## ITEM 1. COVER PAGE FOR PART 2A OF FORM ADV: FIRM BROCHURE DATED APRIL 2024

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of CFG. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact by telephone at (605) 338-7150 or email at john@compassfin.net. 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 CFG also is available on the SEC's website at <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>.

Please note that the use of the term "registered investment adviser" and description of CFG and/or our associates as "registered" does not imply a certain level of skill or training. You are encouraged to review this Brochure and Brochure Supplements for our firm's associates who advise you for more information on the qualifications of our firm and our employees.

Please also note that after conducting initial best interest assessments and investment policy statements associated with any recommendations that are made, CFG requests that clients report any changes to their personal situations, or financial standing or needs, and investment objectives that might impact the clients' risk tolerances, investment allocations, and/or recommended investments.

## **Item 2. Material Changes to Our Part 2A of Form ADV: Firm Brochure**

**CFG** is required to advise you of any material changes to our Firm Brochure ("Brochure") from our last annual update, identify those changes on the cover page of our Brochure or on the page immediately following the cover page, or in a separate communication accompanying our Brochure. We must state clearly that we are discussing only material changes since the last annual update of our Brochure, and we must provide the date of the last annual update of our Brochure.

Please note that we do not have to provide this information to a client or prospective client who has not received a previous version of our brochure.

None Stated - 2024

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## Item 4. Advisory Business

We specialize in the following types of services: comprehensive portfolio management and referrals to third party money managers. Our assets under management are \$995,000,000 as of April 2024.

# A. <u>Description of our advisory firm, including how long we have been in business and our principal owner(s)<sup>1</sup>.</u>

We are dedicated to providing individuals and other types of clients with a wide array of investment advisory services. Our firm is a corporation formed in the State of South Dakota. Our firm has been in business as an investment adviser since 2011 and is owned as follows:

John Haller – Thirty Four-percent owner

Jesse Haller – Thirty Three-percent owner

Jasen Haller - Thirty Three-percent owner

#### B. Description of the types of advisory services we offer.

#### (i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Our comprehensive portfolio management service encompasses asset management as well as access to financial planning/financial consulting for clients. It is designed to assist clients in meeting their financial goals through the use of financial investments. We try to conduct at least one, but sometimes more than one meeting (in person if possible, otherwise via telephone conference) with clients in order to understand their current financial situation, existing resources, financial goals, and tolerance for risk. Based on what we learn, we propose an investment approach to the client. We may propose an investment portfolio, consisting of exchange traded funds, mutual funds, individual stocks or bonds, or other securities. Upon the client's agreement to the proposed investment plan, we work with the client to establish or transfer investment accounts so that we can manage the client's portfolio. Once the relevant accounts are under our management, we review such accounts on a regular basis and at least annually, if the client makes themselves available. We may periodically rebalance or adjust client accounts under our management. If the client experiences any significant changes to his/her financial or personal circumstances,

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

the client must notify us so that we can consider such information in managing the client's investments.

(ii) <u>Referrals to Third Party Money Managers:</u>

We may provide clients with a list of investment advisory services of third party professional portfolio management firms for the individual management of client accounts. As part of this process, we assist clients in identifying an appropriate third party money manager. We provide initial due diligence on third party money managers and ongoing reviews of their management of your account.

In order to assist clients in the selection of a third party money manager, we typically gather information from the client about their financial situation, investment objectives, and reasonable restrictions they can impose on the management of the account, which are often very limited. It is important to note that we do not offer advice on any specific securities or other investments in connection with this service. Investment advice and trading of securities is only offered by or through the third party money managers to clients.

We periodically review third party money managers' reports provided to the client, but no less often than on an annual basis, if the client makes themselves available. Our associates contact the clients from time to time, as agreed to with the client, in order to review their financial situation and objectives; communicate information to third party money managers as warranted; and, assist the client in understanding and evaluating the services provided by the third party money manager. The client will be expected to notify us of any changes in his/her financial situation, investment objectives, or account restrictions that could affect their account. The client may also directly contact the third party money manager managing the account or sponsoring the program.

- C. Explanation of whether (and, if so, how) we tailor our advisory services to the individual needs of *clients*, whether *clients* may impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities.
  - (i) Individual Tailoring of Advice to Clients:

We offer individualized investment advice to clients utilizing the following services offered by our firm: Comprehensive Portfolio Management. Additionally, we offer general investment advice to clients utilizing the following services offered by our firm: Referrals to Third Party Money Managers.

(ii) <u>Ability of Clients to Impose Restrictions on Investing in Certain Securities or Types of Securities:</u>

We usually do not allow clients to impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities due to the level of difficulty this would entail in managing their account. In the rare instance that we would allow restrictions, it would be limited to the following services: Comprehensive Portfolio Management. We do not manage assets through our other services.

#### D. Participation in wrap fee programs.

We offer wrap fee programs as further described in Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the "Wrap Fee Program Brochure") of our Brochure. Our wrap fee accounts are managed on an individualized basis according to the client's investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc. As further described in our Wrap Fee Program Brochure, we receive a portion of the wrap fee for our services.

E. <u>Disclosure of the amount of *client* assets we manage on a *discretionary basis* and the amount of *client* assets we manage on a non-*discretionary basis* as of April 2024.</u>

We manage<sup>2</sup> \$995,000,000 on a discretionary basis and \$0 on a non-discretionary basis as of April 2024.

## Item 5. Fees and Compensation

We are required to describe our brokerage, custody, fees and fund expenses so you will know how much you are charged and by whom for our advisory services provided to you. Our fees are generally negotiable.

#### A. Description of how we are compensated for our advisory services provided to you.

(i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management:

Assets under management	Annual Percentage of assets charge*:
Any Assets	As Negotiated to maximum of 1.5%

\*Our firm's fees are billed on a pro-rata annualized basis quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter.

(ii) Referrals to Third Party Money Managers:

If utilized, we are paid by third party money managers when we refer you to them and you decide to open a managed account. Third party money managers pay us a portion of the investment advisory fee that they charge you for managing your account. Fees paid to us by third party money manager are generally ongoing. All fees we receive from third party

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Please note that our method for computing the amount of "*client* assets we manage" can be different from the method for computing "assets under management" required for Item 5.F in Part 1A of Form ADV. However, we have chosen to follow the method outlined for Item 5.F in Part 1A of Form ADV. If we decide to use a different method at a later date to compute "*client* assets we manage," we must keep documentation describing the method we use and inform you of the change. The amount of assets we manage may be disclosed by rounding to the nearest \$1,000,000. Our "as of" date must not be more than three months before the date we last updated our Brochure in response to Item 4.E of Form ADV Part 2A.

money managers and the written separate disclosures made to you regarding these fees comply with applicable state statutes and rules. The separate written disclosures you need to be provided with include a copy of the third party money manager's Form ADV Part 2, all relevant Brochures, a Solicitation Disclosure Statement detailing the exact fees we are paid and a copy of the third party money manager's privacy policy. The third party money managers we recommend will not directly charge you a higher fee than they would have charged without us introducing you to them.

