



# **USQ Core Real Estate Fund**

**Shares of Beneficial Interest**  
**Class I Shares (USQIX) & Class IS Shares (USQSX)**

## **Statement of Additional Information**

July 29, 2020

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) provides general information about the USQ Core Real Estate Fund (the “Fund”). This SAI is not a prospectus and should be read in conjunction with the Fund’s current Prospectus (the “Prospectus”) dated July 29, 2020, as further supplemented and amended from time to time. This SAI is incorporated by reference into the Prospectus. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this SAI have the meanings given to them in the Prospectus.

You should obtain and read the Prospectus and any related Prospectus supplement prior to purchasing any of the Fund’s securities. A copy of the Prospectus may be obtained without charge by calling the Fund toll-free at (833) USQ-FUND, or by visiting <http://www.USQFunds.com>. Information on this website is not incorporated herein by reference. The Fund’s registration statement, of which the Prospectus is a part, and other filings with the SEC are also available to the public on the SEC’s Internet web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Copies of these filings may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following email address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov).

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## **General Information about the Fund**

The USQ Core Real Estate Fund (the “Fund”) is a continuously offered, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company, organized as a Delaware statutory trust on December 2, 2016. The Fund commenced operations on September 27, 2017. The Fund operates as an interval fund pursuant to Rule 23c-3 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “1940 Act”) and, as such, offers to repurchase at least 5% and not more than 25% of its outstanding shares at their net asset value (“NAV”) as of or prior to the end of each fiscal quarter. The Fund’s principal office is located at 235 Whitehorse Lane, Suite 200, Kennett Square, PA 19348, and its telephone number is (833) USQ-FUND.

Union Square Capital Partners, LLC serves as the investment adviser to the Fund (“USQ” or the “Adviser”). For more information about the Adviser, see “Investment Adviser and Portfolio Manager” below.

The Fund may issue an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest. All shares of the Fund have equal rights and privileges. Each share of the Fund is entitled to one vote on all matters that exclusively affect such class. In addition, each share of the Fund is entitled to participate, on a class-specific basis, equally with other shares (i) in dividends and distributions declared by the Fund and (ii) on liquidation to its proportionate share of the assets remaining after satisfaction of outstanding liabilities. Shares of the Fund are fully paid, non-assessable and fully transferable when issued and have no pre-emptive, conversion or exchange rights unless an exchange or conversion feature is described in the Fund’s Prospectus. Fractional shares have proportionately the same rights, including voting rights, as are provided for a full share.

The Fund offers multiple classes of shares, including Class I and Class IS shares. Each share class represents an interest in the same assets of the Fund, has the same rights and is identical in all material respects except that (i) each class of shares may bear different (or no) distribution fees, shareholder servicing fees, front-end sales charges, or contingent deferred sales; (ii) each class of shares may have different shareholder features, such as minimum investment amounts; (iii) certain other class-specific expenses will be borne solely by the class to which such expenses are attributable, including transfer agent fees attributable to a specific class of shares, printing and postage expenses related to preparing and distributing materials to current shareholders of a specific class, registration fees paid by a specific class of shares, the expenses of administrative personnel and services required to support the shareholders of a specific class, litigation or other legal expenses relating to a class of shares, Trustees’ fees or expenses paid as a result of issues relating to a specific class of shares and accounting fees and expenses relating to a specific class of shares and (iv) each class has exclusive voting rights with respect to matters relating to its own distribution arrangements. The Board of Trustees (the “Board”) may classify and reclassify the shares of the Fund into additional classes of shares at a future date.

## **Diversification of the Fund**

The Fund is classified as non-diversified under the 1940 Act. This means that, pursuant to the 1940 Act, there is no restriction as to how much the Fund may invest in the securities of any one issuer. However, to qualify for tax treatment as a regulated investment company under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), the Fund intends to comply, as of the end of each taxable quarter, with certain diversification requirements imposed by the Code. Pursuant to these requirements, at the end of each taxable quarter, the Fund, among other things, will not have investments in the securities of any one issuer (other than U.S. government securities or securities of other regulated investment companies) of more than 25% of the value of the Fund’s total assets. In addition, with respect to 50% of the Fund’s total assets, no investment can exceed 5% of the Fund’s total assets or 10% of the outstanding voting securities of the issuer.

As a non-diversified investment company, the Fund may be subject to greater risks than diversified investment companies because of the larger impact of fluctuation in the values of securities of fewer issuers.

## **Non-Fundamental Investment Objective**

The Fund’s investment objective is to generate a return comprised of both current income and capital appreciation with moderate volatility and low correlation to the broader markets. The Fund’s investment objective is non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval.

## **Additional Investment Policies and Limitations**

With respect to the Fund's investment policies and limitations, percentage limitations apply only at the time of investment. A later increase or decrease in a percentage that results from a change in value in the portfolio securities held by the Fund will not be considered a violation of such limitation, and the Fund will not necessarily have to sell a portfolio security or adjust its holdings in order to comply. For purposes of such policies and limitations, the Fund considers instruments (such as certificates of deposit and demand and time deposits) issued by a U.S. branch of a domestic bank or savings and loan having capital, surplus, and undivided profits in excess of \$100,000,000 at the time of investment to be cash items.

## **Fundamental Policies and Limitations**

The Fund has adopted and is subject to the following fundamental policies. These policies of the Fund may be changed only with the approval of the holders of a "majority of the outstanding voting securities" of the Fund, as defined by the 1940 Act. Under the 1940 Act, the authorization of a "majority of the outstanding voting securities" means the affirmative 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 the Fund.

The Fund may not:

1. Borrow money, except as the 1940 Act, any rules or orders thereunder, or U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") staff interpretation thereof, may permit. The Fund may borrow money for investment purposes, for temporary liquidity or to finance the repurchase of shares.
2. Issue senior securities, except to the extent permitted by Section 18 of the 1940 Act, any rules or orders thereunder, or SEC staff interpretation thereof.
3. Purchase securities on margin, but may sell securities short and write call options.
4. Underwrite securities of other issuers, except insofar as the Fund may be deemed an underwriter under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") in connection with the disposition of its portfolio securities. The Fund may invest in restricted securities (those that must be registered under the Securities Act before they may be offered or sold to the public) to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act, any rules or orders thereunder, or SEC staff interpretation thereof.
5. Invest more than 25% of the market value of its assets in the securities of companies or entities engaged in any one industry, except the real estate industry. This limitation does not apply to investment in the securities of the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities, as well as to investments in investment companies that primarily invest in such securities. Under normal circumstances, the Fund invests over 25% of its total assets in the securities of companies or entities in the real estate industry.
6. Purchase or sell commodities or commodity contracts, including futures contracts, except to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act or other governing statute, by the rules thereunder, or by the SEC or other regulatory agency with authority over the Fund.
7. Make loans to others, except (a) through the purchase of debt securities in accordance with its investment objectives and policies, (b) to the extent the entry into a repurchase agreement is deemed to be a loan, and (c) by loaning portfolio securities.

Additional Fundamental Policy Regarding Real Estate Investments:

1. The Fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in real estate or interests in real estate, securities that are secured by or represent interests in real estate (e.g. mortgage loans evidenced by notes or other writings defined to be a type of security), mortgage-related securities or investing in companies engaged in the real estate business or that have a significant portion of their assets in real estate (including real estate investment trusts).

## **Non-Fundamental Policy**

In addition to the fundamental policies and limitations described above, and the various investment policies described in the Prospectus, the Fund has adopted and is subject to the following non-fundamental policy. Any non-fundamental policy of the Fund may be changed by the Board without shareholder approval.

1. The Fund will invest at least 80% of its assets (defined as net assets plus the amount of any borrowing for investment purposes) in real estate industry securities, as defined in the Prospectus. Shareholders of the Fund will be provided with at least 60 days prior notice of any change in the Fund's 80% policy. The notice will be provided in a separate written document containing the following, or similar, statement, in boldface type: "Important Notice Regarding Change in Investment Policy." The statement will also appear on the envelope in which the notice is delivered, unless the notice is delivered separately from other communications to the shareholder.

## **Fundamental Repurchase Offer Policies**

As noted in the Prospectus, the Fund has adopted and is subject to repurchase offer policies, which are fundamental and may be changed only with the approval of the holders of a "majority of the outstanding voting securities" of the Fund, as that term is defined by the 1940 Act. Under the 1940 Act, the authorization of a "majority of the outstanding voting securities" means the affirmative 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 the Fund. The Fund's repurchase offer policies are as follows (defined terms in the following policies, other than the "Fund," are as defined in Rule 23c-3 as adopted, and amended from time to time, under the 1940 Act):

1. The Fund will conduct Repurchase Offers at Periodic Intervals, pursuant to Rule 23c-3 under the 1940 Act, as that Rule may be amended from time to time, and as it is interpreted by the SEC or its staff, or other regulatory authorities having jurisdiction or their staffs, from time to time, and in accordance with any exemptive relief granted to the Fund or generally to closed-end investment companies by the SEC or other regulatory authority having jurisdiction from time to time;
2. The Periodic Intervals will be intervals of three calendar months, or Periodic Intervals or other intervals of time in accordance with any exemptive relief granted to the Fund by the SEC or other regulatory authority having jurisdiction from time to time;
3. The Fund must receive repurchase requests submitted by shareholders in response to the Fund's repurchase offer no less than 21 days and no more than 42 days of the date the repurchase offer is made (or the preceding business day if the New York Stock Exchange is closed on that day) (the "Repurchase Request Deadline");
4. The maximum number of days between the Repurchase Request Deadline and the related Repurchase Pricing Date shall be 14 days, provided that, if the 14<sup>th</sup> day of such period is not a business day, the Repurchase Pricing Date shall occur on the next business day.

## **Additional Investment Strategies and Associated Risks**

The Adviser is responsible for constructing and monitoring the portfolio strategy for the Fund. The Fund invests in securities consistent with the Fund's investment objective(s) and strategies. The potential risks and returns of the Fund vary with the degree to which the Fund invests in a particular market segment and/or asset class.

The Fund's investment objective and principal investment strategies, as well as the principal risks associated with the Fund's investment strategies, are set forth in the "PRINCIPAL INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES" section of the Prospectus. Certain additional investment information is set forth below. Unless otherwise noted, all of the other investment policies and strategies described in the Prospectus or hereafter are non-fundamental and may be changed without shareholder approval. No assurance can be given that any or all investment strategies, or the Fund's investment program, will be successful. The Adviser is responsible for allocating the Fund's assets among various

securities using its investment strategies, subject to policies adopted by the Board. Additional information regarding the types of securities and financial instruments in which the Fund may invest is set forth below. The Fund is permitted to hold securities and engage in various strategies as described hereafter, but is not obligated to do so, except as otherwise noted.

### **Private Investment Funds**

The Fund attempts to achieve its investment objectives by allocating its capital among a select group of institutional asset managers with expertise in managing portfolios of real estate and real estate related securities. Private Investment Funds typically accept investments on a quarterly basis, have quarterly repurchases, and do not have a defined termination date.

In addition to diversification across property type and geographic markets, Private Investment Funds may diversify by differing underlying economic drivers, including anticipated job growth, population growth or inflation. No specific limits have been established within the Fund's investment guidelines for property type and geographic investments; however, many of the Private Investment Funds have NAV limitations for any one individual property held by such Funds relative to the NAV of the Private Investment Fund's overall portfolio. While some institutional asset managers will seek diversification across property types, certain Private Investment Funds may have a more specific focus and not seek such diversification, but instead utilize an investment strategy utilizing expertise within specific or multiple property categories.

The Private Investment Funds may utilize leverage, pursuant to their operative documents, as a way to seek or enhance returns. Dependent upon the investment strategy, geographic focus and/or other economic or property specific factors, each Private Investment Fund will have differing limitations on the utilization of leverage. Such limitations are Private Investment Fund specific and may apply to an overall portfolio limitation as well as a property specific limitation. While the Fund has no current intent to borrow, the Fund will limit its borrowing and the overall leverage of its portfolio to an amount that does not exceed 33 1/3% of the Fund's gross asset value.

### **Public Investment Funds**

The Fund may invest in securities of other investment companies, including mutual funds, closed-end funds and ETFs. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees and other expenses paid by investment companies in which it invests, in addition to the management fees (and other expenses) paid by the Fund.

The 1940 Act provides that the Fund may not: (1) purchase more than 3% of an investment company's outstanding shares; (2) invest more than 5% of its assets in any single such investment company (the "5% Limit"), and (3) invest more than 10% of its assets in investment companies overall (the "10% Limit"), unless: (i) the underlying investment company and/or the Fund has received an order for exemptive relief from such limitations from the SEC; and (ii) the underlying investment company and the Fund take appropriate steps to comply with any conditions in such order.

In addition, Section 12(d)(1)(F) of the 1940 Act provides that the provisions of paragraph 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 investment company is owned by the Fund and all affiliated persons of the Fund; and (ii) the Fund has not, and is not proposing to offer or sell any security issued by it through a principal underwriter or otherwise at a public or offering price which includes a sales load of more than 1½% percent. An investment company that issues shares to the Fund pursuant to paragraph 12(d)(1)(F) shall not be required to redeem its shares in an amount exceeding 1% of such investment company's total outstanding shares in any period of less than thirty days. The Fund (or the Adviser acting on behalf of the Fund) must comply with the following voting restrictions: when the Fund exercises voting rights, by proxy or otherwise, with respect to investment companies owned by the Fund: the Fund will either seek instruction from the Fund's shareholders with regard to the voting of all proxies and vote in accordance with such instructions, or vote the shares held by the Fund in the same proportion as the vote of all other holders of such security.

Further, the Fund may rely on Rule 12d1-3, which allows unaffiliated investment companies to exceed the 5% Limit and the 10% Limit, provided the aggregate sales loads any investor pays (*i.e.*, the combined distribution expenses of both the acquiring fund and the acquired funds) does not exceed the limits on sales loads established by FINRA for funds of funds.

The Fund and any "affiliated persons," as defined by the 1940 Act, may purchase in the aggregate only up to 3% of the total outstanding securities of any investment company. Accordingly, when affiliated persons hold shares of any investment company, the Fund's ability to invest fully in shares of that fund is restricted, and the Adviser must then, in some instances, select alternative investments that would not have been its first preference. The 1940 Act also provides that an investment company whose shares are purchased by the Fund will be obligated to redeem shares held by the Fund only in an amount up to 1% of the investment company's outstanding securities during any period of less than 30 days. Shares held by the

Fund in excess of 1% of an investment company's outstanding securities therefore, will be considered not readily marketable securities.

In December 2018, the SEC proposed new Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act, designed to streamline and enhance the regulatory framework for fund of funds arrangements. That rule, if adopted as proposed, could significantly impact the Fund's ability to invest in other investment companies or pooled investment vehicles.

In October 2019, the SEC adopted Rule 6c-11 under the 1940 Act which removes the need for most ETF sponsors to obtain individual exemptive relief to offer an ETF. In connection with the adoption of Rule 6c-11, on December 23, 2020, the SEC will rescind the exemptive relief obtained by ETFs that are eligible to rely on the provisions of the Rule 6c-11 to offer an ETF. Rule 6c-11 does not rescind the existing exemptive relief obtained by ETFs that permits other unrelated investment companies to make investments in them in excess of the Section 12(d)(1)(A) and (B) limits. ETFs may continue to rely on that aspect of their exemptive relief, if applicable.

ETFs are investment companies issuing shares which are traded like traditional equity securities on a national stock exchange. Much like an index mutual fund, an ETF represents a portfolio of securities, which is often designed to track a particular market segment or index. An investment in an ETF, like one in any investment company, carries the same risks as those of its underlying securities. An ETF may fail to accurately track the returns of the market segment or index that it is designed to track, and the price of an ETF's shares may fluctuate or decline. In addition, because ETF shares, unlike those of other investment companies, are traded on an exchange, ETFs are subject to the following risks: (i) the market price of the ETF's shares may trade at a premium or discount to the ETF's NAV; (ii) an active trading market for an ETF may not develop or be maintained; and (iii) there is no assurance that the requirements of the exchange necessary to maintain the listing of the ETF will continue to be met or remain unchanged. In the event substantial market or other disruptions affecting ETFs should occur in the future, the liquidity and value of the Fund's shares could also be substantially and adversely affected.

### **Mortgage-Backed Securities**

Mortgage-backed securities, represent an ownership interest in a pool of mortgage loans, usually originated by mortgage bankers, commercial banks, savings and loan associations, savings banks and credit unions to finance purchases of homes, commercial buildings or other real estate. The individual mortgage loans are packaged or "pooled" together for sale to investors. These mortgage loans may have either fixed or adjustable interest rates. A guarantee or other form of credit support may be attached to a mortgage-backed security to protect against default on obligations.

As the underlying mortgage loans are paid off, investors receive principal and interest payments, which "pass-through" when received from individual borrowers, net of any fees owed to the administrator, guarantor or other service providers. Some mortgage-backed securities make payments of both principal and interest at a range of specified intervals; others make semiannual interest payments at a predetermined rate and repay principal at maturity (like a typical bond).

Mortgage-backed securities are based on different types of mortgages, including those on commercial real estate or residential properties. The primary issuers or guarantors of mortgage-backed securities have historically been the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA, or "Ginnie Mae"), the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA, or "Fannie Mae") and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC, or "Freddie Mae"). Other issuers of mortgage-backed securities include commercial banks and other private lenders.

Ginnie Mae is a wholly-owned U.S. government corporation within the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ginnie Mae guarantees the principal and interest on securities issued by institutions approved by Ginnie Mae (such as savings and loan institutions, commercial banks and mortgage bankers). Ginnie Mae also guarantees the principal and interest on securities backed by pools of mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration (the "FHA"), or guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (the "VA"). Ginnie Mae's guarantees are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. Guarantees as to the timely payment of principal and interest do not extend to the value or yield of mortgage-backed securities nor do they extend to the value of the Fund's shares which will fluctuate daily with market conditions.

Fannie Mae is a government-sponsored corporation, but its common stock is owned by private stockholders. Fannie Mae purchases conventional (*i.e.*, not insured or guaranteed by any government agency) residential mortgages from a list of approved seller/servicers which include state and federally chartered savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks,

commercial banks and credit unions and mortgage bankers. Pass-through securities issued by Fannie Mae are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by Fannie Mae, but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

Freddie Mac was created by Congress in 1970 for the purpose of increasing the availability of mortgage credit for residential housing. It is a government-sponsored corporation formerly owned by the twelve Federal Home Loan Banks but now its common stock is owned entirely by private stockholders. Freddie Mac issues Participation Certificates (PCs), which are pass-through securities, each representing an undivided interest in a pool of residential mortgages. Freddie Mac guarantees the timely payment of interest and ultimate collection of principal, but PCs are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

Although the mortgage-backed securities of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, the Secretary of the Treasury has the authority to support Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac by purchasing limited amounts of their respective obligations. The yields on these mortgage-backed securities have historically exceeded the yields on other types of U.S. government securities with comparable maturities due largely to their prepayment risk. The U.S. government, in the past, provided financial support to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, but the U.S. government has no legal obligation to do so, and no assurance can be given that the U.S. government will continue to do so.

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. FHFA selected a new chief executive officer and chairman of the board of directors for each of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Also, the U.S. Treasury entered into a Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreement (“SPA”) with each of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac imposing various covenants that severely limit each enterprise’s operations.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac continue 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 the power to repudiate any contract entered into by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac prior to FHFA’s appointment as conservator or receiver, including the guaranty obligations of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Accordingly, securities issued by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will involve a risk of non-payment of principal and interest.

The FHFA has indicated that the conservatorship of each enterprise will end when the director of the FHFA determines that the FHFA’s plan to restore the enterprise to a safe and solvent condition has been completed. The FHFA recently announced plans to consider taking Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac out of conservatorship. Should Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac be taken out of conservatorship, it is unclear whether the U.S. Treasury would continue to enforce its rights or perform its obligations under the SPAs. It also is unclear how the capital structure of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac would be constructed post-conservatorship, and what effects, if any, the privatization of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will have on their creditworthiness and guarantees of certain mortgage-backed securities. Accordingly, should the FHFA take Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac out of conservatorship, there could be an adverse impact on the value of their securities which could cause the Fund’s investments to lose value.

Since March 13, 2020, there have been a number of government initiatives applicable to federally backed mortgage loans in response to the economic impacts of COVID-19. For instance, on March 18, 2020, the FHFA directed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to suspend foreclosures and evictions for at least 60 days due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This foreclosure and eviction suspension applies to homeowners with a Fannie Mae- or Freddie Mac-backed single family mortgage. In addition, the FHFA instructed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to provide payment forbearance to single family borrowers, which will allow mortgage payments to be suspended for up to 12 months (without incurring late fees) due to hardship caused by COVID-19.

Following the FHFA directives, on March 27, 2020, the CARES Act was enacted into law. The CARES Act provides, among other things, that a borrower with a federally backed one- to four-family residential mortgage loan (e.g., a loan purchased or securitized by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac) experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic may request forbearance regardless of delinquency status. Upon receipt of a borrower's request for forbearance, the forbearance must be granted for up to 180 days, and must be extended for a further 180 days at the request of the borrower. Multi family loan borrowers are also entitled to forbearance provided they were current on their payments as of February 1, 2020. Upon receipt of a request for forbearance, the servicer must provide forbearance for up to 30 days and upon request



of the borrower, extend the forbearance period for up to two additional 30-day periods. Further, under the CARES Act, servicers of covered one- to four-family residential loans are also prohibited from initiating foreclosure for the 60-day period beginning March 18, 2020, and no owner of a covered property may initiate eviction proceedings against a residential tenant for nonpayment of rent during the 120-day period after enactment of the statute.

It is difficult to predict how the CARES Act or other government initiatives relating to COVID-19 may affect the federally backed mortgage market, the U.S. mortgage market as a whole and the price of securities relating to the mortgage markets. However, high forbearance rates create a real possibility of billions of dollars of loan servicers' obligations to advance payment to investors in securities backed by mortgages in the absence of borrower payments on the underlying loans. In response to this possibility, the FHFA announced on April 21, 2020 that loan servicers' obligation to advance scheduled monthly payments for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac backed single-family mortgage loans in forbearance will be limited to four months. After the four-month period, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will stand ready to take over advancing payments to investors in MBS pool. This FHFA action clarifies that mortgage loans with COVID-19 payment forbearances shall be treated similar to a natural disaster event and will remain in the MBS pool. This change is intended to reduce the potential liquidity demands on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac resulting from loans in COVID-19 forbearance and delinquent loans, but there is no assurance that such change will reduce the liquidity demands on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac or prevent financial hardship on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac generally as a result of the mandated COVID-19 payment forbearances and resulting obligation to advance payments to investors. It is not possible to predict with certainty the extent to which these or similar initiatives in the future may adversely impact the value of the Fund's investments (direct or indirect, through Private Investment Funds) in securities issued by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac and in investments in securities in the U.S. mortgage industry as a whole.

