



**ADV Part 2A Disclosure Brochure**

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of IPI Wealth Management, Inc. (also referred to in this brochure as “us,” “we,” “our” or the “firm”). Our firm’s clients and prospective clients are referred to in this brochure as “you,” “your” or “our clients.” If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please contact us at (217) 425-6340 or [compliance@investment-planners.com](mailto:compliance@investment-planners.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) or by any state securities authority.

We are registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Registration of an adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

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

## **ITEM 2: SUMMARY OF MATERIAL CHANGES**

From time to time we may amend this Disclosure Brochure to reflect changes in our business practices, changes in regulations and routine annual updates as required by the securities regulators. Upon a material change occurring, IPI Wealth Management, Inc. will then either provide you a complete Disclosure Brochure or offer to provide one to you upon your written request.

Since our previous Disclosure Brochure of March 24, 2025 our material changes for this filing are the following:

- Item 4; page 5 – Use of Outsourced Agent (TAIKO) for Client Accounts
- Item 5; page 15 – Fee Facilitation by Outsourced Agent (TAIKO)

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## **ITEM 4: ADVISORY BUSINESS**

IPI Wealth Management, Inc., previously known as IPI Asset Management, (collectively, "IPIWM"), was founded in 1996 by David Koshinski, our principal owner. In 1999, we registered with the SEC as an investment adviser offering a full array of portfolio management and financial planning services to retail and institutional investors. Headquartered in Decatur, Illinois, we have 41 other office locations located in eighteen states and Italy – AZ, CO, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MO, NC, NJ, NV, OH, PA, PR, SD, TN, and WI. Our investment advisor representatives (or "IARs") may also be registered representatives of our affiliated broker-dealer, Investment Planners, Inc., an SEC registered broker-dealer clearing transactions and introducing accounts on a fully disclosed basis to RBC Clearing and Custody, (or "RBC"). Our affiliation with Investment Planners, Inc. is by common control and ownership. Both Investment Planners, Inc. and RBC are members of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") and registered with the SEC as securities broker-dealers.

### **OUR ADVISORY SERVICES**

IPIWM has built a strong reputation within the financial services industry through its open-architecture model and commitment to service. We provide advisory services to clients through investment management, financial planning, consulting, and third-party investment managers.

### **Private Portfolio Services of IPI Wealth Management**

Our Private Portfolio Services are those in which we actively manage your investment portfolio based upon your individual financial and personal needs. We gather your information through in-depth personal interviews. This includes one or more in-person meetings and/or telephone calls. We gather information that includes, but is not limited to, your current financial position, future goals, attitudes toward risk and your investment objectives. We ask you to fill out a client profile questionnaire or similar document that we will carefully review, along with all other documentation you supply. Because we only rely upon the information you provide us and do not independently verify it, you should provide us with accurate information, and we ask that you update your information whenever it changes. Based on the information you provide, we will develop a personalized portfolio designed to meet your investment goals and objectives through asset allocation, portfolio monitoring, consolidated reporting, and most importantly, individualized portfolio management. Individualized portfolio management and a tailored investment strategy will help us choose among various kinds of investments available in the market. Investments include equity securities (stocks), warrants, corporate debt securities (bonds and notes), certificates of deposit, municipal securities, investment company securities (mutual funds, including money market funds), exchange-traded funds and United States government

securities. If appropriate, we may allocate your investments in accordance with our model portfolios. A model portfolio is how we communicate to you what specific investments you should have in your portfolio at any given time.

### **Model Portfolios Management Utilizing Proprietary Investment Strategies**

We offer a suite of proprietary model investment strategies designed for different types of investors. Collectively, our strategies are designed to provide a foundation for clients' investment portfolios through both diversification and active management. These proprietary strategies may be used exclusively or in combination with other strategies within the client's aggregate portfolio. In conjunction with the client's primary advisor, our professionals will offer specific guidance about which strategy or combination of strategies will be best suited to each client's investment objectives, risk tolerance and investment time horizon, among other things, and the proper allocations within the client's portfolio framework. Due to the nature of managing a model portfolio, advisory accounts are managed on a discretionary basis only.

**IPI Intelligent Portfolios (Qualified & Non-Qualified):** The IPI Intelligent Portfolios are designed to accommodate a wide range of risk profiles, from capital preservation to aggressive growth. These customized, risk-based models utilize a mix of actively managed and passive mutual funds and ETFs, tailored for both tax-qualified and non-tax-qualified accounts. The portfolios have long-term strategic focus while incorporating marginal tactical tilts based on prevailing market conditions. Asset allocation decisions made by the IPI Investment Committee in collaboration with Taiber Kosmala & Associates. Portfolio positioning, performance, and active managers are actively monitored and reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Investment Committee.

**IPI Executive Portfolios (Qualified & Non-Qualified):** Designed to be low cost, *mostly passive*, risk-based portfolios anchored by a 50 Stock U.S. Large Cap Quantitative Strategy managed by Taiber Kosmala & Associates. Asset allocation decisions made by the IPI Investment Committee in collaboration with Taiber Kosmala & Associates. Portfolio positioning and performance actively monitored and reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Investment Committee.

**IPI Intelligent ETF Portfolios (Qualified & Non-Qualified):** The IPI Intelligent ETF Portfolios are a series of risk-based ETF models for clients with smaller accounts or a preference for ETF vehicles—built on the same asset allocation framework as the Intelligent Portfolios. Asset allocation decisions made by the IPI Investment Committee in collaboration with Taiber Kosmala & Associates. Portfolio positioning, performance, and active managers are actively monitored and reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Investment Committee.

**IPI Intelligent Income Portfolios (Qualified & Non-Qualified):** Designed for clients who seek to substitute or supplement personal income with portfolio distributions or are looking to generate income for required minimum distributions. The portfolio's span a spectrum of risk tolerances, ranging from ultra-conservative to aggressive. The ultra-conservative model prioritizes capital preservation and income generation, the more aggressive income-focused model seeks to capture higher levels of income while maintaining a secondary focus on capital preservation. Asset allocation decisions made by the IPI Investment Committee in collaboration with Taiber Kosmala & Associates. Portfolio positioning, performance, and active managers are actively monitored and reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Investment Committee.

**IPI ESG Portfolios:** Risk-based portfolios constructed using a blend of actively managed and passive ETFs and mutual funds, with a focus on companies demonstrating strong environmental, social, and governance practices.

**IPI Biblically Responsible Equity Portfolio:** An all-equity portfolio using a mix of actively managed and passive ETFs and mutual funds that follow a Biblically Responsible Investing (BRI) approach, avoiding businesses involved in activities contrary to biblical principles.

## **Financial Planning Services**

We provide both comprehensive and limited financial planning services. However, we generally recommend comprehensive planning services as this provides your IAR an opportunity to evaluate and make appropriate recommendations for you based on a detailed and comprehensive evaluation of your current and intended future financial needs.

We will conduct an interview with you to obtain as much detail as possible on a number of variables, including but not limited to your financial and life goals, situation, objectives, time horizon and risk tolerance. The information we gather varies based on your individual needs and objectives. As a result, we require your active participation while we obtain information from you as we do not independently verify the accuracy of the data you give us and assume that the information you provide is reliable and current.

Based on your request, plans can address some or all of the following items:

- Estate Planning & Estate Goals
- Retirement Planning
- Education Planning
- Insurance Planning/Risk Management
- Investments
- Cash Flow Analysis
- Budget Planning

- Tax Planning
- Business Continuity, Succession and Exit Planning
- Asset Allocation Services.

The specific financial planning services and fees applicable to you will be described in our Investment Advisory Services Agreement (“Agreement”) that we will ask you to review and sign prior to the engagement. For financial planning services, you can choose a modular approach by focusing on a particular area, or a broader financial review, that covers multiple topics. This means that you can work with us on a short-term, project retainer basis without using our investment management services. After analysis and evaluation of your situation, we will generally present you with a written report that summarizes the findings, potential decision points, possible strategies (including their pros and cons), recommended course and action items. However, in certain circumstances, as agreed with you, a report may not be issued. We do not have any discretionary investment authority when providing hourly financial planning and consulting services.

Afterwards, there is a follow-up period before the project formally concludes. Subsequently, you determine when to return for periodic updates or check-ups on a specific part or on the entire plan. The engagement generally terminates upon the final consultation unless you specifically request otherwise in our Agreement.