#### B. Description of whether we deduct fees from *clients*' assets or bill *clients* for fees incurred.

#### (i) <u>Comprehensive Portfolio Management:</u>

Our firm's fees are billed on a pro-rata annualized basis quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter. Fees will generally be automatically deducted from your managed account.\* As part of this process, you understand and acknowledge the following:

- a) Your independent custodian sends statements at least quarterly to you showing all disbursements for your account, including the amount of the advisory fees paid to us;
- b) You provide authorization permitting us to be directly paid by these terms;
- c) If we send a copy of our invoice to you, we send a copy of our invoice to the independent custodian at the same time we send the invoice to you;
- d) If we send a copy of our invoice to you, our invoice includes a legend as required by state statutes and rules.\*\*

\*We do not offer direct billing as an option to our comprehensive portfolio management clients.

\*\*The legend urges the client to compare information provided in their statements with those from the qualified custodian in account opening notices and subsequent statements sent to the client for whom the adviser opens custodial accounts with the qualified custodian.

(ii) <u>Referrals to third party money managers:</u>

Third party money managers establish and maintain their own separate billing processes which we have no control over. In general, they will directly bill you and describe how this works in their separate written disclosure documents.

C. <u>Description of any other types of fees or expenses *clients* may pay in connection with our advisory services, such as custodian fees or mutual fund expenses.</u>

Clients will pay the following separately incurred expenses, which we do not receive any part of: charges imposed directly by a mutual fund, index fund, or exchange traded fund which shall be disclosed in the fund's prospectus (i.e., fund management fees and other fund expenses). Wrap fee clients will receive our Form ADV, Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the "Wrap Fee Program Brochure"). Wrap fee clients will not incur transaction costs for trades. More information about this is disclosed in our separate Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

D. We must disclose if client's advisory fees are due quarterly in advance. 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.

We charge our advisory fees quarterly in advance. In the event that you wish to terminate our services, we will refund the unearned portion of our advisory fee to you if it is in excess of \$100.00. You need to contact us in writing and state that you wish to terminate our services. Upon receipt of your letter of termination, we will proceed to close out your account and process a pro-rata refund of unearned advisory fees.

E. Commissionable securities sales.

We do not sell securities for a commission.

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

We do not charge performance fees to our clients.

# Item 7. Types of Clients and Account Requirements

We have the following types of clients:

- Individuals and High Net Worth Individuals;
- Trusts, Estates or Charitable Organizations;
- Corporations, limited liability companies and/or other business types.

We do not have requirements for opening and maintaining accounts or otherwise engaging us.

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

A. <u>Description of the methods of analysis and investment strategies we use in formulating investment advice or managing assets.</u>

## Methods of Analysis:

- Technical
- Fundamental

#### Investment Strategies we use:

- Long term purchases (securities held at least a year);
- Short term purchases (securities sold within a year);
- Trading (securities sold within 30 days);
- Margin transactions;
- Option writing, including covered options, uncovered options or spreading strategies.

#### Please note:

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that *clients* should be prepared to bear. While the stock market may increase and your account(s) could enjoy a gain, it is also possible that the stock market may decrease and your account(s) could suffer a loss. It is important that you understand the risks associated with investing in the stock market, are appropriately diversified in your investments, and ask us any questions you may have.

B. <u>Our practices regarding cash balances in *client* accounts, including whether we invest cash balances for temporary purposes and, if so, how.</u>

We generally invest client's cash balances in money market funds, FDIC Insured Certificates of Deposit, high-grade commercial paper and/or government backed debt instruments. Ultimately, we try to achieve the highest return on our client's cash balances through relatively low-risk conservative investments. In most cases, at least a partial cash balance will be maintained in a cash sweep or money market account so that our firm may debit advisory fees for our services related to comprehensive portfolio management as applicable.

# **Item 9. Disciplinary Information**

We are required to disclose whether there are legal or disciplinary events that are material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management. There are a number of specific legal and disciplinary events that we must presume are material for this Item. If our advisory firm or a *management person* has been *involved* in one of these events, we must disclose it under this Item for ten years following the date of the event, unless (1) the event was resolved in our or the *management person's* favor, or was reversed, suspended or vacated, or (2) the event is not material. 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.

The SEC and/or State Regulators have not provided us with an exclusive list of material disciplinary events, which need to be disclosed. If our advisory firm or a *management person* has been *involved* in a legal or disciplinary event that is not specifically required to be disclosed, but nonetheless is material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management, we must disclose the event. Similarly, even if more than ten

years has passed since the date of the event, we must disclose the event if it is so serious that it remains currently material to a *client's* or prospective *client's* evaluation of our firm or management.

We have determined that our firm and management have nothing to disclose under the aforementioned standard.

## Item 10. Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

A. <u>Our firm or our *management persons* are registered</u>, or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer. The details are as follows:

We have determined we have nothing to disclose in this regard.

B. <u>Our firm or our *management persons* are registered</u>, 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. The details are as follows:

We have determined we have nothing to disclose in this regard.

C. Description of any relationship or arrangement that is material to our advisory business or to our *clients*, that we or any of our *management persons* have with any *related person*<sup>3</sup> listed below. We are required to 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 we address it.

Advisors of the firm are licensed insurance agents and, when appropriate, may recommend various insurance products to their clients. Unless otherwise stated, it should be assumed that CFG or the advisor will earn a commission on any insurance sales. This should be considered a conflict of interest. Advisors will only advise insurance products necessary for appropriate financial planning and which is in the best interest of the client based on the facts known at the time of the recommendation.

D. <u>If we recommend or select other investment advisers for our *clients* and we receive compensation directly or indirectly from those advisers, or we have other business relationships with those advisers, we are required to describe these practices and discuss the conflicts of interest these practices create and how we address them.</u>

Please see Item 4B of this Brochure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Our **Related Persons** are any *advisory affiliates* and any *person* that is under common *control* with our firm. **Advisory Affiliate:** Our advisory affiliates are (1) all of our officers, partners, or directors (or any *person* performing similar functions); (2) all *persons* directly or indirectly *controlling* or *controlled* by us; and (3) all of our current *employees* (other than *employees* performing only clerical, administrative, support or similar functions). **Person:** A natural person (an individual) or a company. A company includes any partnership, corporation, trust, limited liability company ("LLC"), limited liability partnership ("LLP"), sole proprietorship, or other organization.

# Item 11. Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal <u>Trading</u>

A. <u>Brief description of our Code of Ethics adopted pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1 and offer to provide a copy of our Code of Ethics to any *client* or prospective *client* upon request.</u>

We recognize that the personal investment transactions of members and employees of our firm demand the application of a high Code of Ethics and require that all such transactions be carried out in a way that does not endanger the interest of any client. At the same time, we believe that if investment goals are similar for clients and for members and employees of our firm, it is logical and even desirable that there be common ownership of some securities.

Therefore, in order to prevent conflicts of interest, we have in place a set of procedures (including a pre-clearing procedure) with respect to qualifying transactions effected by our members, officers and employees for their personal accounts<sup>4</sup>. In order to monitor compliance with our personal trading policy, we oversee our associates qualifying positions held with our firm, and have a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our associates with qualifying holdings held away.

Furthermore, our firm has established a Code of Ethics which applies to all of our associated persons. An investment adviser is considered a fiduciary. As a fiduciary, it is an investment adviser's responsibility to provide fair and full disclosure of all material facts and to act solely in the best interest of each of our clients at all times. We have a fiduciary duty to all clients. Our fiduciary duty is considered the core underlying principle for our Code of Ethics which also includes Insider Trading and Personal Securities Transactions Policies and Procedures. We require all of our supervised persons to conduct business with the highest level of ethical standards and to comply with all federal and state securities laws at all times. Upon employment or affiliation and at least annually thereafter, all supervised persons will sign an acknowledgement that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with our Code of Ethics. Our firm and supervised persons must conduct business in an honest, ethical, and fair manner and avoid all circumstances that might negatively affect or appear to affect our duty of complete loyalty to all clients. This disclosure is provided to give all clients a summary of our Code of Ethics. However, if a client or a potential client wishes to review our Code of Ethics in its entirety, a copy will be provided promptly upon request.

