



GREAT LAKES ADVISORS®

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This Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Great Lakes Advisors, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact us at 800-621-4477. The information in this Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or by any state securities authority.

Great Lakes Advisors, LLC (“GLA” and “Adviser”) is a registered investment adviser with the SEC. Registration of an Investment Adviser does not imply any level of skill or training. The oral and written communications of an Adviser provide you with information about which you determine to hire or retain an Adviser.

Additional information about the Adviser is also available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). The SEC’s web site also provides information about any persons affiliated with GLA who are registered, or are required to be registered, as investment adviser representatives of GLA.

Great Lakes may, at any time, update this Brochure and either send you a copy or offer to send you a copy, either by e-mail or in hard copy form. This Brochure may be requested by contacting the GLA’s Compliance Department at 800-621-4477. This Brochure is also available on our websites [www.greatlakesadvisors.com](http://www.greatlakesadvisors.com) or [www.wintrustwealth.com](http://www.wintrustwealth.com) free of charge.

## Item 2 – Material Changes

This page discusses material changes to the Brochure of Great Lakes Advisors LLC (“GLA”) since our last update of the Brochure and provides clients with a summary of such changes. The following material changes occurred since the December 16, 2024, Brochure update:

- Effective January 25, 2025, affiliate Wintrust Investments, LLC (“WTI”) outsourced its Broker/Dealer and Investment Advisor, offering securities and advisory services through LPL Financial (“LPL”), a registered investment advisor and broker-dealer (member FINRA/SIPC). LPL will handle all clearing functions including custody of client assets and trade execution for all GLA accounts previously held with Wintrust Investments through Wells Fargo Clearing Services (“WFCS”).
- Effective January 25, 2025, GLA will no longer sponsor the Wintrust Multi-Asset Strategy Wrap Program.

## Item 3 – Table of Contents

Item 2 – Material Changes .....	ii
Item 3 – Table of Contents.....	iii
Item 4 – Advisory Business .....	1
Item 5 – Fees and Compensation .....	8
Item 6 – Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management .....	18
Item 7 – Types of Clients.....	19
Item 8 – Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss.....	20
Item 9 – Disciplinary Information .....	39
Item 10 – Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations .....	39
Item 11 – Code of Ethics .....	41
Item 12 – Brokerage Practices .....	44
Item 13 – Review of Accounts .....	54
Item 14 – Client Referrals and Other Compensation.....	56
Item 15 – Custody .....	57
Item 16 – Investment Discretion .....	58
Item 17 – Voting Client Securities.....	58
Item 18 – Financial Information.....	61
Glossary of Terms .....	62
Brochure Supplement(s)	

## Item 4 – Advisory Business

Great Lakes Advisors, LLC (“GLA” and “Adviser”) was founded in 1981 and is 100% owned by Wintrust Financial Corp., headquartered in Rosemont, IL. GLA offers customized investment advisory and sub-advisory services on a discretionary and non-discretionary basis to a broad range of clients including high net worth individuals, sub-advised accounts, sub-advised mutual funds and collective investment trusts, institutions, pension, profit sharing and retirement plans of endowments, foundations, religious institutes, multi-employer, charitable organizations, healthcare and governmental entities. In addition, GLA serves as the Managing Member to two Private Funds.

GLA also provides non-discretionary investment advice via model delivery to various wrap account programs.

GLA offers investment management services covering a range of U.S. equity strategies including large cap, small/mid cap, and small cap. GLA also offers international equity strategies, balanced strategies and fixed income strategies (Please see “Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss” for more information.)

GLA generally has discretionary authority to determine which investments are bought and sold and the amounts of such investments that are appropriate for each client. Limitations on GLA’s authority, if any, are set forth in the fund offering documents or in a client’s investment management agreement.

At the inception of the client relationship, each of our clients executes an investment management agreement, which sets forth the investment objectives and any investment restrictions, including socially responsible investing restrictions that will be applicable to our management of the assets in the client’s account. Clients may also specify their needs concerning other customizable services, including proxy voting, client reporting, client-directed brokerage arrangements, and the use of commissions to purchase third-party research services (soft dollar commissions, including by way of commission sharing arrangements). Upon the direction of our clients, we can apply socially responsible investment screens in any of our investment strategies. As we manage an account, the client may decide from time to time to amend its investment objectives, investment restrictions and other customized services.

When we provide investment advice to you regarding your retirement plan account or individual retirement account, we are fiduciaries within the meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and/or the Internal Revenue Code, as applicable, which are laws governing retirement accounts. The way we make money creates some conflicts with your interests, so we operate under a special rule that requires us to act in your best interest and not put our interest ahead of yours.

GLA offers or participates in the following programs:

**Private Wealth Services**

- Private Wealth Direct Program (“Private Wealth Direct”)
- Wintrust Multi-Asset Strategies (“MAS”)
- Wintrust Multi-Asset Strategy ETF Program (“MAS ETF”)
- Wintrust Private Client (“WPC”)
- Financial Planning Services

**Institutional Services**

- Institutional Investment Management Program
- Public Safety Program
- Disciplined Equity, Fundamental Equity, and Balanced Strategies

**All-Inclusive Wrap Arrangements and UMAs**

- Dual Contract SMA Programs
- Disciplined Equity, Fundamental Equity and Balanced Strategies

GLA manages equity and fixed income securities, principally U.S. stocks and bonds, with a focus on: Private Wealth Clients, Institutional Clients, and Platform (all-inclusive wrap programs and Unified Management Agreement) accounts. GLA also offers unregistered commingled funds to investors who meet the qualifications for investment specified in the respective fund offering documents, and serves as Investment Adviser to Wintrust Private Trust Company, N.A. GLA serves as sub-adviser to clients of other investment advisers. GLA’s sub-advisory arrangements, Private Wealth Direct Account Program, MAS, MAS ETF Program, Institutional Investment Management Program, and the Public Safety Program are described in this brochure. GLA also participates in equity all-inclusive fee programs through various 3<sup>rd</sup> party sponsors.

***Private Wealth Services***

Clients can retain an Adviser to manage their accounts by participating in a separately managed account (“SMA”) or “wrap fee” program sponsored by a third-party investment-adviser, broker-dealer or other financial services firm (the “Sponsor”). Depending on the structure of the program, an SMA program client enters into an investment advisory agreement with GLA and/or the third-party Sponsor.

Private Wealth Clients are typically retail, mass affluent, and high net worth investors seeking professional management of their investment portfolios.

### Private Wealth Direct Program

GLA provides investment management services to clients with custodians selected by the client.

### Multi-Asset Strategies

The Multi-Asset Strategy Program is a dynamic program, delivered via five investment objectives utilizing the Adviser's proprietary risk-based asset allocation process, which may be implemented using mutual funds, ETF's, individual stocks, and individual bonds.

Under the program, (1) the Adviser assists the client in formulating the client's investment objectives, policies and constraints, and in gauging the client's risk tolerance; (2) the Adviser provides continuous investment management services with respect to the cash and securities in the client's account (the "Account") under the Program; (3) the Adviser effects transactions in securities for the client's Account through broker-dealers selected by the Adviser, including LPL Financial, an unaffiliated broker-dealer which also maintains custody of the client assets under the Program. Under the Program, the client pays an all-inclusive fee that covers investment management services, execution of transactions, and custody of Account assets.

The Program is discretionary pursuant to an Agreement between you and the Adviser. The Adviser has discretionary authority to invest and reinvest all cash and securities in your Account under the Program. Such discretion will be exercised in accordance with your investment objectives, policies and constraints, and risk parameters as set forth in the Investor Profile or similar document, as discussed below. Accordingly, the Adviser is empowered to buy, sell, or to otherwise effect transactions in securities for your Account at any time and in any amount without discussing the specific transaction with you or obtaining your prior or subsequent approval of the transaction.

This program is based on both fundamental and quantitative research and other independent research. The Adviser may develop specific investment strategies using a mix of these analytic methods. Quality and concentration requirements to provide overall discipline are established. In special circumstances, the strategies may also include margin transactions, option strategies, and trading or short sale transactions.

The Adviser, in addition to proprietary research, may use third-party research to assist in developing security selection models for the program. When seeking to anticipate trends and identify undervalued securities with sound fundamentals, the Adviser may also use a security selection and portfolio modeling process that incorporates fundamental, technical and statistical analyses of historical data. Due to any number of factors, including timing of deposits, investment selection process or investment needs, certain clients may receive different execution prices and investment results.

### MAS ETF Programs

GLA acts as investment manager in the Manager Select Advisory Program sponsored by LPL Financial.

The Multi-Asset Strategy ETF Program is a dynamic program, delivered via five investment objectives utilizing GLA's proprietary risk-based asset allocation process, which is implemented using Exchange Traded Funds.

This program is based on both fundamental and quantitative research and other independent research. GLA may develop specific investment strategies using a mix of these analytic methods.

GLA, in addition to proprietary research, may use third-party research to assist in developing security selection models for the program. When seeking to anticipate trends and identify undervalued securities with sound fundamentals, GLA may also use a security selection and portfolio modeling process that incorporates fundamental, technical and statistical analyses of historical data.

Rebalancing usually takes place once per year, or as otherwise required when the desired asset allocation has deviated more than an acceptable amount.

#### *Wintrust Private Client*

In conjunction with the Wintrust Community Banks, Wintrust Private Client advisers work with high-net-worth individuals, family offices, professional practitioners, and business owners to design tailored investment portfolios. The WPC team leverages sophisticated risk analytics and asset allocation tools to construct and manage a client's portfolio in alignment with their unique, long-term risk and return objectives. Services offered include customized credit, deposit solutions, personal investments (planning, investing, insurance), asset management and trust and estate services.

#### *Financial Planning Services*

We may offer financial planning services aimed at managing your financial resources based upon an analysis of your individual needs. Financial planning services include, but are not limited to, cash flow management, retirement planning, tax planning, risk management, education funding, estate planning, and more. Our financial planning services can range from limited to comprehensive financial planning based on an ongoing relationship.

#### ***Institutional Services***

##### *Institutional Investment Management Program*

GLA provides investment management services to institutional clients, which are typically pension, profit sharing, and retirement plans of endowments, foundations, religious institutes, multi-employer, corporations, charitable organizations, healthcare and governmental entities, investment advisers, and trusts. Institutional clients can also include high net worth families and individuals through traditional separately managed accounts (SMA's) or through platforms in which GLA participates.

### Public Safety Program

GLA provides investment management services on a discretionary basis to municipal public safety pension programs such as those for Police and Fire Departments, which may utilize individual securities and/or mutual funds. Custody of assets is typically with an unaffiliated custodian as directed by the client.

### Disciplined Equity, Fundamental Equity, and Balanced Strategies

GLA offers separate account portfolio management primarily to institutional and certain high net-worth investors. Accounts are subject to specified investment minimums. We also offer unregistered commingled funds to investors who meet the qualifications for investment specified in the respective fund offering documents.

GLA acts as a sub-adviser to certain third-party Investment Company Act-registered U.S. mutual funds (the “U.S. Equity Mutual Funds”), as well as Canadian mutual funds (“Canadian Equity Mutual Funds”) for some of the equity strategies.

GLA provides investment sub-advisory services to the Great Lakes Collective Investment Trust, which offers separate sub-trusts for many of our U.S. equity investment strategies to qualified investors, and to Transamerica Large Cap Value CIT, a series of Wilmington Trust Collective Investment Trust (collectively with Great Lakes Collective Investment Trust, “CITs”). GLA is also sub-advisor to the Transamerica Large Cap Value, Transamerica Great Lakes Advisors Large Cap Value VP, Delaware/Macquarie Optimum Large Cap Value, Dunham Large Cap Value, and Morgan Stanley Pathway – Large Cap Equity ETF funds. We have a conflict of interest when GLA clients hold these investments in GLA managed portfolios. GLA prohibits discretionary purchases in these funds in client accounts.

Institutional clients may impose client-specific investment restrictions, including socially responsible investing restrictions.

For Fundamental equity strategies, we invest primarily in common stocks that trade on national exchanges, including the NYSE and NASDAQ. We do not currently invest in derivatives. As an alternative to holding cash, we may invest in exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) when permitted by client guidelines. Preferred stocks and debt securities are not purchased but may be held if received in-kind or in a distribution or other transaction.

For balanced strategies, that the Firm invests primarily in securities whose underlying issuer rating from Moody’s is A3 or better. Investments in fixed income and balanced portfolios may include U.S. Treasury and agency securities and U.S. dollar-denominated investment grade bonds, including corporate and municipal bonds (as applicable).

Guidelines for the U.S. Equity Mutual Funds, Canadian Equity Mutual Funds, CITs, commingled funds and ETFs are specified in the prospectus or offering documents of the respective vehicle



and cannot be tailored. Prospective investors in these vehicles are required to complete an Application Form, Subscription Agreement or equivalent form.

### ***All-Inclusive Wrap Arrangements and UMAs***

GLA may enter into all-inclusive wrap arrangements with investment advisers pursuant to which GLA receives fees for providing investment management services to clients of such investment advisers. GLA may also participate as an investment manager in SMA programs sponsored by third party Sponsors, including in certain cases where GLA acts as sub-adviser to clients who authorize their investment advisers to retain GLA to act as a discretionary investment manager. The SMA programs in which GLA currently participates are identified in GLA's Form ADV Part 1.

SMA program clients also are subject to additional fees, expenses, and charges (e.g., commissions on transactions executed by a broker-dealer other than the Sponsor or the program's designated broker-dealer(s), expenses with respect to investments in pooled vehicles (such as ETFs and money market and other registered investment companies), dealer mark-ups or mark-downs on principal transactions, and certain costs or charges imposed by the Sponsor or a third-party, such as odd-lot differentials, exchange fees, and transfer taxes mandated by law). Generally, Sponsors are responsible for providing clients applicable brochures for the Sponsor's program (the "Program Brochure"). The Program Brochure for each Sponsor is also available through the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure website. SMA program clients should review the Sponsor's Program Brochure for further details about the relevant program. Such clients should consider that, depending upon the rate of the wrap fee charged, the amount of trading activity, the value of custodial and other services provided and other factors, the wrap fee could exceed the aggregate costs of the services provided if they were to be obtained separately (although, in some cases, it is possible to obtain such services only through the program) and, with respect to brokerage, any transaction-based commissions paid by the account. GLA reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any account referred to it by a Sponsor for any reason, including, but not limited to, the client's stated investment goals and restrictions.

### ***Dual Contract SMA Programs***

In some SMA programs (often referred to as "Dual Contract SMA Programs"), clients are required to execute a separate agreement directly with each investment manager (such as GLA) or the investment manager is made a party to the client/Sponsor agreement. The client's program agreement with the Sponsor generally sets forth the services provided to the client by or on behalf of the Sponsor, which can include, among other things: (i) manager selection; (ii) trade execution, often without a transaction-specific commission or charge; (iii) custodial services; (iv) periodic monitoring of investment managers; and (v) performance reporting. Clients typically are charged by the Sponsor quarterly, in advance or in arrears, a comprehensive or wrap fee based upon a percentage of the value of the assets under management to cover such services. The wrap fee often, but not always, includes the advisory fees charged by GLA (or other participating managers) through the program. Where the services provided by GLA are included in the wrap fee, the Sponsor generally collects the wrap fee from the client and remits the advisory fee to GLA (or another participating manager). In Dual Contract SMA Programs, the investment

manager's fee may be paid directly by the client pursuant to a separate agreement between the investment manager and the client.

GLA's fees for managing SMA program accounts can be less than the fees it receives for managing similar accounts outside of an SMA program. However, clients should be aware that, as discussed above, the total fees and expenses associated with an SMA program can exceed those available if the services were acquired separately.

Subject to any limitations that may be specified under a wrap sponsor's program, clients investing in retail separately managed accounts may impose reasonable restrictions, such as restricting individual securities, or groups of securities based on social restrictions. Typically, applicable account restrictions are communicated to GLA by the program sponsor at the time the account is opened and as needed when the client wishes to make changes.

Accounts with certain client-specified restrictions may have transactions executed separately and after accounts without restrictions, which may result in differences in the availability, price, and allocation of securities and may cause performance dispersion among accounts.

*Wrap Disciplined Equity, Fundamental Equity, and Balanced Strategies*  
*SMA Services*

Wrap accounts are often affected by tax considerations. Wrap accounts may have a fewer or greater number of securities positions because of account-specific restrictions or lower minimum account sizes and minimum share position sizes set by the sponsors. Wrap accounts, U.S. Equity Mutual Funds and Canadian Equity Mutual Funds, and CITs may have more varying cash levels due to frequent inflows and outflows compared to institutional accounts and commingled funds. The lower cash volatility in institutional accounts and commingled funds allows for more consistent management and less potential for having to sell securities to raise cash in inopportune times. GLA also provides model portfolios to certain wrap sponsors, who use them as a basis for trades that they execute in the accounts of their clients.

*UMA Services*

UMA services entail providing a model portfolio to the UMA sponsors. The services provided by GLA under these arrangements are generally similar to those provided to GLA's other clients; however, the fees may be different from other fee schedules.

**Total Firm Regulatory Assets Under Management**

Approximate Total Assets calculated as of December 31, 2024.

<b>Discretionary</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>14,982,735,563</b>
<b>Non-Discretionary</b>	<b>\$ 316,214,380</b>

## **Item 5 – Fees and Compensation**

The fees charged by GLA vary for its clients depending on the type and size of the account and other conditions.

We primarily manage accounts from which we receive asset-based management fees. However, we also manage accounts that have an asset-based fee component and a performance fee component. (Please see “Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management” for more information.)

The specific manner in which fees are charged by GLA is established in a client’s written agreement with GLA, the prospectus or offering documents of the U.S. Equity Mutual Funds and Canadian Equity Mutual Funds, ETFs, CITs or commingled funds, or pursuant to the terms of GLA’s agreement with a wrap sponsor or platform provider, as the case may be.

GLA will generally bill its fees on a monthly or quarterly basis. Clients may elect to be billed directly for fees or to authorize the custodian to deduct the fees from their account. Accounts initiated or terminated during a calendar quarter will be charged a prorated fee. Fees for the management of investment portfolios are assessed as a percentage of the assets in the account as valued at the close of the market at the end of each calendar quarter or at a date specified by the client in the adviser contract.

The below fee schedules are effective for new accounts opened on or after April 3, 2023.

### ***Private Wealth Services***

The standard minimum account size for a private wealth client is \$1,000,000 for Equity and Balanced accounts; and \$2,000,000 for Fixed Income accounts. For purposes of the minimum account size and the overall fee charged, related accounts may be aggregated. The nature and circumstances of specific accounts may allow for negotiations of minimums, fees, or commissions.

### **Private Wealth Direct Client Fee Schedule**

Fees are charged quarterly on a pro rata basis either in advance or in arrears and are computed based on the market value of the total assets under management at the effective date of contract and thereafter at the close of the last business day of the preceding calendar quarter or at a date specified by the client in the adviser contract.

## Maximum Allowable Fee as a Percent of Market Value

<b>Investment Strategy</b>	<b>Account Size</b>	<b>Annual Fee Rate</b>	<b>Minimum</b>
Equity and Balanced Accounts	First \$5 Million	2.00%	\$1 Million
	Above \$5 Million	Negotiable	
Fixed Income Accounts	First \$5 Million	2.00%	\$2 Million
	Above \$5 Million	Negotiable	

### ***Institutional Services***

The standard minimum account size for an institutional client is \$2,000,000 for the Strategic Large Cap Equity strategy; \$5,000,000 for Balanced, Global and International Equity, and Disciplined Equity strategies; \$10,000,000 for Fundamental Equity strategies; and \$3,000,000 for Fixed Income strategies. For purposes of the minimum account size and the overall fee charged, related accounts may be aggregated. The nature and circumstances of specific accounts may allow for negotiations of minimums, fees, or commissions.

Fees will vary depending on the size of the account and/or relationship, type of product and type of account. The timing of the fee payment and basis for such fee depends on GLA's agreement with the client. Typically, GLA bills fees on a quarterly basis, although clients may also elect to be billed monthly. Clients may elect to be billed in advance or in arrears each billing period. Fees are generally based on the asset value of the account as of the last business day of each quarter or month, as applicable. For certain accounts, the fee is based on the average assets in the account during such quarter or month. Management fees are normally prorated for capital contributions and withdrawals during the applicable billing period. Accounts initiated or terminated during a billing period are charged a prorated fee. Upon termination of any account, any prepaid, unearned fees will be promptly refunded, and any earned, unpaid fees will be due and payable. The client has the right to terminate an agreement without penalty within five business days after entering into the agreement.

Clients may choose to be billed directly or to have GLA bill the custodian bank, with a copy of the invoice sent to the client.

The standard per annum investment management fee schedules by product type are listed on the following pages. Fee schedules differing from these standard schedules may be negotiated on a client-by-client basis. The minimum account sizes are provided in the charts in the following pages, although we may accept smaller investments at our discretion.

Certain institutional separate account clients have negotiated "most favored nation" clauses in their investment advisory agreements with GLA. These clauses may require GLA to decrease the fees charged to the "most favored nation" client whenever GLA enters into an advisory

agreement at a lower fee rate with another institutional separate account client. The applicability of a “most favored nation” clause may depend on the degree of similarity between the clients, including the type of client, advisor servicing and reporting requirements, investment restrictions, the amount of assets under management and the particular investment strategy selected by each client.

Performance fees for certain accounts are also available, subject to applicable law, and are negotiable. (See “*Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management*” for more information.)

### **Institutional Client Fee Schedule**

Unless otherwise agreed, fees are charged quarterly on a pro rata basis in arrears and are computed based on the market value of the total assets under management at the effective date of contract and thereafter at the close of the last business day of the preceding quarter.

