



## **POLEN UPPER TIER HIGH YIELD FUND**

**INVESTOR CLASS  
PBBRX**

**INSTITUTIONAL CLASS  
PBBIX**

## **POLEN BANK LOAN FUND**

**INVESTOR CLASS  
PBKRX**

**INSTITUTIONAL CLASS  
PBKIX**

**OF**

**FUNDVANTAGE TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**June 30, 2022**

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) provides information about the Polen Upper Tier High Yield Fund and Polen Bank Fund (each a “Fund,” and together, the “Funds”). Each Fund is a series of FundVantage Trust (the “Trust”).

This SAI is not a prospectus. It should be read in conjunction with the Funds’ current prospectus dated June 30, 2022, as amended or supplemented from time to time (the “Prospectus”). This SAI is incorporated by reference in its entirety into the Prospectus. A copy of the Prospectus and annual reports to shareholders, when available, may be obtained without charge, upon request, by writing to either Fund at 4400 Computer Drive, Westborough, MA 01581-1722 or calling either Fund at (888) 678-6024 or on the Funds’ website at <https://www.polencapital.com>.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Trust was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on August 28, 2006. The Trust is a series trust authorized to issue separate series or classes of shares of beneficial interest. The Trust has established each of the Funds as a separate series of the Trust. Each Fund issues Investor Class and Institutional Class shares. The Funds are diversified, open-end management investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”). Polen Capital Credit, LLC (“Polen Credit” or the “Adviser”) serves as the investment adviser to the Funds.

## INVESTMENT POLICIES

The following supplements the information contained in the Prospectus concerning the investment objective and policies of the Funds. The information below does not describe every type of investment, technique or risk to which the Funds may be exposed. Much of the information contained in this SAI expands on subjects discussed in the Funds’ prospectus. No investment in the shares of each Fund should be made before reading the Prospectus.

**BANK LOANS.** The Funds may (and typically do) invest a significant amount of its net asset value in bank loans. Such loans may not be rated by a national ratings agency at the time of investment, will not be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and typically will not be listed on a securities exchange. In addition, the amount of public information available with respect to loans generally will be less extensive than that available for more widely traded, registered and exchange-listed securities. Because the interest rates of loans reset frequently, if market interest rates fall, the loans’ interest rates may be reset to lower levels, potentially reducing a Fund’s income.

The size of the trading market for loans is generally smaller than that for registered equities and investment grade rated bond securities; as such, loans may be relatively illiquid compared to those types of securities. Liquidity relates to the ability of a portfolio to sell an investment in a timely manner at a price approximately equal to its value on the portfolio’s books. A Fund’s ability to realize the full value of its assets may be impaired in the event of a voluntary or involuntary liquidation of any illiquid assets. Furthermore, in the event of an economic downturn, a substantial increase or decrease in interest rates, or other type of market dislocation, the market for loans may be subject to irregular trading activity, wide bid/ask spreads and extended trade settlement periods. In those instances, loans may be difficult to value and prices provided by external pricing services may not reflect the true fair value of the assets.

Borrowers may default on their obligations to pay principal or interest owed under loans when due. This non-payment would result in a reduction of income to a Fund and a reduction in the value of a loan experiencing non-payment. Although some loans in which a Fund will invest will be secured by specific collateral, there can be no assurance that liquidation of such collateral would satisfy the borrower’s obligation in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal or that such collateral could be readily liquidated. In the event of bankruptcy of a borrower, a Fund could experience delays or limitations in its ability to realize the benefits of any collateral securing a loan.

Each Fund may purchase a participation interest in a loan and by doing so acquire some or all of the interest of the bank or other lending institution making the loan to a corporate borrower. A participation interest typically results in a Fund having a contractual relationship with the lender and not the borrower. In such circumstances, a Fund will have the right to receive payments of principal, interest and any fees to which it is entitled only from the bank or other lending institution selling the participation and only upon receipt by the bank or other lending institution of the payments from the borrower. Since a Fund has only acquired a participation in the loan made by a third party (i.e., the banker or other lending institution), the Fund may not be able to control the exercise of any remedies that such third party would have under the loan. Although the participation interest is in a loan, there can be no assurance that the principal and interest owed on the loan to a Fund will be repaid in full.

