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# FORM ADV (Paper Version) UNIFORM APPLICATION FOR INVESTMENT ADVISER REGISTRATION

## PART 2: Uniform Requirements for the Investment Adviser Brochure and Brochure Supplements

#### **General Instructions for Part 2 of Form ADV**

Under SEC and similar state rules you are required to deliver to *clients* and prospective *clients* a *brochure* disclosing information about your firm. You also may be required to deliver a *brochure supplement* disclosing information about one or more of your *supervised persons*. Part 2 of Form ADV sets out the minimum required disclosure that your *brochure* (Part 2A for a firm *brochure*, or Appendix 1 for a *wrap fee program brochure*) and *brochure supplements* (Part 2B) must contain.

Read all the instructions, including General Instructions for Form ADV, General Instructions for Part 2 of Form ADV, Instructions for Part 2A of Form ADV, Instructions for Part 2B of Form ADV, and (if you are preparing or updating a *wrap fee program brochure*) Instructions for Part 2A Appendix 1 of Form ADV, before preparing or updating your *brochure* or *brochure supplements*.

- 1. Narrative Format. Part 2 of Form ADV consists of a series of items that contain disclosure requirements for your firm's brochure and any required supplements. The items require narrative responses. You must respond to each item in Part 2. You must include the heading for each item provided by Part 2 immediately preceding your response to that item and provide responses in the same order as the items appear in Part 2. If an item does not apply to your business, you must indicate that item is not applicable. If you have provided information in response to one item that is also responsive to another item, you may cross-reference that information in response to the other item.
- 2. Plain English. The items in Part 2 of Form ADV are designed to promote effective communication between you and your *clients*. Write your *brochure* and supplements in plain English, taking into consideration your *clients*' level of financial sophistication. Your *brochure* should be concise and direct. In drafting your *brochure* and *brochure supplements*, you should: (i) use short sentences; (ii) use definite, concrete, everyday words; (iii) use active voice; (iv) use tables or bullet lists for complex material, whenever possible; (v) avoid legal jargon or highly technical business terms unless you explain them or you believe that your *clients* will understand them; and (vi) avoid multiple negatives. Consider providing examples to illustrate a description of your practices or policies. The brochure should discuss only conflicts the adviser has or is reasonably likely to have, and practices in which it engages or is reasonably likely to engage. If a conflict arises or the adviser decides to engage in a practice that it has not disclosed, supplemental disclosure must be provided to clients to obtain their consent. If you have a conflict or engage in a practice with respect to some (but not all) types or classes of clients, advice, or transactions, indicate as such rather than disclosing that you "may" have the conflict or engage in the practice.

**Note:** The SEC's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy has published <u>A Plain English Handbook</u>. You may find the handbook helpful in writing your *brochure* and supplements. For a copy of this handbook, visit the SEC's web site at<www.sec.gov/news/extra/handbook.htm> or call 1-800-732-0330.

3. <u>Disclosure Obligations as a Fiduciary</u>. Under federal and state law, you are a fiduciary and must make full disclosure to your *clients* of all material facts relating to the advisory relationship. As a fiduciary, you also must seek to avoid conflicts of interest with your clients, and, at a minimum, make full disclosure of all material conflicts of interest between you and your *clients* that could affect the advisory relationship. This obligation requires that you provide the client with sufficiently specific facts so that the client is able to understand the conflicts of interest you have and the business practices in which you engage, and can give informed consent to such conflicts or practices or reject them. To satisfy this obligation, you therefore may have to disclose to *clients* information not specifically required by Part 2 of Form ADV or in more detail than the brochure items might otherwise require. You may disclose this additional information to *clients* in your *brochure* or by some other means.

- 4. <u>Full and Truthful Disclosure</u>. All information in your *brochure* and *brochure supplements* must be true and may not omit any material facts.
- 5. <u>Filing.</u> You must file your *brochure(s)* (and amendments) through the IARD system using the text-searchable Adobe Portable Document Format ("PDF"). See SEC rules 203-1 and 204-1 and similar state rules. If you are registered or are registering with the SEC, you are not required to file your *brochure supplements* through the IARD or otherwise. You must, however, preserve a copy of the supplements and make them available to SEC staff upon request. See SEC rule 204-2(a)(14). If you are registered or are registering with one or more *state securities authorities*, you must file a copy of the *brochure supplement* for each *supervised person* doing business in that state.

# Instructions for Part 2A of Form ADV: Preparing Your Firm Brochure

1. <u>To whom must we deliver a firm *brochure*</u>? You must give a firm *brochure* to each *client*. You must deliver the *brochure* even if your advisory agreement with the *client* is oral. See SEC rule 204-3(b) and similar state rules.

If you are registered with the SEC, you are not required to deliver your *brochure* to either (i) *clients* who receive only *impersonal investment advice* from you and who will pay you less than \$500 per year or (ii) *clients* that are SEC-registered investment companies or business development companies (the *client* must be registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or be a business development company as defined in that Act, <u>and</u> the advisory contract must meet the requirements of section 15(c) of that Act). See SEC rule 204-3(c).

**Note:** Even if you are not required to give a *brochure* to a *client*, as a fiduciary you may still be required to provide your *clients* with similar information, particularly material information about your conflicts of interest and about your disciplinary information. If you are not required to give a *client* a *brochure*, you <u>may</u> make any required disclosures to that *client* by delivery of your *brochure* or through some other means.

## 2. When must we deliver a *brochure* to *clients*?

- You must give a firm *brochure* to each *client* before or at the time you enter into an advisory agreement with that *client*. See SEC rule 204-3(b) and similar state rules.
- Each year you must (i) deliver, within 120 days of the end of your fiscal year, to each *client* a free updated *brochure* that either includes a summary of material changes or is accompanied by a summary of material changes, or (ii) deliver to each *client* a summary of material changes that includes an offer to provide a copy of the updated *brochure* and information on how a *client* may obtain the *brochure*. See SEC rule 204-3(b) and similar state rules.
- You do not have to deliver an interim amendment to *clients* unless the amendment includes information in response to Item 9 of Part 2A (disciplinary information). An interim amendment can be in the form of a document describing the material facts relating to the amended disciplinary event. See SEC rule 204-3(b) and similar state rules.

**Note:** As a fiduciary, you have an ongoing obligation to inform your *clients* of any material information that could affect the advisory relationship. As a result, between *annual updating amendments* you must disclose material changes to such information to *clients* even if those changes do not trigger delivery of an interim amendment. See General Instructions for Part 2 of Form ADV, Instruction 3.

