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**Item 1 - Cover Page**



Established 1980 | A Wealth of Knowledge

## **WRAP Program Brochure**

Sponsored by:

**MONECO Advisors**  
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**March 2024**

This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of MONECO Advisors LLC dba MONECO Advisors. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (203) 319-3550 or through our website at [www.monecoadvisors.com](http://www.monecoadvisors.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) or by any state securities authority. Additional information about MONECO Advisors, LLC also is available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

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

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## **Item 2 - Material Changes**

MONECO Advisors is required to make clients aware of information that has changed since the last annual update to the Wrap Brochure (“Wrap Brochure”) and that may be important to them. Clients can then determine whether to review the brochure in its entirety or to contact us with questions about the changes.

Since our firm’s last annual amendment filing on 3/17/2023, the following material change(s) have been made:

- Our firm no longer has a branch office location Shelton, CT. Please reach out to MONECO Advisors for any additional questions or information.
- Our firm has further updated our ownership structure. Please see item 4 of our firm’s Form ADV Part 2A or reach out to MONECO Advisors for any additional questions or information.
- Our firm has disclosed a new financial affiliation that our firm has through the same holding company MONECO Advisors is under. Please see item 10 of our firm’s Form ADV Part 2A, item 9 of our firm’s Wrap Brochure or reach out to MONECO Advisors for any additional questions or information.
- Our firm has updated and disclosed additional soft dollar benefits our firm receives. Please see item 12 of our firm’s Form ADV 2A or reach out to MONECO Advisors for any additional questions or information.

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

Our firm manages assets for many different types of clients to help meet their financial goals while remaining sensitive to risk tolerance and time horizons. As a fiduciary it is our duty to always act in the client's best interest. This is accomplished in part by knowing the client. Our firm has established a service-oriented advisory practice with open lines of communication. Working with clients to understand their investment objectives while educating them about our process, facilitates the kind of working relationship we value.

Our wrap fee program allows clients to pay a single fee for investment advisory services and associated custodial transaction costs. Because our firm absorbs client transaction fees, an incentive exists to limit trading activities in client accounts. Custodial transaction costs, however, are not included in the advisory fee charged by our firm for non-wrap services, and are to be paid by the client to their chosen custodian. Depending on the client's account or portfolio trading activity, clients may pay more for using our wrap fee services than they would for using our non-wrap services.

Our firm sponsors and offers a wrap fee program, which allows clients to pay a single fee for investment advisory services and associated custodial transaction costs. Transaction fees will be paid by our firm via individual transaction charges. Because our firm absorbs client transaction fees, an incentive exists to limit trading activities in client accounts to securities that cost less than other types of securities in order to reduce costs. Custodial transaction costs, however, are not included in the advisory fee charged by our firm for non-wrap services, and are to be paid by the client to their chosen custodian. Depending on the client's account or portfolio trading activity, clients may pay more for using our wrap fee services than they would for using our non-wrap services.

LPL Financial offers a trading platform with select exchange traded funds ("ETFs") that do not charge transaction fees. The no-transaction-fee ETF trading platform is available to clients participating in LPL Financial's Strategic Wealth Management ("SWM") and Strategic Asset Management ("SAM") programs. Since our firm pays the transaction fees charged by LPL Financial to clients participating in our wrap fee program, we are incentivized to recommend no-transaction-fee ETFs over other types of securities and ETFs in order to reduce our costs. This presents a conflict of interest because the limited number of ETFs available on the no-transaction fee platform may have higher overall expenses than other types of securities and ETFs not included in the platform. In addition, other major custodians have eliminated transaction fees for all ETFs and U.S. equities, so clients may pay more for investing in the same securities at LPL Financial.

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### **Our Wrap Advisory Services**

#### **Wrap Asset Management:**

As part of our Wrap Asset Management service, clients will be provided asset management and financial planning or consulting services. This service is designed to assist clients in meeting their financial goals through the use of a financial plan or consultation. Our firm conducts client meetings to understand their current financial situation, existing resources, financial goals, and tolerance for risk. Based on what is learned, an investment approach is presented to the client, consisting of individual stocks, bonds, ETFs, options, mutual funds and other public and private securities or investments. Once the appropriate portfolio has been determined, portfolios are continuously and regularly monitored, and if necessary, rebalanced based upon the client's individual needs, stated

goals and objectives. Upon client request, our firm provides a summary of observations and recommendations for the planning or consulting aspects of this service.

