

April 18, 2024

**U.S. VALUE ETF  
TICKER SYMBOL: USVT**

*A Series of Ultimus Managers Trust*

**Supplement to the Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information,  
both dated March 29, 2024**

The Board of Trustees of Ultimus Managers Trust (the “Trust”) has concluded, based upon the recommendation of Lyrical Asset Management LP, that it is in the best interests of the U.S. Value ETF (the “Fund”) and its shareholders that the Fund be liquidated. Pursuant to a Plan of Liquidation (the “Plan”) approved by the Board of Trustees, the Fund will be liquidated and dissolved on or about May 24, 2024 (the “Liquidation Date”).

The last day of trading of the Fund’s shares on NYSE Arca (“NYSE”) will be May 14, 2024 (the “Closing Date”), which will also be the last day the Fund will accept orders for new creation units or redemption orders from authorized participants (as defined in the Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information). Shareholders may sell their holdings in the Fund in the secondary market until the end of the trading day on the Closing Date and customary brokerage charges may apply to these transactions. On or around the Closing Date, the Fund is expected to deviate from its stated investment strategies and will no longer be managed to meet its investment objective. From the Closing Date, through the Liquidation Date, shareholders may only be able to sell their shares to certain broker-dealers and there is no assurance that there will be a market for the Fund's shares during this time period. The Fund is expected to cease operations, liquidate its assets, and distribute the liquidation proceeds to shareholders of record on the Liquidation Date.

Any person holding shares in the Fund on the Liquidation Date will receive a cash redemption amount representing his or her proportionate interest in the net assets of the Fund as of the Liquidation Date, subject to any required withholdings such as charges, taxes, expenses and liabilities (“Liquidating Distribution”). Such Liquidating Distribution received by a shareholder of record may be in an amount that is greater or less than the amount a shareholder might receive if they dispose of their shares on the NYSE prior to market close on May 24, 2024. Additionally, the Fund must declare and distribute to shareholders any realized capital gains and all net investment income. Shareholders remaining in the Fund on the Liquidation Date will not be charged any transaction fees by the Fund. Once the distribution is complete, the Fund will terminate. Unless your investment in the Fund is through a tax-deferred retirement account, you will recognize gain or loss for federal income tax purposes (and for most state and local income tax purposes) on a redemption of your shares, upon the final Liquidating Distribution by the Fund, based on the difference between the amount you receive and your tax basis in your shares. The Fund may make one or more distributions of income and/or net capital gains on or prior to the Liquidation Date, in order to eliminate Fund-level taxes. Please refer to the “Dividends, Distributions and Taxes” section in the Prospectus for general information. You may wish to consult your tax advisor about your particular situation. Plan sponsors or plan administrative agents should notify participants that the Fund is liquidating and should provide information about alternative investment options.

ANY SHAREHOLDERS WHO HAVE NOT SOLD THEIR SHARES OF THE FUND IN THE SECONDARY MARKET PRIOR TO THE CLOSING DATE WILL HAVE THEIR SHARES AUTOMATICALLY REDEEMED AS OF THE LIQUIDATION DATE.

---

This Supplement should be read in conjunction with the Fund's Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"). This Supplement, and the Prospectus and SAI, each dated March 29, 2024, provide relevant information for all shareholders and should be retained for future reference. The Prospectus and the SAI have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and are incorporated by reference. These can be obtained without charge by calling 1-833-825-8383.

**Statement of Additional Information**  
**March 29, 2024**

**U.S. VALUE ETF**

**(USVT)**

**Primary Listing Exchange for the Fund: NYSE Arca**

*a series of*

**ULTIMUS MANAGERS TRUST**

**225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450**

**Cincinnati, Ohio 45246**

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus for the U.S. Value ETF (the “Fund”) dated March 29, 2024, which may be supplemented from time to time (the “Prospectus”). This SAI is incorporated by reference in its entirety into the Prospectus. Because this SAI is not itself a prospectus, no investment in shares of the Fund should be made solely upon the information contained herein. Copies of the Prospectus may be obtained without charge, upon request, by writing the Fund at P.O. Box 46707, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246-0707 or by calling toll-free 1-833-Valu-ETF (or 1-833-825-8383) or by visiting the Fund’s website at [www.usvalueetf.com](http://www.usvalueetf.com).

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

HOW TO BUY AND SELL SHARES.....	2
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON INVESTMENTS, STRATEGIES AND RISKS .....	11
INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS.....	24
MANAGEMENT OF THE TRUST .....	26
INVESTMENT ADVISER.....	32
PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS .....	35
THE DISTRIBUTOR .....	36
OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS .....	37
GENERAL INFORMATION .....	39
ADDITIONAL TAX INFORMATION .....	44
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS .....	51
APPENDIX A.....	52
APPENDIX B .....	55
APPENDIX C .....	58

## **STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The U.S. Value ETF (the “Fund”) is a diversified series of Ultimus Managers Trust (the “Trust”), an open-end management investment company. The Trust is an unincorporated business trust that was organized under Ohio law on February 28, 2012. The Fund’s investments are managed by Lyrical Asset Management LP (the “Adviser”). For further information on the Fund, please call 1-833-Valu-ETF (or 1-833-825-8383) or by visiting the Fund’s website at <https://usvalueetf.com/>.

The Fund issues and redeems shares solely to certain financial institutions such as registered broker-dealers and banks that have entered into agreements with the Fund’s distributor (“Authorized Participants” or “APs”) on a continuous basis at net asset value per share (“NAV”) in aggregations of a specified number of shares called “Creation Units.” Creation Units generally are issued in exchange for a basket of securities (“Deposit Securities”), together with the deposit of a specified cash payment (“Balancing Amount”). Shares are not individually redeemable, but are redeemable only in Creation Unit aggregations, and generally in exchange for portfolio securities and a specified cash payment. A Creation Unit of the Fund consists of a block of shares.

Shares are listed and traded on NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca” or the “Exchange”). Shares trade in the secondary market at market prices that may differ from the shares’ NAV. Other than Authorized Participants, investors will not be able to purchase or redeem shares directly with or from the Fund. Instead, most investors will buy and sell shares in the secondary market through a broker.

Each share of a series represents an equal proportionate interest in the assets and liabilities belonging to that series with each other share of that series and is entitled to such dividends and distributions out of income belonging to the series as are declared by the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”). Each share has the same voting and other rights and preferences as any other shares of any series of the Trust with respect to matters that affect the Trust as a whole. The shares do not have cumulative voting rights or any preemptive or conversion rights, and the Board has the authority from time to time to divide or combine the shares of any series into a greater or lesser number of shares of that series so long as the proportionate beneficial interest in the assets belonging to that series and the rights of shares of any other series are in no way affected. The Fund currently offers only one class of shares. In case of any liquidation of a series, the holders of shares of the series being liquidated will be entitled to receive as a class a distribution out of the assets, net of the liabilities, belonging to that series. Expenses attributable to any series are borne by that series. Any general expenses of the Trust not readily identifiable as belonging to a particular series are allocated by or under the direction of the Board in such manner as the Board determines to be fair and equitable. No shareholder is liable to further calls or to assessment by the Trust without his or her express consent.

For information concerning the purchase and sale of shares of the Fund, see “How to Buy and Sell Shares” in the Fund’s Prospectus and in this SAI. For a description of the methods used to determine the share price and value of the Fund’s assets, see “Determination of Net Asset Value” in the Fund’s Prospectus and in this SAI.

The performance of the Fund may be compared in publications to the performance of various indices and investments for which reliable performance data is available. The performance of the Fund may be compared in publications to averages, performance rankings, or other information prepared by recognized investment company statistical services. The Fund's annual report contains additional performance information and will be made available to investors upon request and without charge.

## **HOW TO BUY AND SELL SHARES**

### **Creation Units**

The Fund will issue and redeem shares at NAV only in aggregations of large blocks of shares or Creation Units and only to Authorized Participants. In order to be an Authorized Participant the firm must be either a broker-dealer or other participant ("Participating Party") in the Continuous Settlement System ("Clearing Process") of the National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") or a participant in DTC with access to the DTC system ("DTC Participant"), and the firm must execute an agreement ("Participant Agreement") with Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, the Fund's distributor (the "Distributor") that governs transactions in the Fund's Creation Units.

The Fund sells and redeems Creation Units on a continuous basis through the Distributor, without a sales load, at the NAV next determined after receipt of an order in proper form on any day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open for business ("Business Day"). The New York Stock Exchange is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

The Fund will issue and redeem Creation Units principally in exchange for an in-kind deposit of Deposit Securities, together with the deposit of a Cash Component, plus a transaction fee. The Fund is listed on NYSE Arca. Shares will trade on the Exchange at market prices that may be below, at, or above NAV. In the event of the liquidation of the Fund, a share split, reverse split or the like, the Trust may revise the number of shares in a Creation Unit.

The Fund reserves the right to offer creations and redemptions of shares for cash.

### **Exchange Listing and Trading**

Shares of the Fund are available to the public on the NYSE Arca and trade at market prices rather than NAV. Shares of the Fund may trade at a price that is greater than, at, or less than NAV. There can be no assurance that the requirements of the NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of shares of the Fund will continue to be met. The NYSE Arca may, but is not required to, remove the shares of the Fund from listing if, among other things: (i) following the initial 12-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading of Fund shares, there are fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial owners of shares of the Fund for 30 or more consecutive trading days, or (ii) any other event shall occur or condition shall exist that, in the opinion of the NYSE Arca, makes further

dealings on the NYSE Arca inadvisable. The NYSE Arca will also remove shares of the Fund from listing and trading upon termination of the Fund.

As in the case of other publicly-traded securities, when you buy or sell shares of the Fund through a broker, you may incur a brokerage commission determined by that broker, as well as other charges.

## Transaction Fees

A fixed fee payable to the Custodian (as defined below) is imposed on each creation and redemption transaction regardless of the number of Creation Units involved in the transaction (“Fixed Fee”). Purchases and redemptions of Creation Units for cash or involving cash-in-lieu (as defined below) are required to pay an additional variable charge to compensate the Fund and its ongoing shareholders for brokerage and market impact expenses relating to Creation Unit transactions (“Variable Charge,” and together with the Fixed Fee, the “Transaction Fees”). With the approval of the Board, the Adviser may waive or adjust the Transaction Fees, including the Fixed Fee and/or Variable Charge (shown in the table below), from time to time. In such cases, the Authorized Participant will reimburse the Fund for, among other things, any difference between the market value at which the securities and/or financial instruments were purchased by the Fund and the cash-in-lieu amount, applicable registration fees, brokerage commissions and certain taxes. In addition, purchasers of Creation Units are responsible for the costs of transferring the Deposit Securities to the account of the Fund.

Investors who use the services of a broker, or other such intermediary may be charged a fee for such services. The Transaction Fees for the Fund are listed in the table below.

Fee for In-Kind and Cash Purchases	Maximum Additional Variable Charge for Cash Purchases*
\$250	200 basis points (2.0)%

\* As a percentage of the amount invested.

## The Clearing Process

Transactions by an Authorized Participant that is a Participating Party using the NSCC system are referred to as transactions “through the Clearing Process.” Transactions by an Authorized Participant that is a DTC Participant using the DTC system are referred to as transactions “outside the Clearing Process.” The Clearing Process is an enhanced clearing process that is available only for certain securities and only to DTC participants that are also participants in the Continuous Net Settlement System of the NSCC. In-kind (portions of) purchase orders not subject to the Clearing Process will go through a manual clearing process run by DTC. Portfolio Deposits that include government securities must be delivered through the Federal Reserve Bank wire transfer system (“Federal Reserve System”). Portfolio Deposits that include cash may be delivered through the Clearing Process or the Federal Reserve System. In-kind deposits of securities for orders outside the Clearing Process must be delivered through the Federal Reserve System (for government securities) or through DTC (for corporate securities).

## **Purchasing Creation Units**

### **Portfolio Deposit**

The consideration for a Creation Unit generally consists of the Deposit Securities and a Cash Component. Together, the Deposit Securities and the Cash Component constitute the “Portfolio Deposit.” The Cash Component serves the function of compensating for any differences between the net asset value per Creation Unit and the Deposit Securities. Thus, the Cash Component is equal to the difference between (x) the net asset value per Creation Unit of the Fund and (y) the market value of the Deposit Securities. If (x) is more than (y), the Authorized Participant will pay the Cash Component to the Fund. If (x) is less than (y), the Authorized Participant will receive the Cash Component from the Fund.

On each Business Day, prior to the opening of business on the NYSE Arca (currently 9:30 a.m., Eastern Time), the Adviser through the Custodian makes available through NSCC the name and amount of each Deposit Security in the current Portfolio Deposit (based on information at the end of the previous Business Day) for the Fund and the (estimated) Cash Component, effective through and including the previous Business Day, per Creation Unit. The Deposit Securities announced are applicable to purchases of Creation Units until the next announcement of Deposit Securities.

Payment of any stamp duty or the like shall be the sole responsibility of the Authorized Participant purchasing a Creation Unit. The Authorized Participant must ensure that all Deposit Securities properly denote change in beneficial ownership.

### **Custom Orders and Cash-in-lieu**

The Fund may, in its sole discretion, permit or require the substitution of an amount of cash (“cash-in-lieu”) to be added to the Cash Component to replace any Deposit Security. The Fund may permit or require cash-in-lieu when, for example, a Deposit Security may not be available in sufficient quantity for delivery or may not be eligible for transfer through the systems of DTC or the Clearing Process. Similarly, the Fund may permit or require cash in lieu of Deposit Securities when, for example, the Authorized Participant or its underlying investor is restricted under U.S. or local securities laws or policies from transacting in one or more Deposit Securities. The Fund will comply with the federal securities laws in accepting Deposit Securities including that the Deposit Securities are sold in transactions that would be exempt from registration under the Securities Act. All orders involving cash-in-lieu are considered to be “Custom Orders.”

### **Purchase Orders**

An Authorized Participant must submit an irrevocable purchase order in proper form to the Distributor or its agent no later than the earlier of (i) 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time or (ii) the closing time of the bond markets and/or the trading session on the Exchange, on any Business Day in order to receive that Business Day’s NAV (“Cut-off Time”). The Cut-off Time for Custom Orders is generally two hours earlier. The Business Day the order is deemed received by the Distributor is referred to as the “Transmittal Date.” An order to create Creation Units is deemed received on a



Business Day if (i) such order is received by the Distributor by the Cut-off Time on such day and (ii) all other procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement are properly followed. Persons placing or effectuating custom orders and/or orders involving cash should be mindful of time deadlines imposed by intermediaries, such as DTC and/or the Federal Reserve Bank wire system, which may impact the successful processing of such orders to ensure that cash and securities are transferred by the “Settlement Date,” which is generally the Business Day immediately following the Transmittal Date (“T+1”) for cash and the third Business Day following the Transmittal Date for securities (“T+3”).

#### Orders Using the Clearing Process

If available, (portions of) orders may be settled through the Clearing Process. In connection with such orders, the Distributor transmits, on behalf of the Authorized Participant, such trade instructions as are necessary to effect the creation order. Pursuant to such trade instructions, the Authorized Participant agrees to deliver the requisite Portfolio Deposit to the Fund, together with such additional information as may be required by the Distributor. Cash Components will be delivered using either the Clearing Process or the Federal Reserve System.

#### Orders Outside the Clearing Process

If the Clearing Process is not available for (portions of) an order, Portfolio Deposits will be made outside the Clearing Process. Orders outside the Clearing Process must state that the DTC Participant is not using the Clearing Process and that the creation of Creation Units will be effected through DTC. The Portfolio Deposit transfer must be ordered by the DTC Participant on the Transmittal Date in a timely fashion so as to ensure the delivery of Deposit Securities (whether standard or custom) through DTC to the Fund account by 11:00 a.m., Eastern time, on T+1. The Cash Component, along with any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee, must be transferred directly to the Custodian through the Federal Reserve System in a timely manner so as to be received by the Custodian no later than 12:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on T+1. If the Custodian does not receive both the Deposit Securities and the cash by the appointed time, the order may be canceled. A canceled order may be resubmitted the following Business Day but must conform to that Business Day’s Portfolio Deposit. Authorized Participants that submit a canceled order will be liable to the Fund for any losses incurred by the Fund in connection therewith.

Orders involving foreign Deposit Securities are expected to be settled outside the Clearing Process. Thus, upon receipt of an irrevocable purchase order, the Distributor will notify the Adviser and the Custodian of such order. The Custodian, who will have caused the appropriate local sub-custodian(s) of the Fund to maintain an account into which an Authorized Participant may deliver Deposit Securities (or cash -in-lieu), with adjustments determined by the Fund, will then provide information of the order to such local sub-custodian(s). The ordering Authorized Participant will then deliver the Deposit Securities (and any cash-in-lieu) to the Fund’s account at the applicable local sub-custodian. The Authorized Participant must also make available on or before the contractual settlement date, by means satisfactory to the Fund, immediately available or same day funds in U.S. dollars estimated by the Fund to be sufficient to pay the Cash Component and Transaction Fee. When a relevant local market is closed due to local market holidays, the local

market settlement process will not commence until the end of the local holiday period. Settlement must occur by 2:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the contractual settlement date.

#### Acceptance of Purchase Order

All questions as to the number of shares of each security in the Deposit Securities and the validity, form, eligibility and acceptance for deposit of any securities to be delivered shall be determined by the Fund. The Fund's determination shall be final and binding.

The Fund reserves the absolute right to reject or revoke acceptance of a purchase order transmitted to it by the Distributor if (a) the order is not in proper form; (b) the investor(s), upon obtaining the shares ordered, would own 80% or more of the currently outstanding shares of the Fund; (c) the Deposit Securities delivered do not conform to the Deposit Securities for the applicable date; (d) acceptance of the Deposit Securities would have certain adverse tax consequences to the Fund; (e) the acceptance of the Portfolio Deposit would, in the opinion of counsel, be unlawful; (f) the acceptance of the Portfolio Deposit would otherwise, in the discretion of the Trust, Fund or the Adviser, have an adverse effect on the Trust, Fund or the rights of beneficial owners; or (g) in the event that circumstances outside the control of the Trust, the Distributor and the Adviser make it for all practical purposes impossible to process purchase orders. Examples of such circumstances include acts of God; public service or utility problems resulting in telephone, telecopy or computer failures; fires, floods or extreme weather conditions; market conditions or activities causing trading halts; systems failures involving computer or other informational systems affecting the Trust, the Distributor, DTC, NSCC, the Adviser, the Fund's Custodian, a sub-custodian or any other participant in the creation process; and similar extraordinary events. The Distributor shall notify an Authorized Participant of its rejection of the order. The Fund, the Custodian, any sub-custodian and the Distributor are under no duty, however, to give notification of any defects or irregularities in the delivery of Portfolio Deposits, and they shall not incur any liability for the failure to give any such notification.

