financial obligations in accordance with the documentation governing the relevant obligation. Short-term ratings are assigned to obligations whose initial maturity is viewed as “short-term” based on market convention. Typically, this means up to 13 months for corporate, sovereign and structured obligations, and up to 36 months for obligations in U.S. public finance markets. The following summarizes the rating categories used by Fitch for short-term obligations:

“F1” – Securities possess the highest short-term credit quality. This designation indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added “+” to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

“F2” – Securities possess good short-term credit quality. This designation indicates good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

“F3” – Securities possess fair short-term credit quality. This designation indicates that the intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

“B” – Securities possess speculative short-term credit quality. This designation indicates minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus heightened vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

“C” – Securities possess high short-term default risk. Default is a real possibility.

“RD” – Restricted default. Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Typically applicable to entity ratings only.

“D” – Default. Indicates a broad-based default event for an entity, or the default of a short-term obligation.

The *DBRS® Ratings Limited (“DBRS”)* short-term debt rating scale provides an opinion on the risk that an issuer will not meet its short-term financial obligations in a timely manner. Ratings are based on quantitative and qualitative considerations relevant to the issuer and the relative ranking of claims. The R-1 and R-2 rating categories are further denoted by the sub-categories “(high)”, “(middle)”, and “(low)”.

The following summarizes the ratings used by DBRS for commercial paper and short-term debt:

“R-1 (high)” - Short-term debt rated “R-1 (high)” is of the highest credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is exceptionally high. Unlikely to be adversely affected by future events.

“R-1 (middle)” – Short-term debt rated “R-1 (middle)” is of superior credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is very high. Differs from “R-1 (high)” by a relatively modest degree. Unlikely to be significantly vulnerable to future events.

“R-1 (low)” – Short-term debt rated “R-1 (low)” is of good credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is substantial. Overall strength is not as favorable as higher rating categories. May be vulnerable to future events, but qualifying negative factors are considered manageable.

“R-2 (high)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (high)” is considered to be at the upper end of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events.

“R-2 (middle)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (middle)” is considered to be of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events or may be exposed to other factors that could reduce credit quality.

“R-2 (low)” – Short-term debt rated “R-2 (low)” is considered to be at the lower end of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events. A number of challenges are present that could affect the issuer’s ability to meet such obligations.

“R-3” – Short-term debt rated “R-3” is considered to be at the lowest end of adequate credit quality. There is a capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due. May be vulnerable to future events and the certainty of meeting such obligations could be impacted by a variety of developments.

“R-4” – Short-term debt rated “R-4” is considered to be of speculative credit quality. The capacity for the payment of short-term financial obligations as they fall due is uncertain.

“R-5” – Short-term debt rated “R-5” is considered to be of highly speculative credit quality. There is a high level of uncertainty as to the capacity to meet short-term financial obligations as they fall due.

“D” – Short-term debt rated “D” is assigned when the issuer has filed under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or winding up statute or there is a failure to satisfy an obligation after the exhaustion of grace periods, a downgrade to “D” may occur. DBRS may also use “SD” (Selective Default) in cases where only some securities are impacted, such as the case of a “distressed exchange”.

### **Long-Term Credit Ratings**

The following summarizes the ratings used by *Standard & Poor’s* for long-term issues:

“AAA” – An obligation rated “AAA” has the highest rating assigned by Standard & Poor’s. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.

“AA” – An obligation rated “AA” differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.

“A” – An obligation rated “A” is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.

“BBB” – An obligation rated “BBB” exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“BB,” “B,” “CCC,” “CC” and “C” – Obligations rated “BB,” “B,” “CCC,” “CC” and “C” are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. “BB” indicates the least degree of speculation and “C” the highest. While such

obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

“BB” – An obligation rated “BB” is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions which could lead to the obligor’s inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“B” – An obligation rated “B” is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated “BB”, but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor’s capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“CCC” – An obligation rated “CCC” is currently vulnerable to nonpayment, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

“CC” – An obligation rated “CC” is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment. The “CC” rating is used when a default has not yet occurred, but Standard & Poor’s expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

“C” – An obligation rated “C” is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the obligation is expected to have lower relative seniority or lower ultimate recovery compared to obligations that are rated higher.

