



**ACKERMAN ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC**

Registered Investment Advisor

## Form ADV Part 2A & 2B Disclosure Brochure

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This brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Ackerman Asset Management, LLC. If you have any questions about the contents of this brochure, please feel free to contact us at (301) 230-2088 or by email at: [JA@AckermanAsset.com](mailto:JA@AckermanAsset.com). The information in this brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority. Registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training.

Additional information about Ackerman Asset Management, LLC is also available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov). Ackerman Asset Management, LLC's CRD number is: 137958

## Item 2: Material Changes

### A. Annual Update

The Material Changes section of this brochure will be updated annually when material changes occur since the previous release of the Firm Brochure. The Brochure was last updated on March 21, 2023.

### B. Material Changes since the Last Update

None.

### C. Full Brochure Available

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the content of this disclosure brochure or should you require a hard copy of this disclosure brochure to be sent directly to you, please direct your inquiry to James Ackerman, by telephone 301-230-2088 or by email at [JA@AckermanAsset.com](mailto:JA@AckermanAsset.com).

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## Item 4: Advisory Business

### A. Description of the Advisory Firm

Ackerman Asset Management, LLC (hereinafter "AAM" or the "Firm") was founded in 2005. AAM provides investment management to individuals, high-net-worth individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, trusts, estates, charitable organizations, foundations, family offices, endowments, or other business entities. Advice is provided through consultation with the client and may include: determination of financial objectives and investment management.

Periodic reviews are also communicated to provide reminders of the specific courses of action that need to be taken. More frequent reviews occur but are not necessarily communicated to the client unless immediate changes are recommended. The initial meeting, which may be by telephone, is free of charge and is considered an exploratory interview to determine the extent to which investment management may be beneficial to the client.

### *Fiduciary Duty*

James Ackerman serves as a fiduciary to his clients. As established by the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, we adhere to a fiduciary standard which requires investment advisers to provide advice based on a client's unique situation and objectives. It also requires investment advisers to act in the best interest of the client, placing the client's interests ahead of our own. Our fiduciary duty is to our clients alone. Ackerman Asset Management is not affiliated with any broker-dealer, custodian, bank, insurance company, or mutual fund company.

### B. Principal Owners

James D. Ackerman is the principal of AAM and owns 100% of the Firm.

### C. Types of Advisory Services

#### *Portfolio Management Services*

AAM provides continuous advice to a client regarding investment of client funds based on the individual needs of the client, as determined through personal discussions with the client and the completion of a client profile and risk questionnaire. AAM creates, manages, and supervises a client's account in accordance with the investment objectives and risk tolerance as specified by the client. AAM manages advisory accounts on a discretionary basis in order to select securities and execute transactions without consent from the client prior to each transaction. AAM does not offer dedicated financial planning services, although may perform necessary analyses to support the investment strategy.

Investment advice may be offered on any investments held by a client at the start of the advisory relationship. AAM will create a portfolio consisting of one or all of the following: individual equities, bonds, corporate debt securities, municipal securities, commercial paper, warrants, certificates of deposit, no-load, load-waived and front-load mutual funds, exchange traded funds, and other alternative investment products. AAM does not offer and/or sell interests in private placement offerings and/or limited investment partnerships, such as, hedge funds and other pooled investment partnerships.

## *IRA Rollover Considerations*

As part of our consulting and advisory services, we provide you with recommendations and advice concerning your employer retirement plan or other qualified retirement account. When appropriate, we recommend that you withdraw the assets from your employer's retirement plan or other qualified retirement account and roll the assets over to an individual retirement account ("IRA") that we will manage. If you elect to roll the assets to an IRA under our management, we will charge you an asset-based fee as described in Item 5.

This practice presents a conflict of interest because our investment advisory representative has an incentive to recommend a rollover to you for the purpose of generating fee-based compensation rather than solely based on your needs. You are under no obligation, contractually or otherwise, to complete the rollover. Furthermore, if you do complete the rollover, you are under no obligation to have your IRA assets managed by us. You have the right to decide whether or not to complete the rollover and the right to consult with other financial professionals.

