# ITEM 1. COVER PAGE FOR PART 2A OF FORM ADV: FIRM BROCHURE DATED 12/31/2010

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of SageView Advisory Group, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact by telephone at (949) 955-1395 or email at <a href="mailto:mhammonds@sageviewadvisory.com">mhammonds@sageviewadvisory.com</a>. 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 SageView Advisory Group, LLC also is available on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

Please note that the use of the term "registered investment adviser" and description of SageView Advisory Group, LLC 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 its employees.

# ITEM 2. MATERIAL CHANGES TO OUR PART 2A OF FORM ADV:

#### FIRM BROCHURE

SageView Advisory Group, LLC 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. At this time, there are no material changes to report about our Brochure.

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#### Item 4. Advisory Business

We specialize in the following types of services: retirement plan consulting, retirement plan asset management, asset management, and financial planning/consultations. Our assets under management are \$11,000,000,000 as of 12/31/2010.

# 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 limited liability company formed in the State of California. SageView Advisory Group's RIA has been in business as an investment adviser since 2003 and is owned as follows:

Randall Long

# B. <u>Description of the types of advisory services we offer.</u>

# (i) Retirement Plan Consulting

We provide retirement plan consulting services to employer plan sponsors on a one-time or ongoing basis. Generally, such retirement plan consulting services consist of assisting employer plan sponsors in establishing, monitoring and reviewing their company's participant-directed retirement plan. As the needs of the plan sponsor dictate, areas of advising could include: investment options, plan structure and participant education.

All retirement plan consulting services shall be in compliance with the applicable state law(s) regulating retirement plan consulting services. This applies to client accounts that are retirement plan or other employee benefit plans ("Plan") governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"). If the client accounts are part of a Plan, and we accept appointments to provide our services to such accounts, we acknowledge that we are a fiduciary within the meaning of Section 3(21) of ERISA (but only with respect to the provision of services described in section 1 of the Retirement Plan Consulting Agreement).

In providing Services for retirement plan consulting, SageView generally does not provide any Services hereunder with respect to the following types of assets: employer securities, real

<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.

estate but excluding real estate funds and publicly traded REITS), participant loans, non-publicly traded securities or assets; (other than Collective Investment Funds or non-publicly traded securities or assets recommend by SageView), other illiquid investments, or brokerage window programs (collectively, "Excluded Assets") Non-Excluded Assets are "Included Assets".

# (ii) Retirement Plan Asset Management

We provide retirement plan asset management services on an ongoing basis. Generally, such asset management services consist of selecting, monitoring, removing, and/or replacing the investment options under the Plan, consistent with the objectives, written guidelines and/or investment objectives set forth in the written investment policy statement ("IPS") accepted and adopted by the client. As the needs of the plan sponsor dictate, areas of management could include: plan investment options, asset allocation, plan structure, and participant education.

We emphasize continuous and regular account supervision. Once the appropriate plan investments have been determined, we review the plan investments at least annually and if necessary, replace investments based upon the plan sponsor's objectives, written guidelines and/or investment objectives.

All retirement plan asset management services shall be in compliance with the applicable state law(s) regulating retirement plan consulting services. This applies to client accounts that are retirement plan or other employee benefit plans ("Plan") governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"). If the client accounts are part of the Plan, and we accept appointments to provide our services to such accounts, we acknowledge that we are a fiduciary within the meaning of section 3(38) of ERISA (but only with respect to the provision of services described in section 1 of the Retirement Plan Consulting Agreement).

#### (iii) Asset Management:

We emphasize continuous and regular account supervision. As part of our asset management service, we generally create a portfolio, consisting of individual stocks or bonds, exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), options, mutual funds and other public and private securities or investments. The client's individual investment strategy is tailored to their specific needs and may include some or all of the previously mentioned securities. Each portfolio will be initially designed to meet a particular investment goal, which we determine to be suitable to the client's circumstances. Once the appropriate portfolio has been determined, we review the portfolio at least annually and if necessary, rebalance the portfolio based upon the client's individual needs, stated goals and objectives. Each client has the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments to be held in the portfolio.