Implementation of any financial plan recommendation is solely at your discretion and you will need to work with your other professionals, such as your attorney, accountant, banker, insurance agent, stockbroker (or registered representative or financial consultant), among others. Our IARs may also be licensed as insurance agents and registered representatives, so your IAR is in a position to implement your plan recommendations. However, please realize that you are under no obligation to use our IAR to implement any plan recommendations.

### **IPIWM Investment Advice for Non-IPIWM Custodied Client Accounts**

IPIWM, through its IARs, provides written asset allocation and/or specific investment recommendations for clients on the investment options available within client accounts held away from IPIWM custody firms. IARs provide advice and recommendations on assets based on the financial and other information provided. The IAR will tailor the recommendation to your individual needs based upon the investment objective you choose. The engagement terminates upon delivery of the written recommendation unless you request otherwise in our Agreement.

IPIWM provides two different service levels with regards to held away assets. First, as a non-discretionary service, you retain the sole responsibility for determining whether to implement any recommendations made by your IAR and for placing any resulting

transactions with your outside accounts held away from the custodians we generally recommend. In this service, we do not provide discretionary portfolio management services. Second, we provide an additional service for accounts not directly held in our custody, but where we do have discretion, and leverage an Order Management System to implement tax-efficient asset location and opportunistic rebalancing strategies on behalf of the client. These are primarily 401(k) accounts, HSA's, and other assets we do not custody. We regularly review the available investment options in these accounts, monitor them, and rebalance and implement our strategies in the same way we do other accounts, though using different tools as necessary

## **USE OF OUTSOURCED AGENT (TAIKO) FOR CLIENT ACCOUNTS**

We have entered into an agreement with Advisor OS LLC, doing business as TAIKO ("TAIKO"), to act as an outsourced agent for certain client accounts. This relationship is designed to support our advisory business by providing operational, administrative, and non-discretionary trading execution services. TAIKO does not provide investment advice to clients, does not have investment discretion, and does not custody client assets.

TAIKO supports us in managing client accounts by facilitating trade execution, implementing model portfolio allocations based on our instructions, assisting with billing processes, maintaining data reconciliation, and delivering performance reporting and technology support services through its proprietary platform (the "System").

### **Client Account Coverage and Responsibilities – Covered Accounts, Authority and Control, Custody and Trading**

This arrangement applies only to those client accounts ("System Accounts") that we direct to participate in the System. We retain full fiduciary responsibility for managing client relationships, determining suitable portfolio allocations, monitoring performance, and ensuring that investment strategies align with each client's objectives. TAIKO has no role in assessing suitability or advising clients.

All trading activity and related operational tasks facilitated by TAIKO are executed based on our express direction via a secure adviser portal. Custody of client assets remains with the designated third-party custodian (e.g., Charles Schwab), and TAIKO does not take possession of client funds or securities. TAIKO communicates trading instructions to custodians solely as our agent and only in accordance with our instructions.

### **Client Restrictions**

Clients may impose investment restrictions or preferences on their accounts. We are responsible for collecting, evaluating, and enforcing those restrictions. TAIKO's role is limited to executing instructions we provide and has no obligation to evaluate client suitability or impose restrictions independently.



## **Fees and Billing**

TAIKO may facilitate billing processes on our behalf, including calculating advisory, platform, and manager fees. However, TAIKO does not receive fees directly. Fees are typically deducted from client accounts by the custodian per client authorization and then distributed to the appropriate parties, including us as your adviser. TAIKO may instruct the custodian to deduct and remit such fees only as our agent.

## **Disclosures and Records**

Clients will receive disclosures as required under applicable law. These may include our Form ADV, TAIKO's Form ADV, disclosures from any third-party investment managers we utilize through the System, and applicable privacy notices. We are responsible for ensuring proper delivery of these materials and for maintaining client records related to their participation in the System.

## **Schwab's Custodial Classification of TAIKO**

While TAIKO is not affiliated with Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("Schwab") and is not a Schwab service model, Schwab classifies firms like TAIKO under its "Outsourced Agent" (OA) designation. This internal categorization governs how Schwab configures account access, authority, and billing mechanics for service providers who operate on behalf of an adviser but do not provide discretionary investment management.

This role is fundamentally different from that of a Turnkey Asset Management Provider (TAMP) within Schwab's system:

- In a TAMP arrangement, the client signs a direct agreement with the TAMP, which then assumes discretionary authority over account assets, including selecting investments and executing trades independently.
- In an outsourced agent arrangement like ours with TAIKO, you retain an advisory relationship exclusively with us. TAIKO does not manage assets, cannot act without our instruction, and is not authorized by clients directly.

Using an outsourced agent allows us to scale our operations and deliver enhanced administrative efficiency while maintaining full control of your investment strategy. We remain solely responsible for your account's investment management and for upholding our responsibilities to you.

Additional information about the roles and responsibilities of TAIKO, including applicable fees, services, and limitations, is available upon request and will be provided to you in connection with account onboarding and ongoing service updates.

### **Third Party Asset Management Program (“TAMP”) Services**

IPIWM makes available advisory services and programs of several third-party investment advisors. Under these TAMP programs, IPIWM through its IARs, provides ongoing investment advice tailored to your individual needs.

As part of these TAMP services, your IAR will typically obtain the necessary financial data from you to assist in determining appropriate investment objectives and selecting the TAMP whose style and talent best fit your individual needs and circumstances, including assistance in opening an account with the TAMP. Depending on the type of TAMP selected, your IAR will usually assist you in selecting a model portfolio of securities designed by the TAMP, or select a portfolio management firm to provide discretionary asset management services.

You should understand that it is the third-party investment adviser (and not IPIWM or your IAR) that has authority to purchase and sell securities on a discretionary or non-discretionary basis pursuant to your investment objective. This authorization will be set out in the TAMP client agreement. IPIWM currently offers advisory services through TAMPs sponsored by RBC, Schwab, Trade PMR or Envestnet. Unless directed otherwise, your agreement with the TAMP gives us the authority to hire or fire these managers on your behalf. Once a manager is selected, your IAR will continue to monitor their performance. Additionally, we will meet with you, at least annually, to determine whether any changes in your financial status warrant adjustments to your investment objectives with the third-party money manager. We will also be happy to meet with you more frequently, if requested.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these TAMP services, a complete description of their programs, services, fees, payment structure and termination features are found in their respective service disclosure brochures. Investment advisory agreements and account opening documents, all of which our IAR will provide you prior to engaging their services.

From time to time we review other third-party investment managers and reserve the right to make additional programs available to our clients, in our discretion, as we deem appropriate and consistent with our investment strategies.

For these and other services we will receive a portion or all of the fees paid by you as described in the “Fees and Compensation” section below.

### **Marketing and Sales Services for Registered Investment Advisers**

IPIWM and its IARs act as marketing agents on behalf of third party registered investment advisers (money managers) pursuant to a marketing/sales services agreement. In such

case, IPIWM provides marketing and sales services to the third-party investment adviser related to introduction of an advisor or broker that manages primary client relationship. The IAR also provides the broker or advisor with information with regards to money manager's investment strategies. IPIWM's IARs do not provide ongoing investment advice or any other advisory services or maintain any relationship with the individual investor.

### **Services Provided to Retirement Plan Sponsors**

We provide investment management services to qualified retirement plans which are subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"). As part of our services to qualified plans, we will act as either an ERISA 3(21) fiduciary advisor or an ERISA 3(38) fiduciary manager. The key difference between these two types of fiduciaries is whether you engage us as a discretionary manager. As a 3(38) manager, you give us discretionary authority to manage your plan's assets. This means that you shift your fiduciary responsibility to us for the selection of your investments. If you hire us as a 3(21) advisor, we will make recommendations, but it is ultimately up to you, as the plan sponsor, to decide whether and how to act. As a 3(21) advisor, we will not have discretion to invest and reinvest your assets without your prior consent. Thus, as a 3(21) advisor, we will share responsibility for the selection of investments.

For all qualified plan clients, we start by assisting you with the creation and maintenance of your investment policy statement. Your investment policy statement can place restrictions on the types of investments the plan may invest its assets. We identify specific asset categories to be represented in your plan's investment menu. We then use our investment process to select and advise on mutual funds and other securities that comprise your plan's investment menu. We ensure that the investment options are permitted under your investment policy statement. We continually monitor the performance of all investment options and communicate frequently with each mutual fund or collective trust fund managers as needed.