Issuers of private mortgage-backed securities, such as commercial banks, savings and loan institutions, private mortgage insurance companies, mortgage bankers and other secondary market issuers, are not U.S. government agencies and may be both the originators of the underlying mortgage loans as well as the guarantors of the mortgage-backed securities, or they may partner with a government entity by issuing mortgage loans guaranteed or sponsored by the U.S. government or a U.S. government agency or sponsored enterprise. Pools of mortgage loans created by private issuers generally offer a higher rate of interest than government and government-related pools because there are no direct or indirect government or government agency guarantees of payment. The risk of loss due to default on private mortgage-backed securities is historically higher because neither the U.S. government nor an agency or instrumentality have guaranteed them. Timely payment of interest and principal is, however, generally supported by various forms of insurance or guarantees, including individual loan, title, pool and hazard insurance. Government entities, private insurance companies or the private mortgage poolers issue the insurance and guarantees. The insurance and guarantees and the creditworthiness of their issuers will be considered when determining whether a mortgage-backed security meets the Fund's quality standards. The Fund may buy mortgage-backed securities without insurance or guarantees if, through an examination of the loan experience and practices of the poolers, the Adviser determines that the securities meet the Fund's quality standards. Private mortgage-backed securities whose underlying assets are neither U.S. government securities nor U.S. government-insured mortgages, to the extent that real properties securing such assets may be located in the same geographical region, may also be subject to a greater risk of default than other comparable securities in the event of adverse economic, political or business developments that may affect such region and, ultimately, the ability of property owners to make payments of principal and interest on the underlying mortgages. Non-government mortgage-backed securities are generally subject to greater price volatility than those issued, guaranteed or sponsored by government entities because of the greater risk of default in adverse market conditions. Where a guarantee is provided by a private guarantor, the Fund is subject to the credit risk of such guarantor, especially when the guarantor doubles as the originator.

Mortgage-backed securities that are issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities, are not subject to the Fund's industry concentration restrictions, set forth under "Fundamental Investment Policies," by virtue of the exclusion from that test available to securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or any of its agencies or instrumentalities. In the case of privately issued mortgage-backed securities, the Fund categorizes the securities by the issuer's industry for purposes of the Fund's industry concentration restrictions.

Mortgage securities may include interests in pools of (i) reperforming loans, meaning that the mortgage loans are current, including because of loan modifications, but had been delinquent in the past and (ii) non-performing loans, meaning that the mortgage loans are not current. Such mortgage securities present increased risks of default, including non-payment of principal and interest.

In addition to the special risks described below, mortgage securities are subject to many of the same risks as other types of debt securities. The market value of mortgage securities, like other debt securities, will generally vary inversely with changes in market interest rates, declining when interest rates rise and rising when interest rates decline. Mortgage securities differ from conventional debt securities in that most mortgage securities are pass-through securities. This means that they typically provide investors with periodic payments (typically monthly) consisting of a pro rata share of both regular interest and principal payments, as well as unscheduled early prepayments, on the underlying mortgage pool (net of any fees paid to the issuer or guarantor of such securities and any applicable loan servicing fees). As a result, the holder of the mortgage securities (*i.e.*, the Fund) receives scheduled payments of principal and interest and may receive unscheduled principal payments representing prepayments on the underlying mortgages. The rate of prepayments on the underlying mortgages generally increases as interest rates decline, and when the Fund reinvests the payments and any unscheduled payments of principal it receives, it may receive a rate of interest that is lower than the rate on the existing mortgage securities. For this reason, pass-through mortgage securities may have less potential for capital appreciation as interest rates decline and may be less effective than other types of U.S. government or other debt securities as a means of “locking in” long-term interest rates. In general, fixed rate mortgage securities have greater exposure to this “prepayment risk” than variable rate securities.

An unexpected rise in interest rates could extend the average life of a mortgage security because of a lower than expected level of prepayments or higher than expected amounts of late payments or defaults. In addition, to the extent mortgage securities are purchased at a premium, mortgage foreclosures and unscheduled principal prepayments may result in some loss of the holder’s principal investment to the extent of the premium paid. On the other hand, if mortgage securities are purchased at a discount, both a scheduled payment of principal and an unscheduled payment of principal will increase current and total returns and will accelerate the recognition of income that, when distributed to shareholders, will generally be taxable as ordinary income. Regulatory, policy or tax changes may also adversely affect the mortgage securities market as a whole or particular segments of such market, including if one or more government sponsored entities, such as Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, are privatized or their conservatorship is terminated.

The existence of a guarantee or other form of credit support on a mortgage security usually increases the price that the Fund pays or receives for the security. There is always the risk that the guarantor will default on its obligations. When the guarantor is the U.S. government, there is minimal risk of guarantor default. However, the risk remains if the credit support or guarantee is provided by a private party or a U.S. government agency or sponsored enterprise. Even if the guarantor meets its obligations, there can be no assurance that the type of guarantee or credit support provided will be effective at reducing losses or delays to investors, given the nature of the default. A guarantee only assures timely payment of interest and principal, not a particular rate of return on the Fund’s investment or protection against prepayment or other risks. The market price and yield of the mortgage security at any given time are not guaranteed and likely to fluctuate.

The Fund’s investments in mortgage securities may cause the Fund to have significant, indirect exposure to a given market sector. If the underlying mortgages are predominantly from borrowers in a given market sector, the mortgage securities may respond to market conditions just as a direct investment in that sector would. As a result, the Fund may experience greater exposure to that specific market sector than it would if the underlying mortgages came from a wider variety of borrowers. Greater exposure to a particular market sector may result in greater volatility of the security’s price and returns to the Fund, as well as greater potential for losses in the absence or failure of a guarantee to protect against widespread defaults or late payments by the borrowers on the underlying mortgages.

Similar risks may result from an investment in mortgage securities if the underlying real properties are located in the same geographical region or dependent upon the same industries or sectors. Such mortgage securities will experience greater risk of default or late payment than other comparable but diversified securities in the event of adverse economic, political or business developments because of the widespread affect an adverse event will have on borrowers’ ability to make payments on the underlying mortgages.

The Fund may invest in the residual or equity tranches of mortgage-related securities, which may be referred to as subordinate mortgage-backed securities and interest-only mortgage-backed securities. Subordinate mortgage-backed securities are paid interest only to the extent that there are funds available to make payments. To the extent the collateral pool includes a large percentage of delinquent loans, there is a risk that interest payment on subordinate mortgage-backed securities will not be fully paid. There are multiple tranches of mortgage-backed securities, offering investors various maturity and credit risk characteristics. Tranches are categorized as senior, mezzanine, and subordinated/equity or “first loss,” according to their degree of risk. The most senior tranche of a mortgage-backed security has the greatest

collateralization and pays the lowest interest rate. If there are defaults or the collateral otherwise underperforms, scheduled payments to senior tranches take precedence over those of mezzanine tranches, and scheduled payments to mezzanine tranches take precedence over those to subordinated/equity tranches. Lower tranches represent lower degrees of credit quality and pay higher interest rates intended to compensate for the attendant risks. The return on the lower tranches is especially sensitive to the rate of defaults in the collateral pool. The lowest tranche (*i.e.*, the “equity” or “residual” tranche) specifically receives the residual interest payments (*i.e.*, money that is left over after the higher tranches have been paid and expenses of the issuing entities have been paid) rather than a fixed interest rate. The Fund expects that investments in subordinate mortgage-backed securities will be subject to risks arising from delinquencies and foreclosures, thereby exposing its investment portfolio to potential losses. Subordinate securities of mortgage-backed securities are also subject to greater credit risk than those mortgage-backed securities that are more highly rated.

### **Money Market Instruments**

The Fund may invest, for defensive or diversification purposes or otherwise, some or all of its assets in high quality fixed-income securities, money market instruments, and money market mutual funds, or hold cash or cash equivalents in such amounts as the Adviser deems appropriate under the circumstances. Pending allocation of the offering proceeds of this offering and thereafter, from time to time, the Fund also may invest in these instruments and other investment vehicles. Money market instruments are high quality, short-term fixed-income obligations, which generally have remaining maturities of one year or less, and may include U.S. government securities, commercial paper, certificates of deposit and bankers’ acceptances issued by domestic branches of U.S. banks that are members of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the “FDIC”), and repurchase agreements.

### **Special Investment Techniques**

The Fund may use a variety of special investment instruments and techniques to hedge against various risks or other factors and variables that may affect the values of the Fund’s portfolio securities. The Fund may employ different techniques over time, as new instruments and techniques are introduced or as a result of regulatory developments. Some special investment techniques the Fund may use may be considered speculative and involve a high degree of risk, even when used for hedging purposes. A hedging transaction may not perform as anticipated, and the Fund may suffer losses as a result of its hedging activities.

### **Derivatives**

The Fund may engage in transactions involving options, futures, swaps and other derivative financial instruments. Derivatives can be volatile and involve various types and degrees of risk. By using derivatives, the Fund may be permitted to increase or decrease the level of risk, or change the character of the risk, to which the portfolio is exposed.

A small investment in derivatives could have a substantial impact on the Fund’s performance. The market for many derivatives is, or suddenly can become, illiquid. Changes in liquidity may result in significant and rapid changes in the prices for derivatives. Successful use of derivatives depends on the Adviser’s ability to predict correctly the direction of changes in the value of the applicable markets and securities, contracts and/or currencies. While the Adviser evaluates the markets carefully, there can be no assurance that any particular hedging or investing strategy will succeed. In a hedging transaction, there might be imperfect correlation, or even no correlation, between the price movements of an instrument used for hedging and the price movements of the investments being hedged. Such a lack of correlation might occur due to factors unrelated to the value of the investments being hedged, such as changing interest rates, market liquidity, and speculative or other pressures on the markets in which the hedging instrument is traded. If a derivative transaction is particularly large or if the relevant market is illiquid, it may not be possible to initiate a transaction or liquidate a position at an advantageous time or price, which may result in significant losses to the Fund.

*Options Generally.* The Fund may purchase and write call or put options on securities and indices and enter into related closing transactions. The Fund may use options that are listed on exchanges or traded over the counter (“OTC”). A liquid secondary market in options traded on an exchange may be more readily available than in the OTC market, potentially permitting the Fund to liquidate open positions at a profit prior to exercise or expiration, or to limit losses in the event of adverse market movements. There is no assurance, however, that the Fund will be able to close options positions at the time or price desired, which may have an adverse impact on the Fund’s investments in such options. OTC options are generally considered illiquid by the SEC and will be treated as such by the Fund.

*Call Options.* A purchaser (holder) of a call option pays a non-refundable premium to the seller (writer) of a call option to obtain the right to purchase a specified amount of an investment at a fixed price (the exercise price) during a specified

period (exercise period). Conversely, the seller (writer) of a call option, upon payment by the holder of the premium, has the obligation to sell the investment to the holder of the call option at the exercise price during the exercise period. The Fund may both purchase and write call options. The premium that the Fund pays when purchasing a call option or receives when writing a call option will reflect, among other things, the market price of the investment, the relationship of the exercise price to the market price of the investment, the relationship of the exercise price to the volatility of the investment, the length of the option period and supply and demand factors.

*Purchasing Call Options.* As a holder of a call option, the Fund has the right, but not the obligation, to purchase an investment at the exercise price during the exercise period. Instead of exercising the option and purchasing the investment, the Fund may choose to allow the option to expire or enter into a “closing sale transaction” with respect to the option. A closing sale transaction gives the Fund the opportunity to cancel out its position in a previously purchased option through the offsetting sale during the exercise period of an option having the same features. The Fund will realize a profit from a closing sale transaction if the cost of the transaction is more than the premium it paid to purchase the option. The Fund will realize a loss from the closing sale transaction if the cost of the transaction is less than the premium paid by the Fund. The Fund may purchase call options on investments that it intends to buy in order to limit the risk of a substantial change in the market price of the investment. The Fund may also purchase call options on investments held in its portfolio and on which it has written call options.

There is no assurance that a liquid secondary market on an exchange will exist for any particular option, or at any particular time, and for some options, no secondary market on an exchange may exist. In such event, it may not be possible to effect closing transactions in particular options, with the result being that the Fund would have to exercise its options in order to realize any profit and would incur brokerage commissions upon the exercise of such options and upon the subsequent disposition of the underlying investments acquired through the exercise of such options. Further, unless the price of the underlying investment changes sufficiently, a call option purchased by the Fund may expire without any value to the Fund, in which event the Fund would realize a capital loss which will be short-term unless the option was held for more than one year.

*Writing Call Options.* As the writer of a call option, the Fund has the obligation to sell the security at the exercise price during the exercise period. The Fund may write a call option that is not “covered” if the Fund maintains adequate asset coverage in accordance with the 1940 Act. A call option is “covered” when the Fund either holds the security that is the subject of the option or possesses the option to purchase the same security at an exercise price equal to or less than the exercise price of the covered call option.

As the writer of a call option, in return for the premium, the Fund gives up the opportunity to realize a profit from a price increase in the underlying security above the exercise price and retains the risk of loss should the price of the security decline. If a call option written by the Fund is not exercised, the Fund will realize a gain in the amount of the premium. However, any gain may be offset by a decline in the market value of the security during the exercise period. If the option is exercised, the Fund will experience a profit or loss from the sale of the underlying security. The Fund may have no control over when the underlying securities must be sold because the Fund may be assigned an exercise notice at any time during the exercise period.

The Fund may choose to terminate its obligation as the writer of a call option by entering into a “closing purchase transaction.” A closing purchase transaction allows the Fund to terminate its obligation to sell a security subject to a call option by allowing the Fund to cancel its position under a previously written call option through an offsetting purchase during the exercise period of an option having the same features. The Fund may not effect a closing purchase transaction once it has received notice that the option will be exercised. In addition, there is no guarantee that the Fund will be able to engage in a closing purchase transaction at a time or price desirable to the Fund. Effecting a closing purchase transaction on a call option permits the Fund to write another call option on the underlying security with a different exercise price, exercise date or both. If the Fund wants to sell a portfolio security that is subject to a call option, it will effect a closing purchase transaction prior to or at the same time as the sale of the security.

The Fund will realize a profit from a closing purchase transaction if the cost of the transaction is less than the premium received from writing the option. Conversely, the Fund will experience a loss from a closing purchase transaction if the cost of the transaction is more than the premium received from writing the option. Because increases in the market price of a call option will generally reflect increases in the market price of the underlying security, any loss resulting from the

closing purchase transaction of a written call option is likely to be offset in whole or in part by appreciation of the underlying security owned by the Fund.

*Put Options.* A purchaser (holder) of a put option pays a non-refundable premium to the seller (writer) of a put option to obtain the right to sell a specified amount of a security at a fixed price (the exercise price) during a specified period (exercise period). Conversely, the writer of a put option, upon payment by the holder of the premium, has the obligation to buy the security from the holder of the put option at the exercise price during the exercise period. The Fund may both purchase and write put options. The premium that the Fund pays when purchasing a put option or receives when writing a put option will reflect, among other things, the market price of the investment, the relationship of the exercise price to the market price of the investment, the relationship of the exercise price to the volatility of the investment, the length of the option period and supply and demand factors.

*Purchasing Put Options.* As a holder of a put option, the Fund has the right, but not the obligation, to sell a security at the exercise price during the exercise period. Instead of exercising the option and selling the security, the Fund may choose to allow the option to expire or enter into a closing sale transaction with respect to the option. A closing sale transaction gives the Fund the opportunity to cancel out its position in a previously purchased option through the offsetting sale during the exercise period of an option having the same features.

The Fund may purchase put options on its portfolio securities for defensive purposes (“protective puts”). The Fund may purchase a protective put for a security it holds in its portfolio to protect against a possible decline in the value of the security subject to the put option. The Fund may also purchase a protective put for a security in its portfolio to protect the unrealized appreciation of the security without having to sell the security. By purchasing a put option, the Fund is able to sell the security subject to the put option at the exercise price during the exercise period even if the security has significantly declined in value.

The Fund may also purchase put options for securities it is not currently holding in its portfolio. The Fund would purchase a put option on a security it does not own in order to benefit from a decline in the market price of the security during the exercise period. The Fund will only make a profit by exercising a put option if the market price of the security subject to the put option plus the premium and the transaction costs paid by the Fund together total less than the exercise price of the put option.

*Writing Put Options.* As the writer of a put option, the Fund has the obligation to buy the underlying security at the exercise price during the exercise period.

For a put option to be considered covered, the Fund must either (1) maintain cash, U.S. government securities, other liquid high-grade debt obligations, or other suitable cover permitted by the SEC having a value of not less than the exercise price of the option; or (2) own an option to sell the security subject to the put option, which has an exercise price during the entire option period equal to or greater than the exercise price of the covered put option. The rules of a clearing corporation may require that such assets be deposited in escrow to ensure payment of the exercise price.

If a put option written by the Fund is not exercised, the Fund will realize a gain in the amount of the premium. If the put option is exercised, the Fund must fulfill the obligation to purchase the underlying security at the exercise price, which will usually exceed the market value of the underlying security at that time. The Fund may have no control over when the underlying securities must be purchased because the Fund may be assigned an exercise notice at any time during the exercise period.

The Fund may choose to terminate its obligation as the writer of a put option by entering into a “closing purchase transaction.” A closing purchase transaction allows the Fund to terminate its obligation to purchase a security subject to a put option by allowing the Fund to cancel its position under a previously written put option through an offsetting purchase during the exercise period of an option having the same features. The Fund may not effect a closing purchase transaction once it has received notice that the option will be exercised. In addition, there is no guarantee that the Fund will be able to engage in a closing purchase transaction at a time or price desirable to the Fund. Effecting a closing purchase transaction on a put option permits the Fund to write another put option.

The Fund will realize a profit from a closing purchase transaction if the cost of the transaction is less than the premium received from writing the option. Conversely, the Fund will experience a loss from a closing purchase transaction if the cost of the transaction is more than the premium received from writing the option.

The Fund may write put options in situations when its portfolio manager wants to buy the underlying security for the Fund's portfolio at a price lower than the current market price of the security. To effect this strategy, the Fund would write a put option at an exercise price that, reduced by the premium received on the option, reflects the lower price the Fund is willing to pay. Since the Fund may also receive interest on debt securities or currencies maintained to cover the exercise price of the option, this technique could be used to enhance current return during periods of market uncertainty. The risk of this strategy is that the market price of the underlying security would decline below the exercise price less the premiums received.

*OTC Options.* The Fund may write covered put and call options and buy put and call options that trade in the OTC market to the same extent that it may engage in exchange traded options. OTC options differ from exchange traded options in certain material respects. OTC options are arranged directly with dealers and not with a clearing corporation. Thus, there is a risk of non-performance by the dealer. Because there is no exchange, pricing is typically done based on information from market makers. OTC options are available for a greater variety of securities and in a wider range of expiration dates and exercise prices, however, than exchange traded options and the writer of an OTC option is paid the premium in advance by the dealer. There can be no assurance that a continuous liquid secondary market will exist for any particular OTC option at any specific time. The Fund may be able to realize the value of an OTC option it has purchased only by exercising it or entering into a closing sale transaction with the dealer that issued it. The Fund may suffer a loss if it is not able to exercise or sell its position on a timely basis. When the Fund writes an OTC option, it generally can close out that option prior to its expiration only by entering into a closing purchase transaction with the dealer with which the Fund originally wrote the option. The Fund will treat OTC options as illiquid securities.

*Options on Indices.* The Fund may invest in options on indices. Put and call options on indices are similar to puts and calls on securities or futures contracts except that all settlements are in cash and gain or loss depends on changes in the index in question rather than on price movements in individual securities or futures contracts. When the Fund writes a call on an index, it receives a premium and agrees that, prior to the expiration date, the purchaser of the call, upon exercise of the call, will receive from the Fund an amount of cash if the closing level of the index upon which the call is based is greater than the exercise price of the call. The amount of cash is equal to the difference between the closing price of the index and the exercise price of the call times a specified multiple ("multiplier"), which determines the total dollar value for each point of such difference. When the Fund buys a call on an index, it pays a premium and has the same rights as to such call as are indicated above. When the Fund buys a put on an index, it pays a premium and has the right, prior to the expiration date, to require the seller of the put, upon the Fund's exercise of the put, to deliver to the Fund an amount of cash equal to the difference between the exercise price of the option and the value of the index, times a multiplier, similar to that described above for calls. When the Fund writes a put on an index, it receives a premium and the purchaser of the put has the right, prior to the expiration date, to require the Fund to deliver to it an amount of cash equal to the difference between the closing level of the index and exercise price times the multiplier if the closing level is less than the exercise price.

*Risks of Options on Indices.* Because the value of an index option depends upon movements in the level of the index rather than the price of a particular security, whether the Fund will realize gain or loss on the purchase of an option on an index depends upon movements in the level of prices in the market generally or in an industry or market segment rather than movements in the price of a particular security. Accordingly, successful use by the Fund of options on indices is subject to the Adviser's ability to predict correctly the direction of movements in the market generally or in a particular industry. This requires different skills and techniques than predicting changes in the prices of individual securities.

Index prices may be distorted if trading of a substantial number of securities included in the index is interrupted causing the trading of options on that index to be halted. If a trading halt occurred, the Fund would not be able to close out options which it had purchased and the Fund may incur losses if the underlying index moved adversely before trading resumed. If a trading halt occurred and restrictions prohibiting the exercise of options were imposed through the close of trading on the last day before expiration, exercises on that day would be settled on the basis of a closing index value that may not reflect current price information for securities representing a substantial portion of the value of the index.

If the Fund holds an index option and exercises it before final determination of the closing index value for that day, it runs the risk that the level of the underlying index may change before closing. If such a change causes the exercised option to fall “out-of-the-money,” the Fund will be required to pay the difference between the closing index value and the exercise price of the option (times the applicable multiplier) to the assigned writer. Although the Fund may be able to minimize this risk by withholding exercise instructions until just before the daily cutoff time or by selling rather than exercising the option when the index level is close to the exercise price, it may not be possible to eliminate this risk entirely because the cutoff times for index options may be earlier than those fixed for other types of options and may occur before definitive closing index values are announced.