## *Consulting Services*

Clients can also receive investment advice on a more limited basis. AAM provides specific consultation and administrative services regarding investment and financial concerns of the client. This may include, but is not limited to, advice or analysis on current or prospective outside, non-AAM assets, such as investments in a client's company 401(k) plan or other investment vehicles.

## *Retirement Plan Services*

AAM provides fiduciary advisory services to benefit plan sponsors and to the individuals who participate in those plans on a non-discretionary basis. All benefit plans that contract with AAM for ERISA advisory services must be administered by an independent third-party plan administrator and/or an independent third-party custodian. Participants in such plans may have the option to utilize model portfolios comprised of multiple mutual funds that cover a variety of markets and asset allocations in addition to a selection of target date funds.

The Plan Sponsor determines whether advisory services fees for the Plan are to be paid by the Sponsor or to be passed on to the Plan Participant. If a Plan Participant chooses to invest in a self-directed brokerage account, in benefit plans where that feature is available, AAM disclaims any fiduciary obligation for those assets and does not charge an advisory fee on those assets to the Plan Sponsor or a Plan Participant.

Services offered to Plan Sponsors and through those Plans, to the Plan Participants may include:

- the non-discretionary selection of plan participant investment options (mutual funds from unaffiliated providers) and design of efficient portfolios across the risk/return spectrum comprised of some of the mutual fund options recommended;
- the provision of in-person plan participant retirement investment planning educational meetings upon request from the Plan Sponsor; and
- ongoing monitoring of the plan's investment selections.

## D. Client Tailored Services and Client Imposed Restrictions

AAM offers the same suite of services to all of its clients. Clients have the opportunity to place reasonable restrictions on the types of investments which will be made on the client's behalf. However, if the restrictions prevent AAM from properly servicing the client account, or if the restrictions would require AAM to deviate

from its standard suite of services, AAM reserves the right to end the relationship. Clients will always retain individual ownership of all securities.

When appropriate to the needs of the client, AAM may perform short term purchases, trading, short sales, or margin transactions. Because these investment strategies involve certain additional degrees of risk, they will only be utilized when consistent with the client's stated tolerance for risk.

E. Wrap Fee Programs

AAM does not participate in any wrap fee programs.

F. Assets Under Management

AAM has the following assets under management:

Discretionary Amounts:	Non-Discretionary Amounts:	Date Calculated:
\$127,856,796	\$431,408,818	02/08/2024

## Item 5: Fees and Compensation

A. Fee Schedules

### Portfolio Management Services

A maximum annual fee of 1.50% for portfolio management services will be charged as a percentage of assets under management. These fees are negotiable. Fees are paid quarterly in advance, no earlier than at the beginning of each calendar quarter based upon the value (market value or fair market value in the absence of market value), of the client's account at the end of the previous calendar quarter.

Effective April 2022, AAM implemented the billing module on a new back-office software system. This permits us to disclose in detail the adjustments made to the quarterly fee billing for cash flows (deposits into and withdrawals from an account) during the previous quarter for asset-based fee calculations. Adjustments based on cash flows are disclosed in the Investment Management Agreement. The new billing statement will now reflect the adjustments made.

Advisory fees are not reduced to offset transaction costs charged by custodians. Please refer to Item 12 for a description of brokerage practices.

### Consulting Services

Consulting fees will be charged using one of the following methodologies: a) at an hourly rate of \$300; or b) as a fixed dollar fee.

### Retirement Plan Services

Clients who engage AAM for Retirement Plan Services will be assessed a maximum fee of 1.00% per annum on the assets maintained by participants in their retirement plan accounts. The fee is negotiable at AAM's discretion. Fees are paid quarterly in advance, no earlier than at the beginning of each calendar quarter based

upon the value (market value or fair market value in the absence of market value), of participant accounts at the end of the previous calendar quarter. Advisory fees are not reduced to offset transaction costs charged by custodians. AAM may charge clients with larger account balances a flat, asset-based fee or fixed dollar fee for retirement plan services. It should be noted that fee payment frequency and calculations can be impacted by the plan's recordkeeper.