We provide five risk-based asset allocation models that allow participants to invest according to their specific goals, objectives, time to retirement, as well as risk tolerance. We create our models by assigning a weighted allocation to the mutual funds in our investment menu depending upon the objective of the particular model. The following is a brief description of each of our models:

- *The Income Model* allows for preservation of capital and current income, with long-term capital appreciation being secondary;
- *The Conservative Model* allows for preservation of capital and current income, with consideration for long-term capital appreciation;

- *The Moderate Model* provides long-term capital appreciation and current income, with consideration for preservation of capital;
- *The Growth Model* provides long-term capital appreciation and current income, with reasonable risk; and
- *The Aggressive Model* provides long-term capital appreciation.

Participants of plans are permitted to invest in one or more of our models or individual funds. If we provide individual investment advice to participants as described below, we will only recommend investment in one model that meets the investment objectives, time horizon to retirement, anticipated retirement income needs and risk tolerance of the participant. We believe utilizing one model will provide participants with an investment strategy that best meets their investment objectives given their personal risk tolerance.

### **Participant Advice**

In addition to the investment supervisory services we provide to plan sponsors, the plan sponsor can engage us to provide one-on-one investment advice to the participants of the plan. We start this process by providing education to employees in group meetings. We then meet individually with the participant. The participant will provide information to us about their financial situation, risk tolerance, time horizon to retirement, anticipated retirement income needs and investment objectives. We also provide information to the participant on how various levels of wage deferral or contributions to their retirement plan will impact their take-home pay. Taking all of this information into consideration, we will recommend investments in an appropriate model.

We meet with newly eligible participants on a quarterly basis and we offer to meet with all participants on a semi-annual basis or more or less frequently as requested by the plan sponsor.

We believe that our individualized participant advice services tend to increase participant retirement plan contributions and help to close the gap between a participant's current retirement funds and what a participant needs for retirement.

### **Retirement Rollovers**

A client or prospective client leaving an employer typically has four options regarding an existing retirement plan (and may engage in a combination of these options): (i) leave the money in the former employer's plan, if permitted, (ii) roll over the assets to the new employer's plan, if one is available and rollovers are permitted, (iii) roll over to an Individual Retirement Account ("IRA"), or (iv) cash out the account value (which could, depending upon the client's age, result in adverse tax consequences and possible penalties). If IPIWM and its

IAR recommend that a client roll over retirement plan assets into an account to be managed by IAR, such a recommendation creates a conflict of interest if IAR will earn new or increased compensation because of the rollover. If IPIWM IAR provides a recommendation as to whether a client should engage in a rollover or not, whether it is from an employer's plan or an existing IRA, IPIWM and its IAR is acting as a fiduciary 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. **No client is under any obligation to roll over retirement plan assets to an account managed by IPIWM or its IAR, whether it is from an employer's plan or an existing IRA.**

## **ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT**

We manage your assets on either a discretionary or nondiscretionary basis. As of December 31, 2024, we had \$2,136,530,850 in client assets managed on a discretionary basis and \$112,463,591 in client assets managed on a nondiscretionary basis.

## **ITEM 5: FEES AND COMPENSATION**

In this section, we explain how we are compensated for the various advisory services we provide. We also describe some expenses you may experience related to those services. We believe that our charges and fees are competitive with firms offering similar services. However, lower fees for comparable services may be available from other sources. You can invest in mutual funds and other securities directly, without our services. In that case, you would not receive our assistance in determining which investments are most appropriate to your financial situation and objectives. We also would not be able to help you maintain a disciplined approach to portfolio rebalancing, anticipate tax consequences and minimize emotional reactions to market events. Some investments may not be available to you directly without the use of an IAR.

We want you to be aware of how we are paid as well as any fees and compensation that we receive in connection with the advisory services we provide. This information can be found in some or all of the various documents:

- ADV disclosure brochures
- Your client agreement
- Custodial agreements
- TAMP Fee Program Disclosure Brochure or similar document
- Mutual fund's prospectuses and Statements of Additional Information.

Some of our IARs also receive commissions or other compensation as registered representatives of our affiliated broker-dealer and/ or as insurance agents. This additional

compensation is separate and distinct from our advisory compensation. We discuss this in more detail later in this section.

### **PRIVATE PORTFOLIO SERVICES**

Generally, our fees for our Private Portfolio Services or individually managed accounts are based on a percentage of assets under management. IPIWM's portion of the annual fee will not exceed 2% on any asset level. However, other program fees may increase the annual fee above 2%. Below is our sample fee schedule:

<b><u>Assets Under Management</u></b>	<b><u>Annual Fee</u></b>
\$ 0 - \$250,000	2.0%
\$ 250,001 to \$500,000	1.5%
\$ 500,001 to \$1,000,000	1.25%
\$1,000,001 to \$3,000,000	1.00%
\$3,000,001 and above	.75%

This fee schedule can be negotiated with you on a case-by-case basis. We will take into account the nature and complexity of the services we are providing you, our relationship with you, the value of assets being managed, the value of other assets held in other accounts we manage or advise for you, the potential for additional business or clients, the amount of work anticipated, and the attention needed to manage your assets. The actual billing rate will be specified in the Agreement. We rely upon your custodian's account statements for fee calculation purposes. Our advisory fees cover our investment advisory services, but do not cover other charges as described below.

Our advisory fees will be paid monthly or quarterly, in advance or in arrears, as set forth in our Agreement. For accounts opened or closed during the calendar month or quarter, the fee will be prorated for the number of days our services were provided. If you terminate an agreement with us, pre-paid and un-earned advisory fees are promptly refunded, generally within 30 days. Fees paid in arrears will be charged through the date of termination.

Unless otherwise agreed, you will authorize us to deduct our periodic advisory fees from your designated account. Your authorization is limited to our withdrawing our advisory fees as and when due. We will provide your custodian with your written fee deduction authorization. We will notify you of our fee deductions in advance of the withdrawal date at the time and in the manner required by applicable regulatory requirements. We will not make the fee withdrawal if you timely object, in writing, to us or your custodian. Your account custodian will, on a quarterly basis, provide you with an account statement indicating the advisory fees paid to us from your account. You may terminate your authorization at any time, in writing, but you will remain responsible for promptly paying us any advisory fees that remain due and unpaid.

If our direct fee deduction has been authorized, then our fees will be deducted from the cash balance in your account. If insufficient cash is available, then we will typically liquidate a sufficient amount of securities in your account to cover the balance due in the following order: money market shares, mutual fund shares, and then other types of securities. For taxable accounts, a liquidation of securities may result in taxable income.

### **DUAL CONTRACT SUB ADVISED FEE SCHEDULE**

IPIWM will advise on third party assets through TAMP Programs, Managed Account and Unified Managed Account platforms. The fee schedule for IPIWM's portion of the management of assets is as follows:

<u>Assets Under Management</u>	<u>Management Fee</u>
Up to \$25 Million	.50 - .75%
\$25 Million to \$250 Million	.40 - .50%
\$250 Million over	.25 - .40%

Fees are negotiable at the discretion of IPIWM.

### **WRAP FEE PROGRAMS**

The sponsors of the wrap program have contracts with the client to perform investment management, trading and/or custodian services. Clients pay a single all-inclusive fee quarterly in advance or arrears to the wrap fee sponsor based on net assets under management. From the all-inclusive or "wrap" fee, the sponsor will pay IPIWM an agreed upon management fee which generally follows the dual contract or sub-adviser fee schedule above.

### **MODEL PORTFOLIO ADVISOR**

For our model portfolio advisor services, IPIWM will generally receive a management fee consistent with the dual contract and sub-adviser relationships described above.

### **MARKETING AND SALES SERVICES FOR REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISERS**

Fees are negotiated with a Registered Investment Adviser and IPIWM's IAR. Fees may be basis points based on assets raised through sales with brokers and advisors. IPIWM will also charge consulting fees for services such as: marketing, strategic planning and distribution planning.

## **FINANCIAL PLANNING FEES**

Planning Fees are based on the nature of the services provided and the complexity of your needs. Fees are agreed upon and documented in your Agreement. At the beginning of the service, we estimate the total cost of the Plan (either hourly or fixed fee, as described below). Planning Fees are calculated and charged on either:

- A per-hour (or portion of an hour) basis. Hourly charges are negotiable, but can range from \$150 to \$250 per hour or
- On a fixed fee basis with the total cost estimated at the beginning of the relationship. Our experience indicates that fixed fee engagements can range from \$750 to \$5,000 or more depending on your personal situation and complexity.