*Futures Contracts and Options on Futures Contracts.* The Fund may purchase and sell futures contracts, including those based on particular securities, securities indices, interest rates, debt obligations, foreign currencies and other financial instruments and indices. A futures contract is a standard binding agreement to buy or sell a specified quantity of an underlying reference asset, such as a specific security, currency, commodity, interest rate or index, at a specified price at a specified later date.

In most cases the contractual obligation under a futures contract may be offset, or “closed out,” before the settlement date so that the parties do not have to make or take delivery of the reference asset. The closing out of a contractual obligation is usually accomplished by buying or selling, as the case may be, an identical, offsetting futures contract. This transaction, which is effected through a member of an exchange, cancels the obligation to make or take delivery of the underlying asset. Although some futures contracts by their terms require the actual delivery or acquisition of the underlying asset, some (e.g., stock index futures) require cash settlement.

Futures contracts may be bought and sold on U.S. and non-U.S. exchanges. Futures contracts in the U.S. have been designed by exchanges that have been designated “contract markets” by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) and must be executed through a futures commission merchant (“FCM”), which is a brokerage firm that is a member of the relevant contract market. Each exchange guarantees performance of the contracts as between the clearing members of the exchange, thereby reducing the risk of counterparty default.

Futures contracts may also be entered into on certain exempt markets, including exempt boards of trade and electronic trading facilities, available to certain market participants. Because all transactions in the futures market are made, offset or fulfilled by an FCM through a clearinghouse associated with the exchange on which the contracts are traded, the Fund will incur brokerage fees when it buys or sells futures contracts.

When the Fund enters into a futures contract, it must deliver to an account controlled by the FCM an amount referred to as “initial margin.” Initial margin requirements are determined by the respective exchanges on which the futures contracts are traded and the FCM. Thereafter, a “variation margin” amount may be required to be paid by the Fund or received by the Fund in accordance with margin controls set for such accounts, depending upon changes in the marked-to-market value of the futures contract. The account is marked-to-market daily. When the futures contract is closed out, if the Fund has a loss equal to or greater than the margin amount, the margin amount is paid to the FCM along with any loss in excess of the margin amount. If the Fund has a loss of less than the margin amount, the excess margin is returned to the Fund. If the Fund has a gain, the full margin amount and the amount of the gain is paid to the Fund.

The Fund may also purchase and write call and put options on futures contracts. Options on futures contracts trade on the same contract markets as the underlying futures contracts. When the Fund buys an option, it pays a premium for the right, but does not have the obligation, to purchase (call) or sell (put) a futures contract at a set price (called the exercise price). The seller (writer) of an option becomes contractually obligated to take the opposite futures position if the buyer of the option exercises its rights to the futures position specified in the option. In return for the premium paid by the buyer, the seller assumes the risk of taking a possibly adverse futures position. In addition, the seller will be required to post and maintain initial and variation margin with the FCM. One goal of selling (writing) options on futures may be to receive the premium paid by the option buyer. For more general information about the mechanics of purchasing and writing options, see “Options” above.

To the extent the Fund enters into a futures contract, it will maintain adequate asset coverage in accordance with the 1940 Act.

*Risks Associated With Futures Contracts and Options Futures Contracts.* When used for hedging, purchases and sales of futures contracts may not completely offset a decline or rise in the value of the Fund's investments during certain market conditions. In the futures markets, it may not always be possible to execute a buy or sell order at the desired price, or to close out an open position due to market conditions, limits on open positions and/or daily price fluctuations. Changes in the market value of the Fund's investment securities may differ substantially from the changes anticipated by the Fund when it established its hedged positions, and unanticipated price movements in a futures contract may result in a loss substantially greater than the amount that the Fund delivered as initial margin. Because of the relatively low margin deposits required, futures trading involves a high degree of leverage; as a result, a relatively small price movement in a futures contract may result in immediate and substantial loss, or gain, to the Fund. In addition, if the Fund has insufficient cash to meet daily variation margin requirements or close out a futures position, it may have to sell securities from its portfolio at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so. Adverse market movements could cause the Fund to experience substantial losses on an investment in a futures contract.

Successful use of futures contracts depends upon the Adviser's ability to correctly predict movements in the securities markets generally or of a particular segment of a securities market. No assurance can be given that the Adviser's judgment in this respect will be correct.

There is a risk of loss by the Fund of the initial and variation margin deposits in the event of bankruptcy of the FCM with which the Fund has an open position in a futures contract. The assets of the Fund may not be fully protected in the event of the bankruptcy of the FCM or central counterparty because the Fund might be limited to recovering only a pro rata share of all available funds and margin segregated on behalf of an FCM's customers. If the FCM does not provide accurate reporting, the Fund is also subject to the risk that the FCM could use the Fund's assets, which are held in an omnibus account with assets belonging to the FCM's other customers, to satisfy its own financial obligations or the payment obligations of another customer to the central counterparty.

The CFTC and the various exchanges have established limits, referred to as "speculative position limits," on the maximum net long or net short position that any person may hold or control in a particular futures contract. Trading limits are imposed on the number of contracts that any person may trade on a particular trading day. An exchange may order the liquidation of positions found to be in violation of these limits and it may impose sanctions or restrictions. The regulation of futures contracts, as well as other derivatives, is a rapidly changing area of law. For more information, see "Risks of Potential Regulation of Swaps and Other Derivatives" below.

Participation in foreign futures and foreign options transactions involves the execution and clearing of trades on or subject to the rules of a foreign board of trade. Neither the National Futures Association ("NFA") nor any domestic exchange regulates activities of any foreign boards of trade, including the execution, delivery and clearing of transactions, or has the power to compel enforcement of the rules of a foreign board of trade or any applicable foreign law. This is true even if the exchange is formally linked to a domestic market so that a position taken on the market may be liquidated by a transaction on another market. Moreover, such laws or regulations will vary depending on the foreign country in which the foreign futures or foreign options transaction occurs.

For these reasons, customers who trade foreign futures or foreign options contracts may not be afforded certain of the protective measures provided by the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"), the CFTC's regulations and the rules of the NFA and any domestic exchange, including the right to use reparations proceedings before the CFTC and arbitration proceedings provided by the NFA or any domestic futures exchange. In particular, the Fund's investments in foreign futures or foreign options transactions may not be provided the same protections in respect of transactions on U.S. futures exchanges. In addition, the price of any foreign futures or foreign options contract and, therefore the potential profit and loss thereon may be affected by any variance in the foreign exchange rate between the time an order is placed and the time it is liquidated, offset or exercised.

When the Fund purchases an option on a futures contract, the amount at risk is the premium paid for the option plus related transaction costs. The purchase of an option on a futures contract also entails the risk that changes in the value of the underlying futures contract will not be fully reflected in the value of the option purchased. The seller (writer) of an option on a futures contract is subject to the risk of having to take a possibly adverse futures position if the purchaser of the option exercises its rights. If the seller is required to take such a position, it could bear substantial, and potentially unlimited, losses.



*Swaps and Options on Swaps.* The Fund may enter into swaps for purposes of reducing or obtaining short market exposure or to help offset the costs of purchasing hedging investments and to generate additional income. Generally, swap agreements are contracts between the Fund and another party (the swap counterparty) involving the exchange of payments on specified terms over periods ranging from a few days to multiple years. In a basic swap transaction, the Fund agrees with the swap counterparty to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) and/or cash flows earned or realized on a particular “notional amount” or value of predetermined underlying reference instruments. The notional amount is the set dollar or other value selected by the parties to use as the basis on which to calculate the obligations that the parties to a swap agreement have agreed to exchange.

Among the types of swaps the Fund may use are equity, interest rate, and index and currency swaps. An equity swap is an agreement to exchange streams of payments computed by reference to a notional amount based on the performance of a basket of stocks or a single stock. An interest rate swap is an agreement between two parties to exchange interest rate payment obligations. Typically, one rate is based on an interest rate fixed to maturity while the other is based on an interest rate that changes in accordance with changes in a designated benchmark (for example, LIBOR, the Secured Overnight Finance Rate, prime, commercial paper, or other benchmarks). On July 27, 2017, the head of the United Kingdom’s Financial Conduct Authority announced a desire to phase out the use of LIBOR by the end of 2021. There remains uncertainty regarding the nature of any replacement rate and the impact of a transition away from LIBOR on the Fund or the instruments in which the Fund invests cannot yet be determined. Index swaps involve the exchange by the Fund with another party of the respective amounts payable with respect to a notional principal amount related to one or more indexes. A currency swap is an agreement between two parties to exchange periodic cash flows on a notional amount of two or more currencies based on the relative value differential between them. For example, a currency swap may involve the exchange of payments in a non-U.S. currency for payments in U.S. dollars.

The Fund may also purchase and write (sell) options contracts on swaps, referred to as “swaptions.” A swaption is an option to enter into a swap agreement. Like other types of options, the buyer of a swaption pays a non-refundable premium for the option and obtains the right, but not the obligation, to enter into an underlying swap on agreed-upon terms. The seller of a swaption, in exchange for the premium, becomes obligated (if the option is exercised) to enter into an underlying swap on agreed-upon terms.

The Fund will usually enter into swaps on a net basis (*i.e.*, the two payment streams are netted out in a cash settlement on the payment date or dates specified in the agreement, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments). The Fund’s obligations (or rights) under a swap agreement that is entered into on a net basis will generally be the net amount to be paid or received under the agreement based on the relative values of the obligations of each party upon termination of the agreement or at set valuation dates.

A swap agreement may be negotiated bilaterally and traded OTC between the two parties (for an uncleared swap) or, in some instances, must be transacted through an FCM and cleared through a clearing house that serves as a central counterparty (for a cleared swap). In an uncleared swap, the swap counterparty is typically a brokerage firm, bank or other financial institution. During the term of an uncleared swap, the Fund will be required to pledge to the swap counterparty, from time to time, an amount of cash and/or other assets equal to the total net amount (if any) that would be payable by the Fund to the counterparty if all outstanding swaps between the parties were terminated on the date in question, including any early termination payments (variation margin). Periodically, changes in the amount pledged are made to recognize changes in value of the contract resulting from, among other things, interest on the notional value of the contract, market value changes in the underlying investment, and/or dividends paid by the issuer of the underlying instrument. Likewise, the counterparty will be required to pledge cash or other assets to cover its obligations to the Fund. However, the amount pledged may not always be equal to or more than the amount due to the other party. Therefore, if a counterparty defaults on its obligations to the Fund, the amount pledged by the counterparty and available to the Fund may not be sufficient to cover all the amounts due to the Fund and the Fund may sustain a loss.

Currently, the Fund does not typically provide initial margin in connection with uncleared swaps. However, rules requiring initial margin to be posted by certain market participants for uncleared swaps have been adopted and are being phased in over time. When these rules take effect with respect to the Fund, if the Fund is deemed to have material swaps exposure under applicable swap regulations, it will be required to post initial margin in addition to variation margin.

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the “Dodd-Frank Act”) and related regulatory developments have imposed comprehensive new regulatory requirements on swaps and swap market participants. The regulatory framework includes: (1) registration and regulation of swap dealers and major swap participants; (2) requiring central clearing and execution of standardized swaps; (3) imposing margin requirements on swap transactions; (4) regulating and monitoring swap transactions through position limits and large trader reporting requirements; and (5) imposing record keeping and centralized and public reporting requirements, on an anonymous basis, for most swaps. The CFTC is responsible for the regulation of most swaps. The SEC has jurisdiction over a small segment of the market referred to as “security-based swaps” which includes swaps on single securities or credits, or narrow-based indices of securities or credits.

Certain standardized swaps are subject to mandatory central clearing and trade execution requirements. In a cleared swap, the Fund’s ultimate counterparty is a central clearinghouse rather than a brokerage firm, bank or other financial institution. Cleared swaps are submitted for clearing through each party’s FCM, which must be a member of the clearinghouse that serves as the central counterparty. Mandatory exchange-trading and clearing of swaps will occur on a phased-in basis based on CFTC approval of contracts for central clearing and public trading facilities making such cleared swaps available to trade. To date, the CFTC has designated only certain of the most common types of credit default index swaps and interest rate swaps as subject to mandatory clearing and certain public trading facilities have made certain of those swaps available to trade, but it is expected that additional categories of swaps will in the future be designated as subject to mandatory clearing and trade execution requirements. Central clearing is intended to reduce counterparty credit risk and increase liquidity, but central clearing does not eliminate these risks and may involve additional costs and risks not involved with uncleared swaps. For more information, see “Risks of Swaps” and “Risks of Potential Regulation of Swaps and Other Derivatives” below.

When the Fund enters into a cleared swap, it must deliver to the central counterparty (via an FCM) an amount referred to as “initial margin.” Initial margin requirements are determined by the central counterparty, and are typically calculated as an amount equal to the volatility in the market value of the swap over a fixed period, but an FCM may require additional initial margin above the amount required by the central counterparty. During the term of the swap agreement, a “variation margin” amount may also be required to be paid by the Fund or may be received by the Fund in accordance with margin controls set for such accounts. If the value of the Fund’s cleared swap declines, the Fund will be required to make additional “variation margin” payments to the FCM to settle the change in value. Conversely, if the market value of the Fund’s position increases, the FCM will post additional “variation margin” to the Fund’s account. At the conclusion of the term of the swap agreement, if the Fund has a loss equal to or greater than the margin amount, the margin amount is paid to the FCM along with any loss in excess of the margin amount. If the Fund has a loss of less than the margin amount, the excess margin is returned to the Fund. If the Fund has a gain, the full margin amount and the amount of the gain is paid to the Fund.

*Risks of Swaps.* As is the case with most investments, swaps are subject to market risk, and there can be no guarantee that the Adviser will correctly forecast the future movements of interest rates, indices or other economic factors. The use of swaps requires an understanding of investment techniques, risk analysis and tax treatment different than those of the Fund’s underlying portfolio investments. Swaps may be subject to liquidity risk, when a particular contract is difficult to purchase or sell at the most advantageous time. However, in recent years the swaps market has become increasingly liquid, and central clearing and the trading of cleared swaps on public facilities are intended to further increase liquidity. Nevertheless, certain swaps may be considered to be illiquid. Swaps are also subject to pricing risk which can result in significant fluctuations in value relative to historical prices. Significant fluctuations in value may mean that it is not possible to initiate or liquidate a swap position in time to avoid a loss or take advantage of a specific market opportunity.

The risk of loss to the Fund for swap transactions that are entered into on a net basis depends on which party is obligated to pay the net amount to the other party. If the counterparty is obligated to pay the net amount to the Fund, the risk of loss to the Fund is loss of the entire amount that the Fund is entitled to receive. If the Fund is obligated to pay the net amount, the Fund’s risk of loss is generally limited to that net amount. If the swap agreement involves the exchange of the entire principal value of a security, the entire principal value of that security is subject to the risk that the other party to the swap will default on its contractual delivery obligations. In addition, the Fund’s risk of loss also includes any margin at risk in the event of default by the counterparty (in an uncleared swap) or the central counterparty or FCM (in a cleared swap), plus any transaction costs.

Uncleared swaps are typically executed bilaterally with a swap dealer rather than traded on exchanges. As a result, swap participants may not be as protected as participants on organized exchanges. Performance of a swap agreement is the responsibility only of the swap counterparty and not of any exchange or clearinghouse. As a result, the Fund is subject to counterparty risk (*i.e.*, the risk that a counterparty will be unable or will refuse to perform under such agreement, including because of the counterparty's bankruptcy or insolvency). The Fund risks the loss of the accrued but unpaid amounts under a swap agreement, which could be substantial, in the event of a default, insolvency or bankruptcy by a swap counterparty. In such an event, the Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the swap agreements, but bankruptcy and insolvency laws could affect the Fund's rights as a creditor. While the Fund uses only counterparties that meet the credit quality standards established by its Adviser, in unusual or extreme market conditions, a counterparty's creditworthiness and ability to perform may deteriorate rapidly, and the availability of suitable replacement counterparties may become limited. If the counterparty's creditworthiness declines, the value of a swap agreement would likely decline, potentially resulting in losses.

As noted above, under recent financial reforms, certain types of swaps are, and others eventually are expected to be, required to be cleared through a central counterparty, which may affect counterparty risk and other risks faced by the Fund. Central clearing is designed to reduce counterparty credit risk and increase liquidity compared to bilateral swaps because central clearing interposes the central clearinghouse as the counterparty to each participant's swap, but it does not eliminate those risks completely and may involve additional costs and risks not involved with uncleared swaps. There is also a risk of loss by the Fund of the initial and variation margin deposits in the event of bankruptcy of the FCM with which the Fund has an open position, or the central counterparty in a swap contract. The assets of the Fund may not be fully protected in the event of the bankruptcy of the FCM or central counterparty because the Fund might be limited to recovering only a pro rata share of all available funds and margin segregated on behalf of an FCM's customers. If the FCM does not provide accurate reporting, the Fund is also subject to the risk that the FCM could use the Fund's assets, which are held in an omnibus account with assets belonging to the FCM's other customers, to satisfy its own financial obligations or the payment obligations of another customer to the central counterparty. Credit risk of cleared swap participants is concentrated in a few clearinghouses, and the consequences of insolvency of a clearinghouse are not clear. Transactions executed on a swap execution facility may increase market transparency and liquidity but may require the Fund to incur increased expenses to access the same types of swaps that it has used in the past.

With cleared swaps, the Fund may not be able to obtain terms as favorable as it would be able to negotiate for a bilateral, uncleared swap. In addition, an FCM may unilaterally amend the terms of its agreement with the Fund, which may include the imposition of position limits or additional margin requirements with respect to the Fund's investment in certain types of swaps. Central counterparties and FCMs can require termination of existing cleared swap upon the occurrence of certain events, and can also require increases in margin above the margin that is required at the initiation of the swap agreement.

The Fund is also subject to the risk that, after entering into a cleared swap with an executing broker, no FCM or central counterparty is willing or able to clear the transaction. In such an event, the Fund may be required to break the trade and make an early termination payment to the executing broker.

Swaps that are subject to mandatory clearing are also required to be traded on swap execution facilities ("SEFs"), if any SEF makes the swap available to trade. A SEF is a trading platform where multiple market participants can execute swap transactions by accepting bids and offers made by multiple other participants on the platform. Transactions executed on a SEF may increase market transparency and liquidity but may require the Fund to incur increased expenses to access the same types of swaps that it has used in the past.

*Risks of Potential Increased Regulation of Swaps and Other Derivatives.* The regulation of cleared and uncleared swaps, as well as other derivatives, is a rapidly changing area of law and is subject to modification by government and judicial action. In addition, the SEC, CFTC and the exchanges are authorized to take extraordinary actions in the event of a market emergency, including, for example, the implementation or reduction of speculative position limits, the implementation of higher margin requirements, the establishment of daily price limits and the suspension of trading.

It is not possible to predict fully the effects of current or future regulation. However, it is possible that developments in government regulation of various types of derivative instruments, such as speculative position limits on certain types of derivatives, or limits or restrictions on the counterparties with which the Fund engages in derivative transactions, may limit or prevent the Fund from using or limit the Fund's use of these instruments effectively as a part of its investment strategy, and could adversely affect the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. The Adviser will continue to monitor

developments in the area, particularly to the extent regulatory changes affect the Fund's ability to enter into desired swaps. New requirements, even if not directly applicable to the Fund, may increase the cost of the Fund's investments and cost of doing business.

*Commodity Pool Operator Exclusion.* The Adviser has claimed an exclusion from the definition of commodity pool operator under the CEA and the rules of the CFTC with respect to the Fund. The Adviser is therefore not subject to registration or regulation as a commodity pool operator under the CEA with respect to the Fund. The Fund is not intended as a vehicle for trading in the futures, commodity options or swaps markets. In addition, the Adviser is relying upon a related exclusion from the definition of commodity trading advisor under the CEA and the rules of the CFTC.

The terms of the commodity pool operator exclusion requires the Fund, among other things, to adhere to certain limits on its investments in "commodity interests." Commodity interests include commodity futures, commodity options and swaps, which in turn include non-deliverable forwards. The Fund is not intended as a vehicle for trading in the commodity futures, commodity options or swaps markets. The CFTC has neither reviewed nor approved the Adviser's reliance on these exclusions, or the Fund, its investment strategies or Prospectus, or this SAI.

Generally, the exclusion from commodity pool operator regulation on which the Adviser relies requires the Fund to meet one of the following tests for its commodity interest positions, other than positions entered into for bona fide hedging purposes (as defined in the rules of the CFTC): either (1) the aggregate initial margin and premiums required to establish the Fund's positions in commodity interests may not exceed 5% of the liquidation value of the Fund's portfolio (after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions); or (2) the aggregate net notional value of the Fund's commodity interest positions, determined at the time the most recent such position was established, may not exceed the liquidation value of the Fund's portfolio (after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions). In addition to meeting one of these trading limitations, the Fund may not market itself as a commodity pool or otherwise as a vehicle for trading in the commodity futures, commodity options or swaps markets. If, in the future, the Fund can no longer satisfy these requirements, the Adviser would withdraw its notice claiming an exclusion from the definition of a commodity pool operator, and the Adviser would be subject to registration and regulation as a commodity pool operator with respect to that Fund, in accordance with CFTC rules that apply to commodity pool operators of registered investment companies. Generally, these rules allow for substituted compliance with CFTC disclosure and shareholder reporting requirements, based on the Adviser's compliance with comparable SEC requirements. However, as a result of CFTC regulation with respect to the Fund, the Fund may incur additional compliance and other expenses.

### **Structured Notes and Indexed Securities**

Structured notes and indexed securities are derivative debt securities, the interest rate or principal of which is determined by an unrelated indicator. Indexed securities include structured notes as well as securities other than debt securities. The value of the principal of and/or interest on structured and indexed securities is determined by reference to changes in the value of a specific asset, reference rate, or index (the reference) or the relative change in two or more references. The interest rate or the principal amount payable upon maturity or redemption may be increased or decreased, depending upon changes in the applicable reference. The terms of the structured and indexed securities may provide that, in certain circumstances, no principal is due at maturity and, therefore, may result in a loss of invested capital. Structured and indexed securities may be positively or negatively indexed, so that appreciation of the reference may produce an increase or a decrease in the interest rate or value of the security at maturity. In addition, changes in the interest rate or the value of the structured or indexed security at maturity may be calculated as a specified multiple of the change in the value of the reference; therefore, the value of such security may be very volatile. Structured and indexed securities may entail a greater degree of market risk than other types of debt securities because the investor bears the risk of the reference. Structured or indexed securities may also be more volatile, less liquid, and more difficult to accurately price than less complex securities or more traditional debt securities, which could lead to an overvaluation or an undervaluation of the securities.