- 3. May we deliver our *brochure* electronically? Yes. The SEC has published interpretive guidance on delivering documents electronically, which you can find at <www.sec.gov/rules/concept/33-7288.txt>.
- 4. When must we update our brochure? You must update your brochure: (i) each year at the time you file your annual updating amendment; and (ii) promptly whenever any information in the brochure becomes materially inaccurate. You are not required to update your brochure between annual amendments solely because the amount of client assets you manage has changed or because your fee schedule has changed. However, if you are updating your brochure for a separate reason in between annual amendments, and the amount of client assets you manage listed in response to Item 4.E or your fee schedule listed in response to Item 5.A has become materially inaccurate, you should update that item(s) as part of the interim amendment. All updates to your brochure must be filed through the IARD system and maintained in your files. See SEC rules 204-1 and 204- 2(a)(14) and similar state rules.
- 5. We are filing our *annual updating amendment*. The last *brochure*(s) that we filed does not contain any materially inaccurate information. Do we have to prepare a summary of material changes? No, as long as

you have not filed any interim amendments making material changes to the *brochure* that you filed with last year's *annual updating amendment*. If you do not have to prepare a summary of material changes, you do not have to deliver a summary of material changes or a *brochure* to your existing *clients* that year. See SEC rule 204-3(b). If you are a state-registered adviser, you should contact the appropriate *state securities authorities* to determine whether you must make an annual offer of the brochure.

6. Do we need to include the summary of material changes that we prepare in response to Item 2 with our annual updating amendment filing on IARD? Yes, you need to include the summary in your annual updating amendment. Item 2 permits you to include the summary as part of the brochure (on the cover page or the page immediately following the cover page) or to create a separate document containing the summary. If you include the summary as part of your brochure, the summary will be part of the annual updating amendment filing that you submit on IARD. If your summary of material changes is a separate document, you must attach the summary as an exhibit to your brochure and upload your brochure and the summary together in a single, text- searchable file in Adobe Portable Document Format on IARD for your annual updating amendment.

**Note**: If you include the summary of material changes in your *brochure*, and you revise or update your *brochure* between *annual updating amendments*, you should consider whether you should update the summary as part of that other-than annual amendment to avoid confusing or misleading *clients* reading the updated *brochure*.

- 7. We have determined that we have no *clients* to whom we must deliver a *brochure*. Must we prepare one? No, but see note to Instruction 1 above.
- 8. May we include a summary of the *brochure* at the beginning of our *brochure*? Yes. Although it is not required, you may choose to include a summary of the *brochure* at the beginning of your *brochure*. Such summary, however, may not substitute for the summary of material changes required by Item 2 of Part 2A.
- 9. We offer several advisory services. May we prepare multiple firm brochures? Yes. If you offer substantially different types of advisory services, you may opt to prepare separate brochure so long as each client receives all applicable information about services and fees. Each brochure may omit information that does not apply to the advisory services and fees it describes. For example, your firm brochure sent to your clients who invest only in the United States can omit information about your advisory services and fees relating to offshore investments. See SEC rule 204-3(e) and similar state rules. If you prepare separate brochures you must file each brochure (and any amendments) through the IARD system as required in SEC rules 203-1 and 204-1 and similar state rules.
- 10. We sponsor a wrap fee program. Is there a different brochure that we need to deliver to our wrap fee <u>clients</u>? Yes. If you sponsor a wrap fee program, you must deliver a wrap fee program brochure to your wrap fee <u>clients</u>. The disclosure requirements for preparing a wrap fee program brochure appear in Part 2A, Appendix 1 of Form ADV. If your entire advisory business is sponsoring wrap fee programs, you do not need to prepare a firm brochure separate from your wrap fee program brochure(s). See SEC rule 204-3(d) and similar state rules.
- 11. We provide portfolio management services to *clients* in *wrap fee programs* that we do not *sponsor*. Which brochure must we deliver to these *clients*? You must deliver your brochure prepared in accordance with Part 2A (not Appendix 1) to your wrap fee *clients*. You also must deliver to these *clients* any brochure supplements required by Part 2B of Form ADV.
- 12. <u>May we include information not required by an item in our *brochure*? Yes. If you include information not required by an item, however, you may not include so much additional information that the required information is obscured.</u>
- 13. Item 18 requires us to give our *clients* an audited balance sheet. May any public accountant perform the

- <u>audit</u>? Your auditor must be independent. Article 2 of SEC Regulation S-X sets out the general rules for auditor independence. Please note that these requirements may be different from the rules of professional organizations.
- 14. We are a new firm. Do we need a *brochure*? Yes. Respond to items in Part 2A of Form ADV based on the advisory services you propose to provide and the practices, policies and procedures you propose to adopt.
- 15. We are a "separately identifiable department or division" (SID) of a bank. Must our *brochure* discuss our bank's general business practices? No. Information you include in your firm *brochure* (or in *brochure supplements*) should be information about you, the SID, and your business practices, rather than general information about your bank.

## Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure

## Item 1 Cover Page

A. The cover page of your *brochure* must state your name, business address, contact information, website address (if you have one), and the date of the *brochure*.

**Note:** If you primarily conduct advisory business under a name different from your full legal name, <u>and</u> you have disclosed your business name in Item 1.B of Part 1A of Form ADV, then you may use your business name throughout your *brochure*.

B. Display on the cover page of your *brochure* the following statement or other clear and concise language conveying the same information, and identifying the document as a "brochure":

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of [your name]. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at [telephone number and/or email address]. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about [your name] also is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

C. If you refer to yourself as a "registered investment adviser" or describe yourself as being "registered," include a statement that registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

## Item 2 Material Changes

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

**Note:** You do not have to separately provide this information to a *client* or prospective *client* who has not received a previous version of your *brochure*.

## Item 3 Table of Contents

Provide a table of contents to your brochure.

**Note:** Your table of contents must be detailed enough so that your *clients* can locate topics easily. Your *brochure* must follow the same order, and contain the same headings, as the items listed in Part 2A.

## Item 4 Advisory Business

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

**Notes:** (1) For purposes of this item, your principal owners include the *persons* you list as owning 25% or more of your firm on Schedule A of Part 1A of Form ADV (Ownership Codes C, D or E). (2) If you are a publicly held company without a 25% shareholder, simply disclose that you are publicly held. (3) If an individual or company owns 25% or more of your firm through subsidiaries, you must identify the individual or parent company and intermediate subsidiaries. If you are an SEC-registered adviser, you must identify intermediate subsidiaries that are publicly held, but not other intermediate subsidiaries. If you are a state-registered adviser, you must identify all intermediate subsidiaries.

- B. Describe the types of advisory services you offer. If you hold yourself out as specializing in a particular type of advisory service, such as financial planning, quantitative analysis, or market timing, explain the nature of that service in greater detail. If you provide investment advice only with respect to limited types of investments, explain the type of investment advice you offer, and disclose that your advice is limited to those types of investments.
- C. Explain whether (and, if so, how) you tailor your advisory services to the individual needs of *clients*. Explain whether *clients* may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities.
- D. If you participate in *wrap fee programs* by providing portfolio management services, (1) describe the differences, if any, between how you manage wrap fee accounts and how you manage other accounts, and
  - (2) explain that you receive a portion of the wrap fee for your services.
- E. If you manage *client* assets, disclose the amount of *client* assets you manage on a *discretionary basis* and the amount of *client* assets you manage on a non-*discretionary basis*. Disclose the date "as of" which you calculated the amounts.

