



## STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### MUZINICH FUNDS

April 30, 2021

**Investment Advisor:**

**Account Information and Shareholder Services:**

Muzinich Funds  
c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services  
P.O. Box 701  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0701  
1-855-MUZINICH or 1-855-689-4642

#### **MUZINICH CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES FUND**

Institutional Shares (Ticker: MZCIX)  
Supra Institutional Shares (Ticker: MZCSX)

#### **MUZINICH U.S. HIGH YIELD CREDIT FUND**

*(formerly MUZINICH U.S. HIGH YIELD CORPORATE BOND FUND)*

Class A Shares (Ticker: MZHRX)\*  
Institutional Shares (Ticker: MZHIX)  
Supra Institutional Shares (Ticker: MZHSX)

#### **MUZINICH LOW DURATION FUND**

Class A Shares (Ticker: MZLRX)\*  
Institutional Shares (Ticker: MZLIX)  
Supra Institutional Shares (Ticker: MZLSX)

#### **MUZINICH HIGH INCOME FLOATING RATE FUND**

Class A Shares (Ticker: MZFRX)\*  
Institutional Shares (Ticker: MZFIX)  
Supra Institutional Shares (Ticker: MZFSX)\*

\* Shares are not available for purchase.

This Statement of Additional Information (the “SAI”) provides additional information to the Prospectus dated April 30, 2021, as may be amended from time to time, of the Muzinich Credit Opportunities Fund, Muzinich U.S. High Yield Credit Fund, Muzinich Low Duration Fund, and Muzinich High Income Floating Rate Fund (each, a “Fund,” and collectively, the “Funds”), each a series of Professionally Managed Portfolios, a registered, open-end management investment company (the “Trust”). This SAI is not a prospectus and should only be read in conjunction with the Prospectus. You may obtain the Prospectus without charge by contacting U.S. Bank Global Fund Services at the address or telephone number listed above or by visiting the Funds’ website at [www.MuzinichUSFunds.com](http://www.MuzinichUSFunds.com).

The Funds’ most recent [Annual Report](#) to shareholders is available, without charge, upon request by calling the number listed above. The financial statements, accompanying notes and report of independent registered public accounting firm appearing in the [Annual Report](#) are incorporated into this SAI by reference to the Funds’ [Annual Report](#) dated December 31, 2020, as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). The Muzinich Credit Opportunities Fund commenced operations on January 3, 2013. The Muzinich U.S. High Yield Credit Fund commenced operations on March 31, 2016. The Muzinich Low Duration Fund commenced operations on June 30, 2016. The Muzinich High Income Floating Rate Fund commenced operations on June 29, 2018.

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## GLOSSARY

As used in this SAI, the following terms have the meanings listed:

“Accountant” means U.S. Bank Global Fund Services.

“Administrator” means U.S. Bank Global Fund Services.

“Advisor” or “Muzinich” means Muzinich & Co., Inc., the Funds’ investment advisor.

“Board” means the Board of Trustees of the Trust.

“CFTC” means Commodities Future Trading Commission.

“Code” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended the rules thereunder, IRS interpretations and any private letter rulings or similar authority upon which the Funds may rely.

“Custodian” means U.S. Bank National Association.

“Distributor” means Quasar Distributors, LLC.

“Fund” means each of the: Muzinich High Income Floating Rate Fund, Muzinich U.S. High Yield Credit Fund, Muzinich Low Duration Fund, and Muzinich Credit Opportunities Fund (together, the “Funds”).

“Fund Services” means U.S. Bank Global Fund Services.

“Independent Trustee” means a Trustee that is not an interested person of the Trust as that term is defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act.

“IRS” means U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

“Moody’s” means Moody’s Investors Service.

“NAV” means net asset value per share.

“NRSRO” means a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

“SAI” means Statement of Additional Information.

“SEC” means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

“S&P” means Standard & Poor’s Corporation, a division of the McGraw Hill Companies.

“Transfer Agent” means U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services.

“Trust” means Professionally Managed Portfolios.

“U.S.” means United States.

“U.S. Government Securities” means obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities.

“1933 Act” means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and including rules and regulations as promulgated thereunder.

“1934 Act” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and including rules and resolutions as promulgated thereunder.

“1940 Act” means the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and including rules and regulations SEC interpretations and any exemptive order applicable to the Funds or interpretive relief promulgated thereunder.

## THE TRUST

The Trust is a Massachusetts business trust organized on February 24, 1987, and is registered with the SEC as an open-end management investment company. Prior to May 1991, the Trust was known as the Avondale Investment Trust. The Trust's Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the "Declaration of Trust") permits the Trust's Board of Trustees (the "Board") to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest, without par value, which may be issued in any number of series. The Trust consists of various series that represent separate investment portfolios. The Board may from time to time issue other series, the assets and liabilities of which will be separate and distinct from any other series. This SAI relates only to the Funds.

The shareholders of a Massachusetts business trust could, under certain circumstances, be held personally liable as partners for its obligations. However, the Declaration of Trust contains an express disclaimer of shareholder liability for acts or obligations of the Trust.

The Declaration of Trust also provides for indemnification and reimbursement of expenses out of the Funds' assets for any shareholder held personally liable for obligations of the Funds or the Trust. The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trust shall, upon request, assume the defense of any claim made against any shareholder for any act or obligation of the Funds or the Trust and satisfy any judgment thereon. All such rights are limited to the assets of the Funds. The Declaration of Trust further provides that the Trust may maintain appropriate insurance (for example, fidelity bonding and errors and omissions insurance) for the protection of the Trust, its shareholders, trustees, officers, employees and agents to cover possible tort and other liabilities. However, the activities of the Trust as an investment company would not likely give rise to liabilities in excess of the Trust's total assets. Thus, the risk of a shareholder incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which both inadequate insurance exists and a Fund itself is unable to meet its obligations.

### **Fund History**

Each Fund is a diversified series of the Trust. This means that for 75% of its total assets, each Fund may not invest more than 5% of its total assets in securities of a single issuer or hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting shares of a single issuer. Under applicable federal securities laws, the diversification of a mutual fund's holdings is measured at the time a fund purchases a security. However, if a fund purchases a security and holds it for a period of time, the security may become a larger percentage of the fund's total assets due to movements in the financial markets. If the market affects several securities held by a fund, the fund may have a greater percentage of its assets invested in securities of fewer issuers. Accordingly, a fund would be subject to the risk that its performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of relatively few securities despite the fund qualifying as a diversified fund under applicable federal securities laws.

The Funds do not hold themselves out as related to any other series within the Trust for purposes of investment and investor services, nor do they share the same investment advisor with any other series of the Trust. The Funds' Prospectus and this SAI are a part of the Trust's Registration Statement filed with the SEC. Copies of the Trust's complete Registration Statement may be obtained from the SEC upon payment of the prescribed fee or may be accessed free of charge at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

The Muzinich Credit Opportunities Fund (the "Credit Opportunities Fund") commenced operations on January 3, 2013. The Muzinich U.S. High Yield Credit Fund (the "U.S. High Yield Fund") commenced operations on March 31, 2016. The Muzinich Low Duration Fund (the "Low Duration Fund")

commenced operations on June 30, 2016. The Muzinich High Income Floating Rate Fund (the “Floating Rate Fund”) commenced operations on June 29, 2018.

## **INVESTMENT POLICIES AND RISKS**

The following information supplements the discussion of each Fund’s investment objective and policies as set forth in the Prospectuses. The Funds may invest in the following types of investments, which are subject to certain risks, as discussed below.

### **Fixed Income Securities**

#### **High Yield and Other Securities**

Each Fund will invest in debt securities, including bonds and debentures (which are long-term) and notes (which may be short- or long-term). Each Fund will invest in securities that are rated below investment grade or non-rated. Investments in high yield securities (i.e., less than investment grade), while providing greater income and opportunity for gain than investments in higher-rated securities, entail relatively greater risk of loss of income or principal. Lower-grade obligations are commonly referred to as “junk bonds.” Market prices of high-yield, lower-grade obligations may fluctuate more than market prices of higher-rated securities. Lower grade, fixed income securities tend to reflect short-term corporate and market developments to a greater extent than higher-rated obligations which, assuming no change in their fundamental quality, react primarily to fluctuations in the general level of interest rates.

Each Fund may purchase unrated securities. Unrated securities may be less liquid than comparable rated securities and involve the risk that the portfolio manager may not accurately evaluate the securities comparative credit rating.

The high yield market at times is subject to substantial volatility. An economic downturn or increase in interest rates may have a more significant effect on high yield securities and their markets, as well as on the ability of securities’ issuers to repay principal and interest. Issuers of high yield securities may be of low creditworthiness and the high yield securities may be subordinated to the claims of senior lenders. During periods of economic downturn or rising interest rates the issuers of high yield securities may have greater potential for insolvency and a higher incidence of high yield bond defaults may be experienced.

The prices of high yield securities have been found to be less sensitive to interest rate changes than higher-rated investments but are more sensitive to adverse economic changes or individual corporate developments. During an economic downturn or substantial period of rising interest rates, highly leveraged issuers may experience financial stress which would adversely affect their ability to service their principal and interest payment obligations, to meet projected business goals, and to obtain additional financing. If the issuer of a high yield security owned by a Fund defaults, the Fund may incur additional expenses in seeking recovery. Periods of economic uncertainty and changes can be expected to result in increased volatility of the market prices of high yield securities and a Fund’s NAV per share. Yields on high yield securities will fluctuate over time. Furthermore, in the case of high yield securities structured as zero coupon or pay-in-kind securities, their market prices are affected to a greater extent by interest rate changes and therefore tend to be more volatile than the market prices of securities which pay interest periodically and in cash.

Certain securities held by each Fund including high yield securities, may contain redemption or call provisions. If an issuer exercises these provisions in a declining interest rate market, a Fund would have to replace the security with a lower yielding security, resulting in a decreased return for the investor.

Conversely, a high yield security's value will decrease in a rising interest rate market, as will a Fund's net assets.

The secondary market for high yield securities may at times become less liquid or respond to adverse publicity or investor perceptions making it more difficult for each Fund to accurately value high yield securities or dispose of them. To the extent a Fund owns or may acquire illiquid or restricted high yield securities, these securities may involve special registration responsibilities, liabilities and costs, liquidity difficulties, and judgment will play a greater role in valuation because there is less reliable and objective data available.

Special tax considerations are associated with investing in high yield bonds structured as zero coupon or pay-in-kind securities. A Fund will report the interest on these securities as income even though it receives no cash interest until the security's maturity or payment date. Further, each Fund must distribute substantially all of its income to its shareholders to qualify for pass-through treatment under the tax law. Accordingly, a Fund may have to dispose of its portfolio securities under disadvantageous circumstances to generate cash or may have to borrow to satisfy distribution requirements.

Credit ratings evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments, not the market value risk of high yield securities. Since credit rating agencies may fail to timely change the credit ratings to reflect subsequent events, the Advisor monitors the issuers of high yield securities in the portfolio to determine if the issuers will have sufficient cash flow and profits to meet required principal and interest payments, and to attempt to assure the securities' liquidity so the Fund can meet redemption requests. To the extent that a Fund invests in high yield securities, the achievement of its investment objective may be more dependent on the Advisor's credit analysis than would be the case for higher quality bonds. The Funds may retain a portfolio security whose rating has been changed.

### **Syndicated Loans and Assignments**

Each Fund may purchase participations in commercial loans. Such indebtedness may be secured or unsecured. Syndicated loans typically represent direct participation in a loan to a corporate borrower, and generally are offered by banks or other financial institutions or lending syndicates. A Fund may participate in such syndications, or can buy part of a loan, becoming a part lender. When purchasing syndicated loans, a Fund assumes the credit risk associated with the corporate borrower and may assume the credit risk associated with an interposed bank or other financial intermediary. The participation interests in which each Fund intends to invest may not be rated by any nationally recognized rating service. Each Fund may invest in debtor-in-possession financings (commonly known as "DIP financings"). DIP financings are arranged when an entity seeks the protections of the bankruptcy court under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. These financings allow the entity to continue its business operations while reorganizing under Chapter 11. Such financings constitute senior liens on unencumbered security (i.e., security not subject to other creditors' claims). There is a risk that the entity will not emerge from Chapter 11 and be forced to liquidate its assets under Chapter 7 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. In the event of liquidation, a Fund's only recourse will be against the property securing the DIP financing. A loan is often administered by an agent bank acting as agent for all holders. The agent bank administers the terms of the loan, as specified in the loan agreement. In addition, the agent bank is normally responsible for the collection of principal and interest payments from the corporate borrower and the apportionment of these payments to the credit of all institutions which are parties to the loan agreement. Unless, under the terms of the loan or other indebtedness, a Fund has direct recourse against the corporate borrower, the Fund may have to rely on the agent bank or other financial intermediary to apply appropriate credit remedies against a corporate borrower. A financial institution's employment as agent bank might be terminated in the event that it fails to observe a requisite standard of care or becomes insolvent. A

successor agent bank would generally be appointed to replace the terminated agent bank, and assets held by the agent bank under the loan agreement should remain available to holders of such indebtedness. However, if assets held by the agent bank for the benefit of a Fund were determined to be subject to the claims of the agent bank's general creditors, a Fund might incur certain costs and delays in realizing payment on a syndicated loan and could suffer a loss of principal and/or interest. In situations involving other interposed financial institutions (e.g., an insurance company or governmental agency) similar risks may arise. Purchasers of loans and other forms of direct indebtedness depend primarily upon the creditworthiness of the corporate borrower for payment of principal and interest. If a Fund does not receive scheduled interest or principal payments on such indebtedness, the Fund's share price and yield could be adversely affected. Loans that are fully secured offer the Funds more protection than an unsecured loan in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal. However, there is no assurance that the liquidation of collateral from a secured loan would satisfy the corporate borrower's obligation, or that the collateral can be liquidated. A Fund may invest in syndicated loans with credit quality comparable to that of issuers of its securities investments. Indebtedness of companies whose creditworthiness is poor involves substantially greater risks, and may be highly speculative. Some companies may never pay off their indebtedness, or may pay only a small fraction of the amount owed. Consequently, when investing in indebtedness of companies with poor credit, the Funds bear a substantial risk of losing the entire amount invested.

Each Fund is diversified and limits the amount of its total assets that it will invest in any one issuer and each Fund limits the amount of its total assets that it will invest in issuers within the same industry (see "Investment Restrictions"). For purposes of these limits, a Fund generally will treat the corporate borrower as the "issuer" of indebtedness held by the Fund. In the case of syndicated loans where a bank or other lending institution serves as a financial intermediary between a Fund and the corporate borrower, if the participation does not shift to the Fund the direct debtor-creditor relationship with the corporate borrower, SEC interpretations require a Fund to treat both the lending bank or other lending institution and the corporate borrower as "issuers." Treating a financial intermediary as an issuer of indebtedness may restrict the Funds' ability to invest in indebtedness related to a single financial intermediary, or a group of intermediaries engaged in the same industry, even if the underlying borrowers represent many different companies and industries. Loans and other types of direct indebtedness may not be readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. In some cases, negotiations involved in disposing of indebtedness may require weeks to complete. Consequently, some indebtedness may be difficult or impossible to dispose of readily at what the Advisor believes to be a fair price. Additionally, even where there is a market for certain loans the settlement period may be extended, up to several weeks or longer. That means a Fund may have a limited ability to receive payment promptly on the sale of some of the loans in its portfolio. In addition, valuation of illiquid indebtedness involves a greater degree of judgment in determining a Fund's net asset value than if that value were based on available market quotations, and could result in significant variations in the Fund's daily share price. At the same time, some loan interests are traded among certain financial institutions and accordingly may be deemed liquid. As the market for different types of indebtedness develops, the liquidity of these instruments is expected to improve. In addition, each Fund currently intends to treat indebtedness for which there is no readily available market as illiquid for purposes of a Fund's limitation on illiquid investments. Investments in syndicated loans are considered to be debt obligations for purposes of the Trust's investment restriction relating to the lending of funds or assets by a Fund.

Investments in loans through a direct assignment of the financial institution's interests with respect to the loan may involve additional risks to the Funds. For example, if a loan is foreclosed, a Fund could become part owner of any collateral, and would bear the costs and liabilities associated with owning and disposing of the collateral. In addition, it is conceivable that under emerging legal theories of lender liability, a Fund could be held liable as co-lender. It is unclear whether loans and other forms of direct indebtedness offer

securities law protections against fraud and misrepresentation. In the absence of definitive regulatory guidance, each Fund relies upon the Advisor's research in an attempt to avoid situations where fraud or misrepresentation could adversely affect the Fund.

### **U.S. Government Securities and Mortgage-Backed Securities**

The Funds may invest in U.S. Government Securities. U.S. Government Securities include securities issued by the U.S. Treasury and by U.S. Government agencies and instrumentalities. U.S. Government Securities may be supported by the full faith and credit of the United States; by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; by the discretionary authority of the U.S. Treasury to lend to the issuer; or solely by the creditworthiness of the issuer. Holders of U.S. Government Securities not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States must look principally to the agency or instrumentality issuing the obligation for repayment and may not be able to assert a claim against the United States in the event that the agency or instrumentality does not meet its commitment. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government would provide support if it were not obligated to do so by law. Neither the U.S. Government nor any of its agencies or instrumentalities guarantees the market value of the securities they issue.

Among the U.S. Government securities that a Fund may purchase are "mortgage-backed securities" or "MBS" of the Government National Mortgage Association ("Ginnie Mae"), the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation ("Freddie Mac") and the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae"). These MBS include "pass-through" securities and "participation certificates;" both are similar, representing pools of mortgages that are assembled, with interests sold in the pool; the assembly is made by an "issuer" which assembles the mortgages in the pool and passes through payments of principal and interest for a fee payable to it. Payments of principal and interest by individual mortgagors are "passed through" to the holders of the interest in the pool. Thus, the monthly or other regular payments on pass-through securities and participation certificates include payments of principal (including prepayments on mortgages in the pool) rather than only interest payments. Timely payment of principal and interest on Ginnie Mae pass-throughs is guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the United States, but their yield is not guaranteed. Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae are both instrumentalities of the U.S. Government, but their obligations are not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. It is possible that the availability and the marketability (i.e., liquidity) of these securities discussed in this paragraph could be adversely affected by actions of the U.S. Government to tighten the availability of its credit or to affect adversely the tax effects of owning them.

Events Regarding Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac Securities. On September 6, 2008, the Federal Housing Finance Agency ("FHFA") placed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac into conservatorship. As the conservator, FHFA succeeded to all rights, titles, powers and privileges of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and of any stockholder, officer or director of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac with respect to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and the assets of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are continuing to operate as going concerns while in conservatorship and each remains liable for all of its obligations, including its guaranty obligations, associated with its mortgage-backed securities. The FHFA has indicated that the conservatorship of each enterprise will end when the director of FHFA determines that FHFA's plan to restore the enterprise to a safe and solvent condition has been completed.

Under the Federal Housing Finance Regulatory Reform Act of 2008 (the "Reform Act"), which was included as part of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, FHFA, as conservator or receiver, has the power to repudiate any contract entered into by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac prior to FHFA's appointment as conservator or receiver, as applicable, if FHFA determines, in its sole discretion, that

performance of the contract is burdensome and that repudiation of the contract promotes the orderly administration of Fannie Mae's or Freddie Mac's affairs.

The Reform Act requires FHFA to exercise its right to repudiate any contract within a reasonable period of time after its appointment as conservator or receiver. FHFA, in its capacity as conservator, has indicated that it has no intention to repudiate the guaranty obligations of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac because FHFA views repudiation as incompatible with the goals of the conservatorship. However, in the event that FHFA, as conservator or if it is later appointed as receiver for Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, were to repudiate any such guaranty obligation, the conservatorship or receivership estate, as applicable, would be liable for actual direct compensatory damages in accordance with the provisions of the Reform Act. Any such liability could be satisfied only to the extent of Fannie Mae's or Freddie Mac's assets available therefor. In the event of repudiation, the payments of interest to holders of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac mortgage-backed securities would be reduced if payments on the mortgage loans represented in the mortgage loan groups related to such mortgage-backed securities are not made by the borrowers or advanced by the servicer. Any actual direct compensatory damages for repudiating these guaranty obligations may not be sufficient to offset any shortfalls experienced by such mortgage-backed security holders. Further, in its capacity as conservator or receiver, FHFA has the right to transfer or sell any asset or liability of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac without any approval, assignment or consent. If FHFA, as conservator or receiver, were to transfer any such guaranty obligation to another party, holders of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac mortgage-backed securities would have to rely on that party for satisfaction of the guaranty obligation and would be exposed to the credit risk of that party.

In addition, certain rights provided to holders of mortgage-backed securities issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac under the operative documents related to such securities may not be enforced against FHFA, or enforcement of such rights may be delayed, during the conservatorship or any future receivership. The operative documents for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac mortgage-backed securities may provide (or with respect to securities issued prior to the date of the appointment of the conservator may have provided) that upon the occurrence of an event of default on the part of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, in its capacity as guarantor, which includes the appointment of a conservator or receiver, holders of such mortgage-backed securities have the right to replace Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac as trustee if the requisite percentage of mortgage-backed securities holders consent. The Reform Act prevents mortgage-backed security holders from enforcing such rights if the event of default arises solely because a conservator or receiver has been appointed. The Reform Act also provides that no person may exercise any right or power to terminate, accelerate or declare an event of default under certain contracts to which Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac is a party, or obtain possession of or exercise control over any property of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, or affect any contractual rights of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, without the approval of FHFA, as conservator or receiver, for a period of 45 or 90 days following the appointment of FHFA as conservator or receiver, respectively.

In October 2012, FHFA released a white paper, Building a New Infrastructure for the Secondary Mortgage Market, proposing a framework for a common securitization platform and an improved contractual and disclosure framework and requested public input. The white paper sought to identify the core components of mortgage securitization that will be needed in the housing finance system in the future. Along with the white paper, FHFA joined Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in outreach to a full range of stakeholders, including a variety of industry participants - small and large companies, trade groups, advocacy organizations, vendors, originators, servicers, investors, and mortgage issuers, among others. FHFA has worked with Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to use the feedback gathered on the securitization platform prototype, to align key contractual features and practices, and address additional protections investors require.

FHFA has stated that long-term, continued operation in a government-run conservatorship is not sustainable for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac because each company lacks capital, cannot rebuild its capital base, and is operating on a remaining, finite line of capital from taxpayers. However, FHFA has stated that it will continue to carry out its responsibilities as conservator until Congress determines the future of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

#### *Investment Characteristics of MBS*

The investment characteristics of adjustable and fixed rate MBS differ from those of traditional fixed income securities. The major differences include the payment of interest and principal on mortgage-backed securities on a more frequent (usually monthly) schedule, and the possibility that principal may be prepaid at any time due to prepayments on the underlying mortgage loans or other assets. These differences can result in significantly greater price and yield volatility than is the case with traditional fixed income securities. As a result, if a Fund purchases MBS at a premium, a faster than expected prepayment rate will reduce both the market value and the yield to maturity from those which were anticipated. A prepayment rate that is slower than expected will have the opposite effect of increasing yield to maturity and market value. Conversely, if a Fund purchases mortgage-backed securities at a discount, faster than expected prepayments will increase, while slower than expected prepayments will reduce, yield to maturity and market value.

#### *Prepayments*

Prepayments on a pool of mortgage loans are influenced by a variety of factors, including economic conditions, changes in mortgagors' housing needs, job transfer, unemployment, mortgagors' net equity in the mortgage properties and servicing decisions. The timing and level of prepayments cannot be predicted. Generally, however, prepayments on adjustable rate mortgage loans and fixed rate mortgage loans will increase during a period of falling mortgage interest rates and decrease during a period of rising mortgage interest rates. Accordingly, the amounts of prepayments available for reinvestment by a Fund are likely to be greater during a period of declining mortgage interest rates. If general interest rates also decline, such prepayments are likely to be reinvested at lower interest rates than a Fund was earning on the mortgage-backed securities that were prepaid.

#### *Adjustable Rate Mortgage Loans ("ARMs")*

Certain mortgage loans underlying the MBS in which a Fund may invest will be ARMs. ARMs eligible for inclusion in a mortgage pool will generally provide for a fixed initial mortgage interest rate for a specified period of time. Thereafter, the interest rates (the "Mortgage Interest Rates") may be subject to periodic adjustment based on changes in the applicable index rate (the "Index Rate"). The adjusted rate would be equal to the Index Rate plus a gross margin, which is a fixed percentage spread over the Index Rate established for each ARM at the time of its origination.