“D” – An obligation rated “D” is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the “D” rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless Standard & Poor’s believes that such payments will be made within five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or 30 calendar days. The “D” rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation’s rating is lowered to “D” if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.

Plus (+) or minus (-) – The ratings from “AA” to “CCC” may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

“NR” – This indicates that no rating has been requested, or that there is insufficient information on which to base a rating, or that Standard & Poor’s does not rate a particular obligation as a matter of policy.

Local Currency and Foreign Currency Risks - Standard & Poor’s issuer credit ratings make a distinction between foreign currency ratings and local currency ratings. An issuer’s foreign currency rating will differ from its local currency rating when the obligor has a different capacity to meet its obligations denominated in its local currency, vs. obligations denominated in a foreign currency.

**Moody’s** long-term ratings are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations with an original maturity of one year or more. Such ratings reflect both the likelihood of default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default. The following summarizes the ratings used by Moody’s for long-term debt:

“Aaa” – Obligations rated “Aaa” are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk.

“Aa” – Obligations rated “Aa” are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

“A” – Obligations rated “A” are judged to be upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.

“Baa” – Obligations rated “Baa” are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

“Ba” – Obligations rated “Ba” are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk.

“B” – Obligations rated “B” are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

“Caa” – Obligations rated “Caa” are judged to be speculative of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

“Ca” – Obligations rated “Ca” are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

“C” – Obligations rated “C” are the lowest rated and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Note: Moody’s appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from “Aa” through “Caa.” The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

The following summarizes long-term ratings used by *Fitch*:

“AAA” – Securities considered to be of the highest credit quality. “AAA” ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in cases of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

“AA” – Securities considered to be of very high credit quality. “AA” ratings denote expectations of very low credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

“A” – Securities considered to be of high credit quality. “A” ratings denote expectations of low credit risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

“BBB” – Securities considered to be of good credit quality. “BBB” ratings indicate that expectations of credit risk are currently low. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

“BB” – Securities considered to be speculative. “BB” ratings indicate that there is an elevated vulnerability to credit risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met.

“B” – Securities considered to be highly speculative. “B” ratings indicate that material credit risk is present.

“CCC” – A “CCC” rating indicates that substantial credit risk is present.

“CC” – A “CC” rating indicates very high levels of credit risk.

“C” – A “C” rating indicates exceptionally high levels of credit risk.

Defaulted obligations typically are not assigned “RD” or “D” ratings, but are instead rated in the “B” to “C” rating categories, depending upon their recovery prospects and other relevant characteristics. Fitch believes that this approach better aligns obligations that have comparable overall expected loss but varying vulnerability to default and loss.

Plus (+) or minus (-) may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the “AAA” obligation rating category, or to corporate finance obligation ratings in the categories below “CCC”.

The **DBRS** long-term rating scale provides an opinion on the risk of default. That is, the risk that an issuer will fail to satisfy its financial obligations in accordance with the terms under which an obligation has been issued. Ratings are based on quantitative and qualitative considerations relevant to the issuer, and the relative ranking of claims. All rating categories other than AAA and D also contain subcategories “(high)” and “(low)”. The absence of either a “(high)” or “(low)” designation indicates the rating is in the middle of the category. The following summarizes the ratings used by DBRS for long-term debt:

“AAA” - Long-term debt rated “AAA” is of the highest credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is exceptionally high and unlikely to be adversely affected by future events.

“AA” – Long-term debt rated “AA” is of superior credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is considered high. Credit quality differs from “AAA” only to a small degree. Unlikely to be significantly vulnerable to future events.

“A” – Long-term debt rated “A” is of good credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is substantial, but of lesser credit quality than “AA.” May be vulnerable to future events, but qualifying negative factors are considered manageable.

“BBB” – Long-term debt rated “BBB” is of adequate credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is considered acceptable. May be vulnerable to future events.

“BB” – Long-term debt rated “BB” is of speculative, non-investment grade credit quality. The capacity for the payment of financial obligations is uncertain. Vulnerable to future events.

“B” – Long-term debt rated “B” is of highly speculative credit quality. There is a high level of uncertainty as to the capacity to meet financial obligations.