We typically will request a retainer upon your signing of the agreement with us for services. Retainers can be based on a number of hours up front or a fixed retainer amount. Hourly charges are billed against the retainer. For fixed fees, we invoice you on agreed upon terms in your Agreement. We do not charge advisory fees of \$1,200 or more 6 or more months in advance.

Generally, the balance due to IPIWM is requested upon the delivery of your Plan.

For services provided to retirement plan clients, we will typically enter into an agreement to invoice you based upon our services and fees as described in your ERISA Investment Management Agreement.

## **IPIWM INVESTMENT ADVICE FOR NON-IPIWM CUSTODIED CLIENT ACCOUNTS**

The fee for this service is also negotiable. Please see the fee schedule above for "Private Portfolio Services." Fee for this service on a non-discretionary basis can be part of a financial plan.

We also offer the ability to manage on a discretionary basis the held-away assets, these Clients should be engaged in the financial planning process or an existing advisory client for these services to be offered. This fee will be assessed and billed quarterly. Specifically, the exact amount charged is determined by the quarter end balance in arrears or advance as outlined in the investment advisory agreement. The current exception for this is directly-managed held-away accounts, which are determined by the account value at the end of the quarter and are only billed in advance. (This is due to limitations in our technology regarding held-away accounts.) In either case, if the Adviser only manages your assets for part of a quarter, the charge will be prorated.



The advisory fee is an agreed upon fixed fee and is calculated by assessing the percentage agreed upon in the investment advisory agreement and applying the fee to the account value as of the last day of the previous quarter (per the paragraph above). For example, an account valued at \$2,000,000 with an agreed upon fee of .75% with the annual fee being \$15,000 (a quarterly fee of \$3,750). Investment management fees are generally directly debited on a pro rata basis from client accounts. The exception for this is directly-managed held-away accounts, such as 401(k)s. As it is impossible to directly debit the fees from these accounts, those fees will be assessed per the investment advisory agreement, by either assigning them to the client's taxable account or invoicing the client via direct billing, on a pro-rata basis. If the client does not have a taxable account, those fees will be billed directly to the client. Accounts initiated or terminated during a calendar quarter will be charged a pro-rated fee based on the amount of time remaining in the billing period. An account may be terminated with written notice at least 15 calendar days in advance. Since fees are paid in advance, rebates will be calculated on a pro-rata basis determined by the days remaining in the quarter.

### **THIRD PARTY ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS (TAMP) SERVICES**

Your IAR may recommend that you use a TAMP. In these situations, our advisory fee compensates your IAR for the on-going monitoring and review of the manager's performance. Unless the third-party manager bundles our fee with theirs, all fees are separate from and in addition to our advisory fee. You may incur fees on top of those charged by us including, the third-party manager's fee and corresponding broker-dealer and custodian fees.

As noted above, some third-party managers will bundle our advisory fee into their management fee. In these cases, we will receive our fee directly from the third-party manager. Our fee is paid solely from the third-party manager's investment management fee or wrap fee program fee (as appropriate) and does not result in any additional charge to you.

The following fees and expenses are generally related to the use of third-party managers:

- Management fees paid to the Third Party
- Advisory fees paid to us as outlined in the client agreement that you sign
- Transaction costs – if applicable – which may be paid to purchase and sell such securities
- Custody fees charged by the custodian
- Administrative and service fees.

Your account may be held with the third party manager's custodian where your fees will be assessed and deducted. Management fees charged by third party managers may not be negotiable.

If the TAMP program is a wrap fee program, you should understand that the wrap fee cost may be more than purchasing the program services separately. For example, paying fees for the advisory services of the TAMP and the IAR, plus commissions for each transaction in the account may increase your costs.

The investment products and services available to be purchased in a TAMP can generally be purchased by clients outside of a TAMP account through us, or through broker-dealers or other investment firms not affiliated with us or the TAMP.

For further details, please be sure to carefully review the third-party manager's disclosure brochure (or Wrap Fee Program Disclosure Brochure) and investment program agreements.

### **FEE FACILITATION BY OUTSOURCED AGENT (TAIKO)**

For certain accounts, we utilize the services of Advisor OS LLC, doing business as TAIKO ("TAIKO"), as an outsourced agent to facilitate administrative billing processes. TAIKO may assist in calculating advisory, platform, or manager fees and in transmitting billing instructions to custodians on our behalf. TAIKO does not receive any fees directly and acts solely at our instruction. All fee deductions are made by the custodian, subject to client authorization. We retain full responsibility for fee oversight and client billing accuracy.

### **FEES FOR RETIREMENT PLANS AND PARTICIPANT ADVICE**

Our fees for advising qualified retirement plans are negotiable and based on a plan's total assets. The actual billing rate will be specified in your contract. We rely upon your custodian's account statements for fee calculation purposes. Our advisory fees are billed to the plan's sponsor, trustees or third party plan administrator depending upon your wishes. Our fees will be due promptly upon receipt of our invoice.

### **FEE NEGOTIATION**

As noted above, our IARs may negotiate our fees for any of our services taking into consideration such things as the size of your account, the number of managed portfolios or accounts, your relationship with other clients (e.g., family), the length of our relationship with you, the complexity of your personal circumstances, the composition of your portfolio, the complexity of investment strategies, the frequency of desired meetings or special reporting and other factors that affect our cost of providing you services. If you, your family

or related persons also have accounts under our management, those accounts may be aggregated for fee calculation purposes. For these reasons, our fees may vary among clients who may otherwise be in similar circumstances. Other investment advisers may charge higher or lower fees for comparable services.

### **FEE PRORATION AND ADJUSTMENTS**

With your approval, we reserve the right to prorate our fees for large deposits to your account made during a billing cycle. No adjustments or refunds will be made in respect of the appreciation or depreciation of account asset values during a billing period or withdrawals from your account during that period, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

### **OTHER MUTUAL FUND AND INSURANCE-RELATED EXPENSES**

Mutual funds of all types charge their shareholders various advisory fees and expenses associated with the establishment and operation of the funds. These fees and expenses are described in each fund's prospectus. These fees will generally include a management fee, shareholder servicing, other fund expenses and sometimes a distribution fee. If the fund also imposes sales charges, you may pay an initial or deferred sales charge. These separate mutual fund fees are disclosed in each fund's current prospectus, which is available from the mutual fund and, upon request, can be provided by our firm.

Consequently, for any type of mutual fund investment, it is important for you to understand that you are directly and indirectly paying two levels of advisory fees and expenses: one layer of fees at the fund level and one layer of advisory fees and expenses to IPIWM. Generally speaking, most mutual funds may be purchased directly without using our services and without incurring our advisory fees. Moreover, many mutual funds pay shareholder servicing fees (12b-1 fees) to brokerage firms and their registered representatives in consideration of their services to the fund's shareholders. The receipt of 12b-1 fees by either our broker/dealer or advisory firm bought for or recommended to clients may create a conflict of interest because many mutual funds offer a variety of share classes, including some that may have available lower-cost share classes for the same mutual fund that either does not charge a 12b-1 fee or charges a lower 12b-1 fee. It is usually in a client's best interest to invest in a lower-cost share class rather than a 12b-1 fee paying share class because a client's returns would not be reduced by the 12b-1 fees. As described below, we will adjust our fees in view of 12b-1 fees that we may receive with respect to your account.

Like mutual funds, insurance companies charge a variety of fees and charges against the assets invested in the separate accounts of their policy holders. As noted above, this means that there are two layers of advisory fees incurred – one layer by the insurance company and one layer to our firm for our advisory services. Additionally, commissions are usually paid for the purchase of variable annuities and there may be substantial surrender charges. The

commission, surrender charges and other fees and expenses are disclosed in the prospectus.

### **Reductions or Credits for Receipt of 12b-1 Fees**

If your advisory account is custodied at RBC, mutual funds may separately pay our affiliated broker-dealer, Investment Planners, Inc., 12b-1 fees for performing shareholder recordkeeping and servicing functions for your account and other clients' accounts. Similarly, mutual fund sponsors and investment advisers may pay us out of their own resources for performance of those functions. In order to avoid this conflict of interest, we lower our advisory fees by either (i) crediting to your account a pro rata share of the 12b-1 fees we receive for mutual funds held in your account; or (ii) reducing the advisory fee rate we charge to your account, as specified in our client services contract, and disclosing to you that we will receive and retain the 12b-1 fees or (iii) suppress the position that pays 12b1 fee from quarterly billing. In making any billing adjustments, however, we will not refund 12b-1 fees to you in addition to the advisory fees that you have paid.