B. If our firm or a *related person* invests in the same securities (or related securities, *e.g.*, warrants, options or futures) that our firm or a *related person* recommends to *clients*, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest this presents and generally how we address the conflicts that arise in connection with personal trading.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For purposes of the policy, our associate's personal account generally includes any account (a) in the name of our associate, his/her spouse, his/her minor children or other dependents residing in the same household, (b) for which our associate is a trustee or executor, or (c) which our associate controls, including our client accounts which our associate controls and/or a member of his/her household has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in.

See Item 11A of this Brochure. Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities and other investments that are also recommended to clients. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request.

C. If our firm 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 our firm's (or the *related person's* own) account, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. We are also required to describe generally how we address conflicts that arise.

See Item 11A of this brochure. Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities for themselves at or about the same time they buy or sell the same securities for client accounts. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request. Further, our related persons will refrain from buying or selling the same securities within 24 hours of buying or selling for our clients, if it is known to them. If related persons' accounts are included in a block trade, our related persons will always trade personal accounts last.

# Item 12. Brokerage Practices

A. <u>Description of the factors that we consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for</u> *client* transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (*e.g.*, commissions).

1. <u>Research and Other Soft Dollar Benefits. If we receive research or other products</u> or services other than execution from a broker-dealer or a third party in connection with *client* securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits"), we are required to disclose our practices and discuss the conflicts of interest they create. Please note that we must disclose all soft dollar benefits we 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.

Our firm has an arrangement with Charles Schwab. Under the arrangement with Charles Schwab we receive services which include, among others, brokerage, custodial, administrative support, record keeping and related services that are intended to support our firm in conducting business and in serving the best interests of our clients but that may benefit our firm.

a. <u>Explanation of when we use *client* brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) to obtain research or other products or services, and how we receive a benefit because our firm does not have to produce or pay for the research, products or services.</u>

As part of the arrangement described in Item 12A1, Charles Schwab also makes certain research and brokerage services available at no additional cost to our firm. These services include certain research and brokerage services, including research services obtained by Charles Schwab directly from independent research companies, as selected by our firm

(within specific parameters). Research products and services provided by Charles Schwab to our firm may include research reports on recommendations or other information about, particular companies or industries; economic surveys, data and analyses; financial publications; portfolio evaluation services; financial database software and services; computerized news and pricing services; quotation equipment for use in running software used in investment decision-making; and other products or services that provide lawful and appropriate assistance by Charles Schwab to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities. The aforementioned research and brokerage services are used by our firm to manage accounts for which we have investment discretion. Without this arrangement, our firm might be compelled to purchase the same or similar services at our own expense.

#### b. <u>Incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on our interest in receiving</u> the research or other products or services, rather than on our *clients*' interest in receiving best execution.

As a result of receiving the services discussed in 12A(1)a of this Firm Brochure for no additional cost, we may have an incentive to continue to use or expand the use of Charles Schwab' services. Our firm examined this potential conflict of interest when we chose to enter into the relationship with Charles Schwab and we have determined that the relationship is in the best interest of our firm's clients and satisfies our client obligations, including our duty to seek best execution.

Charles Schwab charges brokerage commissions and transaction fees for effecting certain securities transactions (i.e., transaction fees are charged for certain no-load mutual funds, commissions may be charged for individual equity and debt securities transactions). Charles Schwab enables us to obtain many no-load mutual funds, stocks, and ETFs without transaction charges and other no-load funds at nominal transaction charges. Charles Schwab' commission rates are generally discounted from customary retail commission rates. However, the commission and transaction fees charged by Charles Schwab may be higher or lower than those charged by other custodians and broker-dealers.

c. <u>Causing clients to pay commissions (or markups or markdowns) higher than those</u> charged by other broker-dealers in return for soft dollar benefits (known as paying-up).

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

d. <u>Disclosure of whether we use soft dollar benefits to service all of our *clients*' accounts or only those that paid for the benefits, as well as whether we seek to allocate soft dollar benefits to *client* accounts proportionately to the soft dollar credits the accounts generate.</u>

Although the investment research products and services that may be obtained by our firm will generally be used to service all of our clients, a brokerage commission paid by a specific client may be used to pay for research that is not used in managing that specific client's account.

e. <u>Description of the types of products and services our firm or any of our *related persons* acquired with *client* brokerage commissions (or markups or markdowns) within <u>our last fiscal year.</u></u>

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

# f. <u>Explanation of the procedures we used during our last fiscal year to direct *client* transactions to a particular broker-dealer in return for soft dollar benefits we received.</u>

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

2) <u>Brokerage for *Client* Referrals</u>. If we use client brokerage to compensate or otherwise reward brokers for client referrals, we must disclose this practice, the conflicts of interest it creates, and any procedures we used to direct client brokerage to referring brokers during the last fiscal year (*i.e.*, the system of controls used by us when allocating brokerage)

Our firm does not receive brokerage for client referrals.

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

a. <u>If we routinely recommend, request or require that a *client* directs us to execute transactions through a specified broker-dealer, we are required to describe our practice or policy. Further, we must explain that not all advisers require their *clients* to direct brokerage. If our firm and the broker-dealer are affiliates or have another economic relationship that creates a material conflict of interest, we are further required to describe the relationship and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents by explaining that through the direction of brokerage we may be unable to achieve best execution of *client* transactions, and that this practice may cost our *clients* more money.</u>

Clients generally may not seek to limit or restrict our discretionary authority in making the determination of Charles Schwab, with whom orders for the purchase or sale of securities are placed for execution. Clients seeking to limit our authority in this area by directing that transactions (or some specified percentage of transactions) be executed through specified brokers in return for portfolio evaluation or other services deemed by the client to be of value must do so in writing.

We provide appropriate disclosure in writing to clients who direct trades to Charles Schwab. Should you require a different broker/dealer we will inform you in writing that your trade orders may not be aggregated with other clients' orders and that direction of brokerage may hinder best execution.

#### **Special Considerations for ERISA Clients**

A retirement or ERISA plan client may direct all or part of portfolio transactions for its account through a specific broker or dealer in order to obtain goods or services on behalf

of the plan. Such direction is permitted provided that the goods and services provided are reasonable expenses of the plan incurred in the ordinary course of its business for which it otherwise would be obligated and empowered to pay. ERISA prohibits directed brokerage arrangements when the goods or services purchased are not for the exclusive benefit of the plan. Consequently, we will request that plan sponsors who direct plan brokerage provide us with a letter documenting that this arrangement will be for the exclusive benefit of the plan.

b. <u>If we permit a *client* to direct brokerage, we are required to describe our practice.</u> If applicable, we must also explain that we may be unable to achieve best execution of your transactions. Directed brokerage may cost *clients* more money. For example, in a directed brokerage account, you may pay higher brokerage commissions because we may not be able to aggregate orders to reduce transaction costs, or you may receive less favorable prices on transactions.

See Item 12A(3) of this Brochure.