### **Fee Schedule**

The maximum annual fee to be charged to the client's account(s) will not exceed 2.00%. The fee to be assessed to each account will be detailed in the client's signed advisory agreement, LPL Account Application or LPL Tiered Fee Authorization form. Fees are billed on a pro-rata basis quarterly in advance based on the value of the account(s) on the last day of the previous quarter. Please note that fees will be adjusted for deposits and withdrawals made during the quarter. If accounts are opened during the quarter, the pro-rata advisory fees will be deducted during the next regularly scheduled billing cycle. Our firm bills on cash unless indicated otherwise in writing. In rare cases, our firm will agree to direct bill clients. Fees are negotiable and will be deducted from the account(s). As part of this process, Clients understand the following:

- a) LPL as the client's custodian sends statements at least quarterly, showing all disbursements for each account, including the amount of the advisory fees paid to our firm;
- b) Clients provide authorization permitting LPL to deduct these fees;
- c) LPL calculates the advisory fees for all fee schedules and deducts them from the client's account.

### **Other Types of Fees and Charges**

In addition to our advisory fees above, Clients may also pay holdings charges imposed by the chosen custodian for certain investments, charges imposed directly by a mutual fund, index fund, or exchange traded fund, which shall be disclosed in the fund's prospectus (i.e., fund management fees and other fund expenses), initial or deferred sales charges, mutual fund sales loads, 12b-1 fees, surrender charges, variable annuity fees, IRA and qualified retirement plan fees. Our firm does not receive a portion of these fees.

### **Wrap Fee Program Recommendations**

Our firm does not recommend or offer the wrap program services of other providers.

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## **Item 5 – Account Requirements and Types of Clients**

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

- Our firm requires a minimum account balance of \$10,000 for our Asset Management service. Generally, this minimum account balance requirement is negotiable and would be required throughout the course of the client's relationship with our firm.
- A minimum account value of \$15,000 is required for OMP.
- A minimum account value of \$250,000 is required for PWP.
- A minimum account value of \$50,000 is required for MWP.
- A minimum account value of \$100,000 is required for Manager Access Select, however, in certain instances, the minimum account size may be lower or higher.

Our firm has the following types of clients:

- Individuals and High Net Worth Individuals;
- Pension and Profit Sharing Plans;

- Corporations, Limited Liability Companies and/or Other Business Types

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## **Item 6 – Portfolio Manager Selection and Evaluation**

Our firm’s investment adviser representatives (“IAR”s) act as portfolio manager(s) for this wrap fee program. A conflict arises in that other investment advisory firms may charge the same or lower fees than our firm for similar services. Additionally, our firm utilizes third party money managers for our wrap fee program. Our IARs and selected third party money managers are subject to individual licensing requirements as imposed by state securities boards. Our firm is required to confirm or update each IAR’s Form U4 on an annual basis. IAR supervision is conducted by our Chief Compliance Officer or management personnel.

LPL performs certain administrative services for our firm, including generation of quarterly performance reports for program accounts. Client will receive an individual quarterly performance report, which provides performance information on a time weighted basis. The performance reports are intended to inform clients as to how their investments have performed for a period, both on an absolute basis and compared to leading investment indices.

### **Advisory Business:**

Information about our wrap fee services can be found in Item 4 of this brochure. Our firm offers individualized investment advice to our Wrap Asset Management clients.

Each Wrap Asset Management client has the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments to be held in the portfolio. Restrictions on investments in certain securities or types of securities may not be possible due to the level of difficulty this would entail in managing the account.

### **Participation in Wrap Fee Programs:**

Our firm previously offered a wrap fee program as further described in Part 2A, Appendix 1 (the “Wrap Fee Program Brochure”). However, our wrap fee program is no longer offered to new clients. Our firm does not manage wrap fee accounts in a different fashion than non-wrap fee accounts. All accounts are managed on an individualized basis according to the client’s investment objectives, financial goals, risk tolerance, etc.

### **Performance-Based Fees & Side-By-Side Management:**

Our firm does not charge performance-based fees.

### **Methods of Analysis and Investment Strategies**

We emphasize continuous and regular account supervision. As part of our asset management service, we generally create a portfolio, consisting of individual stocks or bonds, exchange traded funds (“ETFs”), mutual funds and other public and private securities or investments.

The client’s individual investment strategy is tailored to their specific needs and may include some or all of the previously mentioned securities. Each portfolio will be initially designed to meet a particular investment goal, which we determine to be suitable to the client’s circumstances. Each client has the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments to be held in

the portfolio.