“CCC”, “CC” and “C” – Long-term debt rated in any of these categories is of very highly speculative credit quality. In danger of defaulting on financial obligations. There is little difference between these three categories, although “CC” and “C” ratings are normally applied to obligations that are seen as highly likely to default, or subordinated to obligations rated in the “CCC” to “B” range. Obligations in respect of which default has not technically taken place but is considered inevitable may be rated in the “C” category.

“D” – A security rated “D” is assigned when the issuer has filed under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or winding up statute or there is a failure to satisfy an obligation after the exhaustion of grace periods, a downgrade to “D” may occur. DBRS may also use “SD” (Selective Default) in cases where only some securities are impacted, such as the case of a “distressed exchange”.

### **Municipal Note Ratings**

A **Standard & Poor’s** U.S. municipal note rating reflects Standard & Poor’s opinion about the liquidity factors and market access risks unique to the notes. Notes due in three years or less will likely receive a note rating. Notes with an original maturity of more than three years will most likely receive a long-term debt rating. In determining which type of rating, if any, to assign, Standard & Poor’s analysis will review the following considerations:

- Amortization schedule - the larger the final maturity relative to other maturities, the more likely it will be treated as a note; and
- Source of payment - the more dependent the issue is on the market for its refinancing, the more likely it will be treated as a note.

Municipal Short-Term Note rating symbols are as follows:

“SP-1” – A municipal note rated “SP-1” exhibits a strong capacity to pay principal and interest. An issue determined to possess a very strong capacity to pay debt service is given a plus (+) designation.

“SP-2” – A municipal note rated “SP-2” exhibits a satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

“SP-3” – A municipal note rated “SP-3” exhibits a speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

**Moody’s** uses the Municipal Investment Grade (“MIG”) scale to rate U.S. municipal bond anticipation notes of up to three years maturity. Municipal notes rated on the MIG scale may be secured by either pledged revenues or proceeds of a take-out financing received prior to note maturity. MIG ratings expire at the maturity of the obligation, and the issuer’s long-term rating is only one consideration in assigning the MIG rating. MIG ratings are divided into three levels – “MIG-1” through “MIG-3” while speculative grade short-term obligations are designated “SG”. The following summarizes the ratings used by Moody’s for short-term municipal obligations:

“MIG-1” – This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by established cash flows, highly reliable liquidity support, or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing.

“MIG-2” – This designation denotes strong credit quality. Margins of protection are ample, although not as large as in the preceding group.

“MIG-3” – This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Liquidity and cash-flow protection may be narrow, and market access for refinancing is likely to be less well-established.

“SG” – This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Debt instruments in this category may lack sufficient margins of protection.

“NR” – Is assigned to an unrated obligation.

In the case of variable rate demand obligations (“VRDOs”), a two-component rating is assigned: a long or short-term debt rating and a demand obligation rating. The first element represents Moody’s evaluation of risk associated with scheduled principal and interest payments. The second element represents Moody’s evaluation of risk associated with the ability to receive purchase price upon demand (“demand feature”). The second element uses a rating from a variation of the MIG rating scale called the Variable Municipal Investment Grade or “VMIG” scale. The rating transitions on the VMIG scale differ from those on the Prime scale to reflect the risk that external liquidity support generally will terminate if the issuer’s long-term rating drops below investment grade.

VMIG rating expirations are a function of each issue’s specific structural or credit features.

“VMIG-1” – This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

“VMIG-2” – This designation denotes strong credit quality. Good protection is afforded by the strong short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

“VMIG-3” – This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Adequate protection is afforded by the satisfactory short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

“SG” – This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Demand features rated in this category may be supported by a liquidity provider that does not have an investment grade short-term rating or may lack the structural and/or legal protections necessary to ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

“NR” – Is assigned to an unrated obligation.

### **About Credit Ratings**

A *Standard & Poor's* issue credit rating is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation, a specific class of financial obligations, or a specific financial program (including ratings on medium-term note programs and commercial paper programs). It takes into consideration the creditworthiness of guarantors, insurers, or other forms of credit enhancement on the obligation and takes into account the currency in which the obligation is denominated. The opinion reflects Standard & Poor's view of the obligor's capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due, and may assess terms, such as collateral security and subordination, which could affect ultimate payment in the event of default.