#### Issuance of a Creation Unit

Once the Fund has accepted an order, upon next determination of the Fund's NAV, the Fund will confirm the issuance of a Creation Unit, against receipt of payment, at such NAV. The Distributor will transmit a confirmation of acceptance to the Authorized Participant that placed the order.

Except as provided below, a Creation Unit will not be issued until the Fund obtains good title to the Deposit Securities and the Cash Component, along with any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee. Except as otherwise provided, the delivery of Creation Units will generally occur no later than T+2.

In certain cases, Authorized Participants will create and redeem Creation Units on the same trade date. In these instances, the Trust reserves the right to settle these transactions on a net basis.

The Fund may issue a Creation Unit prior to receiving good title to the Deposit Securities, under the following circumstances. Pursuant to the applicable Participant Agreement, the Fund

may issue a Creation Unit notwithstanding that (certain) Deposit Securities have not been delivered, in reliance on an undertaking by the relevant Authorized Participant to deliver the missing Deposit Securities as soon as possible, which undertaking is secured by such Authorized Participant's delivery to and maintenance with the Custodian of collateral having a value equal to at least 115% of the value of the missing Deposit Securities ("Collateral"), as adjusted by time to time by the Adviser. Such Collateral will have a value greater than the NAV of the Creation Unit on the date the order is placed. Such collateral must be delivered no later than 2:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on T+1. The only Collateral that is acceptable to the Fund is cash in U.S. Dollars.

While (certain) Deposit Securities remain undelivered, the Collateral shall at all times have a value equal to at least 115% (as adjusted by the Adviser) of the daily marked-to-market value of the missing Deposit Securities. At any time, the Fund may use the Collateral to purchase the missing securities, and the Authorized Participant will be liable to the Fund for any costs incurred thereby or losses resulting therefrom, whether or not they exceed the amount of the Collateral, including any Transaction Fee, any amount by which the purchase price of the missing Deposit Securities exceeds the market value of such securities on the Transmittal Date, brokerage and other transaction costs. The Trust will return any unused Collateral once all of the missing securities have been received by the Fund. More information regarding the Fund's current procedures for collateralization is available from the Distributor.

#### Cash Purchase Method

When cash purchases of Creation Units are available or specified for the Fund, they will be effected in essentially the same manner as in-kind purchases. In the case of a cash purchase, the investor must pay the cash equivalent of the Portfolio Deposit. In addition, cash purchases will be subject to Transaction Fees, as described above.

#### **Redeeming a Creation Unit**

##### Redemption Basket

The consideration received in connection with the redemption of a Creation Unit generally consists of an in-kind basket of designated securities ("Redemption Securities") and a Cash Component. Together, the Redemption Securities and the Cash Component constitute the "Redemption Basket."

There can be no assurance that there will be sufficient liquidity in Shares in the secondary market to permit assembly of a Creation Unit. In addition, investors may incur brokerage and other costs in connection with assembling a Creation Unit.

The Cash Component serves the function of compensating for any differences between the net asset value per Creation Unit and the Redemption Securities. Thus, the Cash Component is equal to the difference between (x) the net asset value per Creation Unit of the Fund and (y) the market value of the Redemption Securities. If (x) is more than (y), the Authorized Participant will receive the Cash Component from the Fund. If (x) is less than (y), the Authorized Participant will pay the Cash Component to the Fund.

If the Redemption Securities on a Business Day are different from the Deposit Securities, prior to the opening of business on the NYSE Arca (currently 9:30 a.m., Eastern Time), the Adviser through the Custodian makes available through NSCC the name and amount of each Redemption Security in the current Redemption Basket (based on information at the end of the previous Business Day) for the Fund and the (estimated) Cash Component, effective through and including the previous Business Day, per Creation Unit. If the Redemption Securities on a Business Day are different from the Deposit Securities, all redemption requests that day will be processed outside the Clearing Process.

The right of redemption may be suspended or the date of payment postponed: (i) for any period during which the NYSE Arca is closed (other than customary weekend and holiday closings); (ii) for any period during which trading on the NYSE Arca is suspended or restricted; (iii) for any period during which an emergency exists as a result of which disposal of the Shares or determination of the Fund's NAV is not reasonably practicable; or (iv) in such other circumstances as permitted by the SEC, including as described below.

#### Custom Redemptions and Cash-in-lieu

The Fund may, in its sole discretion, permit or require the substitution of cash-in-lieu to be added to the Cash Component to replace any Redemption Security. The Fund may permit or require cash-in-lieu when, for example, a Redemption Security may not be available in sufficient quantity for delivery or may not be eligible for transfer through the systems of DTC or the Clearing Process. Similarly, the Fund may permit or require cash-in-lieu of Redemption Securities when, for example, the Authorized Participant or its underlying investor is restricted under U.S. or local securities law or policies from transacting in one or more Redemption Securities. The Fund will comply with the federal securities laws in satisfying redemptions with Redemption Securities, including that the Redemption Securities are sold in transactions that would be exempt from registration under the Securities Act. All redemption requests involving cash-in-lieu are considered to be "Custom Redemptions."

#### Redemption Requests

To redeem a Creation Unit, an Authorized Participant must submit an irrevocable redemption request to the Distributor.

An Authorized Participant submitting a redemption request is deemed to represent to the Fund that it has ascertained or has reasonable grounds to believe that as of the time of the contractual settlement date, that (i) it or its customer, as the case may be, owns, will own or have the authority and right to tender for redemption the Creation Unit to be redeemed and can receive the entire proceeds of the redemption, and (ii) all of the Shares that are in the Creation Unit to be redeemed have not been loaned or pledged to another party nor are they the subject of a repurchase agreement, securities lending agreement or such other arrangement that would preclude the delivery of such Shares to the Fund on the contractual settlement date. The Fund reserves the absolute right, in its sole discretion, to verify these representations, but will typically require verification in connection with higher levels of redemption activity and/or short interest in the

Fund. If the Authorized Participant, upon receipt of a verification request, does not provide sufficient verification of the requested representations, the redemption request will not be considered to be in proper form and may be rejected by the Fund.

#### Timing of Submission of Redemption Requests

An Authorized Participant must submit an irrevocable redemption order no later than the Cut-off Time. The Cut-off Time for Custom Orders is generally two hours earlier. The Business Day the order is deemed received by the Distributor is referred to as the “Transmittal Date.” A redemption request is deemed received if (i) such order is received by the Distributor by the Cut-off Time on such day and (ii) all other procedures set forth in the Participant Agreement are properly followed. Persons placing or effectuating Custom Redemptions and/or orders involving cash should be mindful of time deadlines imposed by intermediaries, such as DTC and/or the Federal Reserve System, which may impact the successful processing of such orders to ensure that cash and securities are transferred by the Settlement Date, as defined above.

#### Requests Using the Clearing Process

If available, (portions of) redemption requests may be settled through the Clearing Process. In connection with such orders, the Distributor transmits on behalf of the Authorized Participant, such trade instructions as are necessary to effect the redemption. Pursuant to such trade instructions, the Authorized Participant agrees to deliver the requisite Creation Unit(s) to the Fund, together with such additional information as may be required by the Distributor. Cash Components will be delivered using either the Clearing Process or the Federal Reserve System, as described above.

#### Requests Outside the Clearing Process

If the Clearing Process is not available for (portions of) an order, Redemption Baskets will be delivered outside the Clearing Process. Orders outside the Clearing Process must state that the DTC Participant is not using the Clearing Process and that the redemption will be effected through DTC. The Authorized Participant must transfer or cause to be transferred the Creation Unit(s) of shares being redeemed through the book-entry system of DTC so as to be delivered through DTC to the Custodian by 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on received T+1. In addition, the Cash Component must be received by the Custodian by 12:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on T+1. If the Custodian does not receive the Creation Unit(s) and Cash Component by the appointed times on T+1, the redemption will be rejected, except in the circumstances described below. A rejected redemption request may be resubmitted the following Business Day.

Orders involving foreign Redemption Securities are expected to be settled outside the Clearing Process. Thus, upon receipt of an irrevocable redemption request, the Distributor will notify the Adviser and the Custodian. The Custodian will then provide information of the redemption to the Fund’s local sub-custodian(s). The redeeming Authorized Participant, or the investor on whose behalf is acting, will have established appropriate arrangements with a broker-dealer, bank or other custody provider in each jurisdiction in which the Redemption Securities are

customarily traded and to which such Redemption Securities (and any cash-in-lieu) can be delivered from the Fund's accounts at the applicable local sub-custodian(s).

#### Acceptance of Redemption Requests

All questions as to the number of shares of each security in the Deposit Securities and the validity, form, eligibility and acceptance for deposit of any securities to be delivered shall be determined by the Trust. The Trust's determination shall be final and binding.

#### Delivery of Redemption Basket

Once the Fund has accepted a redemption request, upon next determination of the Fund's NAV, the Fund will confirm the issuance of a Redemption Basket, against receipt of the Creation Unit(s) at such NAV, any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee. A Creation Unit tendered for redemption and the payment of the Cash Component, any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee will be effected through DTC. The Authorized Participant, or the investor on whose behalf it is acting, will be recorded on the book-entry system of DTC.

The Redemption Basket will generally be delivered to the redeeming Authorized Participant within T+3. Except under the circumstances described below, however, a Redemption Basket generally will not be issued until the Creation Unit(s) are delivered to the Fund, along with the Cash Component, any cash-in-lieu and Transaction Fee.

In certain cases, Authorized Participants will create and redeem Creation Units on the same trade date. In these instances, the Trust reserves the right to settle these transactions on a net basis.

#### Cash Redemption Method

When cash redemptions of Creation Units are available or specified for the Fund, they will be effected in essentially the same manner as in-kind redemptions. In the case of a cash redemption, the investor will receive the cash equivalent of the Redemption Basket minus any Transaction Fees, as described above.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON INVESTMENTS, STRATEGIES AND RISKS

Information contained in this SAI expands upon information contained in the Prospectus. All investments in securities and other financial instruments involve a risk of financial loss. No assurance can be given that the Fund's investment programs will be successful. Investors should carefully review the descriptions of the Fund's investments and associated risks described in the Prospectus and this SAI. No investment in shares of the Fund should be made without first reading the Prospectus. Unless otherwise indicated, percentage limitations apply at the time of purchase of the applicable securities. The Fund is subject to the following principal risks:

**General Investment Risks.** Prices of securities in which the Fund invests may fluctuate in response to many factors, including, but not limited to, the activities of the individual companies whose securities the Fund owns, general market and economic conditions, interest rates, and specific industry changes. Such price fluctuations subject the Fund to potential losses. In addition, regardless of any one company's particular prospects, a declining stock market may produce a decline in prices for all securities, which could also result in losses to the Fund. Market declines may continue for an indefinite period of time, and investors should understand that during temporary or extended bear markets, the value of all types of securities, including securities held by the Fund, can decline.

**Market Risk.** Market risk is the risk that the value of the securities in the Fund's portfolio may decline due to daily fluctuations in the securities markets that are generally beyond the Adviser's control, including fluctuation in interest rates, the quality of the Fund's investments, economic conditions and general market conditions. Certain market events could increase volatility and exacerbate market risk, and could result in trading halts, such as changes in governments' economic policies, political turmoil, environmental events, trade disputes, terrorism, military action and epidemics, pandemics or other public health issues. Any of the foregoing market events can adversely affect the economies of one or more countries or the entire global economy, certain industries or individual issuers, and capital and security markets in ways that cannot necessarily be foreseen or quickly addressed.

As shown with the novel coronavirus disease ("COVID-19"), market events (including public health crises and concerns) can have a profound economic and business effect that results in cancellations and disruptions to supply chains and customer activity, disruption and displacement of one or more sectors or industries, closing of borders and imposition of travel restrictions and quarantines, general public concern and uncertainty and, in extreme cases, exchange trading halts due to rapidly falling prices. The impact of COVID-19 caused significant volatility and declines in global financial markets, including the U.S. financial markets. Further, COVID-19 led to production cutbacks for many companies and coupled with changes in consumer spending fueled by government stimulus, created a supply/demand imbalance and resulted in higher prices and inflation, the result of which can affect a company's financial condition and ability to manufacture and sell its products.

Market events such as these and other types of market events may cause significant declines in the values and liquidity of many securities and other instruments, and significant disruptions to global business activity and financial markets. Turbulence in financial markets, and

reduced liquidity in equity, credit and fixed income markets may negatively affect many issuers both domestically and around the world, and can result in trading halts, any of which could have an adverse impact on the Fund. During periods of market volatility, security prices (including securities held by the Fund) could change drastically and rapidly and therefore adversely affect the Fund.

**Equity Securities.** The Fund's portfolio will generally be comprised of common stock and preferred stock traded on domestic securities exchanges or over-the-counter ("OTC") markets. In addition, the Fund may invest in depositary receipts evidencing ownership in foreign common stocks, preferred stocks, securities convertible into common stocks and securities that carry the right to buy common stocks, traded on domestic exchanges or OTC markets. The prices of equity securities in which the Fund invests may fluctuate in response to many factors, including, but not limited to, the activities of the individual companies whose securities the Fund owns, general market and economic conditions, interest rates, and specific industry changes. Such price fluctuations subject the Fund to potential losses. In addition, regardless of any one company's particular prospects, a declining stock market may produce a decline in prices for all equity securities, which could also result in losses for the Fund. Market declines may continue for an indefinite period of time, and investors should understand that during temporary or extended bear markets, the value of equity securities, including securities held by the Funds, will likely decline.

**Common Stock.** As noted above, the Fund's portfolio will generally include common stock. Prices of common stock may fluctuate in response to many factors, including, but not limited to, the activities of the individual companies whose stock the Fund owns, general market and economic conditions, interest rates, and specific industry changes. Such price fluctuations subject the Fund to potential losses. In addition, regardless of any one company's particular prospects, a declining stock market may produce a decline in prices for all stocks, which may also result in losses for the Fund. Market declines may continue for any indefinite period of time, and investors should understand that during temporary or extended bear markets, the value of common stocks, including common stocks held by the Fund, will likely decline.

**Preferred Stock.** As noted above, the Fund's portfolio may include preferred stocks. Preferred stocks are securities that represent an ownership interest providing the holder with claims on the issuer's earnings and assets before common stock owners but after bond owners. Unlike debt securities, the obligations of an issuer of preferred stock, including dividend and other payment obligations, may not typically be accelerated by the holders of such preferred stock on the occurrence of an event of default or other non-compliance by the issuer of the preferred stock. Preferred stocks may include the obligation to pay a stated dividend. The price of preferred stocks could depend more on the size of the dividend than on the company's performance. If a company fails to pay the dividend, its preferred stock is likely to drop in price. Changes in interest rates can also affect the price of preferred stock. Like common stocks, the value of preferred stock may fluctuate in response to many factors, including the activities of the issuer, general market and economic conditions, interest rates, and industry-specific changes.

**Convertible Securities.** While the Fund will generally not purchase convertible bonds, convertible preferred stocks, and warrants, it may acquire ownership of these convertible securities by virtue of its ownership of common stocks. Convertible bonds are fixed-income securities that



may be converted at a stated price within a specified period into a certain quantity of the common stock of the same or a different issuer. Convertible bonds are senior to common stocks in an issuer's capital structure, but are usually subordinated to similar non-convertible securities. While providing a fixed income stream (generally higher in yield than the income derivable from common stock but lower than that afforded by a similar nonconvertible security), a convertible security also provides the investor the opportunity, through its conversion feature, to participate in the capital appreciation of the underlying common stock. Like other debt securities, the value of a convertible bond tends to vary inversely with the level of interest rates. However, to the extent that the market price of the underlying common stock approaches or exceeds the conversion price, the price of the convertible bond will be increasingly influenced by its conversion value (the security's worth, at market value, if converted into the underlying common stock). Although to a lesser extent than with fixed-income securities, the market value of convertible bonds tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, tends to increase as interest rates decline. In addition, because of the conversion feature, the market value of convertible bonds tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying common stock. A unique feature of convertible securities is that as the market price of the underlying common stock declines, convertible securities tend to trade increasingly on a yield basis and so may not experience market value declines to the same extent as the underlying common stock. When the market price of the underlying common stock increases, the prices of the convertible securities tend to rise as a reflection of the value of the underlying common stock. While no securities investments are without risk, investments in convertible securities generally entail less risk than investments in common stock of the same issuer.

**Warrants and Rights.** The Fund may acquire ownership of warrants and rights by virtue of its ownership of common stocks. Warrants are essentially options to purchase equity securities at specific prices and are valid for a specific period of time. Rights are similar to warrants but generally have a short duration and are distributed directly by the issuer to its shareholders. The holders of warrants and rights have no voting rights, and receive no dividends, with respect to the equity interests underlying warrants or rights, and will have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer, until the warrant or right is exercised. Investments in warrants and rights involve certain risks, including the possible lack of a liquid market for resale, potential price fluctuations as a result of speculation or other factors, and failure of the price of the underlying security to reach or have reasonable prospects of reaching a level at which the warrant or right can be prudently exercised (in which event the warrant or right may expire without being exercised, resulting in a loss of the Fund's entire investment therein).

**Foreign Securities.** The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers that trade on United States ("U.S.") and foreign stock exchanges or in the form of American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"). ADRs are receipts that evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign issuer.

ADRs are receipts that evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by a foreign issuer. ADRs are generally issued by a U.S. bank or trust company to U.S. buyers as a substitute for direct ownership of a foreign security and are traded on U.S. exchanges. ADRs, in registered form, are designed for use in the U.S. securities markets. ADRs may be purchased through "sponsored" or "unsponsored" facilities. A sponsored facility is established jointly by the issuer of

the underlying security and a depositary. A depositary may establish an unsponsored facility without participation by the issuer of the deposited security. The depositary of an unsponsored ADR is under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications received from the issuer of the deposited security or to pass through voting rights with respect to the deposited security. Investments in ADRs are subject to risks similar to those associated with direct investments in foreign securities. The Fund intends to invest primarily in foreign securities that are listed on U.S. stock exchanges.