#### B. Negotiability of Fees

AAM may offer discounted rates to its employees and their families as well as to institutional and very high net worth clients with substantial account balances. Clients that had a pre-existing relationship with the President of AAM at his previous firm may have lower fees in some cases, as well as clients of the firm prior to January 1, 2009. In addition, certain client-specific cash management portfolios may be excluded from advisory services and thus not be charged a fee. This will be evaluated on a case by case situation.

#### C. Fee Calculation

The fee charged is calculated as described above and is not charged on the basis of a share of capital gains or capital appreciation of the funds or any portion of the funds of an advisory client (Section 205(a)(1) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940).

#### D. Termination of Advisory Relationship

A client agreement may be canceled at any time, by either party, for any reason upon receipt of 30 days prior written notice. Refunds are given on a prorated basis, based on the number of days remaining in a quarter at the point of termination. Clients may terminate their contracts without penalty, for full refund, within 5 business days of signing the advisory contract. In the event of withdrawal of funds or the termination of any account, any fees, commissions, or other expenses associated with rebalancing or liquidating the account holdings may be assessed to the client's account.

#### E. Mutual Fund, ETF and Other Third-Party Fees

Clients are responsible for the payment of all third-party fees (i.e. custodian fees, mutual fund and ETF fees, transaction fees, etc.). Retirement plan recordkeepers frequently charge services fees to participants account for certain services. For example, a fee for a check distribution or a fee to implement and maintain a loan on a participant's account. Those fees are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by AAM.

All fees paid to AAM for investment advisory services are separate and distinct from the fees and expenses charged by mutual funds and ETFs to their shareholders. These fees and expenses are described in each fund's prospectus. These fees will generally include a management fee, other fund expenses, and a possible distribution fee. If the fund also imposes sales charges, a client may pay an initial or deferred sales charge. A client could invest in mutual funds or ETFs directly, without the services of AAM. In that case, the client would not receive the services provided by AAM which are designed, among other things, to assist the client in determining which mutual fund or funds are most appropriate to each client's financial condition and objectives. Accordingly, the client should review both the fees charged by the funds and the fees charged by AAM to fully understand the total amount of fees to be paid by the client and to thereby evaluate the advisory services being provided.

## F. Payment of Fees

### *Payment of Portfolio Management Fees and Retirement Plan Services Fees*

AAM's fees are typically deducted from client accounts, in advance, at or near the beginning of each calendar quarter (as described previously in Item 5.A.). AAM may directly debit advisory fees from the client account if the following conditions are met:

1. The client provides written authorization permitting AAM's fees to be paid directly from the client's account held by an independent custodian.
2. The adviser sends a Fee Statement to the client and the custodian at the same time. The client's Fee Statement will show the amount of the advisory fee and how it was calculated, while the custodian's Fee Statement will only show the amount of the advisory fee.
3. The adviser informs the client that it is the client's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the fee calculation and that the custodian will not determine whether the fee is properly calculated.
4. The custodian agrees to send to the client a statement, at least quarterly, indicating all amounts disbursed from the account including the amount of advisory fees paid directly to AAM.

Advisory fees may also be invoiced and billed directly to the client with payments due upon receiving the invoice. Clients may select the method in which they are billed.

### *Payment of Consulting Services Fees*

The hourly and fixed fees for consulting services are charged quarterly in arrears.

## G. Outside Compensation for the Sale of Securities to Clients

AAM does not receive compensation from outside business activities.

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

AAM does not accept performance-based fees or other fees based on a share of capital gains on or capital appreciation of the assets of a client.

## **Item 7: Types of Clients**

AAM generally provides advisory services to the following types of clients: individuals, high-net-worth individuals, pension and profit-sharing plans, trusts, or other business entities.