There are two main categories of indexes which provide the basis for rate adjustments on ARMs: those based on U.S. Treasury securities and those derived from a calculated measure such as a cost of funds index or a moving average of mortgage rates. Commonly utilized indexes include the one-year, three-year and five-year constant maturity Treasury rates, the three-month Treasury Bill rate, the 180-day Treasury bill rate, rates on longer-term Treasury securities, the 11th District Federal Home Loan Bank Cost of Funds, the National Median Cost of Funds, the one-month, three-month, six-month or one year London Interbank Offered Rate, the prime rate of a specific bank, or commercial paper rates. Some indexes, such as the one-year constant maturity Treasury rate, closely mirror changes in market interest rate levels. Others, such as the 11th District Federal Home Loan Bank Cost of Funds index, tend to lag behind changes in market rate levels and tend to be somewhat less volatile. The degree of volatility in the market value of a Fund's portfolio and therefore in the NAV per share of a Fund will be a function of the length of the interest rate reset periods and the degree of volatility in the applicable indexes.

Adjustable interest rates can cause payment increases that some mortgagors may find difficult to make. However, certain ARMs may provide that the Mortgage Interest Rate may not be adjusted to a rate above an applicable lifetime maximum rate or below an applicable lifetime minimum rate for such ARMs. Certain ARMs may also be subject to limitations on the maximum amount by which the Mortgage Interest Rate may adjust for any single adjustment period. Other ARMs (“Negatively Amortizing ARMs”) may provide instead or as well for limitations on changes in the monthly payment on such ARMs. Limitations on monthly payments can result in monthly payments which are greater or less than the amount necessary to amortize a Negatively Amortizing ARM by its maturity at the Mortgage Interest Rate in effect in any particular month. In the event that a monthly payment is not sufficient to pay the interest accruing on a Negatively Amortizing ARM, any such excess interest is added to the principal balance of the loan, causing negative amortization, and is repaid through future monthly payments. It may take borrowers under Negatively Amortizing ARMs longer periods of time to achieve equity and may increase the likelihood of default by such borrowers. In the event that a monthly payment exceeds the sum of the interest accrued at the applicable Mortgage Interest Rate and the principal payment which would have been necessary to amortize the outstanding principal balance over the remaining term of the loan, the excess (or “accelerated amortization”) further reduces the principal balance of the ARM. Negatively Amortizing ARMs do not provide for the extension of their original maturity to accommodate changes in their Mortgage Interest Rate. As a result, unless there is a periodic recalculation of the payment amount (which there generally is), the final payment may be substantially larger than the other payments. These limitations on periodic increases in interest rates and on changes in monthly payments protect borrowers from unlimited interest rate and payment increases.

The mortgage loans underlying other MBS in which a Fund may invest will be fixed rate mortgage loans. Generally, fixed rate mortgage loans eligible for inclusion in a mortgage pool will bear simple interest at fixed annual rates and have original terms to maturity ranging from five to 40 years. Fixed rate mortgage loans generally provide for monthly payments of principal and interest in substantially equal installments for the contractual term of the mortgage note in sufficient amounts to fully amortize principal by maturity although certain fixed rate mortgage loans provide for a large final “balloon” payment upon maturity.

### **Collateralized Mortgage Obligations**

The Funds may invest in collateralized mortgage obligations (“CMOs”) that are collateralized by mortgage-backed securities issued by GNMA, FHLMC or FNMA (“Mortgage Assets”). CMOs are multiple-class debt obligations. Payments of principal and interest on the Mortgage Assets are passed through to the holders of the CMOs as they are received, although certain classes (often referred to as “tranches”) of CMOs have priority over other classes with respect to the receipt of mortgage prepayments. Each tranche is issued at a specific or floating coupon rate and has a stated maturity or final distribution date. Interest is paid or accrues in all tranches on a monthly, quarterly or semi-annual basis. Payments of principal and interest on Mortgage Assets are commonly applied to the tranches in the order of their respective maturities or final distribution dates, so that generally, no payment of principal will be made on any tranche until all other tranches with earlier stated maturity or distribution dates have been paid in full.

CMOs are issued in multiple classes. Each class of CMOs is issued at a specific adjustable or fixed interest rate and must be fully retired no later than its final distribution date. Principal prepayments on the Mortgage Assets underlying the CMOs may cause some or all of the class of CMOs to be retired substantially earlier than their final distribution dates. Generally, interest is paid or accrued on all classes of CMOs on a monthly basis.

The principal of and interest on the Mortgage Assets may be allocated among the several classes of CMOs in various ways. In certain structures (known as “sequential pay” CMOs), payments of principal, including any principal prepayments, on the Mortgage Assets generally are applied to the classes of CMOs in the order of their respective final distribution dates. Thus, no payment of principal will be made on any class of sequential pay CMOs until all other classes having an earlier final distribution date have been paid in full.

Additional structures of CMOs include, among others, “parallel pay” CMOs. Parallel pay CMOs are those which are structured to apply principal payments and prepayments of the Mortgage Assets to two or more classes concurrently on a proportionate or disproportionate basis. These simultaneous payments are taken into account in calculating the final distribution date of each class.

### **Collateralized Debt Obligations**

The Funds also may invest in collateralized debt obligations (“CDOs”), which include collateralized bond obligations (“CBOs”), collateralized loan obligations (“CLOs”) and other similarly structured securities. A CBO is a trust which is backed by a diversified pool of high risk, below investment grade fixed-income securities. A CLO is a trust typically collateralized by a pool of loans, which may include, among others, domestic and foreign senior secured loans, senior unsecured loans, and subordinate corporate loans, including loans that may be rated below investment grade or equivalent unrated loans.

For both CBOs and CLOs, the cash flows from the trust are split into two or more portions, called tranches, varying in risk and yield. The riskiest portion is the “equity” tranche which bears the bulk of defaults from the bonds or loans in the trust and serves to protect the other, more senior tranches from default in all but the most severe circumstances. Since it is partially protected from defaults, a senior tranche from a CBO trust or CLO trust typically has higher ratings and lower yields than its underlying securities, and can be rated investment grade. Despite the protection from the equity tranche, CBO or CLO tranches can experience substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to defaults due to collateral default and disappearance of protecting tranches, market anticipation of defaults, and aversion to CBO or CLO securities as a class.

The risks of an investment in a CDO depends largely on the type of the underlying collateral and the class of the CDO in which a Fund invests. Normally, CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs are privately offered and sold, and thus, are not registered under the securities laws. As a result, investments in CDOs may be characterized by a Fund as illiquid securities; however, an active dealer market may exist for CDOs allowing a CDO to qualify as a Rule 144A security. In addition to the normal risks associated with fixed-income securities discussed elsewhere in the SAI and the Prospectus (e.g., interest rate risk and default risk), CDOs carry additional risks including, but not limited to: (1) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; (2) the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default; (3) the Funds may invest in CDOs that are subordinate to other classes; and (4) the complex structure of the security may not be fully understood at the time of investment and may produce disputes with the issuer or unexpected investment results.

## **Asset-Backed Securities**

The Funds may invest in asset-backed securities, including asset-backed commercial paper. Asset-backed securities have structural characteristics similar to mortgage-backed securities but have underlying assets that are not mortgage loans or interests in mortgage loans. Asset-backed securities represent fractional interests in, or are secured by and payable from, pools of assets such as motor vehicle installment sales contracts, installment loan contracts, leases of various types of real and personal property and receivables from revolving credit (for example, credit card) agreements. Assets are securitized through the use of trusts and special purpose corporations that issue securities that are often backed by a pool of assets representing the obligations of a number of different parties. Repayments relating to the assets underlying the asset-backed securities depend largely on the cash flows generated by such assets. The credit quality of most asset-backed securities depends primarily on the credit quality of the assets underlying such securities, how well the entity issuing the security is insulated from the credit risk of the originator or any other affiliated entities, and the amount and quality of any credit enhancements associated with the securities. Payments or distributions of principal and interest on asset-backed securities may be supported by credit enhancements including letters of credit, an insurance guarantee, reserve funds, and over collateralization. Asset-backed securities have structures and characteristics similar to those of mortgage-backed securities; accordingly, they are subject to many of the same risks, though often, to a greater extent.

## **Corporate Debt Obligations**

**General.** The Funds may invest in corporate debt obligations. Corporate debt obligations include corporate bonds, debentures, notes, commercial paper and other similar corporate debt instruments. These instruments are used by companies to borrow money from investors. The issuer pays the investor a fixed or variable rate of interest and must repay the amount borrowed at maturity. Commercial paper (short-term unsecured promissory notes) is issued by companies to finance their current obligations and normally has a maturity of less than nine months. The Funds may also invest in corporate fixed income securities registered and sold in the U.S. by foreign issuers (Yankee bonds) and those sold outside the U.S. by foreign or U.S. issuers (eurobonds).

## **Variable and Floating Rate Securities**

The Funds may invest in variable and floating rate securities. Fixed income securities that have variable or floating rates of interest may, under certain limited circumstances, have varying principal amounts. These securities pay interest at rates that are adjusted periodically according to a specified formula, usually with reference to one or more interest rate indices or market interest rates (the “underlying index”). The interest paid on these securities is a function primarily of the underlying index upon which the interest rate adjustments are based. These adjustments minimize changes in the market value of the obligation. Similar to fixed rate debt instruments, variable and floating rate instruments are subject to changes in value based on changes in market interest rates or changes in the issuer’s creditworthiness. The rate of interest on securities may be tied to U.S. Government Securities or indices on those securities as well as any other rate of interest or index.

Variable and floating rate demand notes of corporations are redeemable upon a specified period of notice. These obligations include master demand notes that permit investment of fluctuating amounts at varying interest rates under direct arrangements with the issuer of the instrument. The issuer of these obligations often has the right, after a given period, to prepay the outstanding principal amount of the obligations upon a specified number of days’ notice.

Certain securities may have an initial principal amount that varies over time based on an interest rate index, and, accordingly, a Fund might be entitled to less than the initial principal amount of the security upon the security's maturity. A Fund intends to purchase these securities only when the Advisor believes the interest income from the instrument justifies any principal risks associated with the instrument. The Advisor may attempt to limit any potential loss of principal by purchasing similar instruments that are intended to provide an offsetting increase in principal. There can be no assurance that the Advisor will be able to limit the effects of principal fluctuations and, accordingly, a Fund may incur losses on those securities even if held to maturity without issuer default.

There may not be an active secondary market for any particular floating or variable rate instruments, which could make it difficult for a Fund to dispose of the instrument during periods that the Fund is not entitled to exercise any demand rights it may have. A Fund could, for this or other reasons, suffer a loss with respect to those instruments. The Advisor monitors the liquidity of each Fund's investment in variable and floating rate instruments, but there can be no guarantee that an active secondary market will exist.

### **Non-U.S. Dollar Denominated Securities and Other Fixed Income Securities**

Each Fund may invest in short-term money market instruments issued in the U.S. or abroad, denominated in U.S. dollars or any foreign currency. Short-term money market instruments include repurchase agreements, short-term fixed or variable rate certificates of deposit, time deposits with a maturity no greater than 180 days, bankers' acceptances, commercial paper rated A-1 by S&P or Prime-1 by Moody's or in similar other money market securities. Certificates of deposit represent an institution's obligation to repay funds deposited with it that earn a specified interest rate over a given period. Bankers' acceptances are negotiable obligations of a bank to pay a draft, which has been drawn by a customer, and are usually backed by goods in international trade. Time deposits are non-negotiable deposits with a banking institution that earn a specified interest rate over a given period. Certificates of deposit and time deposits generally may be withdrawn on demand by the Fund but may be subject to early withdrawal penalties that could reduce the Fund's performance.

Each Fund may also invest in other high yield fixed income securities denominated in U.S. dollars, any foreign currency or in a multi-national currency unit (e.g., the European Currency Unit).

The Funds may invest in non-U.S. dollar denominated securities including debt obligations denominated in foreign or composite currencies (such as the European Currency Unit) issued by (1) foreign national, provincial, state or municipal governments or their political subdivisions; (2) international organizations designated or supported by governmental entities (e.g., the World Bank and the European Community); (3) non-dollar securities issued by the U.S. Government; and (4) foreign corporations.

### **Risks of Debt Securities**

**General.** Yields on debt securities, including municipal securities, are dependent on a variety of factors, including the general conditions of the debt securities markets, the size of a particular offering, the maturity of the obligation and the rating of the issue. Debt securities with longer maturities tend to produce higher yields and are generally subject to greater price movements than obligations with shorter maturities.

Certain debt securities may be subject to extension risk, which refers to the change in total return on a security resulting from an extension or abbreviation of the security's maturity. Issuers may prepay fixed rate debt securities when interest rates fall, forcing the Fund to invest in securities with lower interest

rates. Issuers of debt securities are also subject to the provisions of bankruptcy, insolvency and other laws affecting the rights and remedies of creditors that may restrict the ability of the issuer to pay, when due, the principal of and interest on its debt securities. The possibility exists therefore, that, as a result of bankruptcy, litigation or other conditions, the ability of an issuer to pay, when due, the principal of and interest on its debt securities may become impaired.

**Interest Rate Risk.** The market value of the interest-bearing debt securities held by a Fund will be affected by changes in interest rates. There is normally an inverse relationship between the market value of securities sensitive to prevailing interest rates and actual changes in interest rates. The longer the remaining maturity (and duration) of a security, the more sensitive the security is to changes in interest rates. All debt securities, including U.S. Government Securities, can change in value when there is a change in interest rates. As a result, an investment in a Fund is subject to risk even if all debt securities in the Fund's investment portfolio are paid in full at maturity.

**Credit Risk.** Changes in the ability of an issuer to make payments of interest and principal and in the markets' perception of an issuer's creditworthiness will also affect the market value of that issuer's debt securities. The financial condition of an issuer of a debt security held by the Fund may cause it to default on interest or principal payments due on a security. This risk generally increases as security credit ratings fall.

The Funds may also invest in investment grade and non-investment grade debt securities, including (i) "distressed securities" rated at the time of purchase D by S&P or C by Moody's or (ii) unrated investment grade and non-investment grade, but determined to be of comparable quality by the Advisor.

Each of the Funds may retain securities whose rating has been lowered below the lowest permissible rating category if the Advisor determines that retaining such security is in the best interests of the Fund.

Moody's, S&P and other NRSROs are private services that provide ratings of the credit quality of debt obligations, including convertible securities. A description of the range of ratings assigned to various types of bonds and other securities by several NRSROs is included in Appendix A to this SAI. The Advisor may use these ratings to determine whether to purchase, sell or hold a security. Ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality. Securities with the same maturity, interest rate and rating may have different market prices. If an issue of securities ceases to be rated or if its rating is reduced after it is purchased by a Fund, the Advisor will determine whether the Fund should continue to hold the obligation. Credit ratings attempt to evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments and do not evaluate the risks of fluctuations in market value. The rating of an issuer is a rating agency's view of potential developments related to the issuer and may not necessarily reflect actual outcomes. Also, rating agencies may fail to make timely changes in credit ratings. An issuer's current financial condition may be better or worse than a rating indicates. Unrated securities may not be as actively traded as rated securities. Because a downgrade often results in a reduction in the market price of the security, the sale of a downgraded security may result in a loss.

Credit ratings for debt securities provided by rating agencies evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments, not market value risk. The rating of an issuer is a rating agency's view of past and future potential developments related to the issuer and may not necessarily reflect actual outcomes. There can be a lag between the time of developments relating to an issuer and the time a rating is assigned and updated.

**Stressed, Distressed or Defaulted Borrowers Risk.** The Funds can invest in debt instruments of borrowers that are experiencing, or are likely to experience, financial difficulty. These debt instruments are subject to greater credit and liquidity risks than other debt instruments. In addition, the Funds can

invest in debt instruments of borrowers that have filed for bankruptcy protection or that have had involuntary bankruptcy petitions filed against them by creditors. Various laws enacted for the protection of debtors may apply to such debt instruments. A bankruptcy proceeding or other court proceeding could delay or limit the ability of a Fund to collect the principal and interest payments on that borrower's indebtedness or adversely affect the Fund's rights in collateral relating to such indebtedness. If a lawsuit is brought by creditors of a borrower under a debt instrument, a court or a trustee in bankruptcy could take certain actions that would be adverse to a Fund. For example:

- Other creditors might convince the court to set aside a loan or the collateralization of the loan as a "fraudulent conveyance" or "preferential transfer." In that event, the court could recover from the Fund the interest and principal payments that the borrower made before becoming insolvent. There can be no assurance that the Fund would be able to prevent that recapture.
- A bankruptcy court may restructure the payment obligations under the debt instrument so as to reduce the amount to which the Fund would be entitled.
- The court might discharge the amount of the indebtedness that exceeds the value of the collateral.
- The court could subordinate the Fund's rights to the rights of other creditors of the borrower under applicable law, decreasing, potentially significantly, the likelihood of any recovery on the Fund's investment.

## **Leverage Transactions**

### **General**

Each Fund may use leverage to increase potential returns, although use of leverage is not a principal investment strategy for any Fund. Leverage involves special risks and may involve speculative investment techniques. Leverage exists when cash made available to a Fund through an investment technique is used to make additional Fund investments. Leverage transactions include borrowing for other than temporary or emergency purposes, lending portfolio securities, entering into reverse repurchase agreements, and purchasing securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis. A Fund uses these investment techniques only when the Advisor believes that the leveraging and the returns available to a Fund from investing the cash will provide investors with a potentially higher return. (See "Risks" below.) Each Fund will reduce its borrowing amount within three days, if that Fund's asset coverage falls below the amount required by the 1940 Act.

**Borrowing.** Currently, the 1940 Act permits a Fund to borrow money from banks in amounts of up to one-third of the Fund's total assets (including the amount borrowed). To the extent permitted by the 1940 Act, or the rules and regulations thereunder, a Fund may also borrow an additional 5% of its total assets without regard to the foregoing limitation for temporary purposes, such as the clearance of portfolio transactions. To limit the risks attendant to borrowing, the 1940 Act requires a Fund to maintain at all times an "asset coverage" of at least 300% of the amount of its borrowings. Asset coverage means the ratio that the value of a Fund's total assets, minus liabilities other than borrowings, bears to the aggregate amount of all borrowings. Borrowing money to increase a Fund's investment portfolio is known as "leveraging." Borrowing, especially when used for leverage, may cause the value of a Fund's shares to be more volatile than if the Fund did not borrow. This is because borrowing tends to magnify the effect of any increase or decrease in the value of a Fund's portfolio holdings. Borrowed money thus creates an opportunity for greater gains, but also greater losses. To repay borrowings, a Fund may have to sell securities at a time and at a price that is unfavorable to the Fund. There also are costs associated with borrowing money, and these costs would offset and could eliminate a Fund's net investment income in any given period.

The use of borrowing by a Fund involves special risk considerations that may not be associated with other funds having similar objectives and policies. Since substantially all of a Fund's assets fluctuate in value, while the interest obligation resulting from a borrowing will be fixed by the terms of the Fund's agreement with its lender, the net asset value per share of the Fund will tend to increase more when its portfolio securities increase in value and to decrease more when its portfolio assets decrease in value than would otherwise be the case if the Fund did not borrow funds. In addition, interest costs on borrowings may fluctuate with changing market rates of interest and may partially offset or exceed the return earned on borrowed funds. Under adverse market conditions, a Fund might have to sell portfolio securities to meet interest or principal payments at a time when fundamental investment considerations would not favor such sales. Each Fund will reduce its borrowing amount within three days, if that Fund's asset coverage falls below the amount required by the 1940 Act.

**Senior Securities.** Pursuant to Section 18(f)(1) of the 1940 Act, a Fund may not issue any class of senior security or sell any senior security of which it is the issuer, except that the Fund shall be permitted to borrow from any bank so long as immediately after such borrowings, there is an asset coverage of at least 300% and that in the event such asset coverage falls below this percentage, the Fund shall reduce the amount of its borrowings, within 3 days, to an extent that the asset coverage shall be at least 300%.

**Reverse Repurchase Agreements.** Each Fund may borrow funds for temporary purposes by entering into reverse repurchase agreements in accordance with its investment restrictions. Pursuant to such agreements, a Fund would sell portfolio securities to financial institutions such as banks and broker-dealers and agree to repurchase the securities at the mutually agreed-upon date and price. A Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements to avoid otherwise selling securities during unfavorable market conditions to meet redemptions. A Fund may also seek to enter reverse repurchase agreements when the Advisor believes the interest income to be earned from the investment of the proceeds of the transaction is greater than the interest expense of the transaction. When a Fund enters into a reverse repurchase agreement, it will place in a segregated custodial account assets consistent with the Fund's investment restrictions having a value equal to the repurchase price (including accrued interest) and will subsequently monitor the account to ensure that such equivalent value is maintained. Such assets will include U.S. government securities or other liquid, high-grade debt securities. Reverse repurchase agreements are not considered to be borrowings for the purpose of a Fund's limitation on borrowing when assets have been appropriately segregated as described in the prior two sentences.

The use of reverse repurchase agreements by a Fund creates leverage which increases its investment risk. If the income and gains on securities purchased with the proceeds of reverse repurchase agreements exceed the cost of the agreements, a Fund's earnings or NAV will increase faster than otherwise would be the case. Conversely, if the income and gains fail to exceed the costs, earnings or NAV would decline faster than otherwise would be the case. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the market value of the securities sold by a Fund may decline below the price at which the Fund is obligated to repurchase the securities.

**When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments.** The Funds may purchase securities offered on a "when-issued" and "forward commitment" basis (including a delayed delivery basis). Securities purchased on a "when-issued" or "forward commitment basis" are securities not available for immediate delivery despite the fact that a market exists for those securities. A purchase is made on a "delayed delivery" basis when the transaction is structured to occur sometime in the future.

When these transactions are negotiated, the price, which is generally expressed in yield terms, is fixed at the time the commitment is made, but delivery and payment for the securities take place at a later date. Normally, the settlement date occurs within two months after the transaction, but delayed settlements

beyond two months may be negotiated. During the period between a commitment and settlement, no payment is made for the securities purchased by the purchaser and, thus, no interest accrues to the purchaser from the transaction. At the time a Fund makes the commitment to purchase securities on a when-issued basis or forward commitment, the Fund will record the transaction as a purchase and thereafter reflect the value each day of such securities in determining its NAV. No when-issued or forward commitments will be made by a Fund if, as a result, more than 5% of the Fund's total assets would be committed to such transactions.

## **Risks**

Leverage creates the risk of magnified capital losses. Leverage may involve the creation of a liability that requires the Fund to pay interest (for instance, reverse repurchase agreements) or the creation of a liability that does not entail any interest costs (for instance, forward commitment costs).

The risks of leverage include a higher volatility of the NAV of a Fund's securities which may be magnified by favorable or adverse market movements or changes in the cost of cash obtained by leveraging and the yield from invested cash. So long as a Fund is able to realize a net return on its investment portfolio that is higher than interest expense incurred, if any, leverage will result in higher current net investment income for the Fund than if the Fund were not leveraged. Changes in interest rates and related economic factors could cause the relationship between the cost of leveraging and the yield to change so that rates involved in the leveraging arrangement may substantially increase relative to the yield on the obligations in which the proceeds of the leveraging have been invested. To the extent that the interest expense involved in leveraging approaches the net return on a Fund's investment portfolio, the benefit of leveraging will be reduced, and, if the interest expense incurred as a result of leveraging on borrowings were to exceed the net return to investors, the Fund's use of leverage would result in a lower rate of return than if the Fund were not leveraged. In an extreme case, if a Fund's current investment income were not sufficient to meet the interest expense of leveraging, it could be necessary for the Fund to liquidate certain of its investments at an inappropriate time.

## **Convertible Securities**

**General.** Each Fund may invest in convertible securities. Each Fund may also invest in U.S. or foreign securities convertible into foreign common stock. Convertible securities include debt securities, preferred stock or other securities that may be converted into or exchanged for a given amount of common stock of the same or a different issuer during a specified period and at a specified price in the future. A convertible security entitles the holder to receive interest on debt or the dividend on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged.

Convertible securities rank senior to common stock in a company's capital structure but are usually subordinated to comparable nonconvertible securities. Convertible securities have unique investment characteristics in that they generally: (1) have higher yields than common stocks, but lower yields than comparable non-convertible securities; (2) are less subject to fluctuation in value than the underlying stocks since they have fixed income characteristics; and (3) provide the potential for capital appreciation if the market price of the underlying common stock increases.

A convertible security may be subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a price established in the convertible security's governing instrument. If a convertible security is called for redemption, a Fund will be required to permit the issuer to redeem the security, convert it into the underlying common stock or sell it to a third party.