### **When-Issued, Delayed Delivery and Forward Commitment Securities**

To reduce the risk of changes in securities prices and interest rates, the Fund may purchase securities on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis. This means that delivery and payment occur a number of days after the date of the commitment to purchase. The payment obligation and the interest rate receivable with respect to such purchases are determined when the Fund enters into the commitment, but the Fund does not make payment until it receives delivery from the counterparty. The Fund may, if it is deemed advisable, sell the securities after it commits to a purchase but before delivery and settlement takes place.

Securities purchased on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis are subject to changes in value based upon the public's perception of the creditworthiness of the issuer and changes (either real or anticipated) in the level of interest rates. Purchasing securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis can present the risk that the yield available in the market when the delivery takes place may be higher than that obtained in the transaction itself. Purchasing securities on a forward commitment, when-issued or delayed delivery basis when the Fund is fully, or almost fully invested, results in a form of leverage and may cause greater fluctuation in the value of the net assets of the Fund. In addition, there is a risk that securities purchased on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis may not be delivered, and that the purchaser of securities sold by the Fund on a forward basis will not honor its purchase obligation. In such cases, the Fund may incur a loss.

### **Contingent Convertible Securities**

The Fund may invest in contingent convertible securities ("CoCos"). CoCos are a form of hybrid debt security that are intended to either convert into equity or have their principal written down upon the occurrence of certain "triggers." The triggers generally are linked to regulatory capital thresholds or regulatory actions calling into question the issuing banking institution's continued viability as a going concern. CoCos' unique equity conversion or principal write-down features are tailored to the issuing banking institution and its regulatory requirements. Some additional risks associated with CoCos include, but are not limited to:

*Loss absorption risk.* CoCos have fully discretionary coupons. This means coupons can potentially be cancelled at the banking institution's discretion or at the request of the relevant regulatory authority in order to help the bank absorb losses.

*Mandatory conversions.* CoCos may provide for mandatory conversion into common stock of the issuer following a conversion event (i.e., a "trigger"). In such an event, each holder will be subordinated due to their conversion from being the holder of a debt instrument to being the holder of an equity instrument. Since the common stock of the issuer may not pay a dividend, investors in these instruments could experience a reduced income rate, potentially to zero; and conversion would deepen the subordination of the investor, hence worsening standing in a bankruptcy. In addition, some such instruments have a set stock conversion rate that would cause a reduction in value of the security if the price of the stock is below the conversion price on the conversion date. CoCos may be considered to be high-yield securities (commonly referred to as "junk" bonds) and, to the extent a CoCo held by the Fund were to undergo a write down, the Fund may lose some or all of its original investment in the CoCo. Performance of a CoCo issuer may, in general, be correlated with the performance of other CoCo issuers. As a result, negative information regarding one CoCo issuer may cause a decline in value of other CoCo issuers.

*Subordinated instruments.* CoCos, in the majority of circumstances, will be issued in the form of subordinated debt instruments in order to provide the appropriate regulatory capital treatment prior to a conversion. Accordingly, in the event of liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of an issuer prior to a conversion having occurred, the rights and claims of the holders of the CoCos, such as the Fund, against the issuer in respect of or arising under the terms of the CoCos generally shall rank junior to the claims of all holders of unsubordinated obligations of the issuer. Subordinate securities such as CoCos are more likely to experience credit loss than non-subordinate securities of the same issuer, even if the CoCos do not convert to equity securities. Any losses incurred by subordinate securities, such as CoCos, are likely to be proportionately greater than non-subordinate securities and any recovery of principal and interest of subordinate securities may take more time. As a result, any perceived decline in creditworthiness of a CoCo issuer is likely to have a greater impact on the CoCo, as a subordinate security.

*Market value will fluctuate based on unpredictable factors.* The value of CoCos is unpredictable and will be influenced by many factors including, without limitation: (i) the creditworthiness of the issuer and/or fluctuations in such issuer's applicable capital ratios; (ii) supply and demand for the CoCos; (iii) general market conditions and available liquidity; and (iv) economic, financial and political events that affect the issuer, its particular market or the financial markets in general. The market value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates increase and, conversely, tends to increase as interest rates decline. In addition, because of the conversion feature, the market value of convertible securities tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying common stock.

### **Non-Diversified Status**

Because the Fund is "non-diversified" under the 1940 Act, it is subject only to certain federal tax diversification requirements. Under federal tax laws, the Fund may, with respect to 50% of its total assets, invest up to 25% of its total assets in the securities of any issuer. With respect to the remaining 50% of the Fund's total assets, (i) the Fund may not

invest more than 5% of its total assets in the securities of any one issuer, and (ii) the Fund may not acquire more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of any one issuer. These tests apply at the end of each quarter of the taxable year and are subject to certain conditions and limitations under the Code. These tests do not apply to investments in U.S. government securities and regulated investment companies.

### **Temporary Investments**

Under normal circumstances, the Fund may have money received from the purchase of Fund shares, or money received on the sale of its portfolio securities for which suitable investments consistent with such Fund's investment objective(s) are not immediately available. Under these circumstances, the Fund may have such monies invested in cash or cash equivalents in order to earn income on this portion of its assets. Cash equivalents include money market mutual funds, as well as investments such as U.S. government obligations, repurchase agreements, bank obligations, commercial paper and corporate bonds with remaining maturities of thirteen months or less. The Fund may also have a portion of its assets invested in cash equivalents in order to meet anticipated redemption requests or if other suitable securities are unavailable. In addition, the Fund may reduce its holdings in equity and other securities and may invest in cash and cash equivalents for temporary defensive purposes, during periods in which the Adviser believes changes in economic, financial or political conditions make it advisable.

Bank obligations include bankers' acceptances, negotiable certificates of deposit and non-negotiable time deposits, including U.S. dollar-denominated instruments issued or supported by the credit of U.S. or foreign banks or savings institutions. Although the Fund may invest in money market obligations of foreign banks or foreign branches of U.S. banks only where the Adviser determines the instrument to present minimal credit risks, such investments may nevertheless entail risks that are different from those of investments in domestic obligations of U.S. banks due to differences in political, regulatory and economic systems and conditions. All investments in bank obligations are limited to the obligations of financial institutions having more than \$1 billion in total assets at the time of purchase, and investments by the Fund in the obligations of foreign banks and foreign branches of U.S. banks will not exceed 10% of such Fund's total assets at the time of purchase. The Fund may also make interest-bearing savings deposits in commercial and savings banks in amounts not in excess of 10% of its net assets.

Investments by the Fund in commercial paper will consist of issues rated at the time of investment as A-1 and/or P-1 by S&P®, Moody's or a similar rating by another NRSRO. In addition, the Fund may acquire unrated commercial paper and corporate bonds that are determined by the Adviser at the time of purchase to be of comparable quality to rated instruments that may be acquired by such Fund, as previously described.

### **Cyber Security Risks**

As technology becomes more integrated into the Fund's operations, and as all financial services firms continue to face increased security threats, the Fund will face greater operational risks through breaches in cyber security. A breach in cyber security refers to both intentional and unintentional events that may cause the Fund to lose proprietary information, suffer data corruption, or lose operational capacity. This in turn could cause the Fund to incur regulatory penalties, reputational damage, additional compliance costs associated with corrective measures, and/or financial loss. Cyber security threats may result from unauthorized access to the Fund's digital information systems (*e.g.*, through "hacking" or malicious software coding), but may also result from outside attacks such as denial-of-service attacks (*i.e.*, efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users). In addition, because the Fund works closely with third-party service providers (*e.g.*, administrator, transfer agent and custodian), cyber security breaches at such third-party service providers may subject the Fund to many of the same risks associated with direct cyber security breaches. The same is true for cyber security breaches at any of the issuers in which the Fund may invest. While the Fund has established risk management systems designed to reduce the risks associated with cyber security, there can be no assurance that such measures will succeed.

### **Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings**

The Board has adopted a policy and procedures relating to the disclosure of the Fund's portfolio holdings information (the "Policy"). Generally, the Policy restricts the disclosure of portfolio holdings data to certain persons or entities, under certain conditions. In all cases, the Fund's Chief Compliance Officer (or designee) is responsible for authorizing the disclosure of the Fund's portfolio holdings, and for monitoring that the Fund does not accept compensation or consideration of any sort in return for the preferential release of portfolio holdings information. Any such disclosure is made only if consistent with the general anti-fraud provisions of the federal securities laws and the Adviser's fiduciary duties to its clients, including the Fund.

The Fund's Chief Compliance Officer is responsible for monitoring the disclosure of portfolio holdings information and ensuring that any such disclosures are made in accordance with the Policy. The Board has, through the adoption of the Policy, delegated the monitoring of the disclosure of portfolio holdings information to the Adviser's compliance staff. The Fund's Chief Compliance Officer reviews the Policy for operational effectiveness and proposes revisions as needed, to the Board, in order to ensure that the disclosures are in the best interest of the shareholders and to address any conflicts between the shareholders of the Fund and those of the Adviser or any other affiliate of the Fund.

In accordance with the Policy, the Fund will disclose its portfolio holdings periodically, to the extent required by applicable federal securities laws. These disclosures include the filing of a complete schedule of the Fund's portfolio holdings with the SEC semi-annually on Form N-CSR and following the Fund's first and third fiscal quarters, on Form N-PORT. These filings are available to the public through the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet website at: <http://www.sec.gov>. The Fund also may post its portfolio holdings on its website at [www.USQFunds.com](http://www.USQFunds.com), approximately 15 days after the end of the month. The Fund's Chief Compliance Officer (or designee) will conduct periodic reviews of compliance with the procedures established by the Policy.

The Policy also provides that the Fund's portfolio holdings information may be released to selected third parties only when the Fund has a legitimate business purpose for doing so and the recipients are subject to a duty of confidentiality (including appropriate related limitations on trading), either through the nature of their relationship with the Fund or through a confidentiality agreement.

Under the Policy, the Fund also may share its portfolio holdings information with certain primary service providers that have a legitimate business need for such information, including, but not limited to, the Fund's custodian, administrator, distributor, proxy voting service providers, mailing service providers, financial printers, consultants, legal counsel and independent registered public accounting firm, as well as Morningstar, Inc., Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (formerly, Lipper, Inc.), and other ratings agencies. The Fund's service arrangements with each of these entities include a duty of confidentiality (including appropriate limitations on trading) regarding portfolio holdings data by each service provider and its employees, either by law or by contract.

## Management of the Fund

### Board of Trustees

The management and affairs of the Fund are supervised by the Board. The Board currently consists of three individuals, two of whom are not "interested persons" of the Fund, as that term is defined in the 1940 Act (the "Independent Trustees"). The Board establishes policies for the operation of the Fund and appoints the officers who conduct the daily business of the Fund. The current Trustees and officers of the Fund and their years of birth are listed below with their addresses, present positions with the Fund, term of office with the Fund and length of time served, principal occupations over at least the last five years and other directorships/trusteeships held.

Name, Year of Birth and Address	Position with the Fund	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorship/ Trusteeship Positions held by Trustee During the Past 5 Years
<b>Independent Trustees</b>					
Gregory Fairchild (1963) 235 Whitehorse Lane Suite 200 Kennett Square, PA 19348	Trustee	Indefinite; Since 2017	Dr. Fairchild is Associate Professor at the University of Virginia, Darden GSBA.	1	None

Havilah Mann (1975) 235 Whitehorse Lane Suite 200 Kennett Square, PA 19348	Trustee	Indefinite; Since 2017	Ms. Mann is Fractional Chief Financial Officer and Business Development Advisor of HSM Resources (accounting infrastructure and internal control consulting services).	1	None
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Name, Year of Birth and Address	Position with the Fund	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorship/ Trusteeship Positions held by Trustee During the Past 5 Years
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**Interested Trustee**

S. Timothy Grugeon** (***) (1950) 235 Whitehorse Lane Suite 200 Kennett Square, PA 19348	Trustee, President and Chief Executive Officer	Indefinite; Since 2016	Mr. Grugeon is Chief Executive Officer of the Adviser since inception. From May 2007 to December 2015, Mr. Grugeon was Chief Operating Officer of Nationwide Investment Management Group.	1	None
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Name, Year of Birth and Address	Position with the Fund	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupations During the Past Five Years
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**Officers Who Are Not Trustees**

G. Keith Downing ** (1972) 235 Whitehorse Lane Suite 200 Kennett Square, PA 19348	Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer	Indefinite; Since 2017	Mr. Downing is Chief Operating Officer of the Adviser since its inception. From August 2011 to December 2016, Mr. Downing was Director of Fund Administration of Nationwide Investment Management Group.
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Thomas E. Miller, CFA ** (1983) 235 Whitehorse Lane Suite 200 Kennett Square, PA 19348	Vice President and Chief Investment Officer	Indefinite; Since 2017	Mr. Miller is Chief Investment Officer of the Adviser since inception. From April 2016 to April 2017, Mr. Miller was Associate Vice President, Head of Manager Strategies of Nationwide Investment Management Group. From February 2013 to April 2016, Mr. Miller was Associate Vice President, Product Management and Research of Nationwide Investment Management Group.
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Mary K. Ziegler ** (1972) 235 Whitehorse Lane Suite 200 Kennett Square, PA 19348	Chief Compliance Officer and AML Compliance Officer	Indefinite; Since 2018	Ms. Ziegler is Chief Legal and Compliance Officer of the Adviser since February 2018. She also serves as General Counsel of Chatham Financial Corp., an affiliate of the Adviser, since May 2020. From November to May 2020, Ms. Ziegler served as the Global Head of Compliance for Chatham Financial Corp., and from July 2019 to November she also served as Interim Chief Compliance Officer. From June 2012 to February 2018, Ms. Ziegler was Chief Compliance Officer of TFS Capital LLC (investment adviser).
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\* S. Timothy Grugeon is a Trustee who is an “interested person” of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act because he is an officer of the Adviser.

\*\* Each Officer of the Fund serves at the pleasure of the Board.

## **Leadership Structure, Qualifications and Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees**

The Trustees have the authority to take all actions necessary in connection with their oversight of the business affairs of the Fund, including, among other things, approving the investment objective, policies and procedures for the Fund. The Fund enters into agreements with various entities to manage the day-to-day operations of the Fund, including the Adviser, administrator, transfer agent, distributor and custodian. The Trustees are responsible for approving the agreements between these service providers and the Fund and exercising general service provider oversight.

*Leadership Structure and the Board of Trustees.* The Board is currently composed of two Independent Trustees and one Trustee who is affiliated with the Adviser, Mr. S. Timothy Grugeon. The Board has appointed Mr. Grugeon to serve in the role of Chairperson. Mr. Grugeon is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Adviser. The Independent Trustees have designated Dr. Gregory Fairchild as the Lead Independent Trustee. The Lead Independent Trustee also acts as a liaison between meetings with the Fund’s officers, other Trustees, the Adviser, other service providers and counsel to the Independent Trustees, as needed. The Lead Independent Trustee may also perform such other functions as may be requested by the Board from time to time. The Board’s leadership structure also promotes the participation of the other Independent Trustees. The Board has determined that its leadership and committee structure is appropriate because it provides a structure for the Board to work effectively with management and service providers and facilitates the exercise of the Board’s independent judgment. The Board’s leadership structure permits important roles for the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Adviser, who serves as Chairperson of the Fund and oversees the Adviser’s day-to-day management of the Fund. In addition, the committee structure provides for: (1) effective oversight of audit and financial reporting responsibilities through the Audit Committee, (2) an effective forum for considering governance and other matters through the Nominating and Governance Committee, and (3) the ability to meet independently with independent counsel and outside the presence of management on governance and related issues. Except for any duties specified in the Fund’s Declaration of Trust or By-laws, the designation of Chairperson, Lead Independent Trustee or Chairperson of a Committee does not impose on such Trustee any duties, obligations or liability that is greater than the duties, obligations or liability imposed on such person as a member of the Board generally. The leadership structure of the Board may be changed, at any time and in the discretion of the Board, including in response to changes in circumstances or the characteristics of the Fund.

*Oversight of Risk.* The Board oversees risk as part of its general oversight of the Fund. The Fund is subject to a number of risks, including investment, compliance, financial, operational and valuation risks. The Fund’s officers, the Adviser and other Fund service providers perform risk management as part of the day-to-day operations of the Fund. The Board recognizes that it is not possible to identify all risks that may affect the Fund, and that it is not possible to develop processes or controls to eliminate all risks and their possible effects. Risk oversight is addressed as part of various Board and Committee activities, including the following: (1) at quarterly Board meetings, and on an ad hoc basis as needed, receiving and reviewing reports from Fund officers, including the Adviser’s Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”), related to Fund performance, liquidity, risk exposures, compliance and operations; (2) quarterly meetings by the Independent Trustees in executive session with the Adviser’s CCO; (3) periodic meetings with investment personnel to review investment strategies, techniques and the processes used to manage risks; (4) reviewing and approving, as applicable, the compliance policies and procedures of the Fund and the Adviser; and (5) at quarterly Board meetings, and on an ad hoc basis as needed, receiving and reviewing reports from Fund officers and the independent registered public accounting firm on financial, liquidity, valuation and operational matters. The Board may, at any time and in its discretion, change the manner in which it conducts its risk oversight role.

The Board has two standing committees, as described below:

*Audit Committee.* The Audit Committee is responsible for advising the full Board with respect to the oversight of accounting, auditing and financial matters affecting the Fund. In performing its oversight function the Audit Committee has, among other things, specific power and responsibility to: (1) oversee the Fund’s accounting and financial reporting policies and practices, internal control over the Fund’s financial reporting and, as appropriate, the internal control over financial reporting of service providers; (2) to oversee the quality and objectivity of the Fund’s financial statements and the

independent audit thereof; (3) to approve, prior to appointment by the Board, the engagement of the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm and, in connection therewith, to review and evaluate the qualifications, independence and performance of the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm; and (4) to act as a liaison between the Fund's independent auditors and the Board. The Audit Committee meets as often as necessary or appropriate to discharge its functions and will meet at least once annually. The Audit Committee is comprised of all of the Independent Trustees. Ms. Havilah Mann is the Chairperson of the Audit Committee. During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, the Audit Committee met two times.

*Nominating and Governance Committee.* The Nominating and Governance Committee is responsible for: (1) seeking and reviewing candidates for consideration as nominees to serve as Trustees, as is considered necessary from time to time; (2) making recommendations to the Board regarding the composition of the Board and its committees; (3) coordinating the process to assess Board effectiveness; and (4) developing and implementing governance policies. The Nominating and Governance Committee is comprised of all of the Independent Trustees. Dr. Gregory Fairchild is the Chairperson of the Nominating and Governance Committee. Shareholders who wish to recommend a nominee should send nominations to the Chief Operating Officer of the Fund, including biographical information and qualifications of the proposed nominee. The Nominating and Governance Committee may request additional information deemed reasonably necessary for the Committee to evaluate such nominee. The Nominating and Governance Committee meets as often as necessary or appropriate to discharge its functions, and reports its actions and recommendations to the Board on a regular basis. During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, the Nominating and Governance Committee met two times.

*Trustees' Qualifications and Experience.* The governing documents for the Fund do not set forth any specific qualifications to serve as a Trustee. The charter of the Nominating and Governance Committee also does not set forth any specific qualifications. Among the attributes and skills common to all Trustees are the ability to review, evaluate and discuss information and proposals provided to them regarding the Fund, the ability to interact effectively with the Adviser and other service providers, and the ability to exercise independent business judgment. Each Trustee's ability to perform his or her duties effectively has been attained through: (1) the individual's business and professional experience and accomplishments; (2) the individual's experience working with the other Trustees and management; (3) the individual's prior experience serving in senior executive positions and/or on the boards of other companies and organizations; and (4) the individual's educational background, professional training, and/or other experiences. Generally, no one factor was decisive in determining that an individual should serve as a Trustee. Set forth below is a brief description of the specific experience of each Trustee. As noted above, a majority of the Board are Independent Trustees. Additional details regarding the background of each Trustee is included in the chart earlier in this section.

*S. Timothy Grugeon.* Mr. Grugeon has served as Trustee, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Fund since its inception. Mr. Grugeon has over forty years of experience in various aspects of the investment management industry including developing and managing investment products, marketing, distribution, trading, relationship management, and overseeing operations. Mr. Grugeon is currently Chief Executive Officer of the Adviser and has served in this role since its inception.

*Gregory Fairchild, PhD.* Dr. Fairchild has served as Trustee of the Fund since its inception. Dr. Fairchild is the Isidore Horween Research Professor of Business Administration at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business and Associate Dean for Washington, D.C. Area Initiatives and Academic Director of Public Policy and Entrepreneurship. Dr. Fairchild currently serves as an academic director for Darden's Institute for Business in Society (IBiS). He teaches strategic management, entrepreneurship and ethics in Darden's MBA and Executive Education programs. Dr. Fairchild has served as a director to various for-profit and non-profit boards including the University of Virginia Physician's Group, Virginia Community Capital, Socratic Solutions, Inc., and Resilience Education. In addition, Dr. Fairchild serves on the Virginia Retirement Service (VRS), the Commonwealth's public pension fund. Dr. Fairchild has also served as a consultant to various corporations, nonprofits and governmental agencies.

*Havilah Mann.* Ms. Mann has served as Trustee of the Fund since its inception. Ms. Mann is the founder of HSM Resources, a Fractional CFO/Business Development Adviser that provides evolving organizations with accounting infrastructure, internal control review and implementation, financial management, strategic planning and forecasting, audit design and execution, and board of director presentation and reporting. Ms. Mann has an in-depth understanding of board governance and the role of the audit committee based on her years of service as a director and advisor to various for-profit and non-profit boards including the SS Columbia Project, Wellness in the Schools, Wonder & Wisdom, and the Greenboro

Association. Ms. Mann has a B.A. in Accounting and Finance from the University of Denver and a Master of Accountancy, Accounting and Business/Management from the University of Denver, Daniels College of Business.