### *Minimum Account Size*

AAM generally imposes a minimum portfolio size of \$500,000 for new clients. Exceptions to the minimum portfolio level may be separately negotiated on a case-by-case basis. AAM may continue to service existing accounts that have values that are below the minimum.

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

### *Methods of Analysis*

AAM's methods of analysis include charting analysis, fundamental analysis, and technical analysis. The main sources of information include financial newspapers and magazines, research materials prepared by others, corporate rating services, annual reports, prospectuses, filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, company press releases, Morningstar mutual fund information, and historical security pricing data.

Charting analysis strategy involves using and comparing various charts to predict long and short-term performance or market trends. The risk involved in solely using this method is that only past performance data is considered without using other methods to crosscheck data. Using charting analysis without other methods of analysis would be making the assumption that past performance will be indicative of future performance. This may not be the case.

Fundamental analysis concentrates on factors that determine a company's value and expected future earnings. This strategy would normally encourage equity purchases in stocks that are undervalued or priced below their perceived value. The risk assumed is that the market will fail to reach expectations of perceived value.

Technical analysis attempts to predict a future stock price or direction based on market trends. The assumption is that the market follows discernible patterns and if these patterns can be identified then a prediction can be made. The risk is that markets do not always follow patterns and relying solely on this method may not work long term.

### *Investment Strategies*

AAM primarily uses mutual funds, exchange traded funds, stocks, bonds, and CD's. AAM may also use long term trading, short term trading, short sales, and margin transactions strategies. Based on the market environment, we may use inverse or leveraged ETFs to a certain degree.

Long term trading is designed to capture market rates of both return and risk. Frequent trading, when done, can affect investment performance, particularly through increased brokerage and other transaction costs and taxes. Short term trading and margin transactions generally hold greater risk and clients should be aware that there is a material risk of loss using any of those strategies.

Short sales involve the sale of an asset or stock an investor does not own. It is generally a transaction in which an investor sells borrowed securities in anticipation of a price decline; the investor is then required to return an equal number of shares at some point in the future.

An inverse ETF is an exchange-traded fund ("ETF") constructed by using various derivatives for the purpose of profiting from a decline in the value of an underlying benchmark. Investing in inverse ETFs is similar to holding various short positions or using a combination of advanced investment strategies to profit from falling prices. An inverse ETF is also known as a "Short ETF," or "Bear ETF."

Margin transaction strategies involves trading securities that an investor has bought with money borrowed from a broker for that purpose. An investor who trades on margin can realize huge gains if the price of the security moves in a favorable direction; however, he/she also takes on a great deal of risk because it may not move in such a direction.

A leveraged exchange-traded fund is a fund that uses financial derivatives and debt to amplify the returns of an underlying index. These funds aim to keep a constant amount of leverage during the investment time frame, such as a 2:1 or 3:1 ratio.

### *Risks Associated with Investing*

All investment programs have certain risks that are borne by the investor. Our investment approach constantly keeps the risk of loss in mind. Investors face the following investment risks:

- **Interest-rate Risk:** Fluctuations in interest rates may cause investment prices to fluctuate. For example, when interest rates rise, yields on existing bonds become less attractive, causing their market values to decline.
- **Market Risk:** The price of a security, bond, or mutual fund may drop in reaction to tangible and intangible events and conditions. This type of risk is caused by external factors independent of a security's particular underlying circumstances. For example, political, economic and social conditions may trigger market events
- **Inflation Risk:** When any type of inflation is present, a dollar today will not buy as much as a dollar next year, because purchasing power is eroding at the rate of inflation.
- **Currency Risk:** Overseas investments are subject to fluctuations in the value of the dollar against the currency of the investment's originating country. This is also referred to as exchange rate risk.
- **Reinvestment Risk:** This is the risk that future proceeds from investments may have to be reinvested at a potentially lower rate of return (i.e. interest rate). This primarily relates to fixed income securities.
- **Business Risk:** These risks are associated with a particular industry or a particular company within an industry. For example, oil-drilling companies depend on finding oil and then refining it, a lengthy process, before they can generate a profit. They carry a higher risk of profitability than an electric company, which generates its income from a steady stream of customers who buy electricity no matter what the economic environment is like.
- **Liquidity Risk:** Liquidity is the ability to readily convert an investment into cash. Generally, assets are more liquid if many traders are interested in a standardized product. For example, Treasury Bills are highly liquid, while real estate properties are not.
- **Financial Risk:** Excessive borrowing to finance a business' operations increases the risk of profitability, because the company must meet the terms of its obligations in good times and bad. During periods of financial stress, the inability to meet loan obligations may result in bankruptcy and/or a declining market value.
- **Political Risks.** Most investments have a global component, even domestic stocks. Political events anywhere in the world may have unforeseen consequences to markets around the world.
- **Default Risk.** This risk pertains to the ability of a company to service their debt. Ratings provided by several rating services help to identify those companies with more risk. Obligations of the U.S. government are said to be free of default risk.

- **Leverage Risk.** Leverage is a facility that enables you to get a much larger exposure to the market you're trading than the amount you deposited to open the trade. Leveraged products magnify your potential profit but also increase your potential loss.
- **Foreign Investing Risk.** Investing in the securities of non-U.S. issuers involves special risks not typically associated with investing in U.S. issuers. Foreign securities may be more volatile and less liquid than investments in the U.S. and may lose value because of adverse local, political, social or economic developments overseas. In addition, foreign investments may be subject to uncertain tax laws, regulatory standards for accounting, reporting, trading and settlement that differ from those of the U.S. Some jurisdictions may impose unique obligations on clients as a result of their investment in non-U.S. issuers. Enforcing legal rights can be difficult, costly, and slow in certain foreign countries, and can be particularly difficult against foreign governments. Changes in currency exchange rates can affect the U.S. dollar value of foreign currency investments and investments denominated in foreign currencies. Further, in certain foreign countries, investments are only permitted indirectly through participatory notes which have certain restrictions on transferability and may be more illiquid than direct investments.
- **Geographic Concentration Risk.** If an account concentrates its investments in a particular geographic region or country, the account's performance is closely tied to the market, currency, social, political, economic, environmental and regulatory conditions within that country or region. These conditions include anticipated or actual government budget deficits or other financial difficulties, levels of inflation and unemployment, fiscal and monetary controls, and political and social instability in such countries and regions. As a result, the account is likely to be more volatile than an account with more geographically diverse investments.
- **Risk of Unregistered Securities/Private Placements.** Investments through private placements are not immediately tradable on an exchange or in the over-the-counter (OTC) market and may be subject to restrictions on resale including significant holding or "lockup" restrictions for designated time periods. Private placements may serve as financing vehicles for privately held entities. The offering documents often contain limited information on the company's business and many private placement securities are issued by companies that are not required to file audited financial reports making it difficult to gauge how the private placement is likely to perform over time. Securities issued by privately held entities are typically illiquid. Due to the illiquid nature of these securities, in the majority of circumstances clients will not be able to liquidate such securities upon termination of a client's account. As a result, these clients should be prepared to hold such investments over a longer time horizon than public company holdings or possibly for an indefinite period of time.

AAM generally seeks investment strategies that do not involve significant or unusual risk beyond that of the general domestic and/or international equity markets. However, it may utilize margin transactions which generally hold greater risk of capital loss and clients should be aware that there is a material risk of loss using any of those strategies.

Past performance is not a guarantee of future returns. Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.

***Investing in securities involves a risk of loss that you, as a client, should be prepared to bear.***

## **Item 9: Disciplinary Information**

Mr. Ackerman has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events throughout his investment career.

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

### **A. Registration as a Broker/Dealer Representative**

Neither AAM nor its representatives are registered representatives of a broker/dealer.