# (iv) Financial Planning and Consultations:

We provide a variety of financial planning and consultation services to individuals, families and other clients regarding the management of their financial resources based upon an analysis of client's current situation, goals, and objectives. Generally, such financial planning services will involve preparing a financial plan or rendering a financial consultation for clients based on the client's financial goals and objectives. This planning or consulting may encompass one or more of the following areas: Investment Planning, Retirement Planning, Estate Planning, Charitable Planning, Education Planning, Corporate and Personal Tax Planning, Cost Segregation Study, Corporate Structure, Real Estate Analysis, Mortgage/Debt Analysis, Insurance Analysis, Lines of Credit Evaluation, Business and Personal Financial Planning.

Our written financial plans or financial consultations rendered to clients usually include general recommendations for a course of activity or specific actions to be taken by the clients. For example, recommendations may be made that the clients begin or revise investment programs, create or revise wills or trusts, obtain or revise insurance coverage, commence or alter retirement savings, or establish education or charitable giving programs. It should also be noted that we refer clients to an accountant, attorney or other specialist, as necessary for non-advisory related services. For written financial planning engagements, we provide our clients with a written summary of their financial situation, observations, and recommendations. For financial consulting engagements, we usually do not provide our clients with a written summary of our observations and recommendations as the process is less formal than our planning service. Plans or consultations are typically completed within six (6) months of the client signing a contract with us, assuming that all the information and documents we request from the client are provided to us promptly. Implementation of the recommendations will be at the discretion of the client.

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: retirement plan consulting, retirement plan asset management, and asset management services. On the other hand, we offer general investment advice to clients utilizing the following services offered by our firm: financial planning and consultations.

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

We usually do allow clients to impose restrictions on investing in certain securities or types of securities. In the rare instance that we would allow restrictions, it would be limited to the following services: retirement plan consulting, retirement plan asset management, and asset management. We do not manage assets through our other services.

# D. Participation in wrap fee programs.

We do not offer wrap fee programs.

# 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 12/31/2010</u>

We manage  $^2$  \$300,000,000 on a discretionary basis and \$10,700,000,000 on a non-discretionary basis as of 12/31/2010.

# **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) Retirement Plan Consulting:

The total estimated fee, as well as the ultimate fee that we charge you, is based on the scope and complexity of our engagement with you.

Assets under management	Annual Percentage of assets charge*:
\$0 to \$5 Million	.50%
\$5 Million to \$20 Million	.30%
\$20 Million to \$100 Million	.25%
\$100 Million and above	.10%

<u>Fee per project range</u>: \$2,000 - \$100,000

Fixed fee range: \$10,000 - \$200,000

<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 \$100,000. 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.

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

# (ii) Retirement Plan Asset Management

The total estimated fee, as well as the ultimate fee that we charge you, is based on the scope and complexity of our engagement with you. The fees charged for retirement plan asset management services under 3(38) will be based on fee schedule listed in 5A(i) with additional consideration and potentially higher fees in exchange for the additional services provided.

# (iii) Asset Management:

Assets under management	Annual Percentage of assets charge*:
\$0 to \$249,999.99	1.5%
\$250,000 to \$499,999.99	1.4%
\$500,000 to \$749,999.99	1.3%
\$750,000 to \$999,999.99	1.2%
Over \$1,000,000	1.2%

Fee per projectrange: \$2,000 - \$20,000

Fixed fee range: \$2,000 - \$20,000

# (iv) Financial Planning and Consultations:

We charge on an hourly or flat fee basis for financial planning and consultation services. The total estimated fee, as well as the ultimate fee that we charge you, is based on the scope and complexity of our engagement with you. Our hourly fees are \$250 for financial advisors, \$150 per hour for para-planners and \$75 for administrative time. Flat fees generally range from \$500 to \$25,000.