### Compensation

Each Independent Trustee receives an annual retainer fee of \$30,000 per calendar year. In addition, each Independent Trustee shall receive compensation of \$2,500 for each meeting attended in person and \$500 for each meeting attended telephonically. Also effective January 1, 2019, the Board adopted a policy requiring that each Independent Trustee must invest at least \$10,000 per year in the Fund until such time as the amounts contributed by an Independent Trustee equals \$40,000 (i.e., an amount equal to one year of an Independent Trustee's regular compensation from the Fund, including an annual retainer and fees for four in-person meetings).

The Compensation Table below sets forth the total compensation paid to the Trustees of the Fund for the fiscal year March 31, 2020, before reimbursement of expenses. The Interested Trustee will receive no compensation from the Fund for his services as a Trustee. The Fund reimburses the Adviser an allocated amount for the compensation and related expenses of service provided by the Fund's CCO. No other officers of the Fund received compensation from the Fund during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020. The aggregate amount of all such reimbursements are determined by the Trustees. No other compensation or retirement benefits are received by any Trustee or officer from the Fund.

NAME OF TRUSTEE/OFFICER	AGGREGATE COMPENSATION FROM THE FUND	PENSION RETIREMENT BENEFITS ACCRUED AS PART OF TRUST EXPENSES	ESTIMATED ANNUAL BENEFITS UPON RETIREMENT	TOTAL COMPENSATION FROM THE FUND
<b>Trustees</b>				
S. Timothy Grugeon <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gregory Fairchild	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$40,000
Havilah Mann	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$40,000
<b>Chief Compliance Officer</b>				
Mary K. Ziegler <sup>(2)</sup>	\$78,000	\$0	\$0	\$78,000

(1) Mr. Grugeon is considered to be an interested person, as defined in Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act, of the Fund due to his position with the Adviser.

(2) Ms. Ziegler, the Fund's CCO, is an employee of the Adviser. The Fund reimburses the Adviser for a portion of Ms. Ziegler's salary allocated to her duties as the Fund's CCO.

### Board Interest in the Fund

#### Key

- A. \$1-\$10,000
- B. \$10,001-\$50,000
- C. \$50,001-\$100,000
- D. over \$100,000

Dollar Range of Equity Securities Beneficially Owned in the Fund as of December 31, 2019 <sup>(1)</sup>

	S. Timothy Grugeon, Interested Trustee	Gregory Fairchild, Independent Trustee	Havilah Mann, Independent Trustee
<b>Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Fund</b>	D	B	B
<b>Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee in Family of Investment Companies</b>	D	B	B

(1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with Rule 16a-1(a)(2) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

**Principal Holders, Control Persons and Management Ownership**

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of any class of outstanding shares of the Fund. A control person is one who beneficially owns, directly or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. A controlling shareholder's vote could have a more significant effect on matters presented to shareholders for approval than the vote of other Fund shareholders. In addition, a large repurchase of shares held by a controlling shareholder could significantly reduce the asset size of the Fund, which may adversely affect the Fund's investment flexibility and expense ratio. To the best knowledge of the Fund, as of July 3, 2020, no other persons or entity owned beneficially 5% or more (or beneficially owned more than 25%) of the outstanding shares of any class of the Fund, except as shown in the table below. As of July 3, 2020, the percentage ownership of any person or entity owning 5% or more of the outstanding shares of any class of the Fund was as follows:

*Class I Shares*

<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Type of Ownership<sup>(1)</sup></b>
CFC Investments Corp 235 White Horse Lane Kennett Square, PA 19348-2497	33.99%	Chatham Financial Corp <sup>(2)</sup>	Delaware	Beneficial
Revocable Deed of Trust of J. Michael Bontrager TR U/A 10/13/2011 455 Birch Street Kennett Square, PA 19348-3609	10.50%	N/A	N/A	Beneficial
The White Horse Group Foundation Inc * 455 Birch Street Kennett Square, PA 19348-3609	8.24%	N/A	N/A	Beneficial
The 2012 Long Term Bontrager Family Trust Dorothy K. Bontrager TR U/A 12/21/2012 455 Birch Street Kennett Square, PA 19348-3609	5.85%	N/A	N/A	Beneficial

### Class IS Shares

Name and Address	% Ownership	Parent Company	Jurisdiction	Type of Ownership <sup>(1)</sup>
CFC Investments Corp 235 White Horse Lane Kennett Square, PA 19348-2497	100.00%	Chatham Financial Corp <sup>(2)</sup>	Delaware	Beneficial

(1) "Record" ownership means the shareholder of record, or the exact name of the shareholder on the account, i.e. "ABC Brokerage, Inc." "Beneficial" ownership refers to the actual pecuniary, or financial, interest in the security, i.e. "Jane Doe Shareholder."

(2) Chatham Financial Corp. is the sole member of USQ Holding Company, LLC, which in turn is the sole member of the Adviser.

\* As a principal officer of The White House Group Foundation, Inc., J. Michael Bontrager may be able to direct the vote of the foundation.

As of July 3, 2020, the officers and trustees of the Fund, as a group, owned 1.3% of the Fund's outstanding shares.

## Investment Adviser and Portfolio Manager

### Investment Adviser

Union Square Capital Partners, LLC serves as the investment adviser to the Fund ("USQ" or the "Adviser"). The Fund's principal office is located at 235 Whitehorse Lane, Suite 200, Kennett Square, PA 19348, and its telephone number is (484) 731-0090. The Adviser is registered with the SEC as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (the "Advisers Act"). The Adviser is a Delaware limited liability company formed in October 2016, for the purpose of advising the Fund. The Adviser is wholly owned by its sole member, USQ Holding Company, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company. USQ Holding Company, LLC is wholly owned by its sole member, Chatham Financial Corp. ("Chatham"), a Pennsylvania corporation.

Under the general supervision of the Board, the Adviser carries out the investment and reinvestment of the net assets of the Fund and determines which securities should be purchased, sold or exchanged. In addition, the Adviser supervises and provides oversight of the Fund's service providers. The Adviser furnishes to the Fund office facilities, equipment and personnel for servicing the management of the Fund. The Adviser compensates all Adviser personnel who provide services to the Fund. In return for these services, facilities and payments, the Fund has agreed to pay the Adviser as compensation under the Investment Advisory Agreement a monthly advisory fee computed at the annual rate of 0.65% (as a percentage of daily net assets) on assets up to \$500 million; 0.50% on assets of \$500 million and more but less than \$1 billion; 0.40% on assets of \$1 billion and more but less than \$5 billion; and 0.30% on assets of \$5 billion and more. The Adviser may employ research services and service providers to assist in the Adviser's market analysis and investment selection.

The Adviser has contractually agreed to waive its advisory fees and/or assume expenses otherwise payable by the Fund to the extent necessary to ensure that Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses (excluding taxes, interest, trading costs, acquired fund fees and expenses, distribution fees, and shareholder servicing expenses) do not exceed 0.85% of average daily net assets (the "Expense Limitation Agreement"). The Expense Limitation Agreement will continue indefinitely until revised or terminated by mutual agreement by the Fund and the Adviser, with the consent of the Board. Under the Expense Limitation Agreement, the Adviser may request and receive reimbursement from the Fund for advisory fees waived or other expenses reimbursed by the Adviser pursuant to the Expense Limitation Agreement at a date not to exceed three years from the month in which the corresponding waiver or reimbursement to the Fund was made. However, no reimbursement may be made unless the total annual expense ratio of the class making such reimbursement is no higher than the amount of the expense limitation that was in place at the time the Adviser waived the fees or reimbursed the expenses and does not cause the expense ratio to exceed the current expense limitation. For the fiscal periods ended March 31, the Fund paid the following amounts in advisory fees:

	2020 <sup>(3)</sup>	2019 <sup>(2)</sup>	2018 <sup>(1)</sup>
Advisory Fees Accrued	\$246,245	\$181,531	\$85,272
Advisory Fees Waived	\$(246,245)	\$(181,531)	\$(85,272)
Total Advisory Fees Paid to Adviser	\$0	\$0	\$0

(1) The Fund commenced operations on September 27, 2017. During the fiscal period ended March 31, 2018, in addition to advisory fees waived, the Adviser also reimbursed Fund expenses of \$278,455.

(2) During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019, in addition to advisory fees waived, the Adviser also reimbursed Fund expenses of \$401,342.

(3) During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, in addition to advisory fees waived, the Adviser also reimbursed Fund expenses of \$312,049.

The Investment Advisory Agreement provides that the Adviser shall not be protected against any liability to the Fund or its shareholders by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on its part in the performance of its duties, or for the reckless disregard of its obligations or duties thereunder.

### Description of Potential Conflicts of Interest

Actual or apparent conflicts of interest may arise when a portfolio manager has day-to-day management responsibilities with respect to more than one fund or other account. As of the date of this SAI the Adviser did not manage any other investment funds, separately managed accounts or entities (“Other Accounts”). If the Adviser begins managing Other Accounts, the Adviser and the portfolio managers may have conflicts of interest in allocating their time and activity between the Fund and Other Accounts, in allocating investments among the Fund and Other Accounts and in effecting transactions between the Fund and Other Accounts, including ones in which the Adviser or the portfolio managers may have a greater financial interest. Additionally, the Adviser or its affiliates may give advice or take action with respect to such Other Accounts that differs from the advice given with respect to the Fund. However, the Adviser has policies in place requiring that it not favor one client over another and will treat all clients, including the Fund, in a fair and equitable manner under the circumstances. These policies would apply if the Adviser began managing Other Accounts.

If the Adviser begins managing Other Accounts, the Adviser will attempt to allocate investment opportunities in a manner which is in the best interests of all of the entities involved, but there can be no assurance that an investment opportunity which comes to the attention of the Adviser will not be allocated to an entity other than the Fund, with the Fund being unable to participate in such investment opportunity or participating only on a limited basis. In addition, there may be circumstances under which the Adviser will consider participation by other entities in investment opportunities in which the Adviser does not intend to invest, or intends to invest only on a limited basis, on behalf of the Fund. The Adviser’s policy is to evaluate for the Fund and the Other Accounts a variety of factors which may be relevant in determining whether a particular situation or strategy is appropriate and feasible for the Fund or a particular Other Account at a particular time, including the nature of the investment opportunity taken in the context of the other investment or regulatory limitations on the Fund or particular entity and the transaction costs involved. Because these considerations may differ for the Fund and Other Accounts in the context of any particular investment opportunity, investment activities of the Fund and Other Accounts may differ considerably from time to time.

The Adviser has adopted certain compliance procedures which are designed to prevent and address these types of conflicts. However, there is no guarantee that such procedures will detect each and every situation in which a conflict arises.

In addition, the following potential conflicts of interest have been identified as a result of the Adviser’s relationship with its affiliates:

- Chatham and its affiliates provide services to private equity real estate funds, some of which have funds that are included in the NCREIF Open-End Diversified Core Equity Fund Index (NFI-ODCE) in which the Fund invests, and to publicly traded real estate investment firms that issue securities which can be bought or sold by the Fund and potentially by other advised/managed funds and accounts.
- In the course of providing services, Chatham obtains non-public information about its clients that could be material to the management of the Fund and may not be able to, or may determine not to, share that information with the portfolio manager, even though it might be beneficial information for the Fund. This information may include actual knowledge regarding the particular investments and transactions of other funds and accounts, as

well as proprietary investment, trading and other market research, analytical and technical models, and new investment techniques, strategies and opportunities.

- Through its services, Chatham provides certain valuations of debt held by certain underlying funds in which the Fund invests or may invest, which could have a direct impact on the trading prices of those underlying funds.

The Adviser has taken the following steps to address the potential conflicts of interest noted above with respect to its relationship with Chatham:

- The Adviser and Chatham have established physical separation, as well as data segregation and separation to create a barrier to prevent the Adviser's access to material non-public information, including with respect to valuations.
- The Adviser's employees' emails are contained on a separate server from Chatham's. All Adviser emails are subject to review by the Adviser's CCO.
- No Chatham team member is permitted to serve on the Adviser's Investment Committee.
- Chatham employees who are members of Chatham's valuation team are prohibited from investing in securities of the Fund.
- The Adviser has established policies and procedures to address these potential conflicts of interest, including training employees regarding the importance of maintaining separation between the Adviser and Chatham.
- Adviser employees are instructed on escalation procedures for reporting potential conflicts of interest to the Adviser's CCO who determines if further action is necessary, including disclosure and reporting to the Fund's Independent Trustees.

Regulatory restrictions applicable to the Adviser or its affiliates may limit the Fund's investment activities in various ways. For example, regulations regarding certain industries and markets, such as those in emerging or international markets, and certain transactions, such as those involving certain futures and derivatives, may impose a cap on the aggregate amount of investments that may be made by affiliated investors, including accounts managed by the same affiliated manager, in the aggregate or in individual issuers. At certain times, the Adviser or its affiliates also may be restricted in the securities that can be bought or sold for the Fund and other advised/managed funds and accounts because of the investment banking, lending or other relationships that the Adviser or its affiliates have with the issuers of securities. In addition, the internal policies and procedures of the Adviser or its affiliates covering these types of regulatory restrictions and addressing similar issues also may at times restrict the Fund's investment activities.

The Adviser or a portfolio manager may also face other potential conflicts of interest in managing the Fund, and the description above is not a complete description of every conflict of interest that could be deemed to exist.

#### Portfolio Manager Compensation

The portfolio manager receives his compensation from the Adviser in the form of salary, bonus, retirement plan benefits, and restricted stock. The portfolio manager's bonus is variable and generally is based on (1) an evaluation of the portfolio manager's ability to remain compliant with investment management guidelines and regulatory requirements, and (2) the results of a peer and/or management review of the portfolio manager, which takes into account skills and attributes such as team participation, investment process, communication and professionalism. In evaluating investment performance, the Adviser generally considers the performance of mutual funds and other accounts managed by the portfolio manager, if any, relative to the benchmarks and peer groups.

The size of the overall bonus pool each year is determined by the Adviser and depends on, among other factors, the levels of compensation generally in the investment management industry (based on market compensation data) and the Adviser's profitability for the year, which is largely determined by assets under management. Part of the bonus is based on a qualitative assessment of an individual's contribution to the management of the fund in addition to compliance with investment guidelines and regulatory mandates.

#### **Portfolio Manager**

Thomas E. Miller, CFA is responsible for managing the Fund's portfolio. As of March 31, 2020, Mr. Miller managed no other accounts in addition to the Fund. As of March 31, 2020, Mr. Miller owned shares of the Fund with a value between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

## **Distribution of Fund Shares**

### **Distributor**

Quasar Distributors LLC (“Quasar” or the “Distributor”), 111 E Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 2200, Milwaukee, WI 53202, acts as the distributor for shares of the Fund on a best efforts basis pursuant to a Distribution Agreement (the “Distribution Agreement”) between the Fund, the Adviser and the Distributor. The Distributor is not required to sell any specific number or dollar amount of the Fund’s shares, but will use its best efforts to sell the shares. Shares of the Fund will not be listed on any national securities exchange and the Distributor will not act as a market maker in Fund shares. The Distributor is a registered broker-dealer and member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. Shares of the Fund are offered for purchase in a continuous offering at their NAV per share next determined after an order is accepted.

### **Distribution Plan**

The Fund, with respect to its Class IS shares, is authorized under a distribution plan (the “Plan”) to pay to the Distributor a Distribution Fee for certain activities relating to the distribution of shares to investors and maintenance of shareholder accounts. These activities include marketing and other activities to support the distribution of the Class IS shares. The Plan operates in a manner consistent with Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, which regulates the manner in which an open-end investment company may directly or indirectly bear the expenses of distributing its shares. Although the Fund is not an open-end investment company, it has undertaken to comply with the terms of Rule 12b-1 as a condition of an exemptive order under the 1940 Act which permits it to have asset based distribution fees. Under the Plan, the Fund pays the Distributor a Distribution Fee at an annual rate of 0.25% of average daily net assets attributable to Class IS shares. This Distribution Fee can be used to pay commissions and broker fees. Because the Distribution Fee is paid out of Class IS’s assets on an ongoing basis, the Distribution Fee will increase the cost of your investment over time and may cost you more than paying other types of sales charges.

Rule 12b-1 requires that (i) the Board receive and review, at least quarterly, reports concerning the nature and qualification of expenses which are made; (ii) the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, approve all agreements implementing the Plan; and (iii) the Plan be continued from year-to-year only if the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, concludes at least annually that continuation of the Plan is likely to benefit shareholders.

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, Class IS shares of the Fund paid \$0 in fees pursuant to the Plan.

## **Shareholder Servicing Expenses**

Class I and Class IS shares of the Fund are subject to fees pursuant to a “Shareholder Services Plan” adopted by the Board. These fees, which are in addition to Rule 12b-1 fees as described above, are paid by the Fund to broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries who provide administrative support services to beneficial shareholders on behalf of the Fund. Such services may include electronic processing of client orders, electronic fund transfers between clients and the Fund, account reconciliations with the Fund’s transfer agent, facilitation of electronic delivery to clients of Fund documentation, monitoring client accounts for back-up withholding and any other special tax reporting obligations, maintenance of books and records with respect to the foregoing, and such other information and liaison services as the Fund or the Adviser may reasonably request. Under the Shareholder Services Plan, the Fund may incur expenses on an annual basis equal up to a maximum of 0.10% of its average net assets attributable to Class I shares, and may incur expenses on an annual basis equal up to a maximum of 0.25% of its average net assets attributable to Class IS shares. However, many intermediaries do not charge the maximum permitted fee or even a portion thereof. For the current fiscal year, the shareholder servicing fee for Class I and Class IS shares is expected to be 0.10%.

Because these fees are paid out of a Fund’s assets on an ongoing basis, these fees will increase the cost of your investment in such share class over time and may cost you more than paying other types of fees.

During the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, the Class I Shares of the Fund paid \$6,236 in shareholder services fees.

## **Revenue Sharing**

The Adviser makes payments for marketing, promotional or related services provided by broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries that sell shares of the Fund or which include the Fund as an investment option for their respective



customers. These payments are often referred to as “revenue sharing payments.” The existence or level of such payments may be based on factors that include, without limitation, differing levels or types of services provided by the broker-dealer or other financial intermediary, the expected level of assets or sales of shares, the inclusion of the Fund on a recommended or preferred list and/or access to an intermediary’s personnel and other factors. Revenue sharing payments are paid from the Adviser’s own legitimate profits and other of its own resources (not from the Fund’s) and are in addition to any Rule 12b-1 payments or shareholder servicing fees that are paid to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries. Because revenue sharing payments are paid by the Adviser, and not from the Fund’s assets, the amount of any revenue sharing payments is determined by the Adviser.

The financial intermediaries that receive additional compensation (as described above and in the Prospectus), from the Adviser’s own resources, include the following (the information set forth below is considered complete as of the date of this SAI, and as supplemented; however, agreements may be entered into, terminated, or amended, from time to time, without notice or change to the SAI):

*Pershing LLC (“Pershing”)*

Pursuant to a written agreement, Pershing is paid \$17 per year for each customer account position. The Fund pays for the service components, to the extent permitted by the Fund’s Shareholder Services Plan. The Adviser pays out of its own resources for any overages.

*Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC (“Fidelity Brokerage”) and National Financial Services LLC (“National Financial”)*

Pursuant to a written agreement, Fidelity Brokerage and National Financial receive a monthly fee based on an annual rate of 0.15% of the daily market value of the number of Fund shares held in accounts at Fidelity Brokerage and National Financial. The Fund pays for the service components, to the extent permitted by the Fund’s Shareholder Services Plan. The Adviser pays out of its own resources for any overages.

*TD Ameritrade, Inc. (“TD”)*

Pursuant to a written agreement, TD receives a monthly fee based on an annual rate of 0.10% of the daily market value of the number of Fund shares held in accounts at TD and \$12 per client account position of each NSCC Level III account. The Fund pays for the service components, to the extent permitted by the Fund’s Shareholder Services Plan. The Adviser pays out of its own resources for any overages.

*Charles Schwab & Co, Inc. (“Schwab”)*

Pursuant to a written agreement, Schwab receives a monthly fee based on an annual rate of 0.15% of the daily market value of the number of Fund shares held in accounts at Schwab. The Fund pays for the service components, to the extent permitted by the Fund’s Shareholder Services Plan. The Adviser pays out of its own resources for any overages.

## **Service Providers**

The Fund entered into a number of agreements whereby certain parties provide various services to the Fund.

U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (“Fund Services”) provides accounting and administrative services and shareholder servicing to the Fund as transfer agent and dividend disbursing agent. Fund Services’ address is 615 E. Michigan Avenue, 3rd Floor, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53202. The services provided under the Transfer Agent Servicing Agreement include processing purchase and tender transactions; establishing and maintaining shareholder accounts and records; disbursing dividends declared by the Fund; day-to-day administration of matters related to the existence of the Fund under state law (other than rendering investment advice); maintenance of its records; preparation, mailing and filing of reports; and assistance in monitoring the total number of shares sold in each state for “Blue Sky” purposes.

Pursuant to the Fund Administration Servicing Agreement and the Fund Accounting Servicing Agreement, each between Fund Services and the Fund, Fund Services also performs certain administrative, accounting and tax reporting functions for the Fund, including preparing and filing federal and state tax returns, preparing and filing securities registration compliance filings with various states, compiling data for and preparing notices to the SEC, assistance in the preparation of the Fund’s registration statement under federal and state securities laws, preparing financial statements for the Annual and Semi-Annual Reports to the SEC and current investors, monitoring the Fund’s expense accruals, and calculating the

weekly NAV for the Fund from time to time, monitoring the Fund’s compliance with its investment objective and restrictions.

For the fiscal periods ended March 31, the Fund paid the following in fees under the Administration Servicing Agreement:

2020	2019	2018 <sup>(1)</sup>
\$112,212	\$106,300	\$50,300

(1) The Fund commenced operations on September 27, 2017.

U.S. Bank, N.A., is the custodian of the assets of the Fund (“Custodian”) pursuant to a custody agreement between the Custodian and the Fund (“Custody Agreement”). The Custodian is compensated for its services to the Fund by fees paid on a per transaction basis, and the Fund also pays certain of the Custodian’s related out-of-pocket expenses. The Custodian’s address is 1555 North River Center Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

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

The Fund has established an Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Program (the “AML Program”), as required by the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (“USA PATRIOT Act”). In order to ensure compliance with this law, the Fund’s Program provides for the development of internal policies, procedures and controls, designation of an Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Officer, an ongoing training program and independent testing of the AML Program. The Fund has delegated the responsibility to implement the AML Program monitoring to its transfer agent, subject to the oversight of the Fund’s AML Compliance Officer. The Fund will not transact business with any person or entity whose identity cannot be adequately verified in accordance with the AML Program.