#### **Maximum Allowable Fee as a Percent of Market Value**

<b>Investment Strategy</b>	<b>Account Size</b>	<b>Annual Fee</b>	
		<b>Rate</b>	<b>Minimum</b>
Strategic Large Cap Value Equity	First \$25 Million	0.50%	\$2 Million
	Next \$25 Million	0.35%	
	Over \$50 Million	0.25%	
Balanced Accounts	First \$25 Million	0.50%	\$5 Million
	Next \$25 Million	0.35%	
	Over \$50 Million	0.25%	
International and Global Value Accounts	First \$25 Million	0.65%	\$5 Million
	Over \$25 Million	0.50%	

<b>Investment Strategy</b>	<b>Account Size</b>	<b>Annual Fee</b>	
		<b>Rate</b>	<b>Minimum</b>
Disciplined Equity All Cap and SMid Cap Accounts	First \$50 Million	0.55%	\$5 Million
	Next \$50 Million	0.45%	
	Over \$100 Million	0.35%	
Disciplined Equity Large Cap Accounts	First \$50 Million	0.42%	\$5 Million
	Next \$50 Million	0.37%	
	Over \$100 Million	0.32%	

Investment Strategy	Account Size	Annual Fee	
		Rate	Minimum
Disciplined Equity Tax Managed Series and ESG Series (All Strategies)	First \$50 Million	0.65%	\$5 Million
	Next \$50 Million	0.55%	
	Next \$100 Million	0.45%	
	Over \$200 Million	0.35%	
Fixed Income (All Strategies)	First \$10 Million	0.30%	\$3 Million
	Next \$40 Million	0.20%	
	Over \$50 Million	0.15%	

### **Public Safety Program**

Fees are charged quarterly on a pro rata basis in arrears and are computed based on the market value of the total assets under management at the effective date of contract and thereafter at the close of the last business day of the preceding calendar quarter.

### **Maximum Allowable Fee as a Percent of Market Value**

Investment Strategy	Account Size	Annual Fee
		Rate
All Strategies	First \$5 Million	0.38%
	Next \$10 Million	0.25%
	Next \$10 Million	0.20%
	Over \$25 Million	Negotiable

In some instances, GLA agrees to fees which vary from its scheduled fees. Fees are negotiable and may vary from the above general fee schedule.

Contracts between GLA and client can be terminated by either party upon 30 days prior written notice. Upon termination of any account, any prepaid, unearned fees will be promptly refunded, and any earned, unpaid fees will be due and payable.

With the exception of Fundamental Equity Strategies, GLA reserves the right to change the fee schedules upon 30 days written notice or as noted in the investment management agreement.

### ***Institutional and High Net Worth Clients in Fundamental Equity Strategies***

To calculate advisory fees, GLA generally relies on prices provided by third-party pricing services, custodians, broker-dealers, or platform sponsors for purposes of valuing portfolio securities held in client accounts. Because GLA relies on these third parties to value securities, valuations for the same security may be different between client accounts, potentially resulting in different

management fees for accounts holding the same securities and having the same management fee arrangement. Additionally, GLA may use a “fair value price” for a security when a market price is not readily available or when GLA has reason to believe the market price is unreliable.

### Maximum Allowable Fee as a Percent of Market Value

#### **Fundamental Equity - Institutional Separate Account Fee Schedule**

<b>Investment Strategy</b>	<b>Account Size</b>	<b>Annual Fee Rate</b>	<b>Minimum</b>
Great Lakes	First \$25 million	0.60%	\$10 million
Large Cap Core	Next \$25 million	0.50%	
	Balance	0.40%	
Great Lakes	First \$25 million	0.60%	\$10 million
Large Cap Value	Next \$25 million	0.50%	
	Balance	0.40%	
Great Lakes	First \$25 million	0.60%	\$10 million
Focused Large Cap	Next \$25 million	0.50%	
Value	Balance	0.40%	
Great Lakes	First \$25 million	0.85%	\$10 million
Small/Mid Cap Core	Next \$25 million	0.75%	
	Balance	0.65%	
Great Lakes	First \$25 million	0.85%	\$10 million
Small Cap Core	Next \$25 million	0.75%	
	Balance	0.65%	
Great Lakes	First \$25 million	0.85%	\$10 million
Small Cap Value	Next \$25 million	0.75%	
	Balance	0.65%	

#### ***Commingled Funds***

The fees we charge for providing investment advisory services to the funds, and the fund investment minimums, are set forth below:

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Annual Fee Rate</b>	<b>Minimum</b>
Great Lakes Small Cap Core Trust	Although fees may be negotiated individually with each member, the standard annual fee rate is 0.85% based on the assets in a member's capital account balance. Fees are calculated monthly and paid quarterly in arrears.	\$1 million
Great Lakes Large Cap Value Fund, LLC	Although fees may be negotiated individually with each member, the standard annual fee rate is 0.60% based on the assets in a member's capital account balance. Fees are calculated monthly and paid quarterly in arrears.	\$1 million

In addition to acting as investment advisor to the funds, GLA also acts as the Managing Member with respect to Great Lakes Small Cap Core Trust and Great Lakes Large Cap Value Fund, LLC, for which we do not receive an additional fee.

### ***Great Lakes Collective Investment Trust***

GLA provides investment sub-advisory services to the Great Lakes Collective Investment Trust which offers interests in sub-trusts (also referred to as "funds") to investors who qualify to invest. This CIT offers the funds specified below. The trustee of this CIT, SEI Trust Company (the "Trustee"), receives a monthly management fee, specified below, from the CIT. The Trustee pays GLA a portion of the Management Fee in consideration of the investment sub-advisory services provided by GLA.

Great Lakes Collective Investment Trust offers additional classes of interests with annual fee rates different from the rates described above to specific types of investors, such as investors who have delegated investment responsibility to a consultant or hired a particular consultant as an Outsourced Chief Investment Officer (OCIO).



<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Annual Fee Rate</b>	<b>Minimum</b>
Great Lakes Large Cap Core CIT Fund	Class 1 interests (initial assets between \$0 and \$50 million): an annual Management Fee of .50% of each Class 1 investor's investment in the fund.	Subject to the Trustee's discretion
Great Lakes Large Cap Value CIT Fund	Class 2 interests (initial assets over \$50 million): an annual Management Fee of .40% of each Class 2 investor's investment in the fund.	
	The Management Fee is accrued daily and paid monthly in arrears to the Trustee of the CIT on the basis of each investor's investment in the CIT.	
Great Lakes Small Cap Core CIT Fund	Class 1 interests (initial assets between \$0 and \$50 million): an annual Management Fee of .85% of each Class 1 investor's investment in the fund.	Subject to the Trustee's discretion
Great Lakes Small Cap Value CIT Fund	Class 2 interests (initial assets over \$50 million): an annual Management Fee of .75% of each Class 2 investor's investment in the fund.	
Great Lakes Small/Mid Cap Core CIT Fund	The Management Fee is accrued daily and paid monthly in arrears to the Trustee of the CIT on the basis of each investor's investment in the CIT.	

### ***Transamerica Large Cap Value CIT***

GLA provides investment sub-advisory services to Transamerica Large Cap Value CIT, a series of Great Gray Collective Investment Trust, and receives a sub-advisory fee for its services from Transamerica Asset Management, Inc., the investment advisor to Transamerica Large Cap Value CIT.

### ***Investment Company Clients***

#### ***U.S. and Canadian Mutual Funds and ETFs***

For U.S. and Canadian mutual funds sub-advised by GLA, the advisory fees and fund expenses are specified in the prospectus or offering documents of the respective fund. GLA fees as a sub-advisor to the funds are set by the sub-advisory agreement with respect to each fund and may also be specified in the prospectus or offering documents of such fund.

## ***All-Inclusive Wrap Arrangements and UMAs*** **Separately Managed Accounts**

As discussed in more detail under Item 4 (“Advisory Business”) of this Brochure, GLA participates as an investment manager in SMA programs sponsored by various firms (including acting as sub-adviser to clients who authorize their investment adviser to retain GLA to act as a discretionary investment manager). With respect to SMA programs for which GLA advises, the Sponsor’s Program Brochure generally contains information on minimum account size and fees payable to the Sponsor and participating investment managers, such as GLA. Accordingly, GLA’s minimum account size and fees can vary from program to program or within a single program based on, among other things, the investment strategies offered by the program. GLA’s fees for managing SMA program accounts may be less than the fees it receives for managing similar accounts outside of an SMA program. However, clients should be aware that, as discussed above, the total fees and expenses associated with an SMA program may exceed those which might be available if the services were acquired separately. Clients should contact their SMA program Sponsor for more information on the fees payable to GLA in connection with such program.

## **Fundamental Equity Wrap Program Accounts**

GLA investment advisory services are available through various “wrap fee” programs sponsored by financial services companies or offered by financial advisers whose programs are hosted by a wrap platform provider.

The sponsor typically pays GLA a portion of the wrap fee based on client assets invested in the applicable strategy or strategies that we manage in the wrap program. Fees are generally based on the average monthly balances at the end of each month and may be paid in advance or in arrears as agreed to between the sponsor and GLA. In certain cases, the applicable fee rate paid by the sponsor is based on the total assets managed by GLA in the sponsor’s wrap program rather than on a per-account basis. Certain wrap sponsors have negotiated “most favored nation” clauses in their agreements with GLA. These clauses may require GLA to decrease the fees charged to the “most favored nation” wrap sponsor whenever GLA charges a lower fee rate to another wrap platform.

GLA’s client accounts are mostly fully invested. From time to time, however, client accounts may contain high cash balances over an extended period of time. As a general matter, GLA will view such cash balances as being actively managed unless advised to the contrary by the client or by the sponsor of the wrap fee program.

GLA will not collect a fee on high cash balances that are not actively managed. When such high cash balances are held in a wrap-fee client account, GLA will seek confirmation from the wrap fee sponsor or the client’s financial advisor concerning the client’s or wrap fee sponsor’s intentions with respect to the high cash balance and determine whether GLA should charge management fees on those assets. Wrap fee program clients should contact the sponsor of the wrap fee program to obtain further details on this determination.

A wrap program client may be able to obtain some or all of the services available through a particular wrap program on an “unbundled” basis through the sponsor of that program or through other firms. Depending on the circumstances, the aggregate of any separately paid fees may be lower (or higher) than the wrap fee charged in the wrap program.

GLA provides model portfolios to certain plan sponsors, who use them as a basis for trades that they execute in the accounts of their clients. We do not maintain a standard fee schedule for such services. Actual fees are individually negotiated and vary due to particular circumstances, including differing levels of servicing.

### **Dual Contract SMA Program Accounts**

GLA acts as investment manager through various 3<sup>rd</sup> party Investment Advisory Programs.

Fees can vary and can be negotiated with GLA or the client’s financial advisor based upon factors that include, but are not limited to: (i) the amount and/or composition of the assets in the client’s account; (ii) the number of accounts and/or total amount of assets that the client or its financial advisor has with GLA and/or the program Sponsor; (iii) the range and extent of services provided to the client; and (iv) whether the client is an employee of GLA or the program Sponsor. Moreover, fees, minimum account sizes and other account requirements vary as a result of prior policies and the date the relevant account opened, or if account assets are custodied at firms other than the Sponsor. Fees and surcharges vary for clients electing non-discretionary management.

Fees generally are calculated and paid on a quarterly basis and in advance of rendering services (except as separately negotiated or as otherwise noted herein).

### **Multi-Asset Mandates**

Certain Advisers develop and manage investment mandates and products involving multiple strategies and asset classes. Advisers develop asset allocation strategies and liability driven strategies for these mandates. Multi-asset strategies generally utilize a wide variety of asset classes and/or investment styles and employ a variety of techniques and investment vehicles.

### **Cash Sweep Program**

Additionally, for accounts custodied at LPL Financial, your Account will normally participate in a “sweep program” for the automatic purchase and redemption of cash balances in connection with free credit balances and to satisfy debit balances in the custodial brokerage accounts (net of free credit balances). For Private Wealth Clients, through the Wintrust Banks Sweep Program (“WBS”), available cash balances in an LPL account are automatically deposited into one or more interest-bearing, bank deposit accounts established at our affiliated Wintrust banks (“Program Banks”) and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”). If cash balances are deposited in a bank deposit account in one or more affiliated Program Banks, the participating Bank(s) will benefit from use of the deposits.

### ***Other Fees and Expenses***

In addition to the management fee charged by GLA, most clients incur trading costs and custodial fees. Please refer to the section under the heading “Brokerage Practices” for more information.

GLA generally uses money market funds, or FDIC insured bank deposits to invest client cash reserves and/or to provide liquidity. GLA may also occasionally purchase specialized, private, exchange traded, closed-end or open-end funds for client accounts. In these cases, clients are assessed fees by the money market funds and by the mutual funds. Account assets invested in shares of mutual funds or other investment companies (“funds”), will be included in calculating the value of the Account for purposes of computing Adviser’s fees and the same assets will also be subject to additional advisory and other external fees and expenses, including 12b-1 or other marketing fees as set forth in the prospectuses of those funds. Since these assets are included in GLA’s fee computation, the client is charged both GLA’s account management fee and the mutual fund management fee on these assets which are generally a small percentage of client investments under management. GLA Accounts may occasionally hold specialized closed-end or open-end funds.

From time to time, when we believe it is in the best interests of our clients, cash may be invested in certain exchange-traded funds, or “ETFs,” consistent with account guidelines. The adviser to an ETF typically receives a fee that is paid by the ETF. These fees and other expenses of the ETF are in addition to the fee paid to GLA or to the wrap program sponsor, as the case may be. In no case will these ETFs be affiliated with GLA. GLA does not receive any portion of any fees, commissions, costs, and expenses incurred by an investment in an ETF.

GLA’s fees are exclusive of brokerage commissions, transaction fees, and other related costs and expenses which shall be incurred by the client. Clients may incur certain charges imposed by custodians, brokers, third party investment and other third parties such as fees charged by managers, custodial fees, deferred sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. Mutual funds and exchange traded funds also charge internal management fees, which are disclosed in a fund’s prospectus.

Such charges, fees and commissions are exclusive of and in addition to GLA’s fee, and GLA shall not receive any portion of these commissions, fees, and costs.

When holding cash-equivalent funds, accounts are charged fund management fees and other fund expenses which are in addition to the fee paid to GLA or, in the case of wrap accounts, to the wrap program sponsor. Such fees are disclosed in the prospectus or offering document for each such fund. In no case will these funds be affiliated with GLA. GLA does not receive any portion of any fees, commissions, costs, and expenses incurred by an investment in a cash-equivalent fund.

Furthermore, the registered and unregistered funds managed or sub-advised by GLA bear other additional fees and expenses, which may include but are not limited to, expenses of organizing the funds, administration, accounting and tax, audit, legal, and filings and regulatory compliance. Investors in these funds are requested to refer to the applicable funds' offering documents or prospectus for complete information on other fees and expenses.

## **Item 6 – Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management**

While not a standard part of our investment management agreement for **Private Wealth and Institutional Clients**, GLA receives performance-based fees from certain accounts. Such accounts include registered investment companies that have authorized a performance-based “fulcrum fee” that complies with the requirements of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”) and also includes individuals and entities who are “qualified clients” as defined in Rule 205-3 under the Advisers Act. GLA will structure any performance or incentive fee arrangement subject to the Advisers Act in accordance with the available exemptions thereunder, including the exemptions set forth in Rule 205-1 through Rule 205-3 (as applicable). These accounts will not receive preferential treatment.

The management fee for these accounts consists of two parts: 1) an asset based fee component, which is not tied to performance (the “base fee”), and 2) a performance fee component, which generally entitles GLA to additional fees when an account outperforms the relevant account benchmark (and which, in the case of a “fulcrum fee”, will cause a downward adjustment to the base fee when performance falls below the relevant benchmark.) GLA may also enter into arrangements for asset-based fees that are payable contingent on the performance of the account. In measuring clients' assets for the calculation of performance-based fees, GLA includes realized and unrealized capital gains and losses.

Performance fee arrangements and managing accounts that charge different fees on a side-by-side basis could create potential conflicts when GLA makes trade allocation and trade order decisions. Accordingly, GLA has implemented trade allocation and trade order and rotation procedures designed to treat client accounts fairly and equitably over time. We believe that we mitigate this potential conflict of interest by using batched trades, whenever possible, to execute orders for multiple accounts in a strategy, and by using trade order and rotation when orders for certain accounts cannot be combined in a single trade or traded in a coordinated fashion. These policies and procedures seek to ensure fair and equitable treatment of all clients over time. Please refer to the section under the heading “Brokerage Practices” for more information.

Investment teams and individual portfolio managers may manage multiple accounts, including separate accounts, the U.S. and Canadian Equity Mutual Funds, commingled funds, CITs and wrap accounts, using the same or a similar U.S. equity investment strategy (i.e., side-by-side management). The simultaneous management of these different investment products could create certain conflicts of interest as the fees for the management of certain types of products

are higher than others. We also manage accounts in which GLA and/or its affiliates or its personnel have an interest, including accounts established when GLA is evaluating and/or seeding a new investment strategy. GLA has an affirmative duty to treat all accounts fairly and equitably over time and has implemented policies and procedures designed to comply with that duty.

GLA may have both performance-based fee accounts and asset-based fee accounts within a particular investment strategy. Performance-based fee arrangements could create an incentive for a manager to recommend investments that are riskier or more speculative than those which would be recommended under a different fee arrangement. Such fee arrangements could also create an incentive to favor higher fee-paying accounts over other accounts in the allocation of investment opportunities. As a fiduciary, GLA must allocate investment opportunities among its clients in a fair and equitable manner. Accordingly, GLA will seek to allocate all securities and other investment opportunities among clients in accordance with GLA's trade order, aggregation and allocation policies and procedures.

Although GLA manages numerous accounts with similar or identical investment objectives or may manage accounts with different objectives that trade in the same securities, the investment decisions relating to these accounts, and the performance resulting from such decisions, may differ from account to account. For example, different client guidelines and restrictions may result in different investment decisions between accounts. In addition, we will not necessarily purchase or sell the same securities at the same time or in the same proportionate amounts for all eligible accounts if certain accounts have materially different amounts of investable cash or liquidity needs. Other factors that can result in different investment results include Directed Brokerage Arrangements, soft dollar restrictions, and the execution of trades through specified broker-dealers in connection with certain wrap programs, all of which limit GLA's brokerage discretion.

## **Item 7 – Types of Clients**

GLA provides investment advisory and sub-advisory services to a broad range of clients, including, but not limited to, corporations, pension plans and profit-sharing plans, defined contribution plans, public pension funds (e.g., state and municipal government entities), Taft-Hartley plans, endowments, foundations, private wealth, sub-advised accounts, sub-advised mutual funds and CITs, pooled investment vehicles, and retail investors in various wrap fee programs. From time to time, we also provide non-discretionary investment advice to various model delivery wrap account programs.

Private Wealth Clients are typically retail, mass affluent, and high net worth investors seeking professional management of their investment portfolios.

GLA provides portfolio management services to a number of third-party all-inclusive fee programs sponsored by unaffiliated Program Sponsors. Under this type of arrangement, a client generally signs an investment advisory agreement with the Program Sponsor. GLA signs a sub-advisory agreement with the Program Sponsor. These agreements may be terminated at the written request of the client, the Program Sponsor or GLA. Clients are typically charged a single fee (all-inclusive fee) by the Program Sponsor which covers all services and expenses. This fee is negotiated between the Program Sponsor and the client. GLA receives a portion of the all-inclusive fee for our services. In the event of a termination, the advisory fee will be pro-rated.

In addition to all-inclusive fee programs, GLA provides portfolio management services to certain Overlay or Model Programs. This includes certain Unified Managed Account [UMA] programs. These programs feature multiple outside investment managers in an advisory arrangement where different managers manage different portions of a single client's account. An "overlay" manager coordinates all the different managers' activities, monitors compliance with client guidelines and restrictions, and monitors trade execution. GLA provides the overlay manager with an investment model for a certain strategy, as well as regular updates to that model. The overlay manager may customize the model to the client's specifications and orders trades which are executed by the overlay manager's affiliated broker-dealer. Under such agreements, clients are generally charged a single fee by the Program Sponsor, covering all services and expenses, which are negotiated between client and the Program Sponsor. As with all inclusive fee programs the client enters into an investment advisory agreement with the Program Sponsor. GLA enters into a sub-advisory agreement with the Program Sponsor. GLA receives a portion of the single fee charged by the Program Sponsor. These agreements may be terminated at the written request of the client, the Program Sponsor or GLA.

The fee schedules and minimums for clients are displayed in Item 5. The nature and circumstances of specific accounts may allow for negotiations of minimums, fees, or commissions. Fees will vary depending on the size of the account and/or relationship, type of product and type of account.

## **Item 8 – Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss**

### **Adviser Overview**

GLA offers:

#### **Equity Strategies**

- Fundamental Equity Strategies
  - Large Cap Core Strategy
  - Large Cap Value Strategy
  - Focused Large Cap Value Strategy
  - Small/Mid Cap Core Strategy

- Small Cap Core Strategy
- Small Cap Value Strategy
- Balanced Strategy
- Strategic Large Cap Value Strategy
- Global and International Equity Strategies
- Disciplined Equity Strategies
  - LargeCap Strategy
  - AllCap Strategy
  - SMidCap Strategy

### **Multi-Asset Strategies**

### **Fixed Income Strategies**

### **Mutual Fund Analysis and Selection**

### **Objective Based Strategies**

#### ***Equity Strategies***

In each of its equity strategies, GLA seeks to outperform the stated benchmark over time, through stock selection combined with rigorous, precise portfolio risk management. As with any investment strategy, there is no assurance that the strategy will achieve its stated objective.