**Risks.** Investment in convertible securities generally entails less risk than an investment in the issuer's common stock. Convertible securities are typically issued by smaller capitalization companies whose stock price may be volatile. Therefore, the price of a convertible security may reflect variations in the price of the underlying common stock in a way that nonconvertible debt does not. The extent to which such risk is reduced, however, depends in large measure upon the degree to which the convertible security sells above its value as a fixed income security.

**Security Ratings Information.** Each Fund's investments in convertible securities are subject to the credit risk relating to the financial condition of the issuers of the securities that each Fund holds. Each Fund may purchase unrated convertible securities and preferred stock if, at the time of purchase, the Advisor believes that they are of comparable quality to rated securities that the Fund may purchase.

Unrated securities may not be as actively traded as rated securities. A Fund may retain securities whose ratings have been lowered below the lowest permissible rating category (or that are unrated and determined by the Advisor to be of comparable quality to securities whose rating has been lowered below the lowest permissible rating category) if the Advisor determines that retaining such security is in the best interests of the Fund. Because a downgrade often results in a reduction in the market price of the security, the sale of a downgraded security may result in a loss.

Moody's, S&P and other NRSROs are private services that provide ratings of the credit quality of debt obligations, including convertible securities. A description of the range of ratings assigned to various types of bonds and other securities by several NRSROs is included in [Appendix A](#) to this SAI. Each Fund may use these ratings to determine whether to purchase, sell or hold a security. Ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality. Securities with the same maturity, interest rate and rating may have different market prices. To the extent that the ratings given by an NRSRO may change as a result of changes in such organizations or their rating systems, the Advisor will attempt to substitute comparable ratings. Credit ratings attempt to evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments and do not evaluate the risks of fluctuations in market value. Also, rating agencies may fail to make timely changes in credit ratings. An issuer's current financial condition may be better or worse than a rating indicates.

Credit ratings for debt securities provided by rating agencies evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments, not market value risk. The rating of an issuer is a rating agency's view of past and future potential developments related to the issuer and may not necessarily reflect actual outcomes. There can be a lag between the time of developments relating to an issuer and the time a rating is assigned and updated. See [Appendix A](#) for additional information on credit ratings.

## **Warrants**

**General.** Each of the Funds may hold warrants resulting from reorganizations. Warrants are securities, typically issued with preferred stock or bonds that give the holder the right to purchase a given number of shares of common stock at a specified price and time. The price of the warrant usually represents a premium over the applicable market value of the common stock at the time of the warrant's issuance. Warrants have no voting rights with respect to the common stock, receive no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the issuer.

**Risks.** Investments in warrants involve certain risks, including the possible lack of a liquid market for the resale of the warrants, potential price fluctuations due to adverse market conditions or other factors and failure of the price of the common stock to rise. If the warrant is not exercised within the specified time period, it becomes worthless.

## **Derivatives**

Each Fund may, but is not required to, use derivatives for risk management purposes or as part of its investment strategies. Derivatives are financial contracts whose values depend on, or are derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or index. A Fund may use derivatives to earn income and enhance returns, to hedge or adjust the risk profile of its portfolio, to replace more traditional direct investments and to obtain exposure to otherwise inaccessible markets.

There are three types of derivatives in which a Fund may invest: futures, options and swaps. Derivatives may be (1) standardized, exchange-traded contracts or (2) customized, privately negotiated contracts. Exchange-traded derivatives tend to be more liquid and subject to less credit risk than those that are privately negotiated.

The Fund's use of derivatives may involve risks that are different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities or other more traditional instruments. These risks include the risk that the value of a derivative instrument may not correlate perfectly, or at all, with the value of the assets, reference rates, or indexes that they are designed to track. Other risks include: an illiquid secondary market for a particular instrument and possible exchange-imposed price fluctuation limits, either of which may make it difficult or impossible to close out a position when desired; the risk that adverse price movements in an instrument can result in a loss substantially greater than the Fund's initial investment in that instrument (in some cases, the potential loss is unlimited); and the risk that a counterparty will not perform its obligations.

On October 28, 2020, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") adopted new regulations governing the use of derivatives by registered investment companies ("Rule 18f-4"). The Funds will be required to implement and comply with Rule 18f-4 by August 19, 2022. Once implemented, Rule 18f-4 will impose limits on the amount of derivatives a fund can enter into, eliminate the asset segregation framework currently used by funds to comply with Section 18 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Investment Company Act"), treat derivatives as senior securities so that a failure to comply with the limits would result in a statutory violation and require funds whose use of derivatives is more than a limited specified exposure amount to establish and maintain a comprehensive derivatives risk management program and appoint a derivatives risk manager. There are certain exceptions to compliance with Rule 18f-4 for funds that are "limited users" of derivatives.

Each Fund may use the following types of derivatives.

### **Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts**

A futures contract is an agreement that obligates the buyer to buy and the seller to sell a specified quantity of an underlying asset (or settle for cash the value of a contract based on an underlying asset, rate or index) at a specific price on the contract maturity date. Options on futures contracts are options that call for the delivery of futures contracts upon exercise. A Fund may purchase or sell futures contracts and options thereon to hedge against changes in interest rates, securities (through index futures or options) or currencies.

### **Options**

An option is an agreement that, for a premium payment or fee, gives the option holder (the buyer) the right but not the obligation to buy (a "call option") or sell (a "put option") the underlying asset (or settle for cash an amount based on an underlying asset, rate or index) at a specified price (the exercise price) during a period of time or on a specified date. Investments in options are considered speculative. A Fund may lose the premium paid for them if the price of the underlying security or other asset decreased or

remained the same (in the case of a call option) or increased or remained the same (in the case of a put option). If a put or call option purchased by a Fund were permitted to expire without being sold or exercised, its premium would represent a loss to the Fund. The Funds' investments in options include the following:

- *Options on Foreign Currencies.* The Fund may purchase or sell call or put options on foreign currencies that are privately negotiated or traded on U.S. or foreign exchanges for hedging purposes to protect against declines in the U.S. Dollar value of foreign currency denominated securities held by the Fund and against increases in the U.S. Dollar cost of securities to be acquired. The purchase of an option on a foreign currency may constitute an effective hedge against fluctuations in exchange rates, although if rates move adversely, the Fund may forfeit the entire amount of the premium plus related transaction costs. The Fund may also purchase or sell options on foreign currencies for non-hedging purposes as a means of making direct investments in foreign currencies.
- *Options on Securities.* The Fund may purchase or sell call or put options on securities. The Fund will only exercise an option it purchased if the price of the security was less (in the case of a put option) or more (in the case of a call option) than the exercise price. If the Fund does not exercise an option, the premium it paid for the option will be lost. Normally, the Fund will sell only "covered" options, which means writing an option for securities the Fund owns, but may write an uncovered call option for cross-hedging purposes.
- *Options on Securities Indices.* An option on a securities index is similar to an option on a security except that, rather than taking or making delivery of a security at a specified price, an option on a securities index gives the holder the right to receive, upon exercise of the option, an amount of cash if the closing level of the chosen index is greater than (in the case of a call) or less than (in the case of a put) the exercise price of the option.

## **Swaps**

A swap, which may be a customized and privately negotiated agreement or a standardized and exchange-traded contract, obligates two parties to exchange a series of cash flows at specified intervals (payment dates) based upon, or calculated by, reference to changes in specified prices or rates for a specified amount of an underlying asset (the "notional" principal amount). Swaps are entered into on a net basis (i.e., the two payment streams are netted out, with a fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments). Examples of such swaps may include, but are not limited to, currency swaps, interest rate swaps, total return swaps, and credit default swaps. If a Fund writes swaps, it will segregate the full notional amount to cover the obligation. Payments received by the Fund from swap agreements will result in taxable income, either as ordinary income or capital gains. Except for currency swaps, the notional principal amount is used solely to calculate the payment streams but is not exchanged. With respect to currency swaps, actual principal amounts of currencies may be exchanged by the counterparties at the initiation, and again upon the termination, of the transaction. The swap market has grown substantially in recent years, with a large number of banks and investment banking firms acting both as principals and as agents utilizing standardized swap documentation. As a result, the swap market has become well established and relatively liquid.

**Exclusion from Definition of Commodity Pool Operator.** Pursuant to amendments by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to Rule 4.5 under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"), the Advisor has filed a notice of exemption from registration as a "commodity pool operator" with respect to the Funds. The Funds and the Advisor are therefore not subject to registration or regulation as a pool operator under the CEA. In order to claim the Rule 4.5 exemption, the Funds are significantly limited in their ability to

invest in commodity futures, options and swaps (including securities futures, broad-based stock index futures and financial futures contracts). As a result, these limitations may have a negative impact on the ability of the Advisor to manage the Funds, and on the Funds' performance.

### **Foreign Securities Exposure**

The Funds may invest in securities issued by foreign companies or governmental authorities either directly or through depository receipts or exchange traded funds ("ETFs") (generally "foreign securities"). Investing in foreign securities involves more risk than investing in U.S. securities. Changes in the value of foreign currencies can significantly affect the value of a foreign security held by a Fund, irrespective of developments relating to the issuer. In addition, the values of foreign securities may be affected by changes in exchange control regulations and fluctuations in the relative rates of exchange between the currencies of different nations, as well as by economic and political developments. Other risks involved in investing in foreign securities include the following: there may be less publicly available information about foreign companies comparable to the reports and ratings that are published about companies in the United States; foreign companies are not generally subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies; some foreign stock markets have substantially less volume than U.S. markets, and securities of some foreign companies are less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. companies; there may be less government supervision and regulation of foreign stock exchanges, brokers and listed companies than exist in the United States; and there may be the possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, political or social instability or diplomatic developments which could affect assets of a Fund held in foreign countries. Investments in foreign government debt obligations also involve special risks. The issuer of the debt may be unable or unwilling to pay interest or repay principal when due in accordance with the terms of such debt, and a Fund may have limited legal resources in the event of default. Political conditions, especially a sovereign entity's willingness to meet the terms of its debt obligations, are of considerable significance.

**Foreign Securities Traded in the United States.** The Funds may invest directly in foreign equity or debt securities that are traded in the United States. Such securities are generally denominated in United States dollars. They also may be issued originally in the United States. For example, some foreign companies raise capital by selling dollar-denominated bonds to institutional investors in the United States ("Yankee Bonds"). Such bonds have all of the risks associated with foreign securities traded in foreign markets, except for the risks of foreign securities markets. There may be a thin trading market for foreign securities that are traded in the United States, and in some cases such securities may be illiquid, since such securities may be restricted and traded principally among institutional investors. See "Restricted and Illiquid Securities" for the risks of illiquid securities. To the extent that dollar-denominated foreign stocks and bonds are traded in the United States securities markets, the Funds do not consider them to be foreign securities for purposes of investment policies restricting investments on such securities.

**Foreign Securities Traded in Foreign Markets.** The Funds may invest in foreign securities that are traded in foreign securities markets. In addition to the general risks of foreign investments discussed above, securities that are traded in foreign markets present special risks, including higher brokerage costs, potentially thinner trading markets, extended settlement periods and the risks of holding securities with foreign sub-custodians and securities depositories. When the Funds are investing in securities that are denominated in foreign currencies, they may also sell securities denominated in foreign currencies and retain the proceeds in those foreign currencies to use at a future date (to purchase other securities denominated in those currencies) or buy foreign currencies outright to purchase securities denominated in those foreign currencies at a future date. The Funds may also engage in foreign currency futures contracts, foreign currency forward contracts, foreign currency exchange contracts and options thereon. See

“Foreign Currency” below for a description of such investments. The Funds may also invest some or all of their excess cash in deposit accounts with foreign banks.

**Foreign Securities Traded in Emerging Markets.** The Funds may invest in the securities of issuers in less developed foreign countries including countries whose economies or securities markets are not yet highly developed (“emerging markets”). Emerging markets are nations with below investment grade credit ratings and social or business activity in the process of rapid growth and industrialization. There are special risks associated with investing in emerging markets in addition to those described above in “Foreign Securities Traded in Foreign Markets.” These special risks include, among others, greater political uncertainties, an economy’s dependence on revenues from particular commodities or on international aid or development assistance, currency transfer restrictions, a limited number of potential buyers for such securities and delays and disruptions in securities settlement procedures.

**Foreign Currency.** A Fund also may invest in foreign currency, foreign currency futures, and foreign currency options. Unlike forward foreign currency exchange contracts, foreign currency futures contracts and options on such contracts are standardized as to amount and delivery period and are traded on boards of trade and commodities exchanges. It is anticipated that such contracts may provide greater liquidity and lower costs than forward currency exchange contracts.

A Fund may purchase Eurodollar instruments, which are U.S. dollar-denominated futures contracts or options thereon which are linked to the London Interbank Offering Rate (“LIBOR”), although foreign currency-denominated instruments are available from time to time. Eurodollar futures contracts enable purchasers to obtain a fixed rate for the lending of funds and sellers to obtain a fixed rate for borrowings. A Fund might use Eurodollar futures contracts and options thereon to hedge against changes in LIBOR, to which many interest rate swaps and fixed-income instruments are linked.

The Funds may temporarily hold funds in bank deposits in foreign currencies during the completion of investment programs and may conduct foreign currency exchange transactions either on a cash basis or at the rate prevailing in the foreign exchange market.

A forward currency contract (“forward contract”) involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific amount of a specific currency at a future date, which may be any fixed number of days (usually less than one year) from the date of the contract agreed upon by the parties, at a price set at the time of the contract. At or before settlement of a forward currency contract, a Fund may either deliver the currency or terminate its contractual obligation to deliver the currency by purchasing an offsetting contract. If a Fund makes delivery of the foreign currency at or before the settlement of a forward contract, it may be required to obtain the currency through the conversion of assets of the Fund into the currency. Each Fund may close out a forward contract obligating it to purchase currency by selling an offsetting contract, in which case, it will realize a gain or a loss.

Forward contracts are considered “derivatives,” financial instruments whose performance is derived, at least in part, from the performance of another asset (such as a security, currency or an index of securities). A Fund enters into forward contracts in order to “lock in” the exchange rate between the currency it will deliver and the currency it will receive for the duration of the contract. In addition, each Fund may enter into forward contracts to hedge against risks arising from securities the Fund owns or anticipates purchasing, or the U.S. dollar value of interest and dividends paid on those securities. The Fund does not intend to enter into forward contracts on a regular or continuing basis and the Fund will not enter these contracts for speculative purposes.

Each Fund will not have more than 20% (based on the mark-to-market value of its currency hedges) of its total assets committed to forward contracts, or maintain a net exposure to forward contracts that would obligate the Fund to deliver an amount of foreign currency in excess of 105% the value of the Fund's investment securities or other assets denominated in that currency.

Foreign currency transactions involve certain costs and risks. A Fund incurs foreign exchange expenses in converting assets from one currency to another. Forward contracts involve a risk of loss if the Advisor is inaccurate in its prediction of currency movements. The projection of short-term currency market movements is extremely difficult and the successful execution of a short-term hedging strategy is highly uncertain. The precise matching of forward contract amounts and the value of the securities involved is generally not possible. Accordingly, it may be necessary for a Fund to purchase additional foreign currency if the market value of the security is less than the amount of the foreign currency the Fund is obligated to deliver under the forward contract and the decision is made to sell the security and make delivery of the foreign currency. The use of forward contracts as a hedging technique does not eliminate fluctuations in the prices of the underlying securities the Fund owns or intends to acquire, but it does fix a rate of exchange in advance. Although forward contracts can reduce the risk of loss due to a decline in the value of the hedged currencies, they also limit any potential gain that might result from an increase in the value of the currencies. There is also the risk that the other party to the transaction may fail to deliver currency when due which may result in a loss to a Fund.

**Participatory Notes.** The Funds may invest in securities that are traded in foreign markets through participatory notes. Participatory notes (commonly known as P-notes) are derivative instruments used by foreign funds or investors that would like to invest in securities of a foreign issuer traded in its local market. Foreign funds or investors buy P-notes from brokers who are registered in a foreign issuer's local market. Such brokers buy shares of an issuer on the local market and create the P-notes to represent interests in the shares. Thus, investments in P-notes present similar risks to investing directly in an issuer's shares. Normally, P-notes can only be sold back to the broker that issued them. As a result, P-notes also expose investors to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the entity issuing the note may not be able to honor its financial commitment to the purchaser.

#### **Illiquid Investments and Restricted Securities**

Pursuant to Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act, a Fund may not acquire any "illiquid investment" if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets. An "illiquid investment" is any investment that a 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. Each Fund has implemented a liquidity risk management program and related procedures to identify illiquid investments pursuant to Rule 22e-4. The 15% limits are applied as of the date a Fund purchases an illiquid investment. It is possible that a Fund's holding of illiquid investments could exceed the 15% limit, for example as a result of market developments or redemptions.

Each Fund may purchase certain restricted securities that can be resold to institutional investors and which may be determined to not be illiquid investments pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. In many cases, those securities are traded in the institutional market under Rule 144A under the 1933 Act and are called Rule 144A securities.

Investments in illiquid investments involve more risks than investments in similar securities that are readily marketable. Illiquid investments may trade at a discount from otherwise comparable, more liquid investments. Investment of a Fund's assets in illiquid investments may restrict the ability of the Fund to dispose of its investments in a timely fashion and for a fair price as well as its ability to take advantage of

market opportunities. The risks associated with illiquidity will be particularly acute where a Fund's operations require cash, such as when the Fund has net redemptions, and could result in the Fund borrowing to meet short-term cash requirements or incurring losses on the sale of illiquid investments.

Illiquid investments are often restricted securities sold in private placement transactions between issuers and their purchasers and may be neither listed on an exchange nor traded in other established markets. In many cases, the privately placed securities may not be freely transferable under the laws of the applicable jurisdiction or due to contractual restrictions on resale. To the extent privately placed securities may be resold in privately negotiated transactions, the prices realized from the sales could be less than those originally paid by a Fund or less than the fair value of the securities. In addition, issuers whose securities are not publicly traded may not be subject to the disclosure and other investor protection requirements that may be applicable if their securities were publicly traded. If any privately placed securities held by a Fund are required to be registered under the securities laws of one or more jurisdictions before being resold, the Fund may be required to bear the expenses of registration. Private placement investments may involve investments in smaller, less seasoned issuers, which may involve greater risks than investments in more established companies. These issuers may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources, or they may be dependent on a limited management group. In making investments in private placement securities, a Fund may obtain access to material non-public information, which may restrict the Fund's ability to conduct transactions in those securities.

### **Investment Company Securities**

#### **Open-End and Closed-End Investment Companies**

The Funds may invest in the securities of other registered investment companies (affiliated and unaffiliated), including money market mutual funds, subject to the limitations set forth in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). Investments in the securities of other investment companies will likely result in the duplication of advisory fees and certain other expenses. By investing in another investment company, a Fund becomes a shareholder of that investment company. As a result, Fund shareholders indirectly will bear the Fund's proportionate share of the fees and expenses paid by shareholders of the other investment company, in addition to the fees and expenses Fund shareholders directly bear in connection with the Fund's own operations.

Each Fund currently intends to limit its investments in securities issued by other investment companies so that not more than 3% of the outstanding voting stock of any one investment company (other than money market funds) will be owned by the Fund, or its affiliated persons, as a whole. In addition to the advisory and operational fees a Fund bears directly in connection with its own operation, the Fund would also bear its pro rata portions of each other investment company's advisory and operational expenses.

Section 12(d)(1)(A) of the 1940 Act generally prohibits a fund from purchasing (1) more than 3% of the total outstanding voting stock of another fund; (2) securities of another fund having an aggregate value in excess of 5% of the value of the acquiring fund; and (3) securities of the other fund and all other funds having an aggregate value in excess of 10% of the value of the total assets of the acquiring fund. There are some exceptions, however, to these limitations pursuant to various rules promulgated by the SEC.

Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act restricts investments by registered investment companies in securities of other registered investment companies. The acquisition of shares by a Fund in other registered investment companies is therefore subject to the restrictions of Section 12(d)(1) of the 1940 Act, except as may be permitted by Rule and/or an exemptive order obtained by the other registered investment companies that permits the Fund to invest in the other registered investment companies beyond the limits

of Section 12(d)(1), subject to certain terms and conditions, including that the Fund enter into an agreement with the other registered investment companies regarding the terms of the investment.

In accordance with Section 12(d)(1)(F) and Rule 12d1-3 of the 1940 Act, the provisions of Section 12(d)(1) shall not apply to securities purchased or otherwise acquired by the Fund if (i) immediately after such purchase or acquisition not more than 3% of the total outstanding stock of such registered investment company is owned by the Fund and all affiliated persons of the Fund; and (ii) the Fund is not proposing to offer or sell any security issued by it through a principal underwriter or otherwise at a public or offering price including a sales load or service fee that exceeds the limits set forth in Rule 2341 of the Conduct Rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (“FINRA”) applicable to a fund of funds (*e.g.*, 8.5%).

The SEC recently adopted revisions to the rules permitting funds to invest in other investment companies to streamline and enhance the regulatory framework applicable to fund of funds arrangements. While new Rule 12d1-4 will permit more types of fund of fund arrangements without an exemptive order, it imposes new conditions, including limits on control and voting of acquired funds’ shares, evaluations and findings by investment advisers, fund investment agreements, and limits on most three-tier fund structures.

### **Exchange-Traded Funds**

The Funds may also invest in shares of exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”). ETFs are investment companies which seek to replicate the performance, before fees and expenses, of an underlying index of securities. An ETF is similar to a traditional mutual fund but trades at different prices during the day on a securities exchange like a stock. Similar to investments in other investment companies discussed above, a Fund’s investments in ETFs will involve duplication of advisory fees and other expenses since the Fund will be investing in another investment company. In addition, the Fund’s investment in ETFs is also subject to its limitations on investments in investment companies discussed above. To the extent the Fund invests in ETFs which focus on a particular market segment or industry, the Fund will also be subject to the risks associated with investing in those sectors or industries. The shares of the ETFs in which the Fund will invest will be listed on a national securities exchange and the Fund will purchase and sell these shares on the secondary market at their current market price, which may be more or less than their net asset value. Investors in the Fund should be aware that index-based ETFs are subject to “tracking risk,” which is the risk that an ETF will not be able to replicate exactly the performance of the index it tracks.

As a purchaser of ETF shares on the secondary market, a Fund will be subject to the market risk associated with owning any security whose value is based on market price. ETF shares historically have tended to trade at or near their net asset value, but there is no guarantee that they will continue to do so. Unlike traditional mutual funds, shares of an ETF may be purchased and redeemed directly from the ETF only in large blocks (typically 50,000 shares or more) and only through participating organizations that have entered into contractual agreements with the ETF. The Funds do not expect to enter into such agreements and therefore will not be able to purchase and redeem their ETF shares directly from the ETF, but will instead purchase and sell shares on the secondary market.

### **Other Pooled Investment Vehicles**

The Funds may invest in pooled investment vehicles, including limited partnerships. Examples of such vehicles include private funds and private funds of funds. A private fund generally invests in non-public companies that the fund’s manager believes will experience significant growth over a certain time period. A private fund of funds invests in other private funds of the type described. Investments in private funds,

once made, typically may not be redeemed for several years, though they may be sold to other investors under certain circumstances.

To the extent that the Funds invest in pooled investment vehicles, such investments may be deemed illiquid. (See “Illiquid and Restricted Securities” for the risks of investing in illiquid securities above). In addition, a Fund will bear its ratable share of such vehicles’ expenses, including its management expenses and performance fees. Performance fees are fees paid to the vehicle’s manager based on the vehicle’s investment performance (or returns) as compared to some benchmark. The fees a Fund pays to invest in a Pooled Investment Vehicle may be higher than the fees it would pay if the manager of the Pooled Investment Vehicle managed the Fund’s assets directly. Further, the performance fees payable to the manager of a Pooled Investment Vehicle may create an incentive for the manager to make investments that are riskier or more speculative than those it might make in the absence of an incentive fee.

### **Market and Regulatory Risk**

Events in the financial markets and economy may cause volatility and uncertainty and affect performance. Such adverse effects on performance could include a decline in the value and liquidity of securities held by a Fund, unusually high and unanticipated levels of redemptions, an increase in portfolio turnover, a decrease in NAV, and an increase in Fund expenses. It may also be unusually difficult to identify both investment risks and opportunities, in which case investment objectives may not be met. Market events may affect a single issuer, industry, sector, or the market as a whole. Traditionally liquid investments may experience periods of diminished liquidity. During a general downturn in the financial markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value, and a Fund may lose value, regardless of the individual results of the securities and other instruments in which the Fund invests. It is impossible to predict whether or for how long such market events will continue, particularly if they are unprecedented, unforeseen or widespread events or conditions. Therefore, it is important to understand that the value of your investment may fall, sometimes sharply and for extended periods, and you could lose money.