### **Codes of Ethics**

The Fund, the Adviser and the Distributor have adopted codes of ethics that govern the personal securities transactions of their respective personnel. Pursuant to each such code of ethics, their respective personnel may invest securities for their personal accounts (including securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund), subject to certain conditions. Each code of ethics can be reviewed and copied at the SEC’s Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 202-551-8090. Each code of ethics is also available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC’s Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>, and copies of each code of ethics may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by e-mail at [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov) or by writing the SEC’s Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

### **Proxy Voting Guidelines**

Federal law requires the Fund and the Adviser to adopt procedures for voting proxies (the “Proxy Voting Guidelines”) and to provide a summary of those Proxy Voting Guidelines used to vote the securities held by the Fund. Descriptions of such Proxy Voting Guidelines are attached as Appendix A to this SAI. Information about how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent twelve-month period ended June 30 may be obtained (1) without charge, upon request, by calling (833) USQ-FUND and (2) on the SEC’s website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

### **Portfolio Transactions**

Assets of the Fund are invested by the Adviser in a manner consistent with the Fund’s investment objective, strategies, policies and restrictions, as well as with any instructions the Board may issue from time to time. Within this framework, the Adviser is responsible for making all determinations as to the purchase and sale of portfolio securities for the Fund, and for taking all steps necessary to implement securities transactions on behalf of the Fund. When placing orders, the Adviser will seek to obtain the best net results taking into account such factors as price (including applicable dealer spread), size, type and difficulty of the transaction involved, the reliability, integrity and financial condition of the firm, the firm’s general execution and operational facilities, and the firm’s risk in positioning the securities involved.

The Fund has no obligation to deal with any broker-dealer or group of brokers or dealers in the execution of transactions in portfolio securities. The Adviser may, from time to time, direct trades to certain brokers that provide favorable commission rates, subject to the Adviser’s obligation to obtain best execution. The Fund will not purchase portfolio securities from any affiliated person acting as principal except in conformity with SEC regulations.

Brokers or dealers executing a portfolio transaction on behalf of the Fund may receive a commission in excess of the amount of commission another broker or dealer would have charged for executing the transaction if the Adviser determines in good faith that such commission is reasonable in relation to the value of brokerage and research services provided to the Fund. In allocating portfolio brokerage, the Adviser may select brokers or dealers who also provide brokerage, research and other services to other accounts over which the Adviser exercises investment discretion, if any. If the Adviser begins managing accounts other than the Fund, some of the services received as the result of Fund transactions may primarily benefit accounts other than the Fund, while services received as the result of portfolio transactions effected on behalf of those other accounts may primarily benefit the Fund.

For securities traded in the over-the-counter markets, the Adviser deals directly with the dealers who make markets in these securities unless better prices and execution are available elsewhere. The Adviser negotiates commission rates with brokers based on the quality and quantity of services provided in light of generally prevailing rates, and while the Adviser generally seeks reasonably competitive commission rates, the Fund does not necessarily pay the lowest commissions available. The Board periodically reviews the commission rates and the allocation of orders.

When consistent with the objectives of best price and execution, business may be placed with broker-dealers who furnish investment research or services to the Adviser. The commissions on such brokerage transactions with investment research or services may be higher than another broker might have charged for the same transaction in recognition of the value of research or services provided. Such research or services include advice, both orally and in writing, as to: the value of securities; the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling securities; the availability of securities, or purchasers or sellers of securities; as well as analyses and reports concerning issues, industries, securities, economic factors and trends, portfolio strategy and the performance of accounts. To the extent portfolio transactions are effected with broker-dealers who furnish research and/or other services to the Adviser, the Adviser receives a benefit, not capable of evaluation in dollar amounts, without providing any direct monetary benefit to the Fund from these transactions. Such research or services provided by a broker-dealer through whom the Adviser effects securities transactions for the Fund may be used by the Adviser in servicing all of its accounts. In addition, the Adviser may not use all of the research and services provided by such broker-dealer in connection with the Fund.

The Fund may also enter into arrangements, commonly referred to as “brokerage/service arrangements” with broker-dealers pursuant to which a broker-dealer agrees to pay the cost of certain products or services provided to the Fund in exchange for fund brokerage. Under a typical brokerage/service arrangement, a broker agrees to pay a portion of the Fund’s custodian, administrative or transfer agency fees, and in exchange, the Fund agrees to direct a minimum amount of brokerage to the broker. The Adviser, on behalf of the Fund, usually negotiates the terms of the contract with the service provider, which is paid directly by the broker.

The same security may be suitable for the Fund, another fund or other private accounts managed by the Adviser. If and when the Fund and two or more accounts simultaneously purchase or sell the same security, the transactions will be allocated as to price and amount in accordance with arrangements equitable to the Fund and the accounts. The simultaneous purchase or sale of the same securities by the Fund and other accounts may have a detrimental effect on the Fund, as this may affect the price paid or received by the Fund or the size of the position obtainable or able to be sold by the Fund.

For the fiscal periods ended March 31, the Fund paid the following in brokerage commissions:

2020	2019	2018 <sup>(1)</sup>
\$ -	\$438	\$1,250

(1) The Fund commenced operations on September 27, 2017.

As of March 31, 2020, the Fund had not acquired securities of its regular brokers or dealers (as defined in Rule 10b-1 under the 1940 Act).

## Portfolio Turnover

Although the Fund generally will not invest for short-term trading purposes, portfolio securities may be sold without regard to the length of time they have been held when, in the opinion of the Adviser, investment considerations warrant such action. The portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing (1) the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the fiscal year by (2) the monthly average of the value of portfolio securities owned during the fiscal year. A 100% turnover rate would occur if all the securities in the Fund's portfolio, with the exception of securities whose maturities at the time of acquisition were one year or less, were sold and either repurchased or replaced within one year. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or more) generally leads to higher transaction costs and may result in a greater number of taxable transactions.

## Taxes

The following is a summary of certain additional tax considerations generally affecting the Fund and its shareholders that are not described in the Prospectus. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of the tax treatment of the Fund or its shareholders, and the discussion here and in the Prospectus is not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning.

This "Taxes" section is based on the Code and applicable regulations in effect as of the date of this SAI. Future legislative, regulatory or administrative changes, including provisions of current law that sunset and thereafter no longer apply, 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.

***This is for general information only and not tax advice. All investors should consult their own tax advisors as to the federal, state, local and foreign tax provisions applicable to them.***

**Taxation of the Fund.** The Fund has elected and intends to qualify each year as a regulated investment company (sometimes referred to as a "regulated investment company," "RIC" or "fund") under Subchapter M of the Code. If the Fund so qualifies, the Fund will not be subject to federal income tax on the portion of its investment company taxable income (that is, generally, taxable interest, dividends, net short-term capital gains, and other taxable ordinary income, net of expenses, without regard to the deduction for dividends paid) 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 for treatment as a regulated investment company, the Fund must satisfy the following requirements:

- **Distribution Requirement** – the Fund must distribute an amount equal to the sum of at least 90% of its investment company taxable income and 90% of its net tax-exempt income, if any, for the tax year (including, for purposes of satisfying this distribution requirement, certain distributions made by the Fund after the close of its taxable year that are treated as made during such taxable year).
- **Income Requirement** – the Fund must derive at least 90% of its gross income from dividends, interest, certain payments with respect to securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including, but not limited to, gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived from its business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies and net income derived from qualified publicly traded partnerships ("QPTPs").
- **Asset Diversification Test** – the 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 and 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 or securities of other regulated investment companies) or of 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 QPTPs.

In some circumstances, the character and timing of income realized by the Fund for purposes of the Income Requirement or the identification of the issuer for purposes of the Asset Diversification Test is uncertain under current law with respect to a particular investment, and an adverse determination or future guidance by the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) with respect to such type of investment may adversely affect the Fund’s ability to satisfy these requirements. See, “Tax Treatment of Portfolio Transactions” below with respect to the application of these requirements to certain types of investments. In other circumstances, the Fund may be required to sell portfolio holdings in order to meet the Income Requirement, Distribution Requirement, or Asset Diversification Test which may have a negative impact on the Fund’s income and performance.

The Fund may use “equalization accounting” (in lieu of making some cash distributions) in determining the portion of its income and gains that has been distributed. If the Fund uses equalization accounting, it will allocate a portion of its undistributed investment company taxable income and net capital gain to tenders of Fund shares and will correspondingly reduce the amount of such income and gains that it distributes in cash. If the IRS determines that the Fund’s allocation is improper and that the Fund has under-distributed its income and gain for any taxable year, the Fund may be liable for federal income and/or excise tax. If, as a result of such adjustment, the Fund fails to satisfy the Distribution Requirement, the Fund will not qualify that year as a regulated investment company the effect of which is described in the following paragraph.

If for any taxable year the Fund does not qualify as a regulated investment company, all of its taxable income (including its net capital gain) would be subject to tax at the corporate income tax rate without any deduction for dividends paid to shareholders, and the dividends would be taxable to the shareholders as ordinary income (or possibly as qualified dividend 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 the Fund’s income and performance. Subject to savings provisions for certain failures to satisfy the Income Requirement or Asset Diversification Test which, in general, are limited to those due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect, it is possible that the Fund will not qualify as a regulated investment company in any given tax year. Even if such savings provisions apply, the Fund may be subject to a monetary sanction of \$50,000 or more. Moreover, the Board reserves the right not to maintain the qualification of the Fund as a regulated investment company if it determines such a course of action to be beneficial to shareholders.

*Portfolio turnover.* For investors that hold their Fund shares in a taxable account, a high portfolio turnover rate may result in higher taxes. This is because a fund with a high turnover rate is likely to accelerate the recognition of capital gains and more of such gains are likely to be taxable as short-term rather than long-term capital gains in contrast to a comparable fund with a low turnover rate. Any such higher taxes would reduce the Fund’s after-tax performance. See, “Taxation of Fund Distributions - Distributions of capital gains” below. For non-U.S. investors, any such acceleration of the recognition of capital gains that results in more short-term and less long-term capital gains being recognized by the Fund may cause such investors to be subject to increased U.S. withholding taxes. See, “Non-U.S. Investors – Capital gain dividends” and “Interest-related dividends and short-term capital gain dividends” below.

*Capital loss carryovers.* The capital losses of the Fund, if any, do not flow through to shareholders. Rather, the Fund may use its capital losses, subject to applicable limitations, to offset its capital gains without being required to pay taxes on or distribute to shareholders such gains that are offset by the losses. If the Fund has a “net capital loss” (that is, capital losses in excess of capital gains), the excess (if any) of the Fund’s net short-term capital losses over its net long-term capital gains is treated as a short-term capital loss arising on the first day of the Fund’s next taxable year, and the excess (if any) of the Fund’s net long-term capital losses over its net short-term capital gains is treated as a long-term capital loss arising on the first day of the Fund’s next taxable year. Any such net capital losses of the Fund that are not used to offset capital gains may be carried forward indefinitely to reduce any future capital gains realized by the Fund in succeeding taxable years. The amount of capital losses that can be carried forward and used in any single year is subject to an annual limitation if there is a more than 50% “change in ownership” of the Fund. An ownership change generally results when shareholders owning 5% or more of the Fund increase their aggregate holdings by more than 50% over a three-year look-back period. An ownership change could result in capital loss carryovers being used at a slower rate thereby reducing the Fund’s ability to offset capital gains with those losses. An increase in the amount of taxable gains distributed to the Fund’s shareholders could result from an ownership change. The Fund undertakes no obligation to avoid or prevent an ownership change, which can occur in the normal course of shareholder purchases and repurchases or as a result of engaging in a tax-free reorganization with another fund. Moreover, because of circumstances beyond the Fund’s control, there can be no assurance that the Fund will not experience an ownership change. Additionally, if the Fund engages in a tax-free reorganization with another fund, the effect of these and other rules not discussed herein may be to disallow or postpone

the use by the Fund of its capital loss carryovers (including any current year losses and built-in losses when realized) to offset its own gains or those of the other fund, or vice versa, thereby reducing the tax benefits Fund shareholders would otherwise have enjoyed from use of such capital loss carryovers.

*Deferral of late year losses.* The Fund may elect to treat part or all of any “qualified late year loss” as if it had been incurred in the succeeding taxable year in determining the Fund’s taxable income, net capital gain, net short-term capital gain, and earnings and profits. The effect of this election is to treat any such “qualified late year loss” as if it had been incurred in the succeeding taxable year in characterizing Fund distributions for any calendar year (see, “Taxation of Fund Distributions - Distributions of capital gains” below). A “qualified late year loss” includes:

1. any net capital loss incurred after October 31 of the current taxable year, or, if there is no such loss, any net long-term capital loss or any net short-term capital loss incurred after October 31 of the current taxable year (“post-October capital losses”), and
2. the sum of (1) the excess, if any, of (a) specified losses incurred after October 31 of the current taxable year, over (b) specified gains incurred after October 31 of the current taxable year, and (2) the excess, if any, of (a) ordinary losses incurred after December 31 of the current taxable year, over (b) the ordinary income incurred after December 31 of the current taxable year.

The terms “specified losses” and “specified gains” mean ordinary losses and gains from the sale, exchange, or other disposition of property (including the termination of a position with respect to such property), foreign currency losses and gains, and losses and gains resulting from holding stock in a passive foreign investment company (“PFIC”) for which a mark-to-market election is in effect. The terms “ordinary losses” and “ordinary income” mean other ordinary losses and income that are not described in the preceding sentence.

*Undistributed capital gains.* The Fund may retain or distribute to shareholders its net capital gain for each taxable year. The Fund currently intends to distribute net capital gains. If the Fund elects to retain its net capital gain, the Fund will be taxed thereon (except to the extent of any available capital loss carryovers) at the corporate income tax rate. If the Fund elects to retain its net capital gain, it is expected that the Fund also will elect to have shareholders treated as if each received a distribution of its pro rata share of such gain, with the result that each shareholder will be required to report its pro rata share of such gain on its tax return as long-term capital gain, will receive a refundable tax credit for its pro rata share of tax paid by the Fund on the gain, and will increase the tax basis for its shares by an amount equal to the deemed distribution less the tax credit.

*Federal excise tax.* To avoid a 4% non-deductible excise tax, the Fund must distribute by December 31 of each year an amount equal to at least: (1) 98% of its ordinary income for the calendar year, (2) 98.2% of capital gain net income (that is, the excess of the gains from sales or exchanges of capital assets over the losses from such sales or exchanges) for the one-year period ended on October 31 of such calendar year, and (3) any prior year undistributed ordinary income and capital gain net income. The Fund may elect to defer to the following year any net ordinary loss incurred for the portion of the calendar year which is after the beginning of the Fund’s taxable year. Also, the Fund will defer any “specified gain” or “specified loss” which would be properly taken into account for the portion of the calendar year after October 31. Any net ordinary loss, specified gain, or specified loss deferred shall be treated as arising on January 1 of the following calendar year. Generally, the Fund intends to make sufficient distributions prior to the end of each calendar year to avoid any material liability for federal income and excise tax, but can give no assurances that all or a portion of such liability will be avoided. In addition, the Fund reserves the right to incur an excise tax liability if the cost to the Fund of paying a dividend to avoid an excise tax is anticipated to exceed the excise tax liability itself. Also, under certain circumstances, temporary timing or permanent differences in the realization of income and expense for book and tax purposes can result in the Fund having to pay an excise tax.

*Foreign income tax.* Investment income received by the Fund from sources within foreign countries may be subject to foreign income tax withheld at the source and the amount of tax withheld generally will be treated as an expense of the Fund. The United States has entered into tax treaties with many foreign countries which entitle the Fund to a reduced rate of, or exemption from, tax on such income. Some countries require the filing of a tax reclaim or other forms to receive the benefit of the reduced tax rate; whether or when the Fund will receive the tax reclaim is within the control of the individual country. Information required on these forms may not be available, such as shareholder information; therefore, the Fund may not receive the reduced treaty rates or potential reclaims. Other countries have conflicting and changing instructions and restrictive timing requirements which may cause the Fund not to receive the reduced treaty rates or potential reclaims.

Other countries may subject capital gains realized by the Fund on sale or disposition of securities of that country to taxation. It is impossible to determine the effective rate of foreign tax in advance since the amount of the Fund's assets to be invested in various countries is not known. Under certain circumstances, the Fund may elect to pass-through foreign taxes paid by the Fund to shareholders, although it reserves the right not to do so.

If the Fund makes such an election and obtains a refund of foreign taxes paid by the Fund in a prior year, the Fund may be eligible to reduce the amount of foreign taxes reported by the Fund to its shareholders, generally by the amount of the foreign taxes refunded, for the year in which the refund is received. See, "Taxation of Fund Distributions – Pass-through of foreign tax credits."

***Taxation of Fund Distributions.*** The Fund anticipates distributing substantially all of its investment company taxable income and net capital gain for each taxable year. Distributions by the Fund will be treated in the manner described below regardless of whether such distributions are paid in cash or reinvested in additional shares of the Fund. The Fund will send you information annually as to the federal income tax consequences of distributions made (or deemed made) during the year.

***Distributions of net investment income.*** The Fund receives ordinary income generally in the form of dividends and/or interest on its investments. The Fund may also recognize ordinary income from other sources, including, but not limited to, certain gains on foreign currency-related transactions. This income, less expenses incurred in the operation of the Fund, constitutes the Fund's net investment income from which dividends may be paid to you. If you are a taxable investor, distributions of net investment income generally are taxable as ordinary income to the extent of the Fund's earnings and profits. In the case of the Fund whose strategy includes investing in stocks of corporations, a portion of the income dividends paid to you may be qualified dividends eligible to be taxed at reduced rates. See the discussion below under the headings, "Qualified dividend income for individuals" and "Dividends-received deduction for corporations."

***Distributions of capital gains.*** The Fund may derive capital gain and loss in connection with sales or other dispositions of its portfolio securities. Distributions derived from the excess of net short-term capital gain over net long-term capital loss will be taxable to you as ordinary income. Distributions paid from the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss will be taxable to you as long-term capital gain, regardless of how long you have held your shares in the Fund. Any net short-term or long-term capital gain realized by the Fund (net of any capital loss carryovers) generally will be distributed once each year and may be distributed more frequently, if necessary, in order to reduce or eliminate federal excise or income taxes on the Fund.

***Returns of capital.*** Distributions by the Fund that are not paid from earnings and profits will be treated as a return of capital to the extent of (and in reduction of) the shareholder's tax basis in his shares; any excess will be treated as gain from the sale of his shares. Thus, the portion of a distribution that constitutes a return of capital will decrease the shareholder's tax basis in his Fund shares (but not below zero), and will result in an increase in the amount of gain (or decrease in the amount of loss) that will be recognized by the shareholder for tax purposes on the later sale of such Fund shares. Return of capital distributions can occur for a number of reasons including, among others, the Fund over-estimates the income to be received from certain investments such as those classified as partnerships or equity REITs (see, "Tax Treatment of Portfolio Transactions – Investments in U.S. REITs" below).

***Qualified dividend income for individuals.*** Ordinary income dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders as derived from qualified dividend income will be taxed in the hands of individuals and other noncorporate shareholders at the rates applicable to long-term capital gain. "Qualified dividend income" means dividends paid to the Fund (a) by domestic corporations, (b) by foreign corporations that are either (i) incorporated in a possession of the United States, or (ii) are eligible for benefits under certain income tax treaties with the United States that include an exchange of information program, or (c) with respect to stock of a foreign corporation that is readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States. Both the Fund and the investor must meet certain holding period requirements to qualify Fund dividends for this treatment. Specifically, the Fund must hold the stock for at least 61 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the stock becomes ex-dividend. Similarly, investors must hold their Fund shares for at least 61 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the Fund distribution goes ex-dividend. Income derived from investments in derivatives, fixed-income securities, U.S. REITs, PFICs, and income received "in lieu of" dividends in a securities lending transaction generally is not eligible for treatment as qualified dividend income. If the qualifying dividend income received by the Fund is equal to or greater than 95% of the Fund's gross income (exclusive of net capital gain) in any taxable year, all of the ordinary income dividends paid by the Fund will be qualifying dividend income.

*Dividends-received deduction for corporations.* For corporate shareholders, a portion of the dividends paid by the Fund may qualify for the 50% corporate dividends-received deduction. The portion of dividends paid by the Fund that so qualifies will be reported by the Fund to shareholders each year and cannot exceed the gross amount of dividends received by the Fund from domestic (U.S.) corporations. The availability of the dividends-received deduction is subject to certain holding period and debt financing restrictions that apply to both the Fund and the investor. Specifically, the amount that the Fund may report as eligible for the dividends-received deduction will be reduced or eliminated if the shares on which the dividends earned by the Fund were debt-financed or held by the Fund for less than a minimum period of time, generally 46 days during a 91-day period beginning 45 days before the stock becomes ex-dividend. Similarly, if your Fund shares are debt-financed or held by you for less than a 46-day period then the dividends-received deduction for Fund dividends on your shares may also be reduced or eliminated. Income derived by the Fund from investments in derivatives, fixed-income and foreign securities generally is not eligible for this treatment.

*Qualified REIT dividends.* Under the 2017 legislation commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (“TCJA”), “qualified REIT dividends” (i.e., ordinary REIT dividends other than capital gain dividends and portions of REIT dividends designated as qualified dividend income) are treated as eligible for a 20% deduction by noncorporate taxpayers. This deduction, if allowed in full, equates to a maximum effective tax rate of 29.6% (37% top rate applied to income after 20% deduction). The Fund may choose to report the special character of “qualified REIT dividends” to its shareholders, provided both the Fund and the shareholder meet certain holding period requirements. The amount of a RIC’s dividends eligible for the 20% deduction for a taxable year is limited to the excess of the RIC’s qualified REIT dividends for the taxable year over allocable expenses. A noncorporate shareholder receiving such dividends would treat them as eligible for the 20% deduction, provided the shareholder meets certain holding period requirements for its shares in the RIC (i.e., generally, RIC shares must be held by the shareholder for more than 45 days during the 91-day period beginning on the date that is 45 days before the date on which the shares become ex-dividend with respect to such dividend).