Accounts under each strategy seek to hold a diversified portfolio of equities that, in aggregate, mimic the investment characteristics and industry sector allocations to the strategy's benchmark. Each strategy seeks to be substantially invested in common stocks at all times, with a small allocation to cash.

In selecting securities for each equity strategy, GLA evaluates each security within a broad universe of large, mid and small capitalization common stocks using our investment models. These models are based on economic indicators, changes in company earnings, various valuation measures and trailing stock price performance, and in certain strategies Environmental Social Governance ("ESG") considerations. Once return expectations are formed for each stock within the universe, the portfolio is created to resemble the characteristics and industry representations of the benchmark index, while being weighted towards a select list of the most attractive individual stocks as determined by the investment models for our strategies.



## **Fundamental Equity Strategies**

The Fundamental Equity and Strategic Fundamental Equity teams believe that finding securities that are attractively valued with improving fundamentals is best accomplished through a combination of quantitative analysis and fundamental research. Quantitatively, we use a proprietary ranking system that ranks the broad securities' universe based on the probability of outperformance using a number of factors. While the ranking system compares a large number of stocks objectively, fundamental research is essential to evaluate the broad range of company-specific information, such as: a company's business model, competitive position, cash flow, and earnings expectations, as well as other potential drivers of company success or investment risk. As part of its overall decision-making process, the investment team also considers material environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors within its fundamental research process, seeking to identify ESG factors that have the potential to impact a company's financial performance, valuation, and risk/return. (Please see the section under the heading "ESG" below for more information.) When building portfolios, we seek to ensure consistency with mandate and benchmark characteristics, so that stock selection prevails as the main performance driver.

More detailed information about specific equity strategies is set forth below. The Fundamental Equity and Strategic Fundamental Equity teams also design variations or customizations of its strategies (e.g., based on more concentrated investment portfolios or applying socially responsible investment screens) and may make such strategies available to investors, in sub-advisory arrangements and to wrap program sponsors.

### *Large Cap Core Strategy:*

The investable universe for the Large Cap Core strategy includes all stocks in its benchmark, the S&P 500 Index, plus other U.S. stocks in the capitalization range of the Russell 1000 Index and stocks already held in portfolios. The strategy's objective is to outperform the S&P 500 Index by focusing on stocks that are attractively valued with improving fundamentals.

### *Large Cap Value Strategy:*

The investable universe for the Large Cap Value strategy includes all stocks in its benchmark, the Russell 1000 Value Index, plus other U.S. stocks in the capitalization range of the Russell 1000 Index, stocks included in the S&P 500, and stocks already held in portfolios. The strategy's objective is to outperform the Russell 1000 Value Index by focusing on stocks that are attractively valued with improving fundamentals.

### *Focused Large Cap Value Strategy:*

The investable universe for the Focused Large Cap Value strategy includes all stocks in its benchmark, the Russell 1000 Value Index, plus other U.S. stocks in the capitalization range of the Russell 1000 Index, stocks included in the S&P 500, and stocks already held in portfolios. The strategy's objective is to outperform the Russell 1000 Value Index by focusing on stocks that are

attractively valued with improving fundamentals and is a concentrated version of Large Cap Value of ~35-50 positions, diversified across sectors.

*Small/Mid Cap Core Strategy:*

The investable universe for the Small/Mid Cap Core strategy includes all stocks in its benchmark, the Russell 2500 Index, plus other U.S. stocks in the capitalization range of that index and stocks that are already held in portfolios. The strategy's objective is to outperform the Russell 2500 Index by focusing on stocks that are attractively valued with improving fundamentals.

*Small Cap Core Strategy:*

The investable universe for the Small Cap Core strategy includes all stocks in its benchmark, the Russell 2000 Index, plus other U.S. stocks in the capitalization range of that index and stocks that are already held in portfolios. The strategy's objective is to outperform the Russell 2000 Index by focusing on stocks that are attractively valued with improving fundamentals.

*Balanced Strategy:*

GLA's Balanced strategy seeks to provide both capital appreciation and income, by investing in a portfolio of both equity and fixed-income securities. We offer U.S. Balanced account clients a customized blend of our Large Cap Core strategy and a choice of either Taxable or Tax-Exempt Fixed-Income strategy. See above for a description of our Large Cap Core strategy. The Fixed Income Team's Taxable and Tax-Exempt Fixed Income strategies can be selected as a primary investment strategy or as a component of a balanced account. The Taxable and Tax-Exempt Fixed Income strategies are offered in certain wrap programs exclusively.

*Strategic Large Cap Value Strategy:*

GLA's Large Cap Value strategy seeks long-term growth of principal and income by investing in common stocks believed to be undervalued. We use a focused approach concentrating on identifying and building portfolios of high-quality businesses, as evidenced by their earnings power, their balance sheet strength, the returns they generate for owners, and their ability to pay above-average dividends. These factors, in conjunction with sufficient diversification and an intelligent and disciplined approach to position sizing, should enable us to provide competitive returns in rising markets while limiting losses during downturns.

The value equity investment process consists of several distinct exercises: (1) screening for potential investment candidates; (2) fundamental analysis; (3) valuation; and (4) portfolio construction.

1. The universe within which we screen includes all North American publicly traded companies, as well as those foreign companies that trade ADRs with a market capitalization of typically \$10 billion or more. The screens are designed to capture the broadest possible universe of qualifying companies fitting specified fundamental financial characteristics including return on invested capital, relative P/E and dividend yield. Output from these screens is then assigned to sector analyst(s) for further review.

2. The analytical process entails a thorough review of a particular candidate's SEC filings, a review of data through industry sources and company presentations, industry conference attendance, on-site company visits, trade shows, proprietary research services, company interviews, engagement with Wall Street securities analysts and other sources. Our focus is often on factors such as incremental return on capital, earnings power, competitive position, capital intensity, and ability to generate free cash flow. Further, in consideration of ESG, the Fundamental Equity and Strategic Fundamental Equity teams' methodology for evaluating companies involve determining which ESG issues are relevant to particular companies and industries, and assessing how well companies are managing those issues. We seek to identify those non-financial (ESG) issues that can be expected to have a financial impact on a company's performance and then evaluate companies on those issues.
3. From the analysis described above we will develop our own model of the company's business, the result of which is a multi-year forecast of earnings and/or cash flow that drives our valuation model. We derive an estimate of a stock's fair value (our price target) using a discounted cash flow (DCF) model or using an appropriate earnings (or cash flow or book value) multiple at which a stock should trade relative to the market.
4. Typically, stocks included in the portfolio will have expected annual rates of return in excess of long-term market averages and are expected to produce that return over a 3–5-year timeframe. Both portfolio holdings and potential investments are frequently sorted and ranked according to their expected rates of returns. Conceptually, portfolios are built by owning those stocks with the highest expected rates of return over the relevant investment time horizon, and methodically replacing those in the portfolio having relatively low expected rates of return with well-researched ideas having higher expected rates of return. Stock and portfolio risk considerations are also an important part of the portfolio construction process.

### **Global and International Equities**

Our investment strategy follows three core tenants: stock selection, balancing risk and return, and utilizing an independent and nimble approach.

GLA's Global and International equity strategies' investment process works to gain analytical advantage while executing a disciplined approach based on:

1. Stock Selection  
The process is a value-driven process focused on finding excellent risk/rewards from the ground up. Each step of the process is designed to avoid losses and capture upside, in that order. These stocks are long-term, with expected holding periods of 3-5 years and turnover of approximately 25% annually.
2. Balancing Risk and Return  
Diversify factor exposures (i.e. sector, country) that inevitably arise from high conviction stock selection. Additionally, the team aims to ensure that the key driver of returns is stock selection, which is worth more, and harder to commoditize. We focus on triangulation of both risk and valuation, relatively and absolutely.

### 3. Nimble & Independent Approach

Maintaining a narrow and disciplined process makes a large universe manageable. The active share expectations of >90% and tracking error expectation of approximately 400-700bps vs. benchmark.

GLA's Global and International equity strategies' investment process centers on durable franchises that have resilient earnings, excellent or misunderstood balance sheets, attractive valuation and return potential and value creating management with certain incentives and governance structure. The securities are selected from a global universe of about 5,000 companies and the process results in a focused, high conviction portfolio of ultimately approximately 35-55 investments. Through the process, the managers are looking for asymmetric outcomes (each criterion focuses on loss avoidance first and upside capture second) which often leads to owning over-capitalized, cyclically under-earning businesses.

This fully integrated screening, valuation, and risk management system operates alongside the fundamental process in portfolio construction and provides an objective check and challenge on existing and prospective holdings. The process gives a small team significant breadth in idea generation globally and hopes to serve as an effective tool for identifying risk & return characteristics for entire regions/sectors/factors.

#### **Disciplined Equity**

The Disciplined Equity ("DE") Team uses advanced quantitative techniques to analyze equity securities and financial markets as a whole. The investment process was developed through extensive research efforts and represents a hybrid valuation modeling strategy featuring linear style-specific, sector-specific and cross-universe formats. Through this hybrid strategy, GLA evaluates a stock's current profile relative to its own historical valuation range and also compares the same stock's current profile to the current profiles of all other stocks. The investment process ranks stocks according to attractiveness, providing the primary basis for investment decision making.

Sources of information used in the process include various electronic financial data providers, electronic news services, portfolio optimization software, financial software applications, newspapers/magazines, research materials prepared by outside services and corporate rating services.

The DE team uses a proprietary process to collect vendor-supplied ESG ratings data and transform the data to help mitigate size, sector, and risk factor biases – while preserving the beneficial volatility attributes. In addition, the DE team utilizes business involvement screening data, climate metrics, and impact metrics to support various custom solutions. All relevant information is imported to our portfolio optimization environment and weighed simultaneously with company-specific risk and return forecasts to construct optimal portfolios.

The DE Team offers separate portfolio management in the following U.S. Equity strategies and their relative benchmarks:

*Disciplined Equity LargeCap Strategy:*

The investable universe for the Disciplined Equity LargeCap strategy includes all stocks in its benchmark, the S&P 500 Index, plus other U.S. stocks in the capitalization range of that index including the top 500 Russell 1000 Index members based on market capitalization. The strategy's objective is to outperform the S&P 500 Index over time by focusing on disciplined stock selection and diversification while maintaining risk characteristics similar to the benchmark.

*Disciplined Equity AllCap Strategy:*

The investable universe for the Disciplined Equity AllCap strategy includes all stocks in its benchmark, the Russell 3000 Index, plus other U.S. stocks in the capitalization range of that index. The strategy's objective is to outperform the Russell 3000 Index over time by focusing on disciplined stock selection and diversification while maintaining risk characteristics similar to the benchmark.

*Disciplined Equity SMidCap Strategy:*

The investable universe for the Disciplined Equity SMidCap strategy includes all stocks in its benchmark, the Russell 2500 Index, plus other U.S. stocks in the capitalization range of that index. The strategy's objective is to outperform the Russell 2500 Index over time by focusing on disciplined (choose a different word?) stock selection and diversification while maintaining risk characteristics similar to the benchmark.

GLA offers ESG, Catholic, Tax Managed, Climate Opportunities, Gender Equality and Wrap versions of most of these strategies.

## **Multi-Asset Strategies**

### *Asset Allocation*

The investment philosophy and process for the Multi-Asset Strategy ("MAS") Team is based upon certain fundamental principles that have been developed and tested extensively both by practitioners and academics, and that have dictated the evolution of the asset management industry over the years. These principles are:

1. Diversification is critical to reduce risk and build more efficient portfolios. Simply stated, as more diverse securities are added to a portfolio the risk of the portfolio goes down. Generally, an individual asset's impact on the overall variance of the portfolio is to reduce it, since securities are not perfectly correlated. This means that one can achieve better risk adjusted returns by building diversified portfolios.
2. There is a trade-off between risk and return. In general, higher expected returns are accompanied by higher risk so that, on average and over time, investors who take more risk should be compensated for bearing it.
3. There are positive risk premiums. Investors are rewarded, over the long term, for investing in riskier assets. For example, since stocks are riskier than bonds there is a risk premium to equity holders. The existence of an equity risk premium means that on

average stocks should outperform bonds over long time periods. This of course does not mean that stocks will always outperform bonds in every individual time period.

4. Return and risk are somewhat predictable over the long run. Though the expected returns of assets vary over time, both academics and practitioners have identified valuation metrics that can be used to predict relative returns and risk over longer periods.
5. There are common factors that drive risk and return for stocks and bonds. These factors include but are not limited to the well-known size, value, and momentum factors. A critical aspect of portfolio management is understanding where your risk comes from.
6. Active asset management can add value. Return predictability, behavioral characteristics of market participants and factor anomalies driving security prices provide an opportunity for active asset managers to add value. We believe that our professional diligence permits us to generate positive alpha over time, at the expense of other market participants.
7. Different investors have different needs and investment objectives. Depending on several factors such as age, job situation, risk aversion, family structure, and beliefs, different clients will have different investment objectives. Portfolio Managers can and should be instrumental in helping investors achieve their investment goals while understanding the sources of the portfolio's volatility.
8. Market timing is very likely to lead to underperformance and therefore cash is not an asset class. Over the long run, the REAL return to cash-like instruments should be close to zero at best. Predicting the short-term performance of stocks or fixed income assets and switching back and forth to cash is one of the most extreme market timing strategies. In addition, market timing will impact performance by increasing turnover and the associated transaction costs.

The principles guiding the MAS team's investment philosophy is based mainly on proper portfolio construction and diversification. Our dynamic, risk-based asset allocation process addresses the client's preference for risk versus return, and individual securities or funds are selected according to how their characteristics impact both the risk and expected return of the overall portfolio.

The Multi-Asset Strategy Program is a dynamic program, delivered via five investment objectives utilizing the Adviser's proprietary risk-based asset allocation process, which may be implemented using mutual funds, ETF's, individual stocks, and individual bonds.

### *Strategy*

The principles stated above shape the investment process and asset allocation strategy. The cornerstones of this strategy are the following:

1. The asset allocation strategy will be based on portfolio construction and risk budgeting.
2. Cash will be held in a client's portfolio only for liquidity reasons, except in the event of an extreme market disruption or client request.
3. The initial investment objective for each new client account will be dictated by an assessment of the clients' goals and objectives.
4. Portfolios will be rebalanced on a periodic basis as necessary.

### *Implementation*

The MAS team utilizes a risk-based approach to asset allocation based on a dynamic allocation with flexibility to adjust for extreme market dislocations. This approach is based upon modern, proven investment theories utilized by institutional investors to eliminate emotional decisions from the investing process. To implement this risk-based approach, the MAS team utilizes the following process:

1. Establish Risk Budgets. The process begins by establishing a risk budget for each investment objective. This budget forms the basis for which to construct a portfolio as the various assets are allocated to the objective based on their contribution to the total risk perspective of the portfolio.
2. Determine Inputs. At the second level, we establish risk and return expectation for each asset class on an annual basis. These expectations are combined with historical views of the individual asset classes through use of a confidence level. Additionally, the size of each asset class is an important input in the process to protect against overweighting small, more volatile asset classes and ensuring allocations are proportional to the overall market.
3. Portfolio Optimization. After estimates are completed, they are combined using the individual risk budgets and an optimization process to produce the final, suggested portfolio weights.

### ***Fixed Income Strategies***

GLA's fixed income strategies are consistently managed with a conservative and long-term approach. Value is added to portfolios in lower risk rather than higher risk ways. Most notably, income maximization is a primary feature of the approach, while interest rate timing, a higher risk method of attempting to add value, is mitigated in the investment equation by keeping all Great Lakes' fixed income portfolios closely aligned with their market benchmarks in terms of interest rate exposure at all times.

The firm relies on fundamental credit research in its individual security analysis. The firm generates research both in-house and from outside sources. These resources are independent and staffed with seasoned, unbiased analysts that give us additional insight into the securities that we own on our client's behalf. We think that having these resources levels the playing field and allows us to compete head-to-head with larger managers.

The selection of individual fixed-income securities is of primary importance in GLA's investment process. A number of variables are considered in the purchase or sale of a security. The creditworthiness of the issue is of fundamental importance to the decision. A high level of comfort is mandatory in this regard prior to investment. Of equal importance especially in the non-corporate sectors are the structural characteristics of a security. A great deal of emphasis is placed on the identification of structural features that will perform best in the current and possible future environments. Stress-testing is an integral part of this analysis. The firm feels that

the general market does not always focus on and/or properly value some of the structural characteristics in the mortgage-backed and asset-backed sectors in particular.

### ***Mutual Fund Analysis and Selection***

The investment philosophy for mutual funds at GLA is based upon certain fundamental principles that have been developed and tested extensively both by practitioners and academics, and that have dictated the evolution of the asset management industry over the years. These principles are:

1. Active asset management can add value.
2. It is possible to add value through manager selection.
3. A well developed and disciplined process is necessary to identify and select funds.
4. A good portfolio follows a clear asset allocation model.

### ***Strategy – Fund Classification***

The principles stated above are applied to funds across all accounts managed by GLA with full discretion. GLA maintains coverage in three key asset classes and several sub-classes in each asset class. Those broad classifications include but are not limited to the following: Equities, Fixed Income, and Alternative. These broad classifications will be further divided into the various asset classes deemed appropriate.

### ***Strategy – Fund Selection***

#### **Selection Criteria**

GLA considers multiple qualitative and quantitative factors when evaluating funds. Any proprietary funds of GLA or related entities will be held to the same or higher standards as funds offered by outside managers. We do not believe widely available industry ranking systems (i.e. Morningstar Star Ratings, Lipper Leaders) constitute an adequate measure of due diligence in the selection of funds. The factors considered for selection are the same across asset classes. The primary criteria for evaluation are:

1. Expenses, Loads, and 12b-1 fees.
2. Fund and adviser assets under management.
3. Portfolio manager tenure and track record. This includes tenure and record at their current firm in addition to any history with a prior firm.
4. Performance and risk adjusted performance measures. Absolute, category relative, and benchmark relative metrics may be considered.
5. Consistency of the risk/return profile.
6. Diversification. Measured in terms of sector, industry, country, quality, maturity, duration, and/or issuer type.
7. Portfolio characteristics.
8. Access to portfolio managers. We will endeavor to leverage our relationships with the fund manager and/or Adviser where such access allows us to better evaluate their abilities.



### MAS ETF Strategy

The Multi-Asset Strategy ETF Program is a dynamic program, delivered via five investment objectives utilizing GLA's proprietary risk-based asset allocation process, which is implemented using low-cost Exchange Traded Funds.

This program is based on both fundamental and quantitative research and other independent research. GLA may develop specific investment strategies using a mix of these analytic methods. Quality and concentration requirements to provide overall discipline are established.

When seeking to anticipate trends and identify undervalued securities with sound fundamentals, GLA may also use a security selection and portfolio modeling process that incorporates fundamental, technical and statistical analyses of historical data. Due to any number of factors, including timing of deposits, investment selection process or investment needs, certain clients may receive different execution prices and investment results.

Rebalancing will usually take place once per year, or as otherwise required when the desired asset allocation has deviated more than an acceptable amount.

### ***Objective-Based Strategies for Private Wealth Management Clients***

**GLA's investment strategies are based on investment objectives and strategic methodology.**

GLA has adopted a set of five Investment Objectives for its Private Wealth clients: Income, Income and Growth, Balanced, Growth and Income, and Growth. The Portfolio Manager works with each client to assess which Investment Objective is appropriate for that client, taking into account the unique circumstance of that client. The Investment Objectives are defined here:

#### *Income*

The Income objective seeks to provide investors with a combination of interest and dividends in order to increase current income by investing in a diversified portfolio consisting of cash, fixed income and equity securities. This objective emphasizes an investor's desire for income and modest appreciation typically resulting in a reduced risk tolerance or acceptable volatility. Portfolios managed in this style use a diverse set of investment strategies within both fixed income and equity securities. Investors in this objective should expect that by diversifying these asset classes, they may achieve a current income with marginal asset appreciation over time. This objective is expected to have a moderate to low level of volatility (risk).

#### *Income and Growth*

The Income & Growth objective seeks to provide investors with both current income and price appreciation by investing in a diversified portfolio consisting of cash, fixed income and equity securities. This objective emphasizes an investor's risk tolerance or acceptable volatility rather than their desire for appreciation. Portfolios managed in this style use a diverse set of investment strategies within both fixed income and equity securities. Investors in this objective should expect

that by diversifying these asset classes, they may achieve modest returns over time with a moderate level of volatility (risk).

### Balanced

The Balanced objective seeks to provide investors with both price appreciation and current income by investing in a diversified portfolio consisting of cash, fixed income and equity securities. This objective seeks a balance between an investor's expected return and risk. Portfolios managed in this style use a diverse set of investment strategies within both fixed income and equity securities. Investors in this objective should expect that by diversifying these asset classes, they may achieve a higher rate of return over time while reducing overall volatility (risk). This objective is expected to have a moderate level of volatility.

### Growth and Income

The Growth & Income objective seeks to provide investors with a higher degree of price appreciation by investing in a diversified portfolio consisting of cash, fixed income and equity securities. This objective reflects an increase in an investor's risk tolerance in return for higher expected returns over time. Portfolios managed in this style use a diverse set of investment strategies within both fixed income and equity securities. Investors in this objective should expect that by diversifying these asset classes, they may achieve a higher rate of return over time while reducing overall volatility (risk). This objective is expected to have a moderate to high level of volatility.

### Growth

The Growth objective seeks to provide investors with a higher degree of price appreciation by investing in a diversified portfolio focused on equity securities. While portfolios managed in this style may use a diverse set of investment strategies within fixed income and equity securities, this objective requires an investor with a high degree of risk tolerance as current income or safety of principal is not a priority for this objective. Investors in this objective should expect that by investing primarily in equity type securities, the potential for higher expected returns would be accompanied with a higher level of volatility (risk).

