

# Old North State Wealth Management, LLC

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**March 22, 2024**

## Form ADV Part 2A Brochure

Old North State Wealth Management, LLC (hereinafter "Old North") is an investment advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (hereinafter "SEC"). An "investment adviser" means any person who, for compensation, engages in the business of advising others, either directly or through publications or writings, as to the value of securities or as to the advisability of investing in, purchasing, or selling securities, or who, for compensation and as part of a regular business, issues or promulgates analyses or reports concerning securities. Registration with the SEC or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Old North State Wealth Management, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at **(910) 509-3800**. 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 Old North State Wealth Management, LLC is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

**Material Changes - Item 2**

The purpose of this page is to inform you of any material changes since the previous version of this Disclosure Brochure.

On March 22, 2024, we submitted our annual updating amendment for fiscal year 2023 and amended Item 4 of our Form ADV Part 2A Brochure to reflect discretionary assets under management of \$312,930,517 and non-discretionary assets under management of \$22,269,408.

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#### **Advisory Business - Item 4**

Old North is a registered investment advisor based in Wilmington, North Carolina. We are a limited liability company under the laws of the State of North Carolina. We have been providing investment advisory services since 2008. Paul Daniel Knott is the sole owner of Old North.

Currently, we offer the following investment advisory services, personalized to each individual client:

- **Portfolio Management Services**
- **Financial Planning Services**

The following paragraphs describe what we do and what we charge. Each investment advisory service is listed below and describes how we tailor our advisory services to your individual needs. Also, you may see the term Associated Person throughout this Brochure. As used in this Brochure, this term refers to anyone from our Firm who is an officer, employee, and all individuals providing investment advice on behalf of our Firm. Such persons are properly registered as investment advisor representatives in all required jurisdictions.

#### ***Portfolio Management Services***

Asset management refers to the management of money, including investments. Assets are usually held in what is called a portfolio. Determining the types and quantities of securities to hold in a portfolio is referred to as portfolio management.

Our Firm offers discretionary and non-discretionary portfolio management services to our clients and prospective clients. Discretionary portfolio management means we will make investment decisions and place buy or sell orders in your account without contacting you. These decisions would be made based upon your stated investment objectives. Non-discretionary portfolio management means we will contact you before a trading decision is made.

Our investment advice is tailored to meet our clients' needs and investment objectives. If you decide to hire our Firm to manage your portfolio, we will meet with you to gather your financial information, determine your goals, and decide how much risk you should take in your investments. The information we gather will help us implement an asset allocation strategy that will be specific to your goals, whether we are actively investing for you or simply providing you with advice.

There are a few ways we might create your investment portfolio depending on what we decide would work best for you. We may customize a portfolio for you based the goals and risk we determined during the information gathering process. Or we might use a predetermined strategy rather than choosing individual securities.

Old North mainly uses equity securities, exchange traded funds, investment company securities, corporate securities, municipal securities and U.S. government securities in its portfolio management programs.

However we construct your investment portfolio, we will monitor your portfolio's performance on an ongoing basis, and rebalance the portfolio when necessary, as changes occur in market conditions, your financial circumstances, or both.

As outlined above, discretionary portfolio management services means that once the portfolio has been agreed upon, the ongoing supervision and management of the portfolio will be our responsibility. This authority is granted to us by you in a written agreement. This allows our Firm to decide on specific securities, the quantity of the securities and placing buy or sell orders for your account without obtaining your approval for each transaction. This type of authorization is done using either the investment advisory agreement you sign with our Firm, a limited power of attorney agreement, or trading authorization forms. You may limit this authority by setting a limit on the type of securities that can be purchased for your account. Simply provide us with your restrictions or guidelines in writing.

The non-discretionary portfolio management service means, as outlined above, that we must obtain your approval prior to making any transactions in your account.

We recommend that you monitor the statement(s) you receive from the qualified custodian. If you see something that is incorrect, please call our main office number, located on the cover page of this brochure.

### ***Financial Planning Services***

We offer comprehensive financial planning including tax planning, charitable gifting strategies, risk and insurance analysis. Old North strives to achieve a client's long-term financial goals by implementing a financial planning process that may include any or all of the following steps:

- Assessment of a client's present financial situation by collecting information regarding net worth and cash flow statements, tax returns, insurance policies, investment portfolios, pension plans, employee benefit statements etc.
- Identification of a client's financial and personal goals and objectives. Goals or objectives may include financing a child's college education or retirement planning. The identified goals or objectives are specific, realistic and measurable. All goals include time horizons.
- Resolution of finance related problems. Obstacles to achieving financial independence are identified so that resolution may occur. Examples of problem areas can include too little or too much insurance coverage, inadequate cash flow or a high tax burden.
- Plan Design. A written financial plan is prepared that includes recommendations and solutions to any financial related problems.
- Implementation of the financial plan. The financial plan is finalized and agreed upon. The recommendations and solutions are executed to reach the desired goals and objectives.
- Evaluation of the financial plan is conducted periodically. The financial planning service provides periodic review and revision of the plan to ensure that the financial goals are achieved.

Financial plans are based on your financial situation and the financial information you provide to our Firm. If your financial situation, goals, objectives, or needs change, you must notify us promptly.

We also provide financial planning services that cover a specific area, such as retirement or estate planning. We offer consultative services where we set an appointment to meet with you for financial planning advice for an hourly fee.

You may choose to accept or reject our recommendations. If you decide to proceed with our recommendations, you may do so either through our investment advisory services or by using the advisory/brokerage Firm of your choice.

***Selection of Third Party Investment Advisers***

Old North has entered into agreements with various other third party investment advisers for the provision of certain investment advisory services. Factors considered in the selection of a third party adviser include but may not be limited to: i) Old North's preference for a particular third party adviser; ii) the client's risk tolerance, goals and objectives, as well as investment experience; and, iii) the amount of client assets available for investment. In order to assist clients in the selection of a third party adviser, an Associated Person of Old North will typically gather information from the client about the client's financial situation, investment objectives, and reasonable restrictions the client wants imposed on the management of the account.

The third party adviser customizes the client's portfolio by blending traditional investment strategies with an allocation to asset classes. The investment strategy adopted by the third party adviser may embrace value, growth, or contrarian investing styles. Generally, securities transactions will be decided upon and executed by the third party adviser on a discretionary basis. This means that the manager selected will have the ability to buy and sell securities in your account without obtaining your approval. Old North and its Associated Persons will not manage, or obtain discretionary authority over the assets in accounts participating in these programs; however, clients may grant Old North the discretionary authority to hire and fire such third party managers. Generally, clients may not impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities in accounts managed by a third party adviser.