B. <u>Discussion of whether, and under what conditions, we aggregate the purchase or sale of</u> securities for various *client* accounts in quantities sufficient to obtain reduced transaction costs (known as bunching). If we do not bunch orders when we have the opportunity to do so, we are required to explain our practice and describe the costs to *clients* of not bunching.

We perform investment management services for various clients. There are occasions on which portfolio transactions may be executed as part of concurrent authorizations to purchase or sell the same security for numerous accounts served by our firm, which involve accounts with similar investment objectives. Although such concurrent authorizations potentially could be either advantageous or disadvantageous to any one or more particular accounts, they are affected only when we believe that to do so will be in the best interest of the effected accounts. When such concurrent authorizations occur, the objective is to allocate the executions in a manner which is deemed equitable to the accounts involved. In any given situation, we attempt to allocate trade executions in the most equitable manner possible, taking into consideration client objectives, current asset allocation and availability of funds using price averaging, proration and consistently non-arbitrary methods of allocation.

# Item 13. Review of Accounts or Financial Plans

# A. <u>Review of *client* accounts or financial plans, along with a description of the frequency and nature of our review, and the titles of our *employees* who conduct the review.</u>

If the client makes themselves available, we review accounts on at least an annual basis (subject to a reasonable margin due to scheduling and unforeseen events) for our clients subscribing to the following services: Comprehensive Portfolio Management and Third Party Money Management clients. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether clients' accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and

investment policies, if applicable. Only our Financial Advisors or Portfolio Managers will conduct reviews.

B. <u>Review of *client* accounts on other than a periodic basis, along with a description of the factors that trigger a review.</u>

We may review client accounts more frequently than described above. Among the factors which may trigger an off-cycle review are major market or economic events, the client's life events, requests by the client, etc.

C. <u>Description of the content and indication of the frequency of written or verbal regular reports</u> we provide to *clients* regarding their accounts.

We do not provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Verbal reports to clients take place on at least an annual basis (subject to a reasonable margin due to scheduling and unforeseen events) when we meet with clients, if they make themselves available, who subscribe to the following services: Comprehensive Portfolio Management and Third Party Money Management.

# Item 14. Client Referrals and Other Compensation

A. If someone who is not a *client* provides an economic benefit to our firm for providing investment advice or other advisory services to our *clients*, we must generally describe the arrangement. For purposes of this Item, economic benefits include any sales awards or other prizes.

Other than the disclosure in Item 12 of this Brochure, we have nothing further to disclose in this regard.

B. If our firm or a *related person* directly or indirectly compensates any *person* who is not our *employee* for *client* referrals, we are required to describe the arrangement and the compensation.

SmartVestor<sup>TM</sup> is an advertising and referral service for investment professionals operated by The Lampo Group, LLC d/b/a Ramsey Solutions ("Ramsey Solutions"). Ramsey Solutions is a paid, non-client promoter of SmartVestor Pros. Ramsey Solutions is not an investment advisor. When you provide your contact information through the SmartVestor site, Ramsey Solutions will introduce you to up to five (5) investment professionals ("Pros") that cover your geographic area. Ramsey Solutions is a paid, non-client promoter of Pros. Each Pro has entered into an agreement with Ramsey Solutions under which the Pro pays Ramsey Solutions compensation for participating in the SmartVestor program, resulting in a material conflict of interest. Due to the compensation received by Ramsey Solutions, it has a financial incentive to introduce you to Pros, including an incentive to present certain Pros that offer their services on a national basis ("National Pros") more often than other National Pros that pay lower fees. Ramsey Solutions is compensated through a combination of fees, consisting of a flat monthly membership fee and a flat monthly territory fee to advertise the Pro's services through SmartVestor and to receive client referrals from interested consumers who are located in Pro's geographic area. Each Pro may also, if applicable, pay Ramsey Solutions a one-time training fee. The fees paid by the Pros to Ramsey Solutions are paid irrespective of whether you become a client of a Pro and are not passed along to you. However, you should understand that all of the Pros that are available through SmartVestor pay Ramsey Solutions fees to participate in the program. Further, the amount of compensation each Pro pays to Ramsey Solutions will vary based on certain factors, including whether the Pros participate in training and choose to advertise in local or national markets. The required Solicitors Disclosure is provided at the time of solicitation to all potential clients by DRS and is also available upon request.

## Item 15. Custody

A. If we have *custody* of *client* funds or securities and a qualified custodian as defined in SEC rule 206(4)-2 or similar state rules (for example, a broker-dealer or bank) does not send account statements with respect to those funds or securities directly to our *clients*, we must disclose that we have *custody* and explain the risks that you will face because of this.

All of our clients receive at least quarterly account statements directly from their custodians. Upon opening an account with a qualified custodian on a client's behalf, we promptly notify the client in writing of the qualified custodian's contact information. If we decide to also send account statements to clients, such notice and account statements include a legend that recommends that the client compare the account statements received from the qualified custodian with those received from our firm.

State Securities Bureaus or their equivalent generally take the position that any arrangement under which a registered investment adviser is authorized or permitted to withdraw client funds or securities maintained with a custodian upon the adviser's instruction to the custodian is deemed to have custody of client funds and securities.

As such, we have adopted the following safeguarding procedures:

- Our clients must provide us with written authorization permitting direct payment to us of our advisory fees from their account(s) maintained by a custodian who is independent of our firm;
- (2) We must send a statement to our clients showing the amount of our fee, the value of your assets upon which our fee was based, and the specific manner in which our fee was calculated;
- (3) We must disclose to you that it is your responsibility to verify the accuracy of our fee calculation, and that the custodian will not determine whether the fee is properly calculated; and
- (4) Your account custodian must agree to send you a statement, at least quarterly, showing all disbursements from your account, including advisory fees.

B. <u>If we have *custody* of *client* funds or securities and a qualified custodian sends quarterly, or more frequent, account statements directly to our *clients*, we are required to explain that you will receive account statements from the broker-dealer, bank, or other qualified custodian and that you should carefully review those statements.</u>

We encourage our clients to raise any questions with us about the custody, safety or security of their assets. The custodians we do business with will send you independent account statements listing your account balance(s), transaction history and any fee debits or other fees taken out of your account.

## Item 16. Investment Discretion

If we accept *discretionary authority* to manage securities accounts on behalf of *clients*, we are required to disclose this fact and describe any limitations our *clients* may place on our authority. The following procedures are followed before we assume this authority:

Our clients need to sign a discretionary investment advisory agreement with our firm for the management of their account. This type of agreement only applies to our Comprehensive Portfolio clients. We do not take or exercise discretion with respect to our other clients.

## Item 17. Voting Client Securities

A. <u>If we have, or will accept, proxy authority to vote *client* securities, we must briefly describe our voting policies and procedures, including those adopted pursuant to SEC Rule 206(4)-6.</u>

We do not and will not accept the proxy authority to vote client securities. Clients will receive proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian or a transfer agent. In the event that proxies are sent to our firm, we will forward them on to you and ask the party who sent them to mail them directly to you in the future. Clients may call, write or email us to discuss questions they may have about particular proxy votes or other solicitations.

However, third party money managers selected or recommended by our firm may vote proxies for clients. Therefore, except in the event a third party money manager votes proxies, clients maintain exclusive responsibility for: (1) directing the manner in which proxies solicited by issuers of securities beneficially owned by the client shall be voted, and (2) making all elections relative to any mergers, acquisitions, tender offers, bankruptcy proceedings or other type events pertaining to the client's investment assets. Therefore (except for proxies that may be voted by a third party money manager), our firm and/or you shall instruct your qualified custodian to forward to you copies of all proxies and shareholder communications relating to your investment assets.