Governmental and regulatory actions, including tax law changes, may also impair portfolio management and have unexpected or adverse consequences on particular markets, strategies, or investments. Policy and legislative changes in the United States and in other countries are affecting many aspects of financial regulation, and may in some instances contribute to decreased liquidity and increased volatility in the financial markets. The impact of these changes on the markets, and the practical implications for market participants, may not be fully known for some time. In addition, economies and financial markets throughout the world are becoming increasingly interconnected. As a result, whether or not a Fund invests in securities of issuers located in or with significant exposure to countries experiencing economic and financial difficulties, pandemics, epidemics and other similar circumstances in one or more countries or regions, the value and liquidity of the Fund’s investments may be negatively affected.

### **Securities Lending**

Upon approval from the Board, the Fund may lend the securities in its portfolio to brokers, dealers and financial institutions (but not individuals) in order to increase the return on its portfolio. The SEC currently requires that the following conditions must be met whenever the Fund’s portfolio securities are loaned: (1) the Fund must receive at least 100% cash collateral from the borrower; (2) the borrower must increase such collateral whenever the market value of the securities rises above the level of such collateral; (3) the Fund must be able to terminate the loan at any time; (4) the Fund must receive reasonable interest on the loan, as well as any dividends, interest or other distributions on the loaned securities, and any increase in market value; (5) the Fund may pay only reasonable custodian fees approved by the Board in connection with the loan; (6) while voting rights on the loaned securities may

pass to the borrower, the Board must terminate the loan and regain the right to vote the securities if a material event adversely affecting the investment occurs, and (7) the Fund may not loan its portfolio securities so that the value of the loaned securities is more than one-third of its total asset value, including collateral received from such loans. These conditions may be subject to future modification. Such loans will be terminable at any time upon specified notice. The Fund might experience the risk of loss if the institution with which it has engaged in a portfolio loan transaction breaches its agreement with the Fund. In addition, the Fund will not enter into any portfolio security lending arrangement having a duration of longer than one year. The principal risk of portfolio lending is potential default or insolvency of the borrower. In either of these cases, the Fund could experience delays in recovering securities or collateral or could lose all or part of the value of the loaned securities. As part of participating in a lending program, the Fund may be required to invest in collateralized debt or other securities that bear the risk of loss of principal. In addition, all investments made with the collateral received are subject to the risks associated with such investments. If such investments lose value, the Fund will have to cover the loss when repaying the collateral.

Any loans of portfolio securities are fully collateralized based on values that are marked-to-market daily. Any securities that the Fund may receive as collateral will not become part of the Fund's investment portfolio at the time of the loan and, in the event of a default by the borrower, the Fund will, if permitted by law, dispose of such collateral except for such part thereof that is a security in which the Fund is permitted to invest. During the time securities are on loan, the borrower will pay the Fund any accrued income on those securities, and the Fund may invest the cash collateral and earn income or receive an agreed-upon fee from a borrower that has delivered cash-equivalent collateral.

### **Special Risks Related to Cyber Security**

A Fund and its service providers are susceptible to cyber security risks that include, among other things, theft, unauthorized monitoring, release, misuse, loss, destruction or corruption of confidential and highly restricted data; denial of service attacks; unauthorized access to relevant systems, compromises to networks or devices that a Fund and its service providers use to service a Fund's operations; or operational disruption or failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Fund and its service providers. Cyber attacks against or security breakdowns of a Fund or its service providers may adversely impact a Fund and its shareholders, potentially resulting in, among other things, financial losses; the inability of Fund shareholders to transact business and a Fund to process transactions; inability to calculate a Fund's NAV; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs; and/or additional compliance costs. A Fund may incur additional costs for cyber security risk management and remediation purposes. In addition, cyber security risks may also impact issuers of securities in which a Fund invests, which may cause a Fund's investment in such issuers to lose value. There can be no assurance that a Fund or its service providers will not suffer losses relating to cyber attacks or other information security breaches in the future.

### **Temporary Defensive Position**

Each Fund may invest in prime money market instruments or exchange-traded funds, pending investment of cash balances. Each Fund may also assume a temporary defensive position and may invest without limit in prime quality money market instruments. Prime quality instruments are those instruments that are rated in one of the two highest short-term rating categories by an NRSRO or, if not rated, determined by the Advisor to be of comparable quality.

Money market instruments usually have maturities of one year or less and fixed rates of return. The money market instruments in which a Fund may invest include short-term U.S. Government Securities, commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, time deposits, interest-bearing savings deposits of commercial banks, repurchase agreements concerning securities in which the Fund may invest, exchange traded funds and money market mutual funds.

## **Equity Securities**

### **Common and Preferred Stock**

**General.** Each Fund may hold common stock received as part of reorganizations. Common stock represents an equity (ownership) interest in a company, and usually possesses voting rights and earns dividends. Dividends on common stock are not fixed but are declared at the discretion of the issuer. Common stock generally represents the riskiest investment in a company. In addition, common stock generally has the greatest appreciation and depreciation potential because increases and decreases in earnings are usually reflected in a company's stock price.

Each Fund may hold preferred stock received as a result of a reorganization. Preferred stock is a class of stock having a preference over common stock as to the payment of dividends and the recovery of investment should a company be liquidated, although preferred stock is usually junior to the debt securities of the issuer. Preferred stock typically does not possess voting rights and its market value may change based on changes in interest rates.

**Risks.** The fundamental risk of investing in common and preferred stock is the risk that the value of the stock might decrease. Stock values fluctuate in response to the activities of an individual company or in response to general market and/or economic conditions. Historically, common stocks have provided greater long-term returns and have entailed greater short-term risks than preferred stocks, fixed-income and money market investments. The market value of all securities, including common and preferred stocks, is based upon the market's perception of value and not necessarily the book value of an issuer or other objective measures of a company's worth. If you invest in a Fund, you should be willing to accept the risks of the stock market and should consider an investment in the Fund only as a part of your overall investment portfolio.

## INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS

For purposes of all investment policies of each Fund: (1) the term “1940 Act” includes the rules thereunder, SEC interpretations and any exemptive order upon which a Fund may rely; and (2) the term “Code” includes the rules thereunder, IRS interpretations and any private letter ruling or similar authority upon which a Fund may rely.

The Funds have adopted the following policies and investment restrictions as fundamental policies (unless otherwise noted), which may not be changed without the affirmative vote of the holders of a “majority” of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund. Under the 1940 Act, the “vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities” means the vote of the holders of the lesser of (i) 67% of the shares of the Fund represented at a meeting at which the holders of more than 50% of the Fund’s outstanding shares are represented or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of a Fund.

### **Fundamental Limitations**

As a matter of fundamental policy, each Fund may not:

1. Borrow money or issue senior securities, except through reverse repurchase agreements or otherwise as permitted under the 1940 Act, as interpreted, modified or otherwise permitted by regulatory authority. Generally, issuing senior securities is prohibited under the 1940 Act; however, certain exceptions apply such as in the case of reverse repurchase agreements, borrowing, and certain other leveraging transactions.
2. Act as underwriter (except to the extent the Fund may be deemed to be an underwriter in connection with the sale of securities in its investment portfolio).
3. Invest 25% or more of its net assets, calculated at the time of purchase and taken at market value, in securities of issuers in any one industry or groups of industries (other than U.S. government securities).
4. Purchase or sell real estate, unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities (although the Fund may purchase and sell securities that are secured by real estate and securities of companies that invest or deal in real estate).
5. Purchase or sell physical commodities, unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other instruments. This limitation shall not prevent the Fund from purchasing, selling, or entering into futures contracts, or acquiring securities or other instruments and options thereon backed by, or related to, physical commodities.
6. Make loans (except purchases of debt securities and syndicated loans consistent with the investment policies of the Fund). For purposes of this limitation, entering into repurchase agreements, lending securities and acquiring any debt security are not deemed to be the making of loans.
7. With respect to 75% of its total assets, invest more than 5% of its total assets in securities of a single issuer or hold more than 10% of the voting securities of such issuer. (Does not apply to investment in the securities of the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities or securities of other investment companies.)

With respect to Fundamental Investment Restriction No. 1, under SEC staff interpretations, reverse repurchase agreements, firm commitment agreements and standby commitment agreements will not constitute impermissible borrowings under the 1940 Act if the Fund segregates assets or otherwise covers its obligations to limit a Fund's risk of loss.

### **Non-Fundamental Limitation**

As a matter of non-fundamental policy, the Floating Rate Fund may not purchase securities of other investment companies, except in accordance with the 1940 Act. However, at any time that the Fund's shares are acquired by another Fund in accordance with Section 12(d)(1)(G) of the 1940 Act, the Fund shall not purchase securities of a registered open-end investment company or registered unit investment trust in reliance on either Section 12(d)(1)(F) or Section 12(d)(1)(G) of the 1940 Act.

## **MANAGEMENT**

### **Trustees and Executive Officers**

The Board is responsible for the overall management of the Trust, including general supervision and review of the investment activities of the Funds. The Board, in turn, elects the Officers of the Trust, who are responsible for administering the day-to-day operations of the Trust and its separate series. The current Trustees and Officers of the Trust, their years of birth and positions with the Trust, term of office with the Trust and length of time served, their principal occupations for the past five years and other directorships are set forth in the table below.

<b>Name, Address And Age</b>	<b>Position with the Trust<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Term of Office<sup>(2)</sup> and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</b>	<b>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>(3)</sup> Overseen by Trustees</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held</b>
<b>Independent Trustees of the Trust<sup>(1)</sup></b>					
Kathleen T. Barr (born 1955) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 2020 E. Financial Way Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Trustee	Indefinite Term; Since November 2018.	Former owner of a registered investment adviser, Productive Capital Management, Inc.; formerly, Chief Administrative Officer, Senior Vice President and Senior Managing Director of Allegiant Asset Management Company (merged with PNC Capital Advisors, LLC in 2009); formerly, Chief Administrative Officer, Chief Compliance Officer and Senior Vice President of PNC Funds and PNC Advantage Funds (f/k/a Allegiant Funds) (registered investment companies).	4	Independent Director, Muzinich BDC, Inc. (2019 to present); Independent Trustee for the William Blair Funds (2013 to present) (21 series); Independent Trustee for the AmericaFirst Quantitative Funds (2012 to 2016).

<b>Name, Address And Age</b>	<b>Position with the Trust<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Term of Office<sup>(2)</sup> and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</b>	<b>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>(3)</sup> Overseen by Trustees</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held</b>
Wallace L. Cook (born 1939) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 2020 E. Financial Way Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Trustee	Indefinite Term; Since May 1991.	Investment Consultant; formerly, Chief Executive Officer, Rockefeller Trust Co., (prior thereto Senior Vice President), and Managing Director, Rockefeller & Co. (Investment Manager and Financial Advisor); formerly, Senior Vice President, Norton Simon, Inc. (international consumer products conglomerate).	4	The Dana Foundation.
Eric W. Falkeis (born 1973) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 2020 E. Financial Way Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Trustee  Chairperson	Indefinite Term; Since September 2011.  Indefinite Term; Since August 2019.	Chief Executive Officer, Tidal ETF Services Co. (2018 to present); formerly, Chief Operating Officer, Direxion Funds (2013 to 2018); formerly, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (and other positions), U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC (1997 to 2013).	4	Independent Director, Muzinich BDC, Inc. (2019 to present); Interested Trustee and Chairperson, Tidal ETF Trust (2018 to Present) (21 series); Former Interested Trustee, Direxion Funds (22 series), Direxion Shares ETF Trust (112 series) and Direxion Insurance Trust (2013 to 2018).
Carl A. Froebel (born 1938) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 2020 E. Financial Way Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Trustee	Indefinite Term; Since May 1991.	Formerly, President and Founder, National Investor Data Services, Inc. (investment related computer software).	4	None.
Steven J. Paggioli (born 1950) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 2020 E. Financial Way Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Trustee	Indefinite Term; Since May 1991.	Consultant; formerly, Executive Vice President, Investment Company Administration, LLC (mutual fund administrator).	4	Independent Director, Muzinich BDC, Inc. (2019 to present); Independent Trustee, AMG Funds (1993 to present) (49 series); Advisory Board Member, Sustainable Growth Advisers, LP.

<b>Name, Address And Age</b>	<b>Position with the Trust<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Term of Office<sup>(2)</sup> and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</b>	<b>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex<sup>(3)</sup> Overseen by Trustees</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held</b>
Ashi S. Parikh (born 1966) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 2020 E. Financial Way Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Trustee	Indefinite Term; Since June 202.	Investment professional; formerly, Chief Executive and Chief Investment Officer and various other positions, RidgeWorth Investments, LLC (global investment management firm) (2006 to 2017); formerly, Chief Investment Officer Institutional Growth Equities, Eagle Asset Management (financial advisor); formerly Sr. Managing Director, Growth Equities, Banc One Investment Advisors (financial advisor).	4	Board of Directors Member, Investment Working Group, The Ohio State University Endowments and Foundation (2016 to present); Board of Directors, World Methodist Council, Investment Committee (2018 to present); Independent Trustee, PNC Funds (2018 to 2019) (32 series); Interested Trustee, RidgeWorth Funds (2014 to 2017) (35 series).
<b>Officers of the Trust</b>					
Elaine E. Richards (born 1968) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 2020 E. Financial Way Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	President	Indefinite Term; Since March 2013.	Senior Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services since July 2007.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.
Carl G. Gee, J.D. (born 1990) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 615 East Michigan St. Milwaukee, WI 53202	Secretary & Vice President	Indefinite Term; Since February 2021.	Assistant Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services since August 2016; Summer Associate, Husch Blackwell LLP (2015); Law Clerk, Brady Corporation (global printing systems, labels and safety products company) (2014-2015).	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.
Aaron J. Perkovich (born 1973) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 615 East Michigan St. Milwaukee, WI 53202	Vice President  Treasurer	Indefinite Term; Since March 2017.  Indefinite Term; Since August 2016.	Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services since June 2006.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.
Melissa Breitzman (born 1983) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 615 East Michigan St. Milwaukee, WI 53202	Assistant Treasurer	Indefinite Term; Since August 2016.	Assistant Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services since June 2005.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.

Name, Address And Age	Position with the Trust <sup>(1)</sup>	Term of Office <sup>(2)</sup> and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation During Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex <sup>(3)</sup> Overseen by Trustees	Other Directorships Held
Craig Benton (born 1985) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 615 East Michigan St. Milwaukee, WI 53202	Assistant Treasurer	Indefinite Term; Since August 2016	Assistant Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services since November 2007.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.
Cory Akers (born 1978) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 615 East Michigan St. Milwaukee, WI 53202	Assistant Treasurer	Indefinite Term; Since August 2017.	Assistant Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services since November 2007.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.
Donna Barrette (born 1966) c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services 615 East Michigan St. Milwaukee, WI 53202	Chief Compliance Officer Anti-Money Laundering Officer Vice President	Indefinite Term; Since July 2011.	Senior Vice President and Compliance Officer, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services since August 2004.	Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.

<sup>(1)</sup> All Trustees of the Trust who are not “interested persons” of the Trust as defined under the 1940 Act (“Independent Trustees”).

<sup>(2)</sup> Under the terms of the Board’s retirement policy, a Trustee shall retire at the end of the calendar year in which he or she reaches the age of 78 (or, in the case of a Trustee who was over the age of 78 at the time the retirement policy was adopted in 2019, December 31, 2021.)

<sup>(3)</sup> The Trust is comprised of numerous series managed by unaffiliated investment advisors. The term “Fund Complex” applies to the Funds. The Funds do not hold themselves out as related to any other series within the Trust, for purposes of investment and investor services, nor do they share the same investment advisor with any other series.

## Additional Information Concerning the Board of Trustees

### *The Role of the Board*

The Board oversees the management and operations of the Trust. Like all mutual funds, the day-to-day management and operation of the Trust is the responsibility of the various service providers to the Trust, such as the Advisor, the Distributor, the Administrator, the Custodian, and the Transfer Agent, each of whom are discussed in greater detail in this Statement of Additional Information. The Board has appointed various senior employees of the Administrator as officers of the Trust, with responsibility to monitor and report to the Board on the Trust’s operations. In conducting this oversight, the Board receives regular reports from these officers and the service providers. For example, the Treasurer reports as to financial reporting matters and the President reports as to matters relating to the Trust’s operations. In addition, the Advisor provides regular reports on the investment strategy and performance of the Fund. The Board has appointed a Chief Compliance Officer who administers the Trust’s compliance program and regularly reports to the Board as to compliance matters. These reports are provided as part of formal “Board Meetings” which are typically held quarterly, in person, and involve the Board’s review of recent operations. In addition, various members of the Board also meet with management in less formal settings, between formal “Board Meetings,” to discuss various topics. In all cases, however, the role of the Board and of any individual Trustee is one of oversight and not of management of the day-to-day affairs of the Trust and its oversight role does not make the Board a guarantor of the Trust’s investments, operations or activities.

### *Board Structure, Leadership*

The Board has structured itself in a manner that it believes allows it to perform its oversight function effectively. It has established three standing committees, a Nominating and Governance Committee, an Audit Committee and a Qualified Legal Compliance Committee, which are discussed in greater detail below under “Trust Committees”. The Board is comprised of Trustees who are all Independent Trustees, which are Trustees that are not affiliated with the Advisor, the principal underwriter, or their affiliates. The Nominating and Governance Committee, Audit Committee and Qualified Legal Compliance Committee are comprised entirely of Independent Trustees. The Chairperson of the Board is an Independent Trustee. The Board has determined not to combine the Chairperson position and the principal executive officer position and has appointed a Vice President of the Administrator as the President of the Trust. The Board reviews its structure and the structure of its committees annually. The Board has determined that the structure of the Independent Chairperson, the composition of the Board, and the function and composition of its various committees are appropriate means to address any potential conflicts of interest that may arise.

### *Board Oversight of Risk Management*

As part of its oversight function, the Board of Trustees receives and reviews various risk management reports and discusses these matters with appropriate management and other personnel. Because risk management is a broad concept comprised of many elements (e.g., investment risk, issuer and counterparty risk, compliance risk, operational risks, business continuity risks, etc.), the oversight of different types of risks is handled in different ways. For example, the Audit Committee meets with the Treasurer and the Trust’s independent registered public accounting firm to discuss, among other things, the internal control structure of the Trust’s financial reporting function. The Board meets regularly with the Chief Compliance Officer to discuss compliance and operational risks and how they are managed. The Board also receives reports from the Advisor as to investment risks of the Fund. In addition to these reports, from time to time the Board receives reports from the Administrator and the Advisor as to enterprise risk management.

### *Information about Each Trustee’s Qualification, Experience, Attributes or Skills*

The Board believes that each of the Trustees has the qualifications, experience, attributes and skills (“Trustee Attributes”) appropriate to their continued service as Trustees of the Trust in light of the Trust’s business and structure. In addition to a demonstrated record of business and/or professional accomplishment, each of the Trustees has served on the Board for a number of years. They have substantial board experience and, in their service to the Trust, have gained substantial insight as to the operation of the Trust. They have demonstrated a commitment to discharging their oversight duties as trustees in the interests of shareholders. The Board annually conducts a “self-assessment” wherein the effectiveness of the Board and individual Trustees is reviewed.

In addition to the information provided in the chart above, below is certain additional information concerning each particular Trustee and his/her Trustee Attributes. The information is not all-inclusive. Many Trustee Attributes involve intangible elements, such as intelligence, integrity, work ethic, the ability to work together, the ability to communicate effectively, the ability to exercise judgment, to ask incisive questions, and commitment to shareholder interests.

Ms. Barr’s Trustee Attributes include her substantial mutual fund experience, including her role as Chair of the Governing Council for the Independent Directors Council and member of the ICI Board of Governors. She has executive experience as the former owner of a registered investment adviser

(Productive Capital Management, Inc.), as the Chief Administrative Officer, Senior Vice President and Senior Managing Director of Allegiant Asset Management Company (merged with PNC Capital Advisors LLC in 2009), and as the Chief Administrative Officer, Chief Compliance Officer and Senior Vice President of PNC Funds and PNC Advantage Funds (f/k/a Allegiant Funds). Ms. Barr also currently serves on the board of several registered investment management companies. Ms. Barr has been determined to qualify as an Audit Committee financial expert for the Trust. The Board believes Ms. Barr's experience, qualifications, attributes or skills on an individual basis and in combination with those of the other Trustees led to the conclusion that she possesses the requisite skills and attributes as a Trustee to carry out oversight responsibilities with respect to the Trust.

Mr. Cook's Trustee Attributes include his investment and executive experience through his investment consulting business and former Chief Executive Officer of Rockefeller Trust Company (an investment manager and financial advisor). He has substantial board experience, serving on the board of several foundations. Mr. Cook has been determined to qualify as an Audit Committee financial expert for the Trust. The Board believes Mr. Cook's experience, qualifications, attributes or skills on an individual basis and in combination with those of the other Trustees led to the conclusion that he possesses the requisite skills and attributes as a Trustee to carry out oversight responsibilities with respect to the Trust.

Mr. Falkeis' Trustee Attributes include his substantial mutual fund experience and his experience with financial, accounting, investment and regulatory matters through his former position as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (and other positions) of U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, a full service provider to ETFs, mutual funds and alternative investment products. Mr. Falkeis currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of Tidal ETF Services, LLC (2018 to present), and he has experience consulting with investment advisors regarding the legal structure of investment companies, distribution channel analysis, marketing and actual distribution of those funds. Mr. Falkeis also has substantial managerial, operational and risk oversight experience through his former positions as Chief Operating Officer and Trustee of the Direxion Funds and the Direxion Exchange Traded Funds. Mr. Falkeis has been determined to qualify as an Audit Committee financial expert for the Trust. The Board believes Mr. Falkeis' experience, qualifications, attributes or skills on an individual basis and in combination with those of the other Trustees led to the conclusion that he possesses the requisite skills and attributes as a Trustee to carry out oversight responsibilities with respect to the Trust.

Mr. Froebel's Trustee Attributes include his significant systems and operations experience. He was a Director of Scudder, Stevens & Clark (with responsibility for its systems department) and founder and President of Systems Dynamics Corp. ("SDC") and later Vice President of Bradford Computer & Systems after its acquisition of SDC, (providing record keeping and reporting for investment advisors and mutual funds). He also served as Vice President of Automatic Data Processing (automated services to the brokerage and investment advisory industry) and was the former President and founder of National Investor Data Services, Inc. (a software and computer vendor to the mutual fund industry with fund accounting and transfer agent systems). Mr. Froebel has been determined to qualify as an Audit Committee financial expert for the Trust. The Board believes Mr. Froebel's experience, qualifications, attributes or skills on an individual basis and in combination with those of the other Trustees led to the conclusion that he possesses the requisite skills and attributes as a Trustee to carry out oversight responsibilities with respect to the Trust.

Mr. Paggioli's Trustee Attributes include his substantial mutual fund and investment advisory experience. Mr. Paggioli is an independent consultant on investment company and investment advisory matters. He has held a number of senior positions with mutual fund and investment advisory organizations and related businesses, including Executive Vice President, Director and Principal of the Wadsworth Group (fund administration, distribution transfer agency and accounting services). He serves on the boards of several

investment management companies and advisory firms. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Investment Company Institute and of the Governing Council of the Independent Directors Council. He has served on various industry association and self-regulatory committees and formerly worked on the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Mr. Paggioli has been determined to qualify as an Audit Committee financial expert for the Trust. The Board believes Mr. Paggioli's experience, qualifications, attributes or skills on an individual basis and in combination with those of the other Trustees led to the conclusion that he possesses the requisite skills and attributes as a Trustee to carry out oversight responsibilities with respect to the Trust.

Mr. Parikh's Trustee Attributes include his substantial investment and executive experience in the asset management industry, including his position as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of Ridgworth Investments (global investment management firm with over \$41 billion in assets). He has also served as a Trustee of several investment trusts (including private investment trusts). Mr. Parikh has ongoing responsibility as a member of the Investment Working Group as part of the Board of Directors for the Ohio State University Endowments & Foundation, as well as an ongoing position as a member of the Investment Committee for the World Methodist Council Endowment Fund (a charitable religious foundation). Mr. Parikh has been determined to qualify as an Audit Committee financial expert for the Trust. The Board believes Mr. Parikh possesses the requisite skills and attributes as a Trustee to carry out oversight responsibilities with respect to the Trust.

### **Trust Committees**

The Trust has three standing committees: the Nominating and Governance Committee and the Audit Committee, which also serves as the Qualified Legal Compliance Committee ("QLCC").