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

#### (i) Retirement plan Consulting:

The fee-paying arrangements for pension consulting service will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be detailed in the signed Retirement Plan Consulting Agreement. The client will be invoiced directly for the fees.

<sup>\*</sup>Our firms' fees are billed on a pro-rata annualized basis quarterly in advance or based on the value of your account on the last day of the previous quarter.

# (ii) Retirement Plan Asset Management:

The fee-paying arrangements for retirement plan asset management services will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be detailed in the signed Retirement Plan Consulting Agreement. The client will be invoiced directly for the fees.

#### (iii) Asset Management:

Our firms' 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 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 paragraph (a)(2) of Rule 206(4)-2 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.\*\*
  - \* We do not offer direct billing as an option to our asset 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.

#### (iv) Financial Planning and Consultations:

We may require a retainer of fifty-percent (50%) of the ultimate financial planning or consultation fee with the remainder of the fee directly billed to you and due to us within thirty (30) days of your financial plan being delivered or consultation rendered to you.

# 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 incur transaction charges for trades executed in their accounts. These transaction fees are separate from our fees and will be disclosed by the firm trades are executed through. Also, clients will pay the following separately incurred expenses, of which we do not receive any part: 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).

# D. Client's advisory fees are due quarterly in advance.

We charge our asset management service 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. 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.

Our supervised persons are registered representatives of Financial Network Investment Corporation and Multi-Financial Securities Corporation, members FINRA/SIPC. Our supervised persons may accept compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products, including distribution or service ("trail") fees from the sale of mutual funds. You should be aware that the practice of accepting commissions for the sale of securities:

- 1) May present a conflict of interest. We generally address commissionable sales conflicts that arise:
  - a) when explaining to clients that commissionable securities sales may create an incentive to recommend products based on the compensation we and/or our supervised persons may earn;
  - b) when recommending commissionable mutual funds, explaining that "no-load" funds are available through our firm if the client wishes to become an investment advisory client.
- 2) In no way prohibits you from purchasing investment products recommended by us through other brokers or agents which are not affiliated with us.

# 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:
- Trusts, Estates or Charitable Organizations;
- Pension, Profit Sharing Plans, Defined Contribution, Defined Benefit and Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plans
- Corporations, limited liability companies and/or other business types

Our requirements for opening and maintaining accounts or otherwise engaging us:

• We generally charge a minimum fee of \$500 for written financial plans.

# 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:

- Charting;
- Fundamental;
- Technical;

# 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);
- Short sales;
- 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. Our practices regarding cash balances in *client* accounts, including whether we invest cash balances for temporary purposes and, if so, how.

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 money market account so that our firm may debit advisory fees for our services related to comprehensive retirement plan consulting and asset management service, 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 (see Note below). For purposes of calculating this ten-year period, the "date" of an event is the date that the final order, judgment, or decree was entered, or the date that any rights of appeal from preliminary orders, judgments or decrees lapsed.

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 need to disclose all material facts regarding the following event(s):

- A. Our firm or part of our management was involved in a criminal or civil action in a domestic, foreign or military court of competent jurisdiction in which our firm or a management person:
  - 1. was convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere ("no contest") to (a) any felony; (b) a misdemeanor that involved investments or an investment-related business, fraud, false statements or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, or extortion; or (c) a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses. The details of the relevant event are:

No items to disclose

2. is the named subject of a pending criminal *proceeding* that involves an *investment-related* business, fraud, false statements or omissions, wrongful taking of property, bribery, perjury, forgery, counterfeiting, extortion, or a conspiracy to commit any of these offenses. The details of the relevant event are:

No items to disclose

3. was *found* to have been *involved* in a violation of an *investment-related* statute or regulation. The details of the relevant event are:

No items to disclose

4. was the subject of any *order*, judgment, or decree permanently or temporarily enjoining, or otherwise limiting, your firm or a *management person* from engaging in any *investment-related* activity, or from violating any *investment-related* statute, rule, or *order*. The details of the relevant event are:

No items to disclose.