### **B. Other Registration**

Neither AAM nor its representatives are registered as a Futures Commission Merchant, Commodity Pool Operator, or a Commodity Trading Advisor.

### **C. Registration Relationships Material to this Advisory Business and Possible Conflicts of Interests**

Neither AAM nor its representatives have any material relationships to this advisory business outside of those identified above that would present a possible conflict of interest.

### **D. Selection of Other Advisors or Managers and How This Adviser is Compensated for Those Selections**

AAM does not utilize nor select other advisors or third-party managers. All assets are managed by AAM.

## **Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading**

### **A. Code of Ethics**

We have a written Code of Ethics that covers the following areas: Prohibited Purchases and Sales, Insider Trading, Personal Securities Transactions, Exempted Transactions, Prohibited Activities, Conflicts of Interest, Gifts and Entertainment, Confidentiality, Service on a Board of Directors, Compliance Procedures, Compliance with Laws and Regulations, Procedures and Reporting, Certification of Compliance, Reporting Violations, Compliance Officer Duties, Training and Education, Recordkeeping, Annual Review, and Sanctions. Clients may request a copy of our Code of Ethics from management.

### **B. Recommendations Involving Material Financial Interests**

AAM does not recommend that clients buy or sell any security in which a related person to AAM has a material financial interest.

### **C. Participation or Interest in Client Transactions**

AAM or individuals associated with AAM may buy or sell securities identical to, or different than, those recommended to customers for their personal accounts. In addition, any related person(s) may have an interest or position in a certain security(ies) which may also be recommended to a client. It is the expressed policy of AAM that no person employed by AAM may purchase or sell any security prior to a transaction(s) being

implemented for an advisory account, and therefore, preventing such employees from benefiting from transactions placed on behalf of advisory accounts.

As these situations represent a conflict of interest, AAM has established the following restrictions in order to ensure its fiduciary responsibilities:

- A director, officer or employee of AAM shall not buy or sell securities for their personal portfolio(s) where their decision is substantially derived, in whole or in part, by reason of his or her employment unless the information is also available to the investing public on reasonable inquiry. No person of AAM shall prefer his or her own interest to that of the advisory client.
- AAM maintains a list of all securities holdings for itself, and anyone associated with this advisory practice with access to advisory recommendations. These holdings are reviewed on a regular basis by James Ackerman, President and CCO of AAM.
- AAM emphasizes the unrestricted right of the client to decline to implement any advice rendered, except in situations where AAM is granted discretionary authority of the client's account.
- AAM requires that all individuals must act in accordance with all applicable federal and state regulations governing registered investment advisory practices.
- Any individual not in observance of the above may be subject to termination.

#### D. Aggregation of Trades

AAM may aggregate trades for itself or for its associated person with client trades, providing that the following conditions are met:

- No advisory client will be favored over any other client; each client that participates in an aggregated order will participate at the average share price for all AAM's transactions in a given security on a given business day. Under the client's agreement with the custodian/broker, transaction costs will be based on the number of shares traded for each client;
- AAM will prepare, before entering an aggregated order, a written statement ('Allocation Statement') specifying the participating client accounts and how it intends to allocate the order among those clients;
- If the aggregated order is filled in its entirety, it will be allocated among clients in accordance with the Allocation Statement; if the order is partially filled, it will be allocated pro-rata based on the Allocation Statement.
- Notwithstanding the foregoing, the order may be allocated on a basis different from that specified in the Allocation Statement if all client accounts receive fair and equitable treatment and the reason for different allocation is explained in writing and is approved by AAM's compliance officer no later than one hour after the opening of the markets on the trading day following the day the order was executed;
- AAM's books and records will separately reflect, for each client account, the orders of which are aggregated, the securities held by, and bought and sold for that account;
- Funds and securities of clients whose orders are aggregated will be deposited with one or more banks or broker-dealers, and neither the clients' cash nor their securities will be held collectively any longer than is necessary to settle the purchase or sale in question on a delivery versus payment basis; cash or securities held collectively for clients will be delivered out to the custodian bank or broker-dealer as soon as practicable following the settlement;
- AAM will receive no additional compensation or remuneration of any kind as a result of the proposed aggregation; and
- Individual advice and treatment will be accorded to each advisory client.