Investing in the securities of foreign issuers involves special risks and considerations not typically associated with investing in U.S. companies. The performance of foreign markets does not necessarily track U.S. markets. Foreign investments may be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in currency rates, exchange control regulations, and capital controls. There may be less publicly available information about a foreign company than about a U.S. company, and foreign companies may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. Foreign securities may trade with less frequency and volume than domestic securities and, therefore, may exhibit less liquidity and greater price volatility than securities of U.S. companies. There may be less governmental supervision of securities markets, brokers and issuers of securities than in the U.S. Changes in foreign exchange rates will affect the value of those securities, which are denominated or quoted in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. Therefore, to the extent the Fund invests in a foreign security, which is denominated or quoted in a currency other than the U.S. dollar, there is a risk that the value of such security will decrease due to changes in the relative value of the U.S. dollar and the security's underlying foreign currency. Additional costs associated with an investment in foreign securities may include higher custodial fees than those applicable to domestic custodial arrangements, generally higher commission rates on foreign portfolio transactions, and transaction costs of foreign currency conversions. Investments in foreign securities may also be subject to other risks different from those affecting U.S. investments, including local political or economic developments, expropriation or nationalization of assets, restrictions on foreign investment and repatriation of capital, imposition of withholding taxes on dividend or interest payments, currency blockage (which would prevent cash from being brought back to the U.S.), limits on proxy voting and difficulty in enforcing legal rights outside the U.S. Currency exchange rates and regulations may cause fluctuation in the value of foreign securities. In addition, foreign securities and dividends and interest payable on those securities, may be subject to foreign taxes, including taxes withheld from payments on those securities.

**Options.** The Fund may purchase and write, or sell, put and call options on securities. The Fund may buy and sell options for a number of purposes, including hedging, investment or speculative purposes. For example, it may do so to try to manage its exposure to the possibility that the prices of its portfolio securities may decline, or to establish a position in the securities market as a substitute for purchasing individual securities. Buying puts and writing covered calls may be used to hedge the Fund's portfolio against price fluctuations. Buying call options tends to increase the Fund's exposure to the securities market. The Fund may write a call or put option only if the option is "covered" by the Fund's holding a position in the underlying securities or by other means which would permit immediate satisfaction of the Fund's obligation as writer of the option. The purchase and writing of options involves certain risks. During the option period, the covered call writer has, in return for the premium on the option, given up the opportunity to profit from a

price increase in the underlying securities above the exercise price, but, as long as its obligation as a writer continues, has retained the risk of loss should the price of the underlying security decline. The writer of an option has no control over the time when it may be required to fulfill its obligation as a writer of the option. Once an option writer has received an exercise notice, it cannot effect a closing purchase transaction in order to terminate its obligation under the option and must deliver the underlying securities at the exercise price. If a put or call option purchased by the Fund is not sold when it has remaining value, and if the market price of the underlying security, in the case of a put, remains equal to or greater than the exercise price or, in the case of a call, remains less than or equal to the exercise price, the Fund will lose its entire investment in the option. Also, where a put or call option on a particular security is purchased to hedge against price movements in a related security, the price of the put or call option may move more or less than the price of the related security. There can be no assurance that a liquid market will exist when the Fund seeks to close out an option position. Furthermore, if trading restrictions or suspensions are imposed on the options market, the Fund may be unable to close out a position.

**Investment Companies.** The Fund may, from time to time, invest in securities of other investment companies, both open-end and closed-end, including, without limitation, money market funds and ETFs. Investments in other investment companies subject the Fund to additional operating and management fees and expenses. For example, the Fund's investors will indirectly bear fees and expenses charged by underlying investment companies in which the Fund invests, in addition to the Fund's direct fees and expenses.

Generally, under Section 12(d)(1)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), a fund may not acquire shares of another investment company if, immediately after such acquisition, (i) a fund would hold more than 3% of the other investment company's total outstanding shares, (ii) a fund's investment in securities of the other investment company would be more than 5% of the value of the total assets of the fund, or (iii) more than 10% of a fund's total assets would be invested in investment companies. Under certain statutory and regulatory exemptions, a fund may invest in registered and unregistered money market funds in excess of these limitations. The Fund may rely upon any applicable statutory or regulatory exemptions in investing in other investment companies. The Fund generally expects to rely on Rule 12d1-1 under the 1940 Act when purchasing shares of a money market fund. Under Rule 12d1-1, the Fund may generally invest without limitation in money market funds as long as the Fund pays no sales charge ("sales charge"), as defined in rule 2830(b)(8) of the Conduct Rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"), or service fee, as defined in rule 2830(b)(9) of the Conduct Rules of FINRA, charged in connection with the purchase, sale, or redemption of securities issued by the money market fund ("service fee"); or the Adviser waives its Management Fee in an amount necessary to offset any sales charge or service fee. The Fund generally expects to rely on Section 12(d)(1)(F) of the 1940 Act when purchasing shares of other investment companies that are not money market funds. Under Section 12(d)(1)(F), the Fund may generally acquire shares of another investment company unless, immediately after such acquisition, the Fund and its affiliated persons would hold more than 3% of the investment company's total outstanding stock (the "3% Limitation"). To the extent the 3% Limitation applies to an investment the Fund wishes to make, the Fund may be prevented from allocating its investments in the manner that the Adviser considers optimal. Also, under the 1940 Act, to the extent that the Fund relies upon Section 12(d)(1)(F) in purchasing securities issued by another investment company, the Fund must either seek

instructions from its shareholders with regard to the voting of all proxies with respect to its investment in such securities and vote such proxies only in accordance with the instructions, or vote the shares held by it in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of the securities. In the event that there is a vote of investment company shares held by the Fund in reliance on Section 12(d)(1)(F), the Fund intends to vote such shares in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such securities. In addition, the Fund may also invest in excess of the Section 12(d)(1) limits in accordance with Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act (“Rule 12d1-4”), subject to the limitations and conditions set forth therein, including that an acquiring fund relying on Rule 12d1-4 must enter into a fund of funds investment agreement with the acquired fund and may be subject to certain voting requirements depending on the acquiring fund’s ownership in the acquired fund. All these restrictions and conditions may limit the Fund’s ability to invest in other investment companies to the extent desired.

**Exchange Traded Funds (“ETFs”).** The Fund may invest in shares of other ETFs. An ETF is typically an investment company registered under the 1940 Act that holds a portfolio of common stocks designed to track the performance of a particular index or market sector. Alternatively, ETFs may be actively managed pursuant to a particular investment strategy, similar to other non-index based investment companies. ETFs are traded on a securities exchange based on their market value. In addition, ETFs sell and redeem their shares at net asset value (“NAV”) in large blocks (typically 50,000 of its shares) called “creation units.” Shares representing fractional interests in these creation units are listed for trading on national securities exchanges and can be purchased and sold in the secondary market like ordinary stocks in lots of any size at any time during the trading day. An investment in an ETF generally presents the same primary risks as an investment in a conventional registered investment company (i.e., one that is not exchange traded), including the risk that the general level of securities prices, or that the prices of securities within a particular sector, may increase or decrease, thereby affecting the value of the shares of an ETF. In addition, ETFs are subject to the following risks that do not apply to conventional registered investment companies: (1) the market price of the ETF’s shares may trade at a discount to the ETF’s NAV; (2) an active trading market for an ETF’s shares may not develop or be maintained; (3) trading of an ETF’s shares may be halted if the listing exchange deems such action appropriate; (4) ETF shares may be delisted from the exchange on which they trade; and (5) activation of “circuit breakers” by the exchange (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) may halt trading of the ETF’s shares temporarily. ETFs are also subject to the risks of the underlying securities or sectors the ETF is designed to track.

Because ETFs and pools that issue similar instruments bear various fees and expenses, the Fund will pay a proportionate share of these expenses, as well as transaction costs, such as brokerage commissions. As with traditional registered investment companies, ETFs charge asset-based fees, although these fees tend to be relatively low as compared to other types of investment companies. ETFs do not charge initial sales loads or redemption fees and investors pay only customary brokerage fees to buy and sell ETF shares.

While the creation and redemption of creation units helps an ETF maintain a market value close to NAV, the market value of an ETF’s shares may differ from its NAV. This difference in price may be due to the fact that the supply and demand in the market for ETF shares at any point in time is not always identical to the supply and demand in the market for the ETF’s underlying

basket of securities. Accordingly, there may be times when an ETF trades at a premium (creating the risk that the Fund pays more than NAV for an ETF when making a purchase) or discount (creating the risks that the Fund's NAV is reduced for undervalued ETFs it holds, and that the Fund receives less than NAV when selling an ETF).

As discussed above under the section entitled "Investment Companies," there are certain limitations on the Fund's ability to acquire shares of other investment companies, including ETFs; however, the Fund expects to rely upon applicable statutory or regulatory exemptions to these limitations in investing in ETFs to the extent necessary.

**Money Market Instruments.** The Fund may invest in money market instruments, which may include, without limitation, U.S. Government Obligations or corporate debt obligations (including those subject to repurchase agreements) as described herein. Money market instruments also may include Banker's Acceptances, Certificates of Deposit of domestic branches of U.S. banks, Commercial Paper, Variable Amount Demand Master Notes ("Master Notes") and shares of money market investment companies. The Fund may invest in shares of money market investment companies to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act.

*Banker's Acceptances* are time drafts drawn on and "accepted" by a bank, which are the customary means of effecting payment for merchandise sold in import-export transactions and are a source of financing used extensively in international trade. When a bank "accepts" such a time draft, it assumes liability for its payment. When the Fund acquires a Banker's Acceptance, the bank which "accepted" the time draft is liable for payment of interest and principal when due. The Banker's Acceptance, therefore, carries the full faith and credit of such bank.

A *Certificate of Deposit* ("CD") is an unsecured, interest bearing debt obligation of a bank.

*Commercial Paper* is an unsecured, short-term debt obligation of a bank, corporation, or other borrower. Commercial Paper maturity generally ranges from two to 270 days and is usually sold on a discounted basis rather than as an interest-bearing instrument. The Fund will invest in Commercial Paper only if it is rated in the highest rating category by any nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO") or, if not rated, if the issuer has an outstanding unsecured debt issue rated in the three highest categories by any NRSRO or, if not so rated, is of equivalent quality in the Adviser's assessment. Commercial Paper may include Master Notes of the same quality.

*Master Notes* are unsecured obligations which are redeemable upon demand of the holder and which permit the investment of fluctuating amounts at varying rates of interest. Master Notes will be acquired by the Fund only through the Master Note program of the Fund's custodian bank, acting as administrator thereof. The Adviser will monitor, on a continuous basis, the earnings power, cash flow, and other liquidity ratios of the issuer of a Master Note held by the Fund.

**Debt Securities.** The Fund may invest in corporate debt securities and U.S. Government Obligations, as defined below. Corporate securities include, but are not limited to, debt obligations offered by public or private corporations either registered or unregistered. The market value of such securities may fluctuate in response to interest rates and the creditworthiness of the issuer. A

debt instrument's credit quality depends on the issuer's ability to pay interest on the security and repay the debt; the lower the credit rating, the greater the risk that the security's issuer will default. The credit risk of a security may also depend on the credit quality of any bank or financial institution that provides credit enhancement for the security. In the case of corporate debt, the Fund will normally purchase investment grade securities, meaning securities rated BBB or better by Standard & Poor's or any comparable rating by another NRSRO or, if unrated, as determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality.

**U.S. Government Obligations.** The Fund may invest in U.S. Government Obligations. "U.S. Government Obligations" include securities which are issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Treasury ("U.S. Treasury"), by various agencies of the U.S. government, and by various instrumentalities which have been established or sponsored by the U.S. government. U.S. Treasury obligations are backed by the "full faith and credit" of the U.S. government. U.S. Treasury obligations include Treasury Bills, Treasury Notes, and Treasury Bonds. Treasury Bills have initial maturities of one year or less; Treasury Notes have initial maturities of one to ten years; and Treasury Bonds generally have initial maturities of greater than ten years.

Agencies and instrumentalities established by the U.S. government include the Federal Home Loan Banks, the Federal Land Bank, the Government National Mortgage Association, the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the Small Business Administration, the Bank for Cooperatives, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Federal Financing Bank, the Federal Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, the Resolution Funding Corporation, the Financing Corporation of America and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Some of these securities are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government while others are supported only by the credit of the agency or instrumentality, which may include the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury. In the case of U.S. Government Obligations not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, the investor must look principally to the agency or instrumentality issuing or guaranteeing the obligation for ultimate repayment, and may not be able to assert a claim against the U.S. government itself in the event the agency or instrumentality does not meet its commitment. U.S. Government Obligations are subject to price fluctuations based upon changes in the level of interest rates, which will generally result in all those securities changing in price in the same way, i.e., all those securities experiencing appreciation when interest rates decline and depreciation when interest rates rise. Any guarantee of the U.S. government will not extend to the yield or value of the Fund's shares.

**LIBOR Transition Risk.** The Fund may have been exposed to financial instruments that were tied to the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR"). LIBOR is used as a "benchmark" or "reference rate" for various commercial and financial contracts, including corporate and municipal bonds, bank loans, asset-backed and mortgage-related securities, interest rate swaps and other derivatives. Over the last several years, global regulators have indicated an intent to phase out the use of LIBOR. ICE Benchmark Administration, the administrator of LIBOR, ceased publication of most LIBOR settings on June 30, 2023. However, the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority has required the ICE Benchmark Administration Limited to continue publishing a subset of U.S. dollar LIBOR settings on a "synthetic" basis through March 2024 for the three-month sterling LIBOR setting and September 2024 for the one-, three, and six -month sterling LIBOR settings. In March

2022, the U.S. federal government enacted the Adjustable Interest Rate (LIBOR) ACT (the “LIBOR Act”) to establish a process for replacing LIBOR in certain existing contracts that do not already provide the use of a clearly defined and practicable replacement benchmark rate as described in the LIBOR Act, a benchmark replacement recommended by the Federal Reserve Board will effectively replace the U.S. dollar LIBOR benchmark after June 2023. Actions by regulators have resulted in the establishment of alternative reference rates to LIBOR in most major currencies. The U.S. Federal Reserve, based on the recommendations of the New York Federal Reserve’s Alternative Reference Rate Committee (comprised of major derivative market participants and their regulators), has begun publishing a Secured Overnight Financing Rate (“SOFR”), which has replaced U.S. dollar LIBOR. Market participants generally have adopted alternative rates such as SOFR or otherwise amended such financial instruments to include fallback provisions and otherwise that contemplated the discontinuation of LIBOR. To facilitate the transition of legacy derivatives contracts referencing LIBOR, the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. (ISDA) launched a protocol to incorporate fallback provisions. Notwithstanding the foregoing actions, there still remains uncertainty regarding successor reference rate methodologies and there is no assurance that the composition or characteristics of any alternative reference rate will be similar to or produce the same value or economic equivalence as LIBOR or that instruments using an alternative rate will have the same volume or liquidity as did LIBOR prior to its discontinuance or unavailability. The transition process away from LIBOR could lead to increased volatility and illiquidity in markets for instruments whose terms previously relied on LIBOR. It could also adversely impact the value of some investments and reduce the effectiveness of new hedges placed against investments linked to alternative rates. The transition away from LIBOR may also result in operational issues for the Fund and the Adviser, including the need of making regular fair valuation determinations. No assurances can be given as to the impact of the LIBOR transition (and the timing of any such impact) on the Fund and its investments. All of the aforementioned may adversely affect the Fund’s performance and/or NAV.

**Repurchase Agreements.** The Fund may invest, directly or indirectly, in repurchase agreements. A repurchase agreement transaction occurs when an investor (e.g., the Fund) purchases a security (normally a U.S. government security) from a counterparty with the understanding that the investor will later resell the security to the same counterparty (normally a member bank of the Federal Reserve (defined below) or a registered government securities dealer).

The Fund’s initial purchase is essentially a loan to the counterparty that is collateralized by the security (and/or securities substituted for them under the repurchase agreement). The Fund must return the security to the counterparty when the counterparty repurchases it at a later date and higher price. The repurchase price exceeds the purchase price by an amount that reflects an agreed upon market interest rate effective for the period of time during which the repurchase agreement is in effect. Delivery pursuant to the resale normally will occur within one to seven days of the purchase. Repurchase agreements are considered “loans” under the 1940 Act, collateralized by the underlying security. The Trust has implemented procedures to monitor on a continuous basis the value of the collateral serving as security for repurchase obligations. The Adviser will consider the creditworthiness of the counterparty. If the counterparty fails to pay the agreed upon resale price on the delivery date, the Fund will retain or attempt to dispose of the collateral. The Fund’s risk is that such default may include any decline in value of the collateral to an amount which is less than 100% of the repurchase price, any costs of disposing of such collateral, and any loss resulting from

any delay in foreclosing on the collateral. The Fund will not enter into any repurchase agreement that would cause more than 15% of its net assets to be invested in repurchase agreements that extend beyond seven days.

**Illiquid Investments.** The Fund may not purchase or otherwise acquire any illiquid investment if, immediately after the acquisition, the value of illiquid investments held by the Fund would exceed 15% of the Fund's net assets. An illiquid investment is any investment that the Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Illiquid investments pose risks of potential delays in resale and uncertainty in valuation. Limitations on resale may have an adverse effect on the marketability of portfolio investments and the Fund may be unable to dispose of illiquid investments promptly or at reasonable prices. Under the supervision of the Board, the Adviser determines the liquidity of the Fund's investments and, through reports from the Adviser, the Trustees monitor investments in illiquid investments. If through a change in values, net assets, or other circumstances, the Fund was in a position where more than 15% of its net assets were invested in illiquid investments, it would seek to take appropriate steps to bring the Fund's illiquid investments to or below 15% of its net assets per the requirements of Rule 22e-4 of the 1940 Act. The sale of some illiquid and other types of investments may be subject to legal restrictions.

If the Fund invests in investments for which there is no ready market, the Fund may not be able to readily sell such investments. Such investments are unlike investments that are traded in the open market, and which can be expected to be sold immediately if the market is adequate. The sale price of illiquid investments once realized may be lower or higher than the Adviser's most recent estimate of their fair market value. Generally, less public information is available about issuers of such illiquid investments than about companies whose investments are publicly traded.