The Nominating and Governance Committee, comprised of all of the Independent Trustees, is responsible for seeking and reviewing candidates for consideration as nominees for Trustees and meets only as necessary. The Nominating and Governance Committee has appointed Independent Trustee Kathleen Barr as the Chairperson of the Committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider nominees nominated by shareholders. Recommendations by shareholders should be sent to the President of the Trust in writing together with the appropriate biographical information concerning each such proposed Nominee, and such recommendation must comply with the notice provisions set forth in the Trust By-Laws. In general, to comply with such procedures, such nominations, together with all required biographical information, must be delivered to, and received by, the President of the Trust at the principal executive offices of the Trust not later than 120 days and no more than 150 days prior to the shareholder meeting at which any such nominee would be voted on. The Nominating and Governance Committee did not meet with respect to the Funds during its fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

The Audit Committee is comprised of all of the Independent Trustees. The Audit Committee typically meets on a quarterly basis with respect to each series of the Trust and may meet more frequently. The function of the Audit Committee, with respect to each series of the Trust, is to review the scope and results of the audit and any matters bearing on the audit or a fund's financial statements and to ensure the integrity of a fund's pricing and financial reporting. The Audit Committee met one time with respect to the Funds during their fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

The function of the QLCC is to receive reports from an attorney retained by the Trust of evidence of a material violation by the Trust or by any officer, director, employee or agent of the Trust. The QLCC did not meet with respect to the Fund during its fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

Additionally, the Board has delegated day-to-day valuation issues to a Valuation Committee that is comprised of representatives from the Administrator’s staff and certain officers of the Trust and overseen by the Independent Trustees. The function of the Valuation Committee is to value securities held by any series of the Trust for which current and reliable market quotations are not readily available. Such securities are valued at their respective fair values as determined in good faith by the Valuation Committee, and the actions of the Valuation Committee are subsequently reviewed and ratified by the Board. The Valuation Committee meets as needed. The Valuation Committee met four times with respect to the Funds during their fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

**Trustee Ownership of Fund Shares and Other Interests**

The following table shows the amount of shares in the Funds and the amount of shares in other portfolios of the Trust owned by the Trustees as of the calendar year ended December 31, 2020.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Credit Opportunities Fund Shares</b>	<b>Dollar Range of U.S. High Yield Fund Shares</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Low Duration Fund Shares</b>	<b>Dollar Range of Floating Rate Fund Shares</b>	<b>Aggregate Dollar Range of Fund Shares in the Trust</b>
Kathleen T. Barr	None	None	None	None	Over \$100,000
Wallace L. Cook	None	None	None	None	Over \$100,000
Eric W. Falkeis	Over \$100,000	None	None	None	Over \$100,000
Carl A. Froebel	None	None	None	None	None
Steven J. Paggioli	None	None	None	None	Over \$100,000
Ashi S. Parikh	None	None	None	None	None

Furthermore, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, own securities beneficially or of record in the Advisor, the Funds’ principal underwriter, or any of their affiliates. Accordingly, during the two most recently completed calendar years, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, have had a direct or indirect interest, the value of which exceeds \$120,000, in the Advisor, the Funds’ principal underwriter or any of its affiliates.

**Compensation**

Effective January 1, 2020, the Independent Trustees were due to receive an annual retainer of \$142,000 allocated among each of the various portfolios comprising the Trust. Prior to January 1, 2020, the annual retainer was \$135,000. Due to the sharp market sell-off and in light of the uncertain impact surrounding the novel COVID-19 pandemic, the Board determined to temporarily waive its fee increase until September 1, 2020. The Chairman of the Board receives an additional annual retainer of \$21,000 also allocated among each of the various portfolios comprising the Trust. Independent Trustees receive additional fees from the applicable portfolios for any special meetings at rates assessed by the Trustees depending on the length of the meeting and whether in-person attendance is required. All Trustees will be reimbursed for expenses in connection with each board meeting attended, which reimbursement is allocated among applicable portfolios of the Trust. The Trust has no pension or retirement plan. No other entity affiliated with the Trust pays any compensation to the Trustees.

Set forth below is the compensation received by the following Independent Trustees for the Funds for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

<b>Name of Person/ Position</b>	<b>Credit Opportunities Fund</b>	<b>U.S. High Yield Fund</b>	<b>Low Duration Fund</b>	<b>Floating Rate Fund</b>	<b>Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of Fund Expenses</b>	<b>Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement</b>	<b>Total Compensation from Fund and Fund Complex<sup>(1)</sup> Paid to Trustees</b>
Kathleen T. Barr, Trustee	\$3,749	\$2,598	\$4,232	\$2,478	None	None	\$135,571
Wallace L. Cook, Trustee	\$3,749	\$2,598	\$4,232	\$2,478	None	None	\$135,571
Eric W. Falkeis, Trustee	\$4,526	\$3,375	\$5,009	\$3,254	None	None	\$157,122
Carl A. Froebel, Trustee	\$3,749	\$2,598	\$4,232	\$2,478	None	None	\$135,571
Steve J. Paggioli, Trustee	\$3,749	\$2,598	\$4,232	\$2,478	None	None	\$135,571
Ashi S. Parikh <sup>(2)</sup> , Trustee	\$2,851	\$1,963	\$3,098	\$1,866	None	None	\$101,821

<sup>(1)</sup> There are currently numerous portfolios comprising the Trust. The term “Fund Complex” applies only to the Funds. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, cumulative Trustees’ fees and expenses were received in the amount of \$801,227.

<sup>(2)</sup> Prior to his election as a Trustee, Mr. Parikh was paid as a consultant to the Trust between January 1, 2020 through June 17, 2020.

### **Investment Advisor**

Muzinich & Co., Inc., 450 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022 serves as investment advisor to each Fund pursuant to an investment advisory agreement with the Trust (the “Advisory Agreement”). Under the Advisory Agreement, the Advisor furnishes, at its own expense, all services, facilities and personnel necessary in connection with managing each Fund’s investments and effecting portfolio transactions for each Fund. The Advisor may also pay fees to certain brokers/dealers to have the Funds available for sale through such institutions as well for certain shareholder services provided to customers purchasing Fund shares through such institutions. Muzinich is completely independent and is controlled by the Muzinich family.

### **Information Regarding Portfolio Managers**

The following information regarding each Fund’s portfolio managers has been provided by the Advisor.

**Other Accounts Under Management.** The table below identifies, for each portfolio manager of each Fund, the number of accounts managed (excluding the Funds) and the total assets in such accounts, within each of the following categories: registered investment companies, other pooled investment vehicles, and other accounts. To the extent that the advisory fees with respect to any of these accounts are based on

account performance, this information is reflected in separate tables below. Information in the table is shown as of February 28, 2021. Asset amounts are approximate and have been rounded.

Portfolio Manager	Registered Investment Companies (excluding the Funds)		Other Pooled Investment Vehicles		Other Accounts	
	Number of Accounts	Total Assets in the Accounts	Number of Accounts	Total Assets in the Accounts	Number of Accounts	Total Assets in the Accounts
<b>Floating Rate Fund</b>						
Stuart Fuller	0	\$0	3	\$3,700 million	3	\$363 million
Sam McGairl	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$205 million
Torben Ronberg	1	\$229 million	7	\$1,650 million	1	\$149 million
<b>Low Duration Fund</b>						
Joseph Galzerano	1	\$229 million	19	\$18,371 million	7	\$1,053 million
Tatjana Greil Castro	0	\$0	17	\$16,184 million	7	\$1,572 million
Craig Guttenplan	0	\$0	2	\$14,156 million	1	\$82 million
Ian Horn	0	\$0	5	\$14,624 million	4	\$376 million
<b>U.S. High Yield Fund</b>						
Bryan Petermann	0	\$0	9	\$2,009 million	23	\$3,036 million
Kevin Ziets	0	\$0	9	\$2,009 million	23	\$3,036 million
<b>Credit Opportunities Fund</b>						
Anthony DeMeo	1	\$229 million	6	\$3,772 million	6	\$450 million
Joseph Galzerano	1	\$229 million	19	\$18,371 million	7	\$1,053 million
Warren Hyland	1	\$229 million	8	\$5,938 million	11	\$1,414 million
Michael L. McEachern	1	\$229 million	6	\$3,924 million	5	\$507 million
Torben Ronberg	1	\$229 million	7	\$1,650 million	1	\$149 million
Thomas Samson	1	\$229 million	11	\$6,090 million	13	\$3,074 million

The following table reflects information regarding accounts for which the portfolio manager has day-to-day management responsibilities and with respect to which the advisory fee is based on account

performance. Information is shown as of February 28, 2021. Asset amounts are approximate and have been rounded.

Portfolio Manager	Registered Investment Companies (excluding the Funds)		Other Pooled Investment Vehicles		Other Accounts	
	Number of Accounts	Total Assets in the Accounts	Number of Accounts	Total Assets in the Accounts	Number of Accounts	Total Assets in the Accounts
<b>Floating Rate Fund</b>						
Stuart Fuller	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$146 million
Sam McGairl	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Torben Ronberg	0	\$0	1	\$56 million	0	\$0
<b>Low Duration Fund</b>						
Joseph Galzerano	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$146 million
Tatjana Greil Castro	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Craig Guttenplan	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$146 million
Ian Horn	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>U.S. High Yield Fund</b>						
Bryan Petermann	0	\$0	1	\$151 million	1	\$400 million
Kevin Ziets	0	\$0	1	\$151 million	1	\$400 million
<b>Credit Opportunities Fund</b>						
Anthony DeMeo	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$146 million
Joseph Galzerano	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$146 million
Warren Hyland	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$146 million
Michael L. McEachern	0	\$0	1	\$56 million	1	\$146 million
Torben Ronberg	0	\$0	1	\$56 million	0	\$0
Thomas Samson	0	\$0	1	\$366 million	1	\$400 million

### Conflicts of Interest for Portfolio Managers

Muzinich endeavors to treat all clients fairly and provide high quality investment services. However, in addition to managing the Funds, each of Muzinich's portfolio managers also manages other accounts, which may include mutual funds other than the Funds as well as other investment funds and institutional separate accounts. Some of the other accounts may be managed pursuant to similar investment strategies as the Funds, while other accounts may be managed pursuant to different investment strategies. Moreover, certain accounts may pay higher management fees than the Funds and certain accounts may pay performance fees. In addition, portfolio managers and their family members may own investments or other proprietary interest in one or more accounts, and also may directly own investments in securities which Muzinich recommends for purchase and/or sale to its clients. Accordingly, the side-by-side management of the Funds and the other accounts presents a variety of actual and/or potential conflicts of interest, as a portfolio manager may be incentivized to favor other accounts over the Funds. For instance, in allocating securities for which there may not be sufficient quantities available for all relevant accounts to purchase, a portfolio manager may be incentivized to allocate purchases to accounts other than the Funds. Portfolio managers may similarly be incentivized to allocate sale opportunities to certain accounts other than the Funds in circumstances where liquidity is limited. In addition, one or more accounts may hold securities issued by a company in which one or more of the Funds hold securities with rights which are senior or subordinated rights relative to such other accounts. As a result of the foregoing, portfolio managers may have conflicts of interest because the applicable Funds' interest in, and rights with respect to, the portfolio company may differ from the interests of such other accounts, particularly when an issuer

experiences financial distress. In addition, the management of numerous accounts other than the Funds may result in a portfolio manager devoting less time and attention to the investments of the Funds. Furthermore, where portfolio managers and/or other Muzinich personnel have a material interest in or obtain material non-public information with respect to a company, the Funds may be prevented from transacting in the securities of such company.

In addition to the conflicts of interest described above, Muzinich's portfolio managers are also subject to many of the same conflicts of interest that Muzinich itself faces as a global investment management firm that offers a wide variety of investment strategies and services. Some of these conflicts are described below.

Various conflicts of interest arise in connection with Muzinich's advisory activities on behalf of numerous clients. Muzinich and its affiliates may effect transactions for the accounts of one or more clients that differ materially from the advice given, or the time or nature of action taken, with respect to one or more other clients. Accordingly, the results of Muzinich's investment activities for a client may differ significantly from the results achieved by Muzinich for other clients. Furthermore, Muzinich may give advice, and take action, with respect to a client that may compete or conflict with the advice Muzinich may give to, or an investment action Muzinich may take on behalf of, other clients. Accordingly, Muzinich may buy or sell positions for one client while undertaking for another client the same or a different, including potentially opposite, strategy or position. For instance, Muzinich may take short positions in the securities of certain issuers for the account of a client at the same time that other client accounts hold or acquire the securities and/or syndicated loans of such issuers. The short position may result in the impairment of the price of the long position(s) held or may be designed to profit from a decline in the price of the applicable securities and/or loans. Moreover, a client account could similarly be adversely impacted if it establishes a short position, following which one or more other client accounts takes a long position in the same or similar securities and/or syndicated loans.

Furthermore, the timing of transactions entered into or recommended by Muzinich, on behalf of itself or its clients, may negatively impact certain other client accounts or benefit certain other client accounts. For example, if, Muzinich on behalf of one or more client accounts, implements an investment decision or strategy ahead of, or contemporaneously with, or behind similar investment decisions or strategies made for other client accounts, it could result, due to market impact or other factors, in liquidity constraints or in certain client accounts receiving less favorable investment or trading results or incurring increased costs.

Conflicts also may arise in cases where different Muzinich clients invest in different parts of an issuer's capital structure. For example, Muzinich may invest in senior debt obligations of an issuer for one client and junior debt obligations or equity of the same issuer for another client. Accordingly, one client might recover all or part of its investment while the other client might not. Moreover, clients will not be required to take any action or refrain from taking any action to mitigate another client's losses in such a scenario. In negotiating the terms and conditions of any such investments, or any subsequent amendments or waivers, Muzinich may find that its own interests, the interests of one or more clients and/or the interests of one or more other clients could conflict. In these situations, decisions over items such as whether to make the investment, exercise certain rights, or take or determine not to take an action, proxy voting, corporate reorganization, how to exit an investment, or bankruptcy or similar matters (including, for example, whether to trigger an event of default or the terms of any workout) may result in conflicts of interest.

Similarly, if an issuer in which a client and one or more other clients hold different classes of securities (or other assets, instruments or obligations issued by such issuer) encounters financial problems, decisions

over the terms of any workout will raise conflicts of interest (including, for example, conflicts over proposed waivers and amendments to debt covenants). For example, a debt holder may be better served by a liquidation of the issuer in which it may be paid in full, whereas an equity holder might prefer a reorganization that holds the potential to create or retain value for the equity holders. Furthermore, Muzinich may choose to participate in certain ad hoc or other committees on behalf of its clients as part of such restructuring, work out or bankruptcy processes. In such instances, Muzinich may, by virtue of receipt of material non-public information with respect to the issuer, become restricted from transacting on behalf of its clients in the securities or other instruments of such issuer. Moreover, in situations in which clients hold positions in multiple parts of the capital structure of an issuer and/or in situations in which clients' interests may otherwise diverge, Muzinich may determine not to participate in such a committee in order to mitigate conflicts; clients may be disadvantaged by Muzinich's refraining from serving in such capacity.

In some cases Muzinich may refrain from taking certain actions or making certain investments on behalf of clients in order to avoid or mitigate certain conflicts of interest or to prevent adverse regulatory or other effects on Muzinich, or may sell investments for certain clients (in each case potentially disadvantaging the clients on whose behalf the actions are not taken, investments not made, or investments sold). For instance, in circumstances in which client accounts including one or more registered investment funds would be positioned to make side-by-side investments or otherwise take action with respect to an issuer in which such client accounts hold an investment, Muzinich, acting on behalf of the client accounts, may be limited in the terms of the transactions that it may negotiate under applicable law. In some cases, this has the effect of limiting the ability of certain client accounts from participating in certain transactions or result in terms to client accounts that are less favorable than would have otherwise been the case. Forgone investment opportunities or actions may adversely affect the performance of a client's account if similarly attractive opportunities are not available or cannot be identified.

Muzinich may receive fees from certain clients based on a share of positive returns of the client's assets under management. To the extent that Muzinich receives only investment management fees from certain clients and investment management fees and performance-based fees from certain other clients, Muzinich and/or its portfolio managers will have a conflict of interest in that clients with a performance-based fee will offer Muzinich a potential for higher profitability when compared to a client with only an investment management fee. Performance-based fee arrangements will also create an incentive for Muzinich and its portfolio managers to favor performance-based fee clients over other clients in the devotion of time, resources and allocation of investment opportunities. For instance, Muzinich may be incentivized to provide access to certain research analysts employed by Muzinich and/or to direct additional investment opportunities to clients from whom Muzinich receives performance fees which are not available to other clients. This may impact relative performance of such clients as compared to other clients.

Muzinich, from time to time, recommends securities in which Muzinich and/or one or more of its affiliates, directly or indirectly, has an interest. In addition, Muzinich, its affiliates, its employees, and employees of its affiliates may have invested and may in the future make further investments, directly or indirectly, of their own capital in certain investment funds managed by Muzinich. This may represent a conflict of interest for Muzinich when allocating trades, correcting errors, engaging in cross transactions or otherwise making investment decisions on behalf of these investment funds because Muzinich may be incentivized to favor such investment funds over other clients of Muzinich. With respect to trade allocation in particular, these potential conflicts may be greater when purchasing securities that are limited in supply or selling securities that have limited liquidity. Muzinich seeks to manage these conflicts by allocating investment opportunities among accounts in a manner that Muzinich determines fair and equitable under the circumstances and in accordance with its policies and procedures regarding trade allocations.

Muzinich, its employees and its affiliates may invest in issuers that they also recommend to clients. However, Muzinich, its employees and affiliates may not trade for their personal accounts in securities which are either restricted or in which their investment may result in a conflict of interest. They also may give advice and take action with respect to client accounts they manage, or for their own accounts, that may differ from action taken, or the time or nature of the action taken, by the firm or its affiliates on behalf of other client accounts. Muzinich is not obligated to recommend, buy or sell, or to refrain from recommending, buying or selling any security that Muzinich or its affiliates or their respective employees may buy or sell for their own accounts or for the accounts of any other client.

The majority of trades Muzinich makes for its clients are executed through the open market and it is Muzinich's policy to generally prohibit cross trades. However, when Muzinich believes, on a limited case-by-case basis, that it is in the best interest of all clients involved, such as an account liquidation or large withdrawal of funds, it may engage in "cross trading" – a transaction where one or more clients purchases securities from one or more other clients. In such circumstances, and where consistent with Muzinich's duty to seek best execution, Muzinich may select an unaffiliated third party broker-dealer to facilitate the cross trade, the clients will pay a transaction based fee to the third party broker-dealer, but Muzinich will receive no transaction-based compensation from the transaction. Where a fund registered under the Investment Company Act is involved, including a Fund, the transaction will be executed in accordance with the provisions of Rule 17a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. In other cases, the transaction will be executed in a manner, and at a price, that Muzinich believes to be fair for all involved clients. Muzinich has adopted procedures to seek the fair treatment of clients in cross trades, including procedures that prohibit funds in which Muzinich or its employees hold more than a 25% interest, from participating in cross trades.

From time to time, Muzinich or its personnel may obtain material non-public information about an issuer of securities. Muzinich has implemented policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to prevent the misuse by the firm and its personnel of material non-public information about the firm's securities recommendations and clients' securities holdings and transactions. Where Muzinich is in possession of material non-public information about an issuer, it may be unable to purchase or sell securities of that issuer, even if it would be otherwise advisable to do so. This may prevent Muzinich's clients, including the Funds, from capitalizing on investment opportunities or mitigating losses.

To manage these potential conflicts, Muzinich has adopted and implemented policies and procedures, including brokerage and trade allocation policies and procedures which it believes address the conflicts associated with managing multiple accounts of different types with similar and dissimilar investment objectives and guidelines. Furthermore, Muzinich has adopted a Compliance Manual and Code of Ethics, which remind all employees of their duty to treat all clients fairly and consistently with relevant fiduciary duties. Where potential conflicts exist, Muzinich generally has adopted objective procedures that limit the ability of the firm to subjectively favor one client over another, or to favor the firm over a client.

### **Information Concerning Compensation of Portfolio Managers**

Muzinich offers a compensation system with incentives designed to stimulate individual and firm-wide performance. The firm provides salaries that are augmented through a profit sharing bonus system, the relative weighting of which varies each year with firm and individual performance. For the portfolio managers, the relative performance of portfolios managed by them as compared to the market (as applicable to each account and its benchmarks) is a significant factor in the determination of their bonus.

Muzinich typically pays out a substantial percentage of its net profits in employee compensation. Accordingly, all members of the firm are highly incentivized to grow the firm's profits through both portfolio performance and the overall success of the firm.

For all employees, including portfolio managers, individual performance is considered not only within a professional's immediate responsibilities (e.g., an analyst's investment recommendations), but also in relation to an individual's positive contribution to the firm as a whole. Understanding that all of the firm's portfolios are managed on a team basis, all team members benefit directly from the success of the investment management effort across all products.

Employees' greatest financial reward should always come from the long-term success of firm clients and the extended profitability of the firm as a whole, rather than from shorter-term success.

**Portfolio Managers Ownership in the Funds.** The following indicates the beneficial ownership of the Portfolio Managers of each Fund as of March 31, 2021:

<u>Amount Invested Key</u>
A. None
B. \$1-\$10,000
C. \$10,001-\$50,000
D. \$50,001-\$100,000
E. \$100,001-\$500,000
F. \$500,001-\$1,000,000
G. Over \$1,000,000

Name of Portfolio Manager	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in each Fund			
	Credit Opportunities Fund	U.S. High Yield Fund	Low Duration Fund	Floating Rate Fund
Anthony DeMeo	D	A	A	A
Stuart Fuller	A	A	A	A
Joseph Galzerano	D	A	A	A
Tatjana Greil Castro	A	A	A	A
Craig Guttenplan	A	A	A	A
Ian Horn	A	A	A	A
Warren Hyland	A	A	A	A
Michael L. McEachern	G	A	A	A
Sam McGairl	A	A	A	A
Bryan Petermann	A	E	A	E
Torben Ronberg	A	A	A	A
Thomas Samson	A	A	A	A
Kevin Ziets	A	A	A	A

## Fees

The Advisor's fee is calculated as a percentage of each Fund's average daily net assets. The fee, if not waived, is accrued daily by each Fund and is assessed to each Fund based on average net assets for the previous month. The Advisor's fee is paid monthly based on average net assets for the prior month.

In addition to receiving its advisory fee from each Fund, the Advisor may also act and be compensated as investment manager for its clients with respect to assets clients invested in each Fund. If you have a separately managed account with the Advisor with assets invested in a Fund, the Advisor will credit an amount equal to all or a portion of the fees received by the Advisor against any investment management fee received from you.

The Advisor may also receive compensation from certain omnibus account providers for providing shareholder services to Fund shareholders.

The Credit Opportunities Fund paid the following fees to the Advisor for the fiscal years shown:

<b>Credit Opportunities Fund</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018</b>
Advisory Fee Accrued	\$2,816,424	\$2,413,146	\$2,461,898
Fees and waived and/or expenses absorbed by Advisor	\$733,968	\$652,949	\$814,953
<b>Total Fees Paid to the Advisor</b>	<b>\$2,082,456</b>	<b>\$1,760,197</b>	<b>\$1,646,945</b>

The U.S. High Yield Fund paid the following fees to the Advisor for the fiscal years shown:

<b>U.S. High Yield Fund</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018</b>
Advisory Fee Accrued	\$312,674	\$212,310	\$146,599
Fees waived and/or expenses absorbed by Advisor	\$225,751	\$241,670	\$279,608
<b>Total Fees Paid to the Advisor</b>	<b>\$86,923</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

The Low Duration Fund paid the following fees to the Advisor for the fiscal years shown:

<b>Low Duration Fund</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018</b>
Advisory Fee Accrued	\$2,749,326	\$2,786,995	\$3,266,270
Fees waived and/or expenses absorbed by Advisor	\$652,334	\$662,861	\$880,704
<b>Total Fees Paid to the Advisor</b>	<b>\$2,096,992</b>	<b>\$2,124,134</b>	<b>\$2,385,566</b>

The Floating Rate Fund paid the following fees to the Advisor for the fiscal year and period shown:

<b>Floating Rate Fund</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019</b>	<b>Fiscal Period Ended December 31, 2018<sup>(1)</sup></b>
Advisory Fee Accrued	\$60,338	\$57,197	\$27,227
Fees waived and/or expenses absorbed by Advisor	\$140,042	\$138,558	\$93,217
<b>Total Fees Paid to the Advisor</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> The Floating Rate Fund commenced operations on June 29, 2018.

### **Other Provisions of Advisory Agreement**

The Advisor is not affiliated with Fund Services or any company affiliated with Fund Services. The Advisory Agreement is initially in effect for a period of two years from the date of its effectiveness. Subsequently, the Advisory Agreement must be approved at least annually by the Board or by majority

vote of the shareholders, and in either case by a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the agreements or interested persons of any such party (other than as Trustees of the Trust).