Associated Persons of Old North will periodically review reports provided to the client. An Associated Person of Old North will contact the client at least annually, or more often as agreed upon with each client, to review the client's financial situation and objectives, communicate information to the third party adviser managing the account as necessary, and to assist the client in understanding and evaluating the services provided by the third party adviser. Clients will be expected to notify Old North of any changes in their financial situation, investment objectives, or account restrictions.

The third party adviser may offer wrapped or non-wrapped pricing options. Wrap pricing structures allow the client to pay an all-inclusive fee for management, brokerage, clearance, custody, and administrative services. In a non-wrap pricing structure, the third party adviser's fee may be separated from the advisory fee charged by Old North. Transaction costs may also be charged for the execution and clearance of advisory transactions directed by such Third Party Advisory Services. A complete description of the programs and services provided, the amount of total fees, the payment structure, termination provisions and other aspects of each program are detailed and disclosed in: i) the third party adviser's Form ADV Part 2A; ii) the program wrap brochure (if applicable) or other applicable disclosure documents; iii) the disclosure documents of the portfolio manager(s) selected; or, iv) the third party adviser's account opening documents. A copy of all relevant disclosure documents of the third party adviser and of the individual portfolio manager(s) will be provided to anyone interested in these programs/managers.

**Assets Under Management**

As of December 31, 2023, we manage \$312,930,517 in client assets on a discretionary basis and non-discretionary assets under management of \$22,269,408.

**Fees and Compensation - Item 5**

Old North charges a percentage of assets under management, hourly charges, fixed fees (not including subscription fees) or other fees for its advisory services. At the sole discretion of Old North, these fees are negotiable.

**Portfolio Management Services**

If you decide to engage Old North for portfolio management services, we will charge an annual fee based upon a percentage of the market value of the assets being managed. Our fee for portfolio/asset management services is set forth in the following fee schedule:

| <b><u>Assets Under Management</u></b> | <b><u>Annual Fee*</u></b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Up to \$1,000,000                     | 1.25%                     |
| \$1,000,001 - \$2,000,000             | 1.00%                     |
| \$2,000,001 - \$5,000,000             | 0.70%                     |
| Over \$5,000,000                      | 0.50%                     |

\*Certain clients who maintained pre-existing relationships with IARs, prior to their association with the Firm may pay a different fee to Old North. The final fee will be clearly set forth in the agreement for services signed by the Firm and the Client.

Old North allows the accounts for members of the same household to be combined for fee paying purposes. We combine the account valuations to assist you in meeting fee breakpoints and therefore lowering the overall fee level. Old North extends this option to all accounts residing in the same household.

Old North will either bill you directly for payment of our fees or the fees will be deducted from your account. Fees are billed quarterly, in advance and are based on the value of your portfolio at the end of the preceding quarter. Payment in full is expected upon invoice presentation. Fees are usually deducted from a designated client asset account to facilitate billing. The client must consent in advance to direct debiting of their account.

If you choose to have Old North's fee deducted directly from your account, you must provide authorization. The qualified custodian holding your funds and securities will send you an account statement quarterly. This statement will detail account activity. Please review each statement for accuracy. Old North will also receive a copy of your account statements from the custodian.

Our annual fee is exclusive of, and in addition to brokerage commissions, transaction fees, and other related costs and expenses which will be incurred by the client. However, we will not receive any portion of the commissions, fees, and costs. Please see Item 12 – Brokerage Practices for further information on brokerage and transaction costs.

At the inception of investment management services, the first quarter's fees will be calculated on a pro-rata basis. The Advisory Agreement between Old North and the client will continue in effect until either party terminates the Agreement in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. Old North's annual fee will be pro-rated through the date of termination and any remaining balance shall be charged or refunded to the client, as appropriate, in a timely manner.

### **Financial Planning Services**

Old North may provide its clients with financial planning and consulting services. Old North will charge a fixed fee and/or hourly fee for consulting services. Our consulting fees are negotiable. We utilize the following financial planning fee schedules:

- *Fixed Fees:* Old North will charge a fixed fee that ranges from \$500.00 to \$2,500.00, for broad based planning services. *In limited circumstances*, the total cost could potentially exceed \$2,500.00. In such cases, we will notify the client and may request that the client pay an additional fee.
- *Hourly Fees:* Old North charges an hourly fee of \$100 to \$200 for clients who request specific services (such as a modular plan or hourly consulting services) and do not desire a broad based written financial plan.

If the client engages Old North for additional investment advisory services, Old North may offset all or a portion of its fees for those services based upon the amount paid for the consulting services.

Prior to engaging Old North to provide consulting services, the client will generally be required to enter into a written agreement with us. The agreement will set forth the terms and conditions of the engagement and describe the scope of the services to be provided and the portion of the fee that is due from the client. Generally, Old North requires one-half of the consulting fee (estimated hourly or fixed) payable upon entering the written agreement. The balance is generally due upon the completion of the agreed upon services. Either party may terminate the agreement by written notice to the other. In the event the client terminates Old North's consulting services, the balance of Old North's unearned fees (if any) shall be refunded to the client.

### **Third Party Adviser (TPAs) Fees**

Old North will perform management searches of various independent registered investment advisers for referral to Old North clients. Old North will share in the fee paid to the TPA. The management fee is disclosed in the TPA's disclosure documents. These fees may or may not be negotiable. Old North's compensation may differ depending upon the firm's individual agreement with each TPA. Old North or its Associated Persons may have an incentive to recommend one TPA over another TPA with whom it has less favorable compensation arrangements or other advisory programs offered by TPAs with which it has no compensation arrangements.

### **Additional Fees and Expenses**

The fees Old North charges may be negotiable based on the amount of assets under management, complexity of client goals and objectives, and level of services rendered. As described above, the fees are charged as described and are not based on a share of capital gains of the funds of an advisory client. All fees paid to Old North for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds or exchange traded funds to their shareholders. These fees and



expenses are described in each fund's prospectus. These fees generally include a management fee, other fund expenses, and a possible distribution fee. If the fund also imposes sales charges, a client may pay an initial or deferred sales charge. A client could invest in a mutual fund directly, without the services of Old North. In that case, the client would not receive the services provided by Old North which are designed, among other things, to assist the client in determining which mutual fund or funds are most appropriate to each client's financial condition and objectives. Accordingly, the client should review both the fees charged by the funds and the fees charged by Old North to fully understand the total amount of fees to be paid by the client and to thereby evaluate the advisory services being provided.

Negotiability of Fees: We allow Associated Persons servicing the account to negotiate the exact investment management fees within the range disclosed in our Form ADV Part 2A Brochure. As a result, the Associated Person servicing your account may charge more or less for the same service than another Associated Person of our firm. Further, our annual investment management fee may be higher than that charged by other investment advisors offering similar services/programs.