### **OTHER ACCOUNT-RELATED EXPENSES**

In addition to our advisory fees, you may incur additional fees, either through assets-based pricing or transaction-based pricing. Asset based pricing charges an additional fee to cover costs associated with the trading of the account. Transaction based pricing involves brokerage commissions, ticket charges, transaction fees and other related costs and expenses. You may also incur certain charges imposed by custodians, brokers, third-party investment managers 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, other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. All such fees and expenses are disclosed to you in account opening documents and disclosure brochures of third-party managers or TAMP sponsors.

### **TERMINATION OF SERVICES**

Termination notices may be sent at any time and must be in writing. You are responsible for any transaction for your account that has been initiated, but not settled, prior to our receipt of your termination notice.

The unearned portion of advisory fees that you have paid us will be automatically refunded to you promptly, less any amount required to satisfy your transaction-related obligations. We base the refund pro rata on the number of elapsed days in the billing period as noted above.

If you are an individual, your death, disability, or incompetency will not terminate or change the terms of this Agreement or have any effect until we receive actual notice. However, your

personal representative, guardian, attorney in fact, or other authorized representative may terminate this agreement by giving us written notice.

You may terminate the services of any TAMP service in accordance with the terms of the Third-Party Manager's client services agreement, subject to limitations imposed by applicable laws or rules. You may terminate those services without terminating our services. If you terminate our services, you may or may not be able to continue to utilize the Third-Party Manager's services (see the disclosures in the Third-Party Manager's disclosure brochure with respect to conditions for establishing or maintaining an account). Third Party Managers are responsible for refunding the unearned portion of their fees, as described in their disclosure brochures.

With regard to Financial Planning and Consulting Services, if you terminate the Agreement prior to the delivery of your Plan, we will charge you for the time spent as documented in your Agreement; any pre-paid and un-used fees (hourly retainer or fixed annual fee) will be refunded to you within 30 days of the date of termination. To terminate an Agreement, we require that you provide a written request to IPIWM.

For services provided to retirement plan clients, our agreement for services details the method of termination. Generally, services can be terminated at any point and are not restricted to certain dates (i.e., quarter-end). Should services be terminated, IPIWM has no obligation to continue services beyond the date of termination.

## **ITEM 6: PERFORMANCE-BASED FEES AND SIDE-BY-SIDE MANAGEMENT**

We do not charge any performance-based fees (fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of your assets).

## **ITEM 7: TYPES OF CLIENTS**

Our investment management and financial planning services are available to individuals, high net worth individuals, businesses, pension, and profit-sharing plans, 401(k) plans, trusts, estates and not-for-profit organizations.

We do not impose a minimum dollar value of assets or other conditions for opening or maintaining an account. TAMP services may impose minimum account sizes and they will vary by the investment management program you select. The TAMP disclosure documents will provide information on any minimum account sizes required.

## **ITEM 8: METHODS OF ANALYSIS, INVESTMENT STRATEGIES AND RISK OF LOSS**

### **METHODS OF ANALYSIS**

Fundamental analysis is a technique that attempts to determine a security's value by focusing on the economic well-being of a financial entity as opposed to only its price movements. When conducting fundamental analysis, we will review a company's financial statements and consider factors including, but not limited to, whether the company's revenue is growing, if the company is profitable, if the company is in a strong enough position to beat its competitors in the future and if the company is able to repay its debts. Because it can take a long time for a company's value to be reflected in the market, the risk associated with this method of analysis is that a gain is not realized until the stock's market price rises to the company's true value.

The valuation method is a technique used to calculate a theoretical value for a security in order to estimate potential future market prices. When utilizing the valuation method, we will review such things as a security's earnings per share, price to earnings, and growth rate.

We also utilize technical analysis to evaluate potential investments. Unlike fundamental analysis, technical analysis does not analyze the company's value, but instead analyzes the stock's price movement in the market. Charting is a form of technical analysis in which the various technical factors are diagrammed in order to illustrate patterns. Technical analysis studies the supply and demand in the market in an attempt to determine what direction or trend will continue in the future. However, there are risks involved with this method, including the risk that the trends will change unpredictably, which is why we use a combination of methods and obtain information from a variety of sources.

We obtain information from a number of sources, both public and by subscription, including financial newspapers and magazines, inspections of corporate activities, research materials prepared by third-parties, corporate rating services, annual reports, prospectuses, SEC filings and company press releases. We believe these resources for information are reliable and we regularly depend on them for making our investment decisions; however, we are not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of this information.

For third-party money manager analysis for TAMP service offerings, we examine the experience, expertise, investment philosophies and past performance of independent third-party investment managers in an attempt to determine if that manager has demonstrated an ability to invest over a period of time and in different economic conditions. We monitor the manager's underlying holdings, strategies, concentrations and leverage as

part of our overall periodic risk assessment. Additionally, as part of our due-diligence process, we survey the manager's compliance and business enterprise risks.

A risk of investing with a third-party manager who has been successful in the past is that he/she may not be able to replicate that success in the future. In addition, as we do not control the underlying investments in a third-party manager's portfolio, there is also a risk that a manager may deviate from the stated investment mandate or strategy of the portfolio, making it a less suitable investment for our clients. Moreover, as we do not control the manager's daily business and compliance operations, we may be unaware of the lack of internal controls necessary to prevent business, regulatory or reputational deficiencies.

There are risks in all forms of analysis. Our securities analysis methods rely on the assumption that the companies whose securities we purchase and sell, the rating agencies that review these securities and other publicly-available sources of information about these securities are providing accurate and unbiased data. While we are alert to indications that data may be incorrect, there is always a risk that our analysis may be compromised by inaccurate or misleading information.

## **INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

We use a variety of investment strategies depending on your circumstances, financial objectives and needs. We may recommend implementing one or more of the following investment strategies: long-term purchases (held at least a year), short term purchases (held less than a year), trading (sold within 30 days), margin transactions and option writing (selling an option).

A primary strategy used for client accounts is strategic asset allocation. We use a variety of asset classes and securities, including funds and individual equities and bonds. Portfolios are diversified to control the risk presented by traditional markets. We may also recommend unrelated TAMPS who have expertise in certain disciplines when appropriate for the client.

We may recommend implementing these strategies using stocks, bonds, mutual funds (held directly or held within variable annuities), municipal securities, option contracts, certificates of deposits and other types of investments such as non-traded real estate investment trusts, also known as "REITs." We often recommend mutual funds of different kinds to promote portfolio diversification within various asset classes, such as industry sectors, domestic, international, or equities/bonds. We may recommend period purchases, sales and exchanges of those mutual fund shares within mutual fund families and between different mutual fund families when there are changes in your needs, market conditions or economic developments.

## **TYPES OF INVESTMENTS AND RISK OF LOSS**

We may recommend implementing these strategies using stocks, bonds, mutual funds (held directly or held within variable annuities or life insurance products), exchange traded funds (ETFs), municipal securities, options contracts and other types of investments.

Investing in securities involves risk of loss that you should be prepared to bear. Obtaining higher rates of return on investments typically entails accepting higher levels of risk. We will work with you to attempt to identify the balance of risks and rewards that is appropriate and comfortable for you, and we will explain and answer any questions you have about these kinds of investments. However, it is still your responsibility to ask questions if you do not fully understand the risks associated with any investment or investment strategy.

Also, while we strive to render our best judgment on your behalf, many economic and market variables beyond our control can affect the performance of your investments, we cannot assure you that your investments will be profitable, or assure you that no losses will occur in your investment portfolio. Past performance is one relatively important consideration with respect to any investment or investment advisor, but it is not a predictor of future performance.

### ***Mutual Funds, Index Funds and Exchange-Traded Funds***

We often recommend mutual funds of different kinds to promote portfolio diversification within various asset classes, such as industry sectors, domestic/international or equities/bonds. We may recommend periodic purchases, sales and exchanges of those mutual fund shares within mutual fund families and between different mutual fund families when there are changes in your needs, market conditions or economic developments.

The different kinds of mutual funds we use each have inherently different risk characteristics and should not be necessarily be compared side by side. A bond fund with below-average risk, for example, should not be compared to a stock fund with below average risk. Even though both funds have low risk for their respective categories, stock funds overall have a higher risk/return potential than bond funds.