**Note:** Your method for computing the amount of "client assets you manage" can be different from the method for computing "regulatory assets under management" required for Item 5.F in Part 1A. However, if you choose to use a different method to compute "client assets you manage," you must keep documentation describing the method you use. The amount you disclose may be rounded to the nearest \$100,000. Your "as of" date must not be more than 90 days before the date you last updated your *brochure* in response to this Item 4.E.

## Item 5 Fees and Compensation

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

**Note:** If you are an SEC-registered adviser, you do not need to include this information in a *brochure* that is delivered only to qualified purchasers as defined in section 2(a)(51)(A) of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

- B. Describe whether you deduct fees from *clients*' assets or bill *clients* for fees incurred. If *clients* may select either method, disclose this fact. Explain how often you bill *clients* or deduct your fees.
- C. Describe any other types of fees or expenses *clients* may pay in connection with your advisory services, such as custodian fees or mutual fund expenses. Disclose that *clients* will incur brokerage and other transaction costs, and direct *clients* to the section(s) of your *brochure* that discuss brokerage.
- D. If your *clients* either may or must pay your fees in advance, disclose this fact. Explain how a *client* may obtain a refund of a pre-paid fee if the advisory contract is terminated before the end of the billing period. Explain how you will determine the amount of the refund.
- E. If you or any of your *supervised persons* accepts compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products, including asset-based sales charges or service fees from the sale of mutual funds, disclose this fact and respond to Items 5.E.1, 5.E.2, 5.E.3 and 5.E.4.
  - 1. Explain that this practice presents a conflict of interest and gives you or your *supervised persons* an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on a *client's* needs. Describe generally how you address conflicts that arise, including your

procedures for disclosing the conflicts to *clients*. If you primarily recommend mutual funds, disclose whether you will recommend "no-load" funds.

- 2. Explain that *clients* have the option to purchase investment products that you recommend through other brokers or agents that are not affiliated with you.
- 3. If more than 50% of your revenue from advisory *clients* results from commissions and other compensation for the sale of investment products you recommend to your *clients*, including asset-based distribution fees from the sale of mutual funds, disclose that commissions provide your primary or, if applicable, your exclusive compensation.
- 4. If you charge advisory fees in addition to commissions or markups, disclose whether you reduce your advisory fees to offset the commissions or markups.

**Note:** If you receive compensation in connection with the purchase or sale of securities, you should carefully consider the applicability of the broker-dealer registration requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and any applicable state securities statutes.

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

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

# Item 7 Types of Clients

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

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

- A. Describe the methods of analysis and investment strategies you use in formulating investment advice or managing assets. Explain that investing in securities involves risk of loss that *clients* should be prepared to bear.
- B. For each significant investment strategy or method of analysis you use, explain the material risks involved. If the method of analysis or strategy involves significant or unusual risks, discuss these risks in detail. If your primary strategy involves frequent trading of securities, explain how frequent trading can affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes.
- C. If you recommend primarily a particular type of security, explain the material risks involved. If the type of security involves significant or unusual risks, discuss these risks in detail.

# Item 9 Disciplinary Information

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

Items 9.A, 9.B, and 9.C list specific legal and disciplinary events presumed to be material for this Item. If your advisory firm or a management person has been involved in one of these events, you must disclose it under this Item for ten years following the date of the event, unless (1) the event was resolved in your or the management person's favor, or was reversed, suspended or vacated, or (2) you have rebutted the presumption of materiality to determine that the event is not material (see Note below). For purposes of calculating this ten-year period, the "date" of an event is the date that the final order, judgment, or decree was entered, or the date that any rights of appeal from preliminary orders, judgments or decrees lapsed.

Items 9.A, 9.B, and 9.C do not contain an exclusive list of material disciplinary events. If your advisory firm or a *management person* has been *involved* in a legal or disciplinary event that is <u>not</u> listed in Items 9.A, 9.B, or 9.C, but nonetheless is material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation of your advisory business or the integrity of its management, you must disclose the event. Similarly, even if more than ten years have passed since the date of the event, you must disclose the event if it is so serious that it remains material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation.

- A. A criminal or civil action in a domestic, foreign or military court of competent jurisdiction in which your firm or a *management person* 
  - 1. was convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere ("no contest") to (a) any *felony*; (b) a *misdemeanor* that *involved* investments or an *investment-related* business, fraud, false statements or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or (c) a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses;
  - 2. is the named subject of a pending criminal *proceeding* that involves an *investment-related* business, fraud, false statements or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, extortion, or a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses;
  - 3. was found to have been involved in a violation of an investment-related statute or regulation; or
  - 4. was the subject of any *order*, judgment, or decree permanently or temporarily enjoining, or otherwise limiting, your firm or a *management person* from engaging in any *investment-related* activity, or from violating any *investment-related* statute, rule, or *order*.
- B. An administrative *proceeding* before the SEC, any other federal regulatory agency, any state regulatory agency, or any *foreign financial regulatory authority* in which your firm or a *management person* 
  - 1. was found to have caused an investment-related business to lose its authorization to do business; or
  - 2. was *found* to have been *involved* in a violation of an *investment-related* statute or regulation and was the subject of an *order* by the agency or authority
    - (a) denying, suspending, or revoking the authorization of your firm or a *management person* to act in an *investment-related* business;
    - (b) barring or suspending your firm's or a *management person's* association with an *investment- related* business;
    - (c) otherwise significantly limiting your firm's or a *management person's investment-related* activities; or
    - (d) imposing a civil money penalty of more than \$2,500 on your firm or a management person.
- C. A self-regulatory organization (SRO) proceeding in which your firm or a management person
  - 1. was found to have caused an investment-related business to lose its authorization to do business; or
  - 2. was found to have been involved in a violation of the SRO's rules and was: (i) barred or

suspended from membership or from association with other members, or was expelled from membership;

(ii) otherwise significantly limited from investment-related activities; or (iii) fined more than \$2,500.

**Note:** You may, under certain circumstances, rebut the presumption that a disciplinary event is material. If an event is immaterial, you are not required to disclose it. When you review a legal or disciplinary event involving your firm or a *management person* to determine whether it is appropriate to rebut the presumption of materiality, you should consider all of the following factors: (1) the proximity of the *person involved* in the disciplinary event to the advisory function; (2) the nature of the infraction that led to the disciplinary event; (3) the severity of the disciplinary sanction; and (4) the time elapsed since the date of the disciplinary event. If you conclude that the materiality presumption has been overcome, you must prepare and maintain a file memorandum of your determination in your records. See SEC rule 204-2(a)(14)(iii).