## ***ESG Considerations for FE and DE Strategies***

ESG investing is the assessment of material environmental, social and governance issues. ESG investing complements traditional research conducted during the investment process.

We believe long-term shareholder value can be enhanced by better identification of risks and opportunities. ESG policies and outcomes help drive such risk and opportunities. Related anecdotal risks may include reputational risk, consumer boycotts, sub-optimal or even fraudulent decision making by company management, remediation costs due to environmental issues, write down of stranded assets, etc. Opportunities may include identifying and capitalizing on evolving market trends, enhancing corporate brand reputation, higher workforce engagement, and improved decision making through more diverse thought leadership.

GLA believes incorporating ESG information into the investment process has an impact on portfolios over time. By identifying relevant ESG factors and evaluating a company's performance on those, we are able to make better, more well-informed investment decisions with the aim of improving risk-adjusted returns. This helps clients achieve their individual ESG objectives, and through the combined action of many, better aligns investment capital with the longer-term transition to a lower-carbon, more sustainable, and resource-efficient circular economy.

### Disciplined Equity Strategies

The Disciplined Equity (“DE”) team believes that investing in companies which are actively reducing negative externalities such as greenhouse gas emissions can help reduce portfolio risk, both directly at the company level as well as indirectly by creating a less volatile, healthier system in which all companies operate and in which we all live; in evaluating companies’ positive contributions to people and the planet, and therefore we measure their revenue derived from activities that can be aligned with the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (“SDG”); that helping companies improve their performance on material ESG issues through proxy voting will benefit not just investors, but all of the company’s stakeholders including employees, customers, local communities, as well as the environment; and in supporting third-party organizations who share our goals and are working collaboratively with others.

The DE team uses a proprietary process to collect vendor-supplied ESG ratings data and transform the data to help mitigate size, sector, and risk factor biases – while preserving the beneficial volatility attributes. In addition, the DE team utilizes business involvement screening data, climate metrics, and impact metrics to support various custom solutions. All relevant information is imported to our portfolio optimization environment and weighed simultaneously with company-specific risk and return forecasts to construct optimal portfolios.

The DE process systematically integrates ESG ratings, company-specific risk, and return forecasts to balance risk and return. Investors can be too aggressive in pursuing ESG objectives, impairing diversification and creating unintentionally high tracking error or damaging return opportunity. An optimizer helps us objectively weigh all three considerations simultaneously.

### Fundamental Equity Strategies

We believe ESG factors can be material business issues that can impact a company’s financial performance, valuation, and risk/return, so understanding them enables more informed investment decisions. ESG factors that are material to a given investment will vary by company, sector, and geography. In order to identify potential material ESG factors, we leverage external ESG data, in-house qualitative assessment, and may engage in a dialogue with the company management. The relevant investment team makes their own decisions with respect to how much emphasis, if any, to place on ESG factors. Unless a particular strategy expressly undertakes to employ ESG or other responsible investing criteria, a poor ESG score, in itself, does not preclude our portfolio managers from investing in the company, but is rather used as an input to the investment decision-making process.

For GLA's Fundamental Equity strategies, ESG factors are considered as part of our in-depth bottom-up analysis of each company. In particular, we have found that our assessment of management quality is a strong indicator of how well environmental and social risks and opportunities are being managed. We believe that when conducting a fundamental analysis, a company's ESG risks and performance can be material considerations that can affect investment performance.

The FE team utilizes ESG as a part of the investment process, although not necessarily as a "screen".

Our primary focus is understanding what risks the company is confronted with and how well the company is managing those risks. Our observation has been that portfolio companies with sound corporate governance practices are more likely to perform better on environmental and social issues.

The FE team holds concentrated portfolios of high-conviction companies. Our methodologies for evaluating companies involve determining which ESG issues are relevant to particular companies and industries and assessing how well companies are managing those issues. We seek to identify those issues that can be expected to have a financial impact on a company's performance and then evaluate companies on those issues. If we believe a firm is not effectively managing material ESG issues, or any other issues relevant to its financial success, our tendency is to sell the company and replace it with one we believe is less risky.

Upon the direction of our clients, we can apply socially responsible investment screens in any of our investment strategies. This negative screening is based on client-provided or third-party exclusion lists. GLA also offers several SRI negative screens for our Strategic Large Cap Value and Fundamental Equity strategies such as: alcohol, gaming, adult entertainment, tobacco, weapons, abortion, contraception, embryonic stem cell research, firearms, fossil fuel companies, and global sanctions (e.g. Sudan, Iran). In such portfolios, ESG criteria may be the main reasons to forego purchasing or to dispose of certain securities.

### ***Risk Considerations***

All of the strategies listed above are speculative and have an inherent risk of loss due to investing in securities like stocks and bonds. Investing in securities involves risk of loss that clients should be prepared to bear. No guarantee, assurance or representation is made that any strategy will achieve its investment objective. To mitigate risk, clients should determine whether their entire investment portfolio is properly diversified and that their overall asset allocation is appropriate.

Certain risk considerations are discussed in greater detail below.

Securities Risks in General. Investments in securities generally involve a significant degree of risk. Price changes can be volatile and market movements are difficult to predict. The value of an individual security or particular type of security can be more volatile than, and can perform

differently from, the market as a whole. The success of any investment strategy depends on GLA's ability to identify, select, and realize investments consistent with an investment strategy's objective.

Liquidity Risk. Liquidity risk exists when particular investments are difficult to sell. Although most of the securities in which we invest are generally liquid at the time of investment, they may become illiquid after purchase, such as during periods of market turmoil. Illiquid securities may make it more difficult to value a portfolio, especially in changing markets. If a portfolio is forced to sell illiquid investments to meet redemptions or for other cash needs, the portfolio may suffer a loss.

Securities of small cap companies may not be traded in volumes typical of securities of larger companies. Because small cap companies normally have fewer shares outstanding than larger companies, it may be more difficult to buy and sell significant amounts of small cap company shares without an unfavorable impact on prevailing market prices. Thus, the securities of small cap companies are generally less liquid, and subject to more abrupt or erratic market movements than those of larger companies.

Economic Conditions. Changes in economic conditions such as interest rates, inflation rates, industry conditions, competition, technological developments, political and diplomatic events and trends, pandemics and natural disasters, war, tax laws and innumerable other factors can substantially and adversely affect the business and prospects of portfolio performance. None of these conditions is within the control of GLA. The profitability of a portfolio depends to a great extent on correct assessments of the future course of price movements of securities and other investments. There can be no assurance that GLA will be able to accurately predict these price movements. The securities markets have in recent years been characterized by great volatility and unpredictability. With respect to the investment strategies utilized by GLA, there is always a significant degree of market risk. The potential outbreak of any infectious disease or any other serious public health concern, together with any resulting restrictions on travel or quarantines imposed are likely to have a profound negative impact on economic and market conditions and trigger a period of global economic slowdown. Any such economic impact could adversely affect the performance of GLA recommended investments.

Suspensions of Trading. A public exchange typically has the right to suspend or limit trading in all securities that it lists. Such a suspension could render it impossible for GLA to liquidate portfolio positions which would thereby be exposed to potential losses. In addition, there is no guarantee that over-the-counter markets, which trade fixed-income securities, will remain liquid enough for the close out of positions.

Financial Difficulties of Institutions and Custodians. There is a possibility that institutions, including brokerage firms, banks, and wrap platform sponsors with which we do business, or to which securities have been entrusted for custodial purposes, will encounter financial difficulties that may impair operational capabilities.

Dependence on Key Individuals. Management of portfolios is dependent on the experience and expertise of the investment team. In the event of death, disability, or departure of any such persons, GLA's business could be adversely affected.

Competition for Investments and Other Strategy Risks. Although GLA believes that many investment opportunities exist and will develop which will be suitable for portfolios under our management in connection with seeking to achieve our investment objectives, a number of other investors have similar objectives and may seek many of the same investment opportunities. The identification of attractive investment opportunities is difficult, competitive, and involves a high degree of uncertainty and there can be no assurance that sufficiently attractive investment opportunities will be found to achieve the investment objectives. It is possible that the total capitalization of certain investment strategies may become too large to deploy satisfactorily. Limits for our investment strategies are set based on the trading volume and market capitalization of the market segments in which we invest. Capacity limits are subject to change because they are indexed to the market and are reviewed regularly by members of our investment management team. Small cap strategies have the highest risk in this regard relative to other strategies.

Small and mid-capitalization companies may be subject to greater operational risk relative to larger, well-established companies due to the fact that they may have less management depth, limited financial resources, smaller revenues, narrower product lines, fewer customers, and greater sensitivity to economic cycles. Additionally, the risk of bankruptcy or insolvency of many small and medium capitalization companies, with the attendant losses to investors, may be higher than for larger companies.

IPO Risk. An insufficient number of securities may be available for purchase in an initial public offering ("IPO") to allocate across all accounts that may invest in such securities.

Portfolio Turnover. U.S. Equity and fixed income portfolios are actively managed and, under appropriate circumstances, may purchase and sell securities without regard to the length of time held. A high portfolio turnover rate may have a negative impact on performance by increasing transaction costs and may generate greater tax liabilities for clients with taxable accounts.

Reliance Upon Quantitative Tools. In making U.S. equity investment decisions, we rely in part upon the application of quantitative tools developed by GLA to help determine on which subset of stocks to focus our fundamental research efforts. In addition, we use proprietary and third-party models to monitor and control risk in our portfolios. Although we have had success with this approach in the past for other investment accounts under our management, such past success does not ensure that this approach will be a successful one for other portfolios or successful in the future.

Risks of Stock Investing. Stocks generally fluctuate more in value than bonds and may decline significantly over short time periods. There is a chance that stock prices overall will decline because stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and falling prices. The market value of a stock may decline due to general market conditions that are not related to the particular company, such as real or perceived adverse economic conditions, changes in the outlook for corporate earnings, changes in interest or currency rates, or adverse investor sentiment generally. A security's market value also may decline because of factors that affect a particular industry, such as labor shortages or increased production costs and competitive conditions within an industry, or factors that affect a particular company, such as management performance, financial leverage, and reduced demand for the company's products or services.

Cash-Equivalent Funds. Generally speaking, cash-equivalent funds seek current income, a stable net asset value per share, and daily liquidity. The net asset value per share of such funds can change in value when interest rates or an issuer's creditworthiness change dramatically. There can be no guarantee that a cash-equivalent fund will always be able to maintain a stable net asset value per share.

Investments in ETFs. From time to time, certain accounts may invest in equity-based ETFs. ETFs are investment companies that are registered under the Investment Company Act, typically as open-end funds or unit investment trusts. Unlike most mutual funds, an ETF has the flexibility of trading intra-day. Because ETF shares trade intra-day, the market determines prices and investors can buy or sell shares at any time that the markets are open. Equity-based ETFs are subject to risks similar to those of individual equity securities, as described above.

Additional Fixed Income Investment Risks. Fixed income investments are subject to various risks including:

- Interest rate risk – Prices of bonds tend to move inversely with changes in interest rates. Typically, a rise in interest rates will adversely affect bond prices and may result in a decline in the value of the fixed income investment. A wide variety of market factors can cause interest rates to rise, including changes in government policy (including central bank monetary policy), rising inflation, and changes in general economic conditions. Investors in fixed income securities currently face a heightened level of interest rate risk, especially because interest rates are at historically low levels.
- Duration risk - Longer-term securities may be more sensitive to interest rate changes, and therefore the longer a bond's maturity, the greater the interest rate risk.
- Credit risk – This is a risk that an issuer of debt securities or other fixed income obligations will not make timely interest or principal payments on securities when due, or that a bond's price will fall because of an actual or perceived decline in credit quality.
- Call risk – This is a risk that the issuer of a bond may call, or redeem, bonds before their maturity date. If an issuer "calls" its bond during a time of declining interest rates, investors in the bond might have to reinvest the proceeds in an investment offering a lower yield, and therefore might not benefit from any increase in value as a result of declining interest rates.

- Liquidity risk - When there is little or no active trading market for specific types of securities, it can become more difficult to sell the securities at or near their perceived value. In such a market, the value of such securities may fall, even during periods of declining interest rates. Secondary impacts from increased interest rates may cause certain fixed income investments to experience liquidity risk. For example, a potential rise in interest rates may result in periods of volatility and increased redemptions in fixed income fund products. As a result of increased redemptions, some fixed income fund products may be required to liquidate portfolio securities at disadvantageous prices and times, which could reduce the returns of these products.
- Floating and variable rate securities - There is a risk that the current interest rate on floating and variable rate instruments may not accurately reflect existing market interest rates.
- Government securities risk - Not all obligations of the U.S. government, its agencies, and instrumentalities are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury. Some obligations are backed only by the credit of the issuing agency or instrumentality, and in some cases, there may be some risk of default by the issuer. Any guarantee by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities does not apply to the market value of such security. A security backed by the U.S. Treasury, or the full faith and credit of the United States is guaranteed only as to the timely payment of interest and principal when held to maturity. In addition, because many types of U.S. government securities trade actively outside the United States, their prices may rise and fall as changes in global economic conditions affect the demand for these securities.
- Municipal bond market risk - The amount of public information available about municipal bonds is generally less than that for corporate equities or bonds. Special factors, such as legislative changes, and state and local economic and business developments, may adversely affect the yield and/or value of an investment in municipal bonds. Other factors include the general conditions of the municipal bond market, the size of the particular offering, the maturity of the obligation, and the rating of the issue.
- Tax risk – To be tax-exempt, municipal bonds generally must meet certain regulatory requirements. If any such municipal bond fails to meet these regulatory requirements, the interest received by investors from their investment in such bonds will be taxable.
- Competition for investments – In connection with fixed income and balanced portfolios, it may be more difficult to obtain certain bonds, especially certain municipal bonds, or to obtain certain bonds at an attractive price relative to larger fixed income managers.

Additional International Strategies' Risks. International equity investments are subject to additional risks, including:

- Global Investing - International investments are subject to risks relating to: (i) currencies, including fluctuations in the rate of exchange between the U.S. dollar and the various foreign currencies in which the investments will be denominated, and costs associated with conversion of investment principal and income from one currency into another, and (ii) the possible imposition of withholding or other taxes on income received from or gains



with respect to such securities. In addition, certain of these foreign capital markets involve certain factors not typically associated with investing in more established securities markets, including risks relating to: differences between markets, including low trading volume and potential price volatility in and relative illiquidity of some foreign securities markets; the absence of uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and disclosure requirements and less government supervision and regulation; certain economic and political risks, including the possibility of expropriation, nationalization, confiscatory taxation, taxation of income earned in foreign nations or other taxes imposed relating to investments in foreign nations, foreign exchange controls (which may include suspension of the ability to transfer currency from a given country), political or social instability or the risk of repatriation or government confiscation, and adverse diplomatic developments; limited publicly available information about issuers; and potential difficulties in pursuing legal remedies.

ESG/Impact Investing Risk. Strategies that select securities based on responsible investing, “impact” or environmental, social, and governance (ESG) or similar criteria may forgo certain market opportunities available to strategies or products that do not use these criteria and/or overweight particular assets that do meet ESG criteria. As a result, at times, such portfolio may produce lower returns than portfolios that are not subject to such special investment conditions, and sustainability impact considerations may cause such portfolio’s industry allocation to deviate from the allocation of portfolios without these considerations and of conventional benchmarks.

GLA may engage third-party service providers to provide research, ratings and other information relating to sustainability impact considerations of securities in a portfolio, and to assist with the monitoring process for environmental, social and governance news. Generally, in evaluating ESG factors and risks, GLA is dependent upon such information and incurs the risk that it may be incomplete, inaccurate or unavailable, which could adversely affect the analysis of the ESG factors relevant to a particular investment. GLA may not be able to determine an overall sustainability impact score for a security based on sustainability considerations because the third-party service providers may not have data on every security considered for purchase by GLA for a portfolio, or the third-party service providers may not have information with respect to each factor considered as a sustainability impact consideration.

Cybersecurity Risk. GLA relies on the use of technologies to conduct business, and is susceptible to operational, information security and related risks. Such risks are amplified during global pandemic conditions that require increased reliance on remote access to networks and the use of web-based applications which may be susceptible to unintentional cyber incidents and deliberate cyberattacks. Cyberattacks include, but are not limited to, gaining unauthorized access to digital systems (e.g., through “hacking” or malicious software coding) for purposes of corrupting data, or causing operational disruption, as well as denial-of-service attacks on websites. Cyber incidents may cause disruptions and impact business operations, potentially resulting in financial losses, interference with a client’s ability to value its securities or account investments, impediments to trading, violations of applicable privacy and other laws, regulatory

fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, or additional compliance costs. While GLA and its most significant counterparties and vendors have established business continuity plans and risk management systems to help mitigate cyber incidents, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems that GLA is not in a position to control.

Litigation Risk. Some of the activities that GLA engages in as part of its operations may result in litigation. GLA, the registered and unregistered funds managed or sub-advised by GLA could be a party to lawsuits either initiated by it, or by a company in which the funds invest, other shareholders, or state, federal and non-U.S. governmental bodies. There can be no assurance that any such litigation, once begun, would be resolved in favor of GLA, or any fund.

Private Fund Regulatory Oversight and Other Funds' Risks. GLA's commingled funds and the CITs to which GLA serves as investment sub-advisor are not registered as investment companies, which would subject them to extensive regulation by the SEC under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Investment Company Act"). Thus, except for certain anti-fraud protections, fund members and CIT investors will not be accorded the protection provided by such statute. The private and mutual funds advised or sub-advised by GLA are subject to additional risks as described in greater detail in each fund's offering documents.

## **Item 9 – Disciplinary Information**

Registered investment advisers are required to disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of GLA or the integrity of GLA's management.

Neither Great Lakes Advisors nor any of its management personnel has been involved in an investment related legal or disciplinary event in a domestic, foreign or military court of competent jurisdiction; has had an administrative proceeding before the SEC, any other federal regulatory agency, any state regulatory agency or any foreign financial regulatory authority; or has been found to have been involved in a self-regulatory organization proceeding.

## **Item 10 – Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations**

GLA is a subsidiary of Wintrust Financial Corporation (Wintrust), a financial holding company based in Rosemont, Illinois. Wintrust conducts its businesses through three segments: community banking, specialty finance and wealth management. Wintrust provides community-oriented, personal and commercial banking services to customers located in the greater Chicago, Illinois, southern Wisconsin, northern Indiana, western Michigan, and Florida's Gulf Coast metropolitan areas through its 16 wholly owned banking subsidiaries. Wintrust also operates

other financing businesses on a national basis through several non-bank subsidiaries and offers an array of wealth management services.

Affiliated companies related by common ownership or control include:

- **Wealth Management**

- Wintrust Investments, LLC (“WTI”) – a Broker/Dealer and Insurance Agency based in Chicago, IL. Member FINRA / SIPC. Effective January 25, 2025, WTI outsourced its Broker/Dealer and Investment Advisor, offering securities and advisory services through LPL Financial (“LPL”), a registered investment advisor and broker-dealer (member FINRA/SIPC). LPL is responsible for all supervision, compliance, and clearing functions including custody of client assets and trade execution. Certain of GLA’s employees are registered representatives of WTI.
- Wintrust Private Trust Company, N.A. – Offers individuals and institutions throughout the Chicago area a wide range of trust products and services, including corporate trustee services, personal trust administration, estate settlement, land trusts, 1031 exchanges, guardianships, and special needs trusts.
- Chicago Deferred Exchange Company (“CDEC”) - Founded in 1989, Chicago Deferred Exchange Company provides Qualified Intermediary and Exchange Accommodation Titleholder services to investors seeking to defer gain under IRC Section 1031.

- **Community Banking**

- Lake Forest Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Hinsdale Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Wintrust Bank, N.A.
- Libertyville Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Barrington Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Crystal Lake Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Northbrook Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Schaumburg Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Village Bank & Trust, N.A.
- Beverly Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Town Bank, N.A.
- Wheaton Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- State Bank of The Lakes, N.A.
- Old Plank Trail Community Bank, N.A.
- St. Charles Bank & Trust Company, N.A.
- Macatawa Bank, N.A.

All accounts that are under the custody of LPL typically will participate in a “sweep program” for the automatic purchase and redemption of cash balances in connection with free credit balances and to satisfy debit balances in the custodial brokerage accounts (net of free credit balances). Through the Wintrust Banks Sweep Program (“WBS”), available cash balances in a non-qualified

LPL brokerage account are automatically deposited into one or more interest-bearing, bank deposit accounts established at Wintrust Banks (“Program Banks”) and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (“FDIC”).

### **Benefits to GLA, Program Banks, and LPL**

Because the Program Banks provide our default cash sweep option, the WBS Program, for accounts at LPL, they benefit financially from cash balances held in WBS. As with other depository institutions, the Banks’ profitability is determined in large part by the difference or “spread” between the interest they pay on deposit accounts, such as WBS, and the interest or other income they earn on loans, investments and other assets. The Banks’ participation in WBS increases their respective deposits and, accordingly, may increase their overall profits. You may be able to earn higher rates by investing your un-invested cash balances in other, non-affiliated, sweep options. The WBS Program should not be viewed as a long-term investment option. It is your responsibility to monitor your balances in the WBS Program and determine whether you prefer to invest cash balances in products offered outside the WBS Program. Other than applicable fees imposed by LPL on an Account, there will be no additional charge, fee, or commission imposed on your Account with respect to WBS. For more information regarding the WBS Program, go to [wintrustwealth.com/disclosures](http://wintrustwealth.com/disclosures) and select the Wintrust Banks Sweep Program Information Statement.

LPL may receive distribution (12b-1), service fees and other compensation for Wintrust client deposits in their sweep programs.