The Advisory Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Trust with respect to a Fund on 60 days' written notice when authorized either by vote of the Fund's shareholders or by a majority vote of the Board, or by the Advisor on 60 days' written notice to the Trust. The Advisory Agreement terminates immediately upon assignment.

Under the Advisory Agreement, the Advisor is not liable for any error of judgment, mistake of law, or in any event whatsoever except for willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of reckless disregard of its obligations and duties under the agreement.

In consideration of the services provided by the Advisor pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement, the Advisor is entitled to receive from the Funds an investment advisory fee computed daily and paid monthly, based on a rate equal to 0.60% of the Credit Opportunities Fund's, 0.55% of the U.S. High Yield Fund's and Floating Rate Fund's, and 0.45% of the Low Duration Fund's average daily net assets as specified in each Fund's Prospectus. However, the Advisor may voluntarily agree to reduce a portion of the fees payable to it on a month to month basis.

The Funds are responsible for their own operating expenses. The Advisor has contractually agreed to reduce fees and/or pay Fund expenses (excluding taxes, interest expenses, interest on short positions, portfolio transaction expenses, acquired fund fees and expenses, extraordinary expenses, Rule 12b-1 fees, shareholder servicing fees and any other class specific expenses) in order to limit the Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses After Fee Waiver and/or Expense Reimbursement for shares of the Credit Opportunities Fund to 0.60% of the Fund's average net assets (the "Expense Cap"). The Expense Cap for the U.S. High Yield Fund is 0.58% of the Fund's average net assets. The Expense Cap for the Low Duration Fund is 0.50% of the Fund's average net assets. The Expense Cap for the Floating Rate Fund is 0.55% of the Fund's average net assets. The Expense Caps are indefinite, but will remain in effect until at least April 30, 2022, and may continue thereafter as determined by the Board. The Advisor is permitted, with Board approval, to be reimbursed for fee reductions and/or expenses payments made in the prior three years from the date the fees were waived and/or expenses were paid. This reimbursement may be requested if the aggregate amount actually paid by the Fund toward operating expenses for such period (taking into account any reimbursement) does not exceed the lesser of the Expense Cap in place at the time of the waiver or at the time of reimbursement.

### **Other Fund Service Providers**

#### **Administrator and Accountant**

U.S. Bank Global Fund Services ("Fund Services"), 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, acts as administrator to the Funds pursuant to an administration agreement (the "Administration Agreement"). Fund Services provides certain administrative services to the Funds, including, among other responsibilities, coordinating the negotiation of contracts and fees with, and the monitoring of performance and billing of, the Funds' independent contractors and agents; preparation for signature by an officer of the Trust of all documents required to be filed for compliance by the Trust and the Funds with applicable laws and regulations excluding those of the securities laws of various states; arranging for the computation of performance data, including NAV and yield; responding to shareholder inquiries; and arranging for the maintenance of books and records of the Funds, and providing, at its own expense, office facilities, equipment and personnel necessary to carry out its duties. In this capacity, Fund Services

does not have any responsibility or authority for the management of the Funds, the determination of investment policy, or for any matter pertaining to the distribution of Fund shares.

Pursuant to the Administration Agreement, the Administrator will receive a portion of fees from the Funds as part of a bundled-fees agreement for services performed as Administrator, fund accountant and transfer agent. Additionally, Fund Services provides Chief Compliance Officer services to the Trust under a separate agreement. The cost for the Chief Compliance Officer's services is charged to the Funds and approved by the Board annually.

For the fiscal year and period ended December 31, Fund Services received the following amounts as compensation with respect to the Funds for its services as Fund Administrator and Accountant:

<b>Administration Fees Paid by Credit Opportunities Fund</b>	
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$182,334
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$186,690
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$244,789
<b>Administration Fees Paid by U.S. High Yield Fund</b>	
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$41,638
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$47,543
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$64,353
<b>Administration Fees Paid by Low Duration Fund</b>	
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$243,160
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$234,076
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$321,564
<b>Administration Fees Paid by Floating Rate Fund</b>	
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$16,563
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$20,481
Fiscal Period ended December 31, 2018	\$12,532

\*The Floating Rate Fund commenced operations on June 29, 2018.

### **Custodian**

U.S. Bank N.A. is the Custodian for the Funds and safeguards and controls the Funds' cash and securities, determines income and collects interest on Fund investments. The Custodian's address is 1555 North RiverCenter Drive, Suite 302, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212. The Custodian does not participate in decisions relating to the purchase and sale of securities by the Funds. U.S. Bank Global Fund Services and U.S. Bank N.A., are affiliated entities under the common control of U.S. Bancorp. The Custodian and its affiliates may participate in revenue sharing arrangements with the service providers of mutual funds in which the Funds may invest.

### **Legal Counsel**

Sullivan & Worcester LLP, 1633 Broadway, 32nd Floor, New York, New York 10019, serves as legal counsel to the Trust.

## **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, Two Liberty Place, 50 South 16th Street, Suite 2900, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102 is the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm, providing audit services, tax services and assistance with respect to the preparation of filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

## **PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS**

### **How Securities are Purchased and Sold**

Purchases and sales of portfolio securities that are fixed income securities (for instance, money market instruments and bonds, notes and bills) usually are principal transactions. In a principal transaction, the party from whom a Fund purchases or to whom a Fund sells is acting on its own behalf (and not as the agent of some other party such as its customers). These securities normally are purchased directly from the issuer or from an underwriter or market maker for the securities. There usually are no brokerage commissions paid for these securities.

Purchases and sales of portfolio securities that are equity securities (for instance common stock and preferred stock) are generally effected: (1) if the security is traded on an exchange, through brokers who charge commissions; and (2) if the security is traded in the "over-the-counter" markets, in a principal transaction directly from a market maker. In transactions on stock exchanges, commissions are negotiated. When transactions are executed in an over-the-counter market, the Advisor will seek to deal with the primary market makers; but when necessary in order to obtain best execution, the Advisor will utilize the services of others.

The price of securities purchased from underwriters includes a disclosed fixed commission or concession paid by the issuer to the underwriter, and prices of securities purchased from dealers serving as market makers reflects the spread between the bid and asked price.

In the case of fixed income and equity securities traded in the over-the-counter markets, there is generally no stated commission, but the price usually includes an undisclosed commission or markup.

### **Advisor Responsibility for Purchases and Sales**

The Advisor places orders for the purchase and sale of securities with broker-dealers selected by and in the discretion of the Advisor. The Fund does not have any obligation to deal with a specific broker or dealer in the execution of portfolio transactions. Allocations of transactions to brokers and dealers and the frequency of transactions are determined by the Advisor in its best judgment and in a manner deemed to be in the best interest of each Fund rather than by any formula.

The Advisor seeks "best execution" for all portfolio transactions. This means that the Advisor seeks the most favorable price and execution available. The Advisor's or Sub-Advisor's primary consideration in executing transactions for the Fund is prompt execution of orders in an effective manner and at the most favorable price available.

### **Choosing Broker-Dealers**

The Fund may not always pay the lowest commission or spread available. Rather, in determining the amount of commissions (including certain dealer spreads) paid in connection with securities transactions,

the Advisor takes into account factors such as size of the order, difficulty of execution, efficiency of the executing broker's facilities (including the research services described below) and any risk assumed by the executing broker.

Consistent with applicable rules and the Advisor's duties, the Advisor may consider payments made by brokers effecting transactions for a Fund. These payments may be made to a Fund or to other persons on behalf of a Fund for services provided to a Fund for which those other persons would be obligated to pay. The Advisor may also utilize a broker and pay a slightly higher commission or price if, for example, the broker has specific expertise in a particular type of transaction (due to factors such as size or difficulty), or it is efficient in trade execution.

The Fund may also be prohibited from placing trades with certain brokers if those brokers should become affiliates of the Fund, for example, through significant investments by their clients in the Fund—even if such broker could otherwise provide “best execution” with regard to a particular trade, and may be doing so on behalf of other accounts or funds advised by the Advisor.

For the fiscal years shown below, the Credit Opportunities Fund paid aggregate brokerage commissions in the amount of:

	<b>Aggregate Brokerage Commissions</b>
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$5,294
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$9,744

<sup>(1)</sup> The brokerage commissions paid in 2018 represent commissions on instrument types, such as ETFs, that were not used in the Fund in 2019.

For the fiscal period shown below, the U.S. High Yield Fund paid aggregate brokerage commissions in the amount of:

	<b>Aggregate Brokerage Commissions</b>
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$2,338
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$12,375
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$4,818

<sup>(1)</sup> The amount of brokerage commissions varied significantly over the years because instruments on which brokerage commissions were paid, such as ETFs, were used at different rates according to the portfolio manager's views of market conditions.

For the fiscal period shown below, the Low Duration Fund paid aggregate brokerage commissions in the amount of:

	<b>Aggregate Brokerage Commissions</b>
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$0
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$0
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2018	\$0

For the fiscal period shown below, the Floating Rate Fund paid aggregate brokerage commissions in the amount of:

	<b>Aggregate Brokerage Commissions</b>
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020	\$0
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019	\$0
June 29, 2018* to December 31, 2018	\$0

\*Commencement of operations.

### **Obtaining Research from Brokers**

The Advisor has full brokerage discretion. The Advisor evaluates the range and quality of a broker's services in placing trades such as securing best price, confidentiality, clearance and settlement capabilities, promptness of execution and the financial stability of the broker-dealer. The Advisor may give consideration to research services furnished by brokers to the Advisor for its use and may cause a Fund to pay these brokers a higher amount of commission than may be charged by other brokers. This research is designed to augment the Advisor's own internal research and investment strategy capabilities. This research may include reports that are common in the industry such as industry research reports and periodicals, quotation systems, software for portfolio management and formal databases. Typically, the research will be used to service all of the Advisor accounts, although a particular client may not benefit from all the research received on each occasion. The Advisor's fees are not reduced by reason of receipt of research services.

Pursuant to the second Markets in Financial Instruments Directive ("MiFID II"), investment managers in the European Union ("EU"), including a segment of the operations of the Advisor, are required to either pay for research out of their own resources or agree with clients to have research costs paid by clients through research payment accounts that are funded out of trading commissions or by a specific client research charge, provided that the payments for research are unbundled from the payments for execution. Where such a restriction applies, the Advisor will pay for any research out of its own resources and not through soft dollars or client commission agreements (CCAs). Additionally, MiFID II may have practical ramifications outside the EU. For example, U.S. asset managers acting under the delegated authority of an EU-based asset manager and U.S. asset managers that are part of a global asset management group with one or more EU affiliates may, in practice, have to restructure the way they procure, value and pay for research under U.S. laws and regulations to more closely align with the requirements under MiFID II. It is difficult to predict the full impact of MiFID II on the Funds and the Advisor, but it could increase the overall costs of entering into investments, increase the overall price of research and/or reduce access to research.

### **Counterparty Risk**

The Advisor monitors the creditworthiness of counterparties to each Fund's transactions and intends to enter into a transaction only when it believes that the counterparty presents minimal and appropriate credit risks.

### **Other Accounts of the Advisor**

Investment decisions for the Funds are made independently from those for any other account or investment company that is or may in the future become advised by the Advisor or its affiliates. Investment decisions are the product of many factors, including basic suitability for the particular client involved. Likewise, a particular security may be bought or sold for certain clients even though it could

have been bought or sold for other clients at the same time. Likewise, a particular security may be bought for one or more clients when one or more clients are selling the security. In some instances, one client may sell a particular security to another client. In addition, two or more clients may simultaneously purchase or sell the same security, in which event, each day's transactions in such security are, insofar as is possible, averaged as to price and allocated between such clients in a manner which, in the Advisor's opinion, is in the best interest of the affected accounts and is equitable to each and in accordance with the amount being purchased or sold by each. There may be circumstances when purchases or sales of a portfolio security for one client could have an adverse effect on another client that has a position in that security. In addition, when purchases or sales of the same security for the Fund and other client accounts managed by the Advisor occurs contemporaneously, the purchase or sale orders may be aggregated in order to obtain any price advantages available to large denomination purchases or sales.

### **Portfolio Turnover**

The frequency of portfolio transactions of each Fund (the portfolio turnover rate) will vary from year to year depending on many factors. From time to time, a Fund may engage in active short-term trading to take advantage of price movements affecting individual issues, groups of issues or markets. An annual portfolio turnover rate of 100% would occur if all the securities in a Fund were replaced once in a period of one year. Higher portfolio turnover rates may result in increased brokerage costs to a Fund and a possible increase in short-term capital gains or losses. Each Fund's annual portfolio turnover rates for the last five years will be included in the "Financial Highlights" section of the Funds' prospectus.

Following is the Credit Opportunities Fund's portfolio turnover rate for the two most recent fiscal years:

<b>Portfolio Turnover Rate</b>	
Year Ended December 31, 2020*	174%
Year Ended December 31, 2019	293%

\*The material difference in portfolio turnover rate between 2019 and 2020 is due to Muzinich's significant repositioning of the portfolio late in 2019 in anticipation of 2020 market volatility.

Following is the U.S. High Yield Fund's portfolio turnover rate for the two most recent fiscal years:

<b>Portfolio Turnover Rate</b>	
Year Ended December 31, 2020	113%
Year Ended December 31, 2019	89%

Following is the Low Duration Fund's portfolio turnover rate for the two most recent fiscal years:

<b>Portfolio Turnover Rate</b>	
Year Ended December 31, 2020*	75%
Year Ended December 31, 2019	47%

\*The material difference in portfolio turnover rate between 2019 and 2020 is due to elevated sales and purchases to meet elevated client redemptions and subsequent rapid reinvestment.

Following is the Floating Rate Fund's portfolio turnover rate for the two most recent fiscal years:

<b>Portfolio Turnover Rate</b>	
Year Ended December 31, 2020	73%
Year Ended December 31, 2019	78%

## **Securities of Regular Broker-Dealers**

From time to time, a Fund may acquire and hold securities issued by its “regular brokers and dealers” or the parents of those brokers and dealers. For this purpose, regular brokers and dealers are the 10 brokers or dealers that: (1) received the greatest amount of brokerage commissions during a Fund’s last fiscal year; (2) engaged in the largest amount of principal transactions for portfolio transactions of a Fund during the Fund’s last fiscal year; or (3) sold the largest amount of a Fund’s shares during the Fund’s last fiscal year.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, the Credit Opportunities Fund, U.S. High Yield Fund, Low Duration Fund and Floating Rate Fund did not acquire or hold securities issued by their regular brokers or dealers.

## **Portfolio Holdings**

The Trust, on behalf of the Funds, has adopted a portfolio holdings disclosure policy that governs the timing and circumstances of disclosure of portfolio holdings of each Fund. The Advisor has also adopted a policy with respect to disclosure of portfolio holdings of each Fund (the “Advisor’s Policy”). Information about each Fund’s portfolio holdings will not be distributed to any third party except in accordance with the portfolio holdings policies and the Advisor’s Policy (the “Disclosure Policies”). The Advisor and the Board considered the circumstances under which each Fund’s portfolio holdings may be disclosed under the Disclosure Policies and the actual and potential material conflicts that could arise in such circumstances between the interests of a Fund’s shareholders and the interests of the Advisor, distributor or any other affiliated person of a Fund. After due consideration, the Advisor and the Board determined that each Fund has a legitimate business purpose for disclosing portfolio holdings to persons described in the Disclosure Policies, including mutual fund rating or statistical agencies, or persons performing similar functions, and internal parties involved in the investment process, administration or custody of a Fund. Pursuant to the Disclosure Policies, the Trust’s Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”), President and Treasurer are each authorized to consider and authorize dissemination of portfolio holdings information to additional third parties, after considering the best interests of each Fund’s shareholders and potential conflicts of interest in making such disclosures.

The Board exercises continuing oversight of the disclosure of each Fund’s portfolio holdings by (1) overseeing the implementation and enforcement of the Disclosure Policies, Codes of Ethics and other relevant policies of the Fund and its service providers by the Trust’s CCO, (2) by considering reports and recommendations by the Trust’s CCO concerning any material compliance matters (as defined in Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act), and (3) by considering to approve any amendment to the Disclosure Policies. The Board reserves the right to amend the Disclosure Policies at any time without prior notice to shareholders in its sole discretion.

Disclosure of each Fund’s complete holdings is required to be made after the periods covered by the Funds’ Annual Report and Semi-Annual Report to Fund shareholders and in the monthly holdings report on Form N-PORT. These reports are available, free of charge, on the EDGAR database on the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The Funds disclose their complete portfolio holdings on their website at [www.MuzinichUSFunds.com](http://www.MuzinichUSFunds.com) within 10 business days after the calendar month-end. Portfolio holdings information posted on the Funds’ website may be separately provided to any person, commencing on the day after it is first published on the Funds’ website. In addition, each Fund may provide its complete portfolio holdings at the same time that it is filed with the SEC.

In the event of a conflict between the interests of a Fund and the interests of the Advisor or an affiliated person of the Advisor with respect to the disclosure of portfolio holdings, the CCO of the Advisor, in consultation with the Trust's CCO, shall make a determination in the best interests of the Fund, and shall report such determination to the Board at the end of the quarter in which such determination was made. Any employee of the Advisor who suspects a breach of this obligation must report the matter immediately to the Advisor's CCO or to his or her supervisor.

In addition, material non-public holdings information may be provided without lag as part of the normal investment activities of a Fund to each of the following entities, which, by explicit agreement or by virtue of their respective duties to the Fund, are required to maintain the confidentiality of the information disclosed, including a duty not to trade on non-public information: the fund administrator, fund accountant, custodian, transfer agent, auditors, counsel to the Fund or the Board, broker-dealers (in connection with the purchase or sale of securities or requests for price quotations or bids on one or more securities) and regulatory authorities. Portfolio holdings information not publicly available with the SEC or through the Fund's website may only be provided to additional third parties, including mutual fund ratings or statistical agencies, in accordance with the Disclosure Policies, when a Fund has a legitimate business purpose and the third-party recipient is subject to a confidentiality agreement that includes a duty not to trade on non-public information.

In no event shall the Advisor, its affiliates or employees, a Fund, or any other party receive any direct or indirect compensation in connection with the disclosure of information about the Fund's portfolio holdings.

There can be no assurance that the Disclosure Policies will protect the Funds from potential misuse of portfolio holdings information by individuals or entities to which it is disclosed.

From time to time, the Advisor may make additional disclosure of the Funds' portfolio holdings on the Funds' website. Shareholders can access the Funds' website at [www.MuzinichUSFunds.com](http://www.MuzinichUSFunds.com) for additional information about the Funds, including, without limitation, the periodic disclosure of their portfolio holdings.

## **ADDITIONAL PURCHASE AND REDEMPTION INFORMATION**

The information provided below supplements the information contained in the Prospectus regarding the purchase and redemption of a Fund's shares.

### **How to Buy Shares**

In addition to purchasing shares directly from the Funds, you may purchase shares of the Funds through certain financial intermediaries and their agents that have made arrangements with a Fund and are authorized to buy and sell shares of the Fund (collectively, "Financial Intermediaries"). Investors should contact their Financial Intermediary directly for appropriate instructions, as well as information pertaining to accounts and any service or transaction fees that may be charged. If you transmit your order to these Financial Intermediaries before the close of regular trading (generally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time) on a day that the NYSE is open for business, your order will be priced based on the Fund's NAV next computed after it is received by the Financial Intermediary. Investors should check with their Financial Intermediary to determine if it participates in these arrangements.

The public offering price of a Fund's shares is the NAV plus any applicable sales charge. Shares are purchased at the public offering price next determined after Fund Services receives your order in proper

form, as discussed in the Funds' Prospectus. In order to receive that day's public offering price, Fund Services must receive your order in proper form before the close of regular trading on the NYSE, generally 4:00 p.m., Eastern time.

The Trust reserves the right in its sole discretion (i) to suspend the continued offering of a Fund's shares, (ii) to reject purchase orders in whole or in part when in the judgment of the Advisor or the distributor such rejection is in the best interest of a Fund, and (iii) to reduce or waive the minimum for initial and subsequent investments for certain fiduciary accounts or under circumstances where certain economies can be achieved in sales of a Fund's shares.

In addition to cash purchases, a Fund's shares may be purchased by tendering payment in-kind in the form of shares of stock, bonds or other securities. Any securities used to buy a Fund's shares must be readily marketable, their acquisition consistent with each Fund's objective and otherwise acceptable to the Advisor and the Board.

### **Notice to Non-U.S. Individual Shareholders**

Each Fund and its shares are only registered in the United States of America. Regulations outside of the United States may restrict the sale of shares to certain non-U.S. residents or subject certain shareholder accounts to additional regulatory requirements. Each Fund reserves the right, however, to sell shares to certain non-U.S. investors in compliance with applicable law. If a current shareholder in a Fund provides a non-U.S. address, this will be deemed a representation and warranty from such investor that he/she is not a U.S. resident and will continue to be a non-U.S. resident unless and until the Fund is notified of a change in the investor's resident status. Any current shareholder that has a resident address outside of the United States may be restricted from purchasing additional shares.

In the course of its business, each Fund (and/or its service providers) may collect, record, store, adapt, transfer and otherwise process information by which prospective and current natural person investors may be directly or indirectly identified. The Funds shall comply with all applicable data protection regulation in processing personal data, including the EU General Data Protection Regulation (EU/2016/679) (GDPR). For European Union resident shareholders, personal data will be generally processed to open an account, manage and administer holding(s), including further subscriptions, redemptions, transfers or conversions, or otherwise as necessary to comply with the Funds' legal obligations under GDPR.

### **Automatic Investment Plan**

As discussed in the Prospectus, the Funds provide an Automatic Investment Plan ("AIP") for the convenience of investors who wish to purchase shares of a Fund on a regular basis. All record keeping and custodial costs of the AIP are paid by a Fund. The market value of a Fund's shares is subject to fluctuation. Prior to participating in the AIP the investor should keep in mind that this plan does not assure a profit nor protect against depreciation in declining markets.

### **How to Sell Shares and Delivery of Redemption Proceeds**

You can sell your Fund shares any day the NYSE is open for regular trading, either directly to a Fund or through your Financial Intermediary.

Payments to shareholders for shares of a Fund redeemed directly from the Fund will be made as promptly as possible, but no later than seven days after receipt by the Fund's transfer agent of the written request in proper form, with the appropriate documentation as stated in the Prospectus, except that a Fund may

suspend the right of redemption or postpone the date of payment during any period when (a) trading on the NYSE is restricted as determined by the SEC or the NYSE is closed for other than weekends and holidays; (b) an emergency exists as determined by the SEC, making disposal of portfolio securities or valuation of net assets of the Fund not reasonably practicable; or (c) for such other period as the SEC may permit for the protection of a Fund's shareholders. Under unusual circumstances, a Fund may suspend redemptions, or postpone payment for more than seven days, but only as authorized by SEC rules.

The value of shares on redemption or repurchase may be more or less than the investor's cost, depending upon the market value of a Fund's portfolio securities at the time of redemption or repurchase.

### **Telephone Redemptions**

Shareholders with telephone transaction privileges established on their account may redeem a Fund's shares by telephone. Upon receipt of any instructions or inquiries by telephone from the shareholder a Fund or its authorized agents may carry out the instructions and/or to respond to the inquiry consistent with the shareholder's previously established account service options. For joint accounts, instructions or inquiries from either party will be carried out without prior notice to the other account owners. In acting upon telephone instructions, a Fund and its agents use procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that such instructions are genuine. These include recording all telephone calls, requiring pertinent information about the account and sending written confirmation of each transaction to the registered owner.

Fund Services will employ reasonable procedures to confirm that instructions communicated by telephone are genuine. If Fund Services fails to employ reasonable procedures, a Fund and Fund Services may be liable for any losses due to unauthorized or fraudulent instructions. If these procedures are followed, however, that to the extent permitted by applicable law, neither a Fund nor its agents will be liable for any loss, liability, cost or expense arising out of any redemption request, including any fraudulent or unauthorized request. For additional information, contact Fund Services.

### **Redemptions In-Kind**

The Trust has elected to be governed by Rule 18f-1 under the 1940 Act so that each Fund is obligated to redeem its shares solely in cash up to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of its net asset value during any 90-day period for any shareholder of a Fund. Each Fund has reserved the right to pay the redemption price of its shares in excess of \$250,000 or 1% of its net asset value, either totally or partially, by a distribution in-kind of portfolio securities (instead of cash). The securities so distributed would be valued at the same amount as that assigned to them in calculating the NAV for the shares being sold. If a shareholder receives a distribution in-kind, the shareholder could incur brokerage or other charges in converting the securities to cash and will bear any market risks associated with such securities until they are converted into cash. A redemption in-kind is treated as a taxable transaction and a sale of the redeemed shares, generally resulting in capital gain or loss to you, subject to certain loss limitation rules.