We may use one of the following strategies in managing client accounts, provided that such strategies are appropriate to the needs of the client and consistent with the client's investment objectives, risk tolerance, and time horizons, among other considerations:

*Alternative Strategy Mutual Funds.* Certain mutual funds available in the program invest primarily in alternative investments and/or strategies. Investing in alternative investments and/or strategies may not be suitable for all investors and involves special risks, such as risks associated with commodities, real estate, leverage, selling securities short, the use of derivatives, potential adverse market forces, regulatory changes and potential illiquidity. There are special risks associated with mutual funds that invest principally in real estate securities, such as sensitivity to changes in real estate values and interest rates and price volatility because of the fund's concentration in the real estate industry.

*Closed-End Funds.* A collective investment model based on issuing a fixed number of shares which are not redeemable from the fund. Unlike open-end funds, new shares in a closed-end fund are not created by managers to meet demand from investors. Instead, the shares can be purchased and sold only in the market. This is the original design of the mutual fund which predates open-end mutual funds but offers the same actively managed pooled investments. In the United States, closed-end funds sold publicly must be registered under both the Securities Act of 1933 and the Investment Company Act of 1940. Closed-end funds are usually listed on a recognized stock exchange and can be bought and sold on that exchange. The price per share is determined by the market and is usually different from the underlying value or net asset value ("NAV") per share of the investments held by the fund. The price is said to be at a discount or premium to the NAV when it is below or above the NAV, respectively. A premium might be due to the market's confidence in the investment managers' ability or the underlying securities to produce above-market returns. A discount might reflect the charges to be deducted from the fund in future by the managers, uncertainty due to high amounts of leverage, concerns related to liquidity or lack of investor confidence in the underlying securities.

A closed-end fund differs from an open-end mutual fund in that: (a) It is closed to new capital after it begins operating.; (b) Its shares (typically) trade on stock exchanges rather than being redeemed directly by the fund.; (c) Its shares can therefore be traded at any time during market opening hours. An open-end fund can usually be traded only at a time of day specified by the managers, and the dealing price will usually not be known in advance.; (d) It usually trades at a premium or discount to its net asset value. An open-end fund trades at its net asset value (to which sales charges may be added; and adjustments may be made for e.g., the frictional costs of purchasing or selling the underlying investments).; and (e) In the United States, a closed-end company can own unlisted securities. Another distinguishing feature of a closed-end fund is the common use of leverage. In doing so, the fund manager hopes to earn a higher return with this additional invested capital. This additional capital can be raised by issuing auction rate securities, preferred stock, long-term debt, or reverse-repurchase agreements.

Closed-end fund shares are traded throughout market opening hours at whatever price the market will support. It may be possible to deal using advanced types of orders such as limit orders and stop orders. This is in contrast to some open-end funds which are only available for buying and selling at the close of business each day, at the calculated NAV, and for which orders must be placed in advance, before the NAV is known, and by simple buy or sell orders. Some funds require that orders be placed hours or days in advance, in order to simplify their administration, make it easier to match buyers with sellers, and eliminate the possibility of arbitrage (for example if the fund holds investments

which are traded in other time zones).

Like a company going public, a closed-end fund will have an initial public offering (“IPO”) of its shares at which it will sell for a specific dollar amount each. At that point, the fund's shares will begin to trade on a secondary market, typically the New York Stock Exchange or the NYSE MKT LLC (formerly known as the American Stock Exchange [AMEX]) for American closed-end funds. Any investor who subsequently wishes to buy or sell fund shares will do so on the secondary market. In normal circumstances, closed-end funds do not redeem their own shares. Nor, typically, do they sell more shares after the IPO (although they may issue preferred stock, in essence taking out a loan secured by the portfolio). In general, closed-end funds cannot issue securities for services or property other than cash or securities.

Closed-end funds are traded on exchanges and in that respect they are like exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”), but there are important differences between these two kinds of security. The price of a closed-end fund is completely determined by the valuation of the market, and this price often diverges substantially from the NAV of the fund assets. In contrast, the market price of an ETF trades in a narrow range very close to its net asset value, because the structure of ETFs allows major market participants to redeem shares of an ETF for a “basket” of the fund's underlying assets. This feature could in theory lead to potential arbitrage profits if the market price of the ETF were to diverge substantially from its NAV.