Of all the asset classes, cash investments (i.e. money markets) offer the greatest price stability, but have yielded the lowest long-term returns. Bonds generally experience more short-term price swings, and, in turn, have generated higher long-term returns than cash. However, stocks historically have been subject to the greatest short-term price fluctuations and have provided the highest long-term returns.

The risk in any given mutual fund depends on the investments it holds. For example, a bond fund has interest rate risk and income risk. Bond prices are inversely related to interest rates. If interest rates go up, bond prices will go down and vice versa. Bond income is also



affected by a change in interest rates. Bond yields are directly related to interest rate changes. If interest rates rise, bond yields rise and vice versa. Income risk is greater for a short-term bond fund than for a long-term bond fund. However, in a long term bond fund, your principal is subject to higher principal risk.

Similarly, a sector stock fund (which invests in a single industry, such as telecommunications) is at risk that its price will decline due to developments in its industry. A stock fund that invests across many industries is more sheltered from this industry related risk. However, while diversification across industries can help reduce your risk of loss from investing in a single sector, it may limit your opportunity for a significant gain if a single industry or sector increases dramatically in value.

With respect to all classes of mutual funds and ETFs, diversification does not protect you from an overall decline in the market. You should consider these risks in determining whether to use our services.

### ***Individual Stocks and Bonds***

The risks inherent with individual stocks and bonds are similar to those described about mutual funds. However, unlike mutual funds, individual securities carry more risk because of the possible lack of diversification in the event that your portfolio is not spread across many industries and companies. An owner of an individual security is subject not only to market risk, but company risk, or "significant event" risk as in the case of bankruptcy, loss of major customers, loss of earnings or similar factors. Typically, individual securities have more volatility and potential for larger gains and losses. Unlike mutual funds, you face a greater risk of losing your entire investment in an individual stock or bond. We seek to mitigate these risks in the ownership of individual securities by sound research and diversification.

### ***Options***

Where suitable and appropriate for clients, we may engage in a variety of transactions involving options, although they do not represent a primary focus of our investment strategy. Options are derivative financial instruments, the values of which depend upon, or are derived from the value of something else, such as a stock or a stock index. Where suitable for certain clients, we may make use of "short" options positions, the values of which move in the opposite direction from the price of the underlying security. We also may use options, both for hedging and non-hedging purposes, including as a substitute for a direct investment in the securities of one or more issuers.

However, we may also choose not to use options, based on our evaluation of market conditions or the availability of suitable options contracts.

Options involve special risks and may result in losses. The successful use of options depends on our ability to manage these sophisticated instruments. Some options strategies are “leveraged,” which means that they expose the underlying portfolio to risk of loss greater than the value of the investment in the options. As a result, options may magnify or otherwise increase investment losses to the portfolio. The risk of loss from certain options trading strategies is theoretically unlimited. The prices of options may move in unexpected ways due to the use of leverage or other factors, especially in unusual market conditions, and may result in increased volatility.

Options are not suitable for all clients. Your IAR can answer any questions you may have about options and can provide you with the options disclosure booklet, *Characteristics & Risks of Standardized Options*, upon request.

### ***Variable Annuities***

Variable annuities are highly complex financial products offered by insurance companies. Investment in a variable annuity contract is subject to both general market risk and the insurance company’s credit risk. These and other risks are described in the variable annuities’ prospectuses. Variable annuities are regulated under both securities and insurance laws and related rules and regulations. Variable annuities offer various benefits and features which may, or may not, have value to you depending on your circumstances. Like other types of investments, commissions are paid for the purchase of variable annuities and there may be substantial surrender charges. The commission, surrender charges and other fees and expenses are disclosed in the prospectus.

If suitable, we may recommend variable annuities from insurance companies whose products allow us to manage each client’s separate accounts (the underlying portfolio) by giving purchase and sell orders with no ticket (transaction) charges and simultaneously manage multiple clients’ accounts, which permits us to more efficiently offer you better service. However, these products are not suitable for all clients in all circumstances and there are substantial costs associated with them, as described in each variable annuity’s prospectus. For more information see the “Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations” section below.

### ***ETFs***

Recommendations of particular types of securities - exchange traded funds (“ETFs”) are professionally managed pooled vehicles that invest in stocks, bonds, short-term money market instruments, other mutual funds, other securities or any combination thereof. ETF managers trade fund investments in accordance with fund investment objectives. While ETFs generally provide diversification, risks can be significantly increased for funds concentrated in a particular sector of the market, or that primarily invest in small cap or

speculative companies, use leverage (i.e., borrow money) to a significant degree, or concentrate in a particular type of security (i.e., equities) rather than balancing the fund with different types of securities. ETFs can be bought and sold throughout the day like stock and their price can fluctuate throughout the day. During times of extreme market volatility, ETF pricing may lag versus the actual underlying asset values. This lag usually resolves itself in a short period of time (usually less than one day), however, there is no guarantee this relationship will always occur.

## **ITEM 9: DISCIPLINARY INFORMATION**

We have no legal or disciplinary events to disclose. As a registered investment adviser, we are required to disclose to you all material facts regarding any legal or disciplinary events that would be material to your evaluation of our firm or the integrity of our management.

## **ITEM 10: OTHER FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS**

We are also affiliated by common ownership with Investment Planners, Inc., a registered broker-dealer and member of FINRA and SIPC. Investment Planners acts as a fully disclosed introducing firm for RBC Correspondent Services holding client assets and executing transactions for client accounts. We are not affiliated with RBC. For more information about Investment Planners and its brokerage services, see the discussion below under the heading, "Brokerage Practices."

In addition, several of our IARs are also registered representatives of our affiliated broker-dealer and can earn commissions on securities transactions and 12b-1 fees for mutual funds that may be recommended by them in their capacity as representatives of Investment Planners.

Commissions earned on variable insurance products are typically higher and in some instances, substantial compared to commissions earned on mutual funds or other securities. Because of this, there exists the potential conflict of interest in the recommendation made by the representative that serves both as an advisor representative and a registered representative earning a commission on the products that are recommended by him or her. You are under no obligation to implement investment and insurance recommendations through Investment Planners or through any insurance companies with which representatives and/or employees of our firm are contracted. Commissions may be higher or lower at Investment Planners than at other broker-dealers. Full disclosure is provided to you prior to executing any transaction. Our firm and our representatives receive no commission if you choose to purchase securities through a

broker-dealer other than Investment Planners. If commission is paid on the variable insurance product, our IARs are not compensated for managing the subaccount.

Compensation paid to our affiliated company indirectly benefits us. These relationships create a potential conflict of interest in our recommending the services of our affiliate. We address these potential conflicts by disclosing these relationships and the compensation we will earn or benefit from when you engage their services.

### **OUR RECOMMENDATION OF OTHER INVESTMENT ADVISERS IN THE RBC PROGRAMS**

If appropriate in your circumstances, we may recommend the use of other investment advisers who are part of the TAMP services described in the “Advisory Business” section above. We generally receive a share of the ongoing management fees in these programs as described in the “Fees and Compensation” section above. The fees for these programs are shared among us, the other program sponsors, and the specified third-party investment manager. This may create potential conflict of interest when our representatives choose among the TAMP services and our own investment management services because we may retain more of the fees in our own advisory programs. We seek to mitigate this conflict by carefully reviewing the suitability of your participation in one or more of the programs available and, in our judgment, recommending the program(s) that better match your needs, goals and objectives. Since these programs allow us to determine the standard advisory fees to our clients, we consider the total advisory fees you would incur and set our fees at competitive levels. Similar advisory services may, however, be available from other investment advisers at a lower cost.

RBC directly contracts with Investment Planners for its wrap fee programs and not IPIWM due to the long-standing clearing relationship with our affiliated broker/dealer. This arrangement limits the firm’s legal recourse if RBC, as the wrap fee sponsor, failed to execute its responsibilities as offered through its wrap fee programs. We do not anticipate this being an issue due to the long-standing relationship. However, if this occurs, IPIWM would mitigate this issue through limiting the available RBC wrap fee program to clients to ensure the client’s best interests are met through recommending other applicable programs.