## Item 10 Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

- A. If you or any of your *management persons* are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer, disclose this fact.
- B. If you or any of your *management persons* are registered, or have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, a commodity trading advisor, or an associated person of the foregoing entities, disclose this fact.
- C. Describe any relationship or arrangement that is material to your advisory business or to your *clients* that you or any of your *management persons* have with any *related person* listed below. Identify the *related person* and if the relationship or arrangement creates a material conflict of interest with *clients*, describe the nature of the conflict and how you address it.
  - 1. broker-dealer, municipal securities dealer, or government securities dealer or broker
  - investment company or other pooled investment vehicle (including a mutual fund, closed-end investment company, unit investment trust, private investment company or "hedge fund," and offshore fund)
  - 3. other investment adviser or financial planner
  - 4. futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator, or commodity trading advisor
  - 5. banking or thrift institution
  - 6. accountant or accounting firm
  - 7. lawyer or law firm
  - 8. insurance company or agency
  - 9. pension consultant
  - 10. real estate broker or dealer
  - 11. sponsor or syndicator of limited partnerships.
- D. If you recommend or select other investment advisers for your *clients* and you receive compensation directly or indirectly from those advisers that creates a material conflict of interest, or if you have other business relationships with those advisers that create a material conflict of interest, describe these practices and discuss the material conflicts of interest these practices create and how you address them.

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

- A. If you are an SEC-registered adviser, briefly describe your code of ethics adopted pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1 or similar state rules. Explain that you will provide a copy of your code of ethics to any *client* or prospective *client* upon request.
- B. If you or a *related person* recommends to *clients*, or buys or sells for *client* accounts, securities in which you or a *related person* has a material financial interest, describe your practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. Describe generally how you address conflicts that arise.
  - Examples: (1) You or a *related person*, as principal, buys securities from (or sells securities to) your *clients*; (2) you or a *related person* acts as general partner in a partnership in which you solicit *client* investments; or (3) you or a *related person* acts as an investment adviser to an investment company that you recommend to *clients*.
- C. If you or a *related person* invests in the same securities (or related securities, *e.g.*, warrants, options or futures) that you or a *related person* recommends to *clients*, describe your practice and discuss the conflicts of interest this presents and generally how you address the conflicts that arise in connection with personal trading.
- D. If you or a *related person* recommends securities to *clients*, or buys or sells securities for *client* accounts, at or about the same time that you or a *related person* buys or sells the same securities for your own (or the *related person's* own) account, describe your practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. Describe generally how you address conflicts that arise.

**Note:** The description required by Item 11.A may include information responsive to Item 11.B, C or D. If so, it is not necessary to make repeated disclosures of the same information. You do not have to provide disclosure in response to Item 11.B, 11.C, or 11.D with respect to securities that are not "reportable securities" under SEC rule 204A-1(e)(10) and similar state rules.

# Item 12 Brokerage Practices

- A. Describe the factors that you consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for *client* transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (*e.g.*, commissions).
  - 1. Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits. If you receive research or other products or services other than execution from a broker-dealer or a third party in connection with *client* securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits"), disclose your practices and discuss the conflicts of interest they create.

**Note:** Your disclosure and discussion must include all soft dollar benefits you receive, including, in the case of research, both proprietary research (created or developed by the broker-dealer) and research created or developed by a third party.

- a. Explain that when you use *client* brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) to obtain research or other products or services, you receive a benefit because you do not have to produce or pay for the research, products or services.
- b. Disclose that you may have an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on your interest in receiving the research or other products or services, rather than on your *clients*' interest in receiving most favorable execution.
- c. If you may cause *clients* to pay commissions (or markups or markdowns) higher than those charged by other broker-dealers in return for soft dollar benefits (known as paying-up),

disclose this fact.

- d. Disclose whether you use soft dollar benefits to service all of your *clients*' accounts or only those that paid for the benefits. Disclose whether you seek to allocate soft dollar benefits to *client* accounts proportionately to the soft dollar credits the accounts generate.
- e. Describe the types of products and services you or any of your *related persons* acquired with *client* brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) within your last fiscal year.

**Note:** This description must be specific enough for your *clients* to understand the types of products or services that you are acquiring and to permit them to evaluate possible conflicts of interest. Your description must be more detailed for products or services that do not qualify for the safe harbor in section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, such as those services that do not aid in investment decision-making or trade execution. Merely disclosing that you obtain various research reports and products is not specific enough.

- f. Explain the procedures you used during your last fiscal year to direct *client* transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for soft dollar benefits you received.
- 2. <u>Brokerage for *Client* Referrals</u>. If you consider, in selecting or recommending broker-dealers, whether you or a *related person* receives *client* referrals from a broker-dealer or third party, disclose this practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it creates.
  - a. Disclose that you may have an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on your interest in receiving *client* referrals, rather than on your *clients*' interest in receiving most favorable execution.
  - b. Explain the procedures you used during your last fiscal year to direct *client* transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for *client* referrals.

# 3. <u>Directed Brokerage</u>.

- a. If you routinely <u>recommend</u>, <u>request</u> or <u>require</u> that a *client* direct you to execute transactions through a specified broker-dealer, describe your practice or policy. Explain that not all advisers require their *clients* to direct brokerage. If you and the broker-dealer are affiliates or have another economic relationship that creates a material conflict of interest, describe the relationship and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. Explain that by directing brokerage you may be unable to achieve most favorable execution of *client* transactions, and that this practice may cost *clients* more money.
- b. If you <u>permit</u> a *client* to direct brokerage, describe your practice. If applicable, explain that you may be unable to achieve most favorable execution of *client* transactions. Explain that directing brokerage may cost *clients* more money. For example, in a directed brokerage account, the *client* may pay higher brokerage commissions because you may not be able to aggregate orders to reduce transaction costs, or the *client* may receive less favorable prices.

**Note:** If your *clients* only have directed brokerage arrangements <u>subject to most favorable</u> <u>execution of *client* transactions</u>, you do not need to respond to the last sentence of Item 12.A.3.a. or to the second or third sentences of Item 12.A.3.b.

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

#### Item 13 Review of Accounts

- A. Indicate whether you periodically review *client* accounts or financial plans. If you do, describe the frequency and nature of the review, and the titles of the *supervised persons* who conduct the review.
- B. If you review *client* accounts on other than a periodic basis, describe the factors that trigger a review.
- C. Describe the content and indicate the frequency of regular reports you provide to *clients* regarding their accounts. State whether these reports are written.

## Item 14 Client Referrals and Other Compensation

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

**Note:** If you compensate any *person* for *client* referrals, you should consider whether SEC rule 206(4)-1 or similar state rules regarding solicitation arrangements and/or state rules requiring registration of *investment adviser representatives* apply.