**Liquidity Risk Management.** Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act (the "Liquidity Rule") requires open-end funds, including ETFs such as the Fund, to establish a liquidity risk management program (the "Liquidity Program") and enhance disclosures regarding fund liquidity. As required by the Liquidity Rule, the Fund has implemented a Liquidity Program, and the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees of the Trust, has appointed the Adviser as the administrator of the Liquidity Program. Under the Liquidity Program, the Adviser assesses, manages, and periodically reviews the Fund's liquidity risk and classifies each investment held by the Fund as a "highly liquid investment," "moderately liquid investment," "less liquid investment" or "illiquid investment." The Liquidity Rule defines "liquidity risk" as the risk that the Fund could not meet requests to redeem shares issued by the Fund without significant dilution of the remaining investors' interest in the Fund. The liquidity of the Fund's portfolio investments is determined based on relevant market, trading and investment-specific considerations under the Liquidity Program. There are exclusions from certain portions of the liquidity risk management program requirements for "in-kind" ETFs, as defined in the Liquidity Rule. To the extent that an investment is deemed to be an illiquid investment or a less liquid investment, the Fund can expect to be exposed to greater liquidity risk.



**Restricted Securities.** Within its limitation on investment in illiquid investments, the Fund may purchase or acquire restricted securities that generally can be sold in privately negotiated transactions, pursuant to an exemption from registration under the federal securities laws, or in a registered public offering. Where registration is required, the Fund may be obligated to pay all or part of the registration expense and a considerable period may elapse between the time it decides to seek registration and the time the Fund may be permitted to sell a security under an effective registration statement. If during such a period adverse market conditions were to develop, the Fund might obtain a less favorable price than prevailed when it decided to seek registration of the security.

Restricted securities are generally considered to be illiquid unless it is determined, based upon a review of the trading markets for a specific restricted security, that such restricted security is liquid because it is so-called “4(a)(2) commercial paper” or is otherwise eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (“144A Securities”). Investing in 144A Securities may decrease the liquidity of the Fund’s portfolio to the extent that qualified institutional buyers become for a time uninterested in purchasing these restricted securities. The purchase price and subsequent valuation of restricted securities normally reflect a discount, which may be significant, from the market price of comparable securities for which a liquid market exists.

**Borrowing Money.** The Fund does not intend to borrow money for the purpose of purchasing securities, but may, subject to the restrictions of the 1940 Act, borrow up to 33 ⅓% of its total assets, including the amount of such borrowing, to maintain necessary liquidity to make payments for redemptions of Fund shares or for temporary emergency purposes. Borrowing involves the creation of a liability that requires the Fund to pay interest. In the event the Fund should ever borrow money under these conditions, such borrowing could increase the Fund’s costs and thus reduce the value of the Fund’s assets. In an extreme case, if the Fund’s current investment income were not sufficient to meet the interest expense of borrowing, it could be necessary for the Fund to liquidate certain of its investments at an inappropriate time.

**Lending of Portfolio Securities.** In order to generate additional income, the Fund may lend portfolio securities in an amount up to 33 ⅓% of its total assets to broker-dealers, major banks, or other recognized domestic institutional borrowers of securities that the Adviser has determined are creditworthy under guidelines established by the Board. In determining whether the Fund will lend securities, the Adviser will consider all relevant facts and circumstances. The Fund may not lend securities to any company affiliated with the Adviser. Each loan of securities will be collateralized by cash, securities, or letters of credit. The Fund might experience a loss if the borrower defaults on the loan.

The borrower at all times during the loan must maintain with the Fund collateral in the form of cash or cash equivalents, or provide to the Fund an irrevocable letter of credit equal in value to at least 100% of the value of the securities loaned. While the loan is outstanding, the borrower will pay the Fund any dividends or interest paid on the loaned securities, and the Fund may invest the cash collateral to earn additional income. Alternatively, the Fund may receive an agreed-upon amount of interest income from the borrower who has delivered equivalent collateral or a letter of credit. It is anticipated that the Fund may share with the borrower some of the income

received on the collateral for the loan or the Fund will be paid a premium for the loan. Loans are subject to termination at the option of the Fund or the borrower at any time. The Fund may pay reasonable administrative and custodial fees in connection with a loan, and may pay a negotiated portion of the income earned on the cash to the borrower or placing broker. As with other extensions of credit, there are risks of delay in recovery or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower fail financially. If the Fund invests the cash collateral from the borrower, there is the risk that such investment may result in a financial loss. In such an event, the Fund would be required to repay the borrower out of the Fund's assets.

Where voting rights with respect to the loaned securities pass with the lending of the securities, the Adviser normally intends to call the loaned securities to vote proxies, or to use other practicable and legally enforceable means to obtain voting rights, when the Adviser believes a material event affecting the loaned securities will occur or the Adviser otherwise believes it necessary to vote.

The Fund did not engage in the lending of portfolio securities during the past fiscal year.

**Sector Risk.** The Fund may, at times, be more heavily invested in certain industries or sectors. Sector risk is the possibility that securities within the same group of industries or sectors will decline in price due to sector-specific market or economic developments. If the Fund invests more heavily in a particular sector, the value of its shares may be sensitive to factors and economic risks that specifically affect that sector. As a result, the Fund's share price may fluctuate more widely than the value of shares of a mutual fund that invests in a broader range of industries or in different sectors. Additionally, some sectors could be subject to greater government regulation than other sectors, which may impact the share price of companies in these sectors.

**Economic and Regulatory Risks.** Domestic and foreign governments and agencies thereof often adopt an active approach to managing economic conditions within a nation, which may have material effects on the securities markets within the nation. A government may pursue supportive policies that include, but are not limited to, lowering corporate and personal tax rates and launching stimulative government spending programs designed to improve the national economy or sectors thereof. Agencies of a government, including central banks, may pursue supporting policies that include, but are not limited to, setting lower interest rate targets and buying and selling securities in the public markets. Governments and agencies thereof may also attempt to slow economic growth if the pace of economic growth is perceived to be too great and pose a long-term risk to the economy or a sector thereof. In each instance, the actions taken may be less successful than anticipated or may have unintended adverse consequences. Such a failure or investor perception that such efforts are failing could negatively affect securities markets generally, as well as result in higher interest rates, increased market volatility and reduced value and liquidity of certain securities, including securities held by the Fund.

In addition, governments and agencies thereof may enact additional regulation or engage in deregulation that negatively impacts the general securities markets or a sector thereof. Given the potential broad scope and sweeping nature of some regulatory actions, the potential impact a regulatory action may have on securities held by the Fund may be difficult to determine and may

not be fully known for an extended period of time. Accordingly, regulatory actions could adversely affect the Fund.

**Changing Fixed Income Market Conditions.** In March 2022, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the “Federal Reserve”) began a series of significant interest rate increases in response to sustained high levels of inflation. In addition, in May 2022, the Federal Reserve announced it would begin to reduce the size of its balance sheet, known as quantitative tightening. These announcements followed years of low-interest rate policy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2008 financial crisis, during which the Federal Reserve kept the federal funds rate to a range of 0-2.5%, and promised unlimited and open-ended quantitative easing, including purchases of corporate and municipal government bonds. It is not known for how long the Federal Reserve will raise rates and when they might begin decreasing interest rates again. The Federal Reserve’s policy in response to market conditions, including with respect to certain interest rates, may adversely affect the value, volatility and liquidity of dividend and interest paying securities. Market volatility, dramatic changes to interest rates and/or a return to unfavorable economic conditions may lower a Fund’s performance or impair a Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective.

**Cybersecurity Risk.** With the increased use of technologies such as the internet to conduct business, the Fund, Authorized Participants, service providers and the relevant listing exchange are susceptible to operational, information security and related “cyber” risks both directly and through their service providers. Similar types of cybersecurity risks are also present for issuers of securities in which the Fund invests, which could result in material adverse consequences for such issuers and may cause the Fund’s investment in such portfolio companies to lose value. Unlike many other types of risks faced by the Fund, these risks typically are not covered by insurance. In general, cyber incidents can result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events. Cyber incidents include, but are not limited to, gaining unauthorized access to digital systems (e.g., through “hacking” or malicious software coding) for purposes of misappropriating assets or sensitive information, corrupting data, or causing operational disruption. Cyberattacks may also be carried out in a manner that does not require gaining unauthorized access, such as causing denial-of-service attacks on websites (i.e., efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users).

Recently, geopolitical tensions may have increased the scale and sophistication of deliberate attacks, particularly those from nation-states or from entities with nation-state backing.

Cybersecurity failures by or breaches of the systems of the Fund’s adviser, distributor and other service providers (including, but not limited to, index and benchmark providers, fund accountants, custodians, transfer agents and administrators), market makers, Authorized Participants or the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests, have the ability to cause disruptions and impact business operations, potentially resulting in: financial losses, interference with the Fund’s ability to calculate its NAV, disclosure of confidential trading information, impediments to trading, submission of erroneous trades or erroneous creation or redemption orders, the inability of the Fund or its service providers to transact business, violations of applicable privacy and other laws, regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, or additional compliance costs. In addition, cyberattacks may render records of Fund assets and transactions, shareholder ownership of Fund shares, and other data

integral to the functioning of the Fund inaccessible or inaccurate or incomplete. Substantial costs may be incurred by the Fund in order to resolve or prevent cyber incidents in the future. While the Fund has established business continuity plans in the event of, and risk management systems to prevent, such cyber incidents, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems, including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified and that prevention and remediation efforts will not be successful or that cyberattacks will go undetected. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cybersecurity plans and systems put in place by service providers to the Fund, issuers in which the Fund invests, the Index Provider, market makers or Authorized Participants. The Fund and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.

**Operational Risk.** An investment in the Fund involves operational risk arising from factors such as processing errors, human errors, inadequate or failed internal or external processes, failures in systems and technology, changes in personnel and errors caused by third-party service providers. Any of these failures or errors could result in a loss or compromise of information, regulatory scrutiny, reputational damage or other events, any of which could have a material adverse effect on the Fund. While the Fund seeks to minimize such events through controls and oversight, there is no guarantee that the Fund will not suffer losses due to operational risk.

**Temporary Defensive Positions.** The Fund may in unusual circumstances take temporary defensive positions that are inconsistent with their principal investment strategies. If the Adviser believes a temporary defensive position is warranted in view of market conditions, the Funds may hold cash or invest up to 100% of their assets in high-quality short-term government or corporate obligations, money market instruments or shares of money market mutual funds. Taking a temporary defensive position may prevent the Funds from achieving their investment objectives.

**Portfolio Turnover.** The portfolio turnover rate for the Fund is calculated by dividing the lesser of the Fund's purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the year by the monthly average value of the securities. The Fund's portfolio turnover rate may vary greatly from year to year as well as within a particular year, and may also be affected by cash requirements for redemption of shares. High portfolio turnover rates will generally result in higher transaction costs to the Fund, including brokerage commissions, and may result in additional tax consequences to the Fund's shareholders. Portfolio turnover will not be a factor in making buy and sell decisions for the Fund. For the fiscal period/years(s) listed below, the portfolio turnover rate for the Fund was:

<b>Fiscal Period/Year Ended November 30,</b>	<b>Portfolio Turnover</b>
2023	82%
2022	77%

## **INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS**

The Fund has adopted the following fundamental investment limitations that may not be changed without the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund. As used in the Prospectus and this SAI, the term "majority" of the outstanding shares of the Fund means

the lesser of (1) 67% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund present at a meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund are present or represented at such meeting; or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. Unless otherwise indicated, percentage limitations apply at the time of purchase of the applicable securities. See the Prospectus for more information about the Fund's investment objective and investment strategies, each of which are not fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval.

**FUNDAMENTAL RESTRICTIONS.** As a matter of fundamental policy:

1. Borrowing Money. The Fund will not borrow money except as permitted under the 1940 Act. For example, subject to the restrictions of the 1940 Act the Fund may borrow money from banks to meet redemption requests or for extraordinary or emergency purposes.

2. Senior Securities. The Fund will not issue senior securities, except as permitted by the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff.

3. Underwriting. The Fund will not act as underwriter, except to the extent that, in connection with the disposition of portfolio securities (including restricted securities), the Fund may be deemed an underwriter under certain federal securities laws or in connection with investments in other investment companies.

4. Real Estate. The Fund will not directly purchase or sell real estate. This limitation is not applicable to investments in marketable securities which are secured by or represent interests in real estate. This limitation does not preclude the Fund from holding or selling real estate acquired as a result of the Fund's ownership of securities or other instruments, investing in mortgage-related securities or investing in companies engaged in the real estate business or that have a significant portion of their assets in real estate (including real estate investment trusts).

5. Commodities. The Fund will not purchase or sell commodities unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other investments. This limitation does not preclude the Fund from purchasing or selling options, forward contracts, or futures contracts, including those relating to indices, or options on futures contracts or indices, or from investing in securities or other instruments backed by commodities or from investing in companies which are engaged in a commodities business or have a significant portion of their assets in commodities.

6. Loans. The Fund will not make loans to other persons, provided that the Fund may lend its portfolio securities in an amount up to 33% of total Fund assets, and provided further that, for purposes of this restriction, investment in U.S. Government Obligations, short-term commercial paper, certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances, repurchase agreements and any other lending arrangement permitted by the 1940 Act, any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder or interpretations of the SEC or its staff shall not be deemed to be the making of a "loan". For purposes of this limitation, the term "loans" shall not include the purchase of a portion of an issue of publicly distributed bonds, debentures or other debt securities.

7. Concentration. The Fund will not invest more than 25% of its total assets in a particular industry or group of industries, except that the Fund will concentrate to approximately the same extent that the Fund's index concentrates in the securities of such particular industry or group of industries. This limitation is not applicable to investments in obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government (including its agencies and instrumentalities) or state or municipal governments and their political subdivisions (other than revenue bonds issued in connection with an identifiable industry; e.g., healthcare or education) or repurchase agreements with respect thereto, or investments in registered investment companies. If, however, the Fund invests in an investment company that concentrates its investment in a particular industry, the Fund will consider such investment to be issued by a member of the industry in which such investment company invests. In addition, if the Fund invests in a revenue bond tied to a particular industry, the Fund will consider such investment to be issued by a member of the industry to which the revenue bond is tied.

With respect to the "fundamental" investment restrictions above, if a percentage limitation is adhered to at the time of investment, a later increase or decrease in percentage resulting from any change in value or net assets will not result in a violation of such restriction (i.e., percentage limitations are determined at the time of purchase); provided, however, that the treatment of the fundamental restrictions related to borrowing money and issuing senior securities are exceptions to this general rule and are monitored on an ongoing basis.

Senior securities may include any obligation or instrument issued by a fund evidencing indebtedness. The 1940 Act generally prohibits funds from issuing senior securities. Rule 18f-4 under the 1940 Act permits a fund to enter into "derivatives transactions," notwithstanding prohibitions on issuance of senior securities under Section 18 of the 1940 Act, provided the fund complies with the Rule's conditions. In accordance with Rule 18f-4, a fund may enter into reverse repurchase and similar financing transactions if it either (1) complies with the asset segregation requirements of Section 18 of the 1940 Act or (2) treat such transactions as derivative transactions under Rule 18f-4.

The 1940 Act permits the Fund to borrow money from banks in an amount up to one-third of its total assets (including the amount borrowed) less its liabilities (not including any borrowings but including the fair market value at the time of computation of any other senior securities then outstanding).

## **MANAGEMENT OF THE TRUST**

Overall responsibility for management and supervision of the Fund and the Trust rests with the Board. The members of the Board (the "Trustees") are elected by the Trust's shareholders or existing members of the Board as permitted under the 1940 Act and the Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the "Declaration of Trust"). Each Trustee serves for a term of indefinite duration until death, resignation, retirement or removal from office. The Trustees, in turn, elect the officers of the Trust to actively supervise the Trust's day-to-day operations. The officers are elected annually. Certain officers of the Trust also may serve as Trustees.

The Trust will be managed by the Board in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio governing business trusts. There are currently six Trustees, five of whom are not “interested persons,” as defined by the 1940 Act, of the Trust (the “Independent Trustees”). The Independent Trustees receive compensation for their services as Trustees and attendance at meetings of the Board. Officers of the Trust receive no compensation from the Trust for performing the duties of their offices.

Included in Appendix A is a table that sets forth the Trustees and executive officers of the Trust, their year of birth and address, their present position with the Trust, length of time served in their position, and their principal occupation(s) during the past five years, and any other directorships held by the Trustee. Those Trustees who are “interested persons” as defined in the 1940 Act and those Trustees who are Independent Trustees are identified in the table.

### **Leadership Structure and Qualifications of Trustees.**

As noted above, the Board consists of five Trustees, all of whom are Independent Trustees. The Board is responsible for the oversight of the series, or funds, of the Trust.

In addition to the Fund, the Trust has other series managed by other investment advisers. The Board has engaged various investment advisers to oversee the day-to-day management of the Trust’s series. The Board is responsible for overseeing these investment advisers and the Trust’s other service providers in the operations of the Trust in accordance with the 1940 Act, other applicable federal and state laws, and the Declaration of Trust.

The Board meets at least four times throughout the year. The Board generally meets in person, but may meet by telephone or videoconference as permitted by the 1940 Act. In addition, the Trustees may meet in person, by telephone or videoconference at special meetings or on an informal basis at other times. The Independent Trustees also meet at least quarterly without the presence of any representatives of management.

### **Board Leadership**

The Board is led by its Chairperson, Ms. Janine L. Cohen, who is also an Independent Trustee. The Chairperson generally presides at all Board Meetings, facilitates communication and coordination between the Trustees and management, and reviews meeting agendas for the Board and the information provided by management to the Trustees. The Chairperson works closely with Trust counsel and counsel to the Independent Trustees. The Chairperson is also assisted by the Trust’s President, who, with the assistance of the Trust’s other officers, oversees the daily operations of the Fund, including monitoring the activities of all of the Fund’s service providers.

The Board believes that its leadership structure, including having an Independent Trustee serve as Chairperson and the five Trustees serving as Independent Trustees, is appropriate and in the best interests of the Trust. The Board also believes its leadership structure facilitates the orderly and efficient flow of information to the Independent Trustees from Trust management.

*Board Committees.* The Board has established the following standing committees:

*15(c) Contract Committee:* The 15(c) Contract Committee is responsible for the oversight of the Fund's 15(c) contract review process. All of the members of the 15(c) Contract Committee are Independent Trustees. Ms. Jacqueline A. Williams is the Chairperson of the 15(c) Contract Committee. The 15(c) Contract Committee did not meet during the Fund's prior fiscal year.