A Fund may experience delays in the settlement of certain loan transactions, which are more complicated, are paperwork intensive, and require greater internal resources to settle compared with bonds or exchange-traded equity securities, particularly in the case of loans that are or become distressed. Unlike the securities markets, there is no central clearinghouse for loan trades, and the loan market has not established enforceable settlement standards or remedies for failure to settle. Such delays may prevent a Fund from obtaining liquidity of certain assets within a desired timeframe. Furthermore, pursuant to certain insolvency laws, a counterparty may have the ability to reject or terminate an unsettled loan transaction. If a counterparty rejects an unsettled transaction, a Fund might lose any increase in value with respect to such loan that accrued while the transaction remained unsettled. In addition, bank loans and other similar instruments may not be considered “securities” and, as a result, a Fund may not be entitled to rely on the anti-fraud protections under the federal securities laws and instead may have to resort to state law and direct claims.

**BANK OBLIGATIONS.** Bank obligations in which the Funds may invest include certificates of deposit, bankers’ acceptances and fixed time deposits. Certificates of deposit are negotiable certificates issued against funds deposited in a commercial bank for a definite period of time and earning a specified return. Bankers’ acceptances are negotiable drafts or bills of exchange, normally drawn by an importer or exporter to pay for specific merchandise, which are “accepted” by a bank, meaning, in effect, that the bank unconditionally

agrees to pay the face value of the instrument on maturity. Fixed time deposits are bank obligations payable at a stated maturity date and bearing interest at a fixed rate. Fixed time deposits may be withdrawn on demand by the investor but may be subject to early withdrawal penalties which vary depending upon market conditions and the remaining maturity of the obligation. There are no contractual restrictions on the right to transfer a beneficial interest in a fixed time deposit to a third party, although there is no market for such deposits. The Funds will not invest in fixed time deposits which (1) are not subject to prepayment or (2) provide for withdrawal penalties upon prepayment (other than overnight deposits) if, in the aggregate, more than 15% of its net assets would be invested in such deposits, repurchase agreements maturing in more than seven days and other illiquid assets.

Obligations of foreign banks involve somewhat different investment risks than those affecting obligations of United States banks, including the possibilities that their liquidity could be impaired because of future political and economic developments, that their obligations may be less marketable than comparable obligations of United States banks, that a foreign jurisdiction might impose withholding taxes on interest income payable on those obligations, that foreign deposits may be seized or nationalized, that foreign governmental restrictions such as exchange controls may be adopted which might adversely affect the payment of principal and interest on those obligations and that the selection of those obligations may be more difficult because there may be less publicly available information concerning foreign banks or the accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements applicable to foreign banks may differ from those applicable to United States banks. Foreign banks are not generally subject to examination by any U.S. Government agency or instrumentality.

- **BANKERS' ACCEPTANCES.** Bankers' acceptances are credit instruments evidencing the obligation of a bank to pay a draft that has been drawn on it by a customer. These instruments reflect the obligation of both the bank and the drawer to pay the face amount of the instrument upon maturity.
- **CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT.** Certificates of deposit are certificates evidencing the indebtedness of a commercial bank to repay funds deposited with it for a definite period of time (usually from 14 days to one year) at a stated or variable interest rate. Variable rate certificates of deposit provide that the interest rate will fluctuate on designated dates based on changes in a designated base rate (such as the composite rate for certificates of deposit established by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York).
- **TIME DEPOSITS.** Time deposits are bank deposits for fixed periods of time. Fixed time deposits may be withdrawn on demand by the investor, but may be subject to early withdrawal penalties which may vary depending upon market conditions and the remaining maturity of the obligation. There are no contractual restrictions on the right to transfer a beneficial interest in a fixed time deposit to a third party, although there is no market for such deposits.

**BANKRUPTCY AND RESTRUCTURING RISK:** Each Fund acquire or hold securities and other obligations of issuers that are in financial difficulty, and/or may be in, entering, or emerging from, bankruptcy proceedings. Bankruptcy or other insolvency proceedings are highly complex and may result in unpredictable outcomes. In any investment opportunity involving work-outs, liquidations, spin-offs, reorganizations, bankruptcies and similar transactions, there exists the risk that the contemplated transaction may be unsuccessful. Similarly, if an anticipated transaction does not in fact occur, a Fund may be required to sell the investment at a loss. The level of analytical sophistication, both financial and legal, necessary for successful investment in companies experiencing significant business and financial difficulties is unusually high. Because there is a substantial uncertainty concerning the outcome of transactions involving financially troubled companies in which a Fund may invest, there is a potential risk of loss of the entire investment in such companies, as well as the risk that a Fund may be required to accept cash or new securities with a value less than a Fund's original investment and/or may be required to accept payment over an extended period of time. Under such circumstances, the returns generated from a Fund's investments may not compensate it adequately for the risks assumed.