# Item 15 Custody

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

#### Item 16 Investment Discretion

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

# Item 17 Voting Client Securities

- A. If you have, or will accept, authority to vote *client* securities, briefly describe your voting policies and procedures, including those adopted pursuant to SEC rule 206(4)-6. Describe whether (and, if so, how) your *clients* can direct your vote in a particular solicitation. Describe how you address conflicts of interest between you and your *clients* with respect to voting their securities. Describe how *clients* may obtain information from you about how you voted their securities. Explain to *clients* that they may obtain a copy of your proxy voting policies and procedures upon request.
- B. If you do not have authority to vote *client* securities, disclose this fact. Explain whether *clients* will receive their proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian or a transfer agent or from you, and discuss whether (and, if so, how) *clients* can contact you with questions about a particular solicitation.

#### Item 18 Financial Information

- A. If you require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance, include a balance sheet for your most recent fiscal year.
  - 1. The balance sheet must be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, audited by an independent public accountant, and accompanied by a note stating the principles used to prepare it, the basis of securities included, and any other explanations required for clarity.
  - 2. Show parenthetically the market or fair value of securities included at cost.
  - 3. Qualifications of the independent public accountant and any accompanying independent public accountant's report must conform to Article 2 of SEC Regulation S-X.

**Note:** If you are a sole proprietor, show investment advisory business assets and liabilities separate from other business and personal assets and liabilities. You may aggregate other business and personal assets unless advisory business liabilities exceed advisory business assets.

**Note:** If you have not completed your first fiscal year, include a balance sheet dated not more than 90 days prior to the date of your *brochure*.

**Exception:** You are not required to respond to Item 18.A of Part 2A if you also are: (i) a qualified custodian as defined in SEC rule 206(4)-2 or similar state rules; or (ii) an insurance company.

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

**Note:** With respect to Items 18.A and 18.B, if you are registered or are registering with one or more of the *state securities authorities*, the dollar amount reporting threshold for including the required balance sheet and for making the required financial condition disclosures is more than \$500 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance.

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

If you are registering or are registered with one or more *state securities authorities*, you must respond to the following additional Item.

- Item 19 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers
  - A. Identify each of your principal executive officers and *management persons*, and describe their formal education and business background. If you have supplied this information elsewhere in your Form ADV, you do not need to repeat it in response to this Item.
  - B. Describe any business in which you are actively engaged (other than giving investment advice) and the approximate amount of time spent on that business. If you have supplied this information elsewhere in your Form ADV, you do not need to repeat it in response to this Item.
  - C. In addition to the description of your fees in response to Item 5 of Part 2A, if you or a *supervised* person are compensated for advisory services with performance-based fees, explain how these fees will be calculated. Disclose specifically that performance-based compensation may create an incentive for the adviser to recommend an investment that may carry a higher degree of risk to the client.

- D. If you or a *management person* has been *involved* in one of the events listed below, disclose all material facts regarding the event.
  - 1. An award or otherwise being *found* liable in an arbitration claim alleging damages in excess of \$2,500, *involving* any of the following:
    - (a) an investment or an *investment-related* business or activity;
    - (b) fraud, false statement(s), or omissions;
    - (c) theft, embezzlement, or other wrongful taking of property;
    - (d) bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or
    - (e) dishonest, unfair, or unethical practices.
  - 2. An award or otherwise being *found* liable in a civil, *self-regulatory organization*, or administrative *proceeding involving* any of the following:
    - (a) an investment or an investment-related business or activity;
    - (b) fraud, false statement(s), or omissions;
    - (c) theft, embezzlement, or other wrongful taking of property;
    - (d) bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or
    - (e) dishonest, unfair, or unethical practices.
- E. In addition to any relationship or arrangement described in response to Item 10.C. of Part 2A, describe any relationship or arrangement that you or any of your *management persons* have with any issuer of securities that is not listed in Item 10.C. of Part 2A.

# Instructions for Part 2A Appendix 1 of Form ADV: Preparing Your *Wrap Fee Program Brochure*

Read all the instructions, including General Instructions for Form ADV, General Instructions for Part 2 of Form ADV, Instructions for Part 2A of Form ADV, and the instructions below, before preparing or updating your wrap fee program brochure.

1. Who must deliver a wrap fee program brochure? If you sponsor a wrap fee program, you must give a wrap fee program brochure to each client of the wrap fee program.

However, if a wrap fee program that you sponsor has multiple sponsors and another sponsor creates and delivers to your wrap fee program clients a wrap fee program brochure that includes all the information required in your wrap brochure, you do not have to create or deliver a separate wrap fee program brochure. A wrap fee program brochure takes the place of your advisory firm brochure required by Part 2A of Form ADV, but only for clients of wrap fee programs that you sponsor. See SEC rule 204-3(d) and similar state rules.

- 2. When must a wrap fee program brochure be delivered?
  - You must give a *wrap fee program brochure* to each *client* of the *wrap fee program* before or at the time the *client* enters into a *wrap fee program* contract. See SEC rule 204-3(b) and similar state rules.
  - Each year you must (i) deliver, within 120 days of the end of your fiscal year, to each *client* a free updated *wrap fee program brochure* that either includes a summary of material changes or is accompanied by a summary of material changes, or (ii) deliver to each *client* a summary of material changes that includes an offer to provide a copy of the updated *wrap fee program brochure* and information on how a *client* may obtain the *wrap fee program brochure*. See SEC rule 204-3(b) and similar state rules.
  - You do not have to deliver an interim amendment to *clients* unless the amendment includes information in response to Item 9 of Part 2A (disciplinary information). An interim amendment can be in the form of a document describing the material facts relating to the amended disciplinary event. See SEC rule 204-3(b) and similar state rules.

**Note:** As a fiduciary, you have an ongoing obligation to inform your *clients* of any material information that could affect the advisory relationship. As a result, between *annual updating amendments* you must disclose material changes to such information to *clients* even if those changes do not trigger delivery of an interim amendment. See General Instructions for Part 2 of Form ADV, Instruction 3.

- 3. When must we update our wrap fee program brochure? You must update your wrap fee program brochure: (i) each year at the time you file your annual updating amendment, and (ii) promptly whenever any information in the wrap fee program brochure becomes materially inaccurate. You are not required to update your wrap fee program brochure between annual amendments solely because your fee schedule has changed. However, if you are updating your wrap fee program brochure for a separate reason in between annual amendments, and your fee schedule listed in response to Item 4.A has become materially inaccurate, you should update that item as part of the interim amendment. All updates to your wrap fee program brochure must be filed through the IARD system and maintained in your files. See SEC rules 204-1 and 204-2(a)(14) and similar state rules.
- 4. <u>May we deliver our *wrap fee program brochure* electronically?</u> Yes. The SEC has published interpretive guidance on delivering documents electronically, which you can find at <a href="https://www.sec.gov/rules/concept/33-7288.txt">www.sec.gov/rules/concept/33-7288.txt</a>.
- 5. What if we *sponsor* more than one *wrap fee program*? You may prepare a single *wrap fee program brochure* describing all the *wrap fee programs* you *sponsor*, or you may prepare separate *wrap fee program brochures* that describe one or more of your *wrap fee programs*. If you prepare separate *brochures*, each *brochure* must state that you *sponsor* other *wrap fee programs* and must explain how the *client* can obtain *brochures* for the other programs.