*Audit Committee:* The principal functions of the Audit Committee are: (i) to appoint, retain and oversee the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm; (ii) to meet separately with the independent registered public accounting firm and receive and consider a report concerning its conduct of the audit, including any comments or recommendations it deems appropriate; (iii) to act as the Trust's qualified legal compliance committee ("QLCC"), as defined in the regulations under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; and (iv) to act as a proxy voting committee if called upon under the Trust's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures when a matter with respect to which a series of the Trust is entitled to vote presents a conflict between the interest of the series' shareholders, on the one hand, and those of the series' investment manager on the other hand. Messrs. Robert E. Morrison, Clifford N. Schireson, and Keith Shintani, and Meses. Janine L. Cohen and Jacqueline A. Williams are the members of the Audit Committee. Mr. Schireson is the Chairperson of the Audit Committee and presides at its meetings. The Audit Committee met six times during the Fund's prior fiscal year.

*Nominations and Governance Committee (the "Governance Committee"):* The Governance Committee nominates and selects persons to serve as members of the Board, including Independent Trustees and "interested" Trustees and assists in reviewing the Trust's governance practices and standards. In selecting and nominating persons to serve as Independent Trustees, the Governance Committee will not consider nominees recommended by shareholders of the Trust unless required by law. Messrs. Morrison, Schireson, and Shintani and Meses. Cohen and Williams are the members of the Governance Committee. Mr. Morrison is the Chairperson of the Governance Committee and presides at its meetings. The Governance Committee met five times during the Fund's prior fiscal year.

*Qualifications of the Trustees.* The Governance Committee reviews the experience, qualifications, attributes and skills of potential candidates for nomination or election by the Board. In evaluating a candidate for nomination or election as a Trustee, the Governance Committee takes into account the contribution that the candidate would be expected to make to the diverse mix of experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that the Governance Committee believes contribute to the oversight of the Trust's affairs. The Board has concluded, based on the recommendation of the Governance Committee, that each Trustee's experience, qualifications, attributes or skills on both an individual basis and in combination with the other Trustees, that each Trustee is qualified to serve on the Board. The Board believes that the Trustees' ability to review critically, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, to interact effectively with the Adviser, other service providers, legal counsel and the independent registered public accounting firm, and to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties as Trustees support this conclusion. In determining that a particular Trustee is and will continue to be qualified to serve as a Trustee, the Board considers a variety of criteria, none of which, in isolation, is controlling.



In addition to the Trustee qualifications listed above, each of the Trustees has additional Trustee qualifications including, among other things, the experience identified in the “Trustees and Executive Officers” table included in Appendix A and as follows:

#### Independent Trustees

Janine L. Cohen, retired, was an executive at AER Advisors, Inc. (“AER”) from 2004 through her retirement in 2013. Ms. Cohen served as the Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”) from 2004 to 2013 and Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”) from 2008 to 2013 at AER. During her tenure at AER, she was actively involved in developing financial forecasts, business plans, and SEC registrations. Prior to those roles, Ms. Cohen was a Senior Vice President at State Street Bank. Ms. Cohen has over 30 years of experience in the financial services industry. She holds a B.S. in Accounting and Math from the University of Minnesota and is a Certified Public Accountant. Ms. Cohen has been the Chairperson since October 2019 and a Trustee since January, 2016.

Jacqueline A. Williams has served as the Managing Member of Custom Strategies Consulting, LLC since 2017, where she provides consulting services to investment managers. Prior to that, she served as a Managing Director of Global Investment Research for Cambridge Associates, LLC since 2005. Earlier in her career, Ms. Williams served as a Principal at Equinox Capital Management, LLC where she was chairperson of the stock selection committee and the firm’s financial services analyst. Ms. Williams also served as an Investment Analyst at IBJ Schroder Bank & Trust Company where she monitored U.S. financial services stocks. Ms. Williams has over 25 years of experience in the investment management industry. Ms. Williams earned an A.B. in Religion from Duke University and a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Yale University. She has been a Chartered Financial Analyst charter holder since 1990. Ms. Williams has been a Trustee since June 2019.

Clifford N. Schireson, retired, was the founder of Schireson Consulting, LLC, which he launched in 2017 until his retirement in 2021. Prior to that, Mr. Schireson was Director of Institutional Services from 2004 to 2017 at Brandes Investment Partners, LP, an investment advisory firm, where he also was co-head of fixed income and a member of the fixed-income investment committee. From 1998 to 2004, he was a Managing Director at Weiss, Peck & Greer LLC specializing in fixed-income products for both taxable and municipal strategies for institutional clients. Mr. Schireson has over 20 years of experience in the investment management industry as well as 20 years of experience in the investment banking industry. Mr. Schireson holds an A.B. in Economics from Stanford University and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. Mr. Schireson has been a Trustee since June 2019.

Robert E. Morrison serves as a Managing Director at Midwest Trust and FCI Advisors where he has worked since February 2022. Previously, Mr. Morrison was a Senior Vice President at Huntington Private Bank, where he worked from 2014 to 2022. From 2006 to 2014, he served as the CEO, President and Chief Investment Officer of 5 Star Investment Management. Mr. Morrison has a B.S. in Forestry Management from Auburn University and is a graduate of the Personal Financial Planning program of Old Dominion University. Mr. Morrison previously served on the Ultimus Managers Trust Board of Trustees as the Founding Chairman of the Trust in 2012. Mr. Morrison resigned from the Board in 2014 as a result of a business conflict that no

longer exists. Mr. Morrison has over 32 years of financial services experience, focusing on asset management and wealth management. Mr. Morrison has been a Trustee since June 2019.

Keith Shintani, retired, served as a Senior Vice President of Relationship Management at U.S. Bank Global Fund Services, where he worked from 1998 until June 2022. Previously, Mr. Shintani was Director of Finance at Charles Schwab Investment Management, where he worked from January 1997 through December 1997. From 1993 to 1995, he served as a Manager of Mutual Fund Operations of PIMCO Advisors L.P. From 1989 to 1993, Mr. Shintani served as a Variable Products Manager of Pacific Life Insurance Company. From 1986 to 1989, he served as a Senior Accountant of Deloitte and Touche. Mr. Shintani has a B.S. in Accounting from University of Southern California. Mr. Shintani's term as a Trustee commenced January 1, 2024.

References above to the qualifications, attributes and skills of Trustees are pursuant to requirements of the SEC, do not constitute holding out the Board or any Trustee as having any special expertise or experience, and shall not impose any greater responsibility on any such person or on the Board by reason thereof.

*Risk Oversight.* The operation of an ETF, including its investment activities, generally involves a variety of risks. As part of its oversight of the Fund, the Board oversees risk through various regular board and committee activities. The Board, directly or through its committees, reviews reports from, among others, the Adviser, the Trust's CCO, the Trust's independent registered public accounting firm, and outside legal counsel, regarding risks faced by the Fund and the risk management programs of the Adviser, with respect to the Fund's investments and trading activities, and certain service providers. The actual day-to-day risk management with respect to the Fund resides with the Adviser, with respect to the Fund's investments and trading activities, and other service providers to the Fund. Although the risk management policies of the Adviser and the service providers are designed to be effective, there is no guarantee that they will anticipate or mitigate all risks. Not all risks that may affect the Fund can be identified, eliminated or mitigated and some risks simply may not be anticipated or may be beyond the control of the Board or the Adviser or other service providers. The Independent Trustees meet separately with the Trust's CCO at least annually, outside the presence of management, to discuss issues related to compliance. Furthermore, the Board receives an annual written report from the Trust's CCO regarding the operation of the compliance policies and procedures of the Trust and its primary service providers. As part of its oversight function, the Board also may hold special meetings or communicate directly with Trust management or the Trust's CCO to address matters arising between regular meetings.

The Board also receives quarterly reports from the Adviser on the investments and securities trading of the Fund, including the Fund's investment performance, as well as reports regarding the valuation of the Fund's securities (when applicable). The Board also receives quarterly reports from the Fund's administrator (the "Administrator"), transfer agent (the "Transfer Agent") and the distributor (the "Distributor") on regular quarterly items and, where appropriate and as needed, on specific issues. In addition, in its annual review of the Fund's investment advisory agreement (the "Advisory Agreement"), the Board reviews information provided by the Adviser relating to its operational capabilities, financial condition and resources. The Board also conducts an annual self-evaluation that includes a review of its effectiveness in overseeing, among

other things, the number of funds in the Trust and the effectiveness of the Board's committee structure.

**Trustees' Ownership of Fund Shares.** The following table shows each Trustee's beneficial ownership of shares of the Fund and, on an aggregate basis, of shares of all funds within the Trust overseen by the Trustee. Information is provided as of December 31, 2023.

Dollar Range of Shares owned by Trustee in		
		All Funds in the
Name of Trustee	U.S. Value ETF	Trust Overseen by Trustee
<i>Independent Trustees</i>		
David M. Deptula^	None	None
Janine L. Cohen	None	\$50,001 - \$100,000
Jacqueline A. Williams	None	None
Clifford N. Schireson	None	None
Robert E. Morrison	None	None
Keith Shintani*	None	None

^Mr. Deptula's term as Trustee ended on December 31, 2023.

\*Mr. Shintani's term as Trustee commenced on January 1, 2024.

**Ownership in Fund Affiliates.** As of December 31, 2023, none of the Independent Trustees, nor members of their immediate families, owned, beneficially or of record, securities of the Adviser, the Distributor or any affiliate of the Adviser or the Distributor.

**Trustee Compensation.** No director, officer or employee of the Adviser or the Distributor receives any compensation from the Trust for serving as an officer or Trustee of the Trust. Each Independent Trustee receives a \$550 per meeting fee and a \$1,300 annual retainer for each series of the Trust, except the Chairperson who receives a \$1,700 annual retainer, the Chairperson of the 15(c) Contract Committee receives a \$1,700 annual retainer, and the Chairperson of the Audit Committee receives a \$1,500 annual retainer for serving as such. The Trust reimburses each Trustee and officer for their travel and other expenses incurred by attending meetings. The following table provides the estimated amount of compensation payable to each Trustee during the Funds' fiscal year ended November 30, 2023:.

Name of Trustee	Compensation From the Fund	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued As Part of Fund Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation From all Funds Within the Trust
<i>Independent Trustees</i>				
David M. Deptula^	\$3,700	None	None	\$123,725

Janine L. Cohen	\$3,900	None	None	\$130,175
Jacqueline A. Williams	\$3,500	None	None	\$117,275
Clifford N. Schireson	\$3,500	None	None	\$117,275
Robert E. Morrison	\$3,500	None	None	\$117,275
Keith Shintani*				

^Mr. Deptula's term as Trustee ended on December 31, 2023.

\*Mr. Shintani's term as Trustee commenced on January 1, 2024.

**Principal Holders of Voting Securities.** The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding shares and is recognized as the owner of all shares for all purposes. Investors owning shares are beneficial owners as shown on the records of DTC or its participants. Although the Trust does not have information regarding the beneficial ownership of shares held in the names of DTC participants, as of March 6, 2024, no DTC participant owned of record 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the Fund.

A principal shareholder is any person who owns (either of record or beneficially) 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a fund. A person who beneficially owns, either directly or indirectly, more than 25% of the voting securities of a fund is presumed to be a control person of the fund. As a controlling shareholder, each of these persons could control the outcome of any proposal submitted to the shareholders for approval, including changes to the Fund's fundamental policies or the terms of the management agreement with the Adviser. As of March 6, 2024, J.P. Morgan Securities, LLC may be deemed to control the Fund.

As of March 6, 2024, the Trustees and officers of the Trust as a group owned beneficially (i.e., had direct or indirect voting or investment power) less than 1% of the then outstanding shares of the Fund.

## INVESTMENT ADVISER

Lyrical Asset Management LP, located at 250 West 55th Street, 37th Floor, New York, New York 10019, serves as the investment adviser to the Fund pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement dated January 22, 2013 (the "Advisory Agreement"). The Adviser was organized in 2008 and also provides investment advisory services to high net worth individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, corporations and other businesses, mutual funds, and a Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities ("UCITS") fund. The Adviser is controlled by Lyrical Asset Management GP LP, Andrew B. Wellington, Jeffrey A Keswin, Jeffrey M. Moses, and Edward P. Gage.

Subject to the Fund's investment objective and policies approved by the Board, the Adviser is responsible for providing the Fund with a continuous program of investing the Fund's assets and determining the composition of the Fund's portfolio.

The Advisory Agreement has an initial term of two years and thereafter remains in effect for periods of one year only so long as such renewal and continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board or by vote of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities, provided the continuance is also approved by a majority of the Independent Trustees. The Advisory

Agreement is terminable without penalty on 60 days' notice by the Board or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. The Advisory Agreement provides that it will terminate automatically in the event of its "assignment," as such term is defined in the 1940 Act.

Under the Advisory Agreement, for its services, the Fund pays the Adviser a monthly investment advisory fee (the "Management Fee") computed at the annual rate of 0.45% of its average daily net assets. The Adviser has agreed to reduce its Management Fee and to reimburse Fund expenses to the extent necessary to limit Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses (excluding brokerage costs, taxes, interest, borrowing costs such as interest and dividend expenses on securities sold short, costs to organize the Fund, acquired fund fees and expenses, and extraordinary expenses such as litigation and merger or reorganization costs and other expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the Fund's business) to 0.49% of the average daily net assets for the Fund until July 30, 2025. Any such fee reductions by the Adviser, or reimbursements by the Adviser of expenses which are the Fund's obligation, are subject to repayment by the Fund for a period of three years after the date that such fees and expenses were waived or reimbursed provided that the repayments do not cause Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses (exclusive of such reductions and reimbursements) to exceed (i) the expense limitation then in effect, if any, and (ii) the expense limitation in effect at the time the expenses to be repaid were incurred.

The Adviser manages the Fund's investments in accordance with the stated investment objective and policies of the Fund, subject to the oversight of the Board. The Adviser is responsible for investment decisions, and provides the Fund with a portfolio manager to execute purchases and sales of securities. The Advisory Agreement provides that the Adviser shall not be liable for any error of judgment or for any loss suffered by the Trust or the Fund in connection with the performance of its duties, except a loss resulting from a breach of fiduciary duty with respect to receipt of compensation for services (in which case any award of damages shall be limited to the period and the amount set forth in Section 36(b)(3) of the 1940 Act) or a loss resulting from willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on the part of the Adviser in the performance of its duties, or from reckless disregard of its duties and obligations thereunder.

The following table provides the compensation paid to the Adviser by the Fund and Management Fee reductions and expense reimbursements made by the Adviser during the fiscal years/periods indicated:

Fiscal Year Ended November 30,	Management Fees Accrued	Management Fee Reductions	Expense Reimbursements	Net Advisory Fees Received by Adviser
2023	\$42,910	\$42,910	\$152,854	\$0
2022	\$29,506	\$29,506	\$167,928	\$0
2021*	\$2,042	\$2,042	\$41,710	\$0

\*The Fund commenced operations on September 14, 2021

### ***Portfolio Manager***

The Fund is managed by Daniel Deserio (the "Portfolio Manager"), who has responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of investment strategies for the Fund.

### Other Accounts Managed by Portfolio Manager

In addition to the Funds, the Portfolio Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management of certain other accounts. The table below shows the number of, and total assets in, such other accounts as of November 30, 2023.

<b>Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Type of Accounts</b>	<b>Total Number of Other Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Total Assets of Other Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Number of Accounts Managed with Advisory Fee Based on Performance</b>	<b>Total Assets of Accounts Managed with Advisory Fee Based on Performance</b>
Daniel DeSerio	Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	0	\$0	0	\$0
	Other Accounts	0	\$0	0	\$0

### Conflicts of Interest

The Portfolio Manager's management of other investment pooled vehicles and other accounts (the "Other Accounts") may give rise to potential conflicts of interest in connection with his management of the Fund's investments, on the one hand, and the investments of the other Fund or the Other Accounts, on the other. A potential conflict of interest may arise when a particular investment may be suitable for both the Fund and the Other Accounts, whereby the Portfolio Manager could favor one account over another. Another potential conflict could include the Portfolio Manager's knowledge about the size, timing and possible market impact of Fund trades, whereby the Portfolio Manager could use this information to the advantage of the Other Accounts and to the disadvantage of the Fund or vice versa. Further, differences in the compensation structures of the Adviser with the Other Accounts may give rise to a conflict of interest by creating an incentive for the Portfolio Manager to allocate investment opportunities he believes might be the most profitable to the client accounts where the Adviser might benefit the most from the investment gains. However, the Adviser has established policies and procedures to ensure that the purchase and sale of securities among all accounts it manages are fairly and equitably allocated.

A potential conflict of interest may arise as a result of the Portfolio Manager's day-to-day management of the Fund. The Portfolio Manager knows the size and timing of trades for the Fund and the Other Accounts, and may be able to predict the market impact of Fund trades. It is theoretically possible that the Portfolio Manager could use this information to the advantage of Other Accounts they manage and to the possible detriment of the Fund, or vice versa.

### Compensation

Daniel DeSerio receives a salary as well as a discretionary bonus, part of which is generally deferred for up to three years, from the Adviser.

### Ownership of Fund Shares

The table below shows the value of shares of the Fund beneficially owned by the Portfolio Manager of the Fund as of November 30, 2023 stated as one of the following ranges: None; \$1 - \$10,000; \$10,001 - \$50,000; \$50,001 - \$100,000; \$100,001 - \$500,000; \$500,001 - \$1,000,000; and over \$1,000,000.

<b>Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Fund Shares Beneficially Owned</b>
Daniel DeSerio	None

### **PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS**

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser determines, subject to the general supervision of the Board and in accordance with the Fund's investment objective, policies and restrictions, which securities are to be purchased and sold by the Fund and which brokers are eligible to execute the Fund's portfolio transactions.

Purchases and sales of portfolio securities that are debt securities usually are principal transactions in which portfolio securities are normally purchased directly from the issuer or from an underwriter or market maker for the securities. Purchases from underwriters of portfolio securities generally include a commission or concession paid by the issuer to the underwriter, and purchases from dealers serving as market makers may include the spread between the bid and asked prices. Transactions on stock exchanges involve the payment of negotiated brokerage commissions. Transactions in the OTC market are generally principal transactions with dealers. With respect to the OTC market, the Fund, where possible, will deal directly with the dealers who make a market in the securities involved except under those circumstances where better price and execution are available elsewhere.