In some circumstances, clients of GLA who have relationships with our affiliated banks may elect to collateralize their brokerage accounts. If collateralized, GLA may have conflicting duties to the client and to the lending bank.

- **Specialty Finance**
  - First Insurance Funding
  - Tricom

Other industry activities include:

- **Managing Member of certain GLA-managed commingled funds**

GLA serves as the Managing Member of certain GLA-managed commingled funds. GLA does not receive an additional fee for its role as the Managing Member.

## **Item 11 – Code of Ethics**

GLA has adopted a Code of Ethics for all supervised persons of the firm describing its high standard of business conduct and fiduciary duty to its clients. The Code of Ethics includes provisions relating to record keeping, compliance with the law, conflicts of interest, a prohibition on insider trading, pre-clearance, and personal securities trading procedures, among other

things. All supervised persons at GLA must acknowledge the terms of the Code of Ethics annually, or as amended.

Integrity, honesty and fairness are the fundamental principles that govern GLA's fiduciary relationship with its clients and set the standard of conduct for our employees, officers and directors in all that they do to carry out GLA's business. Our clients come first. The Code has been designed to assure that these fundamental principles will be applied in all areas of our business.

GLA's employees and persons associated with GLA are required to follow the Code of Ethics. Compliance with the Code of Ethics is a condition of employment. Subject to satisfying this policy and applicable laws, officers, directors and employees of GLA and its affiliates may trade for their own accounts in securities which are recommended to and/or purchased for GLA's clients. Additional restrictions may apply to certain persons depending on their level of access. The Code of Ethics is designed to assure that the personal securities transactions, activities and interests of the employees of GLA will not interfere with (i) making decisions in the best interest of advisory clients and (ii) implementing such decisions while, at the same time, allowing employees to invest for their own accounts. Under the Code certain classes of securities have been designated as exempt transactions, based upon a determination that these would not materially interfere with the best interest of GLA's clients. In addition, the Code requires pre-clearance of many transactions, and restricts trading in close proximity to client trading activity. Nonetheless, because the Code of Ethics in some circumstances would permit employees to invest in the same securities as clients, there is a possibility that employees might benefit from market activity by a client in a security held by an employee. Employee trading is continually monitored under the Code of Ethics, and to reasonably prevent conflicts of interest between GLA and its clients.

GLA anticipates that, in appropriate circumstances, consistent with clients' investment objectives, it will cause accounts over which GLA has management authority to effect, and will recommend to investment advisory clients or prospective clients, the purchase or sale of securities in which the directors, officers, employees and registered persons of GLA and its affiliated broker-dealer, WTI, may purchase or hold securities that are recommended for purchase or sale to clients. Personal securities transactions by persons associated with GLA are subject to the firm's Code of Ethics, which includes various reporting, disclosure and approval requirements, described in summary below, in order to prevent actual or potential conflicts of interest with transactions recommended to clients. The Code of Ethics applies not only to transactions by the individual, but also to transactions for accounts in which such person has an interest individually, jointly or as guardian, executor, or trustee or in which such person or the person's spouse, minor children or other dependents residing in the same household have an interest.

In accord with SEC rules relating to recordkeeping by investment advisers and Rule 17j-1 promulgated under the Investment Company Act of 1940, GLA requires prompt reporting of all covered transactions. Each entity further requires that all brokerage account relationships be disclosed, that the entities receive duplicate confirmations of transactions and custodial account

statements, and annual certifications of compliance with the Code of Ethics from all covered persons. Transactions in government securities, bank certificates of deposit, and shares of unaffiliated open-end mutual funds are excluded from the reporting requirements.

In addition to reporting and recordkeeping requirements, the Code of Ethics imposes various substantive and procedural restrictions on covered transactions. These include the following:

1. Certain securities transactions must be submitted by “Access Persons” (Any director, officer, or employee of the Adviser (including interns, temporary, contract employees); and any director, officer, or employee of the Adviser (including interns, temporary, contract employees, and/or any company in a control relationship to the Adviser) who obtains information concerning recommendations made to a Fund or to or for the account of an Advisory Client regarding the purchase or sale of a security and any other person determined by the Adviser’s Compliance Department to be an Access Person) for pre-approval by GLA’s Compliance Department.
2. Purchases or sales by Access Persons of securities (other than de minimis trades) are prohibited for a period of seven days before and after an account of an advisory client that the Investment Personnel manages trades in that security.
3. Subscriptions by Access Persons to any initial public offering are prohibited.
4. Certain short-term trades of Access Persons are subject to review by GLA’s Compliance Department, which may require disgorgement of profits. Purchases of certain private placement securities require approval of the Compliance Department.

In addition, special rules are applied to certain access persons. These individuals may be prohibited from buying, selling, selling short or otherwise trading in Securities in their personal accounts with exceptions only permitted on a case-by-case basis by the Chief Compliance Officer, or designee. As part of its responsibilities, GLA’s Compliance Department monitors and verifies compliance of covered persons with the requirement of the Code of Ethics and reports apparent violations to GLA’s senior management. Under the Code of Ethics, the Compliance Department has the authority to require reversal or adjustment of a personal transaction, or the disgorgement of a profit realized on a transaction in personal investment activities and those carried out for clients. The Compliance Department also may recommend to management the imposition of more severe sanctions, including suspension of personal investing privileges, or termination of employment, in the case of certain types of violations.

Certain affiliated accounts may trade in the same securities with client accounts on an aggregated basis when consistent with GLA’s obligation of best execution. In such circumstances, the affiliated and client accounts will share commission costs equally and receive securities at a total average price. GLA will retain records of the trade order (specifying each participating account) and its allocation, which will be completed prior to the entry of the aggregated order. Completed

orders will be allocated as specified in the initial trade order. Partially filled orders will be allocated on a pro rata basis. Any exceptions will be explained on the Order.

GLA's clients or prospective clients may request a copy of the firm's Code of Ethics by contacting GLA's Compliance Department at 312-553-3700.

## **Item 12 – Brokerage Practices**

### ***Brokerage Relationships and Selection Criteria for Broker/Dealers***

GLA has adopted policies and procedures regarding the best execution of trades for client accounts. Generally, GLA places client orders by routing such orders to the institutional desks of selected brokers and alternative trading systems, including algorithmic trading systems and crossing networks. Due to any number of factors, including timing of deposits, investment selection process or investment needs, certain clients may receive different execution prices and investment results.

GLA selects broker-dealers partly on the basis of quality of proprietary, or developed in-house, research, as permitted by Section 28 (e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. We do not trade to purchase other products or services which are not permitted by Section 28 (e). Proprietary research includes reports with fundamental data and information on companies, both descriptive and analytical, which review lines of business, products, competitive position, profitability and objectives. Proprietary research also includes similar fundamental reports on industry structure and competition, and reviews and forecasts for the US and global economies. Other areas of research include equity market and investment strategy data, analyses and outlooks. We benefit from proprietary research by not having to produce or pay for these services ourselves at a much higher cost. We pay commissions to broker-dealers for research at prevailing market levels (usually a few cents per share) for such services. These trades are not made at the lowest available commission level, but receive the trading, clearance and settlement capabilities of financially strong firms as part of best execution. We review broker-dealers periodically and develop a limited list of firms providing all aspects of best execution and research. We place trades with each of these relatively large firms. Since we manage all portfolios in a similar fashion (some clients do have exceptions, including statutory or social investing criteria), proprietary research from broker-dealers benefits all clients.

GLA's objective in selecting brokers and in placing trades is to seek to obtain a total cost or proceeds in each transaction which is the most favorable for the client under the circumstances. The best net price, giving effect to brokerage commissions and other costs (as applicable), is an important factor in this decision, but a number of other judgmental factors are considered as they are deemed relevant under the circumstances. These factors include the full range and quality of a broker's services in placing trades, including but not limited to the following, as applicable:

- ability to find liquidity in the market while also minimizing market impact.
- ability to accurately communicate the nature of the market in a particular security.
- ability to obtain timely execution and deliver timely execution reports.
- the size, type and direction of the transaction.
- the size and volume of the broker's order flow.
- the historical actual executed price of the security.
- the commission rate, mark-downs and mark-ups and other costs.
- credit worthiness and financial condition, including net capital requirements.
- ability to handle difficult trades, including block trades, odd-lot trades and other than typical settlement periods.
- responsiveness to GLA's orders.
- recognition of the importance in retaining anonymity of GLA in making trades.
- efficiency and accuracy of clearance and settlement.
- a history of low trade errors, and the willingness to correct mistakes.
- accommodation of special needs, including the willingness to step-out transactions.
- reliability, reputation and integrity.
- research and brokerage services provided to GLA that are expected to enhance GLA's general portfolio management capabilities.
- the frequency and amount of price improvement.
- execution policies and commitment to providing best execution.
- where appropriate, since generally GLA does not request limit orders be displayed, compliance with the requirement to display limit orders priced better than its quotation.
- the willingness and ability to access better-priced orders in alternative trading systems on behalf of the routed orders.
- familiarity and relationship with market makers in the particular security.
- ability to determine in a timely manner the appropriate market maker with which to execute the order; and
- ability to obtain a favorable execution from market makers in the subject security.

Brokerage firms are reviewed prior to being added to GLA's Approved Broker List, and annually thereafter. Under certain circumstances, if GLA believes that it is in the client's best interest, GLA may select a broker not on the Approved Broker List for a specific trade, subject to internal approval in accordance with GLA's policies and procedures.

GLA has implemented a series of internal controls and procedures, including the establishment of the Trade Management Oversight Committee, to address the conflicts of interest associated with and to generally monitor the firm's brokerage practices. In addition, the Committee also reviews trading activity in accounts quarterly, including portfolio turnover. GLA may remove a broker/dealer from the list of firms approved for trading. The Trade Management Oversight Committee consists of senior investment, trading, operations and compliance personnel.



GLA will periodically obtain information as to the general level of commission rates being charged by the brokerage community and will periodically evaluate the overall reasonableness of brokerage commissions paid on client transactions by reference to such data. To the extent GLA has been paying higher commission rates for its transactions, GLA will determine whether the quality of execution and the services provided by the broker/dealer justify these higher commissions.

### ***Principal and Agency Cross Trades***

It is our policy that the firm will not affect any principal or agency cross securities transactions for client accounts. GLA will also not cross trades between client accounts. Principal transactions are generally defined as transactions where an adviser, acting as principal for its own account or the account of an affiliated broker-dealer, buys from or sells any security to any advisory client. A principal transaction may also be deemed to have occurred if a security is crossed between an affiliated Private fund and another client account. An agency cross transaction is defined as a transaction where a person acts as an investment adviser in relation to a transaction in which the investment adviser, or any person controlled by or under common control with the investment adviser, acts as broker for both the advisory client and for another person on the other side of the transaction. Agency cross transactions may arise where an adviser is dually registered as a broker-dealer or has an affiliated broker-dealer.

### **Fundamental Equity Strategies**

The Fundamental Equity team reviews a daily third party generated trade cost analysis report for its institutional client accounts and a report of the largest client account trades for its wrap-fee clients to consider the effectiveness of our trading process. On a quarterly basis a third-party service provider supplies relative analysis of its institutional clients' trading activity versus similar market activity in the same timeframe. GLA's Trade Management Oversight Committee reviews the analysis and discusses any trends noted on a quarterly basis.

The Fundamental Equity team has engaged a third-party trade implementation agent to implement trading and provide middle and back-office support for all U.S. equity trading in separately managed wrap program accounts advised by GLA.

### ***“Soft Dollar” Policy***

Soft Dollars refer to an arrangement whereby GLA directs transactions to a Broker, in exchange for which the Broker provides Brokerage and Research Services to GLA.

In accordance with Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, GLA's clients may pay higher commissions to brokerage firms that provide investment research products and services than to firms which do not provide such services. The use of client brokerage to obtain such investment research products and services in addition to execution services, including by way of commission sharing arrangements, is referred to as “soft dollars.”

GLA's decision to pay such commissions is based on its good faith determination that the commission is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and/or research provided by the broker to GLA.

GLA believes that the research received is, in the aggregate, of assistance to GLA in fulfilling its overall responsibilities to its clients. As a general matter, such research is used to service all of GLA's U.S. Equity accounts, some of which do not participate in soft dollar programs. As a result, each and every research product or service may not be used to service each and every account managed by GLA, and brokerage commissions paid by one account may apply towards payment for research products and services that may not be used in the service of that account.

GLA receives research products and services from unaffiliated brokers under soft dollar arrangements that include proprietary as well as third-party research. The receipt of investment research is an integral supplement to GLA's own research and analysis and allows GLA to obtain the views and information of individuals and research staffs of other firms who have special expertise on certain companies, industries, areas of the economy or market factors. Research products and services also include analyst contact, access to earnings and other financial databases, benchmark information, and analytical software.

By way of example, GLA uses soft dollars to purchase research from certain research-only brokers. GLA also can, from time to time, use soft dollars to purchase access to databases that provide financial and market information or fundamental information for securities.

The use of soft dollars to pay for this research is a benefit for GLA because it does not have to pay for this research using its own resources (hard dollars). The receipt of soft dollar benefits creates a conflict of interest because GLA may have an incentive to select a broker-dealer based on our desire to receive research or information services rather than the clients' interest in paying lower commission rates. As a result, clients may pay commissions higher than those charged by other brokers in return for these soft dollar benefits.

GLA's use of a product or service may involve a "mixed-use," meaning that a portion of the product is used to provide bona fide research as part of the investment decision-making process and part of it may be used for a non-research purpose. The mixed-use of products creates a potential conflict of interest whereby GLA may use soft dollars that are generated with client commissions to pay for a product that has a non-research component. In order to avoid this conflict, GLA must make an ongoing good faith determination as to how much of the cost of a product may be paid with soft dollars and how much of the cost should be paid for with GLA's "hard dollars." Such determination will be re-evaluated on at least an annual basis and whenever there is a substantial change in use. GLA will document the basis for such mixed-use allocations as well as an explanation as to the basis for determining that such allocation was fair and reasonable.

From time to time, certain clients may request that GLA not generate soft dollar credits on trades executed for their accounts. While GLA may accommodate such requests in its discretion, trades for these clients generally may not experience lower transaction costs. In addition, the trading process for these clients may be adversely affected in other ways, including that the client may not participate in aggregated orders with clients that have not made such a request, therefore preventing the client from receiving the price and execution benefits of the aggregated order. In addition, and as with other directed or customized brokerage arrangements, the positions of these accounts in trade ordering and trade rotation may be impacted. GLA reserves the right to reject or limit client requests of this type, and clients may be charged a premium for such arrangements.

GLA has adopted policies and procedures relating to the review of best execution and soft dollar commissions. Periodically, GLA's Trade Management Oversight Committee reviews trade management practices, including soft dollar arrangements, current commission rates, transaction analysis reports, and broker selection generally. They also review the various sources of research products and services to determine which brokers provide the most useful information. A list of these brokers is provided to GLA's traders as guidance to help determine brokerage allocation. In addition, GLA's Investment Committee meets quarterly to review all accounts by strategy type, reviews commissions allocations versus targets as well as other investment and trading practices.

Generally, and as described in the section under the heading "Investment Discretion," GLA is retained on a discretionary basis and is authorized to determine and direct execution of transactions within the client's specified investment objectives. Some clients limit GLA's authority in terms of the selection of broker/dealers in favor of their own brokerage arrangements. GLA has a fiduciary duty to seek best execution and has enacted policies and procedures to allocate trades fairly and equitably among clients over time.

GLA's soft dollar policy is to make a good faith determination of the value of the research product or services in relation to the commissions paid.

Only the Strategic Large Cap Value and Disciplined Equity strategy teams utilize "soft dollars" via commission sharing accounts. The use of this strategy allows us to seek best execution from brokers on an execution only basis and still compensate research providers and sell-side firms for research, systems, conferences, and management access which are critical to the equity strategy teams.

Soft dollar benefits are not proportionally allocated to any accounts that may generate different amounts of the soft dollar benefits.

### ***Directed Brokerage***

GLA ordinarily exercises discretionary authority over a client's account, including the selection of brokers used to execute transactions. In certain circumstances, GLA will accept instructions from

clients to execute all or a percentage of trades through specific brokers (each such arrangement, a “Directed Brokerage Arrangement”). In some cases, GLA has not negotiated the commission rate with the client-directed broker and may not be able to obtain volume discounts. In such cases, the commission rate charged by the directed broker may be higher than what GLA could receive from another broker/dealer. In addition, the client may be unable to obtain the most favorable price on transactions executed by GLA as a result of our inability to aggregate the trades from an account with client-directed brokerage with other client trades.

GLA generally executes a client’s securities transactions with client-directed brokers after non-directed brokerage orders are completed. Since the price of securities may be affected by the time an order is placed, the execution of the purchase and sale through a directed brokerage arrangement may not be as favorable as the price received when the order is “batched” with other clients.

Accordingly, clients who direct commissions to specified broker/dealers may not generate returns equal to clients that do not direct commissions. Clients with Directed Brokerage Arrangements, such as wrap-fee account clients where the wrap-fee sponsor directs the brokers to execute transactions, should understand that the brokerage services obtained through such directed brokers may be at a higher cost and possibly with less favorable execution than clients who do not have Directed Brokerage Arrangements.

Directed Brokerage Arrangements generally fall into three categories:

- Directed Brokerage Arrangements that permit GLA to “step out” a trade from a non-client directed broker for credit. Stepped-out trades may be aggregated or batched with non-directed orders for other institutional accounts managed by GLA. The broker executing the trade agrees to clear and settle the orders for clients with such Directed Brokerage Arrangements through the “directed” broker.
- Directed Brokerage Arrangements that direct 100% of the account’s trades to a broker (i.e., trades may not be stepped out).
- Trades for wrap fee program accounts. In such cases, the wrap program sponsor, or a broker designated by the wrap program sponsor, executes trades for the program. Under the economic arrangements of the program, clients typically pay a single fee, which includes the cost for professional management, commissions, custody and accounting-related and other services.

If a client elects a directed brokerage arrangement, we also request that the client specify in writing:

1. General types of securities for which the designated firm should be used; and
2. Whether the designated firm should be used for all transactions, even though GLA may be able to obtain a more favorable net price and execution from another broker dealer in particular transactions.

For non-wrap fee paying SMA program clients who have chosen to be responsible for their brokerage arrangements (including negotiating the commission rates payable by their accounts), GLA will effect equity transactions through the client's Designated Broker at the commission rates or spreads agreed to by the client directly with the Designated Broker or at the Designated Broker's standard rate if no specific rate has been negotiated. Such rates may not be the lowest available rates and may not be as low as the rate GLA might have obtained if GLA had discretion to select the brokerage firm for the trade execution.

### ***Step-Outs***

GLA may use "step-out trades" when we determine that it may facilitate better execution for certain client trades. Step-out trades are transactions which are placed at one broker/dealer and then "stepped out" by that broker/dealer to another broker/dealer for credit. Step-out trades may benefit the client by finding a natural buyer or seller of a particular security so that GLA can trade a larger block of shares more efficiently. Unless directed otherwise by the client, GLA may use step-out trades for any client account.

GLA may use step-out trades to accommodate a client's directed brokerage mandate. In the case of directed brokerage accounts, trades are often executed through a particular broker/dealer and then "stepped-out" to the directed brokerage firm for credit. In circumstances where GLA has followed the client's instructions to direct brokerage, there can be no assurance that GLA will be able to step-out the trades or, if it is able to step-out the trades, that it will be able to obtain more favorable execution than if it had not stepped-out the trades.

Step-out trades may also generate soft dollar credits, provided that GLA has determined that such transactions are consistent with its obligation to obtain best execution.

### ***LPL Financial Custodial Accounts***

For Private Wealth Client accounts in managed account programs sponsored by LPL, brokerage transactions, including fixed income and over-the-counter transactions, will be effected through LPL. All securities transactions on behalf of the client through LPL are generally on an agency basis and in compliance with applicable law, including Section 11(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rules 11a1-2 and 11a2-2(T) adopted thereunder. Brochures for the specific LPL Programs are available through your Financial Advisor or LPL directly.

Clients should consider whether the use of LPL may result in certain costs or disadvantages to the client, either because the client may pay higher commissions than might otherwise be obtainable from another broker/dealer or receive less favorable net prices and executions of some transactions, or both.

### ***SMA and UMA Accounts***

A client who participates in a wrap fee arrangement with an SMA program Sponsor should consider that, depending on the level of the wrap fee charged by the Sponsor, the amount of portfolio activity in the client's account, the value of the custodial and other services which are provided under the arrangement, and other factors, the wrap fee may or may not exceed the aggregate cost of such services if they were provided separately.

### ***Order Aggregation ("Batching") and Allocation***

GLA may purchase or sell the same security for multiple client separate accounts, accounts of funds managed or sub-advised by GLA, and Affiliated Accounts simultaneously when consistent with the best interests of its clients. Aggregated or "batched" orders can facilitate best execution and avoid favoring one client over another participating client, including any Affiliated Account. In cases where trading restrictions, such as a Directed Brokerage Arrangement, or investment restrictions, are placed on a client's account, GLA may be precluded from aggregating that client's transactions with others. In such a case, the client may pay a higher commission rate and/or receive less favorable prices than clients who are able to participate in an aggregated order.