# **Item 18. Financial Information**

A. If we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance, we must include a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

We do not require, nor do we solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance. Therefore, we have not included a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

B. If we are an SEC-registered adviser and have *discretionary authority* or *custody* of *client* funds or securities, or we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance, we must disclose any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to *clients*.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

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

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

# Item 19. PTE 202-02 Disclosure

The following disclosure is being provided to you in accordance with the SEC's Regulation Best Interest (Reg BI) along with the Department of Labor's (DOL) Fiduciary Rule. The Department of Labor's ("DOL") "Conflict of Interest Rule", also known as the Fiduciary Rule (the "Rule"). This Rule requires fiduciaries to retirement plans, plan participants, and individual retirement account (IRA) owners ("Retirement Investors") to act impartially and provide advice that is in their clients' best interest.

When we provide investment advice to you regarding your retirement plan account or individual retirement account, we are fiduciaries within the meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and/or the Internal Revenue Code, as applicable, which are laws governing retirement accounts. The way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests, so we operate under a special rule that requires us to act in your best interest and not put our interests ahead of yours.

Under this special rule's provisions, we must:

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

## **Compare Options**

Investors considering rolling over assets from a qualified employer-sponsored retirement plan ("Employer Plan") to an Individual Retirement Account ("IRA") should review and consider the advantages and disadvantages of an IRA rollover from their Employer Plan.

## **OPTIONS**

A plan participant leaving an employer typically has four options (and may engage in a combination of these options):

- 1. Leave the money in the former employer's plan, if permitted.
- 2. Rollover the assets to a new employer's plan (if available and rollovers are permitted);
- 3. Rollover Employer Plan assets to an IRA; or
- 4. Cash out the Employer Plan assets and pay the required taxes on the distribution.

You may choose to take money out of your 401(k) plan. Cashing out the account is an option and willgive you immediate access to your money. There are drawbacks. First, taking the money now means your money will no longer have the potential to continue to grow tax deferred. Second, any cash distribution will be subject to state and federal taxes and, before age 59 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, a 10% withdrawal penalty may apply.

If appropriate in your situation, your investment advisor may recommend that you roll over your employer plan assets to a Rollover IRA. You do not have to pay federal or state taxes if you roll over employer plan assets to a Rollover IRA, and the funds in an IRA continue to grow on a tax-deferred basis. When you withdraw the money for retirement, you will only be taxed on the amount you withdraw from the Rollover IRA each year.

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

By recommending that you rollover your Employer Plan or IRA assets to an IRA, Compass Financial Group and your investment advisor may earn an asset-based fee as a result, if you decide to have the Investment Adviser Firm manage those assets. In contrast, leaving assets in your Employer Plan or rolling the assetsto a plan sponsored by a new employer results in little or no compensation to Compass Financial Group and your investment advisor. You are under no obligation to rollover Employer Plan assets to an IRA managed by your investment advisor.

The Investment Adviser Firm and your investment advisor have a duty to act in the "Best Interest" of the retirement investor when providing investment advice with respect to retirement assets. Simply put, this means that your investment advisor must act with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence that a prude t person would exercise based on the current circumstances. Your investment advisor's advice must be based on the investment objectives, risk tolerance, financial circumstances and needs of the retirem ent investor. The advice must also be made without regard to the financial interests of your investment advisor, the Investment Adviser Firm, or any of their affiliates.

**Fiduciary Rule Requirements:** When making a recommendation to roll over from an ERISA Plan to an IRA, your investment advisor is required to document the specific reason or reasons why the recommendation was considered to be in the Best Interest of the Retirement Investor. This documentation must include:

1. Consideration of the alternatives to a rollover, including leaving the money in your currentemployer's Plan, if permitted.

2. Consideration of the fees and expenses associated with both the Plan and the IRA, including whether your current employer pays for some or all of the plan's administrative expenses; and

3. The different levels of services and investments available under each option.

Where to get the information: Information about your 401(k) plan is available by obtaining the fee disclosure document, also known as the Rule 404a-S disclosure. Plan sponsors are required to provide plan participants with an annual notice disclosing plan expenses {administration, individual and investment-related) to 401k participants. Your most current 401(k) statement also provides information about fees and expenses charged to you as a participant in the plan. This statement provides information about the investment options available in the 401(k) plan.

In order to satisfy these requirements, a Rollover Disclosure Statement will be provided and signed by both the advisor and client whenever relevant rollovers are occurring.

#### ITEM 1 - COVER PAGE FOR PART 2A APPENDIX 1 OF FORM ADV: WRAP FEE PROGRAM BROCHURE DATED APRIL 2024

COMPASS FINANCIAL GROUP, INC ("CFG") 4300 SOUTH LOUISE AVE., SUITE 300 SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 605-338-7150

#### FIRM CONTACT: JOHN HALLER CO-CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER

#### FIRMS WEBSITE ADDRESS: WWW.COMPASSFIN.NET

This wrap fee program brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of CFG. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact by telephone at (605) 338-7150 or email at john@compassfin.net. 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 CFG also is available on the SEC's website at <u>www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</u>.

Please note that the use of the term "registered investment adviser" and description of CFG and/or our associates as "registered" does not imply a certain level of skill or training. You are encouraged to review this Brochure and Brochure Supplements for our firm's associates who advise you for more information on the qualifications of our firm and our employees.

## <u>Item 2 - Material Changes to Part 2A Appendix 1 (Wrap Fee Program Brochure) of Our</u> <u>Form ADV:</u>

**CFG** is required to advise you of any material changes to our Wrap Fee Program Brochure ("Wrap Brochure") from our last annual update, identify those changes on the cover page of our Wrap Brochure or on the page immediately following the cover page, or in a separate communication accompanying our Wrap Brochure. We must state clearly that we are discussing only material changes since the last annual update of our Wrap Brochure, and we must provide the date of the last annual update of our Wrap Brochure.

Please note we do not have to provide this information to a client or prospective client who has not received a previous version of our Wrap Brochure.

None Stated - 2024

# Item 3 - Table of Contents:

# **Topic:**

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## **Item 4 - Services, Fees and Compensation**

A. Description of our services, including the types of portfolio management services, provided under each program. We must indicate the wrap fee charged for each program, or, if fees vary according to a schedule, provide such schedule. Further, we are required to indicate whether fees are negotiable and identify the portion of the total fee, or range of fees, paid to portfolio managers.

We offer wrap fee programs as described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. Our wrap fee accounts are managed on an individualized basis according to the client's investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc.

- (i) Comprehensive Portfolio Management Wrap Fee Program:
- (i) Our comprehensive portfolio management service encompasses asset management as well as providing financial planning/financial consulting to clients. It is designed to assist clients in meeting their financial goals through the use of financial investments. We request at least one, but sometimes more than one meeting (in person if possible, otherwise via telephone or web conference) with clients in order to understand their current financial situation, existing resources, financial goals, and tolerance for risk. Based on what we learn, we propose an investment approach to the client. We may propose an investment portfolio, consisting of exchange traded funds, mutual funds, individual stocks or bonds, or other securities. Upon the client's agreement to the proposed investment plan, we work with the client to establish or transfer investment accounts so that we can manage the client's portfolio. Once the relevant accounts are under our management, we review such accounts on a regular basis and at least annually (With a margin for scheduling or unforeseen events) with clients if they make themselves We may periodically rebalance or adjust client accounts under our available. management. If the client experiences any significant changes to his/her financial or personal circumstances, the client must notify us so that we can consider such information in managing the client's investments.