Billing on Cash Positions: The firm treats cash and cash equivalents as an asset class. Accordingly, unless otherwise agreed in writing, all cash and cash equivalent positions (e.g., money market funds, etc.) are included as part of assets under management for purposes of calculating the firm's advisory fee. At any specific point in time, depending upon perceived or anticipated market conditions/events (there being no guarantee that such anticipated market conditions/events will occur), the firm may maintain cash and/or cash equivalent positions for defensive, liquidity, or other purposes. While assets are maintained in cash or cash equivalents, such amounts could miss market advances and, depending upon current yields, at any point in time, the firm's advisory fee could exceed the interest paid by the client's cash or cash equivalent positions.

Billing on Margin: Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the gross amount of assets in the client's account, including margin balances, are included as part of assets under management for purposes of calculating the firm's advisory fee. Clients should note that this practice will increase total assets under management used to calculate advisory fees which will in turn increase the amount of fees collected by our firm. This practice creates a conflict of interest in that our firm has an incentive to use margin in order to increase the amount of billable assets. At all times, the firm and its Associated Persons strive to uphold their fiduciary duty of fair dealing with clients. Clients are free to restrict the use of margin by our firm. However, clients should note that any restriction on the use of margin may negatively impact an account's performance in a rising market.

Periods of Portfolio Inactivity: The firm has a fiduciary duty to provide services consistent with the client's best interest. As part of its investment advisory services, the firm will review client portfolios on an ongoing basis to determine if any changes are necessary based upon various factors, including but not limited to investment performance, fund manager tenure, style drift, account additions/withdrawals, the client's financial circumstances, and changes in the client's investment objectives. Based upon these and other factors, there may be extended periods of time when the firm determines that changes to a client's portfolio are neither necessary nor prudent. Notwithstanding, unless otherwise agreed in writing, the firm's annual investment advisory fee will continue to apply during these periods, and there can be no assurance that investment decisions made by the firm will be profitable or equal any specific performance level(s).

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

#### *Registered Representatives():*

Certain Associated Persons who provide investment advice on behalf of our Firm are registered representatives with APW Capital, Inc. ("APW"), a securities broker/dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). As a registered representative, an Associated Person will receive commission-based compensation for buying and selling securities, including 12b-1 fees (trails) for the sale of mutual funds or annuity products. This commission compensation is separate and in addition to Old North's advisory fees.

#### *Insurance Agent(s):*

Certain Executive officers and other Associated Persons of our firm are licensed as independent insurance agents. These persons will earn commission-based compensation for selling insurance products, including insurance products they sell to our clients. Insurance commissions earned by these persons are separate from and in addition to our advisory fees. The sale of insurance instruments and other commissionable products offered by Associated Persons are intended to complement our advisory services. However, this practice presents a conflict of interest because persons providing investment advice on behalf of our firm who are insurance agents have an incentive to recommend insurance products to you for the purpose of generating commissions rather than solely based on your needs. We address this conflict of interest by recommending insurance products only where we, in good faith, believe that it is appropriate for the client's particular needs and circumstances and only after a full presentation of the recommended insurance product to our client. In addition, we explain the insurance underwriting process to our clients to illustrate how the insurer also reviews the client's application and disclosures prior to the issuance of a resulting insuring agreement. Clients to whom the firm offers advisory services are informed that they are under no obligation to purchase insurance services. Clients who do choose to purchase insurance services are under no obligation to use our licensed Associated Persons and may use the insurance brokerage firm and agent of their choice.

Old North's advisory clients are not obligated to purchase the products or services of APW. You may purchase or sell securities apart from your advisory account at the brokerage Firm of your choice. The sale of mutual funds, annuity contracts, insurance instruments and other commissionable products offered by Associated Persons of Old North through APW are intended to compliment Old North's advisory services. However, a conflict of interest exists due to the receipt of dual forms of compensation. Principals of Old North regularly review client transactions to ensure that Old North is acting in the best interest of its clients.

Old North recommends many types of securities, including mutual funds to its advisory clients. Where Old North does recommend a mutual fund to an advisory client, Old North will generally recommend a no-load mutual fund. In situations outside of Old North's advisory accounts where Associated Person acting in the capacity of a registered representative of APW recommends a mutual fund, both no-load and 'loaded' funds options will be presented to the client. It may be the case that Old North will receive advisory fees in addition to commissions and/or markups on securities.

All conflicts of interest between you and our Firm, and the Associated Persons of our Firm, are outlined in this Disclosure Brochure. If additional conflicts arise in the future, we will notify you in writing or supply you with an updated Disclosure Brochure.

### **IRA Rollover Considerations**

As a normal extension of financial advice, we provide education or recommendations related to the rollover of an employer-sponsored retirement plan. A plan participant leaving employment has several options. Each choice offers advantages and disadvantages, depending on desired investment options and services, fees and expenses, withdrawal options, required minimum distributions, tax treatment, and the investor's unique financial needs and retirement plans. The complexity of these choices may lead an investor to seek assistance from us.

An Associated Person who recommends an investor roll over plan assets into an Individual Retirement Account ("IRA") may earn an asset-based fee as a result, but no compensation if assets are retained in the plan. Thus, we have an economic incentive to encourage an investor to roll plan assets into an IRA. In most cases, fees and expenses will increase to the investor as a result because the above-described fees will apply to assets rolled over to an IRA and outlined ongoing services will be extended to these assets.

We are fiduciaries under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and when we provide investment advice to you regarding your retirement plan account or individual retirement account, we are also 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. We have to act in your best interests and not put our interest ahead of yours. At the same time, the way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests.

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

Old North does not charge performance-based fees.

#### **Types of Clients - Item 7**

We offer investment advisory services to individuals, pension and profit sharing plan participants, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, corporations, and other business entities.

Old North requires a minimum of \$500,000 to open and maintain an advisory account. At our sole discretion we may waive this requirement. This requirement can be met by combining two or more accounts owned by you or related family members.

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

The following are different methods of analysis that we may use when providing you with investment advice:

- Charting – charting is a technique that attempts to forecast future market moves by studying historical data on charts.
- Fundamental Analysis – fundamental analysis is a technique that attempts to determine a security's value by focusing on underlying factors that affect a company's actual business and its future prospects. The term refers to the analysis of the economic well-being of a financial entity as opposed to only its price movements.

- **Technical Analysis** – technical analysis is a technique that relies on the assumption that current market data (such as charts of price, volume, and open interest) can help predict future market trends, at least in the short term. It assumes that market psychology influences trading and can predict when stocks will rise or fall.
- **Cyclical Analysis** – cyclical analysis is a technique that looks at cycles, specifically analyzing the way prices follow certain patterns and trends.

We may use one or more of the following investment strategies when advising you on investments:

- **Long Term Purchases** – securities held for over a year.
- **Short Term Purchases** – securities held for less than a year.
- **Covered Options** – covered option is a strategy in which an investor writes an option contract while at the same time owning an equivalent number of shares of the underlying stock.