Allocation of transactions, including their frequency, to various brokers and dealers is determined by the Adviser consistent with its obligation to seek best execution. The primary consideration is prompt execution of orders in an effective manner at the most favorable price. Other factors that may be considered include, but are not limited to, reputation, financial strength and stability, creditworthiness, efficiency of execution and error resolution, the actual executed price and the commission, research (including economic forecasts, fundamental and technical advice on securities, valuation advice on market analysis); custodial and other services provided for the enhancement of the Adviser's portfolio management capabilities; the size and type of the transaction; the difficulty of execution and the ability to handle difficult trades; and the operational facilities of the brokers and/or dealers involved (including back office efficiency). Subject to these considerations, brokers who provide investment research to the Adviser may receive orders for transactions on behalf of the Fund. Information so received is in addition to and not in lieu of services required to be performed by the Adviser and does not reduce the fees payable to the Adviser by the Fund. Such information may be useful to the Adviser in serving both the Fund and other clients and, conversely, supplemental information obtained by the placement of brokerage orders of other clients may be useful to the Adviser in carrying out its obligations to the Fund In

selecting a broker-dealer to execute transactions (or a series of transactions) and determining the reasonableness of the broker-dealer's compensation, the Adviser need not solicit competitive bids and does not have an obligation to seek the lowest available commission cost for the reasons discussed above.

Consistent with the foregoing, under Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Adviser is authorized to pay a brokerage commission in excess of that which another broker might have charged for effecting the same transaction, in recognition of the value of brokerage and/or research services provided by the broker. The research received by the Adviser may include, without limitation: information on the United States and other world economies; information on specific industries, groups of securities, individual companies, political and other relevant news developments affecting markets and specific securities; technical and quantitative information about markets; analysis of proxy proposals affecting specific companies; accounting and performance systems that allow the Adviser to determine and track investment results; and trading systems that allow the Adviser to interface electronically with brokerage firms, custodians and other providers. Research is received in the form of written reports, telephone contacts, personal meetings, research seminars, software programs and access to computer databases. In some instances, research products or services received by the Adviser may also be used by the Adviser for functions that are not research related (i.e., not related to the making of investment decisions). Where a research product or service has a mixed use, the Adviser will make a reasonable allocation according to its use and will pay for the non-research function in cash using its own funds.

Subject to the requirements of the 1940 Act and procedures adopted by the Board, the Fund may execute portfolio transactions through any broker or dealer and pay brokerage commissions to a broker (i) which is an affiliated person of the Trust, or (ii) which is an affiliated person of such person, or (iii) an affiliated person of which is an affiliated person of the Trust, the Adviser or the Trust's principal underwriter.

The following table shows the brokerage commissions the Fund paid during the fiscal periods/years indicated:

<b>Fiscal Year/Period Ended November 30,</b>	<b>Brokerage Commissions</b>
2023	\$4,027
2022	\$3,256
2021	\$235*

\*The Fund commenced operations on September 14, 2021.

## **THE DISTRIBUTOR**

Northern Lights Distributors, LLC (the "Distributor"), located at 4221 North 203<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100, Elkhorn, Nebraska 68022, is the distributor of Creation Units for the Fund pursuant to a distribution agreement with the Trust, on behalf of the Fund (the "Distribution Agreement"). The Distributor is a registered broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA"). The Distributor is an affiliate of Ultimus.



The Distributor is obligated to sell the shares of the Fund on a reasonable efforts basis only against purchase orders for the shares. Shares of the Fund are offered on a continuous basis.

By its terms, the Distribution Agreement is for periods of one year so long as such renewal and continuance is approved at least annually by (1) the Board or (2) a vote of the majority of the Funds' outstanding voting shares; provided that in either event continuance is also approved by a majority of the Independent Trustees, by a vote cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Distribution Agreement may be terminated at any time, on sixty days written notice, without payment of any penalty, by the Trust or by the Distributor. The Distribution Agreement automatically terminates in the event of its assignment, as defined by the 1940 Act and the rules thereunder. Under the Distribution Agreement, the Distributor was paid \$125,000 by the Adviser in the fiscal year ended November 30, 2023.

## **OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS**

### **Administrator and Fund Accountant**

Ultimus, located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246, serves as the Administrator and fund accountant (the "Fund Accountant") to the Fund pursuant to a Master Services Agreement.

As Administrator, Ultimus assists in supervising all operations of the Fund (other than those performed by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreement). Ultimus has agreed to perform or arrange for the performance of the following services (under the Master Services Agreement, Ultimus may delegate all or any part of its responsibilities thereunder):

- prepares and assembles reports required to be sent to the Fund's shareholders and arranges for the printing and dissemination of such reports;
- assembles reports required to be filed with the SEC and files such completed reports with the SEC;
- files the Fund's federal income and excise tax returns and the Fund's state and local tax returns;
- assists and advises the Fund regarding compliance with the 1940 Act and with its investment policies and limitations; and
- makes such reports and recommendations to the Board as the Board reasonably requests or deems appropriate.

As Fund Accountant, Ultimus maintains the accounting books and records for the Fund, including journals containing an itemized daily record of all purchases and sales of portfolio securities, all receipts and disbursements of cash and all other debits and credits, general and auxiliary ledgers reflecting all asset, liability, reserve, capital, income and expense accounts, including interest accrued and interest received, and other required separate ledger accounts. Ultimus also maintains a monthly trial balance of all ledger accounts; performs certain accounting services for the Fund, including calculation of the NAV per share, calculation of the dividend and capital gain distributions, reconciles cash movements with the custodian, verifies and reconciles with the custodian all daily trade activities; provides certain reports; obtains dealer quotations or

prices from pricing services used in determining NAV; and prepares an interim balance sheet, statement of income and expense, and statement of changes in net assets for the Fund.

Ultimus receives fees from the Fund for its services as Administrator and Fund, and is reimbursed for certain expenses assumed pursuant to the Master Services Agreement.

The Master Services Agreement between the Trust, on behalf of the Fund, and Ultimus, unless otherwise terminated as provided in the Master Services Agreement, is renewed automatically for successive one-year periods after the initial term.

The Master Services Agreement provides that Ultimus shall not be liable for any error of judgment or mistake of law or any loss suffered by the Trust in connection with the matters to which the Master Services Agreement relates, except a loss from willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties, or from the reckless disregard by Ultimus of its obligations and duties thereunder.

During the fiscal year/period listed below, Ultimus received the following fees from the Fund for its services as Administrator and Fund Accountant:

<b>Fiscal Year/Period Ended November 30,</b>	<b>Administration*</b>
2023	\$52,145
2022	\$50,103
2021	\$12,523

\* Fees paid for Administration include fees for the Administrator and Fund Accountant.

### **Custodian and Transfer Agent**

Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. (“BBH” or “Custodian”), located at 50 Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02110, is Custodian of the Fund’s investments. The Custodian acts as the Fund’s depository, safekeeps portfolio securities, collects all income and other payments with respect thereto, disburses funds at the Fund’s request and maintains records in connection with its duties. Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. also serves as the Fund’s Transfer Agent. BBH received \$38,123 from the Fund for its services for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2023.

### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Cohen & Company, Ltd. (“Cohen”), located at 1835 Market Street, Suite 310, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, serves as the independent registered public accounting firm for the Fund. Cohen audits the annual financial statements of the Fund and assists in preparing the Fund’s federal, state, and excise tax returns. On March 13, 2023, BBD, LLP (“BBD”) ceased to serve as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Fund. The Trust’s Audit Committee approved the replacement of BBD as a result of Cohen’s acquisition of BBD’s Investment Management Group.

### **Legal Counsel**

Sullivan & Worcester, LLP, located at 1666 K Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20006, serves as legal counsel to the Trust and the Trust's Independent Trustees.

### **Compliance Consulting Agreement**

Under the terms of a Compliance Consulting Agreement with the Trust, Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC ("NLCS"), located at 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246 provides an individual with the requisite background and familiarity with the federal securities laws to serve as the Trust's CCO and to administer the Trust's compliance policies and procedures. For these services, the Fund pays Ultimus a base fee of \$12,000 per annum, plus an asset-based fee computed at an annual rate of 0.01% of the average net assets of the Funds over \$100 million. In addition, the Fund reimburses NLCS for its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses related to these compliance services. Under a previous Compliance Consulting Agreement between the Trust and Ultimus, an affiliate of NLCS, the Fund paid Ultimus \$12,141 for compliance services for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2023.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Other Payments by the Fund.** The Fund may enter into agreements with financial intermediaries pursuant to which the Fund may pay financial intermediaries for non-distribution-related sub-transfer agency, administrative, sub-accounting, and other shareholder services. Payments made pursuant to such agreements are generally based on either (1) a percentage of the average daily net assets of Fund shareholders serviced by a financial intermediary, or (2) the number of Fund shareholders serviced by a financial intermediary.

**Other Payments by the Adviser.** The Adviser, in its discretion, may make payments from its own resources and not from Fund assets to affiliated or unaffiliated brokers, dealers, banks (including bank trust departments), trust companies, registered investment advisers, financial planners, retirement plan administrators, insurance companies, and any other institution having a service, administration, or any similar arrangement with the Fund, its service providers or their respective affiliates, as incentives to help market and promote the Fund and/or in recognition of its distribution, marketing, administrative services, and/or processing support.

These additional payments may be made to financial intermediaries that sell Fund shares or provide services to the Fund, the Distributor or shareholders of the Fund through the financial intermediary's retail distribution channel and/or fund supermarkets. Payments may also be made through the financial intermediary's retirement, qualified tuition, fee-based advisory, wrap fee bank trust, or insurance (e.g., individual or group annuity) programs. These payments may include, but are not limited to, placing the Fund in a financial intermediary's retail distribution channel or on a preferred or recommended fund list; providing business or shareholder financial planning assistance; educating financial intermediary personnel about the Fund; providing access to sales and management representatives of the financial intermediary; promoting sales of Fund shares; providing marketing and educational support; maintaining share balances and/or for sub-accounting, administrative or shareholder transaction processing services. A financial

intermediary may perform the services itself or may arrange with a third party to perform the services.

The Adviser may also make payments from its own resources to financial intermediaries for costs associated with the purchase of products or services used in connection with sales and marketing, participation in and/or presentation at conferences or seminars, sales or training programs, client and investor entertainment and other sponsored events. The costs and expenses associated with these efforts may include travel, lodging, sponsorship at educational seminars and conferences, entertainment and meals to the extent permitted by law.

Revenue sharing payments may be negotiated based on a variety of factors, including the level of sales, the amount of Fund assets attributable to investments in the Fund by financial intermediaries' customers, a flat fee or other measures as determined from time to time by the Adviser. A significant purpose of these payments is to increase the sales of Fund shares, which in turn may benefit the Adviser through increased fees as Fund assets grow.

Investors should understand that some financial intermediaries may also charge their clients fees in connection with purchases of shares or the provision of shareholder services.

### **Description of Shares**

The Trust is an unincorporated business trust organized under Ohio law on February 28, 2012. The Declaration of Trust authorizes the Board to divide shares into series, each series relating to a separate portfolio of investments, and to further divide shares of a series into separate classes. The Fund does not currently issue additional classes of shares. In the event of a liquidation or dissolution of the Trust or an individual series or class, shareholders of a particular series or class would be entitled to receive the assets available for distribution belonging to such series or class. Shareholders of a series or class are entitled to participate equally in the net distributable assets of the particular series or class involved on liquidation, based on the number of shares of the series or class that are held by each shareholder. If any assets, income, earnings, proceeds, funds or payments are not readily identifiable as belonging to any particular series or class, the Board shall allocate them among any one or more series or classes as the Board, in its sole discretion, deems fair and equitable. Subject to the Declaration of Trust, determinations by the Board as to the allocation of liabilities, and the allocable portion of any general assets, with respect to the Fund are conclusive.

Shares of the Fund, when issued, are fully paid and non-assessable. Shares have no subscription, preemptive or conversion rights. Shares do not have cumulative voting rights. Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each full share held and a fractional vote for each fractional share held. Shareholders of all series and classes of the Trust, including the Fund, will vote together and not separately, except as otherwise required by law or when the Board determines that the matter to be voted upon affects only the interests of the shareholders of a particular series or class. Rule 18f-2 under the 1940 Act provides, in substance, that any matter required to be submitted to the holders of the outstanding voting securities of an investment company such as the Trust shall not be deemed to have been effectively acted upon unless approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of each series or class affected by the matter. A series or class

is affected by a matter unless it is clear that the interests of each series or class in the matter are substantially identical or that the matter does not affect any interest of the series or class. Under Rule 18f-2, the approval of an investment advisory agreement, a distribution plan or any change in a fundamental investment policy would be effectively acted upon with respect to a series or class only if approved by a majority of the outstanding shares of such series or class. However, the Rule also provides that the ratification of the appointment of independent accountants and the election of Trustees may be effectively acted upon by shareholders of the Trust voting together, without regard to a particular series or class.

### **Trustee Liability**

The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees will not be liable in any event in connection with the affairs of the Trust, except as such liability may arise from his or her own bad faith, willful misfeasance, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties to the Trust and its holders of beneficial interest. It also provides that all third parties shall look solely to the Trust's property for satisfaction of claims arising in connection with the affairs of the Trust. With the exceptions stated, the Declaration of Trust provides that a Trustee or officer is entitled to be indemnified against all liability in connection with the affairs of the Trust.

### **Trust Liability**

Under Ohio law, liabilities of the Trust to third persons, including the liabilities of any series, extend to the whole of the trust estate to the extent necessary to discharge such liabilities. However, the Declaration of Trust contains provisions intended to limit the liabilities of each series to the applicable series and the Trustees and officers of the Trust intend that notice of such limitation be given in each contract, instrument, certificate, or undertaking made or issued on behalf of the Trust by the Trustees or officers. There is no guarantee that the foregoing steps will prove effective or that the Trust will be successful in preventing the assets of one series from being available to creditors of another series.

### **Code of Ethics**

The Trust, the Adviser and the Distributor have each adopted a code of ethics (each, a "COE" and collectively, the "COEs") that is designed to prevent their respective personnel subject to the COEs from engaging in deceptive, manipulative, or fraudulent activities in connection with securities held or to be acquired by the Fund (which securities may also be held by persons subject to the COEs). These COEs permit personnel subject to the COEs to invest in securities, including securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund, but prohibit such personnel from engaging in personal investment activities which compete with or attempt to take advantage of the Fund's planned portfolio transactions. Each of these parties monitors compliance with its respective COE.

### **Anti-Money Laundering Program**

The Trust has adopted an anti-money laundering ("AML") program, as required by applicable law, that is designed to prevent the Fund from being used for money laundering or the

financing of terrorist activities. The Trust's AML Compliance Officer is responsible for implementing and monitoring the operations and internal controls of the program. Compliance officers at certain of the Fund's service providers are also responsible for monitoring aspects of the AML program. The AML program is subject to the continuing oversight of the Board.

### **Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures**

The Trust and the Adviser have adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures that describe how the Fund intends to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities. The Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of the Trust and the Adviser are attached to this SAI as Appendix B and Appendix C, respectively. No later than August 31st of each year, information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the prior twelve-month period ended June 30th is available without charge upon request by calling 1-833-Valu-ETF (or 1-833-825-8383), or on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

### **Portfolio Holdings Disclosure Policy**

The Trust has adopted policies with respect to the disclosure of the Fund's portfolio holdings. These policies generally prohibit the disclosure of information about the Fund's portfolio to third-parties prior to the day after the information is posted to the Fund's website unless the information is publicly available on the SEC's EDGAR system. Because the Fund is an exchange-traded fund, it is required to publicly disclose its portfolio holdings daily, as described below. As further described below, the policies allow for disclosure of non-public portfolio information to third-parties only if there is a legitimate business purpose for the disclosure. In addition, the policies require that the party receiving the portfolio holdings information execute a non-disclosure agreement that includes a prohibition on trading based on the information, unless the party is already subject to a duty of confidentiality (as determined by the Trust's CCO). Any arrangement to disclose non-public information about the Fund's portfolio must be approved by the Trust's CCO. The Trust and the Adviser are prohibited from receiving compensation or other consideration in connection with disclosing information about the Fund's portfolio to third parties. The Fund discloses on the Adviser's website at [www.usvalueetf.com](http://www.usvalueetf.com) at the start of each Business Day the identities and quantities of the securities and other assets held by the Fund that will form the basis of the Fund's calculation of its NAV on that day. The portfolio holdings so disclosed will be based on information as of the close of business on the prior Business Day and/or trades that have been completed prior to the opening of business on that Business Day and that are expected to settle on that Business Day. The Fund may also concurrently disclose this portfolio holdings information directly to ratings agencies on a daily basis.

Under the Trust's policies, the Adviser is permitted to include Fund portfolio information that has already been made public through the Fund's website or SEC filing in marketing literature and other communications to shareholders or other parties, provided that, in the case of portfolio information made public solely through the Fund's website, the information is disclosed no earlier than the day after the date of posting to the website.

The Fund releases non-public portfolio holdings information to certain third-party service providers on a daily basis in order for those parties to perform their duties on behalf of the Fund. These service providers include the Fund's Adviser, Distributor, Transfer Agent, Fund Accounting Agent, Administrator and Custodian. The Fund also periodically discloses portfolio holdings information on a confidential basis to other parties that provide services to the Fund, such as the Fund's auditors, legal counsel, proxy voting services (if applicable), printers, brokers and pricing services. The lag between the date of the information and the date on which the information is disclosed will vary based on the nature of the services provided by the party to whom the information is disclosed. For example, the information may be provided to the Fund's auditors within days after the end of the Fund's fiscal year in connection with the Fund's annual audit, while the information may be given to legal counsel at any time. Fund service providers are required to keep this information confidential and are prohibited from trading based on the information or otherwise using the information except as necessary in providing services to the Fund.

Each Business Day, the Fund's portfolio holdings information will generally be provided for dissemination through the facilities of the National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") and/or other fee-based subscription services to NSCC members and/or subscribers to those other fee-based subscription services, including Authorized Participants, and to entities that publish and/or analyze such information in connection with the process of purchasing or redeeming Creation Unites or trading shares of the Fund in the secondary market. This information typically reflects the Fund's anticipated holdings as of the next Business Day.

