# June 30, 2020 EARNEST Partners, LLC

EARNEST Partners, LLC is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment adviser. Brokerage and investment advisory services and fees differ and it is important for you to understand the differences. Free and simple tools are available to research firms and financial professionals at <a href="Investor.gov/CRS">Investor.gov/CRS</a>, which also provides educational materials about broker-dealers, investment advisers and investing.

## What investment services and advice can you provide me?

We offer investment advisory services to retail investors and accept discretionary investment authority, subject to retail investor-imposed investment guidelines and restrictions. We offer a variety of actively managed equity and fixed income investment strategies through separate accounts. We also offer equity investment strategies through wrap fee programs, but do not sponsor wrap fee programs. Within our investment strategies, we offer investment advice on a variety of securities, including equity securities, equity-linked securities, mutual fund shares, fixed income securities, depositary receipts, related rights and warrants, and currencies traded on U.S. and Non-U.S. markets and exchanges. We monitor your investments, for which we provide investment advice, on an on-going basis. The suggested minimum amount for retail investors to open a separate account is \$10,000,000 and the required minimum amount to open a wrap fee account varies by wrap fee program sponsor and generally ranges from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SERVICES, PLEASE REFER TO OUR FORM ADV, PART 2A BROCHURE (ITEM 4 (ADVISORY BUSINESS) AND ITEM 7 (TYPES OF CLIENTS)) WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT HTTPS://ADVISERINFO.SEC.GOV/FIRM/BROCHURE/107926 OR FROM US UPON REQUEST.

Ask your financial professional:

Given my financial situation, should I choose an investment advisory service? Why or why not?

How will you choose investments to recommend to me?

What is your relevant experience, including your licenses, education and other qualifications? What do these qualifications mean?

## What fees will I pay?

The principal fees and costs that you will incur for our investment advisory services are ongoing asset-based fees. With respect to separate accounts, the fees we receive are based upon the market value of the assets under management at the end of each calendar or fiscal quarter and are charged in arrears. The fee is generally due and payable within 15 days after the end of each quarterly period. With respect to wrap fee accounts, a portion of the wrap fee that the sponsor of the wrap fee program receives from the retail investor is paid to us, and that portion is based upon the market value of the assets under our management. The frequency of when wrap fees are assessed by a wrap fee program sponsor (and when we receive our portion of the wrap fee from a sponsor) varies by sponsor.

The more assets there are in a retail investor's advisory account, the more a retail investor will pay in fees, and we may therefore have an incentive to encourage the retail investor to increase the assets in his or her account.

In addition to our principal fees and costs, there are other fees and costs that you will pay directly or indirectly. Examples of the most common categories of fees and costs include brokerage commissions or other transaction costs, custodian fees, taxes, other account expenses, and fees related to investment funds. If you obtain our investment advisory services through a wrap fee program, you will pay the wrap fee program sponsor a wrap fee that will include most transaction costs and fees to a broker-dealer or bank that has custody of these assets.

You will pay fees and costs whether you make or lose money on your investments. Fees and costs will reduce any amount of money you make on your investments over time. Please make sure you understand what fees and costs you are paying.

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT OUR FEES AND COSTS PLEASE REFER TO OUR FORM ADV, PART 2A BROCHURE (ITEM 5 (FEES AND COMPENSATION)) WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT HTTPS://ADVISERINFO.SEC.GOV/FIRM/BROCHURE/107926 OR FROM US UPON REQUEST.

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## Ask your financial professional:

Help me understand how these fees and costs might affect my investments. If I give you \$10,000 to invest, how much will go to fees and costs, and how much will be invested for me?

What are your legal obligations to me when acting as my investment adviser? How else does your firm make money and what conflicts of interest do you have?

When we act as your investment adviser, we have to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours. At the same time, the way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests. You should understand and ask us about these conflicts because they can affect the investment advice we provide you. Here is an example to help you understand what this means. As part of our compliance program, we have adopted policies and procedures reasonably designed to mitigate the potential conflicts of interest, including those identified below.

- We receive research, or payments for research (called "soft dollars"), in exchange for trades we place on behalf of our clients, which we can use for our own benefit and the benefit of other clients.
- A potential investment may be suitable for more than one client, but the quantity of the investment available for purchase may be less than the aggregate amount each client would ideally devote to the opportunity, and there is an incentive to favor clients that pay higher fees.
- A portfolio manager could engage in personal trading for personal benefit in a manner that is detrimental to client accounts.

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT OUR CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, PLEASE REFER TO OUR FORM ADV, PART 2A BROCHURE WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT <a href="https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/107926">https://adviserinfo.sec.gov/firm/brochure/107926</a> OR FROM US UPON REQUEST.

#### Ask your financial professional:

How might your conflicts of interest affect me, and how will you address them?

How do your financial professionals make money?

Our financial professionals are paid a salary and a discretionary bonus. Certain financial professionals also have equity ownership in our firm.

Do you or your financial professionals have legal or disciplinary history?

No.

Please visit <u>Investor.gov/CRS</u> for a free and simple search tool to research us and our financial professionals.

#### Ask your financial professional:

As a financial professional, do you have any disciplinary history? For what type of conduct?

You can find additional information about our firm's investment advisory services on the SEC's website at www.adviserinfo.sec.gov by searching firm CRD # 107926. You can request up-to-date information and request a copy of this relationship summary by calling or writing to us at the following:

EARNEST Partners, LLC 1180 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 2300

Atlanta, GA 30309

Telephone: 404-815-8772

Email: invest@earnestpartners.com

Website: <a href="https://www.earnestpartners.com/">https://www.earnestpartners.com/</a>

## Ask your financial professional:

Who is my primary contact person? Is he or she a representative of an investment adviser or a broker-dealer? Who can I talk to if I have concerns about how this person is treating me?