*Moody's* credit ratings must be construed solely as statements of opinion and not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase, sell or hold any securities.

*Fitch's* credit ratings provide an opinion on the relative ability of an entity to meet financial commitments, such as interest, preferred dividends, repayment of principal, insurance claims or counterparty obligations. Fitch credit ratings are used by investors as indications of the likelihood of receiving the money owed to them in accordance with the terms on which they invested. Fitch's credit ratings cover the global spectrum of corporate, sovereign (including supranational and sub-national), financial, bank, insurance, municipal and other public finance entities and the securities or other obligations they issue, as well as structured finance securities backed by receivables or other financial assets.

*DBRS* credit ratings are opinions based on the quantitative and qualitative analysis of information sourced and received by DBRS, which information is not audited or verified by DBRS. Ratings are not buy, hold or sell recommendations and they do not address the market price of a security. Ratings may be upgraded, downgraded, placed under review, confirmed and discontinued.

# **Appendix B Proxy Voting Policy**

## **PATIENT CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC** **PROXY VOTING**

PATIENT CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC (the “Adviser”) will exercise its proxy voting responsibilities to serve the best interests of its clients and in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The Adviser recognizes that proxy voting is a valuable right of company shareholders and believes that shareholders are best served by a voting process guided by the principles of preserving and expanding the power of shareholders in areas of corporate governance and allowing responsible management teams to run businesses.

### **Procedures**

#### **Oversight of Policies and Procedures**

The Adviser’s Chief Investment Officer (“CIO”) and CCO are responsible for overseeing the Adviser’s proxy voting policies and procedures. The CIO has authority to vote proxies on behalf of the Adviser’s clients. The CIO has delegated proxy voting authority to the portfolio managers for each investment strategy managed by the Adviser.

#### **Limitations**

The Adviser recognizes proxy voting as a valuable right of company shareholders. Generally speaking, the Adviser will vote all proxies it receives. However, the Adviser may refrain from voting in certain circumstances. For instance, the Adviser generally intends to refrain from voting a proxy if the company’s shares are no longer held by the Adviser’s clients at the time of the meeting. Additionally, the Adviser may refrain from voting a proxy if the Adviser concludes the potential impact on shareholders’ interests is insignificant while the cost associated with analyzing and voting the proxy may be significant.

#### **Client Accounts for which the Adviser Votes Proxies**

The Adviser shall vote proxies for each client account that:

- Has specifically authorized the Adviser to vote proxies
- Without specifically authorizing the Adviser to vote proxies, has granted general investment discretion to the Adviser in the investment management agreement
- Is subject to ERISA, unless the investment management agreement or another applicable writing specifically reserves the responsibility for voting proxies to the plan trustees or other named fiduciary.

At or prior to account inception, the Adviser’s compliance team shall determine whether the Adviser has proxy voting authority over such client account.

The Adviser will deliver to each client for which it has proxy voting authority, no later than the time it accepts such authority, a written summary of the proxy voting policies and procedures (this summary will be included in the Adviser’s Brochure). The summary will state that a copy of the Adviser’s complete proxy voting policies and procedures is available upon request, as well as the Adviser’s current Proxy Voting Guidelines (“Proxy Voting Guidelines.”)

The Adviser will maintain a record of each client request for proxy voting information. The Adviser will also maintain a copy of its response thereto.

#### **Proxy Administration**

For each client account for which the Adviser votes proxies, the Adviser’s operations team will instruct the client custodian to forward proxy materials to the vendor engaged by the Adviser (the “Proxy Administration Vendor”) to electronically receive ballots and transmit the Adviser’s proxy votes. The Proxy Administration Vendor will also maintain copies of all proxy voting receipts and records. New client custodians will be notified at account inception of their responsibility to deliver proxy materials to the Adviser’s Proxy Administration Vendor. The Adviser’s CCO, working with the operations team, will oversee the Proxy Administration Vendor and will periodically review the services provide to ensure that the Adviser is meeting all of its proxy voting responsibilities in a reasonable manner.