### **Other Expenses**

In addition to the Management Fee, the Fund pays all expenses not expressly assumed by the Adviser, including, without limitation, the fees and expenses of its independent registered public accounting firm and of its legal counsel; the fees of the Administrator, Distributor and Transfer Agent, the costs of printing and mailing to shareholders annual and semi-annual reports, proxy statements, prospectuses, SAIs and supplements thereto; bank transaction charges and custody fees; any costs associated with shareholder meetings, including proxy solicitors' fees and expenses; registration and filing fees; federal, state or local income or other taxes; interest; membership fees of the Investment Company Institute and similar organizations; fidelity bond and liability insurance premiums; and any extraordinary expenses, such as indemnification payments or damages awarded in litigation or settlements made.

### **Benchmark Descriptions**

The Fund compares its performance to standardized indices or other measurements of investment performance. Specifically, the Fund compares its performance to the Lyrical U.S. Value Index, which, is described in the Fund's prospectus.

### **DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE**

The NAV of shares of the Fund is determined as of the close of the regular session of trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") on each day the NYSE is open for trading.

Currently, the NYSE is open for trading on every day except Saturdays, Sundays and the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth National Independence Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. For a description of the methods used to determine the share price, see "Determination of Net Asset Value" and "Premium/Discount Information" in the Prospectus.

For purposes of computing the Fund's NAV, securities are valued at market value as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE (normally, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time) on each business day the NYSE is open. Securities listed on the NYSE or other exchanges are valued based on their last sale prices on the exchanges on which they are primarily traded. If there are no sales on that day, the securities are valued at the mean of the closing bid and ask prices on the NYSE or other primary exchange for that day. National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations ("NASDAQ") listed securities are valued at the NASDAQ Official Closing Price. If there are no sales on that day, the securities are valued at the mean of the most recently quoted bid and ask prices as reported by NASDAQ. Securities traded in the OTC market are valued at the last sale price, if available, otherwise at the mean of the most recently quoted bid and ask prices. In the event that market quotations are not readily available or are considered unreliable due to market or other events, securities and other assets are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by the Adviser, as the Fund's valuation designee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act. Fixed-income securities are normally valued based on prices obtained from independent third-party pricing services, which are generally determined with consideration given to institutional bid and last sale prices and take into account security prices, yield, maturity, call features, ratings, institutional sized trading in similar groups of securities and developments related to specific securities. Foreign securities are normally valued on the basis of fair valuation prices obtained from independent third-party pricing services, which are generally determined with consideration given to any change in price of the foreign security and any other developments related to the foreign security since the last sale price on the exchange on which such foreign security primarily traded and the close of regular trading on the NYSE. One or more pricing services may be utilized to determine the fair value of securities held by the Fund. To the extent the assets of the Fund are invested in other open-end investment companies that are registered under the 1940 Act and not traded on an exchange, the Fund's NAV is calculated based upon the NAVs reported by such registered open-end investment companies, and the prospectuses for these companies explain the circumstances under which they will use fair value pricing and the effects of using fair value pricing. To the extent the Fund has portfolio securities that are primarily listed on foreign exchanges that trade on weekends or other days when the Fund does not price its shares, the NAV of the Fund's shares may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or redeem the Fund's shares.

## **ADDITIONAL TAX INFORMATION**

The following summarizes certain additional tax considerations generally affecting the Fund and its shareholders that are not described in the Prospectus. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of the tax treatment of the Fund or its shareholders. The discussions here and in the Prospectus are not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning and are based on tax laws and regulations that are in effect on the date hereof; such laws and regulations may be changed



by legislative, judicial, or administrative action. Investors are advised to consult their tax advisors with specific reference to their own tax situations.

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

The Fund has qualified and intends to remain eligible to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). In order to so qualify, the Fund must elect to be a regulated investment company or have made such an election for a previous year and must satisfy certain requirements relating to the amount of distributions and source of its income for a taxable year. At least 90% of the gross income of the Fund must be derived from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans, gains from the sale or other disposition of stocks, securities, or foreign currencies, and other income derived with respect to the Fund’s business of investing in such stock, securities, or currencies, and net income derived from an investment in a “qualified publicly traded partnership” as defined in section 851(h) of the Code (the “source-of-income test”). Any income derived by the Fund from a partnership (other than a “qualified publicly traded partnership”) or trust is treated as derived with respect to the Fund’s business of investing in stock, securities, or currencies only to the extent that such income is attributable to items of income that would have been qualifying income if realized by the Fund in the same manner as by the partnership or trust.

The Fund may not qualify as a regulated investment company for any taxable year unless it satisfies certain requirements with respect to the diversification of its investments at the close of each quarter of the taxable year (the “asset diversification tests”). In general, at least 50% of the value of the Fund’s total assets must be represented by cash, cash items, government securities, securities of other regulated investment companies, and other securities which, with respect to any one issuer, do not represent more than 5% of the total assets of the Fund nor more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer. In addition, not more than 25% of the value of the Fund’s total assets may be invested in the securities (other than government securities or the securities of other regulated investment companies) of any one issuer; the securities of two or more issuers (other than securities of another regulated investment company) if the issuers are controlled by the Fund and they are, pursuant to Treasury Regulations, engaged in the same or similar or related trades or businesses; or the securities of one or more “qualified publicly traded partnerships”.

The Fund intends to satisfy all of the requirements of the source-of-income test and the asset diversification tests on an ongoing basis for continued qualification as a regulated investment company.

If the Fund fails to meet either the asset diversification test with respect to a taxable quarter or the source-of-income test with respect to a taxable year, the Code provides several remedies, provided certain procedural requirements are met, which will allow the Fund to retain its status as a “regulated investment company.” There is a remedy for failure to satisfy the asset diversification tests, if the failure was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, subject to certain divestiture and procedural requirements and the payment of a tax. In addition, there is a remedy for a de minimis failure of the asset diversification tests, which would require corrective action but no tax. In addition, the Code allows for the remedy of a failure of the source-of-income test, if the failure

was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, subject to certain procedural requirements and the payment of a tax.

If for any taxable year the Fund does not qualify for the special federal income tax treatment afforded regulated investment companies, all of its taxable income will be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates (without any deduction for distributions to its shareholders). Such distributions will be taxable to the shareholders as dividends to the extent of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits. Such distributions may be eligible for (i) the dividends-received deduction ("DRD") in the case of corporate shareholders or (ii) treatment as "qualified dividend income" in the case of noncorporate shareholders, provided in each case that certain holding period and other requirements are met. Failure to qualify as a regulated investment company would have a negative impact on the Fund's income and performance. It is possible that the Fund will not qualify as a regulated investment company in any given tax year.

## **Fund Distributions**

The Fund anticipates distributing substantially all of its investment company taxable income and net tax-exempt interest (if any) for each tax year. Distributions paid to you generally may be characterized as ordinary income. A portion of these distributions may qualify for the DRD when paid to certain corporate shareholders.

Under current tax law, qualifying corporate dividends are taxable at long-term capital gains tax rates. The long-term capital gains rate for individual taxpayers is currently at a maximum rate of 20%, with lower rates potentially applicable to taxpayers depending on their income levels.

Taxable dividends paid by the Fund to corporate shareholders will be taxed at corporate income tax rates. Corporate shareholders may be entitled to a DRD for a portion of the dividends paid and designated by the Fund as qualifying for the DRD.

If the Fund designates a dividend as a capital gains distribution, it generally will be taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains, regardless of how long the shareholders have held their Fund shares or whether the dividend was received in cash or reinvested in additional shares. All taxable dividends paid by the Fund other than those designated as qualified dividend income or capital gains distributions will be taxable as ordinary income to shareholders, whether received in cash or reinvested in additional shares. To the extent the Fund engages in increased portfolio turnover, short-term capital gains may be realized, and any distribution resulting from such gains will be considered ordinary income for federal tax purposes.

Certain U.S. shareholders, including individuals and estates and trusts, will be subject to an additional 3.8% Medicare tax on all or a portion of their "net investment income," which should include dividends from the Fund and net gains from the disposition of shares of the Fund. U.S. shareholders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the implications of the additional Medicare tax resulting from an investment in the Fund.

Individuals (and certain other non-corporate entities) are generally eligible for a 20% deduction with respect to taxable ordinary dividends from REITs and certain taxable income from publicly traded partnerships. Regulated investment companies that receive qualified REIT dividend income may designate such amounts as Section 199A dividends. Qualified REIT dividend income is the excess of qualified REIT dividends received by the regulated investment company over the amount of the regulated investment company's deductions that are properly allocable to such income. If the Fund designates a dividend as a Section 199A distribution, it may be treated by shareholders as a qualified REIT dividend that is taxed as ordinary income and for non-corporate taxpayers eligible for the 20% deduction for "qualified business income" under Code section 199A. Generally, only non-corporate shareholders who have held their shares for more than 45 days during the 91-day period beginning on the date which is 45 days prior to the ex-dividend date for such dividend are eligible for such treatment.

Shareholders who hold Fund shares in a tax-deferred account, such as a retirement plan, generally will not have to pay tax on Fund distributions until they receive distributions from their account.

The Fund will designate (1) any distribution that constitutes a qualified dividend as qualified dividend income; (2) any tax-exempt distribution as an exempt-interest dividend; (3) any distribution of long-term capital gains as a capital gain dividend; (4) any dividend eligible for the corporate dividends received deduction; and (5) any distribution that is comprised of qualified REIT dividend income as a Section 199A dividend as such in a written notice provided to shareholders after the close of the Fund's taxable year. Shareholders should note that, upon the sale or exchange of Fund shares, if the shareholder has not held such shares for at least six months, any loss on the sale or exchange of those shares will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of the capital gain dividends received with respect to the shares.

The Fund will send shareholders information each year on the tax status of dividends and distributions. A dividend or capital gains distribution paid shortly after shares have been purchased, although in effect a return of investment, is subject to federal income taxation. Dividends from net investment income, along with capital gains, will be taxable to shareholders, whether received in cash or reinvested in Fund shares and no matter how long the shareholder has held Fund shares, even if they reduce the NAV of shares below the shareholder's cost, and thus, in effect, result in a return of a part of the shareholder's investment.

To the extent that a distribution from the Fund is taxable, it is generally included in a shareholder's gross income for the taxable year in which the shareholder receives the distribution. However, if the Fund declares a dividend in October, November, or December but pays it in January, it will be taxable to shareholders as if the dividend was received in the year it was declared. Each year, shareholders will receive a statement detailing the tax status of any Fund distributions for that year.

The Fund's net realized capital gains from securities transactions will be distributed only after reducing such gains by the amount of any available capital loss carryforwards. Capital losses may be carried forward to offset any capital gains.

## **Excise Tax**

A 4% nondeductible excise tax is imposed on regulated investment companies that fail to currently distribute an amount equal to specified percentages of their ordinary taxable income and capital gain net income (excess of capital gains over capital losses). The Fund intends to make sufficient distributions or deemed distributions of its ordinary taxable income and any capital gain net income prior to the end of each calendar year to avoid liability for this excise tax. Investors should note, however, that the Fund might in certain circumstances be required to liquidate portfolio investments to make sufficient distributions to avoid the imposition of any excise tax liability.

## **Sale, Exchange, or Repurchase of Shares**

In general, a shareholder who sells or redeems shares will realize a capital gain or loss, which will be long-term or short-term depending upon the shareholder's holding period for Fund shares. An exchange of shares is treated as a sale and any gain may be subject to tax. An exchange of shares is generally treated as a sale and any gain may be subject to tax. All or a portion of any loss so recognized may be disallowed if you purchase (for example, by reinvesting dividends) shares of the same Fund within 30 days before or after the sale, exchange or repurchase (a "wash sale"). If disallowed, the loss will be reflected in an upward adjustment to the basis of the shares purchased.

Shareholders should note that, upon the sale of Fund shares, if the shareholder has not held such shares for at least six months, any loss on the sale or exchange of those shares will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of the capital gains dividends received with respect to the shares. Any capital loss arising from the sale, exchange or repurchase of shares held for six months or less, however, will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of the amount of distributions of net capital gain received on such shares. In determining the holding period of such shares for this purpose, any period during which your risk of loss is offset by means of options, short sales or similar transactions is not counted. Capital losses in any tax year are deductible only to the extent of capital gains plus, in the case of a non-corporate taxpayer, \$3,000 of ordinary income.

The repurchase or transfer of shares may result in a taxable gain or loss to a tendering shareholder. Different tax consequences may apply for tendering and non-tendering shareholder in connection with a repurchase offer. For example, if a shareholder does not tender all of his or her shares, such repurchase may not be treated as a sale or exchange for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and may result in deemed distributions to non-tendering shareholder. On the other hand, shareholder holding shares as capital assets who tender all of their shares (including shares deemed owned by shareholders under constructive ownership rules) will be treated as having sold their shares and generally will recognize capital gain or loss. The amount of the gain or loss will be equal to the difference between the amount received for the shares and the shareholder adjusted tax basis in the relevant shares. Such gain or loss generally will be a long-term capital gain or loss if the shareholder has held such shares as capital assets for more than one year. Otherwise, the gain or loss will be treated as short-term capital gain or loss.

## **Backup Withholding**

The Fund will be required in certain cases to withhold and remit to the U.S. Treasury a percentage (currently 24%) of taxable dividends or of gross proceeds realized upon sale paid to shareholders who have failed to provide a correct taxpayer identification number in the manner required, who are subject to withholding by the Internal Revenue Service for failure to include properly on their return payments of taxable interest or dividends, or who have failed to certify to the Fund that they are not subject to backup withholding when required to do so, or that they are “exempt recipients.”

## **Foreign Taxes**

Dividends and interest received by the Fund may be subject to income, withholding or other taxes imposed by foreign countries and U.S. possessions that would reduce the yield on the Fund’s stock or securities. Tax conventions between certain countries and the U.S. may reduce or eliminate these taxes. Foreign countries generally do not impose taxes on capital gains with respect to investments by foreign investors. If more than 50% of the value of the Fund’s total assets at the close of its taxable year consists of stocks or securities of foreign corporations, the Fund will be eligible to file an election with the IRS that may enable shareholders, in effect, to receive either the benefit of a foreign tax credit, or a deduction from such taxes, with respect to any foreign and U.S. possessions income taxes paid by the Fund, subject to certain limitations. Pursuant to the election, such Fund will treat those taxes as dividends paid to its shareholders. Each such shareholder will be required to include a proportionate share of those taxes in gross income as income received from a foreign source and must treat the amount so included as if the shareholder had paid the foreign tax directly. The shareholder may then either deduct the taxes deemed paid by him or her in computing his or her taxable income or, alternatively, use the foregoing information in calculating any foreign tax credit they may be entitled to use against the shareholders’ federal income tax. If the Fund makes the election, such Fund (or its administrative agent) will report annually to its shareholders the respective amounts per share of the Fund’s income from sources within, and taxes paid to, foreign countries and U.S. possessions. If the Fund does not hold sufficient foreign securities to meet the above threshold, then shareholders will not be entitled to claim a credit or further deduction with respect to foreign taxes paid by such Fund.

A shareholder’s ability to claim a foreign tax credit or deduction in respect of foreign taxes paid by the Fund may be subject to certain limitations imposed by the Code, which may result in a shareholder not receiving a full credit or deduction (if any) for the amount of such taxes. In particular, shareholders must hold their Fund shares (without protection from risk of loss) on the ex-dividend date and for at least 15 additional days during the 30-day period surrounding the ex-dividend date to be eligible to claim a foreign tax credit with respect to a given dividend. Shareholders who do not itemize on their federal income tax returns may claim a credit (but no deduction) for such foreign taxes. Even if the Fund were eligible to make such an election for a given year, it may determine not to do so. Shareholders that are not subject to U.S. federal income tax, and those who invest in the Fund through tax-advantaged accounts (including those who invest through individual retirement accounts or other tax-advantaged retirement plans), generally will receive no benefit from any tax credit or deduction passed through by the Fund.

## **State and Local Taxes**

Depending upon the extent of the Fund's activities in states and localities in which its offices are maintained, in which its agents or independent contractors are located, or in which it is otherwise deemed to be conducting business, the Fund may be subject to the tax laws of such states or localities. In addition, in those states and localities that have income tax laws, the treatment of the Fund and its shareholders under such laws may differ from their treatment under federal income tax laws.

## **Foreign Shareholders**

The foregoing discussion relates only to U.S. federal income tax law as applicable to U.S. shareholders (i.e., U.S. citizens and residents and U.S. domestic corporations, partnerships, trusts and estates). Non-U.S. shareholders who are not U.S. persons should consult their tax advisers regarding U.S. and foreign tax consequences of ownership of shares of the Fund including the likelihood that taxable distributions to them (including any deemed distributions with respect to a repurchase offer) would be subject to withholding of U.S. tax at a rate of 30% (or a lower treaty rate for eligible investors).

Dividends paid by the Fund to non-U.S. shareholders may be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30% unless reduced by treaty (and the shareholder files a valid Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN, or other applicable form, with the Funds certifying foreign status and treaty eligibility) or the non-U.S. shareholder files an Internal Revenue Service Form W-8ECI, or other applicable form, with the Fund certifying that the investment to which the distribution relates is effectively connected to a United States trade or business of such non-U.S. shareholder (and, if certain tax treaties apply, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment maintained by such non-U.S. shareholder). The Fund may elect not to withhold the applicable withholding tax on any distribution representing a capital gains dividend to a non-U.S. shareholder.

Under sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code, known as "FATCA", the Fund is required to withhold U.S. tax at a rate of 30% on payments of taxable dividends and to certain non-U.S. entities that fail to comply (or be deemed compliant) with the extensive reporting and withholding requirements under FATCA designed to inform the U.S. Treasury of certain U.S. owned foreign assets and accounts. Shareholders may be requested to provide additional information to the Fund to enable it to determine whether FATCA withholding is required. The Fund will disclose the information that it receives from (or concerning) its shareholders to the IRS, non-U.S. taxing authorities or other parties as necessary to comply with FATCA, related intergovernmental agreements or other applicable law or regulation. Each prospective investor is urged to consult its tax adviser regarding the applicability of FATCA and any other reporting requirements with respect to the prospective investor's own situation, including investments through an intermediary.