- 6. We provide portfolio management services under a wrap fee program that we sponsor. Must we deliver both our wrap fee program brochure and our firm brochure to our wrap fee program clients? No, just the wrap fee program brochure. If you or your supervised persons provide portfolio management services under a wrap fee program that you also sponsor, your wrap fee program brochure must describe the investments and investment strategies you (or your supervised persons) will use as portfolio managers. This requirement appears in Item 6.C of this Appendix.
- 7. We provide other advisory services outside of our *wrap fee programs*. May we combine our *wrap fee program brochure* into our firm *brochure* for *clients* receiving these other services? No. Your *wrap fee program brochure* must address only the *wrap fee programs* you *sponsor*. See SEC rule 204-3(d)(1) and similar state rules.
- 8. <u>Must we also deliver brochure supplements to wrap fee program clients?</u> Yes. A wrap fee program brochure does <u>not</u> take the place of any supplements required by Part 2B of Form ADV.

# Part 2A Appendix 1 of Form ADV: Wrap Fee Program Brochure

# Item 1 Cover Page

A. The cover page of your *wrap fee program brochure* must state your name, business address, contact information, web site address (if you have one), and the date of the *wrap fee program brochure*.

**Note:** If you primarily conduct advisory business under a name different from your full legal name, <u>and</u> you have disclosed your business name in Item 1.B of Part 1A of Form ADV, then you may use your business name throughout your *wrap fee program brochure*.

B. Display on the cover page of your *wrap fee program brochure* the following (or other clear and concise language conveying the same information) and identifying the document as a "wrap fee program brochure":

This wrap fee program brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of [your name]. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at [telephone number and/or email address]. The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Additional information about [your name] also is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

D. If you refer to yourself as a "registered investment adviser" or describe yourself as being "registered," include a statement that registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

## Item 2 Material Changes

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

**Notes:** You do not have to provide this information to a *client* or prospective *client* who has not received a previous version of your *wrap fee program brochure*.

### Item 3 Table of Contents

Provide a table of contents to your wrap fee program brochure.

**Note:** Your table of contents must be detailed enough so that your *clients* can locate topics easily. Your *wrap fee program brochure* must follow the same order, and contain the same headings, as the items listed in this Appendix 1.

## Item 4 Services, Fees and Compensation

A. Describe the services, including the types of portfolio management services, provided under each program. Indicate the wrap fee charged for each program or, if fees vary according to a schedule, provide your fee schedule. Indicate whether fees are negotiable and identify the portion of the total fee, or the range of fees, paid to portfolio managers.

- B. Explain that the program may cost the *client* more or less than purchasing such services separately and describe the factors that bear upon the relative cost of the program, such as the cost of the services if provided separately and the trading activity in the *client's* account.
- C. Describe any fees that the *client* may pay in addition to the wrap fee, and describe the circumstances under which *clients* may pay these fees, including, if applicable, mutual fund expenses and mark-ups, mark- downs, or spreads paid to market makers.
- D. If the *person* recommending the *wrap fee program* to the *client* receives compensation as a result of the *client's* participation in the program, disclose this fact. Explain, if applicable, that the amount of this compensation may be more than what the *person* would receive if the *client* participated in your other programs or paid separately for investment advice, brokerage, and other services. Explain that the *person*, therefore, may have a financial incentive to recommend the *wrap fee program* over other programs or services.

# Item 5 Account Requirements and Types of *Clients*

If a wrap fee program imposes any requirements to open or maintain an account, such as a minimum account size, disclose these requirements. If there is a minimum amount for assets placed with each portfolio manager as well as a minimum account size for participation in the wrap fee program, disclose and explain these requirements. To the extent applicable to your wrap fee program clients, describe the types of clients to whom you generally provide investment advice, such as individuals, trusts, investment companies, or pension plans.

## Item 6 Portfolio Manager Selection and Evaluation

- A. Describe how you select and review portfolio managers, your basis for recommending or selecting portfolio managers for particular *clients*, and your criteria for replacing or recommending the replacement of portfolio managers for the program and for particular *clients*.
  - 1. Describe any standards you use to calculate portfolio manager performance, such as industry standards or standards used solely by you.
  - 2. Indicate whether you review, or whether any third-party reviews, performance information to determine or verify its accuracy or its compliance with presentation standards. If so, briefly describe the nature of the review and the name of any third party conducting the review.
  - 3. If applicable, explain that neither you nor a third-party reviews portfolio manager performance information, and/or that performance information may not be calculated on a uniform and consistent basis.
- B. Disclose whether any of your *related persons* act as a portfolio manager for a *wrap fee program* described in the *wrap fee program brochure*. Explain the conflicts of interest that you face because of this arrangement and describe how you address these conflicts of interest. Disclose whether *related person* portfolio managers are subject to the same selection and review as the other portfolio managers that participate in the *wrap fee program*. If they are not, describe how you select and review *related person* portfolio managers.
- C. If you, or any of your *supervised persons* covered under your investment adviser registration, act as a portfolio manager for a *wrap fee program* described in the *wrap fee program brochure*, respond to Items 4.B, 4.C, 4.D (Advisory Business), 6 (*Performance-Based Fees* and Side-By-Side Management), 8.A (Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss) and 17 (Voting *Client* Securities) of Part 2A of Form ADV.

#### Item 7 Client Information Provided to Portfolio Managers

Describe the information about clients that you communicate to the clients' portfolio managers, and how often or

under what circumstances you provide updated information.

Item 8 Client Contact with Portfolio Managers

Explain any restrictions placed on clients' ability to contact and consult with their portfolio

managers. Item 9 Additional Information

- A. Respond to Item 9 (Disciplinary Information) and Item 10 (Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations) of Part 2A of Form ADV.
- B. Respond to Items 11 (Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in *Client* Transactions and Personal Trading), 13 (Review of Accounts), 14 (*Client* Referrals and Other Compensation), and 18 (Financial Information) of Part 2A of Form ADV, as applicable to your wrap fee *clients*.

If you are registered or are registering with one or more *state securities authorities*, you must respond to the following additional Item.

Item 10 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers Respond to Item 19.E of Part 2A of Form ADV.

## Instructions for Part 2B of Form ADV: Preparing a Brochure Supplement

- 1. <u>For which supervised persons</u> must we prepare a <u>brochure supplement?</u> As an initial matter, if you have no <u>clients</u> to whom you must deliver a <u>brochure supplement</u> (see Instruction 2 below), then you need not prepare <u>any brochure supplements</u>. Otherwise, you must prepare a <u>brochure supplement</u> for the following <u>supervised persons</u>:
  - (i) Any *supervised person* who formulates investment advice for a *client* and has direct *client* contact; and
  - (ii) Any *supervised person* who has *discretionary authority* over a *client's* assets, even if the *supervised person* has no direct *client* contact. See SEC rule 204-3(b)(2) and similar state rules.