The typical associated risks are: (a) Securities may decline in value due to factors affecting securities markets generally or particular industries. The value of a trust/fund may be worth less than the original investment.; (b) Common shares may trade above (a premium) or below (a discount) the net asset value (NAV) of the trust/fund's portfolio. At times, discounts could widen or premiums could shrink, which could either dilute positive performance or compound negative performance. There is no assurance that discounted funds will appreciate to their NAV.; (c) Generally, when market interest rates rise, bond prices fall, and vice versa. Interest rate risk is the risk that the bonds and/or other income-related instruments in a fund's portfolio will decline in value because of increases in market interest rates. The prices of longer-maturity securities tend to fluctuate more than shorter-term security prices.; (d) One or more securities in a trust/fund's portfolio could decline or fail to pay interest or principal when due. Income-related securities of below investment grade quality are predominately speculative with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal when due and, therefore, involve a greater risk of default.; (e) A trust/fund that invests a substantial portion of its assets in securities within a single industry or sector of the economy may be subject to greater price volatility or adversely affected by the performance of securities in that particular sector or industry.; (f) Income from a trust/fund's bond portfolio will decline when the trust/fund invests the proceeds from matured, traded, or called bonds at market interest rates that are below the portfolio's current earnings rate. A decline in income could affect the common shares' market price or their overall returns.; (g) The use of leverage may lead to increased volatility of a trust/fund's NAV and market price relative to its common shares. Leverage is likely to magnify any losses in the trust/fund's portfolio, which may lead to increased market price declines. Fluctuations in interest rates on borrowings or the dividend rates on preferred shares that take place from changes in short-term interest rates may reduce the return to common shareholders or result in fluctuations in the dividends paid on common shares. There is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful.; (h) Investment in foreign securities (both governmental and corporate) may involve a high degree of risk. Trusts/funds invested in foreign securities are subject to additional risks such as, but not limited to, currency risk and exchange-rate risk, political instability, and economic instability of the countries from where the securities originate. In regards to debt securities, such risks may impair the timely payment of principal and/or interest.; (i) A trust/fund may invest in securities



subject to the alternative minimum tax.; and (j) The composition of the trust/fund's portfolio could change, which, all else being equal, could cause a reduction in dividends paid to common shares. Certain closed-end funds invest in common stocks. There is no guarantee of dividends from these common stocks. Fluctuations in dividend levels over time, up and down, are to be expected.

The potential risks associated with these transactions are that (1) all options expire. The closer the option gets to expiration, the quicker the premium in the option deteriorates; and (2) Prices can move very quickly. Depending on factors such as time until expiration and the relationship of the stock price to the option's strike price, small movements in a stock can translate into big movements in the underlying options.

*Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs).* ETFs are typically investment companies that are legally classified as open end mutual funds or UITs. However, they differ from traditional mutual funds, in particular, in that ETF shares are listed on a securities exchange. Shares can be bought and sold throughout the trading day like shares of other publicly-traded companies. ETF shares may trade at a discount or premium to their net asset value. This difference between the bid price and the ask price is often referred to as the "spread." The spread varies over time based on the ETF's trading volume and market liquidity, and is generally lower if the ETF has a lot of trading volume and market liquidity and higher if the ETF has little trading volume and market liquidity. Although many ETFs are registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 like traditional mutual funds, some ETFs, in particular those that invest in commodities, are not registered as an investment company.

*Exchange-Traded Notes (ETNs).* An ETN is a senior unsecured debt obligation designed to track the total return of an underlying market index or other benchmark. ETNs may be linked to a variety of assets, for example, commodity futures, foreign currency and equities. ETNs are similar to ETFs in that they are listed on an exchange and can typically be bought or sold throughout the trading day. However, an ETN is not a mutual fund and does not have a net asset value; the ETN trades at the prevailing market price. Some of the more common risks of an ETN are as follows. The repayment of the principal, interest (if any), and the payment of any returns at maturity or upon redemption are dependent upon the ETN issuer's ability to pay. In addition, the trading price of the ETN in the secondary market may be adversely impacted if the issuer's credit rating is downgraded. The index or asset class for performance replication in an ETN may or may not be concentrated in a specific sector, asset class or country and may therefore carry specific risks.

*Leveraged and Inverse ETFs, ETNs and Mutual Funds.* Leveraged ETFs, ETNs and mutual funds, sometimes labeled "ultra" or "2x" for example, are designed to provide a multiple of the underlying index's return, typically on a daily basis. Inverse products are designed to provide the opposite of the return of the underlying index, typically on a daily basis. These products are different from and can be riskier than traditional ETFs, ETNs and mutual funds. Although these products are designed to provide returns that generally correspond to the underlying index, they may not be able to exactly replicate the performance of the index because of fund expenses and other factors. This is referred to as tracking error. Continual re-setting of returns within the product may add to the underlying costs and increase the tracking error. As a result, this may prevent these products from achieving their investment objective. In addition, compounding of the returns can produce a divergence from the underlying index over time, in particular for leveraged products. In highly volatile markets with large positive and negative swings, return distortions are magnified over time. Because of these distortions, these products should be actively monitored, as frequently as daily, and are generally not appropriate as an intermediate or long-term holding. To accomplish their objectives, these products use a range of strategies, including swaps, futures contracts and other derivatives. These products

may not be diversified and can be based on commodities or currencies. These products may have higher expense ratios and be less tax-efficient than more traditional ETFs, ETNs and mutual funds.