## **Cost Basis Reporting**

Mutual funds are required to report to the IRS and furnish to fund shareholders the cost basis information for fund shares purchased and/or sold on or after January 1, 2012. In addition to the requirement to report the gross proceeds from the sale of Fund shares, the Fund is also required to report the cost basis information for such shares and indicate whether these shares had a short-

term or long-term holding period. In the absence of an election by a shareholder to elect from available IRS accepted cost basis methods, the Fund will use a default cost basis method. The cost basis method elected or applied may not be changed after the settlement date of a sale of Fund shares. Fund shareholders should consult with their tax advisers concerning the most desirable IRS-accepted cost basis method for their tax situation and to obtain more information about how the new cost basis reporting law applies to them.

Prospective investors should consult with their own tax advisors regarding the application of these provisions to their situation.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Fund's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2023, including the Financial Highlights appearing in the Prospectus, are incorporated by reference and made a part of this document. You may request a copy of the Fund's Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to shareholders, at no charge by calling the Fund at 1-833-Valu-ETF (or 1-833-825-8383) or by visiting the Fund's website at <https://usvalueetf.com/>.

**APPENDIX A**  
**TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS**

<b>Name and Year of Birth</b>	<b>Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Position(s) held with Trust</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>	<b>Number of Funds in the Trust Overseen By Trustee</b>	<b>Directorship(s) of Public Companies Held By Trustee During Past 5 Years</b>
<b><i>Independent Trustees:</i></b>					
Janine L. Cohen^ Year of Birth: 1952	Since 2016	Chairperson (2019 to present)  Trustee (2016 to present)	Retired since 2013; previously Chief Financial Officer from 2004 to 2013 and Chief Compliance Officer from 2008 to 2013 at AER Advisors, Inc.	31	n/a
Robert E. Morrison^ Year of Birth: 1957	Since 2019	Trustee (2019 to present; and previously 2012 to 2014)	Managing Director at Midwest Trust and FCI Advisors (2022 to present); Senior Vice President and National Practice Lead for Investment, Huntington National Bank/Huntington Private Bank (2014 to 2022); CEO, CIO, President of 5 Star Investment Management Company (2006 to 2014)	31	n/a
Clifford N. Schireson^ Year of Birth: 1953	Since 2019	Trustee (2019 to present)	Retired; Founder of Schireson Consulting, LLC (2017 to 2022); Director of Institutional Services for Brandes Investment Partners, LP (2004 to 2017)	31	Trustee of the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System (2019 to present)
Jacqueline A. Williams^ Year of Birth: 1954	Since 2019	Trustee (2019 to present)	Managing Member of Custom Strategy Consulting, LLC (2017 to present); Managing Director of Global Investment Research (2005 to 2017), Cambridge Associates, LLC	31	n/a
Keith Shintani^ Year of Birth: 1963	Since January 1, 2024	Trustee (January 1, 2024 to present)	Senior Vice President of Relationship Management at U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (1998 to 2022); Director of Finance at Charles Schwab Investment Management (January 1997 to December 1997); Manager of Mutual Fund Operations of PIMCo Advisors L.P. (1993 to 1995); Variable Products Manager of Pacific Life Insurance Company (1989 to 1993); Senior Accountant of Deloitte	31	Trustee of the Matrix Advisors Fund Trust (2023 to present)



			and Touche. (1986 to 1989)		
--	--	--	-------------------------------	--	--

^ Address is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246

<b>Name and Year of Birth</b>	<b>Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Position(s) held with Trust</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years</b>
Todd E. Heim^ Year of Birth: 1967	2014 to present	President (2021 to present)  Vice President (2014 to 2021)	Vice President, Relationship Management (2018 to present) and Assistant Vice President, Client Implementation Manager with Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC (2014 to 2018)
Shannon Thibeaux-Burgess Year of Birth: 1970	April 2023 to present	Vice President	Senior Vice President, Relationship Management with Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC (2022 to present); Head of Regulatory Service with J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. (2020 to 2022); Chief Administrative Officer of State Street Bank (2013 to 2020)
Daniel D. Bauer^ Year of Birth: 1977	2016 to present	Treasurer (January 1, 2024 to present)  Assistant Treasurer (2016 to December 31, 2023)	Vice President of Fund Accounting (2022 to present), Assistant Vice President of Fund Accounting (2020 to 2022), and AVP, Assistant Mutual Fund Controller (2015 to 2020) of Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC
Angela A. Simmons^ Year of Birth: 1975	January 2022 to present	Assistant Treasurer	Vice President of Financial Administration (2022 to present) and Assistant Vice President, Financial Administration (2015 to 2022) of Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC
Susan Bateman Year of Birth: 1966	January 1, 2024 to present	Assistant Treasurer	Assistant Vice President, Financial Administration (2023 to present) of Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC; Assistant Vice President, Financial Administration (2018 to 2023) of Citi Fund Services, Inc.
Karen Jacoppo-Wood^ Year of Birth: 1966	April 2023 to present	Secretary	Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel of Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC (2022 to present); Managing Director and Managing Counsel (2019 to 2022) and Vice President and Counsel (2014 to 2019) of State Street Bank and Trust Company
Natalie S. Anderson^ Year of Birth: 1975	2016 to present	Assistant Secretary	Legal Administration Manager (2016 to present) and Paralegal (2015 to 2016) of Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC
Jesse Hallee^ Year of Birth: 1976	April 2023 to present	Assistant Secretary	Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel of Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC (June 2019 to present); Vice President and Managing Counsel, State Street Bank and Trust Company (2013 to 2019)
Gweneth K. Gosselink^ Year of Birth: 1955	2020 to present	Chief Compliance Officer	Assistant Vice President, Compliance Officer at Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC (2019 to present); CCO Consultant at GKG Consulting, LLC (2019 to 2021); Chief Operating Officer & CCO at Miles Capital, Inc. (2013 to 2019)
Martin Dean^ Year of Birth: 1963	2016 to present	Assistant Chief Compliance Officer (2020 to present)  Interim Chief Compliance Officer (2019 to 2020)  Assistant Chief Compliance Officer (2016 to 2017)	President of Northern Lights Compliance Services, LLC (February 2023 to present); Senior Vice President, Head of Fund Compliance (2020 to January 2023) and Vice President & Director of Fund Compliance of Ultimius Fund Solutions, LLC (2016 to 2020)

^ Address is 225 Pictoria Drive, Suite 450, Cincinnati, Ohio 45246

## **APPENDIX B**

### **ULTIMUS MANAGERS TRUST PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

#### **1. PURPOSE; DELEGATION**

The purpose of this memorandum is to describe the policies and procedures for voting proxies received from issuers whose securities are held by each series (individually, a “Fund” and collectively, the “Funds”) of Ultimus Managers Trust (the “Trust”). The Board of Trustees of the Trust (the “Board”) believes that each Fund’s Investment Adviser is in the best position to make individual voting decisions for such Fund. Therefore, subject to the oversight of the Board, each Fund’s Investment Adviser is hereby delegated the duty to make proxy voting decisions for such Fund, and to implement and undertake such other duties as set forth in, and consistent with, these Policies and Procedures.

#### **2. DEFINITIONS**

Proxy. A proxy permits a shareholder to vote without being present at annual or special meetings. A proxy is the form whereby a person who is eligible to vote on corporate matters transmits written instructions for voting or transfers the right to vote to another person in place of the eligible voter. Proxies are generally solicited by management, but may be solicited by dissident shareholders opposed to management’s policies or strategies.

Proxy Manager. Proxy manager, as used herein, refers to the individual, individuals or committee of individuals appointed by the investment advisers to each Fund (each, an “Investment Adviser”) as being responsible for supervising and implementing these Policies and Procedures.

#### **3. POLICY FOR VOTING PROXIES RELATED TO EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS AND OTHER INVESTMENT COMPANIES.**

Pursuant to Section 12(d)(1)(E)(iii) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, all proxies from Exchange Traded Funds (“ETFs”) or other Investment Companies voted by a Fund, registered in the name of the Fund, will have the following voting instructions typed on the proxy form: “Vote these shares in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such shares. The beneficial owner of these shares is a registered investment company.”

#### **4. POLICY FOR VOTING PROXIES RELATED TO OTHER PORTFOLIO SECURITIES**

Fiduciary Considerations. Proxies with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies are voted solely in the interests of the shareholders of the Trust. Any conflict of interest must be resolved in the way that will most benefit the shareholders.

Management Recommendations. Since the quality and depth of management is a primary factor considered when investing in a company, the recommendation of management on any issue should

be given substantial weight. The vote with respect to most issues presented in proxy statements should be cast in accordance with the position of the company's management, unless it is determined that supporting management's position would adversely affect the investment merits of owning the stock. However, each issue should be considered on its own merits, and the position of the company's management should not be supported in any situation where it is found not to be in the best interests of the Trust's shareholders.

## **5. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Trust recognizes that under certain circumstances an Investment Adviser may have a conflict of interest in voting proxies on behalf of a Fund. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, situations where an Investment Adviser or one or more of its affiliates, including officers, directors or employees, has or is seeking a client relationship with the issuer of the security that is the subject of the proxy vote. The Investment Adviser shall periodically inform its employees that they are under an obligation to be aware of the potential for conflicts of interest on the part of the Investment Adviser with respect to voting proxies on behalf of a Fund, both as a result of the employee's personal relationships and due to circumstances that may arise during the conduct of the Investment Adviser's business, and to bring any conflict of interest of which they become aware to the attention of the proxy manager. With respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies, the Investment Adviser shall not vote proxies relating to such issuers on behalf of a Fund until it has determined that the conflict of interest is not material or a method of resolving such conflict of interest has been determined in the manner described below. A conflict of interest will be considered material to the extent that it is determined that such conflict has the potential to influence the Investment Adviser's decision-making in voting a proxy. Materiality determinations will be based upon an assessment of the particular facts and circumstances. If the proxy manager determines that a conflict of interest is not material, the Investment Adviser may vote proxies notwithstanding the existence of a conflict. If the conflict of interest is determined to be material, either (i) the conflict shall be disclosed to the Trust's Committee of Independent Trustees (the "Committee") and the Investment Adviser shall follow the instructions of the Committee or (ii) the Investment Adviser shall vote the issue in question based upon the recommendation of an independent third party under a contractual arrangement approved by the Committee. The proxy manager shall keep a record of all materiality decisions and report them to the Committee on an annual basis.

## **6. ROUTINE PROPOSALS**

Proxies for routine proposals (such as election of directors, selection of independent public accountants, stock splits and increases in capital stock) with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies should generally be voted in favor of management.

## **7. PROXY MANAGER APPROVAL**

Votes on non-routine matters and votes against a management's recommendations with respect to securities other than ETFs or other investment companies are subject to approval by the proxy manager.

## **8. PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES**

Proxy voting will be conducted in compliance with the policies and practices described herein and is subject to the proxy manager's supervision. A reasonable effort should be made to obtain proxy material and to vote in a timely fashion. Each Investment Adviser shall maintain records regarding the voting of proxies under these Policies and Procedures.

## **9. FORM N-PX**

A record of each proxy vote will be entered on Form N-PX. A copy of each Form N-PX will be signed by the President of the Trust. The Form is to be filed by August 31 each year. Each reporting period covered by the Form N-PX runs from July 1 to June 30. The Trust will disclose in its annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders and in its registration statement (in the SAI) filed with the SEC on or after August 31 that each Fund's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 is available without charge upon request and is also available on the SEC's Website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## **10. INVESTMENT ADVISERS' VOTING PROCEDURES**

The Trust acknowledges that the Investment Advisers to the various Funds have adopted voting policies and procedures for their clients that have been delivered to the Trust. To the extent that an Investment Adviser's policies and procedures are consistent with these Policies and Procedures, the Investment Adviser may implement them with respect to voting proxies on behalf of each Fund managed by such Investment Adviser. However, the provisions of paragraph 5 of these Policies and Procedures relating to conflicts of interest shall supersede any comparable provisions of any Investment Adviser's policies and procedures.

Securities Lending: If a Fund engages in securities lending, the proxy voting procedures of the Adviser of such Fund will include information on the recall of lent securities for voting purposes. More information can be found in the Securities Lending Procedures of the Trust.

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Adviser Entity's Proxy Voting Policy**

#### **Statement of Policy**

Since the Firm exercises voting authority with respect to certain Clients' securities, the Adviser is required to adopt and implement written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that the Adviser votes Client securities in a manner consistent with the best interests of such Client (Rule 206(4)-6). The SEC has indicated that a discretionary investment manager is required to exercise voting authority with respect to Client securities, even if the investment advisory agreement is silent on this point, unless the Client has specifically retained voting authority. Proxy voting is an important right of shareholders and reasonable care and diligence must be undertaken to ensure that such rights are properly and timely exercised. Where the Adviser has discretion to vote the proxies of its Clients, it will vote those proxies in the best interest of its Clients and in accordance with these policies and procedures.

#### **Responsibility for Implementing this Policy**

The Compliance Officer is responsible for implementing, updating and monitoring the Firm's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures, for ensuring appropriate disclosure is given to Clients, and assisting in the resolution of conflicts of interests. The Compliance Officer is also responsible for maintaining, as part of the Firm's books and records, copies of the Firm's procedures, proxy records and any backup documentation relating to voting decisions and conflict resolution in accordance with applicable record keeping requirements. The Compliance Officer can delegate any responsibilities under this policy to another person.

#### **Procedures to Implement this Policy**

Generally, proxies are automatically received by the Firm's third party proxy voting services firm and are voted in accordance with the guidelines detailed below. In some instances, proxies may not be automatically voted in accordance with the guidelines. In such instances, the Compliance Officer or his delegate shall monitor and place proxy votes in accordance with the guidelines set forth below. The Compliance Officer will monitor the third party to assure that all proxies are being properly voted and appropriate records are being retained.

#### **Voting Guidelines**

In the absence of specific voting guidelines from the Client, the Firm will vote proxies in the best interests of each particular Client, which may result in different voting results for proxies for the same issuer. To assist the Firm in its responsibilities for voting proxies, an unaffiliated, third party proxy voting services firm has been retained as an expert in the proxy voting and corporate governance area. The Firm's Compliance Officer and Portfolio Manager have reviewed and approved the policies and procedures prepared by the proxy voting services firm and have determined that these policies and procedures accurately reflect the Firm's objective standards in voting proxies for the Firm's Clients.

The Firm will generally vote proxies based upon the recommendations of the proxy voting services firm consistent with the Proxy Paper Guidelines; however, the Firm may conduct a more detailed analysis and will exercise its own judgment on a case-by-case basis and may

override any recommendation of the proxy voting services firm that it does not believe is in the best interest of its Clients. In considering whether a more detailed analysis is required, the Firm considers if there are any particular factors affecting the issuer (e.g., M&A activity, contested elections of directors, etc.). In the event the Firm fails to instruct the proxy voting services firm on how to vote a proxy, the proxy voting services firm is directed to vote in accordance with its recommendations.

The Firm believes that voting proxies in accordance with the following guidelines is in the best interests of its Clients. Generally, the Firm will vote in favor of routine corporate housekeeping proposals, including election of directors (where no corporate governance issues are implicated), selection of auditors, and increases in or reclassification of common stock.

- Generally, the Firm will vote against proposals that make it more difficult to replace members of the issuer's board of directors, including proposals to stagger the board, cause management to be overrepresented on the board, introduce cumulative voting, introduce unequal voting rights, and create supermajority voting.

For other proposals, the Firm shall determine whether a proposal is in the best interests of its Clients and may take into account the following factors, among others:

- whether the proposal was recommended by management and the Firm's opinion of management;
- whether the proposal acts to entrench existing management; and
- whether the proposal fairly compensates management for past and future performance.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

The Compliance Officer will identify any conflicts that exist between the interests of the Firm and its Clients. This examination will include a review of the relationship of the Firm and its affiliates with the issuer of each security and any of the issuer's affiliates to determine if the issuer is a Client of the Firm or an affiliate of the Firm or has some other relationship with the Firm or a Client of the Firm.

If a material conflict exists, the Firm will determine whether voting in accordance with the voting guidelines and factors described above is in the best interests of the Client. The Firm will also determine whether it is appropriate to disclose the conflict to the affected Clients and, except in the case of Clients that are subject to ERISA, give the Clients the opportunity to vote their proxies themselves.

### **Oversight of Third-Party Proxy Voting Firm**

The Adviser will generally conduct a review of its proxy voting services firm on an annual basis. Such review shall address any established guidance from the SEC in conducting ongoing reviews of third-party proxy voting firms and typically includes an analysis of the firm's processes to maintain accurate and complete information and address conflicts of interest and an overview any relevant business changes.

**Disclosure**

The Firm will disclose in its Form ADV Part 2 that Clients may contact the Compliance Officer, via mail or telephone, in order to obtain information on how the Firm voted such Client's proxies, and to request a copy of these policies and procedures. If a Client requests this information, the Compliance Officer will prepare a written response to the Client that lists, with respect to each voted proxy about which the Client has inquired, (a) the name of the issuer; (b) the proposal voted upon, and (c) how the Firm voted the Client's proxy.

A concise summary of this Proxy Voting Policy and Procedure is included in the Firm's Form ADV Part 2, and is updated whenever these policies and procedures are updated.

**Recordkeeping**

The Compliance Officer will maintain files relating to the Firm's proxy voting procedures in an easily accessible place. Records are maintained and preserved for five years from the end of the fiscal year during which the last entry was made on a record, with records for the first two years kept in the offices of the Firm. Records of the following are included in the files:

- Copies of this proxy voting policy and procedures, and any amendments thereto.
- A copy of each proxy statement that the Firm receives, provided however that the Firm may rely on obtaining a copy of proxy statements from the SEC's EDGAR system for those proxy statements that are so available. The Firm may choose instead to have a third party retain a copy of proxy statements (provided that the third party undertakes to provide a copy of the proxy statements promptly upon request).
- A record of each vote that the Firm casts. The Firm may also rely on a third party to retain a copy of the votes cast (provided that the third party undertakes to provide a copy of the record promptly upon request).
- A copy of any document the Firm created that was material to making a decision how to vote proxies, or that memorializes that decision.
- A copy of each written Client request for information on how the Firm voted such Client's proxies, and a copy of any written response to any (written or oral) Client request for information on how the Firm voted its proxies.
- Annual reviews of proxy voting policies and procedures, including reviews of third-party proxy advisory firms.

**Class Action Claims**

The Firm generally does not participate in class actions but will evaluate relevant class action claims on a case-by-case basis.