### **Benefits From Participation in the RBC ADVISOR COUNCIL**

David P. Koshinski serves on the RBC Advisor Council (“Council”). The Council consists of principals of Broker Dealers that advise RBC on issues relevant to the Broker Dealer community. Mr. Koshinski may be called upon periodically to attend advisor council meetings and participate on conference calls or outreaches on an as needed basis. Broker Dealer principals are invited to serve on the Council for an ongoing term by RBC senior management. RBC does not compensate Council members. Any benefits received by Mr.

Koshinski and/or IPI Wealth by serving on the Council do not depend on the amount of brokerage transactions directed to RBC. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by Mr. Koshinski and/or IPI Wealth in and of itself creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence IPI Wealth's recommendation of RBC for custody and brokerage services.

## **ITEM 11: CODE OF ETHICS, PARTICIPATION OR INTEREST IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS AND PERSONAL TRADING**

### **CODE OF ETHICS**

We have adopted a Code of Ethics (the "Code") describing the standards of business conduct we expect all officers, directors, employees and advisory representatives to follow. It expresses our core fundamental values to be honest, fair and forthright in our dealings with clients and others in the conduct of our business. Our Code also guides our practices in giving investment advice to our clients and personal trading of securities for our employees and their related accounts. The Code also describes certain reporting requirements with which particular individuals, associated with or employed by us, must comply. You may request a copy of our Code by contacting our Chief Compliance Officer, Lori Fuerstenberg at (217) 425-6340.

### **PARTICIPATION OR INTEREST IN CLIENT TRANSACTIONS AND PERSONAL TRADING**

Our principal executive officers and most of our advisory representatives are also registered representatives of our affiliated broker-dealer. We, and our registered representatives, are able to execute buy and sell orders for securities on behalf of our clients. When we do so, we may receive compensation in the form of commissions as a result of placing such orders for clients. You are not under any obligation to use us as a broker-dealer or our registered representatives in that capacity when considering our advisory recommendations.

In addition, we and our registered representatives may benefit from our or their purchase or sale of investments that we recommend to you. Our principals and representatives may own or effect transactions in the same securities we recommend to you or our other clients. Generally, these securities will be shares of open-end mutual funds or stocks and bonds actively traded on a national securities exchange or market where the time and size of their purchases or sales will not generally affect transactions for you or our other clients. However, it is an express policy of our Code of Ethics that no person employed by us may purchase or sell any security prior to a transaction being implemented for an advisory account, thereby preventing such employee from benefiting from transactions placed on behalf of advisory accounts. Nevertheless, in all cases when your representative trades

securities on the same day as you, you will get the best price or the trade will be executed as a block or batched trade (also called an aggregated order). In a batched trade, all orders for accounts are combined in one order. All participants receive identical prices, which prevents such employees (or associated persons) from benefiting from transactions placed on behalf of advisory accounts. For more information on trade aggregation, see the "Brokerage Practices" section that follows below.

While we generally do not give advice about thinly traded securities, if we recommend the purchase or sale of a thinly traded security to you, we will ensure that our principals' and representatives' transactions do not adversely affect you, nor improperly benefit them, typically by imposing the same day black-out period.

We have these employee securities trading policies in our Code of Ethics to prevent our employees from benefiting from transactions placed on behalf of any client's account. Because these situations have the potential of raising conflicts of interest, we have established the following trading restrictions:

- Our representatives may not use information available to them because of their employment with us to buy or sell securities for their personal portfolios, unless the information is also available to the investing public upon reasonable inquiry. A representative shall not favor his or her interests above your interests.
- We inform you that our representatives may receive separate compensation when implementing our financial plans.
- We require our representatives to act in accordance with all applicable federal and state regulations that govern investment advisers and broker-dealers.

A representative who violates these restrictions may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

## **ITEM 12: BROKERAGE PRACTICES**

### **DIRECTED BROKERAGE**

As noted above, we are affiliated with Investment Planners, Inc., a registered broker-dealer, and most of our advisory representatives are registered through Investment Planners Inc. to handle securities brokerage transactions. Additionally, Investment Planner's clearing firm, RBC Clearing and Custody, a division of RBC Capital Markets LLC is a qualified custodian and provides the systems and technology we use to manage assets in your account if you engage us for portfolio management services.

A conflict of interest exists with the long-standing clearing and custodian relationship of Investment Planners and IPIWM with RBC, as the broker-dealer has and may receive in the future remuneration from RBC in renewing its clearing agreement. Additionally, RBC may discount ticket charges charged to the firms due to the clearing relationship; however, clients may pay the full charge of the ticket. Other firms do not require clients to direct brokerage to a specific broker-dealer.

However, if you engage us solely for financial planning or consulting services, you are never obligated to use our services or our representatives to implement our financial planning or consulting recommendations. Securities brokerage services are available from other sources at lower cost; however, discount brokerage firms generally do not provide the personalized investment advice or other customer services that we provide. Commissions, 12b-1 fees and other compensation received from the implementation of our recommendations are in addition to our compensation from financial planning, consulting or investment management fees, as described above.

In the context of selecting and retaining RBC as our clearing broker-dealer firm and qualified custodian to our advisory accounts, we fulfill our duty of best execution by taking into account numerous factors regarding a broker-dealer's execution of customer trades including: (1) overall market quality, (2) speed of execution, (3) order size, (4) trading characteristics of a particular security, (4) availability of accurate information affecting choices of the most favorable market, (5) availability of economic access to various market centers and (6) cost and difficulty associated with achieving an execution in a particular market center. Our analysis of these factors is, among other considerations, based on information provided on a quarterly basis by RBC relative to their trade executions.

IPIWM utilizes RBC for directed brokerage services through our affiliated broker/dealer, Investment Planners, Inc. and its clearing broker/dealer, RBC, for some of our Portfolio Management Services. With directed brokerage, you may be unable to achieve the most favorable execution of your transactions which may cost more money for the transactions. IPIWM also recommends other brokerage firms and trust companies (as qualified custodians), such as Schwab Institutional, Trade PMR and RBC Correspondent Services. IPIWM only receives fees or commissions as described herein from these arrangements, such as 12b-1 fees and other compensation received from the implementation of recommendations in addition to our compensation from financial planning, consulting or investment management fees, as described above. IPIWM may benefit from electronic delivery of client information, electronic trading platforms and other services provided by custodians for the benefit of clients. IPIWM may also benefit from other services provided by custodians, such as research, continuing education and practice management advice. Research the firm receives from qualified custodians may benefit some clients and possibly

not others. These benefits are standard in a relationship with these custodians and are not in return for client recommendations or transactions.

IPIWM also utilizes Trade-PMR, Inc. ("Trade-PMR") for brokerage and trade execution services. Trade-PMR clears trades and custodies assets with First Clearing, FINRA member broker-dealers. First Clearing is a trade name used by Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC., a non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company. Trade-PMR acts as an introducing broker dealer on a fully disclosed basis. Trade-PMR and First Clearing are members of SIPC and are unaffiliated registered broker dealers and FINRA members. The brokerage commissions and/or transaction fees charged by Trade-PMR or any other designated broker-dealer are exclusive of and in addition to IPIWM's fee. IPIWM regularly reviews these programs to seek to ensure that its recommendation is consistent with its fiduciary duty. Factors which IPIWM considers in recommending Trade-PMR and First Clearing or any other broker-dealer or custodian to clients include their respective financial strength, reputation, execution, pricing, research, and service. The commissions and/or transaction fees charged by these brokers may be higher or lower than those charged by other broker-dealers.

In addition, Trade-PMR provides IPIWM with access to its institutional trading and custody services, which are typically not available to retail investors. These brokerage services include the execution of securities transactions, research, and access to mutual funds and other investments that are otherwise generally available only to institutional investors or would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment.

Additionally, IPIWM may receive the following benefits from Trade-PMR: receipt of duplicate client confirmations and bundled duplicate statements; access to a trading desk that exclusively services its participants; access to block trading which provides the ability to aggregate securities transactions and then allocates the appropriate shares to client accounts; and access to an electronic communication network for client order entry and account information.

Some wrap fee programs have selected third party managers who choose not to direct the execution of a particular trade through the custodian. This is known as trading away. The broker/dealer that executed the trades for the money manager may charge a commission or fee for those transactions to a client in addition to the program's wrap fee. These additional costs will be included in the purchase or sale price of the transaction. Clients are responsible for reviewing the third party manager's disclosures relative to trade away disclosures and costs as the manager has the fiduciary responsibility to provide this information as well as best execution for the transactions. IPIWM does not evaluate the suitability of a third party manager's transactions nor does IPIWM evaluate whether the manager is meeting its best execution obligation when trading away.