Microcap Securities: Microcap securities are low-priced stocks issued by some of the smallest companies. The term “microcap stock” applies to companies with low capitalizations (i.e., total value of company's stock). A typical microcap security would come from companies with a market capitalization of less than \$250 or \$300 million. As Microcap companies typically have limited assets and operations. Microcap stocks tend to be low priced and trade in low volumes.

Microcap securities are publicly traded securities that are often traded over-the-counter (“OTC”) rather than on a national securities exchange such as the New York Stock Exchange or NASDAQ. They are quoted on OTC systems such as the OTC Bulletin Board or OTC Link LLC.

This security type is not without risks. There is a lack of public information as compared to other stocks traded on a national securities exchange for microcap securities. There are also no minimum listing standards on OTC systems as compared to a national securities exchange. Microcap securities can generally be illiquid as compared to other larger companies. Further, microcap securities are highly volatile as compared to stocks of larger companies. Finally, reliable publicly available information about microcap securities is often limited. This in combination with microcap companies historically being less liquid and more thinly traded than the stocks of larger companies make it easier for fraudsters to manipulate the stock price or trading volume of microcap securities.

Options: An option is a financial derivative that represents a contract sold by one party (the option writer) to another party (the option holder, or option buyer). The contract offers the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a security or other financial asset at an agreed-upon price (the strike price) during a certain period of time or on a specific date (exercise date). Options are extremely versatile securities. Traders use options to speculate, which is a relatively risky practice, while hedgers use options to reduce the risk of holding an asset. In terms of speculation, option buyers and writers have conflicting views regarding the outlook on the performance of a:

- *Call Option:* Call options give the option to buy at certain price, so the buyer would want the stock to go up. Conversely, the option writer needs to provide the underlying shares in the event that the stock's market price exceeds the strike due to the contractual obligation. An option writer who sells a call option believes that the underlying stock's price will drop relative to the option's strike price during the life of the option, as that is how he will reap maximum profit. This is exactly the opposite outlook of the option buyer. The buyer believes that the underlying stock will rise; if this happens, the buyer will be able to acquire the stock for a lower price and then sell it for a profit. However, if the underlying stock does not close above the strike price on the expiration date, the option buyer would lose the premium paid for the call option.
- *Put Option:* Put options give the option to sell at a certain price, so the buyer would want the stock to go down. The opposite is true for put option writers. For example, a put option buyer is bearish on the underlying stock and believes its market price will fall below the specified strike price on or before a specified date. On the other hand, an option writer who sells a put option believes the underlying stock's price will increase about a specified price on or before the expiration date. If the underlying stock's price closes above the specified strike price on the expiration date, the put option writer's maximum profit is achieved. Conversely, a put option holder would only benefit from a fall in the underlying stock's price below the strike price. If the underlying stock's price falls below the strike price, the put option writer is obligated to purchase shares of the underlying stock at the strike price.

The potential risks associated with these transactions are that options on securities may be subject to greater fluctuations in value than an investment in the underlying securities. Additionally, options have an expiration date, which makes them “decay” in value over the amount of time they are held and can expire worthless. Purchasing and writing put and call options are highly specialized activities and entail greater than ordinary investment risks.

Structured Products. Structured products are securities derived from another asset, such as a security or a basket of securities, an index, a commodity, a debt issuance, or a foreign currency. Structured products frequently limit the upside participation in the reference asset. Structured products are senior unsecured debt of the issuing bank and subject to the credit risk associated with that issuer. This credit risk exists whether or not the investment held in the account offers principal protection. The creditworthiness of the issuer does not affect or enhance the likely performance of the investment other than the ability of the issuer to meet its obligations. Any payments due at maturity are dependent on the issuer’s ability to pay. In addition, the trading price of the security in the secondary market, if there is one, may be adversely impacted if the issuer’s credit rating is downgraded. Some structured products offer full protection of the principal invested, others offer only partial or no protection. Investors may be sacrificing a higher yield to obtain the principal guarantee. In addition, the principal guarantee relates to nominal principal and does not offer inflation protection. An investor in a structured product never has a claim on the underlying investment, whether a security, zero coupon bond, or option. There may be little or no secondary market for the securities and information regarding independent market pricing for the securities may be limited. This is true even if the product has a ticker symbol or has been approved for listing on an exchange. Tax treatment of structured products may be different from other investments held in the account (e.g., income may be taxed as ordinary income even though payment is not received until maturity). Structured CDs that are insured by the FDIC are subject to applicable FDIC limits.