**BELOW-INVESTMENT GRADE SECURITIES.** Subject to the limitations set forth in the Prospectus, the Funds invest in "below-investment grade" or "high yield" fixed income securities (commonly known to investors as "high yield bonds" or "junk bonds." High yield bonds are issued by a company whose credit rating (based on an NRSRO) evaluation of the likelihood of repayment) necessitates offering a higher coupon and yield on its issues when selling them to investors who may otherwise be hesitant in purchasing the debt of such a company. While generally providing greater income and opportunity for gain, below-investment grade debt securities are generally subject to greater risks than fixed income securities which have higher credit ratings, including a higher risk of default, and their yields will fluctuate over time. High yield bonds generally will be in the lower rating categories of NRSROs (rated "Ba" or lower by Moody's or "BB" or lower by S&P and Fitch or will be unrated. The credit rating of a high yield bond does not necessarily address its market value risk, and ratings may from time to time change, positively or negatively, to reflect developments regarding the issuer's financial condition. High yield bonds are considered to be speculative with respect to the capacity of the issuer to timely repay principal and pay interest or dividends in accordance with the terms of the obligation and may have more credit risk than higher rated securities.

While the market values of high yield bonds tend to react less to fluctuations in interest rates than do those of higher rated securities, the values of high yield bonds often reflect individual corporate developments and have a high sensitivity to economic changes to a greater extent than do higher rated securities. Issuers of high yield bonds are often in the growth stage of their development and/or

involved in a reorganization or takeover. The companies are often highly leveraged (have a significant amount of debt relative to shareholders' equity) and may not have available to them more traditional financing methods, thereby increasing the risk associated with acquiring these types of securities. In some cases, obligations with respect to high yield bonds are subordinated to the prior repayment of senior indebtedness, which will potentially limit a Fund's ability to fully recover principal or to receive interest payments when senior securities are in default. Thus, investors in high yield bonds have a lower degree of protection with respect to principal and interest payments than do investors in higher rated securities.

During an economic downturn, a substantial period of rising interest rates or a recession, highly leveraged issuers of high yield bonds may experience financial distress possibly resulting in insufficient revenues to meet their principal and interest payment obligations, to meet projected business goals and to obtain additional financing. An economic downturn could also disrupt the market for lower-rated securities and adversely affect the value of outstanding securities, a Fund's NAV and the ability of the issuers to repay principal and interest. If the issuer of a security held by a Fund has defaulted, the Fund may not receive full interest and principal payments due to it and could incur additional expenses if it chose to seek recovery of its investment.

The secondary markets for high yield bonds are not as liquid as the secondary markets for higher rated securities. The secondary markets for high yield bonds are concentrated in relatively few market makers and participants in the markets are mostly institutional investors, including insurance companies, banks, other financial institutions and mutual funds. In addition, the trading volume for high yield bonds is generally lower than that for higher rated securities and the secondary markets could contract under adverse market or economic conditions independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer. Under certain economic and/or market conditions, the Funds may have difficulty disposing of certain high yield bonds due to the limited number of investors in that sector of the market. An illiquid secondary market may adversely affect the market price of the high yield security, which may result in increased difficulty selling the particular issue and obtaining accurate market quotations on the issue when valuing a Fund's assets. Market quotations on high yield bonds are available only from a limited number of dealers, and such quotations may not be the actual prices available for a purchase or sale.

The high yield markets may react strongly to adverse news about an issuer or the economy, or to the perception or expectation of adverse news, whether or not it is based on fundamental analysis. Additionally, prices for high yield bonds may be affected by legislative and regulatory developments. These developments could adversely affect a Fund's NAV and investment practices, the secondary market for high yield bonds, the financial condition of issuers of these securities and the value and liquidity of outstanding high yield bonds, especially in a thinly traded market. For example, Federal legislation requiring the divestiture by federally insured savings and loan associations of their investments in high yield bonds and limiting the deductibility of interest by certain corporate issuers of high yield bonds adversely affected the market in the past.

When the secondary market for high yield bonds becomes more illiquid, or in the absence of readily available market quotations for such securities, the relative lack of reliable objective data makes it more difficult to value a Fund's securities and judgment plays a more important role in determining such valuations. Increased illiquidity in the junk bond market, in combination with the relative youth and growth of the market for such securities, also may affect the ability of a Fund to dispose of such securities at a desirable price. Additionally, if the secondary markets for high yield bonds contract due to adverse economic conditions or for other reasons, some of a Fund's liquid securities may become illiquid and the proportion of the Fund's assets invested in illiquid securities may significantly increase.