IPIWM reviews the execution of trades at each custodian annually and is documented according to the "Policies and Procedures Manual." Trading fees charged by the custodians are also reviewed on at least an annual basis. IPIWM does not receive any portion of the trading fees.

### **AGGREGATION OF ORDERS**

We have adopted a trade allocation policy to govern how we handle the aggregation of orders for more than one client's account. From time to time, and only where appropriate, we aggregate orders for securities transactions for more than one client and, in appropriate circumstances. In doing so, we strive to treat each client fairly and will not favor one client over another client. When executed, we will allocate the aggregated order in accordance with policies and procedures intended to achieve fair treatment. The purpose of aggregating orders is for our administrative convenience and, in some transactions, to obtain better execution for the aggregated order than might be achieved by processing each of the transactions separately.

Each account that participates in an aggregated order will participate at the average share price for all transactions ordered by our firm in that security on a given business day. Transaction costs will be shared on a pro rata basis. Some broker-dealers charge brokerage commissions to each participating client in accordance with the size of that client's part of the aggregated order, regardless of the total size of the aggregated order. If an aggregated order is not filled in its entirety, it will be allocated among participating accounts on a pro rata basis. Representatives submit aggregated order allocations to our Operations Department and these orders are monitored for timing and completion at the end of each trading day. Representatives that trade for their own accounts within models and are not day trading a security may include their own personal account in an aggregated order.

## **ITEM 13: REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS**

### **INVESTMENT SUPERVISORY SERVICES INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT @ MODEL PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT**

**Reviews:** While the underlying securities within accounts are continually monitored, accounts are reviewed periodically on either a random or targeted basis. Accounts are reviewed in the context of each client's stated investment objectives and guidelines. More frequent reviews may be triggered by material changes in variables such as the client's individual circumstances, or the market, political or economic environment. These accounts are reviewed by firm supervisory personnel.

**Reports:** In addition to the monthly statements and confirmations of transactions that clients receive from their broker-dealer, we may provide quarterly reports summarizing account performance, balances and holdings.

## **QUALIFIED RETIREMENT PLANS**

**Reviews:** IPIWM will review the client's Investment Policy Statement ("IPS") whenever the client advises us of a change in circumstances regarding the needs of the plan. IPIWM will also review the investment options of the plan according to the agreed upon time intervals established in the IPS. These accounts are reviewed by the Operations Department and/or a designated supervisor at the time of the account opening and on a random or targeted basis.

**Reports:** IPIWM will provide reports to Qualified Retirement Plan clients based on the terms set forth in the client's IPS.

## **SELECTION and MONITORING of THIRD-PARTY MONEY MANAGERS**

**Reviews:** These client accounts should refer to the independent registered investment adviser's Firm Brochure (or other disclosure document used in lieu of the brochure) for information regarding the nature and frequency of reviews provided by that independent registered investment adviser. IPIWM will provide reviews as contracted for at the inception of the advisory relationship. These accounts are reviewed by supervisory personnel of the firm on a random or targeted basis.

**Reports:** These clients should refer to the independent registered investment adviser's Firm Brochure (or other disclosure document used in lieu of the brochure) for information regarding the nature and frequency of reports provided by that independent registered investment adviser.

IPIWM may provide these client accounts with reports as contracted for at the inception of the advisory relationship.

## **FINANCIAL PLANNING AND CONSULTING SERVICES**

**Reviews:** While reviews may occur at different stages depending on the nature and terms of the specific engagement, typically no formal ongoing reviews will be conducted for financial planning clients unless otherwise contracted.

**Reports:** Financial planning clients will receive a completed financial plan. Additional reports will not typically be provided unless otherwise agreed upon.

## ITEM 14: CLIENT REFERRALS AND OTHER COMPENSATION

IPIWM may pay referral fees to independent persons or firms ("Solicitors") for introducing clients to us. Whenever we pay a referral fee, we require the Solicitor to provide the prospective client with a copy of this document (our *Firm Brochure*) and a separate disclosure statement that includes the following information:

- the Solicitor's name and relationship with our firm;
- the fact that the Solicitor is being paid a referral fee;
- the amount of the fee; and
- whether the fee paid to us by the client will be increased above our normal fees in order to compensate the Solicitor.

As a matter of firm practice, the advisory fees paid to us by clients referred by solicitors are not increased as a result of any referral.

It is our policy not to accept or allow our related persons to accept any form of compensation, including cash, sales awards or other prizes, from a non-client in conjunction with the advisory services we provide to our clients.

IPIWM will receive additional benefits from Trade-PMR which includes electronic systems that assist in the management of IPIWM client accounts, access to research, the ability to directly debit client fees, software and other technology that provide access to client account data (such as trade confirmations and account statements), facilitate trade execution (and allocation of aggregated trade orders for multiple client accounts), pricing information and other market data, assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping and client reporting.

## ITEM 15: CUSTODY

We previously disclosed in the "Fees and Compensation" section of this Disclosure Brochure that our firm directly debits advisory fees from client accounts.

As part of this billing process, the client's custodian is advised of the amount of our advisory fee to be deducted from that client's account. This ability to deduct our advisory fees from your accounts causes our firm to exercise limited custody over your funds or securities. On at least a quarterly basis, the custodian is required to send to the client a statement showing all transactions within the account during the reporting period.

Because the custodian does not calculate the amount of the fee to be deducted, it is important for clients to carefully review their custodial statements to verify the accuracy of

the calculation, among other things. Clients should contact us directly if they believe that there may be an error in their statement.

In some cases, our clients authorize us to move cash from/to their investment account at a qualified custodian to/from their bank account or third party, by executing a Standing Letter of Authorization (SLOA). SLOA forms are provided by the qualified custodians. Clients identify the payee and either the third party's address or account number at the custodian when executing the SLOA. We do not have the discretion to change the payee name, address, or other information on a SLOA.

After the custodian performs their verification of the client instructions, the custodian will notify the client in writing to confirm the instructions. The custodian will also provide a transfer of funds notice to the client promptly after each transfer.

In addition to the periodic statements that clients receive directly from their custodians, we also may send performance reports directly to our asset management clients on at least a quarterly basis. We urge our clients to carefully compare the information provided on these statements to ensure that all account transactions, holdings and values are correct and current.

Our firm does not have physical custody of client accounts. Your funds and securities are held by the applicable custodian who will provide you account statements at least quarterly. We urge you to carefully review such statements and compare these official custodial records to the account statements or other reports that we may provide to you, as described in the "Review of Accounts" section. Our advisory reports may vary from custodial statements based on accounting procedures, reporting dates or valuation methodologies of certain securities.

## **ITEM 16: INVESTMENT DISCRETION**

We generally receive discretionary authority in writing from clients at the outset of an advisory relationship in the Agreement. If you choose to do so, discretionary authority grants us the ability to determine, without obtaining your specific consent, the securities to be bought or sold for your portfolio, the amount of securities to be bought or sold, and in most cases, the broker-dealer to be used and the commission rate to be paid. In all cases, however, such discretion is to be exercised in a manner consistent with your stated investment objectives for the account, by considering the size of your account and your risk tolerance.

Also, you may sign an agreement with your custodian that generally includes a limited power of attorney granting us authority to direct and implement the investment and reinvestment of your assets within the account, but not direct the assets outside of the account.

When selecting securities and determining amounts, we observe any investment policies, limitations and restrictions you provide to us in writing. For registered investment companies, our authority to trade securities may also be limited by certain federal securities and tax laws that require diversification of investments and favor the holding of investments once made.

As described in more detail in the “Advisory Business” section, you may establish written investment guidelines and restrictions.

### **ITEM 17: VOTING CLIENT SECURITIES**

IPIWM will not vote proxies on behalf of advisory clients.

You will likely hold various investments in your account for which shareholders, stockholders, or investors may have the right to receive and vote proxies and proxy statements from companies or funds pertaining to their corporate governance. Typically, the custodian(s) for your account will send directly to you all proxy materials and related corporate communications instead of to us. You will be solely responsible for voting all proxies. We would be pleased to assist you by answering any questions and offering our advice to help you make an informed decision. We will not have authority to vote on any corporate matters as your proxy.

### **ITEM 18: FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

We have no financial liabilities, obligations or commitments that impair our ability to meet our contractual and fiduciary commitments. We have not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.