Orders placed for execution on an aggregated basis are subject to GLA's order aggregation and allocation policy and procedures, as summarized below:

- The portfolio manager must determine that the purchase or sale of the particular security involved is appropriate for the client and consistent with the client's investment objectives and with any investment guidelines or restrictions applicable to the client's account. Generally, all accounts within a particular investment strategy are managed to have similar weightings in securities, subject to client-imposed restrictions and limitations.
- The portfolio manager must reasonably believe that the order aggregation will benefit each client participating in the aggregated order and will enable GLA to seek best execution for the accounts. This requires a reasonably good faith judgment at the time the order is placed for execution, and such determinations may appear different upon subsequent review.
- Prior to entry of an aggregated order, an electronic order ticket is completed which identifies each client account participating in the order and the proposed allocation of the order.
- Each client that participates in an aggregated order will participate at the average share price for all of GLA's transactions in the security for that order, and transaction costs will be shared pro rata based on each client's participation in the transaction.
- If the order cannot be executed in full at the same price or time, securities purchased or sold in a batched transaction are allocated pro rata, when possible, to the participating client accounts, with any odd lots allocated to one of the largest accounts participating in the order to avoid disproportionately high-ticket charges and custodial costs to smaller accounts. GLA may allocate an aggregated order on a different basis than these

procedures with the approval of the Trade Management Oversight Committee, provided that such allocation is in the interests of the firm's clients.

Transactions for client accounts may not be aggregated for execution due to a number of reasons, including differing trade characteristics (for example, price limits), Directed Brokerage Arrangements, and client restrictions and requirements, such as tax considerations and purchase and sale restrictions. For Fundamental Equity wrap fee programs, GLA has engaged a third-party trade implementation agent to implement the trades. GLA trades that cannot be combined will generally be entered by the trading desk on a first-come, first-served basis, and the earlier-placed order will be completed before entering the later one. We may, however, execute a small client order before the completion of a larger order when we believe that doing so will not impact the market. Since orders that are not aggregated may be placed later than aggregated orders, the execution that is obtained for such orders may not be as favorable as the price received with respect to the earlier orders.

### ***Order of Trading and Order Rotation***

GLA's Disciplined Equity Team implements a trade rotation for all accounts so that no client account type is disadvantaged by always trading after other accounts. For any trades implemented, if an account type is traded first in the rotation, the next rebalance the account type is traded last. For example, if fully discretionary accounts are traded first, the following rebalance, UMA accounts would trade first. Following this rotation would prevent a bias toward any set of accounts regularly performing differently over time, given that trades are generally a balanced list of purchases and sales.

GLA's Strategic Fundamental Equity Team, at times, use a random allocation program to fill client orders of limited availability or thinly traded securities, in order to avoid allocating tiny blocks of such securities, which can increase settlement and transaction costs. In order to avoid a partial fill, we may identify an account with a pre-allocation request that matches the remaining shares. That account could be filled and placed back in the group of accounts eligible for a fill on the next trading day. Random allocation should ensure that all eligible accounts have an opportunity to participate in such transactions over time. Random allocation may be especially appropriate when the transaction size is too limited to be effectively allocated pro rata among all eligible managed accounts. In addition, we may use a rotation system as an allocation method under certain circumstances (e.g., the size of the transaction is too limited to allocate effectively among all accounts, or the price is too sensitive to trade for all client accounts).

GLA's Fundamental Equity team has established the following trade order and rotation policy for its Strategies:

- First, program trades (i.e., trades related to client cash contributions and withdrawals), and trades to "square up" certain client accounts with the desired model portfolio weightings are placed. Program trades in multiple accounts may be placed simultaneously. Once placed, trades will be allocated as described above.

- Next, orders related to changes in the model portfolio ("Decision Trades") are placed as follows:
  - If the Decision Trade is in an investment strategy that has institutional accounts only, then (1) orders for non-directed institutional accounts, including separately managed accounts, commingled funds, mutual funds, CITs, and Directed Brokerage Arrangements which can be accommodated through "step-outs" will be placed first, followed by (2) orders for Directed Brokerage Arrangements which cannot be "stepped-out" and accounts that are 100% client directed.
  - If the Decision Trade is in an investment strategy that has both institutional accounts and wrap accounts, then the trading desk will determine whether the institutional and wrap trades can be placed side-by-side in a coordinated fashion or whether a rotation is required. If the trading desk concludes that a trade cannot be coordinated for institutional accounts and wrap accounts without a negative price effect and market impact, then a trading rotation pattern will be implemented and institutional and wrap trades will take turns in priority.
  - All trades for wrap account programs, whether the wrap accounts are traded side-by-side with institutional accounts or during their turn in a wrap-institutional rotation, are also subject to an order rotation such that the wrap program that was sent first for one order will be sent last for the next order.
- In assessing whether a Decision Trade for both institutional accounts and wrap accounts should be placed side-by-side or subject to a rotation, the trading desk will consider order sizes, the current day's trading volume in the security, news on the market or the particular stock, and any other relevant factors.

Generally, if one strategy has an existing order which has not been completed, and another strategy submits an order in the opposite direction, the second order will not be acted upon until the previous order has been filled or cancelled.

Our Fundamental Equity strategies are permitted to invest in securities offered in an IPO, subject to any client restrictions. The limited number of shares that are sometimes offered in an IPO means that we may not always be able to buy the desired number of shares to meaningfully allocate securities among accounts that may purchase such securities.

Investors having accounts in a wrap program that has limitations on the time of day when orders can be entered should be aware that orders for these accounts may be entered after other orders for the same securities have been executed on behalf of other accounts and will not be aggregated with such orders. The execution that is obtained for such orders may not be as favorable as the price received with respect to the earlier orders.

### ***Trade Errors***

GLA has established trade error correction policies and procedures which provide for resolution of trade errors. Once discovered, trade errors must be reported to GLA's Error Committee as



soon as possible. The Error Committee, which consists of senior personnel of the firm, will determine the appropriate corrective action for a trade error.

It is GLA's policy to resolve any trade error identified in a client account in a manner that avoids harm to the client account. To the extent an error is caused by a third party, such as a broker-dealer, GLA will strive to recover any losses associated with such error from such third party. In the event a trade error caused by GLA's fault results in a loss, the client's account will generally be reimbursed by GLA for the amount of the loss. In the event a trade error results in a gain, the client's account will generally receive the proceeds of the gain. The minimum, material amount of any error is \$100 for which correction is required. With respect to wrap program accounts, the trade error policy of the wrap program sponsor, rather than the firm's, will determine whether a trade error occurred and whether the wrap account client retains the gain from a trade error. GLA prohibits the use of soft dollars to resolve trade errors.

Any errors resulting from unique circumstances shall be resolved by the Error Committee on a case-by-case basis. In each case, the error must be resolved in a manner consistent with GLA's fiduciary duties to the client.

### **Item 13 – Review of Accounts**

Meetings are held with the client, before investing begins, to determine the objectives of the portfolio. It is GLA's practice for portfolio managers to meet regularly with clients to ensure stated and written objectives are being met and, if warranted, to discuss changes.

Account reviews are conducted by the members of the investment management teams which include the monitoring of equity, fixed income, and cash levels for each account by investment objective (asset allocation) and investment policies, the concentration of any security in an account including funds, individual securities positions, and the investment rating of any bond held in the account. Account reviews also occur on a non-periodic basis when changes in client objectives and policies and individual issue circumstances occur. For example, a fixed income security downgrade to below investment grade levels may trigger a portfolio review. When client guidelines specifically state the time frame a downgraded bond may be held, the bond will be sold within that time frame. Oversight is conducted by GLA's Account Review Committee which meets on a monthly basis to review exceptions.

GLA's Operations Department is the primary administrator for all client accounts. Clients receive an account statement from their Custodian on no less than a quarterly basis showing all transactions, receipt of sale proceeds, dividend and interest income, and payments for security purchases and other disbursements. Clients may request this portfolio review at any time. Additionally, upon request, Clients also receive reports generated from the firm's portfolio accounting system which are sent to the client (and consultant if applicable) quarterly. Upon request, some clients and consultants receive monthly reports, which may include statements of

portfolio holdings and records of transactions, income for the period, interest and dividends paid, yield, or customized reports throughout the year for special meetings. Topics discussed in reports include a discussion of investment objectives and guidelines, financial asset mix, portfolio holdings, asset allocation summaries, investment philosophy, review and outlook, portfolio transactions and rates of return.

### ***All-Inclusive Wrap Accounts***

The GLA portfolio management teams review all-inclusive wrap accounts consistent with the respective team's own research and analysis.

### ***Account Reconciliations***

For all accounts, GLA performs daily reconciliations on cash, transactions, and holdings in the accounts (including institutional separately managed accounts, GLA sub-advised mutual funds, commingled funds and CITs) against the records of the account custodians. Upon completion, GLA investigates any breaks with the appropriate party, such as the custodian or broker.

Wrap sponsors are responsible for reconciliation of wrap accounts. The wrap sponsor, rather than GLA, is responsible for valuation and billing with respect to investors in wrap accounts.

### ***Reports to Clients***

Quarterly performance reports are available upon client request.

### **Institutional Separate Accounts**

Client statements, including portfolio appraisal reports listing securities positions, their cost, market value, and estimated income and asset value, are provided to clients quarterly, except for those clients who have requested such reports on a monthly basis.

### **Commingled Funds**

Investors in commingled funds receive monthly or quarterly reports with information on beginning and ending period market value, cash activity, gains and losses, performance, and fees relating to their interest in the fund. These statements are prepared and distributed by the fund's administrator/custodian.

Fund financial statements are prepared annually in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and are certified by an independent public accountant registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. Statements are furnished to members within 120 days following the close of the fund's fiscal year.

### **Mutual Funds / ETFs**

Investors in the U.S. and Canadian Equity Mutual Funds and ETFs receive information from the funds regarding their investment in accordance with each fund's prospectus. GLA provides

reporting to the mutual funds and ETFs in accordance with the sub-advisory agreement with respect to each fund.

#### Wrap Accounts

Statements are typically provided to wrap clients by the program sponsor or the client's financial adviser.

#### CITs

Participants in the Great Lakes Collective Investment Trust receive quarterly statements that include portfolio appraisal reports on securities positions, their cost, market value, and estimated income and asset value. Additionally, on the quarterly basis, participants receive a purchases and sales report, market outlook and portfolio performance commentary along with attribution analysis.

Investors in Transamerica Large Cap Value CIT receive information from the fund regarding their investment in accordance with the CIT's offering documents.

## **Item 14 – Client Referrals and Other Compensation**

Except as otherwise noted here, we do not receive an economic benefit from any parties for management of our clients' portfolios.

### ***Soft Dollar Arrangements***

GLA receives certain research products or services from broker-dealers through "soft-dollar" arrangements. These "soft-dollar" arrangements create an incentive for GLA to select or recommend broker-dealers based on GLA's interest in receiving the research products or services and may result in the selection of a broker-dealer on the basis of considerations that are not limited to the lowest commission rates and may result in higher transaction costs than would otherwise be obtainable by GLA on behalf of its clients. Please see the section under the heading "Brokerage Practices" for further information on GLA's "soft-dollar" practices, including GLA's procedures for addressing conflicts of interest that arise from such practices.

### ***Relationships with Client Investment Consultants***

Many of our institutional separate account clients and prospective clients retain investment consultants to advise them on the selection and review of investment managers, or to select investment managers through an Outsourced Chief Investment Officer (OCIO) arrangement. GLA has certain accounts that were introduced to us through consultants. These consultants or their affiliates may, in the ordinary course of their investment consulting business, recommend GLA's investment advisory services, or otherwise place GLA into searches or other selection processes for a particular client.

GLA has extensive dealings with investment consultants in the consultants' role as adviser for their clients. GLA also provides information on our investment styles to consultants, who use that information in connection with searches they conduct for their clients. GLA also responds to "Requests for Proposals" from prospective clients in connection with those searches.

Clients obtained from these consultants may instruct GLA to direct some or all of their brokerage transactions to a particular broker with whom they have a relationship.

GLA may, from time to time, purchase software applications, access to databases, and other products or services from certain other consultants. GLA may periodically pay to attend conferences sponsored by consultant firms.

### ***Relationships with Promoters***

From time-to-time GLA enters into agreements, which comply with Rule 206(4)-1 (SEC Marketing Rule) and other requirements of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, providing for the payment of a portion of the advisory fee to employees of GLA or to financial advisors of LPL who secure clients for GLA. Additionally, GLA may enter into agreements with independent contractors or firms not affiliated with GLA ("Promoters") for the promotion of investment advisory services to qualified prospects. These Promoters may receive a retainer payment and/or a percentage of the fee to be paid to GLA as disclosed in the Solicitor's Agreement. If a solicitor situation were to arise, solicitor payments will not increase the overall fee charged to clients.

Affiliates of GLA may, from time to time, solicit investors on the firm's behalf. GLA compensates certain of its employees for soliciting new advisory clients for GLA. Compensation under these arrangements is paid pursuant to written agreements with such persons or a written compensation plan.

## **Item 15 – Custody**

GLA is deemed to have custody with respect to the assets of the commingled funds we manage. GLA may also enter from time to time into certain separately managed account arrangements where we have been authorized by the client to invoice advisory fees directly to the custodian of the account. In certain circumstances, GLA may receive instructions from clients to facilitate distribution of funds with the custodian pursuant to client written request. We do not take physical custody of our clients' assets, which is provided by the custodians of the commingled funds and client accounts.

GLA requires each of its clients to designate a "qualified custodian." Clients should receive statements at least quarterly from the broker/dealer, bank or other qualified custodian that holds and maintains the client's investment assets. Similarly, clients invested in our commingled funds receive monthly or quarterly account statements from the funds' qualified custodian. We urge all of our clients to carefully review and compare such custodial statements to any account

statements that they may receive from us. Our statements may vary from custodial statements based on differences in accounting procedures, reporting dates, or valuation methodologies of certain securities. All commingled funds are subject to an annual audit and the audited financial statements are distributed to each investor.

GLA has established policies and procedures for the return of any securities, funds or other assets that are inadvertently received by GLA from a client or third party.

## **Item 16 – Investment Discretion**

GLA usually receives discretionary authority from the client at the outset of an advisory relationship. In all cases, however, such discretion is to be exercised in a manner consistent with the stated investment objectives for the particular client account as stated and agreed in the Investment Advisory Agreement. Any investment guidelines and restrictions that deviate from those in the Investment Advisory Agreement must be provided to GLA in writing.

GLA has engaged the services of discretionary sub-advisers for certain strategies. In such circumstances, the sub-adviser has investment discretion pursuant to an agreement between the sub-adviser and GLA, subject to the ongoing oversight by GLA.

GLA also offers non-discretionary advice or provides an investment model or licenses indices to certain clients.

When selecting securities and determining amounts, GLA observes the investment policies, limitations and restrictions of the clients for which it advises.

Clients should understand that any portfolio management restrictions including but not limited to holding specific securities, tax gain-loss instructions, or any other requests limiting GLA's discretion over the portfolio could result in a material investment performance deviation from the performance of other accounts following a similar investment objective.

## **Item 17 – Voting Client Securities**

Unless otherwise instructed, we retain the authority to vote all proxies for our clients. We have adopted proxy voting policies and procedures ("Proxy Voting Policy") which are designed to comply with both SEC Rule 206(4)-6 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA") and to ensure that proxies are voted in the best interest of our clients.

When voting proxies for client portfolios, GLA seeks to vote in a way which GLA believes will maximize the monetary value of each portfolio's holdings. The development and review of GLA's

Proxy Voting Policy is the responsibility of the Proxy Committee. These individuals are responsible for implementing processes and procedures to ensure the objectives of this policy are properly carried out. The Proxy Voting Policy is reviewed and approved by GLA's Operating Committee on an annual basis. In addition to voting proxies, GLA:

- provides clients with its written proxy policy upon request.
- discloses to its clients how they may obtain information on how GLA voted the client's proxies.
- matches proxies received with holdings as of record date.
- reconciles holdings as of record date and rectifies any discrepancies.
- generally, applies its proxy voting policy consistently and keeps records of votes for each client; and
- keeps records of such proxy voting available for inspection by the client or governmental agencies.

In order to facilitate the proxy voting process, GLA has entered into an agreement with Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. ("ISS"), a third-party proxy voting service, to provide GLA with its analysis on proxies and to facilitate the electronic voting of proxies. GLA will conduct oversight of ISS to review its policies and methodologies, its capacity and competence to analyze proxy issues, and its internal controls and conflicts of interest. In the event that a client-directed proxy is in conflict with ISS guidelines, we will vote in accordance with the client's proxy directions.

### ***General Guidelines***

As a matter of firm policy and practice, GLA gives advisory clients the option of granting GLA authority to vote proxies on their behalf. Clients, who elect not to authorize GLA, retain the responsibility for receiving and voting proxies for any and all securities maintained in their portfolios. GLA may provide advice to clients regarding the clients' voting of proxies.

For our Taft-Hartley Clients, our Proxy Committee will review the AFL-CIO Key Vote Survey to ensure adherence with voting proxies for our Taft-Hartley accounts in accordance with the AFL/CIO guidelines during the prior year's proxy voting period.

While GLA follows general voting guidelines, there may be instances when proposals appearing on proxy ballots are not addressed by the Proxy Voting Policy. In such cases, unless directed to do differently by a client and as mutually agreed between the client and the Adviser, votes will be cast in alignment with the best interests of our clients.

We have a Proxy Committee comprised of senior personnel to oversee the voting of client proxies and address specific situations and conflicts. The Proxy Committee will also periodically review ISS' performance and its policies and methodologies and the adequacy and effectiveness of our Proxy Voting Policy.

In the event that (i) GLA discovers a conflict of interest on the part of ISS, (ii) ISS is unable to complete or provide its research and analysis regarding a security on a timely basis or (iii) GLA determines that voting in accordance with ISS guidelines is not in the best interest of the client, GLA will not vote in accordance with ISS guidelines. In such cases, GLA will make an independent decision on how to vote, which may or may not be consistent with ISS guidelines.

We will vote in accordance with applicable ISS guidelines (i) if an employee of GLA or one of its affiliates is on the board of directors of a company held in client accounts or (ii) if a conflict of interest exists between GLA and a client with respect to the issuer. In the event of a conflict of interest between GLA and a client, GLA's voting in accordance with ISS guidelines does not relieve GLA of its fiduciary obligation to either vote in the client's best interest or to provide to the client a full and fair disclosure of the conflict and obtain the client's informed consent.

When we vote proxies on behalf of the account of a corporation, or a pension plan sponsored by a corporation, in which our clients also own stock, we will vote the proxy for the corporation or pension plan's account as directed by the corporation or pension plan and the proxy for all other clients in accordance with ISS guidelines.

GLA does not direct clients' participation in class actions. At client's request, GLA will provide the client with the appropriate holdings and trade information to enable the client to participate or opt-out of the class action at the client's discretion.

### ***Fundamental Equity Strategies***

GLA will vote client proxies in accordance with the applicable ISS guidelines, with certain exceptions, such as with respect to Special Voting Issues (as defined below), or when a client-directed proxy is in conflict with ISS guidelines, or when there is a conflict of interest. GLA may abstain from voting if we determine that abstention is in the best interest of the client.

- When voting in accordance with ISS guidelines, we will generally apply the ISS' Standard Guidelines. For our Taft-Hartley clients, however, GLA will vote these clients' proxies in accordance with ISS' U.S. Taft-Hartley Guidelines.
- ISS will notify us of certain votes involving, without limitation, certain material mergers and acquisition transactions, reorganizations, capital structure changes, dissolutions, conversions or consolidations, dissident shareholders, contested director elections, and certain social and environmental proposals ("Special Voting Issues"). With respect to proxies involving Special Voting Issues, we will make an independent determination on whether to follow ISS's recommendations based on the best interests of the client.
- Proxies for the commingled funds managed by GLA, the CITs and the U.S. and Canadian Equity Mutual Funds will be voted in accordance with ISS guidelines without regard to the interests of any specific investor or prospective investor.

We also recognize that some matters may be presented to shareholders in a combined form, in which the ISS guidelines would call for inconsistent votes. We will vote on such combined

proposals on an issue-by-issue basis and in a manner that is consistent with the goal of protecting the long-term interests of clients, but will honor, to the extent given, client instructions.

If you would like to obtain a copy of GLA's Proxy Voting Policy, or specific information on how your securities were voted, please contact GLA by phone at 312-553-3700 or by mail at Great Lakes Advisors, LLC, 231 South LaSalle Street, 4th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604.

## **Item 18 – Financial Information**

Registered investment advisers are required in this Item to provide you with certain financial information or disclosures about GLA's financial condition. GLA has no financial commitment that impairs its ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to clients and has not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.



## Glossary of Terms

As used in this Brochure, these terms have the following meanings:

- **“Advisers Act”** means the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended.
- **“Affiliated Accounts”** refers to accounts over which GLA has management authority to effect the purchase or sale of securities in which GLA, its affiliates and/or employees, directly or indirectly, have a position of interest.
- **“Block Trade”** generally means 10,000 shares of stock or \$200,000 worth of bonds.
- **“Cash-Equivalents”** means highly liquid, relatively safe investments that can be easily converted into cash, such as Treasury Bills and money market funds.
- **“Code”** means GLA’s Code of Ethics.
- **“Proxy Committee”** refers to GLA’s committee that addresses specific situations and material conflicts relating to the voting of proxies and is responsible for periodically reviewing the firm’s Proxy Voting Guidelines.
- **“Custody”** means holding, directly or indirectly, client funds or securities, or having any authority to obtain possession of them.
- **“Decision Trade”** means trade related to changes in the portfolio model.
- **“Directed Brokerage Arrangement”** means an arrangement where a client directs that all or a percentage of trades be executed through specific brokers.
- **“Disciplined Equity Strategies”** refers to the investment management style which is focused on the use of advanced quantitative techniques to analyze equity securities and financial markets for investment decision making.
- **“Discretionary Authority”** or **“Discretionary Basis”** means GLA’s authority to decide which securities to purchase and sell for the client.
- **“Duration”** means the time-weighted average of expected cash flows from a fixed-income investment, as expressed in a number of years. The longer a security’s duration, the greater its responsiveness to changes in interest rates.
- **“ERISA”** means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.
- **“ESG”** means Environmental, Social and Governance. Environmental, Social and Governance factors (“ESG factors”) are a subset of non-financial performance indicators which include ethical, sustainable and corporate governance issues.
- **“ETF”** or **“Exchange Traded Fund”** means an investment fund traded on stock exchanges, much like stocks. An ETF holds assets such as stocks, commodities, or bonds, and normally trades close to its net asset value over the course of the trading day. Most ETFs track an index, such as the S&P 500.
- **“Fundamental Equity Strategies”** refers to the investment management style which is focused on the use of investment analysis techniques to properly evaluate potential investment candidates in portfolio construction and investment decision making.
  - **“Large Cap Value”** investing seeks to buy stocks which are attractively value relative to their peer group, and companies which have potential catalysts to exceed investor expectations. We work to build a diversified relative value

portfolio with controlled sector risk, managed stock concentration risk, and a market capitalization generally in line with the R1000 Value Index.