#### **Compliance Review**

A member of the compliance team will review the pending proxies and identify any potential conflicts between the Adviser, or its employees, and the Adviser's clients.

### Identifying Conflicts

In identifying conflicts of interest, the compliance team will review the following issues:

- Whether there are any business or personal relationships between the Adviser, or an employee of the Adviser, and the officers, directors or shareholder proposal proponents of a company whose securities are held in client accounts that may create an incentive to vote in a manner that is not consistent with the best interests of the Adviser's clients.
- Whether the Adviser has any other economic incentive to vote in a manner that is not consistent with the best interests of its clients.

### Assessing Materiality

If it is determined that a potential conflict exists, the CCO and the CIO will consult and make a final determination of materiality. A conflict will typically be deemed to be material if, in the exercise of reasonable judgment, it is determined that the conflict is likely to have an impact on the manner in which the subject shares are voted. The compliance team will maintain a record of this determination.

If it is determined that the conflict is not material, the proxy issue will be forwarded to the portfolio manager for voting.

If the final determination is that the conflict is material, the following procedures will apply:

- If the Adviser's current Proxy Voting Guidelines definitively address the issues presented for vote, the Adviser will vote according to the Proxy Voting Guidelines.
- If the issues presented for vote are not definitively addressed in the Proxy Voting Guidelines, the Adviser will either (x) follow the vote recommendation of an independent voting delegate or (y) disclose the conflict to clients and obtain their consent to vote.

### Notification to Clients

Upon receipt of a client request for information on how proxies were voted for that client's account, the Adviser will promptly provide such requested information to the client in writing.

### Submission of Proxy Votes

The Adviser's portfolio managers will have responsibility for voting all proxies. The portfolio managers may provide instructions to other members of the Adviser to complete the administrative act of voting the proxy issues via the Proxy Administration Vendor's software, online or via facsimile.

### Recordkeeping

The Adviser shall maintain the following records relating to proxy voting:

- a copy of this proxy voting policy, including any and all amendments that may be adopted
- a copy of each proxy statement that the Adviser receives regarding client securities
- a record of each vote cast by the Adviser on behalf of a client
- documentation relating to the identification and resolution of conflicts of interest
- any documents created by the Adviser that were material to a proxy voting decision or that memorialized the basis for that decision
- a copy of each written client request for information on how the Adviser voted proxies on behalf of the client, and a copy of any written response by the Adviser to any (written or oral) client request for information on how the Adviser voted proxies on behalf of the requesting client.

All required records shall be maintained for a period of six years from the end of the fiscal year during which the last entry was made on such record. For the first two (2) years of the six (6) year period, the required records will be maintained in the Adviser's office. In lieu of keeping copies of proxy statements, the Adviser may rely on proxy statements filed on the EDGAR filing system as well as on third party records of proxy statements if the third party provides an undertaking to provide copies of such proxy statements promptly upon request. The Adviser may also rely on a third party to make and retain, on the Adviser's behalf, records of votes cast by the Adviser on behalf of clients if the third party provides an undertaking to provide a copy of such records promptly upon request.

Form N-PX

In addition, for each of the Funds, the Adviser shall ensure that an annual report on Form N-PX is filed in a timely manner.

## SCHEDULE 1

### PROXY VOTING GUIDELINES

The Adviser maintains these proxy-voting guidelines, which set forth the manner in which the Adviser generally votes on issues that are routinely presented. Please note that for each proxy vote the Adviser takes into consideration its duty to its clients, the specific circumstances of the vote and all other relevant facts available at the time of the vote. While these guidelines provide the framework for voting proxies, ultimately proxy votes are cast on a case-by-case basis. Therefore actual votes for any particular proxy issue may differ from the guidelines shown below.