Hedge Funds and Managed Futures. Hedge and managed futures funds are available for purchase in the program by clients meeting certain qualification standards. Investing in these funds involves additional risks including, but not limited to, the risk of investment loss due to the use of leveraging and other speculative investment practices and the lack of liquidity and performance volatility. In addition, these funds are not required to provide periodic pricing or valuation information to investors and may involve complex tax structures and delays in distributing important tax information. Client should be aware that these funds are not liquid as there is no secondary trading market available. At the absolute discretion of the issuer of the fund, there may be certain repurchase offers made from time to time. However, there is no guarantee that client will be able to redeem the fund during the repurchase offer.

Variable Annuities. If client purchases a variable annuity that is part of the program, client will receive a prospectus and should rely solely on the disclosure contained in the prospectus with respect to the terms and conditions of the variable annuity. Client should also be aware that certain riders purchased with a variable annuity may limit the investment options and the ability to manage the subaccounts.

Margin Accounts. Client should be aware that margin borrowing involves additional risks. Margin borrowing will result in increased gain if the value of the securities in the account go up, but will result in increased losses if the value of the securities in the account goes down. The custodian, acting as the client’s creditor, will have the authority to liquidate all or part of the account to repay any portion of the margin loan, even if the timing would be disadvantageous to the client. For performance illustration purposes, the margin interest charge will be treated as a withdrawal and

will, therefore, not negatively impact the performance figures reflected on the quarterly advisory reports.

We use a combination of fundamental, technical and cyclical analysis in order to formulate investment advice when managing assets. Depending on the analysis the firm will implement a long or short term trading strategy based on the particular objectives and risk tolerance of a particular client.

Fundamental Analysis involves the analysis of financial statements, the general financial health of companies, and/or the analysis of management or competitive advantages. Fundamental analysis concentrates on factors that determine a company's value and expected future earnings. This strategy would normally encourage equity purchases in stocks that are undervalued or priced below their perceived value. The risk assumed is that the market will fail to reach expectations of perceived value.

Technical Analysis involves the analysis of past market data; primarily price and volume. Technical analysis attempts to predict a future stock price or direction based on market trends. The assumption is that the market follows discernible patterns and if these patterns can be identified then a prediction can be made. The risk is that markets do not always follow patterns and relying solely on this method may not take into account new patterns that emerge over time.

Cyclical Analysis involves the analysis of business cycles to find favorable conditions for buying and/or selling a security. Cyclical analysis assumes that the markets react in cyclical patterns which, once identified, can be leveraged to provide performance. The risks with this strategy are two-fold: 1) the markets do not always repeat cyclical patterns; and 2) if too many investors begin to implement this strategy, then it changes the very cycles these investors are trying to exploit.

Please note, investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. There are different types of investments that involve varying degrees of risk, and it should not be assumed that future performance of any specific investment or investment strategy will be profitable or equal any specific performance level(s). Past performance is not indicative of future results.

The firms' methods of analysis and investment strategies do not represent any significant or unusual risks however all strategies have inherent risks and performance limitations such as:

Market Risk - the risk that the value of securities may go up or down, sometimes rapidly or unpredictably, due to factors affecting securities markets generally or particular industries.

Interest Rate Risk - the risk that fixed income securities will decline in value because of an increase in interest rates; a bond or a fixed income fund with a longer duration will be more sensitive to changes in interest rates than a bond or bond fund with a shorter duration.

Credit Risk - the risk that an investor could lose money if the issuer or guarantor of a fixed income security is unable or unwilling to meet its financial obligations.

Mutual Funds - Investing in mutual funds carries the risk of capital loss and thus you may lose money investing in mutual funds. All mutual funds have costs that lower investment returns. The funds can be of bond "fixed income" nature (lower risk) or stock "equity" nature (mentioned below).

Equity - investment generally refers to buying shares of stocks in return for receiving a future payment of dividends and//or capital gains if the value of the stock increases. The value of equity

securities may fluctuate in response to specific situations for each company, industry conditions and the general economic environments.