The investment advice provided along with the strategies suggested by Old North will vary depending on each client's specific financial situation and goals. This brief statement does not disclose all of the risks and other significant aspects of investing in financial markets. In light of the risks, you should fully understand the nature of the contractual relationship(s) into which you are entering and the extent of your exposure to risk. Certain investing strategies may not be suitable for many members of the public. You should carefully consider whether the strategies employed will be appropriate for you in light of your experience, objectives, financial resources and other relevant circumstances.

**General Investment Risk:** All investments come with the risk of losing money. Investing involves substantial risks, including complete possible loss of principal plus other losses and may not be suitable for many members of the public. Investments, unlike savings and checking accounts at a bank, are not insured by the government to protect against market losses. Different market instruments carry different types and degrees of risk and you should familiarize yourself with the risks involved in the particular market instruments you intend to invest in.

**Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) Risk:** ETFs' managers trade fund investments in accordance with fund investment objectives. While ETFs generally provide diversification, risks can be significantly increased for funds concentrated in a particular sector of the market, or that primarily invest in small cap or speculative companies, use leverage (i.e., borrow money) to a significant degree, or concentrate in a particular type of security (i.e., equities) rather than balancing the fund with different types of securities. ETFs can be bought and sold throughout the day like stock and their price can fluctuate throughout the day. During times of extreme market volatility, ETF pricing may lag versus the actual underlying asset values. This lag usually resolves itself in a short period of time (usually less than one day), however, there is no guarantee this relationship will always occur.

Inverse ETFs seek to achieve a return that is a multiple of the inverse performance of the underlying index. An inverse ETF that tracks a particular index, for example, seeks to deliver the inverse of the performance of that index. For example, a 2x (two times) Inverse ETF seeks to deliver double the opposite of that index's performance. To accomplish their objectives, inverse ETFs pursue a range of investment strategies through the use of swaps, futures contracts, and other derivative instruments.

**Long Short Fund Risk:** A Long-Short Fund is a mutual fund that holds investments long and, in addition, sells securities it does not own (short). The goal of a long-short fund is to find some investments that are anticipated to go up, and, other investments that are anticipated to go down, and invest in both in an attempt to increase returns. There are risks associated with selling short, including the risk that the Long-Short Fund may have to cover its short position at a higher price than the short price, resulting in a loss. The Fund's loss on a short sale is potentially unlimited as a loss occurs when the value of a security sold short increases.

**Loss of Value:** There can be no assurance that a specific investment will achieve its investment objectives and past performance should not be seen as a guide to future returns. The value of investments and the income derived may fall as well as rise and investors may not recoup the original amount invested. Investments may also be affected by any changes in exchange control regulation, tax laws, withholding taxes, international, political and economic developments, and government, economic or monetary policies.

**Interest Rate Risk:** Fixed income securities and funds that invest in bonds and other fixed income securities may fall in value if interest rates change. Generally, the prices of debt securities rise when interest rates fall, and their prices fall when interest rates rise. Longer term debt securities are usually more sensitive to interest rate changes.

**Credit Risk:** Investments in bonds and other fixed income securities are subject to the risk that the issuer(s) may not make required interest payments. An issuer suffering an adverse change in its financial condition could lower the credit quality of a security, leading to greater price volatility of the security. A lowering of the credit rating of a security may also offset the security's liquidity, making it more difficult to sell. Funds investing in lower quality debt securities are more susceptible to these problems and their value may be more volatile.

**Foreign Exchange Risk:** Foreign investments may be affected favorably or unfavorably by exchange control regulations or changes in the exchange rates. Changes in currency exchange rates may influence the share value, the dividends or interest earned and the gains and losses realized. Exchange rates between currencies are determined by supply and demand in the currency exchange markets, the international balance of payments, governmental intervention, speculation and other economic and political conditions. If the currency in which a security is denominated appreciates against the US Dollar, the value of the security will increase. Conversely, a decline in the exchange rate of the currency would adversely affect the value of the security.

**Futures and Options:** Options and futures contracts on securities carry a high degree of risk. The amount of the initial margin is small relative to the value of the futures contract so that transactions are "leveraged" or "geared". A relatively small market movement will have a proportionately larger impact which may work for or against the investor. The placing of certain orders which are intended to limit losses to certain amounts may not be effective because market conditions may make it impossible to execute such orders. Transactions in options also carry a high degree of risk. Selling ("writing" or "granting") an option generally entails considerably greater risk than purchasing options. Although the premium received by the seller is fixed, the seller may sustain a loss well in excess of that amount. The seller will also be exposed to the risk of the purchaser exercising the option and the seller will be obliged either to settle the option in cash or to acquire or deliver the underlying investment. If the option is "covered" by

the seller holding a corresponding position in the underlying investment or a future on another option, the risk may be reduced.

**Concentrated Position Risk:** Certain Associated Persons may recommend that clients concentrate account assets in an industry or economic sector. In addition to the potential concentration of accounts in one or more sectors, certain accounts may, or may be advised to, hold concentrated positions in specific securities. Therefore, at times, an account may, or may be advised to, hold a relatively small number of securities positions, each representing a relatively large portion of assets in the account. As a result, the account will be subject to greater volatility than a more sector diversified portfolio. Investments in issuers within an industry or economic sector that experiences adverse economic, business, political conditions or other concerns will impact the value of such a portfolio more than if the portfolio's investments were not so concentrated. A change in the value of a single investment within the portfolio will affect the overall value of the portfolio and will cause greater losses than it would in a portfolio that holds more diversified investments.

**Preferred Securities Risk:** Preferred Securities have similar characteristics to bonds in that preferred securities are designed to make fixed payments based on a percentage of their par value and are senior to common stock. Like bonds, the market value of preferred securities is sensitive to changes in interest rates as well as changes in issuer credit quality. Preferred securities, however, are junior to bonds with regard to the distribution of corporate earnings and liquidation in the event of bankruptcy. Preferred securities that are in the form of preferred stock also differ from bonds in that dividends on preferred stock must be declared by the issuer's board of directors, whereas interest payments on bonds generally do not require action by the issuer's board of directors, and bondholders generally have protections that preferred stockholders do not have, such as indentures that are designed to guarantee payments – subject to the credit quality of the issuer – with terms and conditions for the benefit of bondholders. In contrast preferred stocks generally pay dividends, not interest payments, which can be deferred or stopped in the event of credit stress without triggering bankruptcy or default. Another difference is that preferred dividends are paid from the issuer's after-tax profits, while bond interest is paid before taxes.