- B. Our firm or a management member was involved in an administrative proceeding before the SEC, any other federal regulatory agency, any state regulatory agency, or any foreign financial regulatory authority in which our firm or a management person:
  - 1. was *found* to have caused an *investment-related* business to lose its authorization to do business. The details of this event are:

No items to disclose.

- 2. was *found* to have been *involved* in a violation of an *investment-related* statute or regulation and was the subject of an *order* by the agency or authority:
  - (a) denying, suspending, or revoking the authorization of our firm or a management person to act in an investment-related business;
  - (b) barring or suspending our firm or a management person's association with an investment-related business;
  - (c) otherwise significantly limiting our firm or a management person's investment-related activities; or
  - (d) imposing a civil money penalty of more than \$2,500 on our firm or a management person.

The details of this event are:

No items to disclose.

- C. A self-regulatory organization (SRO) proceeding in which our firm or a management person:
  - 1. was *found* to have caused an *investment-related* business to lose its authorization to do business;

The details of this event are:

No items to disclose.

2. was *found* to have been *involved* in a violation of the *SRO's* rules and was: (i) barred or suspended from membership or from association with other members, or was expelled from membership; (ii) otherwise significantly limited from *investment-related* activities; or (iii) fined more than \$2,500.

The details of this event are:

No items to disclose.

Other:

While the SEC and/or State Regulators have not specifically required us to disclose the following matter, we feel you are entitled to know:

SageView Advisory Group is currently party to a civil matter involving one of its investment advisor representatives and a former asset management client. The former client alleges that during the 2008/2009 recession he was subject to unsuitable recommendations, allocations that were overly exposed to risk, misrepresentation and breach of fiduciary duty. The plaintiff is claiming damages with the exact amount to be determined at trial. The matter is being handled by the Superior Court of California, County of Orange – case number: 00340865. This matter is still pending.

# Item 10. Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

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

Some of our principals/investment adviser representatives are registered representatives with Financial Network Investment Corporation and Multi-Financial Securities Corporation, registered broker-dealers and Members FINRA/SIPC. In order to comply with FINRA Conduct Rule 3040, FNIC and Multi-Financial Securities Corporation as an unaffiliated broker-dealer may periodically review the investment advisory transactions of our firm. This information will be viewed by Financial Network Investment Corporation's compliance department personnel for supervisory purposes only. No information viewed will be utilized for purposes of solicitation or shared with any affiliation outside the scope of regulatory compliance.

B. 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 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.

Our firm or our management persons have a material relationship with the following related person(s) as follows:

- 1. broker-dealer, municipal securities dealer, or government securities dealer or broker See Item 10A of this Brochure.
- 2. other investment adviser or financial planner

Certain investment advisory representatives and principals affiliated with our firm are also investment adviser representatives of Financial Network Advisory Corp. and RPC Private Client Group, registered investment advisers. Clients of our firm may also be clients of these firms. Clients are instructed that they may use us and that they are under no obligation to use the services of these other firms for investment advice services. Moreover, the fees charged by our firm for advisory services are separate and distinct from any earned by the other firms or their investment adviser representatives. Financial Network Advisory Corp. and RPC Private Client Group are separate and distinct legal entities from our firm. We function separately and are not in any way controlled by these firms.

3. insurance company or agency

As licensed insurance agents, some of our principals/investment adviser representatives may recommend to advisory clients a variety of insurance products. They may offer commissionable insurance products to our firm's clients for which they may receive compensation.

Randall Long who is an owner of SageView Advisory Group also owns SageView Insurance Services, Inc., a California Corporation.

D. 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.

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

<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 Trading

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 with respect to 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 have a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our associates.

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 11A of this Brochure.

<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.

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.