Four principal areas of interest to shareholders:

1. Obligations of the Board of Directors
2. Compensations of management and the Board of Directors
3. Take-over protections
4. Shareholders' rights

5. Proxy Issue	Adviser Guideline
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
Independence of Boards of Directors: majority of unrelated directors, independent of management	For
Nominating Process: independent nominating committee seeking qualified candidates, continually assessing directors and proposing new nominees	For
Size and Effectiveness of Boards of Directors: Boards must be no larger than 15 members	For
Cumulative Voting for Directors	For
Staggered Boards	Against
Separation of Board and Management Roles (CEO/Chairman)	Case-by-Case
Compensation Review Process: compensation committee comprised of outside, unrelated directors to ensure shareholder value while rewarding good performance	For
Director Liability & Indemnification: support limitation of liability and provide indemnification	For
Audit Process	For
Board Committee Structure: audit, compensation, and nominating and/or governance committee consisting entirely of independent directors	For
Monetary Arrangements for Directors: outside of normal board activities amts should be approved by a board of independent directors and reported in proxy	For
Fixed Retirement Policy for Directors	Case-by-Case
Ownership Requirement: all Directors have direct and material cash investment in common shares of Company	For
Proposals on Board Structure: (lead director, shareholder advisory committees, requirement that candidates be nominated by shareholders, attendance at meetings)	For
Annual Review of Board/CEO by Board	For
Periodic Executive Sessions Without Mgmt (including CEO)	For
Votes for Specific Directors	Case-by-Case

Proxy Issue	Adviser Guideline
<b>MANAGEMENT AND DIRECTOR COMPENSATION</b>	
Stock Option and Incentive Compensation Plans:	Case-by-Case
Form of Vehicle: grants of stock options, stock appreciation rights, phantom shares and restricted stock	Case-by-Case
Price	Against plans whose underlying securities are to be issued at less than 100% of the current market value
Re-pricing: plans that allow the Board of Directors to lower the exercise price of options already granted if the stock price falls or under-performs the market	Against
Expiry: plan whose options have a life of more than ten years	Case-by-Case
Expiry: “evergreen” stock option plans	Against
Dilution:	Case-by-Case – taking into account value creation, commitment to shareholder-friendly policies, etc.
Vesting: stock option plans that are 100% vested when granted	Against
Performance Vesting: link granting of options, or vesting of options previously granted, to specific performance targets	For
Concentration: authorization to allocate 20% or more of the available options to any one individual in any one year	Against
Director Eligibility: stock option plans for directors if terms and conditions are clearly defined and reasonable	Case-by-Case
Change in Control: stock option plans with change in control provisions that allow option holders to receive more for their options than shareholders would receive for their shares	Against
Change in Control: change in control arrangements developed during a take-over fight specifically to entrench or benefit management	Against
Change in Control: granting options or bonuses to outside directors in event of a change in control	Against
Board Discretion: plans to give Board broad discretion in setting terms and conditions of programs	Against
Employee Loans: Proposals authorizing loans to employees to pay for stock or options	Against
Director Compensation: % of directors’ compensation in form of common shares	For
Golden Parachutes	Case-by-Case
Expense Stock Options	For
Severance Packages: must receive shareholder approval	For
Lack of Disclosure about Provisions of Stock-based Plans	Against
Reload Options	Against
Plan Limited to a Small Number of Senior Employees	Against
Employee Stock Purchase Plans	Case-by-Case

Proxy Issue	Adviser Guideline
<b>SHAREHOLDERS’ RIGHTS</b>	
Confidential Voting by Shareholders	For
Dual-Class Share Structures	Against
Linked Proposals: with the objective of making one element of a proposal more acceptable	Against
Blank Check Preferred Shares: authorization of, or an increase in, blank check preferred shares	Against
Supermajority Approval of Business Transactions: management seeks to increase the number of votes required on an issue above two-thirds of the outstanding shares	Against
Increase in Authorized Shares: provided the amount requested is necessary for sound business reasons	For
Shareholder Proposals	Case-by-Case
Stakeholder Proposals	Case-by-Case

SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS	
"Fair Price" Provisions: Measures to limit ability to buy back shares from particular shareholder at higher-than-market prices	Against
"Fair Price" Provisions: Measures to limit ability to buy back shares from particular shareholder at higher-than-market prices	For
Preemptive Rights	For
Actions altering Board/Shareholder Relationship Require Prior Shareholder Approval (including "anti-takeover" measures)	For
Allow Shareholder action by written consent	For
Allow Shareholders to call Special Meetings	For
Social and Environmental Issues	As recommended by Company Management
Reimbursing Proxy Solicitation Expenses	Case-by-Case