- **“Strategic Large Cap Value”** investing seeks to buy stocks trading below our estimate of intrinsic value. We seek to build a portfolio which over time will display value characteristics with attractive dividend yield and better-than-average return on capital metrics relative to the R1000 Value Index. This refers to the Legacy GLA Equity strategy established prior to the RAM acquisition.
- **“Large Cap Value, Large Cap Core, Small Cap Core, Small Cap Value, and Small/Mid Cap Core”** refers to strategies managed by the former Rothschild and Co U.S. Asset Management Inc. prior to April 3, 2023.
- **“IPO” or “initial public offering”** means the first sale of stock by a private company to the public. IPOs are often issued by smaller, younger companies seeking the capital to expand, but can also be done by large privately-owned companies looking to become publicly traded.
- **“Liquidity”** means the ability to convert assets into cash or cash-equivalents without significant loss. Investments in money market funds and listed stocks are considered liquid investments. (See “Cash-Equivalents” above).
- **“Market Capitalization”** is a way of measuring the size of a company by multiplying the current stock price by the number of outstanding shares.
- **“Market Value”** means the price of a security or portfolio.
- **“Multi-Asset Strategies (‘MAS’)** refers to the investment management style which is focused on the use of asset allocation and diversification to reduce risk and improve the efficiency of investment decision making.
- **“Odd-Lot”** means any securities transaction in a block of fewer than 100 shares or 100 bonds.
- **“Order Aggregation”** (“Batching”) means the purchase or sale of the same securities for a number of client accounts simultaneously to facilitate best execution and to reduce brokerage commissions or other costs.
- **“Performance-Based Fee”** is an investment advisory fee based on the performance of an account relative to its benchmark.
- **“Public Company Accounting Oversight Board”** means a non-profit corporation established by Congress to oversee the audits of public companies in order to protect the interests of investors and further the public interest in the preparation of informative, accurate and independent audit reports.
- **“Quantitative Research”** or **“Quantitative Analysis”** means the statistical analysis of security returns to identify factors that have influenced performance in the past. The result of this research may be a model such as a ranking system that is designed to forecast future relative performance. Quantitative research is also used to develop risk models that are based on factors that have been associated with volatility in the past.
- **“SEC”** means the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- **“Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934”** means a safe harbor to advisers exercising “investment discretion” over accounts. To avail itself of the safe harbor the

adviser must make a good faith determination that the amount of commission paid is reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided by the broker dealer, viewed in terms of the particular transaction or the adviser's overall responsibilities to its discretionary account.

- **“Side-by-Side Management”** occurs when investment teams and individual portfolio managers manage multiple accounts, including separate accounts, commingled funds, mutual funds and wrap accounts, and/or proprietary accounts using the same or a similar investment strategy. In some cases, the different fee amounts paid by the various types of accounts could present certain conflicts of interest as it may provide an incentive to favor higher-paying or proprietary accounts over other accounts.
- **“Sponsor”** a broker-dealer or other financial services company who hosts bundled-fee (wrap) account programs. A sponsor of a wrap fee program typically organizes and administers the program, including selecting the managers that are offered in the program. The sponsor can also provide advice to clients concerning asset allocation and manager selection, among other things.
- **“Step-Out”** means a transaction placed at one broker dealer and then “given up” or “stepped out” by that broker dealer to another broker dealer for credit. This may benefit the client by finding a natural buyer or seller of a particular security and enable a larger block of shares to be traded more efficiently.
- **“Taft-Hartley Plan”** – is a type of retirement plan for union employees.
- **“Wrap Fee”** is a bundled fee a client pays to the sponsor of a wrap program for administration, custody, asset management, trade execution, and performance monitoring and reporting.
- **“Wrap Program”** an investment program sponsored by certain broker-dealers or other financial services companies that provides administration, custody, asset management, trade execution, and performance monitoring and reporting for a single, all-inclusive (“wrap”) fee.

# ADV Part 2B

## Great Lakes Advisors Disciplined Equity Team

Great Lakes Advisors, LLC

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Tampa, FL 33607

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GREAT LAKES ADVISORS

A WINTRUST WEALTH MANAGEMENT COMPANY



This Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Great Lakes Advisors, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact us at 800-621-4477. The information in this Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or by any state securities authority.

Great Lakes Advisors, LLC (“GLA” and “Adviser”) is a registered investment adviser with the SEC. Registration of an Investment Adviser does not imply any level of skill or training. The oral and written communications of an Adviser provide you with information about which you determine to hire or retain an Adviser.

Additional information about the Adviser is also available on the SEC’s website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

April 4, 2023



GREAT LAKES ADVISORS

A WINTRUST WEALTH MANAGEMENT COMPANY

## Educational background and business experience

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### Jon E. Quigley, CFA®



Jon Quigley, CFA®, born 1970, is the Chief Investment Officer of Disciplined Equities for Great Lakes Advisors. He joined the firm in 2000 and has worked in the investment industry since 1995. Jon leads the management of all Disciplined Equity client portfolios and provides managerial oversight of the Disciplined Equity portfolio managers. Jon also leads the team's efforts in enhancing existing portfolio management systems while continuing to be a vital member of the firm's investment team.

Prior to joining the firm, Jon was a Portfolio Manager with LBS Capital Management where he was responsible for the global tactical asset allocation and tactical sector selection strategies.

Jon earned a B.A. in Economics from Wake Forest University and an MS in Predictive Analytics from Northwestern University. He has obtained the Chartered Financial Analyst Designation. He is a member of the Society of Quantitative Analysts, the CFA Institute, the CFA Tampa Bay Society and the Chicago Quantitative Alliance.

\*For more information on the qualifications of this designation, please see the appendix entitled, "CFA Institute Financial Adviser Statement for SEC Form ADV."

#### **Disciplinary Information**

Registered investment advisers are required to disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of each supervised person providing investment advice. No information is applicable to this Item.

#### **Other Business Activities**

Mr. Quigley is not engaged in any other investment-related business or occupation.

#### **Additional Compensation**

Mr. Quigley does not receive compensation from persons who are not clients, or compensation based on the number or amount of sales, client referrals, or new accounts.

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**John D. Bright, CFA®**

John Bright, CFA®, born 1975, is a Senior Portfolio Manager on the Disciplined Equity team for Great Lakes Advisors. He joined the firm in 2002 and began his investment career in 1998. His primary responsibility is portfolio construction for the firm's tax-managed strategies.

Prior to joining the investment team, John served as the Operations Manager for the firm. John managed trading, portfolio accounting, and relationship implementation for the firm.

John started in the industry at Investment Advisory Services, a division of Raymond James Financial in 1998. As a Senior Trading Associate, he was responsible for block and individual account trading and portfolio management review.

John earned a B.S. in Finance from the University of South Florida. He has obtained the Chartered Financial Analyst designation. He is also a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Tampa Bay Society.

\*For more information on the qualifications of this designation, please see the appendix entitled, "CFA Institute Financial Adviser Statement for SEC Form ADV."

**Disciplinary Information**

Registered investment advisers are required to disclose all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of each supervised person providing investment advice. No information is applicable to this Item.

**Other Business Activities**

Mr. Bright is not engaged in any other investment-related business or occupation.

**Additional Compensation**

Mr. Bright does not receive compensation from persons who are not clients, or compensation based on the number or amount of sales, client referrals, or new accounts.

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## Supervision

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Mr. Quigley is supervised by GLA Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Kiley and reports to the Management Committee. Mr. Kiley can be reached by phone at 800-621-4477.

Mr. Bright is supervised by Jon Quigley, Chief Investment Officer – Disciplined Equity. Mr. Quigley can be reached by phone at 888-248-8324

To facilitate supervisory oversight of advisory activities, each Account is subject to periodic review by the Account Review Committee for adherence to the investment objective and risk tolerance of the client through a review of the account's asset allocation, asset classes and securities held or not held in the portfolio.

\* The "Chartered Financial Analyst" (CFA) designation is awarded by the CFA Institute. The CFA Institute is a global association of investment professionals whose mission is to lead the investment profession globally by setting the highest standards of ethics, education, and professional excellence. The CFA designation is a mark of distinction that is globally recognized by employers, investment professionals, and investors as the definitive standard by which to measure serious investment professionals.

## CFA Institute Financial Adviser Statement for SEC Form ADV

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The Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter is a globally respected, graduate-level investment credential established in 1962 and awarded by CFA Institute — the largest global association of investment professionals.

There are currently more than 90,000 CFA charter holders working in 134 countries. To earn the CFA charter, candidates must: 1) pass three sequential, six-hour examinations; 2) have at least four years of qualified professional investment experience; 3) join CFA Institute as members; and 4) commit to abide by, and annually reaffirm, their adherence to the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.

### **High Ethical Standards**

The CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct, enforced through an active professional conduct program, require CFA charter holders to:

- Place their clients' interests ahead of their own
- Maintain independence and objectivity
- Act with integrity
- Maintain and improve their professional competence
- Disclose conflicts of interest and legal matters

### **Global Recognition**

Passing the three CFA exams is a difficult feat that requires extensive study (successful candidates report spending an average of 300 hours of study per level). Earning the CFA charter demonstrates mastery of many of the advanced skills needed for investment analysis and decision making in today's quickly evolving global financial industry. As a result, employers and clients are increasingly seeking CFA charter holders—often making the charter a prerequisite for employment. Additionally, regulatory bodies in 22 countries and territories recognize the CFA charter as a proxy for meeting certain licensing requirements, and more than 125 colleges and universities around the world have incorporated a majority of the CFA Program curriculum into their own finance courses.

### **Comprehensive and Current Knowledge**

The CFA Program curriculum provides a comprehensive framework of knowledge for investment decision making and is firmly grounded in the knowledge and skills used every day in the investment profession. The three levels of the CFA Program test a proficiency with a wide range of fundamental and advanced investment topics, including ethical and professional standards, fixed-income and equity analysis, alternative and derivative investments, economics, financial reporting standards, portfolio management, and wealth planning. The CFA Program curriculum is updated every year by experts from around the world to ensure that candidates learn the most relevant and practical new tools, ideas, and investment and wealth management skills to reflect the dynamic and complex nature of the profession.

To learn more about the CFA charter, visit [www.cfainstitute.org](http://www.cfainstitute.org).



**FACTS**

**WHAT DOES WINTRUST WEALTH MANAGEMENT DO WITH YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?**

**Why?**

Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share, and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to understand what we do.

**What?**

The types of personal information we collect and share depend on the product or service you have with us. This information can include:

- Social Security number and employment information
- Account Balances and transaction history
- Credit history and investment experience

**How?**

All financial companies need to share customers' personal information to run their everyday business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their customers' personal information; the reasons Wintrust Wealth Management chooses to share; and whether you can limit this sharing.

Reasons we can share your personal information	Does Wintrust Wealth Management share?	Can you limit this sharing?
<b>For our everyday business purposes—</b> such as to process your transactions, maintain your account(s), respond to court orders and legal investigations, or report to credit bureaus	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For our marketing purposes—</b> to offer our products and services to you	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For joint marketing with other financial companies</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes—</b> information about your transactions and experiences	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>For our affiliates' everyday business purposes—</b> information about your creditworthiness	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>For our affiliates to market to you</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>For non-affiliates to market to you</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>We don't share</b>

**To limit our sharing**

- **Email your request to [privacy@wintrustwealth.com](mailto:privacy@wintrustwealth.com) by providing your name, address, and last four digits of your account number or call us at 866-943-4732.**
- Please note:** If you are a *new* customer, we can begin sharing your information 30 days from the date we sent this notice. When you are *no longer* our customer, we continue to share your information as described in this notice; however, you can contact us at any time to limit our sharing.

**Questions**

If you have questions about our policy or for additional copies of this notice, send an e-mail to [privacy@wintrustwealth.com](mailto:privacy@wintrustwealth.com) or contact Wintrust Wealth Management at 231 S. LaSalle Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60604 or call 866-943-4732.

Trust and asset management services offered by Wintrust Private Trust Company, N.A. and Great Lakes Advisors, LLC, respectively. Wintrust Investments provides **securities and advisory services through LPL Financial (LPL), a registered investment advisor and broker-dealer (member FINRA/SIPC)**. Insurance products are offered through LPL or its licensed affiliates. Wintrust Financial Corporation and Wintrust Investments **are not** registered as a broker-dealer or investment advisor. Registered representatives of LPL offer products and services using Wintrust Investments and may also be employees of Wintrust Financial Corporation. These products and services are being offered through LPL or its affiliates, which are separate entities from, and not affiliates of, Wintrust Financial Corporation or Wintrust Investments. Securities and insurance offered through LPL or its affiliates are:

<b>Not Insured FDIC or Any Other Government Agency</b>	<b>Not Bank Guaranteed</b>	<b>Not Bank Deposits or Obligations</b>	<b>May Lose Value</b>
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Who we are	
Who is providing this notice?	Wintrust Wealth Management (“WWM”) is providing this notice. WWM includes: Wintrust Investments, LLC (“WTI”); Great Lakes Advisors, LLC (“GLA”); Wintrust Private Trust Company, N.A. (“WPTC”); and Chicago Deferred Exchange Company, LLC (“CDEC”)

What we do	
How does Wintrust Wealth Management protect my personal information?	To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer safeguards and secured files and buildings. Mobile information will not be shared for marketing purposes. All categories exclude text messaging originator opt-in data and consent; this information is not shared with any third parties.
How does Wintrust Wealth Management collect my personal information?	We collect your personal information, for example, when you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open an account or make deposits or withdrawals from your account</li> <li>• buy securities from us or sell securities to us</li> <li>• seek advice about your investments</li> </ul> We also collect your personal information from others, such as credit bureaus, affiliates, or other companies.
Why can't I limit all sharing?	Federal law gives you the right to limit only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sharing for affiliates' everyday business purposes—information about your creditworthiness</li> <li>• affiliates from using your information to market to you</li> <li>• sharing for non-affiliates to market to you</li> </ul> State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing. See below for more on your rights under state law.
What happens when I limit sharing for an account I hold jointly with someone else?	Your choices will apply to everyone on your account.

Definitions	
<b>Affiliates</b>	Companies related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Our affiliates include financial companies such as: <b>Wintrust Community Banks:</b> Barrington Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Beverly Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Crystal Lake Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Hinsdale Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Lake Forest Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Libertyville Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Macatawa Bank, N.A.; Northbrook Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Old Plank Trail Community Bank, N.A.; Schaumburg Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; State Bank of The Lakes, N.A.; St. Charles Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Town Bank, N.A.; Village Bank &amp; Trust, N.A.; Wheaton Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Wintrust Bank, N.A. <b>Specialized Services:</b> FIRST Insurance Funding, a division of Lake Forest Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Wintrust Life Finance, a division of Lake Forest Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; FIRST Insurance Funding of Canada Inc.; Tricom; Wintrust Agent Finance, a division of Lake Forest Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Wintrust Asset Finance, a subsidiary of Beverly Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A.; Wintrust Specialty Finance, a division of Beverly Bank &amp; Trust Company, N.A. <b>Wealth Management:</b> Wintrust Wealth Management, consisting of Great Lakes Advisors, LLC; Wintrust Private Trust Company, N.A.; Wintrust Investments, LLC; Chicago Deferred Exchange Company, LLC. <b>Mortgage:</b> Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank &amp; Trust Co., N.A.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Non-affiliates</b>	Companies not related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and nonfinancial companies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Wintrust Wealth Management does not share with non-affiliates so they can market to you.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Joint Marketing</b>	A formal agreement between nonaffiliated financial companies that together market financial products or services to you. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Our joint marketing partners can include financial product or service marketing companies and financial institutions such as LPL Financial LLC.</i></li> </ul>

Other Important Information	
<p>VT: We treat all consumers with a Vermont mailing address as if they have limited sharing with third parties as described on pg.1 of our privacy notice. We will not share information about your creditworthiness between our affiliates except with your consent.</p> <p>CA: We will not share information we collect about you with companies outside of our affiliates, unless the law allows. We may share information with your consent, to service your accounts, or to provide rewards or benefits you are entitled to. Please see our CCA notice for additional information.</p> <p>NV: We are providing you this notice under state law. You may be placed on our internal do not call list by calling 844-549-1755 or completing the “Information Sharing Opt-Out Form” at <a href="http://www.wintrust.com/privacy">www.wintrust.com/privacy</a>. Nevada law requires we provide the following contact information: Bureau of Consumer Protection, Office of the Nevada Attorney General, 555 E. Washington St., Suite 3900, Las Vegas, NV 89101; phone: (702) 486-3132; email: <a href="mailto:aginfo@ag.nv.gov">aginfo@ag.nv.gov</a>.</p>	

# Wintrust Financial Corporation

## Proxy Policy

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### *Policy Document*

This Policy sets forth the set of basic principles and associated guidelines to guide, direct and limit actions with respect to the management of proxy voting guidelines in line with the long-term strategic goals and Risk Appetite of Wintrust Financial Corporation.

<b>Policy Owner:</b>	Heather Alvarado, Managing Director, Great Lakes Advisors
<b>Policy Contact:</b>	Jim Sommerfield, Jr. CSCP®, Senior Compliance Officer & Agency Principal, Wintrust Wealth Management
<b>Sponsoring Committee:</b>	Great Lakes Advisors, LLC Operating Committee
<b>Review Cycle:</b>	Annually
<b>Approval Date:</b>	April 23, 2024
<b>Policy Risk Tier:</b>	Tier Three
<b>Location Where Policy is Stored:</b>	P:\!Approved Policies and Procedures
<b>Policy Number:</b>	To be determined

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## Table of Contents

Policy .....	2
Purpose .....	2
Scope.....	3
Requirements.....	3
Training and Communication Plan.....	13
Definitions.....	13
Related Information.....	13
Revision History .....	13
Appendices.....	0

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# Proxy Policy

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## Policy

- 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 Firm may decide to not vote proxies in proprietary pilot accounts.
- 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 as its fiduciary duty, 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.
- In order to administer this Proxy Policy, the Firm has a Proxy Committee comprised of senior personnel of the Firm, including portfolio management, Operations, and Compliance departments.

## Purpose

Great Lakes Advisors is focused on delivering the long-term investment returns our clients rely upon for their financial needs. One of the means by which we pursue that aim is through active ownership, which we define as engaging with companies to influence their policies and operations in order to reduce risk and maximize long-term value creation.

Great Lakes Advisors, LLC, as a matter of policy and as a fiduciary to our clients, has responsibility for voting proxies for portfolio securities consistent with the best economic interests of the clients.

- Our firm maintains written policies and procedures as to the handling, research, voting and reporting of proxy voting and makes appropriate disclosures about our firm's proxy policies and practices.
- Our policy and practice include the responsibility to monitor corporate actions, receive and vote client proxies and disclose any potential conflicts of interest as well as making information available to clients about the voting of proxies for their portfolio securities and maintaining relevant and required records.

## Scope

- This policy applies to all members of Great Lakes Advisors and any processes relating to the consideration and voting of proxies on behalf of Great Lakes' clients.

## Requirements

### 1.0 Policy Governance

#### 1.1 Policy Administration

Members of the Proxy Committee.

#### 1.2 Policy Review and Approval

The GLA Operating Committee will review this Policy at least annually or more frequently as necessary (e.g. when material changes are required and/or upon recommendation from the Proxy Committee).

#### 1.3 Policy Revisions

- The Owner or Contact may propose revisions to the Policy, to then be presented to the GLA Proxy Committee
- The Proxy Committee has the responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of our proxy voting policy, practices, disclosures and record keeping, including outlining our voting guidelines in our procedures.
- Material revisions will then be routed to GLA's Operating Committee for final approval and distribution.

#### 1.4 Exceptions to Policy

- Exceptions to this Policy, or any breaches in related Risk, are to be reported to the Policy Owner and subsequently the Proxy Committee.
- Additionally, any breaches related to Risk are to be reported to the GLA Operating Committee

### 2.0 Policy Components: Use of Third-Party Proxy Voting Service

While the voting of proxies remains a fiduciary duty of the Firm, the Firm may contract with service providers to perform certain functions with respect to proxy voting, subject to the oversight by the Firm, as described in these procedures.

The Firm has entered into an agreement with Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. ("ISS") to provide the Firm with its analysis on proxies and to facilitate the electronic voting of proxies. The Firm has instructed ISS to execute all proxies in accordance with the applicable set of Firm or ISS guidelines, except with respect to Special Voting Issues (as defined below) or unless otherwise instructed by the Firm with respect to a particular vote. The Compliance Department manages the Firm's relationship with ISS.

Proxies relating to securities held in client accounts will be sent directly to ISS. If a proxy is received by the Firm and not sent directly to ISS, the Firm will promptly forward the proxy to ISS. Having ISS complete the actual voting of all proxies provides a central source for the Firm's proxy voting records.