**Inverse Funds:** Inverse mutual funds and ETFs, which are sometimes referred to as "short" funds, seek to provide the opposite of the single-day performance of the index or benchmark they track. Inverse funds are often marketed as a way to profit from, or hedge exposure to, downward moving markets. Some inverse funds also use leverage, such that they seek to achieve a return that is a multiple of the opposite performance of the underlying index or benchmark (i.e., -200%, -300%). In addition to leverage, these funds may also use derivative instruments to accomplish their objectives. As such, inverse funds are highly volatile and provide the potential for significant losses.

**Cybersecurity Risks:** Our firm and our service providers are subject to risks associated with a breach in cybersecurity. Cybersecurity is a generic term used to describe the technology, processes, and practices designed to protect networks, systems, computers, programs, and data from cyber-attacks and hacking by other computer users, and to avoid the resulting damage and disruption of hardware and software systems, loss or corruption of data, and/or misappropriation of confidential information. In general, cyber-attacks are deliberate; however, unintentional events may have similar effects. Cyber-attacks may cause losses to clients by interfering with the processing of transactions, affecting the ability to calculate net asset value or impeding or sabotaging trading. Clients may also incur substantial costs as the result of a cybersecurity breach, including those associated with forensic analysis of the origin and scope of the breach, increased and upgraded cybersecurity, identity theft, unauthorized use of proprietary



information, litigation, and the dissemination of confidential and proprietary information. Any such breach could expose our firm to civil liability as well as regulatory inquiry and/or action. In addition, clients could be exposed to additional losses as a result of unauthorized use of their personal information. While our firm has established a business continuity plan and systems designed to prevent cyber-attacks, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems, including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified. Similar types of cyber security risks are also present for issuers of securities, investment companies and other investment advisers in which we invest, which could result in material adverse consequences for such entities and may cause a client's investment in such entities to lose value.

**Pandemic Risk:** Large-scale outbreaks of infectious disease can greatly increase morbidity and mortality over a wide geographic area, crossing international boundaries, and causing significant economic, social, and political disruption. It is difficult to predict the long-term impact of such events because they are dependent on a variety of factors including the global response of regulators and governments to address and mitigate the worldwide effects of such events. Workforce reductions, travel restrictions, governmental responses and policies and macroeconomic factors will negatively impact investment returns.

**Recommendation of Other Advisers:** In the event we recommend a third-party investment adviser to manage all or a portion of your assets, we will advise you on how to allocate your assets among various classes of securities or third-party investment managers, programs, or managed model portfolios. As such, we will primarily rely on investment model portfolios and strategies developed by the third-party investment advisers and their portfolio managers. If there is a significant deviation in characteristics or performance from the stated strategy and/or benchmark, we may recommend changing models or replacing a third-party investment adviser. The primary risks associated with investing with a third party is that while a particular third party may have demonstrated a certain level of success in the past; it may not be able to replicate that success in future markets. In addition, as we do not control the underlying investments in third party model portfolios, there is also a risk that a third party may deviate from the stated investment mandate or strategy of the portfolio, making it a less suitable investment for our clients. To mitigate this risk, we seek third parties with proven track records that have demonstrated a consistent level of performance and success over time. A third party's past performance is not a guarantee of future results and certain market and economic risks exist that may adversely affect an account's performance that could result in capital losses in your account. Please refer to the third-party investment adviser's advisory agreements, Form ADV Brochure, and associated disclosure documents for details on their specific investment strategies, methods of analysis, and associated risks.

**Cryptocurrency Risk:** Cryptocurrency (e.g., bitcoin and ether), often referred to as "virtual currency", "digital currency," or "digital assets," is designed to act as a medium of exchange. Cryptocurrency is an emerging asset class. There are thousands of cryptocurrencies, the most well-known of which is bitcoin. Certain of the firm's clients may have exposure to bitcoin or another cryptocurrency, directly or indirectly through an investment such as an ETF or other investment vehicles. Cryptocurrency operates without central authority or banks and is not backed by any government. Cryptocurrencies may experience very high volatility and related investment vehicles may be affected by such volatility. As a result of holding cryptocurrency, certain of the firm's clients may also trade at a significant premium or discount to NAV. Cryptocurrency is also not legal tender. Federal, state or foreign governments may restrict the use and exchange of cryptocurrency, and regulation in the U.S. is still developing. The market price of many cryptocurrencies, including bitcoin, has been subject to extreme fluctuations. If cryptocurrency markets continue to be subject to sharp fluctuations, investors may experience losses if the value of the client's

investments decline. Similar to fiat currencies (i.e., a currency that is backed by a central bank or a national, supra-national or quasi-national organization), cryptocurrencies are susceptible to theft, loss and destruction. Cryptocurrency exchanges and other trading venues on which cryptocurrencies trade are relatively new and, in most cases, largely unregulated and may therefore be more exposed to fraud and failure than established, regulated exchanges for securities, derivatives and other currencies. The SEC has issued a public report stating U.S. federal securities laws require treating some digital assets as securities.

Cryptocurrency exchanges may stop operating or permanently shut down due to fraud, technical glitches, hackers or malware. Due to relatively recent launches, most cryptocurrencies have a limited trading history, making it difficult for investors to evaluate investments. Generally, cryptocurrency transactions are irreversible such that an improper transfer can only be undone by the receiver of the cryptocurrency agreeing to return the cryptocurrency to the original sender. Digital assets are highly dependent on their developers and there is no guarantee that development will continue or that developers will not abandon a project with little or no notice. Third parties may assert intellectual property claims relating to the holding and transfer of digital assets, including cryptocurrencies, and their source code. Any threatened action that reduces confidence in a network's long-term ability to hold and transfer cryptocurrency may affect investments in cryptocurrencies.

Many significant aspects of the U.S. federal income tax treatment of investments in cryptocurrency are uncertain and an investment in cryptocurrency may produce income that is not treated as qualifying income for purposes of the income test applicable to regulated investment companies. Certain cryptocurrency investments may be treated as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and an investment by the firm's clients in such a vehicle will generally be treated as a direct investment in cryptocurrency for tax purposes and "flow-through" to the underlying investors.

**Environmental, Social, and Governance Investment Criteria Risk:** If a portfolio is subject to certain environmental, social and governance (ESG) investment criteria it may avoid purchasing certain securities for ESG reasons when it is otherwise economically advantageous to purchase those securities, or may sell certain securities for ESG reasons when it is otherwise economically advantageous to hold those securities. In general, the application of the portfolio's ESG investment criteria may affect the portfolio's exposure to certain issuers, industries, sectors and geographic areas, which may affect the financial performance of the portfolio, positively or negatively, depending on whether these issuers, industries, sectors or geographic areas are in or out of favor. An adviser can vary materially from other advisers with respect to its methodology for constructing ESG portfolios or screens, including with respect to the factors and data that it collects and evaluates as part of its process. As a result, an adviser's ESG portfolio or screen may materially differ from or contradict the conclusions reached by other ESG advisers concerning the same issuers. Further, ESG criteria are dependent on data and are subject to the risk that such data reported by issuers or received from third-party sources may be subjective, or it may be objective in principle but not verified or reliable.