Comprehensive Portfolio Management Wrap Fee Program Fee Schedule:

Assets under management	Annual Percentage of assets charge*:
Any Assets	As per agreement to maximum of 1.5%

\*Our firm's fees are billed on a pro-rata annualized basis quarterly in advance based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous guarter.

B. Explanation that a wrap fee program may cost you more or less than purchasing such services separately and description of 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 your account(s).

A wrap fee program allows our clients to pay a specified fee for investment advisory services and the execution of transactions. The advisory services may include portfolio management and/or advice concerning selection of other advisers, and the fee is not based directly upon transactions in your account. Your fee is bundled with our costs for executing transactions in your account(s). We do not charge our clients higher advisory fees based on their trading activity, but you should be aware that we may have an incentive to limit our trading activities in your account(s) because we are charged for executed trades. By participating in a wrap fee program, you may end up paying more or less than you would through a non-wrap fee program where a lower advisory fee may be charged, but trade execution costs are passed directly through to you by the executing broker.

This can create a conflict of interest in situations where we pay the transaction fees, whereby we would benefit by using funds without transaction charges when lower cost funds with transaction charges may exist. Additionally, we do not generally pay transaction fees for systematic trades of mutual funds, nor trades on certain "no trade fee" mutual funds (such as Schwab Funds and T. Rowe Price Funds), nor trades on stocks or ETFs. We recognize and disclose this conflict and, as available, mutual fund share class selection and overall investment election will be made in the best interest of the client, from a holistic and qualitative standpoint. CFG and the advisor will attempt to mitigate trade costs as long as it does not increase the cost to the client for the same fund/position.

CFG and its advisors may use a more expensive mutual fund share class if there is a determination that a more expensive share class is presently in the best interest of the client from a qualitative standpoint. Additionally, the determination of whether to advise mutual funds and/or ETFs will be up to the discretion of each advisor and generally based on client desires and goals, diversification goals, tax treatment, client knowledge and understanding, funding consistency and regularity, liquidity needs, and adviser allocation goals.

Again, we wish to make clear that our compensation is primarily for access to financial advice and planning. Our goal is not simply to obtain the lowest cost structure or the least expensive investments or trades from a quantitative standpoint, but rather what we feel are the qualitatively best investments for a client's goals and situation. While trade fees are paid by us, many custodians offer trades without ticket charges and less expensive transaction costs could possibly be obtained elsewhere if trade execution and fund costs are the only consideration. Thus, we want to reiterate that (1) We only offer WRAP accounts in which we cover the trade fees as we feel that it offers the simplest and cleanest financial planning relationship (2) The WRAP management fee is primarily for access to financial advice (3) We would charge the same fee even if you wanted to pay the trade fees yourself (4) If you are only looking for free trades then this can likely be obtained many places at a lower net cost (5) A conflict of interest exists given that CFG pays trade fees as explained above. That being said, trading volume will likely always be relatively low given that CFG believes in buy and hold investing as a principle.

C. Description of any fees that you may pay in addition to a wrap fee, and description of the circumstances under which you may pay these fees, including, if applicable, mutual fund expenses and mark-ups, mark-downs, or spreads paid to market makers.

You may pay custodial fees, fees for trades executed away from custodian, charges imposed directly by a mutual fund, index fund, or exchange traded fund which shall be disclosed in the fund's prospectus (i.e., fund management fees and other fund expenses), mark-ups and mark-downs, spreads paid to market makers, wire transfer fees and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. These fees are not included within the wrap-fee you are charged by our firm.

D. If someone recommending a wrap fee program to you, receives compensation as a result of your participation in the program, we must disclose this fact. Further, we are required to explain, if applicable, that the amount of the compensation may be more than what the person would receive if you participated in our other wrap fee program or paid separately for investment advice, brokerage and other services. Finally, we must explain that someone recommending a wrap fee program may have a financial incentive to recommend the wrap fee program over other programs or services.

Our investment advisory representatives receive all or a portion of the advisory fee that you pay us, either directly as a percentage of your overall fee or as their salary from our firm. In cases where our investment advisory representatives are paid a percentage of your overall advisory fee, this may create an incentive to recommend that you participate in a wrap fee program rather than a non-wrap fee program (where you would pay for trade execution costs) or brokerage account where commissions are charged. CFG mitigates this conflict of interest by allowing the advisory fee to be negotiated regardless of the program and by generally only offering the wrap fee program to clients.

# Item 5 - Account Requirements and Types of Clients

We have the following types of clients:

- Individuals and High Net Worth Individuals;
- Trusts, Estates or Charitable Organizations;
- Corporations, limited liability companies and/or other business types.

We do not have requirements for opening and maintaining accounts or otherwise engaging us.

## Item 6 - Portfolio Manager Selection and Evaluation

A. Description of how our firm selects and reviews portfolio managers, our basis for recommending or selecting portfolio managers for particular clients, and our criteria for replacing or recommending the replacement of portfolio managers for the program and for particular clients.

Our firm selects and reviews outside portfolio managers based on the following factors:

- past performance;
- investment philosophy;
- market outlook;
- experience of portfolio managers and executive team;
- disciplinary, legal and regulatory histories of the firm and its associates;
- whether established compliance procedures are in place to address at a minimum, insider trading, conflicts of interest, anti-money laundering.
- 1) <u>Standards we use to calculate portfolio manager performance, such as industry</u> <u>standards or standards used solely by our firm.</u>

We do not calculate portfolio manager performance. Instead, we rely upon the performance figures based on client's monthly or quarterly statements or reports provided to us by third party portfolio managers.

 Indication of whether we review, or whether any third-party reviews, performance information to determine or verify its accuracy or its compliance with presentation standards. If so, we must briefly describe the nature of the review and the name of any third party conducting the review.

We do not review performance information or hire third parties to do so, in order to determine or verify its accuracy or compliance with presentation standards.

3) If applicable, an explanation that neither our firm nor a third-party reviews portfolio manager performance information, and/or that performance information may not be calculated on a uniform and consistent basis.

Our firm does not review performance information from portfolio managers and we do not hire party firms to do so. As a result, performance information may not be calculated on a uniform and consistent basis.

B. Disclosure of whether our firm or any related persons act as a portfolio manager for a wrap fee program described in the wrap fee program brochure. We must explain the conflicts of interest that we face because of this arrangement and describe how we address these conflicts of interest. Further, we must 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, we must describe how we select and review related person portfolio managers.

Our firm and its related persons act as portfolio manager(s) for the wrap fee program(s) previously described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure. This may create a conflict of interest in that other investment advisory firms may charge the same or lower fees than our firm for similar services. Our related person portfolio managers are not subject to the same selection and review as outside portfolio managers that participate in the wrap fee program. This is because we have chosen not to utilize outside portfolio managers.

C. If our firm, or any of our supervised persons covered under or investment adviser registration, act as a portfolio manager for a wrap fee program described in the wrap fee program brochure, we must 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 (Firm Brochure).

Our firm and supervised persons do act as portfolio manager(s) for a wrap fee program described in this Wrap Fee Program Brochure.

(i) <u>Advisory Business:</u>

See Item 4 of this Wrap Fee Program Brochure for information about our wrap fee advisory programs.