#### Item 12. Brokerage Practices

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

# The Custodian and Brokers We Use

SageView Advisory Group does not maintain custody of your assets that we manage, although we may be deemed to have custody of your assets if you give us authority to withdraw assets from your account (see *Item 15 - Custody*, below). Your assets must be maintained in an account at a "qualified custodian," generally a broker/dealer or bank. We require that our clients use Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (Schwab), a registered broker-dealer, member SIPC, as the qualified custodian. We are independently owned and operated and are not affiliated with Schwab. Schwab will hold your assets in a brokerage account and buy and sell securities when we/you instruct them to. While we require that you use Schwab as custodian/broker, you will decide whether to do so and will open your account with Schwab by entering into an account agreement directly with them. We do not open the account for you, although we may assist you in doing so. Even though your account is maintained at Schwab, we can still use other brokers to execute trades for your account as described below (see "Your Brokerage and Custody Costs").

#### How We Select Brokers/Custodians

We seek to use a custodian/broker who will hold your assets and execute transactions on terms that are, overall, most advantageous when compared to other available providers and their services. We consider a wide range of factors, including, among others:

- Combination of transaction execution services and asset custody services (generally without a separate fee for custody)
- Capability to execute, clear and settle trades (buy and sell secuirities for your account)
- Capability to facilitate transfers and payments to and from accounts (wire transfers, check requests, bill payment, etc.)
- Availability of investment research and tools that assist us in making investment decisions
- Quality of services
- Competitiveness of the price of those services (commission rates, margin interest rates, other fees, etc.) and willingness to negotiate the prices
- Reputation, financial strength, and stability
- Prior service to us and our other clients
- Availability of other products and services that benefit us, as discussed below (see "Products and Services Available to Us From Schwab")

# Your Brokerage and Custody Costs

For our clients' accounts that Schwab maintains, Schwab generally does not charge you separately for custody services but is compensated by charging you commissions or other fees on trades that it executes or that settle into your Schwab account. Schwab's commission rates applicable to our client accounts were negotiated based on the condition that our clients collectively maintain a total of at least \$10 Million of their assets in accounts at Schwab. This commitment benefits you because the overall commission rates you pay are lower than they would be otherwise. In addition to commissions, Schwab charges you a flat dollar amount as a "prime broker" or "trade away" fee for each trade that we have executed by a different broker-dealer but where the securities bought or the funds from the securities sold are deposited (settled) into your Schwab account. These fees are in addition to the commissions or other compensation you pay the executing broker-dealer. Because of this, in order to minimize trading costs, we have Schwab execute most trades for your account. We have determined that having Schwab execute most trades is consistent with our duty to seek "best execution" of your trades. Best execution means the most favorable terms for a transaction based on all relevant factors, including those listed above (see "How We Select Brokers/Custodians").

#### Our Interest in Schwab's Services

The availability of these services from Schwab benefits us because we do not have to produce or purchase them. We don't have to pay for Schwab's services so long as our clients collectively keep a total of at least \$10 million of their assets in accounts at Schwab. Beyond that, these services are not contingent upon us committing any specific amount of business to Schwab in trading commissions or assets in custody. The \$10 million minimum may give us an incentive to require that you maintain your account with Schwab, based on our interest in receiving Schwab's services that benefit our business rather than based on your interest in receiving the best value in custody services and the most favorable execution of your transactions. This is a potential conflict of interest. We believe, however, that our selection of

Schwab as custodian and broker is in the best interests of our clients. Our selection is primarily supported by the scope, quality, and price of Schwab's services (see "How We Select Brokers/Custodians") and not Schwab's services that benefit only us. We have approximately \$100 million with Schwab through SageView's asset management services in client assets under management, and we do not believe that requiring our clients to collectively maintain at least \$10 million of those assets at Schwab in order to avoid paying Schwab quarterly service fees presents a material conflict of interest.