Each Fund does not intend to hold any significant percentage of its portfolio in illiquid securities, although a Fund, like virtually all mutual funds, may from time to time hold a small percentage of securities that are illiquid. In the unlikely event a Fund were to elect to make an in-kind redemption, a Fund expects that it would follow the Trust protocol of making such distribution by way of a pro rata distribution of securities that are traded on a public securities market or are otherwise considered liquid pursuant to the Fund's liquidity policies and procedures. Except as otherwise may be approved the Trustees, the securities that would not be included in an in-kind distribution include (1) unregistered securities which, if distributed, would be required to be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (the

“1933 Act”), as amended; (2) securities issued by entities in countries which (a) restrict or prohibit the holding of securities by non-nationals other than through qualified investment vehicles, such as a fund, or (b) permit transfers of ownership of securities to be effected only by transactions conducted on a local stock exchange; and (3) certain Fund assets that, although they may be liquid and marketable, must be traded through the marketplace or with the counterparty to the transaction in order to effect a change in beneficial ownership.

### **Distributions**

Distributions of net investment income will be reinvested at the Fund’s NAV (unless you elect to receive distributions in cash) as of the last day of the period with respect to which the distribution is paid. Distributions of capital gain will be reinvested at the NAV of the Fund (unless you elect to receive distributions in cash) on the payment date for the distribution. Cash payments may be made more than seven days following the date on which distributions would otherwise be reinvested. A dividend declared by a Fund in October, November or December to shareholders of record on a specified date in such a month are paid during the following January will be treated for tax purposes as paid in December.

## **TAXATION**

The tax information set forth in the Prospectus and the information in this section relates solely to Federal income tax law and assumes that each Fund qualifies as a regulated investment company (as discussed below). Such information is only a summary of certain key Federal income tax considerations affecting a Fund and its shareholders and is in addition to the information provided in the Prospectus. No attempt has been made to present a complete explanation of the Federal tax treatment of a Fund or the tax implications to shareholders. The discussions here and in the Prospectus are not intended as substitutes for careful tax planning. The Funds do not consider tax consequences to be of primary importance in making investment decisions. You may receive taxable distributions from a Fund during periods in which the share price has declined.

This “Taxation” section is based on the Code and applicable regulations in effect on the date of the Prospectus. Future legislative or administrative changes or court decisions may significantly change the tax rules applicable to the Fund and its shareholders. Any of these changes or court decisions may have a retroactive effect.

*All investors should consult their own tax advisors as to the Federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of an investment in a Fund.*

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

Each Fund intends, for each tax year, to qualify as a “regulated investment company” under the Code.

### **Federal Income Tax Consequences of Qualification**

As a regulated investment company, a Fund will not be subject to Federal income tax on the portion of its net taxable income (that is, taxable interest, dividends, net short-term capital gains and other taxable ordinary income, net of expenses) and net capital gain (that is, the excess of net long-term capital gains

over net short-term capital losses) that it distributes to shareholders. In order to qualify to be taxed as a regulated investment company, generally a Fund must satisfy the following requirements:

- A Fund must distribute at least 90% of its net taxable income and 90% of its net tax-exempt interest, if any, each tax year (certain distributions made by the Fund after the close of its tax year are considered distributions attributable to the previous tax year for purposes of satisfying this requirement (“Distribution Requirement”).
- A Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income each year from dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of securities, or other income (including gains from options and futures contracts) derived from its business of investing in securities and net income derived from interests in qualified publicly traded partnerships.
- A Fund must satisfy the following asset diversification test at the close of each quarter of the Fund’s tax year: (1) at least 50% of the value of the Fund’s assets must consist of cash, cash items, U.S. Government securities, securities of other regulated investment companies, and securities of other issuers (as to which the Fund has not invested more than 5% of the value of the Fund’s total assets in securities of an issuer and as to which the Fund does not hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of the issuer); and (2) no more than 25% of the value of the Fund’s total assets may be invested in the securities of any one issuer (other than U.S. Government securities and securities of other regulated investment companies), or in two or more issuers which the Fund controls and which are engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses or in the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships.

While each Fund presently intends to make cash distributions (including distributions reinvested in Fund shares) for each tax year in an aggregate amount sufficient to satisfy the Distribution Requirement and eliminate Federal income tax, a Fund may use “equalization accounting” (in lieu of making some or all cash distributions) for those purposes. A Fund that uses equalization accounting will allocate a portion of its undistributed net taxable income and net capital gain to redemptions of Fund shares and will correspondingly reduce the amount of such income and gain that it distributes in cash. If the IRS determines that a Fund’s allocation is improper and that the Fund has under-distributed its income and gain for any tax year, the Fund may be liable for Federal income and/or excise tax, and, if the Distribution Requirement has not been met, may also be unable to continue to qualify for treatment as a regulated investment company (see discussion below on what happens if a Fund fails to qualify for that treatment).

### **Failure to Qualify**

If for any tax year a Fund does not qualify as a regulated investment company, all of its taxable income (including its net capital gain) will be subject to tax at regular corporate rates without any deduction for dividends paid to shareholders, and the dividends will be taxable to the shareholders as ordinary income to the extent of the Fund’s current and accumulated earnings and profits.

Failure to qualify as a regulated investment company would thus have a negative impact on a Fund’s income and performance. It is possible that a Fund will not qualify as a regulated investment company in any given tax year.

### **Fund Distributions**

Each Fund anticipates distributing substantially all of its net taxable income for each tax year. These distributions are taxable to you as ordinary income.

Each Fund anticipates distributing substantially all of its net capital gain for each tax year. Distributions for the Credit Opportunities Fund generally are made quarterly, usually in March, June, September and December, but the Fund may make additional distributions of net capital gain at any time during the year. Distributions for the U.S. High Yield Fund, Low Duration Fund and Floating Rate Fund are made at least monthly. These distributions are taxable to you as long-term capital gain, regardless of how long you have held shares. These distributions do not qualify for the dividends-received deduction.

For taxable years beginning after 2017 and before 2025, non-corporate taxpayers generally may deduct 20% of "qualified business income" derived either directly or through partnerships or S corporations. For this purpose, "qualified business income" generally includes ordinary real estate investment trust ("REIT") dividends and income derived from master limited partnership ("MLP") investments. There is currently no mechanism for the Funds, to the extent that the Funds invest in MLPs, to pass through to non-corporate shareholders the character of income derived from MLP investments so as to allow such shareholders to claim this deduction. It is uncertain whether future legislation or other guidance will enable the Funds to pass through to non-corporate shareholders the ability to claim this deduction.

The Funds will operate on a fiscal, and therefore taxable, year ending December 31 of each year.

Distributions by a Fund that do not constitute ordinary income dividends or capital gain dividends will be treated as a return of capital. Return of capital distributions reduce your tax basis in the shares and are treated as gain from the sale of the shares to the extent of distributions after your basis has been reduced to zero.

All distributions by a Fund will be treated in the manner described above regardless of whether the distribution is paid in cash or reinvested in additional shares of the Fund (or of another fund). If you receive distributions in the form of additional shares, you will be treated as receiving a distribution in an amount equal to the fair market value of the shares received, determined as of the reinvestment date.

You may purchase shares with an NAV at the time of purchase that reflects undistributed net investment income or recognized capital gain, or unrealized appreciation in the value of the assets of a Fund. Distributions of these amounts are taxable to you in the manner described above, although the distribution economically constitutes a return of capital to you.

Ordinarily, you are required to take distributions by a Fund into account in the year in which they are made. A distribution declared in October, November or December of any year and payable to shareholders of record on a specified date in those months, however, is deemed to be paid by the Fund and received by you on December 31 of that calendar year if the distribution is actually paid in January of the following year.

Each Fund will send you information annually as to the Federal income tax consequences of distributions made (or deemed made) during the year.

### **Certain Tax Rules Applicable to the Funds' Transactions**

For Federal income tax purposes, when put and call options purchased by a Fund expire unexercised, the premiums paid by the Fund give rise to short- or long-term capital losses at the time of expiration (depending on the length of the respective exercise periods for the options). When put and call options written by a Fund expire unexercised, the premiums received by the Fund give rise to short-term capital gains at the time of expiration. When a Fund exercises a call, the purchase price of the underlying security

is increased by the amount of the premium paid by the Fund. When a Fund exercises a put, the proceeds from the sale of the underlying security are decreased by the premium paid. When a put or call written by a Fund is exercised, the purchase price (selling price in the case of a call) of the underlying security is decreased (increased in the case of a call) for tax purposes by the premium received.

Certain listed options, regulated futures contracts and forward currency contracts are considered “Section 1256 contracts” for Federal income tax purposes. Section 1256 contracts held by a Fund at the end of each tax year are “marked to market” and treated for Federal income tax purposes as though sold for fair market value on the last business day of the tax year. Gains or losses realized by a Fund on Section 1256 contracts generally are considered 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gains or losses. A Fund can elect to exempt its Section 1256 contracts that are part of a “mixed straddle” (as described below) from the application of Section 1256.

Any option, futures contract or other position entered into or held by a Fund in conjunction with any other position held by the Fund may constitute a “straddle” for Federal income tax purposes. A straddle of which at least one, but not all, the positions are Section 1256 contracts, may constitute a “mixed straddle.” In general, straddles are subject to certain rules that may affect the character and timing of a Fund’s gains and losses with respect to straddle positions by requiring, among other things, that: (1) the loss realized on disposition of one position of a straddle may not be recognized to the extent that the Fund has unrealized gains with respect to the other position in such straddle; (2) the Fund’s holding period in straddle positions be suspended while the straddle exists (possibly resulting in a gain being treated as short-term capital gain rather than long-term capital gain); (3) the losses recognized with respect to certain straddle positions which are part of a mixed straddle and which are non-Section 1256 contracts be treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital loss; (4) losses recognized with respect to certain straddle positions which would otherwise constitute short-term capital losses be treated as long-term capital losses; and (5) the deduction of interest and carrying charges attributable to certain straddle positions may be deferred. Various elections are available to a Fund, which may mitigate the effects of the straddle rules, particularly with respect to mixed straddles. In general, the straddle rules described above do not apply to any straddles held by a Fund if all of the offsetting positions consist of Section 1256 contracts.

Under the Code, gains or losses attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates which occur between the time a Fund accrues interest or other receivables or accrues expenses or other liabilities denominated in a foreign currency and the time the Fund actually collects such receivables or pays such liabilities are treated as ordinary income or ordinary loss. Similarly, gains or losses from the disposition of foreign currencies, from the disposition of debt securities denominated in a foreign currency, or from the disposition of a forward contract denominated in a foreign currency which are attributable to fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency between the date of acquisition of the asset and the date of disposition also are treated as ordinary income or loss. These gains or losses, referred to under the Code as “Section 988” gains or losses, increase or decrease the amount of the Fund’s net taxable income available to be distributed to its shareholders as ordinary income, rather than increasing or decreasing the amount of the Fund’s net capital gain.

As of December 31, 2020, the Credit Opportunities Fund, did not have any capital loss carryovers. The U.S. High Yield Fund had short-term capital loss carryovers of \$130,464 and long-term capital loss carryovers of \$588,029, with unlimited expiration. The Low Duration Fund has short-term capital loss carryovers of \$14,532,857 and long-term capital loss carryovers of \$19,178,802, with unlimited expiration. The Floating Rate Fund has short-term capital loss carryovers of \$84,363 and long-term capital loss carryovers of \$219,409, with unlimited expiration.

## **Federal Excise Tax**

A 4% nondeductible excise tax is imposed on a regulated investment company that fails to distribute in each calendar year an amount equal to: (1) 98% of its ordinary taxable income for the calendar year; and (2) 98.2% of its capital gain net income for the one-year period ended on October 31 of the calendar year. The balance of each Fund's income must be distributed during the next calendar year. A Fund will be treated as having distributed any amount on which it is subject to excise tax for any tax year ending in the calendar year.

For purposes of calculating the excise tax, a Fund: (1) reduces its capital gain net income (but not below its net capital gain) by the amount of any net ordinary loss for the calendar year; and (2) excludes foreign currency gains and losses incurred after October 31 of any year in determining the amount of ordinary taxable income for the current calendar year. A Fund will include foreign currency gains and losses incurred after October 31 in determining ordinary taxable income for the succeeding calendar year.

Each Fund intends to make sufficient distributions of its ordinary taxable income and capital gain net income prior to the end of each calendar year to avoid liability for the excise tax. Investors should note, however, that a Fund might in certain circumstances be required to liquidate portfolio investments to make sufficient distributions to avoid excise tax liability.

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

In general, you will recognize gain or loss on the sale, exchange or redemption of shares of a Fund in an amount equal to the difference between the proceeds of the sale, exchange or redemption and your adjusted tax basis in the shares. All or a portion of any loss so recognized may be disallowed if you purchase (for example, by reinvesting dividends) Fund shares within 30 days before or after the sale, exchange or redemption (a "wash sale"). If disallowed, the loss will be reflected in an upward adjustment to the basis of the shares purchased. In general, any gain or loss arising from the sale, exchange or redemption of shares of a Fund will be considered capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the shares were held for longer than one year. Any capital loss arising from the sale, exchange or redemption 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 year are deductible only to the extent of capital gains plus, in the case of a non-corporate taxpayer, \$3,000 of ordinary income.

## **Backup Withholding**

A Fund will be required in certain cases to withhold and remit to the U.S. Treasury at a rate under current law of 24% of distributions and the proceeds of redemptions of shares paid to you if you: (1) have failed to provide your correct taxpayer identification number; (2) are otherwise subject to backup withholding by the IRS for failure to report the receipt of interest or dividend income properly; or (3) have failed to certify to the Fund that you are not subject to backup withholding or that you are a corporation or other "exempt recipient." Backup withholding is not an additional tax; rather any amounts so withheld may be credited against your Federal income tax liability or refunded if proper documentation is provided.

## **State and Local Taxes**

The tax rules of the various states of the U.S. and their local jurisdictions with respect to an investment in a Fund can differ from the Federal income taxation rules described above. These state and local rules are not discussed herein. You are urged to consult your tax advisor as to the consequences of state and local tax rules with respect to an investment in the Fund.

## **Foreign Income Tax**

Investment income received by a Fund from sources within foreign countries may be subject to foreign income taxes withheld at the source. The United States has entered into tax treaties with many foreign countries that may entitle the Fund to a reduced rate of such taxes or exemption from taxes on such income. It is impossible to know the effective rate of foreign tax in advance since the amount of a Fund's assets to be invested within various countries cannot be determined. If more than 50% of the value of a Fund's total assets at the close of its taxable year consists of stocks or securities of foreign corporations, the Fund will be eligible and intends to file an election with the IRS to pass through to its shareholders the amount of foreign taxes paid by the Fund subject to certain exceptions. However, there can be no assurance that a Fund will be able to do so. Pursuant to this election, you will be required to (1) include in gross income (in addition to taxable dividends actually received) your pro rata share of foreign taxes paid by the Fund, (2) treat your pro rata share of such foreign taxes as having been paid by you and (3) either deduct such pro rata share of foreign taxes in computing your taxable income or treat such foreign taxes as a credit against Federal income taxes. You may be subject to rules which limit or reduce your ability to fully deduct, or claim a credit for, your pro rata share of the foreign taxes paid by the Fund.

## **The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA").**

A 30% withholding tax on a Fund's ordinary income distributions generally applies if paid to a foreign entity unless: (i) if the foreign entity is a "foreign financial institution," it undertakes certain due diligence, reporting, withholding and certification obligations, (ii) if the foreign entity is not a "foreign financial institution," it identifies certain of its U.S. investors or (iii) the foreign entity is otherwise excepted under FATCA. If applicable, and subject to any intergovernmental agreement, withholding under FATCA is required generally with respect to ordinary income distributions from the Funds. If withholding is required under FATCA on a payment related to your shares, investors that otherwise would not be subject to withholding (or that otherwise would be entitled to a reduced rate of withholding) on such payment generally will be required to seek a refund or credit from the IRS to obtain the benefits of such exemption or reduction. The Funds will not pay any additional amounts in respect of amounts withheld under FATCA. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the effect of FATCA based on your individual circumstances.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

### **Control Persons and Principal Shareholders**

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a Fund. A control person is one who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a Fund or acknowledges the existence of control.

As of April 1, 2021, the following shareholders were considered to be either a control person or principal shareholder of the following Funds:

**Control Persons of the Credit Opportunities Fund**

<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
SEI Private Trust Company Attention Mutual Fund Administrator c/o Evercore Bank One Freedom Valley Drive Oaks, Pennsylvania 19456-9989	SEI Investments Company	PA	41.89%	Record

**Principal Shareholders of the Credit Opportunities Fund - Supra Institutional Class**

<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
SEI Private Trust Company Attention Mutual Fund Administrator c/o Evercore Bank One Freedom Valley Drive Oaks, Pennsylvania 19456-9989	51.84%	Record
Mac & Co. Attention Mutual Fund Operations 500 Grant Street Room 151-1010 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-2502	19.25%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. 211 Main Street San Francisco, California 94105-1905	14.59%	Record
Pershing, LLC 1 Pershing Plaza, 14th Floor Jersey City, New Jersey 07399-0002	6.94%	Record

**Principal Shareholders of the Credit Opportunities Fund - Institutional Class**

<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
SEI Private Trust Company Attention Mutual Fund Administrator c/o SunTrust Bank One Freedom Valley Drive Oaks, Pennsylvania 19456-9989	27.77%	Record
UBS WM USA 1000 Harbor Boulevard Weehawken, New Jersey 07086-6761	21.54%	Record
Pershing, LLC 1 Pershing Plaza, 14th Flor Jersey City, New Jersey 07399-0002	14.49%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. 211 Main Street San Francisco, California 94105-1905	14.35%	Record
Principal Financial Group 711 High Street Des Moines, Iowa 50392-0001	11.39%	Record
National Financial Services, LLC 499 Washington Blvd. Jersey City, NJ 07310-1995	7.84%	Record

**Control Persons of the U.S. High Yield Fund**

<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
Band & Co. c/o U.S. Bank N.A. P.O. Box 1787 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-1787	US Bank	DE	31.23%	Record

**Principal Shareholders of the U.S. High Yield Fund - Supra Institutional Class**

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<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
Band & Co. c/o U.S. Bank N.A. P.O. Box 1787 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-1787	38.47%	Record
Capinco c/o U.S. Bank N.A. P.O. Box 1787 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-1787	19.96%	Record
Maril & Co FBO NG C/O Reliance Trust Company 4900 W. Brown Deer Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53223-2422	11.46%	Record
Wells Fargo Bank N.A. FBO Builders Trust of NM Partially Pledged P.O. Box 1533 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480-1533	10.46%	Record
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. 211 Main Street San Francisco, California 94105-1905	8.91%	Record
Gerlach & Co. LLC Citibank Open WI 3800 Citigroup Center Building B3-14 Tampa, Florida 33610	6.12%	Record

**Principal Shareholders of the U.S. High Yield Fund - Institutional Class**

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<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
Muzinich & Co., Inc. 450 Park Avenue New York, New York 10022-2692	96.35%	Record

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### Control Persons of the Low Duration Fund

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<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
JP Morgan Securities LLC 4 Chase Metrotech Center Brooklyn, New York 11245-0003	J.P. Morgan Broker-Dealer Holdings Inc.	DE	98.55%	Record

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### Principal Shareholders of the Low Duration Fund - Supra Institutional Class

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<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
JP Morgan Securities LLC 4 Chase Metrotech Center Brooklyn, New York 11245-0003	98.98%	Record

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### Principal Shareholders of the Low Duration Fund - Institutional Class

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<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
Muzinich & Co., Inc. 450 Park Avenue New York, New York 10022-2692	93.02%	
Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. 140 Broadway New York, New York 10005-1108	6.98%	Record

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### Control Persons and Principal Shareholders of the Floating Rate Fund - Institutional Class

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<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
Band & Co. c/o U.S. Bank N.A. P.O. Box 1787 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-1787	Privately Held	MA	96.46%	Record

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As of April 1, 2021, the Trustees and Officers as a group did not own more than 1% of the outstanding shares of the Funds.

### Proxy Voting Procedures

The Board has adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (the “Policies”) on behalf of the Trust which delegate the responsibility for voting proxies to the Advisor, subject to the Board’s continuing oversight. The Policies require that the Advisor vote proxies received in a manner consistent with the best interests of the Funds and their shareholders. The Policies also require the Advisor to present to the

Board, at least annually, the Advisor's Proxy Policies (as defined below) and a record of each proxy voted by the Advisor on behalf of the Funds, including a report on the resolution of all proxies identified by the Advisor as involving a conflict of interest. The Advisor has also adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures ("Advisor's Proxy Policies") which are attached as Appendix B to this SAI.

The Trust will file a Form N-PX, with each Fund's complete proxy voting record for the 12 months ended June 30, no later than August 31st of each year. Form N-PX for the Funds will be available without charge, upon request, by calling toll-free 1-855-MUZINICH and on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

### **Code of Ethics**

The Trust and the Advisor have each adopted separate Codes of Ethics under Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act. These codes permit, subject to certain conditions, access persons of the Advisor to invest in securities that may be purchased or held by the Funds. The Distributor, as defined below, relies on the principal underwriter's exception under Rule 17j-1(c)(3), of the 1940 Act, specifically where the Distributor is not affiliated with the Trust or the Advisor, and no officer, director or general partner of the Distributor serves as an officer, director or general partner of the Trust or the Advisor.

### **Registration Statement**

This SAI and the Prospectus do not contain all the information included in the Trust's registration statement filed with the SEC under the 1933 Act with respect to the securities offered hereby. The registration statement, including the exhibits filed therewith, may be examined at the office of the SEC in Washington, D.C.

Statements contained herein and in the Prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other documents are not necessarily complete, and, in each instance, are qualified by, reference to the copy of such contract or other documents filed as exhibits to the registration statement.

### **Distributor**

#### **Distribution Services**

Quasar Distributors, LLC, 111 East Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 2200 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 ("Quasar"), serves as the Fund's principal underwriter in a continuous public offering of the Fund's shares. Pursuant to a distribution agreement between the Fund and Quasar (the "Distribution Agreement"), Quasar acts as the Fund's principal underwriter and distributor (the "Distributor") and provides certain administration services and promotes and arranges for the sale of the Fund's shares. Quasar is a registered broker-dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA").

The Distribution Agreement between each Fund and Quasar will continue in effect only if such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board or by vote of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities and, in either case, by a majority of the Independent Trustees. The Distribution Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Trust on behalf of the Fund on a 60-day written notice when authorized either by a majority vote of the Fund's shareholders or by vote of a majority of the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, or by Quasar on a 60-day written notice, and will automatically terminate in the event of its "assignment" (as defined in the 1940 Act).

## **Distribution Plan – (Class A Shares)**

The U.S. High Yield Fund, Low Duration Fund and Floating Rate Fund have adopted a Distribution Plan (“The Plan”) pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act under which each Fund’s Class A shares pays the Distributor an amount which is accrued daily and paid quarterly, at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of a Fund. Amounts paid under the Plan, by each Fund, are paid to the Distributor to compensate broker-dealers and service providers that provide distribution-related services to the Class A Shares for the costs of the services provided and the expenses borne in the distribution of a Fund’s Shares, including overhead and telephone expenses; printing and distribution of prospectuses and reports used in connection with the offering of a Fund’s shares to prospective investors; and preparation, printing and distribution of sales literature and advertising materials. The services provided by selected dealers pursuant to the Plan are primarily designed to promote the sale of shares of a Fund and include the furnishing of office space and equipment, telephone facilities, personnel and assistance to a Fund in servicing such shareholders. The services provided by the administrators pursuant to the Plan are designed to provide support services to a Fund and include establishing and maintaining shareholders’ accounts and records, processing purchase and redemption transactions, answering routine client inquiries regarding a Fund and providing other services to a Fund as may be required.

The Distribution Fee is payable to the Distributor regardless of the distribution-related expenses actually incurred. Because the Distribution Fee is not directly tied to expenses, the amount of distribution fees paid by the Advisor shares of a Fund during any year may be more or less than actual expenses incurred pursuant to the 12b-1 Plan. For this reason, this type of distribution fee arrangement is characterized by the staff of the SEC as a “compensation” plan.

The Distributor may use the Distribution Fee to pay for services covered by the 12b-1 Plan including, but not limited to, advertising, compensating underwriters, dealers and selling personnel engaged in the distribution of Fund shares, the printing and mailing of prospectuses, statements of additional information and reports, the printing and mailing of sales literature pertaining to the Funds, and obtaining whatever information, analyses and reports with respect to marketing and promotional activities that the Funds may, from time to time, deem advisable.