**Risks Associated with Investing in Inverse and Leveraged Funds:** Leveraged mutual funds and ETFs generally seek to deliver multiples of the daily performance of the index or benchmark that they track. Inverse mutual funds and ETFs generally seek to deliver the opposite of the daily performance of the index or benchmark that they track. Inverse funds often are marketed as a way for investors to profit from, or at least hedge their exposure to, downward-moving markets. Some Inverse funds are both inverse and leveraged, meaning that they seek a return that is a multiple of the inverse performance of the underlying index. To accomplish their objectives, leveraged and inverse funds use a range of investment strategies,



including swaps, futures contracts, and other derivative instruments. Leveraged, inverse, and leveraged inverse funds are more volatile and riskier than traditional funds due to their exposure to leverage and derivatives, particularly total return swaps and futures. At times, we will recommend leveraged and/or inversed funds, which may amplify gains and losses.

Most leveraged funds are typically designed to achieve their desired exposure on a daily (in a few cases, monthly) basis, and reset their leverage daily. A "single day" is measured from the time the leveraged fund calculates its net asset value ("NAV") to the time of the leveraged fund's next NAV calculation. The return of the leveraged fund for periods longer than a single day will be the result of each day's returns compounded over the period. Due to the effect of this mathematical compounding, their performance over longer periods of time can differ significantly from the performance (or inverse performance) of their underlying index or benchmark during the same period of time. For periods longer than a single day, the leveraged fund will lose money when the level of the Index is flat, and the leveraged fund may lose money even if the level of the Index rises. Longer holding periods, higher index volatility, and greater leverage all exacerbate the impact of compounding on an investor's returns. During periods of higher Index volatility, the volatility of the Index may affect the leveraged fund's return as much as or more than the return of the Index itself. Therefore, holding leveraged, inverse, and leveraged inverse funds for longer periods of time increases their risk due to the effects of compounding and the inherent difficulty in market timing. Leveraged funds are riskier than similarly benchmarked funds that do not use leverage. Non-traditional funds are highly volatile and not suitable for all investors. They provide the potential for significant losses.

**Risks Associated with Investing in Buffer ETFs:** Buffer ETFs are also known as defined-outcome ETFs since the ETF is designed to offer downside protection for a specified period of time. These ETFs are modeled after options-based structured notes, but are generally cheaper, and offer more liquidity. Buffer ETFs are designed to safeguard against market downturns by employing complex options strategies. Buffer ETFs typically charge higher management fees that are considerably more than the index funds whose performance they attempt to track. Additionally, because buffer funds own options, they do not receive dividends from their equity holdings. Both factors result in the underperformance of the Buffer ETF compared to the index they attempt to track. Clients should carefully read the prospectus for a buffer ETF to fully understand the cost structures, risks, and features of these complex products.

**Structured Notes:** Below are some specific risks related to the structured notes recommended by our firm:

- *Complexity:* Structured notes are complex financial instruments. Clients should understand the reference asset(s) or index(es) and determine how the note's payoff structure incorporates such reference asset(s) or index(es) in calculating the note's performance. This payoff calculation may include leverage multiplied by the performance of the reference asset or index, protection from losses should the reference asset or index produce negative returns, and/or fees. Structured notes may have complicated payoff structures that can make it difficult for clients to accurately assess their value, risk and potential for growth through the term of the structured note. Determining the performance of each note can be complex and this calculation can vary significantly from note to note depending on the structure. Notes can be structured in a wide variety of ways. Payoff structures can be leveraged, inverse, or inverse-leveraged, which may result in larger returns or losses. Clients should carefully read the prospectus for a structured note to fully understand how the payoff on a note will be calculated and discuss these issues with our firm.

- *Market risk:* Some structured notes provide for the repayment of principal at maturity, which is often referred to as “principal protection.” This principal protection is subject to the credit risk of the issuing financial institution. Many structured notes do not offer this feature. For structured notes that do not offer principal protection, the performance of the linked asset or index may cause clients to lose some, or all, of their principal. Depending on the nature of the linked asset or index, the market risk of the structured note may include changes in equity or commodity prices, changes in interest rates or foreign exchange rates, and/or market volatility.
- *Issuance price and note value:* The price of a structured note at issuance will likely be higher than the fair value of the structured note on the date of issuance. Issuers now generally disclose an estimated value of the structured note on the cover page of the offering prospectus, allowing investors to gauge the difference between the issuer’s estimated value of the note and the issuance price. The estimated value of the notes is likely lower than the issuance price of the note to investors because issuers include the costs for selling, structuring, and/or hedging the exposure on the note in the initial price of their notes. After issuance, structured notes may not be re-sold on a daily basis and thus may be difficult to value given their complexity.
- *Liquidity:* The ability to trade or sell structured notes in a secondary market is often very limited, as structured notes (other than exchange-traded notes known as ETNs) are not listed for trading on securities exchanges. As a result, the only potential buyer for a structured note may be the issuing financial institution’s broker-dealer affiliate or the broker-dealer distributor of the structured note. In addition, issuers often specifically disclaim their intention to repurchase or make markets in the notes they issue. Clients should, therefore, be prepared to hold a structured note to its maturity date or risk selling the note at a discount to its value at the time of sale.
- *Credit risk:* Structured notes are unsecured debt obligations of the issuer, meaning that the issuer is obligated to make payments on the notes as promised. These promises, including any principal protection, are only as good as the financial health of the structured note issuer. If the structured note issuer defaults on these obligations, investors may lose some, or all, of the principal amount they invested in the structured notes as well as any other payments that may be due on the structured notes.

#### **Disciplinary Information - Item 9**

Old North has not been subject to any disciplinary events.

#### **Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations - Item 10**

Paul Knott, Managing Member of Old North, is also a part owner of Knott, Richartz & Co. CPAs, PLLC, a North Carolina based accounting Firm. It is expected that Knott, Richartz & Co. CPAs, PLLC may offer accounting and tax preparation services to advisory clients of Old North. Compensation received by Knott, Richartz & Co. CPAs, PLLC for accounting services is separate and distinct from fees earned by Old North for advisory services. Clients to whom the Firm offers advisory services are informed that they are under no obligation to use Knott, Richartz & Co. CPAs, PLLC for accounting services. Mr. Knott spends approximately 10% of his professional time in his capacities at Knott, Richartz & Co. CPAs, PLLC.

Paul Knott, Managing Member, and other Investment Advisor Representatives, are separately licensed as registered representatives with APW, a securities broker/dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”).