# Other Custodial/Broker Dealer Relationships

We may recommend that a client in need of brokerage and custodial services utilize Pershing LLC. Pershing LLC is the brokerage firm utilized by out broker/dealer Financial Network. It may be the case that the recommended broker charges a higher fee than another broker charges for a particular type of service, such as commission rates. Client circumstances and financial resources will dictate whether assets are directed towards Pershing LLC and Financial Network Investment Corporation, the firm's broker/dealer relationship. Clients may utilize the broker/dealer of their choice and have no obligation to purchase or sell securities through such broker as our firm recommends.

Research products and services provided by our broker/dealer Financial Network Investment Corporation/Pershing LLC ("Pershing") 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 Financial Network Investment Corporation Pershing to our firm in the performance of our investment decision-making responsibilities.

a. 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.

See item 12A(1) of this brochure.

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

See item 12A(1) of this brochure.

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

In addition to execution quality, we consider the value of various services or products, beyond execution, that a broker-dealer provides to our firm. Selecting a broker-dealer in recognition of such other services and products is known as paying for those services or

products with soft dollars. Under Section 28(e), we may make use of client commission dollars to acquire research and brokerage products and services is not a breach of an investment adviser's fiduciary duty to clients — even if the brokerage commissions are higher than the lowest available as long as the investment adviser determines, among other requirements, that the commissions are reasonable compensation for both the brokerage services and the research acquired.

See item 12A(1) of this brochure for additional disclosure.

d. 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.

We use soft dollar benefits to service all of our client accounts, not just those which may have paid for the benefits. Due to the time and complexity involved, we have chosen not to allocate soft dollar benefits proportionately to client accounts generating soft dollar credits.

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

We are required to specifically describe to our clients the types of products or services that we are acquiring and to permit them to evaluate possible conflicts of interest. Our description must be more detailed for products or services that do not qualify for the safe harbor in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, such as those services that do not aid in investment decision-making or trade execution. Merely disclosing that we obtain various research reports and products is not specific enough.

# Products and Services Available to Us From Schwab

Schwab Advisor Services<sup>TM</sup> (formerly called Schwab Institutional®) is Schwab's business serving independent investment advisory firms like us. They provide us and our clients with access to its institutional brokerage—trading, custody, reporting, and related services—many of which are not typically available to Schwab retail customers. Schwab also makes available various support services. Some of those services help us manage or administer our clients' accounts, while others help us manage and grow our business. Schwab's support services generally are available on an unsolicited basis (we don't have to request them) and at no charge to us as long as our clients collectively maintain a total of at least \$10 million of their assets in accounts at Schwab. If our clients collectively have less than \$10 million in assets at Schwab, Schwab may charge us quarterly service fees of \$1,200. Following is a more detailed description of Schwab's support services:

Services That Benefit You: Schwab's institutional brokerage services include access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of client assets. The investment products available through Schwab include some to which we might not otherwise have access or that would require a significantly higher minimum initial

investment by our clients. Schwab's services described in this paragraph generally benefit you and your account.

Services That May Not Directly Benefit You: Schwab also makes available to us other products and services that benefit us but may not directly benefit you or your account. These products and services assist us in managing and administering our clients' accounts. They include investment research, both Schwab's own and that of third parties. We may use this research to service all or a substantial number of our clients' accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab. In addition to investment research, Schwab also makes available software and other technology that:

- Provide access to client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements)
- Facilitate trade execution
- · Provide pricing and other market data
- Facilitate payment of our fees from our clients' accounts
- Assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting

Services That Generally Benefit Only Us: Schwab also offers other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. These services include:

- Educational conferences and events
- Consulting on technology, compliance, legal, and business needs
- Publications and conferences on practice management and business succession
- Access to employee benefit providers, human capital consultants, and insurance providers

Schwab may provide some of these services itself. In other cases, it will arrange for third-party vendors to provide the services to us. Schwab may also discount or waive its fees for some of these services or pay all or a part of a third party's fees. Schwab may also provide us with other benefits, such as occasional business entertainment of our personnel.