## Item 12: Brokerage Practices

### A. Selecting Brokerage Firms

As AAM does not have the discretionary authority to determine the broker/dealer to be used or the commission rates to be paid, clients must direct AAM as to the broker/dealer to be used. In directing the use of a particular broker or dealer, it should be understood that AAM will not have authority to negotiate commissions among various brokers or obtain volume discounts, and best execution may not be achieved. In addition, a disparity in commission charges may exist between the commissions charged to other clients.

AAM reserves the right to decline acceptance of any client account that directs the use of a broker dealer that AAM believes would adversely affect its duty to obtain best execution. While there is no direct linkage (except in certain circumstances) between the investment advice given to clients and AAM's use of a custodian for its client's accounts, economic benefits are received by AAM which would not be received if AAM did not give investment advice to clients. These benefits include: A dedicated trading desk that services custodial participants exclusively, a dedicated service group and an account services manager dedicated to AAM's accounts, access to a real-time order matching system, ability to 'block' client trades, electronic download of trades, balances and positions, access, for a fee, to an electronic interface with a custodian's software, duplicate and batched client statements, confirmations and year-end summaries, the ability to have advisory fees directly debited from client accounts (in accordance with federal and state requirements), internet access to statements, confirmations and transfer of asset status), access for clients to view accounts over the internet, ability to have loads waived for AAM's clients who invest in certain loaded funds, when certain conditions are met and maintained and the ability to have custody fees waived (when negotiated by the adviser and allowed under certain circumstances). The benefits received do not depend upon the amount of transactions directed to, or amount of assets custodied.

- **Best Execution.** While AAM has a reasonable belief that a Custodian used for its client accounts is able to obtain best execution and competitive prices, AAM will not be independently seeking best execution price capability through other broker dealers. AAM will never charge a premium or commission on transactions, beyond the actual cost imposed by Custodian.
- **Research and Other Soft-Dollar Benefits.** AAM receives no premium research, product, or service other than execution from a broker-dealer or third-party in connection with client securities transactions ("soft dollar benefits").
- **Brokerage for Client Referrals.** AAM receives no referrals from a broker-dealer or third party in exchange for using that broker-dealer or third party.

AAM may receive a benefit from a custodian, as it does not have to produce or pay for access to certain research, products or services. AAM may have an incentive to select or recommend a broker-dealer based on the firm's interest in receiving the research or other products or services, rather than on the clients' interest in receiving most favorable execution.

### B. Aggregating (Block) Trading for Multiple Client Accounts

AAM will block trades where possible and when advantageous to clients. This blocking of trades permits the trading of aggregate blocks of securities composed of assets from multiple clients' accounts so long as transaction costs are shared equally and on a pro-rated basis between all accounts included in any such block. Block trading allows AAM to execute equity trades in a more timely and equitable manner. Trades for affiliated accounts may be included in AAM client block trades.

## **Item 13: Reviews of Accounts**

### **A. Frequency and Nature of Periodic Reviews and Who Makes Those Reviews**

While the underlying securities within client accounts are continuously monitored, these accounts are reviewed at least quarterly by James Ackerman, President of AAM. Accounts are reviewed in the context of each client's stated investment objectives and guidelines. All accounts at AAM are assigned to this reviewer.

### **B. Factors That Will Trigger a Non-Periodic Review of Client Accounts**

Reviews may be triggered by material market, economic or political events, or by changes in client's financial situations (such as retirement, termination of employment, physical move, or inheritance).

### **C. Content and Frequency of Regular Reports Provided to Clients**

All clients will receive monthly and/or quarterly statements and confirmations from their respective broker-dealer(s) and/or custodian(s).