Fixed income - investments generally pay a return on a fixed schedule, though the amount of the payments can vary. This type of investment can include corporate and government debt securities, leveraged loans, high yield, and investment grade debt and structured products, such as mortgage and other asset-backed securities, although individual bonds may be the best known type of fixed income security. In general, the fixed income market is volatile and fixed income securities carry interest rate risk. (As interest rates rise, bond prices usually fall, and vice versa. This effect is usually more pronounced for longer-term securities.) Fixed income securities also carry inflation risk, liquidity risk, call risk, and credit and default risks for both issuers and counterparties. The risk of default on treasury inflation protected/inflation linked bonds is dependent upon the U.S. Treasury defaulting (extremely unlikely); however, they carry a potential risk of losing share price value, albeit rather minimal. Risks of investing in foreign fixed income securities also include the general risk of non-U.S. investing described below.

Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) - An ETF is an investment fund traded on stock exchanges, similar to stocks. Investing in ETFs carries the risk of capital loss (sometimes up to a 100% loss in the case of a stock holding bankruptcy). Areas of concern include the lack of transparency in products and increasing complexity, conflicts of interest and the possibility of inadequate regulatory compliance. Precious Metal ETFs (e.g., Gold, Silver, or Palladium Bullion backed “electronic shares” not physical metal) specifically may be negatively impacted by several unique factors, among them (1) large sales by the official sector which own a significant portion of aggregate world holdings in gold and other precious metals, (2) a significant increase in hedging activities by producers of gold or other precious metals, (3) a significant change in the attitude of speculators and investors.

Annuities - are a retirement product for those who may have the ability to pay a premium now and want to guarantee they receive certain monthly payments or a return on investment later in the future. Annuities are contracts issued by a life insurance company designed to meet requirement or other long-term goals. An annuity is not a life insurance policy. Variable annuities are designed to be long-term investments, to meet retirement and other long-range goals. Variable annuities are not suitable for meeting short-term goals because substantial taxes and insurance company charges may apply if you withdraw your money early. Variable annuities also involve investment risks; just as mutual funds do.

Non-U.S. securities - present certain risks such as currency fluctuation, political and economic change, social unrest, changes in government regulation, differences in accounting and the lesser degree of accurate public information available.

### **Voting Client Securities:**

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

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

All accounts are managed by our in-house licensed IARs. The IAR selected to manage the client's account(s) or portfolio(s) will be privy to the client's investment goals and objectives, risk tolerance, restrictions placed on the management of the account(s) or portfolio(s) and relevant client notes taken by our firm. Please see our firm's Privacy Policy for more information on how our firm utilizes client information.

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## **Item 8 – Client Contact with Portfolio Managers**

Clients are always free to directly contact their portfolio manager(s) with any questions or concerns about their portfolios or other matters.

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## **Item 9 – Additional Information**

### **Disciplinary Information**

There are no legal or disciplinary events that are material to the evaluation of our advisory business or the integrity of our management.

### **Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

Investment advisor representatives may also be registered representatives of LPL Financial, an unaffiliated SEC registered and FINRA/SIPC member broker/dealer. Clients may choose to engage a registered investment advisor in their capacity as a registered representative of the unaffiliated LPL Financial broker/dealer, to implement investment recommendations on a commission basis.

Representatives of our firm are insurance agents/brokers. They may offer insurance products and receive customary fees as a result of insurance sales. A conflict of interest may arise as these insurance sales may create an incentive to recommend products based on the compensation adviser and/or our supervised persons may earn and may not necessarily be in the best interests of the client. Such potential conflicts of interest are subject to review by the Chief Compliance Officer and subject to LPL Financial surveillance controls.

Our firm is affiliated with MONECO Tax LLC, a firm that provides tax prep to clients, which our firm is affiliated with through the same holding company. Clients may be solicited to utilize these services; however, they are under no obligation to do so. A conflict of interest exists as these sales create an incentive to recommend products based on the compensation that may be earned. To mitigate this potential conflict, our firm will act in the client's best interest.

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

As a fiduciary, it is an investment adviser's responsibility to provide fair and full disclosure of all material facts and to act solely in the best interest of each of our clients at all times. Our fiduciary duty is the underlying principle for our firm's Code of Ethics, which includes procedures for personal securities transaction and insider trading. Our firm requires all representatives to conduct business with the highest level of ethical standards and to comply with all federal and state securities laws at all times. Upon employment with our firm, and at least annually thereafter, all representatives of our firm will acknowledge receipt, understanding and compliance with our firm's Code of Ethics. Our firm



and representatives must conduct business in an honest, ethical, and fair manner and avoid all circumstances that might negatively affect or appear to affect our duty of complete loyalty to all clients. This disclosure is provided to give all clients a summary of our Code of Ethics. If a client or a potential client wishes to review our Code of Ethics in its entirety, a copy will be provided promptly upon request.