SageView utilizes Schwab's institutional brokerage services to gain access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of client assets. The investment products available through Schwab include some to which we might not otherwise have access or that would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment by our clients.

SageView utilizes Schwab's investment research and third party research to service SageView's clients whether they are maintained at Schwab or outside of Schwab. SageView also uses technology that allows us to gain access to client account data, facilitate trade execution, receive pricing and other market data, facilitate the payment of fees from our clients' accounts, and assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and client reporting.

SageView receives benefits from Schwab in the form of educational conferences and events, compliance/legal/technology/business needs consulting, and publications/conferences on practice management and business succession.

# Products and Services Available to Us From Financial Network and Pershing

In addition to the benefits described in Item 12A1 of this Brochure, Financial Network Investment Corporation and Pershing also makes available to our firm other products and services that benefit us, but may not benefit our clients' accounts. These benefits may include national, regional or investment adviser specific educational events organized and/or sponsored by Financial Network Investment Corporation and Pershing. Other potential benefits may include occasional business entertainment of personnel of our firm by Financial Network Investment Corporation and Pershing personnel, including meals, invitations to sporting events, including golf tournaments, and other forms of entertainment, some of which may accompany educational opportunities. Some of these products and services assist our firm in managing and administering clients' accounts. These include software and other technology (and related technological training) 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 our fees from clients' accounts, and assist with back-office training and support functions, recordkeeping and client reporting. Many of these services generally may be used to service all or some substantial number of our accounts, including accounts not maintained at Financial Network Investment Corporation, Schwab or Pershing. Financial Network Investment Corporation and Pershing also makes available to our firm other services intended to help our firm manage and further develop our business enterprise. These services may include professional compliance, legal and business consulting, publications and conferences on practice management, information technology, business succession, regulatory compliance, employee benefits providers, human capital consultants, insurance, and marketing. In addition, Financial Network Investment Corporation and Pershing may make available, arrange and/or pay vendors for these types of services rendered to our firm by independent third parties. Financial Network Investment Corporation and Pershing 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 our firm. While, as a fiduciary, our firm endeavors to act in its clients' best interests, Adviser's recommendation that clients maintain their assets in accounts at Financial Network Investment Corporation and Pershing may be based in part on the benefit to our firm of the availability of some of the foregoing products and services and other arrangements and not solely on the nature, cost, or quality of custody and brokerage services provided by FNIC/Schwab/Pershing, which may create a potential conflict of interest.

We would have to obtain the aforementioned services and products for cash if we did not have soft dollars available to pay for them. As a result of receiving such products and services for no cost, we may have an incentive to continue to place client trades through broker-dealers that offer soft dollar arrangements. This interest conflicts with the clients' interest of obtaining the lowest commission rate available. Therefore, we must determine in good faith, based on the best execution policy stated above that such commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of the services provided by such executing broker-dealers.

See item 12A(1) of this brochure for additional disclosure regarding our relationship with Schwab, Financial Network Investment Corporation, and Pershing.

f. 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.

See item 12A(1) of this brochure.

2) Brokerage for *Client* Referrals. If we consider, in selecting or recommending broker-dealers, whether our firm or a *related person* receives *client* referrals from a broker-dealer or third party, we are required to disclose this practice and discuss the conflicts of interest it create.

Our firm does not receive brokerage for client referrals.

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

a. 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.

We or any of our firm's related person do not have discretionary authority in making the determination of the brokers with whom orders for the purchase or sale of securities are placed for execution, and the commission rates at which such securities transactions are effected.

# **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. If we permit a client to direct brokerage, we are required to describe our practice. 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. Discussion of whether, and under what conditions, we aggregate the purchase or sale of 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 effected only when we believe that to do so will be in the best interest of the affected 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. 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.

We review accounts on at least an annual basis for our clients subscribing to the following services: retirement plan consulting, retirement plan asset management, and asset 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.