(ii) Individual Tailoring of Advice to Clients:

We offer individualized investment advice to clients utilizing the following services offered by our firm: Comprehensive Portfolio Management.

(iii) Ability of Clients to Impose Restrictions on Investing in Certain Securities or Types of Securities:

We usually do not allow clients to impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities due to the level of difficulty this would entail in managing their account. In the rare instance that we would allow restrictions, it would be limited to the following services: Comprehensive Portfolio Management.

#### (iv) Participation in wrap fee programs.

We only offer wrap fee accounts to our clients, which are managed on an individualized basis according to the client's investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc. We do not manage non-wrap fee accounts.

(v) Performance-based fees and side-by-side management.

We do not charge performance fees to our clients.

## Methods of analysis, investment strategies and risk of loss.

Description of the methods of analysis and investment strategies we use in formulating investment advice or managing assets.

#### Methods of Analysis we could use:

- Technical
- Fundamental

#### Investment Strategies we could use:

- Long term purchases (securities held at least a year);
- Short term purchases (securities sold within a year);
- Trading (securities sold within 30 days);
- Margin transactions;
- Option writing, including covered options, uncovered options or spreading strategies.

#### Please note:

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that *clients* should be prepared to bear. While the stock market may increase and your account(s) could enjoy a gain, it is also possible that the stock market may decrease and your account(s) could suffer a loss. It is important that you understand the risks associated with investing in the stock market, are appropriately diversified in your investments, and ask us any questions you may have.

## Voting client securities.

A. <u>If we have, or will accept, proxy authority to vote *client* securities, we must briefly describe our voting policies and procedures, including those adopted pursuant to SEC Rule 206(4)-6.</u>

We do not and will not accept the proxy authority to vote client securities. Clients will receive proxies or other solicitations directly from their custodian or a transfer agent. In the event that proxies are sent to our firm, we will forward them on to you and ask the party who sent them to mail them directly to you in the future. Clients may call, write or email us to discuss questions they may have about particular proxy votes or other solicitations.

However, third party money managers selected or recommended by our firm may vote proxies for clients. Therefore, except in the event a third party money manager votes proxies, clients maintain exclusive responsibility for: (1) directing the manner in which proxies solicited by issuers of securities beneficially owned by the client shall be voted, and (2) making all elections relative to any mergers, acquisitions, tender offers, bankruptcy proceedings or other type events pertaining to the client's investment assets. Therefore (except for proxies that may be voted by a third party money manager), our firm and/or you shall instruct your qualified custodian to forward to you copies of all proxies and shareholder communications relating to your investment assets.

## Item 7 - Client Information Provided to Portfolio Manager(s)

We are required to describe the information about you that we communicate to your portfolio manager(s), and how often or under what circumstances we provide updated information. Our firm communicates with your portfolio manager(s) on a regular basis as needed (daily, weekly, monthly, etc) to ensure your most current investment goals and objectives are understood by your portfolio manager(s). In most cases, we will communicate such information as part of our regular investment management duties. Nevertheless, we will also communicate information to your portfolio manager(s) when you ask us to, when market or economic conditions make it prudent to do so, etc.

## Item 8 - Client Contact with Portfolio Manager(s)

Our clients may not directly contact their portfolio manager(s) with questions or concerns. All communications must be channeled through our firm.

## Item 9 - Additional Information

- A. We are required to respond to: 1. Item 9 (Disciplinary Information); and 2. Item 10 (Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations) of Part 2A of Form ADV.
  - 1. We have determined that our firm and management have no disciplinary information to disclose.

B. We are required to respond to: 1. Items 11 (Code of Ethics or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading); 2. Item 13 (review of Accounts); 3. Item 14 (Client Referrals and Other Compensation); and 4. Item 18 (Financial Information) of Part 2A of Form ADV, as applicable to our wrap fee clients.

## **1.** Code of ethics, participation or interest in client transactions and personal trading.

Brief description of our Code of Ethics adopted pursuant to SEC rule 204A-1 and offer to provide a copy of our Code of Ethics to any *client* or prospective *client* upon request.

We recognize that the personal investment transactions of members and employees of our firm demand the application of a high Code of Ethics and require that all such transactions be carried out in a way that does not endanger the interest of any client. At the same time, we believe that if investment goals are similar for clients and for members and employees of our firm, it is logical and even desirable that there be common ownership of some securities.

Therefore, in order to prevent conflicts of interest, we have in place a set of procedures (including a pre-clearing procedure) with respect to qualifying transactions effected by our members, officers

and employees for their personal accounts<sup>1</sup>. In order to monitor compliance with our personal trading policy, we oversee our associates qualifying positions held with our firm, and have a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our associates with qualifying holdings held away.

Furthermore, our firm has established a Code of Ethics which applies to all of our associated persons. An investment adviser is considered a fiduciary. As a fiduciary, it is an investment adviser's responsibility to provide fair and full disclosure of all material facts and to act solely in the best interest of each of our clients at all times. We have a fiduciary duty to all clients. Our fiduciary duty is considered the core underlying principle for our Code of Ethics which also includes Insider Trading and Personal Securities Transactions Policies and Procedures. We require all of our supervised persons to conduct business with the highest level of ethical standards and to comply with all federal and state securities laws at all times. Upon employment or affiliation and at least annually thereafter, all supervised persons will sign an acknowledgement that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with our Code of Ethics. Our firm and supervised persons must conduct business in an honest, ethical, and fair manner and avoid all circumstances that might negatively affect or appear to affect our duty of complete loyalty to all clients. This disclosure is provided to give all clients a summary of our Code of Ethics. However, if a client or a potential client wishes to review our Code of Ethics in its entirety, a copy will be provided promptly upon request.

b) If our firm or a *related person* invests in the same securities (or related securities, *e.g.*, warrants, options or futures) that our firm or a *related person* recommends to *clients*, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest this presents and generally how we address the conflicts that arise in connection with personal trading.

See Item 9 Section B (1.) of our Code of Ethics description. Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities and other investments that are also recommended to clients. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request.

c) If our firm 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 our firm's (or the *related person*'s own) account, we are required to describe our practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it presents. We are also required to describe generally how we address conflicts that arise.

See Item 9 Section B (1.) of our Code of Ethics description. Related persons of our firm may buy or sell securities for themselves at or about the same time they buy or sell the same securities for client accounts. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request. Further, our related persons will refrain from buying

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For purposes of the policy, our associate's personal account generally includes any account (a) in the name of our associate, his/her spouse, his/her minor children or other dependents residing in the same household, (b) for which our associate is a trustee or executor, or (c) which our associate controls, including our client accounts which our associate controls and/or a member of his/her household has a direct or indirect beneficial interest in.

or selling the same securities, if known to them, within 24 hours of buying or selling for our clients. If related persons' accounts are included in a block trade, our related persons will always trade personal accounts last.

#### 2. Review of accounts.

a) <u>Review of *client* accounts, along with a description of the frequency and nature of our review, and the titles of our *employees* who conduct the review.</u>

If the client makes themselves available, we review accounts on at least an annual basis (with a margin of error for scheduling conflicts) for our clients subscribing to the following services: Comprehensive Portfolio Management. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether clients' accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and investment policies, if applicable. Only our Financial Advisors or Portfolio Managers will conduct reviews.

b) <u>Review of *client* accounts on other than a periodic basis, along with a description of the factors that trigger a review.</u>

We may review client accounts more frequently than described above. Among the factors which may trigger an off-cycle review are major market or economic events, the client's life events, requests by the client, etc.

c) <u>Description of the content and indication of the frequency of written or verbal regular</u> reports we provide to *clients* regarding their accounts.