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

### **A. Economic Benefits Provided by Third Parties for Advice Rendered to Clients (Includes Sales Awards or Other Prizes)**

AAM does not receive any economic benefit, directly or indirectly from any third party for advice rendered to AAM clients.

### **B. Compensation to Non-Advisory Personnel for Client Referrals**

AAM does not directly or indirectly compensate any person for client referrals.

## **Item 15: Custody**

AAM does not take direct custody of client accounts; however, AAM does have authority to withdraw advisory fees per conditions outlined in Item 5(F) for both discretionary and non-discretionary accounts. Clients receive account statements directly from the custodian at their address of record or via email at least quarterly. Clients should carefully review statements received from the custodian.

## **Item 16: Investment Discretion**

For those clients' accounts where AAM provides ongoing supervision, the client has given AAM written discretionary authority over the client's accounts with respect to securities to be bought or sold, the amount of securities to be bought or sold, as well as the timing of such transactions. Details of this relationship are fully disclosed to the client before any advisory relationship has commenced. The client provides AAM discretionary authority via a limited power of attorney in the Investment Advisory Contract and in the contract between the client and the custodian. Any limitations on this discretionary authority shall be included in this written authority statement. Clients may change/amend these limitations as required. Such amendments shall be submitted in writing. AAM does not request any discretionary authority related to Consulting and Retirement Plan Services.

## **Item 17: Voting Client Securities (Proxy Voting)**

AAM will not ask for, nor accept voting authority for client securities. Clients will receive proxies directly from the issuer of the security or the custodian. Clients should direct all proxy questions to the issuer of the security. When assistance on voting proxies is requested, AAM may provide advice regarding the client. If a conflict of interest exists, it will be disclosed to the client.

## **Item 18: Financial Information**

Neither AAM, nor its management personnel, have any financial conditions that are likely to reasonably impair our ability to meet contractual commitments to clients. AAM does not require nor solicit prepayment of more than \$1,200 in fees per client, six months or more in advance and therefore does not need to include a balance sheet with this brochure. AAM nor its management have been the subject of a bankruptcy petition in the last ten years.

Form ADV Part 2b – James D. Ackerman  
Brochure Supplement

This Brochure Supplement provides information about James D. Ackerman that supplements the Ackerman Asset Management, LLC Disclosure Brochure, Form ADV Part 2A. You should have received a copy of that Brochure. Please contact Mr. Ackerman if you did not receive the Brochures or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement. Additional information about Mr. Ackerman is available on the SEC's website at [www.adviserinfo.sec.gov](http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov).

**JAMES DAVID ACKERMAN (CRD#: 2780227)**

**Born: 1964**

*Item 2: Educational Background and Business Experience*

Educational Background:

- B.S., Chemistry, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, 1986;
- M.H.A., Health Administration, Duke University, Durham, NC, 1988;
- M.B.A., Finance, Stern School of Business, New York University, New York, NY, 1994.

Business Experience (Previous Ten Years):

- President & CCO, Ackerman Asset Management, LLC, 12/2005 to Present;
- Registered Representative, Purshe Kaplan Sterling Investments, 12/2005 to 06/2018

*Item 3: Disciplinary Information*

Mr. Ackerman has not been involved in any legal or disciplinary events throughout his investment career.

*Item 4: Other Business Activities*

Mr. Ackerman has no outside business activities to disclose.

*Item 5: Additional Compensation*

Mr. Ackerman, in his individual capacity through AAM, does not receive any economic benefit, directly or indirectly from any third parties for advice rendered to AAM clients.

*Item 6: Supervision*

As Mr. Ackerman is the sole employee of AAM, he is self-supervised. AAM maintains a Code of Ethics which it subscribes. The Code of Ethics provides for AAM to exercise a fiduciary duty to its clients by acting in the best interest of the client and always placing the client's interest's first and foremost. AAM shall remain in compliance with its regulatory obligations and with all federal and state regulations as well as its policies and procedures.