Retirement plan consulting clients and retirement plan asset management clients, receive reviews of their pension plans for the duration of the pension consulting service. We also provide ongoing services to pension consulting clients where we meet with such clients upon their request to discuss updates to their plans, changes in their circumstances, etc.

Financial planning clients do not receive reviews of their written plans unless they take action to schedule a financial consultation with us. We do not provide ongoing services to financial planning clients, but are willing to meet with such clients upon their request to discuss updates to their plans, changes in their circumstances, etc.

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

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 when we meet with clients who subscribe to the following services: retirement plan consulting, retirement plan asset management, and asset management.

As mentioned in Item 13A of this Brochure, pension clients do not receive written or verbal updated reports regarding their retirement plans unless they choose to contract with us for ongoing Retirement Plan Consulting services.

As mentioned in Item 13A of this Brochure, financial planning clients do not receive written or verbal updated reports regarding their financial plans unless they separately contract with us for a post-financial plan meeting or update to their initial written financial plan.

# 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.

We receive an economic benefit from Schwab in the form of the support products and services it makes available to us and other independent investment advisors whose clients maintain their accounts at Schwab. These products and services, how they benefit us, and the related conflicts of interest are described above (see *Item 12 - Brokerage Practices*). The availability to us of Schwab's products and services is not based on us giving particular investment advice, such as buying particular securities for our clients.

Our firm requires that asset management clients establish brokerage accounts with Schwab Institutional division of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("Schwab"), registered broker-dealers, Members SIPC, to maintain custody of Clients' assets and to effect trades for their accounts. Our firm is independently owned and operated and not affiliated with Schwab. Our firm may also recommend that Clients establish accounts with firms other than Schwab.

Our firm places trades for its Clients' accounts subject to its duty to seek best execution and its other fiduciary duties. Our firm may use broker-dealers other than Schwab to execute trades for client accounts maintained at Schwab, but this practice may result in additional

costs to clients so that we are more likely to place trades through Schwab rather than other broker-dealers. Schwab's execution quality may be different than other broker-dealers.

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

We may recommend that a client in need of brokerage and custodial services utilize Pershing LLC, among others. It may be the case that the recommended broker charges a higher fee than another broker charges for a particular type of service, such as commission rates. Clients may utilize the broker/dealer of their choice and have no obligation to purchase or sell securities through such broker as our firm recommends.

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.

We may pay referral fees (non-commission based) to independent solicitors (non-registered representatives) for the referral of their clients to our firm in accordance with Rule 206 (4)-3 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Such referral fee represents a share of our investment advisory fee charged to our clients. This arrangement will not result in higher costs to you. In this regard, we maintain Solicitors Agreements in compliance with Rule 206 (4)-3 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and applicable state and federal laws. All clients referred by Solicitors to our firm will be given full written disclosure describing the terms and fee arrangements between our firm and Solicitor(s). In cases where state law requires licensure of solicitors, we ensure that no solicitation fees are paid unless the solicitor is registered as an investment adviser representative of our firm. If we are paying solicitation fees to another registered investment adviser, the licensure of individuals is the other firm's responsibility.

#### 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.

Under government regulations, we are deemed to have custody of your assets if, for example, you authorize us to instruct Schwab to deduct our advisory fees directly from your account or if you grant us authority to move your money to another person's account. Schwab maintains actual custody of your assets. You will receive account statements directly from Schwab at least quarterly. They will be sent to the email or postal mailing address you provided to Schwab. You should carefully review those statements promptly when you receive them. We also urge you to compare Schwab's account statements to the periodic account statements/portfolio reports you will receive from us.

B. 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.

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 asset management 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 vote or other solicitation.

B. If we do not have authority to vote client securities, we must disclose this fact.

See Item 17A of this Brochure.

# Item 18. Financial Information

A. If we require or solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 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 \$1,200 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 \$1,200 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.