### **3.0 Policy Components: Proxy Voting Guidelines for Fundamental Equity Strategies**

- 3.1 *ISS' Standard Guidelines and U.S. Taft-Hartley Guidelines.*** Except as described below, the Firm will vote proxies for its clients, including the commingled funds managed by the Firm, through the use of ISS' services in accordance with applicable ISS guidelines. When voting in accordance with ISS guidelines, the Firm will generally apply the ISS' Standard Guidelines. For the Firm's Taft-Hartley clients, however, the Firm will vote proxies in accordance with ISS' U.S. Taft-Hartley Guidelines.
- 3.2 *Special Voting Issues.*** ISS will notify the Firm of certain votes involving, without limitation, certain material mergers and acquisition transactions, reorganizations, capital structure changes, dissolutions, conversions or consolidations, dissident shareholders, contested director elections, and certain social and environmental proposals ("Special Voting Issues"). With respect to all proxies involving Special Voting Issues, a member of the Proxy Committee and the applicable portfolio manager will conduct a more detailed analysis of the issuer or the specific matter to be voted on and will determine whether the Firm will follow ISS recommendations or whether the Firm will make an independent determination on how to vote the proxy in accordance with the best interests of the clients. The Operations Department will send the Firm's decision on how to vote the proxy to ISS, which will vote the proxy.
- 3.3 *Client-Directed Proxies.*** In the event that a client-directed proxy is in conflict with ISS Guidelines, the Firm will vote in accordance with the client's proxy guideline. ISS will execute the vote as directed by the Firm.
- 3.4 *ISS' Conflicts and Other Instances of Deviation from ISS Guidelines.*** In the event that (i) the Firm becomes aware of a conflict of interest between the Firm and ISS, (ii) ISS is unable to complete or provide its research and analysis regarding a security on a timely basis or (iii) the Firm determines that voting in accordance with ISS guidelines is not in the best interest of the client, the Firm will not vote in accordance with ISS guidelines. In such cases, the Firm will make an independent decision on how to vote, which may or may not be consistent with ISS guidelines. ISS will execute the vote as directed by the Firm.
- 3.5 *Conflicts of the Firm.*** In seeking to avoid conflicts, the Firm will vote in accordance with applicable ISS guidelines (i) if an employee of the Firm or one of its affiliates is on the board of directors of a company held in client accounts or (ii) if a conflict of interest exists between the Firm and a client with respect to the issuer. In the event of a conflict of interest between the Firm and a client, the Firm's voting in accordance with ISS guidelines does not relieve the Firm of its fiduciary obligation to either vote in the client's best interest or to provide to the client a full and fair disclosure of the conflict and obtain the client's informed consent.

- 3.6** In the case of ERISA clients, if the investment management agreement reserves to the ERISA client the authority to vote proxies when the Firm determines it has a material conflict that affects its best judgment as an ERISA fiduciary, the Firm will give the ERISA client the opportunity to vote the proxies themselves. Absent the client reserving voting rights, the Firm will vote the proxies in accordance with this Proxy Voting Policy.
- 3.7** When the Firm votes proxies on behalf of the account of a corporation, or a pension plan sponsored by a corporation, in which the Firm's other clients also own stock, the Firm will vote the proxy for its other clients in accordance with applicable ISS guidelines and the proxy for the corporation or its pension plan's account as directed by the corporation.

#### **4.0 Policy Components: Proxy Voting Guidelines for Disciplined Equity and Multi-Asset Strategies**

This policy works in concert with the Proxy Voting Guidelines.

Overall, Great Lakes Advisors will generally vote proxy ballots in accordance with these guidelines. However, we recognize that the circumstances surrounding each proxy ballot item are unique and that no set of guidelines can serve as a 'one size fits all' framework directing how votes should be cast. We evaluate each proxy item within the context of a company's unique circumstances and will cast votes in alignment with the best interests of our clients. If proposals appearing on proxy ballots are not addressed by these guidelines, we will cast votes in alignment with the best interests of our clients.

Some of the considerations we incorporate into our voting decisions include:

- The relevance of the topic to the financial success of the company;
- The degree to which the issue is already being effectively addressed by the company;
- The cost effectiveness of the proposal's request

Typically, Great Lakes Advisors favors improved corporate disclosure of material information on policies and performance relevant to investors. Additional information on relevant issues improves the investment decision-making process and reduces portfolio risk.

The Proxy Voting Guidelines document presents information on various topics, which are detailed below:

##### **4.1 Governance:**

A company's board of directors is responsible for the overall governance of the corporation, for representing the interests of shareholders, and for overseeing the company's relationships with other stakeholders. Hallmarks of an effective board typically include independence, accountability, and diversity of backgrounds and experiences.

##### **4.1.1. Board of Directors**

- Director Elections – Great Lakes Advisors will typically support the company's candidates for the board of directors unless there is a compelling reason to withhold support, such as poor attendance, insufficient board independence, over-boarding,



or failure to satisfactorily carry out the duties and responsibilities of a director. In situations where there are competing candidates or competing slates of candidates, Great Lakes Advisors will vote in the best interests of our clients.

- Annual Elections – Great Lakes Advisors generally supports the annual election of all directors. We believe that annual elections improve the accountability of board members.
- Independent Chair – In most circumstances, Great Lakes Advisors believes that investor interests are served best when the board is led by an independent, non-executive chairperson. For instances when the CEO is also the board chair, Great Lakes Advisors supports the appointment of an independent lead director.
- Board Diversity – Great Lakes Advisors believes that boards are more effective when they are made up of directors with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and areas of expertise. Great Lakes Advisors may withhold support from members of the Nominating or Governance Committees if there is insufficient diversity on the board and an adequate explanation is not disclosed.
- Board Committees – To avoid conflicts of interest, Great Lakes Advisors believes that members of the Audit, Compensation, and Nominating Committees should consist exclusively of independent directors. When this is not the case, Great Lakes Advisors may withhold support from members of the Nominating or Governance Committees.

#### 4.1.2. Compensation

- Executive Compensation – Great Lakes Advisors believes that every company is unique and, therefore, compensation plans will vary. We will evaluate compensation proposals on a case-by-case basis. Some of the criteria we will use in our analysis include:
  - Disclosure – explanation of executive compensation plans should be clear, complete, and timely.
  - Performance-based – compensation should be linked to the financial metrics that best reflect value creation on behalf of shareholders and should include both short-term and long-term performance metrics.
  - Link to relevant ESG performance – ideally, a component of compensation should be linked to performance on material ESG issues that are likely to affect the financial performance of the company.
  - Reasonableness – the total amount of compensation and the breakdown between base salary, annual incentive, long-term incentive, and stock option plans should be reasonable. Re-pricing or replacing underwater stock options, as well as excessive use of discretionary or guaranteed bonuses, should be avoided. Peer groups used by the company for comparative purposes should be appropriate.

We prefer companies to sponsor a say-on-pay vote on an annual basis.

- Director Compensation – In order to attract and retain qualified individuals and to ensure the alignment of directors' interests with those of shareholders, Great Lakes Advisors believes that effective director compensation should be reasonable in size, consist of equity that fully vests on the grant date, and should include multi-year equity holding requirements. Director compensation should not include

performance-based components that may conflict with directors' roles representing shareholders' interests.

- Compensation Committee – Great Lakes Advisors may withhold support from members of the Compensation Committee if there is a lack of alignment between executive compensation and corporate performance or when significant opposition to a say-on-pay proposal is not addressed adequately.

#### 4.1.3. Shareholder Rights

- Proxy Access – Granting long-term shareholders the ability to nominate director candidates can improve board accountability. Great Lakes Advisors generally supports proxy access proposals with the following criteria: nominating investors must in aggregate hold at least three percent of outstanding shares; they must have held those shares continuously for at least three years; and nominees must constitute less than a majority of directors.
- Supermajority Voting – Great Lakes Advisors opposes supermajority voting rules whereby a simple majority vote (i.e. 50% + 1) is insufficient to pass a measure. We will generally vote against proposals to implement a supermajority provision and in favor of proposals to implement a simple majority provision.
- Cumulative Voting – Great Lakes Advisors generally opposes cumulative voting provisions, wherein a shareholder can combine all of their director votes in favor of a single candidate.
- Written Consent – Great Lakes Advisors will vote in support of enabling shareholders to act through written consent and vote against proposals limiting this right.
- Special Meetings – Great Lakes Advisors will generally vote in support of reasonable provisions that provide shareholders the right to call special meetings.
- Virtual Meetings – Great Lakes Advisors recognizes the importance of annual in-person meetings, which provide a unique forum for shareholders to communicate with corporate leadership. We also recognize the benefits provided by virtual annual meetings, which enable shareholders to participate without incurring the time and expense of travel. We will support proposals that establish a hybrid in-person/virtual meeting and against proposals that eliminate in-person annual meetings in favor of virtual-only meetings.
- Poison Pills – Great Lakes Advisors generally votes against poison pills or other anti-takeover measures that prevent the majority of shareholders from exercising their rights.
- Meeting Adjournment – Great Lakes Advisors will vote against the adjournment of meetings in order to solicit additional votes.
- Other Business – Great Lakes Advisors will vote against proposals to conduct other business at the meeting, which extends blank check powers to those acting as proxies.
- Bylaw Amendments – Great Lakes Advisors will vote in favor of proposals to require bylaw amendments be approved by shareholders and against proposals to allow bylaw amendments without shareholder approval.

## **4.2 Environmental and Social Issues**

#### 4.2.1. Disclosure

The disclosure by companies of information on environmental and social issues that can affect the financial performance of the company will aid investors in making better, more well-informed investment decisions.

- Great Lakes Advisors will generally support proposals requesting companies disclose additional information on relevant environmental and social issues when current disclosure levels are determined to be insufficient.

#### 4.2.2. Climate Change

Great Lakes Advisors generally supports proposals asking companies to take steps to reduce risks resulting from climate change such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving resource use efficiency, and increasing the use of renewable energy.

#### 4.2.3. Diversity

Great Lakes Advisors believes that a diverse workforce free from discrimination is in the best interest of companies and their shareholders.

- Policies – Great Lakes Advisors generally supports proposals asking companies to include language in diversity statements or policies specifically prohibiting discrimination based upon sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Disclosure – Great Lakes Advisors generally supports proposals asking companies to disclose information on employee diversity including publishing their EEO-1 reports.

#### 4.2.4. Workplace Issues

- Great Lakes Advisors will generally support proposals requesting the adoption of workplace codes of conduct that address working conditions, fair wages, child labor, and forced labor.
- Great Lakes Advisors will generally support proposals requesting companies to adopt vendor or supplier standards addressing workplace safety, worker abuse or intimidation, forced labor, child labor, and fair pay.
- Great Lakes Advisors will support on a case-by-case basis proposals asking companies to audit and disclose audit results of workplaces and supply chains.

### **4.3 Other Issues**

#### 4.3.1. Lobbying

Great Lakes Advisors believes that companies may benefit from engaging in lobbying activities in order to influence policies or legislation that may affect their business. Lobbying may be funded either directly or indirectly through third-party groups such as trade associations.

- Great Lakes Advisors will review on a case-by-case basis proposals asking companies to disclose information about their lobbying activities.

#### 4.3.2. Political Contributions

Great Lakes Advisors believes that making contributions to political candidates is generally not in the best interest of shareholders in that politicians will advocate for positions on a wide range of issues. Political influence by companies is more effective

when conducted through lobbying on specific issues and advocating a specific position beneficial to the company and its shareholders.

- Great Lakes Advisors will review on a case-by-case basis proposals asking companies to disclose information about their political contributions.

### **5.0 Policy Components: Sub-Adviser Programs**

To the extent that GLA acts as a subadvisor to an investment program, it will adhere to any proxy voting guidelines as stated in the contract with the subadvisor and/or client regarding how such sub advised funds are to be voted.

### **6.0 Policy Components: Abstentions; Determination Not to Vote**

The Firm may abstain from voting if the Firm determines that abstention is in the best interests of the client. In making this determination, the Firm will consider various factors, including but not limited to (i) the costs (e.g., translation or travel costs) associated with exercising the proxy and (ii) any legal restrictions on trading resulting from the exercise of the proxy.

Some clients of the Firm participate in securities lending. Generally speaking, the Firm will not vote securities that are out on loan within a securities lending program.

### **7.0 Policy Components: Securities No Longer Owned or Not Held in Models**

The Firm will not review the proxy votes for securities that are no longer owned by a client account at the time of the proxy meeting.

To the extent that GLA clients own securities that are not included in its Model Portfolios (as defined by our Strategic Fundamental Equity, Multi-Asset Strategy and Disciplined Equity units), the Proxy Committee may determine that, with the client's consent, GLA will exercise voting authority as recommended by management of the company, absent a contrary instruction from the client.

Lastly, in cases where a client's custodian account holds Wintrust Financial Corporation (WTFC) common stock and GLA has discretionary authority to vote all proxies in the client's account, but no investment authority over the WTFC security, GLA will Abstain from voting all items on the WTFC ballot.

### **8.0 Policy Components: Proxy Voting Audit Procedures and Oversight of Third-Party Proxy Voting Service**

#### **8.1 Delegation or Assignment of Proxy Voting Responsibilities**

GLA retains the authority to delegate proxy voting responsibilities to affiliates and/or external third parties as it deems appropriate in accordance with Rule 206(4)-6. Delegated proxy relationships shall be properly disclosed and agreed to by GLA clients. GLA shall make inquiries

and take necessary measures to ensure delegated proxy parties comply with regulatory requirements.

## 8.2 External Vendor Use

If or when GLA decides to rely on the recommendations of a proxy advisory firm versus our own extensive internal research, GLA 1) would determine if the proxy advisory firm has the capacity and competency to make such voting recommendations, and conduct due diligence reviews of the firm; 2) would determine if the proxy recommendations made by the firm are based on materially accurate information; 3) would identify and address any conflicts of interest of the proxy firm to ensure that GLA continues to vote proxies in the best interests of its clients; 4) would review the proxy firm's consistency of voting with guidelines, fees and disclosures as relevant, and other items; and 5) would adopt policies and procedures reasonably designed to provide sufficient oversight of the proxy advisory firm and review the proxy firm's services and practices on an on-going or periodic basis.

## 8.3 Oversight of Third-Party Proxy Voting Service

When the Firm is voting in accordance with ISS guidelines, the Operations Department reviews the "pre-populated" votes on the ISS' electronic voting platform before ISS executes the vote. When voting on Special Voting Issues or in other instances of voting not in accordance with ISS guidelines, the Firm's Operations Department itself "pre-populates" votes on the ISS' electronic voting platform before ISS executes the vote.

Periodically, a random sample of the proxies voted by ISS will be audited to ensure ISS is voting in accordance with applicable ISS guidelines or consistent with the Firm's direction, as applicable. A sample of votes on Special Voting Issues will also be reviewed to evaluate whether the Firm's voting determinations were consistent with this Proxy Voting Policy and in its clients' best interest.

Annually, the Proxy Committee will review ISS and its policies and methodologies. This review will include, among others, the following topics and determinations:

- that ISS has the capacity and competence to adequately analyze proxy issues, including the adequacy and quality of its staffing, personnel and /or technology and any material changes in the ISS staffing and technology since the last review;
- whether ISS has an effective process for seeking timely input from issuers and its clients with respect to its proxy voting policies, methodologies and peer group constructions;
- whether ISS engages with issuers, including its process for ensuring that it has complete and accurate information about the issuer and each particular matter, and ISS' process, if any, for investment advisers to access the issuers' views about ISS' voting recommendations;
- whether the Firm has sufficient information on and understanding of ISS' methodologies and the factors underlying ISS' voting recommendations, including an understanding of how ISS obtains information relevant to its voting recommendations and how it engages with issuers and third parties;

- whether ISS is independent and can make recommendations in an impartial manner in the best interests of the Firm's clients. This analysis will include a review of (i) any ISS actual or potential conflicts known to the Firm, (ii) ISS' policies and procedures on identifying, disclosing and addressing conflicts of interest, and (iii) whether ISS is disclosing its actual or potential conflicts to the Firm in a timely, transparent and accessible manner;
- ISS' internal controls, including but not limited to a review of ISS' business continuity plan, methodologies with respect to implementing the Firm's voting instructions, proxy record keeping and internal and independent third-party audit certifications;
- Any factual errors, potential incompleteness, or potential methodological weaknesses in the ISS' analysis known to the Firm and whether such errors, incompleteness or weaknesses materially affected ISS' recommendations. The Firm will also access ISS' process for disclosure to the Firm and efforts to correct any such identified errors, incompleteness or weaknesses.

Based on the Firm's assessment of ISS and its service levels, the Firm can make a determination to obtain information about and consider alternative service providers to ISS.

### **9.0 Policy Components: Disclosure**

The Firm will disclose in its Form ADV Part 2A that clients may contact the Firm in order to obtain information on how the Firm voted such client's proxies, and to request a copy of this Proxy Voting Policy. If a client requests this information, the Client Servicing and Operations Departments will prepare a written response to the client that lists, with respect to each voted proxy that the client has inquired: (i) the name of the issuer, (ii) the proposal voted upon and (iii) how the Firm voted the client's proxy.

A summary of this Proxy Voting Policy will be included in the Firm's Form ADV Part 2, which is delivered to all clients. The summary will be updated whenever this Proxy Voting Policy is updated.

As a matter of policy, the Firm does not disclose how it expects to vote on upcoming proxies. Additionally, the Firm does not disclose the way it voted proxies to unaffiliated third parties without a legitimate need to know such information.

### **10.0 Policy Components: Proxy Voting Record Keeping**

The Firm will maintain a record of items 1-3 below in its files. In accordance with its services contract with the Firm, ISS will maintain a record of items 4 and 5 below in its files.

1. Copies of this Proxy Voting Policy, and any amendments thereto;
2. A copy of any document the Firm created that was material to making a decision on how to vote proxies, or that memorializes that decision. For votes that are inconsistent with ISS' guidelines, the Firm must document the rationale for its vote;
3. A copy of each written client request for information on how the Firm voted such client's proxies, and a copy of any written response to such request;
4. A copy of each proxy statement that the Firm or ISS receives regarding client securities; and
5. A record of each vote that the Firm casts.

**11.0 Policy Components: Class Actions**

The Firm does not direct clients' participation in class actions, as disclosed in Part 2 of Form ADV. The Compliance Department will determine whether to return any documentation inadvertently received by the Firm regarding clients' participation in class actions to the sender, or to forward such information to the appropriate clients.

**12.0 Policy Components: Conflicts of Interest**

Any actual or potential material conflict of interest regarding a proposal for which GLA has voting authority due to a business relationship, personal relationship, or familial relationship with GLA or an affiliate of GLA (including employees), the conflict shall be disclosed to the Proxy Committee, and the ballot shall be voted in alignment with recommendations from an independent proxy voting service to be determined at such time required. A business conflict of interest will be considered material if at least 1% of the annual revenue of GLA or "WHAMCO Holding" (GLA and its subsidiaries) is derived from a business relationship with the parties involved. GLA shall in no case vote the shares of Wintrust Financial Corp. (WTFC, GLA's parent company) that may be held in GLA accounts, and as such no conflict of interest shall exist with respect to such holdings.

**13.0 Annual Policy Review**

The Proxy Committee will review, no less frequently than annually, the adequacy of this Proxy Voting Policy and the effectiveness of its implementation and determine whether the Policy is reasonably designed to ensure that the Firm casts proxy votes on behalf of its clients in the best interests of such clients.

**14.0 Responsibilities**

**14.1** The GLA Operating Committee is the governing body for Great Lakes Advisors, LLC with respect to oversight of Great Lakes' everyday business activities related to all departments of the firm including: Compliance & Legal, Operations, Trading, Distribution, Marketing, Client Service, Human Resources, Finance, Business Strategy, Product Development, and all other areas of Non-Investment Business Management.

**14.2** The Policy Owner owns this policy and is responsible for keeping this policy current and comprehensive, accounting for changes to Company practices, new or changing laws, or other information from Corporate Risk Management, the Compliance Department, or the Legal Department, establishing appropriate controls to ensure adherence to the policy, Timely approval of the policy within the approved review cycle, Designating a contact for administration purposes. The policy owner may delegate to the contact the authority, but not the responsibility, for performing the required administrative tasks associated with the policy.

## Training and Communication Plan

This policy will be communicated for review and attestation via MyComplianceOffice (MCO) compliance system to the Fundamental Equity, Multi-Asset Strategy and Disciplined Equity teams, Operations and compliance teams and members of the Proxy Committee.

Ongoing training may be provided at the annual compliance training review, and via e-mail as needed via to the members of the Proxy Committee.

## Definitions

N/A

## Related Information

Related Policies

N/A

Related Procedures

N/A

Related Documents

Proxy Voting Guidelines

GLA Proxy Committee Charter

GLA Compliance Manual

## Revision History

Identify any related Committee approval dates. For example:

Date	Comments
8/10/2020	Submitted for review and comment to the Trading & Proxy Committee
8/13/2020	Submitted for review and recommendation of approval to the Operating Committee
9/4/2020	Edits/additions made per OC; added in all proxy voting guidelines
10/1/2020	Submitted to OC for approval
3/30/2022	Annual Updates
4/11/2022	Operating Committee Approval
4/26/2022	GLA Board of Directors Approval



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3/8/2023	GLA Board of Directors Approval of the Proxy Voting Guidelines within the Compliance Manual
4/15/2023	Annual updates and edits to incorporate the updated text from the Compliance Manual (the Stamford-Based strategies, vendor due diligence and oversight, disclosure and other additions)
4/25/2023	GLA Operating Committee, Management Committee, and BOD Approval
3/25/2024	Annual updates and review; updates to account for the transition of proxy voting guidelines of Strategic from custom GLA to ISS guidelines; addition of the mention of MAS

## Appendices

N/A