**Note:** No supplement is required for a *supervised person* who has no direct *client* contact and has *discretionary authority* over a *client*'s assets <u>only</u> as part of a team. In addition, if discretionary advice is provided by a team comprised of more than five *supervised persons*, *brochure supplements* need only be provided for the five *supervised persons* with the most significant responsibility for the day-to-day discretionary advice provided to the *client*. See SEC rule 204-3(b) and similar state rules.

# 2. To whom must we deliver brochure supplements? Are there any exceptions?

You must deliver to a *client* the *brochure supplements* for each *supervised person* who provides advisory services to that *client*. However, there are three categories of *clients* to whom you are not required to deliver *supplements*. See SEC rule 204-3(c) and similar state rules.

First, you are not required to deliver supplements to *clients* to whom you are not required to deliver a firm *brochure* (or a *wrap fee program brochure*).

Second, you are not required to deliver supplements to *clients* who receive only *impersonal investment advice*, even if they receive a firm *brochure*.

Third, you are not required to deliver supplements to *clients* who are individuals who would be "qualified clients" of your firm under SEC rule 205-3(d)(1)(iii). Those *persons* are:

- (i) Any executive officers, directors, trustees, general partners, or *persons* serving in a similar capacity, of your firm; or
- (ii) Any employees of your firm (other than employees performing solely clerical, secretarial or administrative functions) who, in connection with their regular functions or duties, participate in the investment activities of your firm and have been performing such functions or duties for at least 12 months.
- 3. When must we deliver a supplement to a *client*?
- You must deliver the supplement for a *supervised person* before or at the time that *supervised person* begins to provide advisory services to a *client*.
- You also must deliver to *clients* any update to the supplement that amends information in response to Item 3 of Part 2B (disciplinary information). Such an amendment can be in the form of a "sticker" that identifies the information that has become inaccurate and provides the new information and the date of the sticker.

**Note:** As a fiduciary, you have a continuing obligation to inform your *clients* of any material information that could affect the advisory relationship. As a result, between *annual updating amendments* you must disclose material changes to *clients* even if those changes do not trigger delivery of an updated supplement.

You may have a *supervised person* deliver supplements (including his own) on your behalf. Furthermore, if you are an SEC-registered adviser, you not required to file *brochure supplements* or updates, but you must maintain copies of them. See Instruction 5 of SEC General Instructions for Part 2 of Form ADV.

- 4. When must we update *brochure supplements*? You must update *brochure supplements* promptly whenever any information in them becomes materially inaccurate.
- 5. May we deliver brochure supplements electronically? Yes. You may deliver supplements using electronic media. The SEC has published interpretive guidance on delivering documents electronically, which you can find at <wed>www.sec.gov/rules/concept/33-7288.txt</d>>. If you deliver a supplement electronically, you may disclose in that supplement that the supervised person has a disciplinary event and provide a hyperlink to either the BrokerCheck or the IAPD systems.
- 6. <u>Must brochure supplements</u> be separate documents? No. If your firm brochure includes all the information required in a brochure supplement, you do not need a separate supplement. Smaller firms with just a few supervised persons may find it easier to include all supplement information in their firm brochure, while larger firms may prefer to use a firm brochure and separate supplements. If supplement information is included in the firm brochure, however, the supplements must be included at the end of the brochure. In addition, each supplement must follow the same order as the supplement items listed in Part 2B, and contain the same headings.

You may prepare supplements for groups of *supervised persons*. A group supplement, or a firm *brochure* presenting supplement information about *supervised persons*, must present information in a separate section for each *supervised person*.

- 7. Must an adviser who is a sole proprietor provide his own *brochure supplement* to *clients*? No, if that information is included in the firm *brochure*.
- 8. <u>May we include information not required by an item in a brochure supplement?</u> Yes. If you include information not required by an item, however, you may not include so much additional information that the required information is obscured.
- 9. Are we required to file the *brochure supplements*? If you are registered or are registering with the SEC, you are not required to file your *brochure supplements*, but you are required to maintain copies of all supplements and amendments to supplements in your files. See SEC rule 204-2(a)(14)(i). If you are registered or are registering with one or more *state securities authorities*, you must file through IARD a copy of the *brochure supplement* for each *supervised person* doing business in that state.

## Part 2B of Form ADV: Brochure Supplement

# Item 1 Cover Page

- A. Include the following on the cover page of the supplement:
  - 1. The *supervised person's* name, business address and telephone number (if different from yours).
  - 2. Your firm's name, business address and telephone number. If your firm *brochure* uses a business name for your firm, use the same business name for the firm in the supplement.
  - 3. The date of the supplement.
- B. Display on the cover page statements containing the following or other clear and concise language conveying the same information, and identifying the document as a "brochure supplement:"

This brochure supplement provides information about [name of supervised person] that supplements the [name of advisory firm] brochure. You should have received a copy of that brochure. Please contact [service center or name and/or title of your contact person] if you did not receive [name of advisory firm]'s brochure or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about [name of *supervised person*] is available on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>.

**Note:** You do not have to include this statement directing *clients* to the public website unless the *supervised person* is an *investment adviser representative* required to register with *state securities authorities*. The above information must be on the cover page of the supplement but need not be the only information on the cover page of the supplement. If other information is included on the cover page of the supplement, the above information must be on the top of the first page of the supplement.

#### Item 2 Educational Background and Business Experience

Disclose the *supervised person*'s name, age (or year of birth), formal education after high school, and business background (including an identification of the specific positions held) for the preceding five years. If the *supervised person* has no high school education, no formal education after high school, or no business background, disclose this fact. You may list any professional designations held by the *supervised person*, but if you do so, you must provide a sufficient explanation of the minimum qualifications required for each designation to allow *clients* to understand the value of the designation.

# Item 3 Disciplinary Information

If there are legal or disciplinary events material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation of the *supervised person*, disclose all material facts regarding those events.

Items 3.A, 3.B, 3.C, and 3.D below list specific legal and disciplinary events presumed to be material for this Item. If the *supervised person* has been *involved* in one of these events, you must disclose it under this Item for ten years following the date of the event, unless (1) the event was resolved in the *supervised person* 's favor, or was reversed, suspended or vacated, or (2) you have rebutted the presumption of materiality to determine that the event is not material (see Note below). For purposes of calculating this ten-year period, the "date" of an event is the date the final *order*, judgment, or decree was entered, or the date any rights of appeal from preliminary *orders*, judgments or decrees lapsed.