*Impact of realized but undistributed income and gains, and net unrealized appreciation of portfolio securities.* At the time of your purchase of shares, the Fund’s NAV may reflect undistributed income, undistributed capital gains, or net unrealized appreciation of portfolio securities held by the Fund. A subsequent distribution to you of such amounts, although constituting a return of your investment, would be taxable, and would be taxed as ordinary income (some portion of which may be taxed as qualified dividend income), capital gains, or some combination of both, unless you are investing through a tax-advantaged arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account. The Fund may be able to reduce the amount of such distributions from capital gains by utilizing its capital loss carryovers, if any.

*Pass-through of foreign tax credits.* If more than 50% of the Fund’s total assets at the end of a fiscal year is invested in foreign securities, the Fund may elect to pass through to you your pro rata share of foreign taxes paid by the Fund. If this election is made, the Fund may report more taxable income to you than it actually distributes. You will then be entitled either to deduct your share of these taxes in computing your taxable income, or to claim a foreign tax credit for these taxes against your U.S. federal income tax (subject to limitations for certain shareholders). The Fund will provide you with the information necessary to claim this deduction or credit on your personal income tax return if it makes this election. No deduction for foreign tax may be claimed by a noncorporate shareholder who does not itemize deductions or who is subject to the alternative minimum tax. Shareholders may be unable to claim a credit for the full amount of their proportionate shares of the foreign income tax paid by the Fund due to certain limitations that may apply. The Fund reserves the right not to pass through to its shareholders the amount of foreign income taxes paid by the Fund. Additionally, any foreign tax withheld on payments made “in lieu of” dividends or interest will not qualify for the pass-through of foreign tax credits to shareholders. See, “Tax Treatment of Portfolio Transactions – Securities lending” below.

*Tax credit bonds.* If the Fund holds, directly or indirectly, one or more “tax credit bonds” (including build America bonds, clean renewable energy bonds and qualified tax credit bonds) on one or more applicable dates during a taxable year, the Fund may elect to permit its shareholders to claim a tax credit on their income tax returns equal to each shareholder’s proportionate share of tax credits from the applicable bonds that otherwise would be allowed to the Fund. In such a case, shareholders must include in gross income (as interest) their proportionate share of the income attributable to their proportionate share of those offsetting tax credits. A shareholder’s ability to claim a tax credit associated with one or more tax credit bonds may be subject to certain limitations imposed by the Code. (Under the TCJA, the build America bonds, clean renewable energy bonds and certain other qualified bonds may no longer be issued after December 31, 2017.) Even if the Fund is eligible to pass through tax credits to shareholders, the Fund may choose not to do so.



*U.S. government securities.* Income earned on certain U.S. government obligations is exempt from state and local personal income taxes if earned directly by you. States also grant tax-free status to dividends paid to you from interest earned on direct obligations of the U.S. government, subject in some states to minimum investment or reporting requirements that must be met by the Fund. Income on investments by the Fund in certain other obligations, such as repurchase agreements collateralized by U.S. government obligations, commercial paper and federal agency-backed obligations (e.g., GNMA or FNMA obligations) generally does not qualify for tax-free treatment. The rules on exclusion of this income are different for corporations.

*Dividends declared in December and paid in January.* Ordinarily, shareholders are required to take distributions by the Fund into account in the year in which the distributions are made. However, dividends declared in October, November or December of any year and payable to shareholders of record on a specified date in such a month will be deemed to have been received by the shareholders (and made by the Fund) on December 31 of such calendar year if such dividends are actually paid in January of the following year. Shareholders will be advised annually as to the U.S. federal income tax consequences of distributions made (or deemed made) during the year in accordance with the guidance that has been provided by the IRS.

*Medicare tax.* A 3.8% Medicare tax is imposed on net investment income earned by certain individuals, estates and trusts. "Net investment income," for these purposes, means investment income, including ordinary dividends and capital gain distributions received from the Fund and net gains from redemptions or other taxable dispositions of Fund shares, reduced by the deductions properly allocable to such income. In the case of an individual, the tax will be imposed on the lesser of (1) the shareholder's net investment income or (2) the amount by which the shareholder's modified adjusted gross income exceeds \$250,000 (if the shareholder is married and filing jointly or a surviving spouse), \$125,000 (if the shareholder is married and filing separately) or \$200,000 (in any other case). This Medicare tax, if applicable, is reported by you on, and paid with, your federal income tax return.

***Repurchases of Fund Shares.*** Repurchases of Fund Shares pursuant to a repurchase offer will be treated as a sale or exchange of the Shares if the repurchase (a) results in a complete termination of the Shareholder's interest in the Fund, (b) is "substantially disproportionate" with respect to the Shareholder (generally meaning that after the repurchase the Shareholder's percentage interest in the Fund is less than 80% of his or her percentage interest prior to the repurchase), or (c) is "not essentially equivalent to a dividend." In determining whether any of these tests has been met a Shareholder generally needs to take into account Shares that he or she owns directly or is considered to own under certain constructive ownership rules in the Code. If any of these three tests is met, a repurchase of Fund Shares will result in a taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized and the Shareholder's basis in the Shares repurchased. Such gain or loss will be treated as capital gain or loss if the Shares are capital assets in the Shareholder's hands, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the Shares are held for more than one year and short-term capital gain or loss if the Shares are held for one year or less. Capital losses in any year are deductible only to the extent of capital gains plus, in the case of a noncorporate taxpayer, \$3,000 of ordinary income.

If none of the three tests described above is met with respect to a repurchase, then amounts received by a Shareholder will be taxable (1) as a dividend to the extent of such Shareholder's allocable share of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits, (2) thereafter, as a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of the Shareholder's adjusted basis, and (3) thereafter, as taxable gain. Any adjusted basis in the Shares repurchased that exceeds the amount of the non-taxable return of capital under the preceding sentence will be reassigned to the remaining Shares held by the Shareholder. Under such circumstances, it is also possible that the other Shareholders may be considered to have received a deemed distribution of all or a portion of their allocable shares of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits.

*Tax basis information.* The Fund is required to report to you and the IRS annually on Form 1099-B the cost basis of shares purchased or acquired where the cost basis of the shares is known by the Fund (referred to as "covered shares") and that are disposed of thereafter. However, cost basis reporting is not required for certain shareholders, including shareholders investing in the Fund through a tax-advantaged retirement account, such as a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account. The cost basis of your Fund shares sold or exchanged will be computed and reported by taking into account all of the applicable adjustments to cost basis and holding periods as required by the Code and Treasury regulations for purposes of reporting these amounts to you and the IRS. However, the Fund is not required to, and in many cases the Fund does not possess the information to, take all possible basis, holding period or other adjustments into account in reporting cost basis information to you. Therefore, shareholders should carefully review the cost basis information provided and make any

additional basis, holding period or other adjustments that are required when reporting these amounts on their federal income tax returns.

*Wash sales.* All or a portion of any loss that you realize on repurchase of your Fund shares will be disallowed to the extent that you buy other shares in the Fund (through reinvestment of dividends or otherwise) within 30 days before or after your share tender. Any loss disallowed under these rules will be added to your tax basis in the new shares.

*Tenders at a loss within six months of purchase.* Any loss incurred on repurchase of shares held for six months or less will be treated as long-term capital loss to the extent of any long-term capital gain distributed to you by the Fund on those shares.

*Reportable transactions.* Under Treasury regulations, if a shareholder recognizes a loss with respect to the Fund's shares of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder (or certain greater amounts over a combination of years), the shareholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders should consult their tax advisors to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

***Tax Treatment of Portfolio Transactions.*** Set forth below is a general description of the tax treatment of certain types of securities, investment techniques and transactions that may apply to the Fund and, in turn, affect the amount, character and timing of dividends and distributions payable by the Fund to its shareholders. This section should be read in conjunction with the discussion above under "Investment Policies and Associated Risks" for a detailed description of the various types of securities and investment techniques that apply to the Fund.

*In general.* In general, gain or loss recognized by the Fund on the sale or other disposition of portfolio investments will be a capital gain or loss. Such capital gain and loss may be long-term or short-term depending, in general, upon the length of time a particular investment position is maintained and, in some cases, upon the nature of the transaction. Property held for more than one year generally will be eligible for long-term capital gain or loss treatment. The application of certain rules described below may serve to alter the manner in which the holding period for a security is determined or may otherwise affect the characterization as long-term or short-term, and also the timing of the realization and/or character, of certain gains or losses.

*Certain fixed-income investments.* Gain recognized on the disposition of a debt obligation purchased by the Fund at a market discount (generally, at a price less than its principal amount) will be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the portion of the market discount which accrued during the period of time the Fund held the debt obligation unless the Fund made a current inclusion election to accrue market discount into income as it accrues. If the Fund purchases a debt obligation (such as a zero coupon security or pay-in-kind security) that was originally issued at a discount, the Fund generally is required to include in gross income each year the portion of the original issue discount which accrues during such year. Therefore, a fund's investment in such securities may cause the Fund to recognize income and make distributions to shareholders before it receives any cash payments on the securities. To generate cash to satisfy those distribution requirements, the Fund may have to sell portfolio securities that it otherwise might have continued to hold or to use cash flows from other sources such as the sale of fund shares.

*Investments in debt obligations that are at risk of or in default present tax issues for the Fund.* Tax rules are not entirely clear about issues such as whether and to what extent the Fund should recognize market discount on a debt obligation, when the Fund may cease to accrue interest, original issue discount or market discount, when and to what extent the Fund may take deductions for bad debts or worthless securities and how the Fund should allocate payments received on obligations in default between principal and income. These and other related issues will be addressed by the Fund in order to ensure that it distributes sufficient income to preserve its status as a regulated investment company.

*Options, futures, forward contracts, swap agreements and hedging transactions.* In general, option premiums received by the Fund are not immediately included in the income of the Fund. Instead, the premiums are recognized when the option contract expires, the option is exercised by the holder, or the Fund transfers or otherwise terminates the option (e.g., through a closing transaction). If an option written by the Fund is exercised and the Fund sells or delivers the underlying stock, the Fund generally will recognize capital gain or loss equal to (a) the sum of the strike price and the option premium received by the Fund minus (b) the Fund's basis in the stock. Such gain or loss generally will be short-term or long-term

depending upon the holding period of the underlying stock. If securities are purchased by the Fund pursuant to the exercise of a put option written by it, the Fund generally will subtract the premium received from its cost basis in the securities purchased. The gain or loss with respect to any termination of the Fund's obligation under an option other than through the exercise of the option and related sale or delivery of the underlying stock generally will be short-term gain or loss depending on whether the premium income received by the Fund is greater or less than the amount paid by the Fund (if any) in terminating the transaction. Thus, for example, if an option written by the Fund expires unexercised, the Fund generally will recognize short-term gain equal to the premium received.

The tax treatment of certain futures contracts entered into by the Fund as well as listed non-equity options written or purchased by the Fund on U.S. exchanges (including options on futures contracts, broad-based equity indices and debt securities) may be governed by section 1256 of the Code ("section 1256 contracts"). Gains or losses on section 1256 contracts generally are considered 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gains or losses ("60/40"), although certain foreign currency gains and losses from such contracts may be treated as ordinary in character. Also, any section 1256 contracts held by the Fund at the end of each taxable year (and, for purposes of the 4% excise tax, on certain other dates as prescribed under the Code) are "marked to market" with the result that unrealized gains or losses are treated as though they were realized and the resulting gain or loss is treated as ordinary or 60/40 gain or loss, as applicable. Section 1256 contracts do not include any interest rate swap, currency swap, basis swap, interest rate cap, interest rate floor, commodity swap, equity swap, equity index swap, credit default swap, or similar agreement.

In addition to the special rules described above in respect of options and futures transactions, the Fund's transactions in other derivative instruments (including options, forward contracts and swap agreements) as well as its other hedging, short sale, or similar transactions, may be subject to one or more special tax rules (including the constructive sale, notional principal contract, straddle, wash sale and short sale rules). These rules may affect whether gains and losses recognized by the Fund are treated as ordinary or capital or as short-term or long-term, accelerate the recognition of income or gains to the Fund, defer losses to the Fund, and cause adjustments in the holding periods of the Fund's securities. These rules, therefore, could affect the amount, timing and/or character of distributions to shareholders. Moreover, because the tax rules applicable to derivative financial instruments are in some cases uncertain under current law, an adverse determination or future guidance by the IRS with respect to these rules (which determination or guidance could be retroactive) may affect whether the Fund has made sufficient distributions, and otherwise satisfied the relevant requirements, to maintain its qualification as a regulated investment company and avoid a fund-level tax.

Certain of the Fund's investments in derivatives and foreign currency-denominated instruments, and the Fund's transactions in foreign currencies and hedging activities, may produce a difference between its book income and its taxable income. If the Fund's book income is less than the sum of its taxable income and net tax-exempt income (if any), the Fund could be required to make distributions exceeding book income to qualify as a regulated investment company. If the Fund's book income exceeds the sum of its taxable income and net tax-exempt income (if any), the distribution of any such excess will be treated as (i) a dividend to the extent of the Fund's remaining earnings and profits (including current earnings and profits arising from tax-exempt income, reduced by related deductions), (ii) thereafter, as a return of capital to the extent of the recipient's basis in the shares, and (iii) thereafter, as gain from the sale or exchange of a capital asset.

*Foreign currency transactions.* The Fund's transactions in foreign currencies, foreign currency-denominated debt obligations and certain foreign currency options, futures contracts and forward contracts (and similar instruments) may give rise to ordinary income or loss to the extent such income or loss results from fluctuations in the value of the foreign currency concerned. This treatment could increase or decrease the Fund's ordinary income distributions to you, and may cause some or all of the Fund's previously distributed income to be classified as a return of capital. In certain cases, the Fund may make an election to treat such gain or loss as capital.

*PFIC investments.* The Fund may invest in securities of foreign companies that may be classified under the Code as PFICs. In general, a foreign company is classified as a PFIC if at least one-half of its assets constitute investment-type assets or 75% or more of its gross income is investment-type income. When investing in PFIC securities, the Fund intends to mark-to-market these securities under certain provisions of the Code and recognize any unrealized gains as ordinary income at the end of the Fund's fiscal and excise tax years. Deductions for losses are allowable only to the extent of any current or previously recognized gains. These gains (reduced by allowable losses) are treated as ordinary income that the Fund is required to distribute, even though it has not sold or received dividends from these securities. You should also be aware that the designation of a foreign security as a PFIC security will cause its income dividends to fall outside of the definition of qualified foreign corporation dividends. These dividends generally will not qualify for the reduced rate of taxation on

qualified dividends when distributed to you by the Fund. Foreign companies are not required to identify themselves as PFICs. Due to various complexities in identifying PFICs, the Fund can give no assurances that it will be able to identify portfolio securities in foreign corporations that are PFICs in time for the Fund to make a mark-to-market election. If the Fund is unable to identify an investment as a PFIC and thus does not make a mark-to-market election, the Fund may be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a portion of any “excess distribution” or gain from the disposition of such shares even if such income is distributed as a taxable dividend by the Fund to its shareholders. Additional charges in the nature of interest may be imposed on the Fund in respect of deferred taxes arising from such distributions or gains.

*Investments in U.S. REITs.* A U.S. REIT is not subject to federal income tax on the income and gains it distributes to shareholders. Dividends paid by a U.S. REIT, other than capital gain distributions, will be taxable ordinary income up to the amount of the U.S. REIT’s current and accumulated earnings and profits. Capital gain dividends paid by a U.S. REIT to the Fund will be treated as long-term capital gains by the Fund and, in turn, may be distributed by the Fund to its shareholders as a capital gain distribution. Because of certain noncash expenses, such as property depreciation, an equity U.S. REIT’s cash flow may exceed its taxable income. The equity U.S. REIT, and in turn the Fund, may distribute this excess cash to shareholders in the form of a return of capital distribution. However, if a U.S. REIT is operated in a manner that fails to qualify as a REIT, an investment in the U.S. REIT would become subject to double taxation, meaning the taxable income of the U.S. REIT would be subject to federal income tax at the corporate income tax rate without any deduction for dividends paid to shareholders and the dividends would be taxable to shareholders as ordinary income (or possibly as qualified dividend income) to the extent of the U.S. REIT’s current and accumulated earnings and profits. Also, see, “Tax Treatment of Portfolio Transactions - Investment in taxable mortgage pools (excess inclusion income)” and “Non-U.S. Investors - Investment in U.S. real property” below with respect to certain other tax aspects of investing in U.S. REITs.

*Investment in non-U.S. REITs.* While non-U.S. REITs often use complex acquisition structures that seek to minimize taxation in the source country, an investment by the Fund in a non-U.S. REIT may subject the Fund, directly or indirectly, to corporate taxes, withholding taxes, transfer taxes and other indirect taxes in the country in which the real estate acquired by the non-U.S. REIT is located. The Fund’s pro rata share of any such taxes will reduce the Fund’s return on its investment. The Fund’s investment in a non-U.S. REIT may be considered an investment in a PFIC, as discussed above in PFIC investments.” Additionally, foreign withholding taxes on distributions from the non-U.S. REIT may be reduced or eliminated under certain tax treaties, as discussed above in “Taxation of the Fund— Foreign income tax.” Also, the Fund in certain limited circumstances may be required to file an income tax return in the source country and pay tax on any gain realized from its investment in the non-U.S. REIT under rules similar to those in the United States which tax foreign persons on gain realized from dispositions of interests in U.S. real estate.

*Investment in taxable mortgage pools (excess inclusion income).* Under a Notice issued by the IRS, the Code and Treasury regulations to be issued, a portion of the Fund’s income from a U.S. REIT that is attributable to the REIT’s residual interest in a real estate mortgage investment conduit (“REMIC”) or equity interests in a “taxable mortgage pool” (referred to in the Code as an excess inclusion) will be subject to federal income tax in all events. The excess inclusion income of a regulated investment company, such as the Fund, will be allocated to shareholders of the regulated investment company in proportion to the dividends received by such shareholders, with the same consequences as if the shareholders held the related REMIC residual interest or, if applicable, taxable mortgage pool directly. In general, excess inclusion income allocated to shareholders (i) cannot be offset by net operating losses (subject to a limited exception for certain thrift institutions), (ii) will constitute unrelated business taxable income (“UBTI”) to entities (including qualified pension plans, individual retirement accounts, 401(k) plans, Keogh plans or other tax-exempt entities) subject to tax on UBTI, thereby potentially requiring such an entity that is allocated excess inclusion income, and otherwise might not be required to file a tax return, to file a tax return and pay tax on such income, and (iii) in the case of a foreign stockholder, will not qualify for any reduction in U.S. federal withholding tax. In addition, if at any time during any taxable year a “disqualified organization” (which generally includes certain cooperatives, governmental entities, and tax-exempt organizations not subject to UBTI) is a record holder of a share in a regulated investment company, then the regulated investment company will be subject to a tax equal to that portion of its excess inclusion income for the taxable year that is allocable to the disqualified organization, multiplied by the corporate income tax rate. The Notice imposes certain reporting requirements upon regulated investment companies that have excess inclusion income. There can be no assurance that the Fund will not allocate to shareholders excess inclusion income.

These rules are potentially applicable to the Fund with respect to any income it receives from the equity interests of certain mortgage pooling vehicles, either directly or, as is more likely, through an investment in a U.S. REIT. It is unlikely that these rules will apply to the Fund that has a non-REIT strategy.

*Investments in partnerships and QPTPs.* For purposes of the Income Requirement, income derived by the Fund from a partnership that is not a QPTP will be treated as qualifying income only to the extent such income is attributable to items of income of the partnership that would be qualifying income if realized directly by the Fund.

While the rules are not entirely clear with respect to the Fund investing in a partnership outside a master-feeder structure, for purposes of testing whether the Fund satisfies the Asset Diversification Test, the Fund generally is treated as owning a pro rata share of the underlying assets of a partnership. See, “Taxation of the Fund.” In contrast, different rules apply to a partnership that is a QPTP. A QPTP is a partnership (a) the interests in which are traded on an established securities market, (b) that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, and (c) that derives less than 90% of its income from sources that satisfy the Income Requirement (e.g., because it invests in commodities). All of the net income derived by the Fund from an interest in a QPTP will be treated as qualifying income but the Fund may not invest more than 25% of its total assets in one or more QPTPs. However, there can be no assurance that a partnership classified as a QPTP in one year will qualify as a QPTP in the next year. Any such failure to annually qualify as a QPTP might, in turn, cause the Fund to fail to qualify as a regulated investment company. Although, in general, the passive loss rules of the Code do not apply to RICs, such rules do apply to the Fund with respect to items attributable to an interest in a QPTP. Fund investments in partnerships, including in QPTPs, may result in the Fund being subject to state, local or foreign income, franchise or withholding tax liabilities.

*Securities lending.* While securities are loaned out by the Fund, the Fund generally will receive from the borrower amounts equal to any dividends or interest paid on the borrowed securities. For federal income tax purposes, payments made “in lieu of” dividends are not considered dividend income. These distributions will neither qualify for the reduced rate of taxation for individuals on qualified dividends nor the 50% dividends-received deduction for corporations. Also, any foreign tax withheld on payments made “in lieu of” dividends or interest will not qualify for the pass-through of foreign tax credits to shareholders.

*Investments in convertible securities.* Convertible debt is ordinarily treated as a “single property” consisting of a pure debt interest until conversion, after which the investment becomes an equity interest. If the security is issued at a premium (i.e., for cash in excess of the face amount payable on retirement), the creditor-holder may amortize the premium over the life of the bond. If the security is issued for cash at a price below its face amount, the creditor-holder must accrue original issue discount in income over the life of the debt. The creditor-holder’s exercise of the conversion privilege is treated as a nontaxable event. Mandatorily convertible debt (e.g., an exchange traded note or ETN issued in the form of an unsecured obligation that pays a return based on the performance of a specified market index, exchange currency, or commodity) is often, but not always, treated as a contract to buy or sell the reference property rather than debt. Similarly, convertible preferred stock with a mandatory conversion feature is ordinarily, but not always, treated as equity rather than debt. Dividends received generally are qualified dividend income and eligible for the corporate dividends-received deduction. In general, conversion of preferred stock for common stock of the same corporation is tax-free. Conversion of preferred stock for cash is a taxable redemption. Any redemption premium for preferred stock that is redeemable by the issuing company might be required to be amortized under original issue discount principles.