Our firm recognizes that the personal investment transactions of our representatives demands the application of a Code of Ethics with high standards and requires that all such transactions be carried out in a way that does not endanger the interest of any client. At the same time, our firm also believes that if investment goals are similar for clients and for our representatives, it is logical, and even desirable, that there be common ownership of some securities.

In order to prevent conflicts of interest, our firm has established procedures for transactions effected by our representatives for their personal accounts<sup>1</sup>. In order to monitor compliance with our personal trading policy, our firm has pre-clearance requirements and a quarterly securities transaction reporting system for all of our representatives.

Neither our firm nor a related person recommends, buys or sells for client accounts, securities in which our firm or a related person has a material financial interest without prior disclosure to the client.

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

Likewise, related persons of our firm buy or sell securities for themselves at or about the same time they buy or sell the same securities for client accounts. In order to minimize this conflict of interest, our related persons will place client interests ahead of their own interests and adhere to our firm's Code of Ethics, a copy of which is available upon request. Further, our related persons will refrain from buying or selling the same securities prior to buying or selling for our clients in the same day. If related persons' accounts are included in a block trade, our related persons will always trade personal accounts last.

## **Review of Accounts**

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Our management personnel or financial advisors review accounts on at least an annual basis for our Wrap Asset Management clients. The nature of these reviews is to learn whether clients' accounts are in line with their investment objectives, appropriately positioned based on market conditions, and investment policies, if applicable.

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

Our firm does not typically provide written reports to clients, unless asked to do so. Verbal reports

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

to clients take place on at least an annual basis when our Wrap Asset Management clients are contacted.

### **Other Compensation**

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MONECO Advisors and employees may receive additional compensation from product sponsors. However, such compensation may not be tied to the sales of any products. Compensation may include such items as gifts valued at less than \$100 annually, an occasional dinner or ticket to a sporting event, or reimbursement in connection with educational meetings with investment advisor representative, client workshops or events, marketing events or advertising initiatives, including services for identifying prospective clients. Product sponsors may also pay for, or reimburse MONECO Advisors for the costs associated with, education or training events that may be attended by MONECO Advisors employees and investment advisor representatives and for MONECO Advisors sponsored conferences and events. Additionally, LPL may compensate our firm for on boarding advisors. Our clients do not pay more for investment transactions effected and/or assets maintained at LPL as result of this arrangement. There is no commitment made by us to LPL or any other institution as a result of the above arrangement.

Our firm's Dually Registered Persons may be incented to join and remain affiliated with LPL and to recommend that Clients establish accounts with LPL through the provision of Transition Assistance (discussed in the MONECO Advisors ADV 2B). LPL may also provide other compensation to our firm's Dually Registered Persons, including but not limited to, bonus payments, repayable and forgivable loans, stock awards and other benefits. The receipt of any such compensation creates a financial incentive for your representative to recommend LPL as custodian for the assets in your advisory account. Our firm encourages you to discuss any such conflicts of interest with your representative before making a decision to custody your assets at LPL.

### **Client Referrals**

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In accordance with Rule 206 (4)-1 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, our firm provides cash or non-cash compensation directly or indirectly to unaffiliated persons for testimonials or endorsements (which include client referrals). Such compensation arrangements will not result in higher costs to the referred client. In this regard, our firm maintains a written agreement with each unaffiliated person that is compensated for testimonials or endorsements in an aggregate amount of \$1,000 or more (or the equivalent value in non-cash compensation) over a trailing 12-month period in compliance with Rule 206 (4)-1 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and applicable state and federal laws. The following information will be disclosed clearly and prominently to referred prospective clients at the time of each testimonial or endorsement:

- Whether or not the unaffiliated person is a current client of our firm,
- A description of the cash or non-cash compensation provided directly or indirectly by our firm to the unaffiliated person in exchange for the referral, if applicable, and
- A brief statement of any material conflicts of interest on the part of the unaffiliated person giving the referral resulting from our firm's relationship with such unaffiliated person.

In cases where state law requires licensure of solicitors, our firm ensures that no solicitation fees are paid unless the solicitor is registered as an investment adviser representative of our firm. If our firm is paying solicitation fees to another registered investment adviser, the licensure of individuals is the other firm's responsibility.



## **Financial Information**

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Our firm is not required to provide financial information in this Brochure because our firm does not require the prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees when services cannot be rendered within 6 months. Our firm has never been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.