Items 3.A, 3.B, 3.C, and 3.D do not contain an exclusive list of material disciplinary events. If the *supervised* person has been *involved* in a legal or disciplinary event that is <u>not</u> listed in Items 3.A, 3.B, 3.C, or 3.D but <u>is</u> material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation of the *supervised* person's integrity, you must disclose

the event. Similarly, even if more than ten years have passed since the date of the event, you must disclose the event if it is so serious that it remains currently material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation. If you deliver a supplement electronically and if a particular disclosure required below for the *supervised person* is provided through either the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority's (FINRA) BrokerCheck system or the IAPD, you may satisfy that particular disclosure obligation by including in that supplement (i) a statement that the *supervised person* has a disciplinary history, the details of which can be found on FINRA's BrokerCheck system or the IAPD, and (ii) a hyperlink to the relevant system with a brief explanation of how the *client* can access the disciplinary history. The BrokerCheck link is <a href="https://www.finra.org/brokercheck">www.finra.org/brokercheck</a>; the IAPD link is <a href="https://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a>.

- A. A criminal or civil action in a domestic, foreign or military court of competent jurisdiction in which the *supervised person* 
  - 1. was convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere ("no contest") to (a) any *felony*; (b) a *misdemeanor* that *involved* investments or an *investment-related* business, fraud, false statements or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or (c) a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses;
  - 2. is the named subject of a pending criminal *proceeding* that involves an *investment-related* business, fraud, false statements or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, extortion, or a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses;
  - 3. was found to have been involved in a violation of an investment-related statute or regulation; or
  - 4. was the subject of any *order*, judgment, or decree permanently or temporarily enjoining, or otherwise limiting, the *supervised person* from engaging in any *investment-related* activity, or from violating any *investment-related* statute, rule, or *order*.
- B. An administrative *proceeding* before the SEC, any other federal regulatory agency, any state regulatory agency, or any *foreign financial regulatory authority* in which the *supervised person* 
  - 1. was found to have caused an investment-related business to lose its authorization to do business; or
  - 2. was *found* to have been *involved* in a violation of an *investment-related* statute or regulation and was the subject of an *order* by the agency or authority
    - (a) denying, suspending, or revoking the authorization of the *supervised person* to act in an *investment-related* business:
    - (b) barring or suspending the *supervised person's* association with an *investment-related* business;
    - (c) otherwise significantly limiting the supervised person's investment-related activities; or
    - (d) imposing a civil money penalty of more than \$2,500 on the *supervised person*.
- C. A self-regulatory organization (SRO) proceeding in which the supervised person
  - 1. was found to have caused an investment-related business to lose its authorization to do business; or
  - 2. was *found* to have been *involved* in a violation of the *SRO's* rules and was: (i) barred or suspended from membership or from association with other members, or was expelled from membership;
    - (ii) otherwise significantly limited from investment-related activities; or (iii) fined more than \$2,500.
- D. Any other hearing or formal adjudication in which a professional attainment, designation, or license of the *supervised person* was revoked or suspended because of a violation of rules relating to professional conduct. If the *supervised person* resigned (or otherwise relinquished the attainment, designation, or

license) in anticipation of such a hearing or formal adjudication (and the adviser knows, or should have known, of such resignation or relinquishment), disclose the event.

**Note:** You may, under certain circumstances, rebut the presumption that a disciplinary event is material. If an event is immaterial, you are not required to disclose it. When you review a legal or disciplinary event involving the *supervised person* to determine whether it is appropriate to rebut the presumption of materiality, you should consider all of the following factors: (1) the proximity of the *supervised person* to the advisory function; (2) the nature of the infraction that led to the disciplinary event; (3) the severity of the disciplinary sanction; and (4) the time elapsed since the date of the disciplinary event. If you conclude that the materiality presumption has been overcome, you must prepare and maintain a file memorandum of your determination in your records. See SEC rule 204-2(a)(14)(iii) and similar state rules.

## Item 4 Other Business Activities

- A. If the *supervised person* is actively engaged in any *investment-related* business or occupation, including if the *supervised person* is registered, or has an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer, registered representative of a broker-dealer, futures commission merchant ("FCM"), commodity pool operator ("CPO"), commodity trading advisor ("CTA"), or an associated *person* of an FCM, CPO, or CTA, disclose this fact and describe the business relationship, if any, between the advisory business and the other business.
  - 1. If a relationship between the advisory business and the *supervised person's* other financial industry activities creates a material conflict of interest with *clients*, describe the nature of the conflict and generally how you address it.
  - 2. If the *supervised person* receives commissions, bonuses or other compensation based on the sale of securities or other investment products, including as a broker-dealer or registered representative, and including distribution or service ("trail") fees from the sale of mutual funds, disclose this fact. If this compensation is not cash, explain what type of compensation the *supervised person* receives. Explain that this practice gives the *supervised person* an incentive to recommend investment products based on the compensation received, rather than on the *client's* needs.
- B. If the *supervised person* is actively engaged in any business or occupation for compensation not discussed in response to Item 4.A, above, and the other business activity or activities provide a substantial source of the *supervised person*'s income or involve a substantial amount of the *supervised person*'s time, disclose this fact and describe the nature of that business. If the other business activities represent less than 10 percent of the *supervised person*'s time and income, you may presume that they are not substantial.

## Item 5 Additional Compensation

If someone who is not a *client* provides an economic benefit to the *supervised person* for providing advisory services, generally describe the arrangement. For purposes of this Item, economic benefits include sales awards and other prizes, but do <u>not</u> include the *supervised person's* regular salary. Any bonus that is based, at least in part, on the number or amount of sales, *client* referrals, or new accounts should be considered an economic benefit, but other regular bonuses should not.

# Item 6 Supervision

Explain how you *supervise* the *supervised person*, including how you monitor the advice the *supervised person* provides to *clients*. Provide the name, title and telephone number of the *person* responsible for supervising the *supervised person*'s advisory activities on behalf of your firm.

If you are registered or are registering with one or more *state securities authorities*, you must respond to the following additional Item.

# Item 7 Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

- A. In addition to the events listed in Item 3 of Part 2B, if the *supervised person* has been *involved* in one of the events listed below, disclose all material facts regarding the event.
  - 1. An award or otherwise being *found* liable in an arbitration claim alleging damages in excess of \$2,500, *involving* any of the following:
    - (a) an investment or an *investment-related* business or activity;
    - (b) fraud, false statement(s), or omissions;
    - (c) theft, embezzlement, or other wrongful taking of property;
    - (d) bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or
    - (e) dishonest, unfair, or unethical practices.
  - 2. An award or otherwise being *found* liable in a civil, *self-regulatory organization*, or administrative *proceeding involving* any of the following:
    - (a) an investment or an *investment-related* business or activity;
    - (b) fraud, false statement(s), or omissions;
    - (c) theft, embezzlement, or other wrongful taking of property;
    - (d) bribery, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or
    - (e) dishonest, unfair, or unethical practices.
- B. If the *supervised person* has been the subject of a bankruptcy petition, disclose that fact, the date the petition was first brought, and the current status.