The rating assigned by a rating agency evaluates the safety of a below-investment grade security's principal and interest payments but does not address market value risk. Because such ratings of NRSROs may not always reflect current conditions and events, in addition to using NRSROs and other sources, the Adviser performs its own analysis of the issuers whose below-investment grade securities are held by the Funds. Because of this, a Fund's performance may depend more on the Adviser's own credit analysis than in the case of mutual funds investing in higher-rated securities. For a description of these ratings, see "Appendix A - Description of Ratings."

In selecting below-investment grade securities, the Adviser considers factors such as those relating to the creditworthiness of issuers, the ratings and performance of the securities, the protections afforded the securities and the diversity of a Fund. The Adviser continuously monitors the issuers of below-investment grade securities held by the Funds for their ability to make required principal and interest payments, as well as in an effort to control the liquidity of the Funds so that they can meet redemption requests. If a security's rating is reduced below the minimum credit rating that is permitted for a Fund, the Adviser will consider whether the Fund should continue to hold the security.

In the event that a Fund experiences an unexpected level of net redemptions, such Fund could be forced to sell its holdings without regard to the investment merits, thereby decreasing the assets upon which the Fund's rate of return is based.

The costs attributable to investing in the high yield markets are usually higher for several reasons, such as higher investment research costs and higher commission costs.

**BORROWING.** Each Fund may borrow money to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act, and as interpreted, modified or otherwise permitted by regulatory authority having jurisdiction, from time to time. This means that, in general, a Fund may borrow money from banks for any purpose on a secured basis in an amount up to 33-1/3% of the Fund's total assets. Each Fund may also borrow money for temporary administrative purposes on an unsecured basis in an amount not to exceed 5% of the Fund's total assets. The Funds intend to borrow to meet a Fund's redemptions if necessary.

Specifically, provisions of the 1940 Act require a Fund to maintain continuous asset coverage (that is, total assets including borrowings, less liabilities exclusive of borrowings) of 300% of the amount borrowed, with an exception for borrowings not in excess of 5% of Fund's total assets made for temporary administrative purposes. Any borrowings for temporary administrative purposes in excess of 5% of a Fund's total assets must maintain continuous asset coverage. If the 300% asset coverage should decline as a result of market fluctuations or other reasons, a Fund may be required to sell some of its portfolio holdings within three days to reduce the debt and restore the 300% asset coverage, even though it may be disadvantageous from an investment standpoint to sell securities at that time.

As noted below, a Fund also may enter into certain transactions, including reverse repurchase agreements, mortgage dollar rolls and sale-buybacks, that can be viewed as constituting a form of borrowing or financing transaction by the Fund. To the extent a Fund covers its commitment under a reverse repurchase agreement (or economically similar transaction) by the segregation or "earmarking" of assets determined in accordance with procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees, equal in value to the amount of a Fund's commitment to repurchase, such an agreement will not be considered a "senior security" by a Fund and therefore will not be subject to the 300% asset coverage requirement otherwise applicable to borrowings by a Fund. Borrowing will tend to exaggerate the effect on net asset value ("NAV") of any increase or decrease in the market value of a Fund's portfolio. Money borrowed will be subject to interest costs which may or may not be recovered by appreciation of the securities purchased. Each Fund also may be required to maintain minimum average balances in connection with such borrowing or to pay a commitment or other fee to maintain a line of credit; either of these requirements would increase the cost of borrowing over the stated interest rate.

Each Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements, mortgage dollar rolls and economically similar transactions. A reverse repurchase agreement involves the sale of a portfolio-eligible security by a Fund, coupled with its agreement to repurchase the instrument at a specified time and price. Under a reverse repurchase agreement, a Fund continues to receive any principal and interest payments on the underlying security during the term of the agreement. Each Fund typically will segregate or " earmark " assets determined to be liquid by the Adviser in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Trustees, equal (on a daily mark-to-market basis) to its obligations under reverse repurchase agreements. However, reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the market value of securities retained by a Fund may decline below the repurchase price of the securities sold by a Fund which it is obligated to repurchase. To the extent that positions in reverse repurchase agreements are not covered through the segregation or " earmarking " of liquid assets at least equal to the amount of any forward purchase commitment, such transactions would be subject to a Fund's limitations on borrowings, which would, among other things, restrict the aggregate of such transactions (plus any other borrowings) to 33-1/3% of a Fund's total assets.