As dually licensed representatives, such individuals will receive commissions for the purchase and sale of securities and annuity products. This commission revenue is separate and in addition to revenue received from advisory fees. This arrangement represents a conflict of interest due to the receipt of both advisory and commission compensation. Old North has policies and procedures in place to monitor all client transactions. Where Old North finds an Associated Person has not acted in the best interest of the client, Old North may cancel the transaction. Alternatively, Old North may deduct the commission costs from the advisory fee paid by the client. In any event, all client transaction costs will be disclosed to the client.

Paul Knott, Managing Member, and other Investment Advisor Representatives, are licensed insurance agents and can effect transactions in insurance products for their clients and earn commissions for these activities. The Firm expects that clients to whom it offers advisory services may also be clients for whom these individuals act as insurance agents. Clients are instructed that the fees paid to the Firm for advisory services are separate and distinct from the commissions earned by its IARs for placing the client in insurance products. Clients to whom the Firm offers advisory services are informed that they are under no obligation to use the Firm’s IARs for insurance services and may use the insurance brokerage Firm and agent of their choosing.

#### **Recommendation of Other Advisors**

We may recommend that you use a third party adviser as part of our asset allocation and investment strategy. Old North will share in the compensation received by the third party advisor for managing your account. The compensation arrangement presents a conflict of interest due to a financial incentive to recommend the services of the third party adviser. You are not required to use the services of any third party advisor we recommend.

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

##### **Description of Our Code of Ethics**

Old North has adopted a Code of Ethics (the “Code”) to address investment advisory conduct. The Code focuses primarily on fiduciary duty, personal securities transactions, insider trading, gifts, and conflicts of interest. The Code includes Old North’s policies and procedures developed to protect client’s interests in relation to the following topics:

- The duty at all times to place the interests of clients first;
- The requirement that all personal securities transactions be conducted in such a manner as to be consistent with the code of ethics.
- The responsibility to avoid any actual or potential conflict of interest or misuse of an employee’s position of trust and responsibility;
- The fiduciary principle that information concerning the identity of security holdings and financial circumstances of clients is confidential; and
- The principle that independence in the investment decision-making process is paramount.

A copy of Old North’s Code of Ethics is available on our website (<http://oldnorthstatewealth.com>), or upon request to the Chief Compliance Officer at Old North’s principal office address.

### **Personal Trading Practices**

At times Old North and/or its Advisory Representatives may take positions in the same securities as clients, which may pose a conflict of interest with clients. Old North and its Advisory Representatives will generally be “last in” and “last out” for the trading day when trading occurs in close proximity to client trades. We will not violate our fiduciary responsibilities to our clients. Front running (trading shortly ahead of clients) is prohibited. Should a conflict occur because of materiality (i.e. a thinly traded stock), disclosure will be made to the client(s) at the time of trading. Incidental trading not deemed to be a conflict (i.e. a purchase or sale which is minimal in relation to the total outstanding value, and as such would have negligible effect on the market price), would not be disclosed at the time of trading.

### **Brokerage Practices - Item 12**

Principals and Investment Advisor Representatives of Old North are registered representatives of APW. If a client chooses to implement advice through us, the broker/dealer used for client accounts is APW. APW performs "due diligence" on mutual funds, limited partnerships, and insurance products. Only those investments that meet Firm requirements will be on the APW "approved product list" and be offered for sale to clients.

For Old North’s portfolio management programs we recommend and request clients to implement trades and maintain custody of assets through discount brokers. We recommend the services of Fidelity Brokerage Services, LLC (“Fidelity”), member NYSE/SIPC, and Schwab Institutional, a division of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (Schwab), a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC. All such broker dealers/custodians are unaffiliated and offer independent investment advisors services, which include custody of client securities, trade execution, clearance and settlement of transactions, and daily research and investment information.

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

Old North receives some benefits from Fidelity and Schwab through its participation in these programs. The Firm and/or its IARs may receive benefits such as assistance with conferences and educational meetings from product sponsors.

Schwab provides Old North with access to its institutional trading and custody services, which are typically not available to Schwab retail investors. These services generally are available to independent investment advisors on an unsolicited basis, at no charge to them so long as a total of at least \$10 million of the advisor’s clients’ assets is maintained in accounts at Schwab Institutional, and are not otherwise contingent upon Advisor committing to Schwab any specific amount of business (assets in custody or trading). Schwab’s services include brokerage, custody, research, and access to mutual funds and other investments that are otherwise generally available only to institutional investors or would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment.

For Old North’s client accounts maintained in its custody, Schwab generally does not charge separately for custody but is compensated by account holders through commissions or other transaction-related fees for securities trades that are executed through Schwab or that settle into Schwab accounts.

Schwab also makes available to Old North other products and services that benefit Old North but may not benefit its clients’ accounts. Some of these other products and services assist Old North in managing and

administering clients' accounts. These include software and other technology that provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements); facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts); provide research, pricing information and other market data; facilitate payment of Old North's fees from its clients' accounts; and assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping and client reporting. Many of these services generally may be used to service all or a substantial number of Old North's accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab Institutional. Schwab Institutional also makes available to Old North other services intended to help Old North manage and further develop its business enterprise. These services may include consulting, publications and conferences on practice management, information technology, business succession, regulatory compliance, and marketing. In addition, Schwab may make available, arrange and/or pay for these types of services rendered to Old North by independent third parties. Schwab Institutional may discount or waive fees it would otherwise charge for some of these services or pay all or a part of the fees of a third-party providing these services to Old North. While as a fiduciary, Old North endeavors to act in its clients' best interests, and Old North's recommendation that clients maintain their assets in accounts at Schwab may be based in part on the benefit to Old North of the availability of some of the foregoing products and services and not solely on the nature, cost or quality of custody and brokerage services provided by Schwab, which may create a potential conflict of interest.

In selecting a broker dealer based on discretionary authority or in suggesting a broker dealer on behalf of a non-discretionary account, Old North will endeavor to select those brokers or dealers that will provide the best services at the lowest commission rates possible. The reasonableness of commissions is based on several factors, including the broker's ability to provide professional services, competitive commission rates, volume discounts, execution price negotiations, the broker's reputation, experience and financial stability of the broker or dealer, and the quality of service rendered by the broker or dealer in other transactions.

Best execution is not measured solely by reference to commission rates. Paying a broker a higher commission rate than another broker might charge is permissible if the difference in cost is reasonably justified by the quality of the brokerage services offered. In addition, Old North may cause the account to pay a higher commission in recognition of the value of "research services" and additional brokerage products and services a broker-dealer has provided or may be willing to provide.

#### **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

We do not receive client referrals from broker-dealers and custodians in which we have an institutional advisory arrangement. Also, we do not receive other benefits from a broker-dealer in exchange for client referrals.