We do not provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Verbal reports to clients take place on at least an annual basis when we meet with clients, if they make themselves available, which subscribe to the following service(s): Comprehensive Portfolio Management.

## 3. Client referrals and other compensation.

a) If someone who is not a *client* provides an economic benefit to our firm for providing investment advice or other advisory services to our *clients*, we must generally describe the arrangement. For purposes of this Item, economic benefits include any sales awards or other prizes.

Other than the disclosure in Item 12 of this Brochure, we have nothing further to disclose in this regard.

b) If our firm or a *related person* directly or indirectly compensates any *person* who is not our *employee* for *client* referrals, we are required to describe the arrangement and the compensation.

SmartVestor<sup>™</sup> is an advertising and referral service for investment professionals operated by The Lampo Group, LLC d/b/a Ramsey Solutions ("Ramsey Solutions"). Ramsey

Solutions is a paid, non-client promoter of SmartVestor Pros. Ramsey Solutions is not an investment advisor. When you provide your contact information through the SmartVestor site, Ramsey Solutions will introduce you to up to five (5) investment professionals ("Pros") that cover your geographic area. Ramsey Solutions is a paid, non-client promoter of Pros. Each Pro has entered into an agreement with Ramsey Solutions under which the Pro pays Ramsey Solutions compensation for participating in the SmartVestor program, resulting in a material conflict of interest. Due to the compensation received by Ramsey Solutions, it has a financial incentive to introduce you to Pros, including an incentive to present certain Pros that offer their services on a national basis ("National Pros") more often than other National Pros that pay lower fees.

Ramsey Solutions is compensated through a combination of fees, consisting of a flat monthly membership fee and a flat monthly territory fee to advertise the Pro's services through SmartVestor and to receive client referrals from interested consumers who are located in Pro's geographic area. Each Pro may also, if applicable, pay Ramsey Solutions a one-time training fee. The fees paid by the Pros to Ramsey Solutions are paid irrespective of whether you become a client of a Pro and are not passed along to you. However, you should understand that all of the Pros that are available through SmartVestor pay Ramsey Solutions fees to participate in the program. Further, the amount of compensation each Pro pays to Ramsey Solutions will vary based on certain factors, including whether the Pros participate in training and choose to advertise in local or national markets. The required Solicitors Disclosure is provided at the time of solicitation to all potential clients by DRS and is also available upon request.

## 4. Financial information.

a) If we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance, we must include a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

We do not require nor do we solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance, therefore we have not included a balance sheet for our most recent fiscal year.

b) If we are an SEC-registered adviser and have *discretionary authority* or *custody* of *client* funds or securities, or we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per *client*, six months or more in advance, we must disclose any financial condition that is reasonably likely to impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to *clients*.

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

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

We have nothing to disclose in this regard.

## 5. PTE 2022-02 Disclosure

The following disclosure is being provided to you in accordance with the SEC's Regulation Best Interest (Reg BI) along with the Department of Labor's (DOL) Fiduciary Rule. The Department of Labor's ("DOL") "Conflict of Interest Rule", also known as the Fiduciary Rule (the "Rule"). This Rule requires fiduciaries to retirement plans, plan participants, and individual retirement account (IRA) owners ("Retirement Investors") to act impartially and provide advice that is in their clients' best interest.

When we provide investment advice to you regarding your retirement plan account or individual retirement account, we are fiduciaries within the meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and/or the Internal Revenue Code, as applicable, which are laws governing retirement accounts. The way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests, so we operate under a special rule that requires us to act in your best interest and not put our interests ahead of yours.

Under this special rule's provisions, we must:

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

## **Compare Options**

Investors considering rolling over assets from a qualified employer-sponsored retirement plan ("Employer Plan") to an Individual Retirement Account ("IRA") should review and consider the advantages and disadvantages of an IRA rollover from their Employer Plan.

## **OPTIONS**

A plan participant leaving an employer typically has four options (and may engage in a combination of these options):

- 1. Leave the money in the former employer's plan, if permitted.
- 2. Rollover the assets to a new employer's plan (if available and rollovers are permitted);
- 3. Rollover Employer Plan assets to an IRA; or
- 4. Cash out the Employer Plan assets and pay the required taxes on the distribution.

You may choose to take money out of your 401(k) plan. Cashing out the account is an option and willgive you immediate access to your money. There are drawbacks. First, taking the money now means your money will no longer have the potential to continue to grow tax deferred. Second, any cash distribution will be subject to state and federal taxes and, before age 59 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, a 10% withdrawal penalty may apply.

If appropriate in your situation, your investment advisor may recommend that you roll over your employer plan assets to a Rollover IRA. You do not have to pay federal or state taxes if you roll over employer plan assets to a Rollover IRA, and the funds in an IRA continue to grow on a tax-deferred basis. When you withdraw the money for retirement, you will only be taxed on the amount you withdraw from the Rollover IRA each year.

## **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

By recommending that you rollover your Employer Plan or IRA assets to an IRA, Compass Financial Group and your investment advisor may earn an asset-based fee as a result, if you decide to have the Investment Adviser Firm manage those assets. In contrast, leaving assets in your Employer Plan or rolling the assetsto a plan sponsored by a new employer results in little or no compensation to Compass Financial Group and your investment advisor. You are under no obligation to rollover Employer Plan assets to an IRA managed by your investment advisor.

The Investment Adviser Firm and your investment advisor have a duty to act in the "Best Interest" of the retirement investor when providing investment advisor with respect to retirement assets. Simply put, this means that your investment advisor must act with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence that a prude t person would exercise based on the current circumstances. Your investment advisor's advice must be based on the investment objectives, risk tolerance, financial circumstances and needs of the retirem ent investor. The advice must also be made without regard to the financial interests of your investment advisor, the Investment Adviser Firm, or any of their affiliates.

**Fiduciary Rule Requirements:** When making a recommendation to roll over from an ERISA Plan to an IRA, your investment advisor is required to document the specific reason or reasons why the recommendation was considered to be in the Best Interest of the Retirement Investor. This documentation must include:

1. Consideration of the alternatives to a rollover, including leaving the money in your currentemployer's Plan, if permitted.

2. Consideration of the fees and expenses associated with both the Plan and the IRA, including whether your current employer pays for some or all of the plan's administrative expenses; and

3. The different levels of services and investments available under each option.

Where to get the information: Information about your 401(k) plan is available by obtaining the fee disclosure document, also known as the Rule 404a-S disclosure. Plan sponsors are required to provide plan participants with an annual notice disclosing plan expenses {administration, individual and investment-related) to 401k participants. Your most current 401(k) statement also provides information about fees and expenses charged to you as a participant in the plan. This statement provides information about the investment options available in the 401(k) plan.

In order to satisfy these requirements, a Rollover Disclosure Statement will be provided and signed by both the advisor and client whenever relevant rollovers are occurring.

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

## Item 10 - Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

In addition to any relationship or arrangement described in response to Item 9.A.2 of Part 2A Appendix 1 of Form ADV, we must describe any relationship or arrangement that our firm or any of our *management persons* have with any issuer of securities that is not listed in Item 9.A.2 of Part 2A Appendix 1 of Form ADV.

N/A