*Investments in securities of uncertain tax character.* The Fund may invest in securities the U.S. federal income tax treatment of which may not be clear or may be subject to recharacterization by the IRS. To the extent the tax treatment of such securities or the income from such securities differs from the tax treatment expected by the Fund, it could affect the timing or character of income recognized by the Fund, requiring the Fund to purchase or sell securities, or otherwise change its portfolio, in order to comply with the tax rules applicable to regulated investment companies under the Code.

**Backup Withholding.** By law, the Fund may be required to withhold a portion of your taxable dividends and sales proceeds unless you:

- provide your correct social security or taxpayer identification number,
- certify that this number is correct,
- certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, and
- certify that you are a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien).

The Fund also must withhold if the IRS instructs it to do so. When withholding is required, the amount will be 24% of any distributions or proceeds paid. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld may be credited against the shareholder's U.S. federal income tax liability, provided the appropriate information is furnished to the IRS. Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding and information reporting. The special U.S. tax certification requirements applicable to non-U.S. investors to avoid backup withholding are described under the "Non-U.S. Investors" heading below.

**Non-U.S. Investors.** Non-U.S. investors (shareholders who, as to the United States, are nonresident alien individuals, foreign trusts or estates, foreign corporations, or foreign partnerships) may be subject to U.S. withholding and estate tax and are subject to special U.S. tax certification requirements. Non-U.S. investors should consult their tax advisors about the applicability of U.S. tax withholding and the use of the appropriate forms to certify their status.

*In general.* The United States imposes a flat 30% withholding tax (or a withholding tax at a lower treaty rate) on U.S. source dividends, including on income dividends paid to you by the Fund, subject to certain exemptions described below. However, notwithstanding such exemptions from U.S. withholding at the source, any dividends and distributions of income and capital gains, including the proceeds from the sale of your Fund shares, will be subject to backup withholding at a rate of 24% if you fail to properly certify that you are not a U.S. person.

*Capital gain dividends.* In general, capital gain dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders, as paid from its net long-term capital gains, other than long-term capital gains realized on disposition of U.S. real property interests (see the discussion below), are not subject to U.S. withholding tax unless you are a nonresident alien individual present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the calendar year.

*Interest-related dividends and short-term capital gain dividends.* Generally, dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders as interest-related dividends and paid from its qualified net interest income from U.S. sources are not subject to U.S. withholding tax. "Qualified interest income" includes, in general, U.S. source (1) bank deposit interest, (2) short-term original discount, (3) interest (including original issue discount, market discount, or acquisition discount) on an obligation that is in registered form, unless it is earned on an obligation issued by a corporation or partnership in which the Fund is a 10-percent shareholder or is contingent interest, and (4) any interest-related dividend from another regulated investment company. Similarly, short-term capital gain dividends reported by the Fund to shareholders as paid from its net short-term capital gains, other than short-term capital gains realized on disposition of U.S. real property interests (see the discussion below), are not subject to U.S. withholding tax unless you were a nonresident alien individual present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the calendar year.

The Fund reserves the right to not report interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends. Additionally, the Fund's reporting of interest-related dividends or short-term capital gain dividends may not be passed through to shareholders by intermediaries who have assumed tax reporting responsibilities for this income in managed or omnibus accounts due to systems limitations or operational constraints.

Net investment income from dividends on stock and foreign source interest income continue to be subject to withholding tax; foreign tax credits. Ordinary dividends paid by the Fund to non-U.S. investors on the income earned on portfolio investments in (i) the stock of domestic and foreign corporations and (ii) the debt of foreign issuers continue to be subject to U.S. withholding tax. Foreign shareholders may be subject to U.S. withholding tax at a rate of 30% on the income resulting from an election to pass-through foreign tax credits to shareholders, but may not be able to claim a credit or deduction with respect to the withholding tax for the foreign tax treated as having been paid by them.

*Income effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business.* If the income from the Fund is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business carried on by a foreign shareholder, then ordinary income dividends, capital gain dividends and any gains realized upon the sale or tender of shares of the Fund will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at the rates applicable to U.S. citizens or domestic corporations and require the filing of a nonresident U.S. income tax return.

*Investment in U.S. real property.* The Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980 ("FIRPTA") makes non-U.S. persons subject to U.S. tax on disposition of a U.S. real property interest ("USRPI") as if he or she were a U.S. person. Such gain is sometimes referred to as FIRPTA gain. The Fund may invest in equity securities of corporations that invest in USRPI, including U.S. REITs, which may trigger FIRPTA gain to the Fund's non-U.S. shareholders.

The Code provides a look-through rule for distributions of FIRPTA gain when a RIC is classified as a qualified investment entity. A RIC will be classified as a qualified investment entity if, in general, 50% or more of the RIC's assets consist of interests in U.S. REITs and other U.S. real property holding corporations ("USRPHC"). If a RIC is a qualified investment entity and the non-U.S. shareholder owns more than 5% of a class of Fund shares at any time during the one-year period ending on the date of the FIRPTA distribution, the FIRPTA distribution to the non-U.S. shareholder is treated as gain from the disposition of a USRPI, causing the distribution to be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the corporate income tax rate, and requiring the non-US shareholder to file a nonresident U.S. income tax return. In addition, even if the non-U.S. shareholder does not own more than 5% of a class of Fund shares, but the Fund is a qualified investment entity, the FIRPTA distribution will be taxable as ordinary dividends (rather than as a capital gain or short-term capital gain dividend) subject to withholding at 30% or lower treaty rate.

*FIRPTA "wash sale" rule.* If the Fund is a qualified investment entity that is domestically controlled (*i.e.*, less than 50% in value of the Fund has been owned directly or indirectly by non-U.S. shareholders during the 5-year period ending on the date of disposition) and a non-U.S. shareholder of the Fund (i) disposes of his interest in the Fund during the 30-day period preceding a FIRPTA distribution, (ii) acquires an identical stock interest during the 61-day period beginning the first day of such 30-day period preceding the FIRPTA distribution, and (iii) does not in fact receive the FIRPTA distribution in a manner that subjects the non-U.S. shareholder to tax under FIRPTA, then the non-U.S. shareholder is required to pay U.S. tax on an amount equal to the amount of the distribution that was not taxed under FIRPTA as a result of the disposition. These rules also apply to substitute dividend payments and other similar arrangements; the portion of the substitute dividend or similar payment treated as FIRPTA gain equals the portion of the RIC distribution such payment is in lieu of that otherwise would have been treated as FIRPTA gain.

*Gain on sale of Fund shares as FIRPTA gain.* In addition, a sale or redemption of Fund shares will be FIRPTA gain to a non-U.S. shareholder if the non-U.S. shareholder owns more than 5% of a class of shares in the Fund and the Fund is otherwise considered a USRPHC, *i.e.*, 50% or more of the Fund's assets consist of (1) more than 5% interests in publicly traded companies that are USRPHC, (2) interests in non-publicly traded companies that are USRPHC, and (3) interests in U.S. REITs that are not controlled by U.S. shareholders where the REIT shares are either not publicly traded or are publicly traded and the Fund owns more than 10%.

In the unlikely event that the Fund meets the requirements described above, the gain will be taxed as income "effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business." As a result, the non-U.S. shareholder will be required to pay U.S. income tax on such gain and file a nonresident U.S. income tax return.

Because the Fund expects to invest less than 50% of its assets at all times, directly or indirectly, in U.S. real property interests, the Fund expects that neither gain on the sale or tender of Fund shares nor Fund dividends and distributions would be subject to FIRPTA reporting and tax withholding.

*U.S. estate tax.* Transfers by gift of shares of the Fund by a foreign shareholder who is a nonresident alien individual will not be subject to U.S. federal gift tax. An individual who, at the time of death, is a non-U.S. shareholder will nevertheless be subject to U.S. federal estate tax with respect to Fund shares at the graduated rates applicable to U.S. citizens and residents, unless a treaty exemption applies. If a treaty exemption is available, a decedent's estate may nonetheless need to file a U.S. estate tax return to claim the exemption in order to obtain a U.S. federal transfer certificate. The transfer certificate will identify the property (*i.e.*, Fund shares) as to which the U.S. federal estate tax lien has been released. In the absence of a treaty, there is a \$13,000 statutory estate tax credit (equivalent to U.S. situs assets with a value of \$60,000). For estates with U.S. situs assets of not more than \$60,000, the Fund may accept, in lieu of a transfer certificate, an affidavit from an appropriate individual evidencing that decedent's U.S. situs assets are below this threshold amount.

*U.S. tax certification rules.* Special U.S. tax certification requirements may apply to non-U.S. shareholders both to avoid U.S. backup withholding imposed at a rate of 24% and to obtain the benefits of any treaty between the United States and the shareholder's country of residence. In general, if you are a non-U.S. shareholder, you must provide a Form W-8BEN (or other applicable Form W-8) to establish that you are not a U.S. person, to claim that you are the beneficial owner of the income and, if applicable, to claim a reduced rate of, or exemption from, withholding as a resident of a country with which the United States has an income tax treaty. A Form W-8BEN provided without a U.S. taxpayer identification number will remain in effect for a period beginning on the date signed and ending on the last day of the third succeeding calendar year

unless an earlier change of circumstances makes the information on the form incorrect. Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding.

The tax consequences to a non-U.S. shareholder entitled to claim the benefits of an applicable tax treaty may be different from those described herein. Non-U.S. shareholders are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Fund, including the applicability of foreign tax.

*Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (“FATCA”).* Under FATCA, the Fund will be required to withhold a 30% tax on income dividends made by the Fund to certain foreign entities, referred to as foreign financial institutions (“FFI”) or non-financial foreign entities (“NFFE”) After Dec. 31, 2018, FATCA withholding also would have applied to certain capital gain distributions, return of capital distributions and the proceeds arising from the sale of Fund shares; however, based on proposed regulations issued by the IRS, which can be relied upon currently, such withholding is no longer required unless final regulations provide otherwise (which is not expected). The FATCA withholding tax generally can be avoided: (a) by an FFI, if it reports certain direct and indirect ownership of foreign financial accounts held by U.S. persons with the FFI and (b) by an NFFE, if it meets certain certification requirements described below. The U.S. Treasury has negotiated intergovernmental agreements (“IGA”) with certain countries and is in various stages of negotiations with a number of other foreign countries with respect to one or more alternative approaches to implement FATCA; an entity in one of those countries may be required to comply with the terms of an IGA instead of U.S. Treasury regulations.

An FFI can avoid FATCA withholding if it is deemed compliant or by becoming a “participating FFI,” which requires the FFI to enter into a U.S. tax compliance agreement with the IRS under section 1471 (b) of the Code (“FFI agreement”) under which it agrees to verify, report and disclose certain of its U.S. account holders and meet certain other specified requirements. The FFI will either report the specified information about the U.S. accounts to the IRS, or, to the government of the FFI’s country of residence (pursuant to the terms and conditions of applicable law and an applicable IGA entered into between the U.S. and the FFI’s country of residence), which will, in turn, report the specified information to the IRS. An FFI that is resident in a country that has entered into an IGA with the U.S. to implement FATCA will be exempt from FATCA withholding provided that the FFI shareholder and the applicable foreign government comply with the terms of such agreement.

An NFFE that is the beneficial owner of a payment from the Fund can avoid the FATCA withholding tax generally by certifying that it does not have any substantial U.S. owners or by providing the name, address and taxpayer identification number of each substantial U.S. owner. The NFFE will report the information to the Fund or other applicable withholding agent, which will, in turn, report the information to the IRS.

Such foreign shareholders also may fall into certain exempt, excepted or deemed compliant categories as established by U.S. Treasury regulations, IGAs, and other guidance regarding FATCA. An FFI or NFFE that invests in the Fund will need to provide the Fund with documentation properly certifying the entity’s status under FATCA in order to avoid FATCA withholding. Non-U.S. investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the impact of these requirements on their investment in the Fund. The requirements imposed by FATCA are different from, and in addition to, the U.S. tax certification rules to avoid backup withholding described above. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the application of these requirements to their own situation.

***Effect of Future Legislation; Local Tax Considerations.*** The foregoing general discussion of U.S. federal income tax consequences is based on the Code and the regulations issued thereunder as in effect on the date of this Statement of Additional Information. Future legislative or administrative changes, including provisions of current law that sunset and thereafter no longer apply, or court decisions may significantly change the conclusions expressed herein, and any such changes or decisions may have a retroactive effect with respect to the transactions contemplated herein. Rules of state and local taxation of ordinary income, qualified dividend income and capital gain dividends may differ from the rules for U.S. federal income taxation described above. Distributions may also be subject to additional state, local and foreign taxes depending on each shareholder’s particular situation. Non-U.S. shareholders may be subject to U.S. tax rules that differ significantly from those summarized above. Shareholders are urged to consult their tax advisors as to the consequences of these and other state and local tax rules affecting investment in the Fund.



## **Performance Information**

The Fund may compare its investment performance to appropriate market and mutual fund indices and investments for which reliable performance data is available. Such indices are generally unmanaged and are prepared by entities and organizations which track the performance of investment companies or investment advisers. Unmanaged indices often do not reflect deductions for administrative and management costs and expenses. The performance of the Fund may also be compared in publications to averages, performance rankings, or other information prepared by recognized mutual fund statistical services. Any performance information, whether related to the Fund or to the Adviser, should be considered in light of the Fund's investment objective and policies, characteristics and the quality of the portfolio and market conditions during the time period indicated and should not be considered to be representative of what may be achieved in the future.

## **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Cohen & Company, Ltd., 1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 800, Cleveland, Ohio 44115, serves as the Fund's independent registered public accounting firm, whose services include an audit of the Fund's financial statements and the performance of other related audit and tax services.

## **Legal Counsel**

Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP, 2000 K Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20006, serves as the Fund's legal counsel.

## **Financial Statements**

The Financial Statements and independent registered public accounting firm's report thereon contained in the Fund's annual report dated March 31, 2020, are incorporated by reference in this Statement of Additional Information. The Fund's annual report and semi-annual report are available upon request, without charge, by calling the Fund toll-free at (833) USQ-FUND.

## Appendix A

### PROXY VOTING POLICIES

The following information is a summary of the proxy voting guidelines for the Adviser.

#### Policy

Adviser accepts responsibility for voting proxies for portfolio securities held within the accounts of its clients (“**Clients**”), unless otherwise required by law, regulation or contract. If the Adviser decides to accept proxy voting responsibility, it will establish written policies and procedures as to the handling, research, voting and reporting of proxy voting and makes appropriate disclosures about Adviser’s proxy policies and practices. The Adviser may utilize the services of a third-party voting agent.

#### Background & Description

Proxy voting is an important right of shareholders and reasonable care and diligence must be undertaken to ensure that such rights are properly and timely exercised. The purpose of these proxy voting policies and procedures are to set forth the principles, guidelines and procedures by which an adviser may vote the securities owned by its clients for which Adviser exercises voting authority and discretion (the “**Proxies**”). These policies and procedures have been designed to ensure that Proxies are voted in the best interests of clients in accordance with fiduciary duties and Rule 206(4)-6 under the Advisers Act. Investment Advisers registered with the SEC, and which exercise voting authority with respect to client securities, are required by Rule 206(4)-6 of the Advisers Act to (a) adopt and implement written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that client securities are voted in the best interests of clients, which must include how an Adviser addresses material conflicts that may arise between an Adviser's interests and those of its clients; (b) to disclose to clients how they may obtain information from the Adviser with respect to the voting of proxies for their securities; (c) to describe to clients a summary of its proxy voting policies and procedures and, upon request, furnish a copy to its clients; and (d) maintain certain records relating to the Adviser's proxy voting activities when the Adviser does have proxy voting authority. Responsibility for voting the Proxies is generally established by advisory agreements or comparable documents with clients, and proxy voting guidelines are tailored to reflect these specific contractual obligations. In addition, proxy guidelines reflect the fiduciary standards and responsibilities for accounts subject to the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“**ERISA**”) set out in Bulletin 94-2. These policies and procedures apply to any Client that has contractually delegated authority and discretion for proxy voting to the Adviser. These proxy voting policies and procedures are available to all Clients upon request, subject to the provision that these policies and procedures are subject to change at any time without notice.

#### Responsibility

The Investment Committee is responsible for ensuring that the appropriate written documentation and disclosures are in place representing that the Adviser votes proxies. The Investment Committee will be responsible for the implementation and monitoring of Adviser’s Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures, including associated practices, disclosures and recordkeeping, as well as oversight of a third-party voting agent, if applicable. The Investment Committee may delegate responsibility for the performance of these activities but oversight and ultimate responsibility remain with the Investment Committee.

#### Procedures

Adviser has adopted various procedures to implement the firm’s Proxy Voting policy and reviews to monitor and ensure that the firm’s policy is observed, implemented properly and amended or updated, as appropriate. The procedures are as follows:

## PROXY VOTING GUIDELINES

The guiding principle by which Adviser votes on all matters submitted to security holders is the maximization of the ultimate economic value of our Clients' holdings. Adviser does not permit voting decisions to be influenced in any manner that is contrary to, or dilutive of, the guiding principle set forth above. It is our policy to avoid situations where there is any conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest affecting our voting decisions. Any conflicts of interest, regardless of whether actual or perceived, will be addressed in accordance with these policies and procedures.

It is the general policy of Adviser to vote on all matters presented to security holders in any Proxy, and these policies and procedures have been designed with that in mind. However, Adviser reserves the right to abstain on any particular vote or otherwise withhold its vote on any matter if in the judgment of Adviser, the costs associated with voting such Proxy outweigh the benefits to Clients or if the circumstances make such an abstention or withholding otherwise advisable and in the best interest of our Clients, in the judgment of Adviser. While the guidelines included in the procedures are intended to provide a benchmark for voting standards, each vote is ultimately cast on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration Adviser's contractual obligations to our Clients and all other relevant facts and circumstances at the time of the vote (such that these guidelines may be overridden to the extent Adviser believes appropriate). Adviser may vote proxies related to the same security differently for each Client.

In the event that Adviser acts as investment adviser to a closed-end and/or open-end registered investment company and is responsible for voting their proxies, such proxies will be voted in accordance with any applicable investment restrictions of the fund and, to the extent applicable, any proxy voting procedures or resolutions or other instructions approved by an authorized person of the Fund Client.

Absent any legal or regulatory requirement to the contrary, it is generally the policy of Adviser to maintain the confidentiality of the particular votes that it casts on behalf of its Clients. Any registered investment companies managed by Adviser disclose the votes cast on their behalf in accordance with all legal and regulatory requirements. Any Client of Adviser can obtain details of how Adviser has voted the securities in its account by contacting a service representative at Adviser. Adviser does not, however, generally disclose the results of voting decisions to third parties.

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN CONNECTION WITH PROXY VOTING

The Investment Committee has responsibility to monitor proxy voting decisions for any conflicts of interest, regardless of whether they are actual or perceived. In addition, all Supervised Persons are expected to perform their tasks relating to the voting of Proxies in accordance with the principles set forth above, according the first priority to the economic interests of Adviser's Clients. If at any time any Supervised Person becomes aware of any potential or actual conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest regarding the voting policies and procedures described herein or any particular vote on behalf of any Client, he or she should contact any member of the Investment Committee or the CCO. If any Supervised Person is pressured or lobbied either from within or outside of Adviser with respect to any particular voting decision, he or she should contact any member of the Investment Committee or the CCO. The full Investment Committee will use its best judgment to address any such conflict of interest and ensure that it is resolved in the best interest of the Clients. The Investment Committee may cause any of the following actions to be taken in that regard:

- vote the relevant Proxy in accordance with the vote indicated by these guidelines;
- vote the relevant Proxy as an exception to these guidelines, provided that the reasons behind the voting decision are in the best interest of the Client, are reasonably documented and are approved by the CCO; or
- direct a third-party Proxy Voter to vote in accordance with its independent assessment of the matter.

## COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The administration of these Proxy Voting policies and procedures is governed by the Investment Committee. The Investment Committee has regular meetings, and may meet other times as deemed necessary by the Chair or any member of the Investment Committee. At each regular meeting, minutes will be taken and on an annual basis the Investment Committee will review the existing proxy voting guidelines and recommend any changes to those guidelines. In addition, the Investment Committee will review any exceptions that have occurred since the previous meeting of the Investment Committee. On all matters, the Investment Committee will make its decisions by a vote of a majority of its members. Any matter for which there is no majority agreement among members of the Investment Committee shall be referred to Operating Committee or its designee.

## PROXY VOTING PROCEDURES

The Adviser is not required to vote every Fund security, and refraining from voting should not necessarily be construed as a violation of the Adviser's fiduciary obligations. The Adviser will not ignore or neglect its security voting responsibilities, but there may be times when refraining from voting is in a Fund's best interest.

Upon receipt of a proxy solicitation by the Adviser, either directly or as provided by the Administrator, will present to the Investment Committee members the terms of the solicitation. The Investment Committee will determine whether or how the proxy should be voted, in accordance with the Adviser's Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures. The Investment Committee will document the result of the discussion in its meeting minutes and the Adviser will coordinate the voting of the proxy with the Administrator.

The above Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures are designed to ensure that Client Account proxies are properly voted, material conflicts are avoided and fiduciary obligations are fulfilled. Because Supervised Persons are discouraged from engaging in any material business other than providing investment management services to Client Accounts, it is highly unlikely that any specific Client Account proxy will result in a material conflict of interest between Adviser and any Supervised Person.

In the unlikely event that (i) a specific proxy is not addressed by any of the guidelines above, and (ii) Adviser or any of its Supervised Persons has a material conflict with Client Accounts in connection with the voting of proxies, as determined by Adviser, in its sole discretion, Adviser shall (A) prohibit any conflicted Supervised Person from participating in and/or having any influence on Adviser's evaluation of the proxy vote; (B) vote in accordance with the proxy voting recommendations of a majority of Client Accounts; or (C) follow the proxy voting recommendation of an independent third-proxy voting specialist.

### Procedure for Documentation

Adviser shall maintain: (i) its voting policies and procedures; (ii) corporate action and proxy statements received; (iii) records how and when votes were submitted; (iv) records of its Client's requests for voting information; and (v) any documents prepared by Adviser that were material to making a decision on how to vote. All votes will be documented and maintained by the Adviser.

Rule 30b1-4 under the 1940 Act requires registered investment companies to file their complete proxy voting records on "Form N-PX" for the 12-month period ended June 30 by August 31 of each year. The Fund CCO will review all reports on Form N-PX and oversee the timely filings of all such reports on Form N-PX.