The 12b-1 Plan provides that it will continue from year to year upon approval by the majority vote of the Board, including a majority of the trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Funds, as defined in the 1940 Act, and who have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operations of the 12b-1 Plan or in any agreement related to such plan (the “Qualified Trustees”), as required by the 1940 Act, currently cast in person at a meeting called for that purpose, provided that such trustees have made a determination that there is a reasonable likelihood that the 12b-1 Plan will benefit the Fund and its shareholders. It is also required that the trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Funds, select and nominate all other trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Funds. The 12b-1 Plan and any related agreements may not be amended to materially increase the amounts to be spent for distribution expenses without approval of shareholders holding a majority of the Fund shares outstanding. All material amendments to the 12b-1 Plan or any related agreements must be approved by a vote of a majority of the Board and the Qualified Trustees, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on any such amendment.

The 12b-1 Plan requires that the Distributor provide to the Board, at least quarterly, a written report on the amounts and purpose of any payment made under the 12b-1 Plan. The Distributor is also required to furnish the Board with such other information as may reasonably be requested in order to enable the Board to make an informed determination of whether the 12b-1 Plan should be continued.

As noted above, the 12b-1 Plan provides for the ability to use Fund assets to pay financial intermediaries (including those that sponsor mutual fund supermarkets), plan administrators and other service providers to finance any activity that is principally intended to result in the sale of Fund shares (distribution services) and for the provision of personal services to shareholders. The payments made by the Funds to financial intermediaries are based primarily on the dollar amount of assets invested in the Funds through the financial intermediaries. These financial intermediaries may pay a portion of the payments that they receive from the Fund to their investment professionals. In addition to the ongoing asset-based fees paid to these financial intermediaries under the Funds' 12b-1 Plan, the Funds may, from time to time, make payments under the 12b-1 Plan that help defray the expenses incurred by these intermediaries for conducting training and educational meetings about various aspects of the Funds for their employees. In addition, the Funds may make payments under the 12b-1 Plan for exhibition space and otherwise help defray the expenses these financial intermediaries incur in hosting client seminars where the Funds are discussed.

In addition, the Funds may participate in various "fund supermarkets" in which a mutual fund supermarket sponsor (usually a broker-dealer) offers many mutual funds to the sponsor's customers without charging the customers a sales charge. In connection with its participation in such platforms, the Distributor may use all or a portion of the Distribution Fee to pay one or more supermarket sponsors a negotiated fee for distributing the Funds' shares. In addition, in its discretion, the Advisor may pay additional fees to such intermediaries from its own assets.

As of December 31, 2020, Class A shares are not offered for the U.S. High Yield Fund, Low Duration Fund and Floating Rate Fund. Class A shares that were open for the Credit Opportunities Fund have since closed and been converted into the Credit Opportunities Institutional Class shares on close of business December 27, 2019.

#### **Shareholder Servicing Plan – (Class A Shares and Institutional Shares)**

Pursuant to a Shareholder Service Plan (the "Plan") adopted by the Trust and established by the Funds with respect to the Class A shares and Institutional Class shares of the Funds, the Advisor is authorized to provide, or arrange for others to provide, personal shareholder services relating to the servicing and maintenance of shareholder accounts not otherwise provided to the Funds ("Shareholder Servicing Activities"). Under the Plan, the Advisor may enter into shareholder service agreements with securities broker-dealers and other securities professionals ("Service Organizations") who provide Shareholder Servicing Activities for their clients invested in the Funds.

Shareholder Servicing Activities shall include one or more of the following: (1) establishing and maintaining accounts and records relating for shareholders of the Funds; (2) aggregating and processing orders involving the shares of the Funds; (3) processing dividend and other distribution payments from the Funds on behalf of shareholders; (4) providing information to shareholders as to their ownership of Fund shares or about other aspects of the operations of the Funds; (5) preparing tax reports or forms on behalf of shareholders; (6) forwarding communications from the Funds to shareholders; (7) assisting shareholders in changing the Funds' records as to their addresses, dividend options, account registrations or other data; (8) providing sub-accounting with respect to shares beneficially owned by shareholders, or the information to the Funds necessary for sub-accounting; (9) responding to shareholder inquiries relating to the services performed; (10) providing shareholders with a service that invests the assets of their accounts in shares pursuant to specific or pre-authorized instructions; and (11) providing such other similar services as the Advisor may reasonably request to the extent the Service Organization is permitted to do so under applicable statutes, rules or regulations.

As compensation for the Shareholder Servicing Activities, each Fund pays the Advisor a fee of up to 0.10% annually of each Fund’s Class A shares’ and Institutional Class shares’ average daily net assets of the shares owned by investors for which the shareholder servicing agent maintains a servicing relationship or \$22 per account. This fee is currently being waived for the Institutional Class shares of the Floating Rate Fund.

Any material amendment to the Plan must be approved by the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, or by a vote of a “majority” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the applicable class or classes. The Plan may be terminated, with respect to a class or classes of the Funds, without penalty at any time: (1) by vote of a majority of the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees; or (2) by a vote of a “majority” (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the applicable class or classes.

The Credit Opportunities Fund and U.S. High Yield Fund paid the following amounts in Plan fees for the periods ended December 31 shown below:

<b>Shareholder Servicing Plan Fees Paid</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Credit Opportunities Fund</b>	\$111,366	\$94,064	\$63,884
<b>U.S. High Yield Fund</b>	\$0	\$26	\$1,118

### **Marketing, Support and Other Payments**

The Advisor, out of its own resources and without additional cost to the Fund or its shareholders, may provide additional cash payments or other compensation to certain Financial Intermediaries who sell shares of the Fund or provide shareholder servicing to their customers holding shares of the Fund.

The prospect of receiving, or the receipt of additional payments or other compensation as described below by Financial Intermediaries, may provide such intermediaries and/or their salespersons with an incentive to favor sales of shares of the Fund, and other mutual funds whose affiliates make similar compensation available, over sale of shares of mutual funds (or non-mutual fund investments) not making such payments. You may wish to take such payment arrangements into account when considering and evaluating any recommendations relating to the Fund shares.

These payments may be divided into categories as follows:

#### **Support Payments.**

Payments may be made by the Advisor to certain Financial Intermediaries in connection with the eligibility of the Fund to be offered in certain programs and/or in connection with meetings between the Fund’s representatives and Financial Intermediaries and their sales representatives. Such meetings may be held for various purposes, including providing education and training about the Fund and other general financial topics to assist Financial Intermediaries’ sales representatives in making informed recommendations to, and decisions on behalf of, their clients.

#### **Entertainment, Conferences, and Events.**

The Advisor also may pay cash or non-cash compensation to sales representatives of Financial Intermediaries in the form of: (1) occasional gifts; (2) occasional meals, tickets, or other entertainments; and/or (3) sponsorship support for the Financial Intermediary’s client seminars and cooperative advertising. In addition, the Advisor pays for exhibit space or sponsorships at regional or national events of Financial Intermediaries.

During the Funds' fiscal year, the following financial intermediaries were paid out of the Adviser's revenues:

**Firm**

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UBS  
Charles Schwab  
Principal Financial Group  
National Financial Services, LLC  
MSCS  
Pershing

**Shareholder Servicing.**

Many Fund shares are owned by Financial Intermediaries for the benefit of their customers. In those cases, the Fund may not maintain an account for the shareholder. Thus, some or all of the transfer agency and administrative functions for these accounts are performed by the Financial Intermediaries. A portion of the fees charged by the Financial Intermediaries for these services is paid out of the Adviser's revenues. These amounts include, but are not necessarily limited to, fees for shareholder servicing, sub-transfer agency, sub-accounting and recordkeeping services. The amounts paid by the Advisor do not include fees for shareholder servicing that may be paid separately by the Fund pursuant to the Fund's Distribution Plan and Shareholder Servicing Plan.

**Financial Statements**

The Funds' [annual report](#) to shareholders for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, is a separate document available without charge, upon request, by calling 1-855-MUZINICH or 1-855-689-4642 and the financial statements, accompanying notes and report of the independent registered public accounting firm appearing therein are incorporated by reference into this SAI.

## APPENDIX A – DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES RATINGS

### A. Long-Term Ratings

#### 1. Moody's Investors Service – Long-Term Corporate Obligation Ratings

Moody's long-term obligation ratings are opinions of the relative credit risk of fixed-income obligations with an original maturity of one year or more. They address the possibility that a financial obligation will not be honored as promised. Such ratings use Moody's Global Scale and reflect both the likelihood of default and any financial loss suffered in the event of default.

- Aaa** Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, with minimal credit risk.
- Aa** Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.
- A** Obligations rated A are considered upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.
- Baa** Obligations rated Baa are subject to moderate credit risk. They are considered medium grade and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.
- Ba** Obligations rated Ba are judged to have speculative elements and are subject to substantial credit risk.
- B** Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.
- Caa** Obligations rated Caa are judged to be of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.
- Ca** Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.
- C** Obligations rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Note Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

#### 2. Standard and Poor's – Long-Term Issue Credit Ratings (including Preferred Stock)

Issue credit ratings are based, in varying degrees, on the following considerations:

- Likelihood of payment—capacity and willingness of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on an obligation in accordance with the terms of the obligation;
- Nature of and provisions of the obligation;
- Protection afforded by, and relative position of, the obligation in the event of bankruptcy, reorganization, or other arrangement under the laws of bankruptcy and other laws affecting creditors' rights.

Issue ratings are an assessment of default risk, but may incorporate an assessment of relative seniority or ultimate recovery in the event of default. Junior obligations are typically rated lower than senior obligations, to reflect the lower priority in bankruptcy, as noted above. (Such differentiation may apply when an entity has both senior and subordinated obligations, secured and unsecured obligations, or operating company and holding company obligations.)

**AAA** An obligation rated ‘AAA’ has the highest rating assigned by Standard & Poor’s. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.

**AA** An obligation rated ‘AA’ differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is very strong.

**A** An obligation rated ‘A’ is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor’s capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.

**BBB** An obligation rated ‘BBB’ exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

**Note** Obligations rated ‘BB’, ‘B’, ‘CCC’, ‘CC’, and ‘C’ are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. ‘BB’ indicates the least degree of speculation and ‘C’ the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

**BB** An obligation rated ‘BB’ is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions which could lead to the obligor’s inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

**B** An obligation rated ‘B’ is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated ‘BB’, but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor’s capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

**CCC** An obligation rated ‘CCC’ is currently vulnerable to nonpayment, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

**CC** An obligation rated ‘CC’ is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment.

**C** A ‘C’ rating is assigned to obligations that are currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, obligations that have payment arrearages allowed by the terms of the documents, or obligations of an issuer that is the subject of a bankruptcy petition or similar action which have not experienced a payment default. Among others, the ‘C’ rating may be assigned to subordinated debt, preferred stock or other obligations on which cash payments have been suspended in accordance with the instrument’s terms.

**D** An obligation rated 'D' is in payment default. The 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless Standard & Poor's believes that such payments will be made during such grace period. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action if payments on an obligation are jeopardized.

**Note** Plus (+) or minus (-). The ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories.

**NR** This indicates that no rating has been requested, that there is insufficient information on which to base a rating, or that Standard & Poor's does not rate a particular obligation as a matter of policy.

### 3. Fitch – International Long-Term Credit Ratings

International Long-Term Credit Ratings (LTCR) may also be referred to as Long-Term Ratings. When assigned to most issuers, it is used as a benchmark measure of probability of default and is formally described as an Issuer Default Rating (IDR). The major exception is within Public Finance, where IDRs will not be assigned as market convention has always focused on timeliness and does not draw analytical distinctions between issuers and their underlying obligations. When applied to issues or securities, the LTCR may be higher or lower than the issuer rating (IDR) to reflect relative differences in recovery expectations.

The following rating scale applies to foreign currency and local currency ratings:

#### Investment Grade

- AAA** Highest credit quality. ‘AAA’ ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in case of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.
- AA** Very high credit quality. ‘AA’ ratings denote expectations of very low credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.
- A** High credit quality. ‘A’ ratings denote expectations of low credit risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.
- BBB** Good credit quality. ‘BBB’ ratings indicate that there are currently expectations of low credit risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate but adverse changes in circumstances and economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity. This is the lowest investment grade category.

#### Speculative Grade

- BB** Speculative. ‘BB’ ratings indicate that there is a possibility of credit risk developing, particularly as the result of adverse economic change over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met. Securities rated in this category are not investment grade.
- B** Highly speculative. ‘B’ ratings indicate that significant credit risk is present, but a limited margin of safety remains. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is contingent upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.
- CCC** Default is a real possibility. Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon sustained, favorable business or economic conditions.
- CC** Default of some kind appears probable.
- C** Default is imminent.

- RD** Indicates an entity that has failed to make due payments (within the applicable grace period) on some but not all material financial obligations, but continues to honor other classes of obligations.
- D** Indicates an entity or sovereign that has defaulted on all of its financial obligations. Default generally is defined as one of the following:
- Failure of an obligor to make timely payment of principal and/or interest under the contractual terms of any financial obligation;
  - The bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation or other winding-up or cessation of business of an obligor;
  - The distressed or other coercive exchange of an obligation, where creditors were offered securities with diminished structural or economic terms compared with the existing obligation.

Default ratings are not assigned prospectively; within this context, non-payment on an instrument that contains a deferral feature or grace period will not be considered a default until after the expiration of the deferral or grace period.

Issuers will be rated ‘D’ upon a default. Defaulted and distressed obligations typically are rated along the continuum of ‘C’ to ‘B’ ratings categories, depending upon their recovery prospects and other relevant characteristics. Additionally, in structured finance transactions, where analysis indicates that an instrument is irrevocably impaired such that it is not expected to meet pay interest and/or principal in full in accordance with the terms of the obligation’s documentation during the life of the transaction, but where no payment default in accordance with the terms of the documentation is imminent, the obligation may be rated in the ‘B’ or ‘CCC-C’ categories.

Default is determined by reference to the terms of the obligations’ documentation. Fitch will assign default ratings where it has reasonably determined that payment has not been made on a material obligation in accordance with the requirements of the obligation’s documentation, or where it believes that default ratings consistent with Fitch’s published definition of default are the most appropriate ratings to assign.

**Note** The modifiers “+” or “-” may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the ‘AAA’ Long-term rating category, to categories below ‘CCC’, or to Short-term ratings other than ‘F1’. (The +/- modifiers are only used to denote issues within the CCC category, whereas issuers are only rated CCC without the use of modifiers.)

## **B. Preferred Stock Ratings**

### **1. Moody’s Investors Service**

- Aaa** An issue which is rated “Aaa” is considered to be a top-quality preferred stock. This rating indicates good asset protection and the least risk of dividend impairment within the universe of preferred stocks.
- Aa** An issue which is rated “Aa” is considered a high-grade preferred stock. This rating indicates that there is a reasonable assurance the earnings and asset protection will remain relatively well-maintained in the foreseeable future.

- A** An issue which is rated “A” is considered to be an upper-medium grade preferred stock. While risks are judged to be somewhat greater than in the “aaa” and “aa” classification, earnings and asset protection are, nevertheless, expected to be maintained at adequate levels.
- Baa** An issue which is rated “Baa” is considered to be a medium-grade preferred stock, neither highly protected nor poorly secured. Earnings and asset protection appear adequate at present but may be questionable over any great length of time.
- Ba** An issue which is rated “Ba” is considered to have speculative elements and its future cannot be considered well assured. Earnings and asset protection may be very moderate and not well safeguarded during adverse periods. Uncertainty of position characterizes preferred stocks in this class.
- B** An issue which is rated “B” generally lacks the characteristics of a desirable investment. Assurance of dividend payments and maintenance of other terms of the issue over any long period of time may be small.
- Caa** An issue which is rated “Caa” is likely to be in arrears on dividend payments. This rating designation does not purport to indicate the future status of payments.
- Ca** An issue which is rated “Ca” is speculative in a high degree and is likely to be in arrears on dividends with little likelihood of eventual payments.
- C** This is the lowest rated class of preferred or preference stock. Issues so rated can be regarded as having extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing.
- Note** Moody’s applies numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 in each rating classification; The modifier 1 indicates that the security ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking and the modifier 3 indicates that the issue ranks in the lower end of its generic rating category.

## **C. Short Term Ratings**

### **1. Moody’s Investors Service**

Moody’s short-term ratings are opinions of the ability of issuers to honor short-term financial obligations. Ratings may be assigned to issuers, short-term programs or to individual short-term debt instruments. Such obligations generally have an original maturity not exceeding thirteen months, unless explicitly noted.

Moody’s employs the following designations to indicate the relative repayment ability of rated issuers:

- P-1** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.
- P-2** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 have a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.
- P-3** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-3 have an acceptable ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

**NP** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

**Note** Canadian issuers rated P-1 or P-2 have their short-term ratings enhanced by the senior-most long-term rating of the issuer, its guarantor or support-provider.

## **2. Standard and Poor's**

**A-1** A short-term obligation rated 'A-1' is rated in the highest category by Standard & Poor's. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on these obligations is extremely strong.

**A-2** A short-term obligation rated 'A-2' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is satisfactory.

**A-3** A short-term obligation rated 'A-3' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

**B** A short-term obligation rated 'B' is regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. Ratings of 'B-1', 'B-2', and 'B-3' may be assigned to indicate finer distinctions within the 'B' category. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

**B-1** A short-term obligation rated 'B-1' is regarded as having significant speculative characteristics, but the obligor has a relatively stronger capacity to meet its financial commitments over the short-term compared to other speculative-grade obligors.

**B-2** A short-term obligation rated 'B-2' is regarded as having significant speculative characteristics, and the obligor has an average speculative-grade capacity to meet its financial commitments over the short-term compared to other speculative-grade obligors.

**B-3** A short-term obligation rated 'B-3' is regarded as having significant speculative characteristics, and the obligor has a relatively weaker capacity to meet its financial commitments over the short-term compared to other speculative-grade obligors.

**C** A short-term obligation rated 'C' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

**D** A short-term obligation rated 'D' is in payment default. The 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless Standard & Poor's believes that such payments will be made during such grace period. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action if payments on an obligation are jeopardized.

**Note** Dual Ratings. Standard & Poor’s assigns “dual” ratings to all debt issues that have a put option or demand feature as part of their structure. The first rating addresses the likelihood of repayment of principal and interest as due, and the second rating addresses only the demand feature. The long-term rating symbols are used for bonds to denote the long-term maturity and the short-term rating symbols for the put option (for example, ‘AAA/A-1+’). With U.S. municipal short-term demand debt, note rating symbols are used with the short-term issue credit rating symbols (for example, ‘SP-1+/A-1+’).

### 3. Fitch

The following ratings scale applies to foreign currency and local currency ratings. A Short-term rating has a time horizon of less than 13 months for most obligations, or up to three years for US public finance, in line with industry standards, to reflect unique risk characteristics of bond, tax, and revenue anticipation notes that are commonly issued with terms up to three years. Short-term ratings thus place greater emphasis on the liquidity necessary to meet financial commitments in a timely manner.

**F1** Highest credit quality. Indicates the strongest capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added “+” to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

**F2** Good credit quality. A satisfactory capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, but the margin of safety is not as great as in the case of the higher ratings.

**F3** Fair credit quality. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate; however, near term adverse changes could result in a reduction to non investment grade.

**B** Speculative. Minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

**C** High default risk. Default is a real possibility. Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon a sustained, favorable business and economic environment.

**D** Indicates an entity or sovereign that has defaulted on all of its financial obligations.

**Note** The modifiers “+” or “-” may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the ‘AAA’ Long-term rating category, to categories below ‘CCC’, or to Short-term ratings other than ‘F1’. (The +/- modifiers are only used to denote issues within the CCC category, whereas issuers are only rated CCC without the use of modifiers.)

## APPENDIX B – ADVISOR PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### Muzinich & Co., Inc. Proxy Voting Policy

#### Policy Summary

This policy is designed to ensure that the Firm complies with the requirements under Rule 206(4)-6 promulgated under the Advisers Act and fulfills its obligation thereunder with respect to proxy voting, disclosure, and recordkeeping. This policy is also designed to ensure that all proxy voting and corporate actions are voted in the best interest of each client, provide disclosure to investors and ensure that certain documentation is retained.

The advisory contract or Investment Management Agreement will dictate whether the Firm retains discretionary voting authority to vote proxies on behalf of the client. The COO or a designated supervisor (“Voting Officer”) has been delegated the authority for monitoring corporate actions, obtaining voting decisions from portfolio managers in accordance with these policies, and ensuring that proxies are submitted in a timely manner. The Voting Officer will also be responsible for ensuring that clients’ requests for these proxy voting policies and procedures and/or their voting information is responded to effectively within a prompt time period. The Firm may utilize a third party service provider to assist in proxy voting matters.

In voting proxies, the Firm will vote in accordance with its view of the best interests of the client(s) and in light of the purposes for which each individual account was created.

In cases where an issuer in which multiple Clients hold interests acquired at different points in time or in different positions within the issuer’s capital structure experiences financial distress, there is a potential for conflicts of interest (including, for example, conflicts over proposed waivers and amendments to debt covenants). When called upon to take action with respect to an investment (e.g., to sell, to vote, or to exercise a right or remedy) a Client’s overall holdings, and related rights, may be such that it is in the client’s best interest to take action (or refrain from taking action) in a manner that would be contrary to the interest of a person holding only the particular class of interest on which the right is conferred. In these circumstances, clients that have invested in some, but not all, of the relevant classes of interests of the issuer held may be disadvantaged.

When considering whether to pursue a particular course of action, including asserting available claims or remedies, factors that may be considered include the costs of pursuing the course of action (or alternative courses of action) and the likelihood of a favorable outcome. As a result, not every potential claim or course of action will be pursued and it will not always be the case that conflicts will be able to be resolved in the best interest of any particular client nor can there be any assurance that actual or potential conflicts of interest can be resolved such that the ultimate terms of an investment (or an amendment to such terms) will be as favorable as they would be in the absence of such conflicts.

For those clients for which the Firm is authorized to vote proxies, the Firm will record the date proxies are voted, and those not voted will be specified with the underlying reason. Each item to be voted on should be voted separately and individually, not voted in blank.

The Voting Officer is responsible for ensuring that the following proxy records are maintained for 7 (seven) years, the first two in an appropriate office of the Firm:

1. Records of proxy statements received regarding client securities;
2. Records of each vote cast by the Firm on behalf of a client;

3. Copies of any document created by the Firm that was material to making a decision on voting clients' securities;
4. Records of all communications received and internal documents created that were material to the voting decision; and
5. Each written client request for proxy voting information and the Firm's written response to such client request (written or oral) for proxy voting information.

If the Firm utilizes a third party service provider for proxy voting, the Firm will rely on the provider to maintain proxy statements and records of proxy votes cast. The Firm will obtain an undertaking from the third party to provide a copy of the documents promptly upon request.

The CCO with consultation of the Firm's General Counsel), at his or her discretion, will determine whether any proxy vote would result in a conflict of interest between the Firm and its client(s). If it is determined that a conflict does exist then based on a review of the issues raised by the conflict of interest, the nature of the potential conflict and, most importantly, given the Firm's commitment to vote proxies in the best interests of client accounts, the Voting Officer will perform one the following duties as a result:

1. Vote the proxy in accordance with the Firm's proxy policies;
2. Disclose the conflict to the client(s), providing sufficient information regarding the matter and the nature of the Firm's conflict, and obtaining consent before voting;
3. Employ an outside service provider to advise in the voting of the proxy;
4. Employ an outside service provider to vote the proxy on behalf of the Firm and its client(s); or
5. Decline to vote the proxy because the cost of addressing the potential conflict of interest is greater than the benefit to the client(s) voting the proxy.

The Voting Officer will document all instances where a proxy involved a conflict of interest, including the nature and the circumstances of the conflict, the steps taken by the Firm to resolve the conflict of interest, and the vote(s) as a result.

#### Class Actions

Muzinich does not direct Clients' participation in class actions, as disclosed in Part 2 of Form ADV, unless contractually agreed to. The Voting Officer will determine whether to return any documentation inadvertently received regarding Clients' participation in class actions to the sender, or to forward such information to the appropriate Clients.

#### Investment Firm Proxy Voting -Form N-PX

Pursuant to Rule 30b1-4 of the Investment Company Act a registered management investment company shall file with the SEC a report on Form N-PX, not later than August 31 of each year, containing the registrant's proxy voting record for the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30.

Where appropriate, the CCO shall collect the relevant information for the completion of Form N- PX in relation to Mutual Funds and shall work with the administrator or other appropriate persons with respect to investment companies for which it is the adviser to prepare and file the Form on behalf of the investment company.