#### **Directed Brokerage**

The client may direct brokerage to a specified broker/dealer other than the Firm recommended by Old North. It is up to the client to negotiate the commission rate, as Old North will not. The client may not be able to negotiate the most competitive rate. As a result, the client may pay more than the rate available through the broker/dealer used by Old North. In client directed brokerage arrangements, the client may not be able to participate in aggregated ("blocked") trades, which may help reduce the cost of execution. Where the client does not otherwise designate a broker/dealer, Old North recommends a broker/dealer with competitive commission rates.

#### **Trade Aggregation**

While individual client advice is provided to each account, client trades may be executed as a block trade. Only accounts in the custody of Schwab and Fidelity would have the opportunity to participate in aggregated securities transactions. Trades using Schwab and Fidelity may be aggregated and executed in the name Old North. The executing broker will be informed that the trades are for the account of Old North's clients and not for Old North itself. No advisory account within the block trade will be favored over any other advisory account, and thus, each account will participate in an aggregated order at the average share price and receive the same commission rate. The aggregation should, on average, reduce slightly the costs of execution, and Old North will not aggregate a client's order if in a particular instance Old North believes that aggregation would cause the client's cost of execution to be increased. The executing broker will be notified of the amount of each trade for each account. Old North and/or its Advisory Representatives may participate in block trades with clients, and may also participate on a pro rata basis for partial fills, but only after the determination has been made that clients will receive fair and equitable treatment.

### **Review of Accounts - Item 13**

#### ***Portfolio Management Account Reviews***

Old North monitors the individual investments within Old North's portfolio management program each day the market is open. Portfolio performance is reviewed, at a minimum, on a quarterly basis. Old North offers portfolio management clients an in-person portfolio review meeting on an annual basis. We recommend clients communicate with us on a regular basis to maintain an accurate financial profile.

The account reviews are performed by the client's Advisory Representative. The Chief Compliance Officer and other designated compliance staff monitor the portfolios and financial plans for investment objectives and other supervisory review.

Clients will receive statements directly from their account custodian(s) on at least a quarterly basis. Additionally, Old North may provide performance reports upon client's request.

### **Client Referrals and Other Compensation - Item 14**

Apart from the receipt of additional benefits from our broker dealers/custodians (disclosed in more detail in Item 12 above), we do not receive economic benefits from third parties in exchange for providing investment advice or other advisory services to our clients.

Neither we nor our related persons directly or indirectly compensate any person or entity for client referrals.

#### **Recommendation of Other Advisors**

We may recommend that you use a third party adviser as part of our asset allocation and investment strategy. Old North will share in the compensation received by the third party adviser for managing your account. This compensation arrangement presents a conflict of interest due to a financial incentive to recommend the services of the third party adviser. You are not required to use the services of any third party adviser we recommend.

### **Custody - Item 15**

Old North is deemed to have custody of client funds solely because of the fee deduction authority granted by the client in the investment advisory agreement.

Clients will receive account statements at least quarterly from the broker-dealer or other qualified custodian. Client is urged to compare custodial account statements against statements prepared by Old North for accuracy. Minor variations may occur because of reporting dates, accrual methods of interest and dividends, and other factors. The custodial statement is the official record of your account for tax purposes.

#### **Investment Discretion - Item 16**

Old North offers Portfolio Management Services to its advisory clients on both a discretionary and non-discretionary basis. Old North will manage client accounts on a discretionary basis if the client has granted discretionary authority in the client advisory agreement. Discretionary authority extends to the type and amount of securities to be bought and sold and do not require advance client approval. However, Old North does not have the ability to withdraw funds or securities from the client's account.

In a non-discretionary account, an Associated Person of Old North recommends the purchase or sale of securities for review and approval by their clients. Old North will only purchase or sell securities which have been approved by clients in advance.

You may limit this authority if you wish by, for example, setting a limit on the type of securities that can be purchased for your account. Simply provide us with your restrictions or guidelines in writing. Please refer to the "Advisory Business" section in this Brochure for more information on our discretionary management services.

#### **Voting Client Securities - Item 17**

##### **Proxy Voting**

Old North does not vote proxies. It is the client's responsibility to vote proxies. Clients will receive proxy materials directly from the custodian. Questions about proxies may be made via the contact information on the cover page.

#### **Financial Information - Item 18**

We are required in this Item to provide you with certain financial information or disclosures about Old North's, financial condition. Old North has no financial commitment that impairs its ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to clients, and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.

#### **Requirements for State-Registered Advisors - Item 19**

**This section is intentionally left blank- Our Firm is SEC registered**



## **Miscellaneous**

### **Class Action Lawsuits**

From time to time, securities held in the accounts of clients will be the subject of class action lawsuits. Old North has no obligation to determine if securities held by the client are subject to a pending or resolved class action lawsuit. It also has no duty to evaluate a client's eligibility or to submit a claim to participate in the proceeds of a securities class action settlement or verdict. Furthermore, the Firm has no obligation or responsibility to initiate litigation to recover damages on behalf of clients who may have been injured as a result of actions, misconduct, or negligence by corporate management of issuers whose securities are held by clients.

Where the Firm receives written or electronic notice of a class action lawsuit, settlement, or verdict affecting securities owned by a client, it will forward all notices, proof of claim forms, and other materials, to the client. Electronic mail is acceptable where appropriate, and the client has authorized contact in this manner.

### **Trade Error Correction Procedures**

On infrequent occasions, an error may be made in a client account. For example, a security may be erroneously purchased for the account instead of sold. In these situations, the Firm generally seeks to rectify the error by placing the client account in a similar position as it would have been had there been no error. Depending on the circumstances, various corrective steps may be taken, including among others canceling the trade or adjusting an allocation. Any gains or losses resulting from error correction will be placed in Old North's error correction account.

### **Confidentiality**

Old North views protecting its customers' private information as a top priority and, pursuant to the requirements of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, the Firm has instituted policies and procedures to ensure that customer information is kept private and secure.

Old North does not disclose any nonpublic personal information about its customers or former customers to any nonaffiliated third parties, except as permitted by law. In the course of servicing a client account, Old North may share some information with its service providers, such as transfer agents, custodians, broker-dealers, accountants, and lawyers.

Old North restricts internal access to nonpublic personal information about its clients to those employees who need to know that information in order to provide products or services to the client. Old North maintains physical and procedural safeguards that comply with state and federal standards to guard a client's nonpublic personal information and ensure its integrity and confidentiality. As emphasized above, it has always been and will always be the Firm's policy never to sell information about current or former customers or their accounts to anyone. It is also the Firm's policy not to share information unless required to process a transaction, at the request of the client, or as required by law.

A copy of the Firm's privacy policy notice will be provided to each client prior to, or contemporaneously with, the execution of the advisory agreement. Thereafter, the Firm will deliver a copy of the current privacy policy if there is a change in the Firm's collection, sharing, or security practices. If you have any questions on this policy, please contact Danielle N. Annechiarico, CCO at (910) 509-3800.