A "mortgage dollar roll" is similar to a reverse repurchase agreement in certain respects. In a "dollar roll" transaction, a Fund sells a mortgage-related security, such as a security issued by the Government National Mortgage Association ("GNMA"), to a dealer and simultaneously agrees to repurchase a similar security (but not the same security) in the future at a predetermined price. A dollar roll can be viewed, like a reverse repurchase agreement, as a collateralized borrowing in which a Fund pledges a mortgage-related security to a dealer to obtain cash. Unlike in the case of reverse repurchase agreements, the dealer with which a Fund enters into a dollar roll transaction is not obligated to return the same securities as those originally sold by a Fund, but only securities which are "substantially identical." To be considered substantially identical, the securities returned to a Fund generally must: (1) be collateralized by the same types of underlying mortgages; (2) be issued by the same agency and be part of the same program; (3) have a similar original stated maturity; (4) have identical net coupon rates; (5) have similar market yields (and therefore price); and (6) satisfy "good delivery" requirements, meaning that the aggregate principal amounts of the securities delivered and received back must be within 0.01% of the initial amount delivered.

Each Fund's obligation under a dollar roll agreement must be covered by segregated or "earmarked" liquid assets equal in value to the securities subject to repurchase by a Fund. As with reverse repurchase agreements, to the extent that positions in dollar roll agreements are not covered by segregated or "earmarked" liquid assets at least equal to the amount of any forward purchase commitment, such transactions would be subject to a Fund's restrictions on borrowings. Furthermore, because dollar roll transactions may be for terms ranging between one and six months, dollar roll transactions may be deemed "illiquid" and subject to a Fund's overall limitations on investments in illiquid securities.

Each Fund also may effect simultaneous purchase and sale transactions that are known as "sale-buybacks." A sale-buyback is similar to a reverse repurchase agreement, except that in a sale-buyback, the counterparty that purchases the security is entitled to receive any principal or interest payments made on the underlying security pending settlement of a Fund's repurchase of the underlying security. A Fund's obligation under a sale-buyback typically would be offset by liquid assets equal in value to the amount of the Fund's forward commitment to repurchase the subject security.

**CASH POSITIONS.** A Fund may not always be fully invested. For example, when the Adviser believes that market conditions are unfavorable for profitable investing, or when it is otherwise unable to locate attractive investment opportunities in the high yield market, a Fund's cash or similar investments may increase. In other words, cash or similar investments generally are a residual – they represent the assets that remain after a Fund has committed available assets to desirable investment opportunities. When a Fund's investments in cash or similar investments increase, they may not participate in market advances to the same extent that they would if the Fund remained more fully invested, and the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective may be affected.

**COMMERCIAL PAPER.** The Funds may invest in commercial paper. Commercial paper consists of short-term (up to 270 days) unsecured promissory notes issued by corporations and other entities in order to finance their current operations.

**CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES.** The Funds may invest in convertible securities, which may offer higher income than the common stocks into which they are convertible. A convertible security is a bond, debenture, note, preferred stock, or other security that entitles the holder to acquire common stock or other equity securities of the same or a different issuer. A convertible security generally entitles the holder to receive interest paid or accrued until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Before conversion, convertible securities have characteristics similar to non-convertible debt or preferred securities, as applicable. Convertible securities are subordinate in rank to any senior debt obligations of the issuer, and, therefore, an issuer's convertible securities entail more risk than its debt obligations. Convertible securities generally offer lower interest or dividend yields than non-convertible debt securities of similar credit quality because of the potential for capital appreciation. In addition, convertible securities are often lower-rated securities. Convertible securities rank senior to common stock in a corporation's capital structure and, therefore, generally entail less risk than the corporation's common stock, although the extent to which such risk is reduced depends in large measure upon the degree to which the convertible security sells above its value as a fixed income security.

Because of the conversion feature, the price of the convertible security will normally fluctuate in some proportion to changes in the price of the underlying asset, and as such it is subject to risks relating to the activities of the issuer and/or general market and economic conditions. The income component of a convertible security may tend to cushion the security against declines in the price of the underlying asset. However, the income component of convertible securities causes fluctuations based upon changes in interest rates and the credit quality of the issuer.

If the convertible security's "conversion value," which is the market value of the underlying common stock that would be obtained upon the conversion of the convertible security, is substantially below the "investment value," which is the value of a convertible security viewed without regard to its conversion feature (i.e., strictly on the basis of its yield), the price of the convertible security is governed principally by its investment value. If the conversion value of a convertible security increases to a point that approximates or exceeds its investment value, the value of the security will be principally influenced by its conversion value. A convertible security will sell at a premium over its conversion value to the extent investors place value on the right to acquire the underlying common stock while holding an income-producing security.

A convertible security may be subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a predetermined price. If a convertible security held by a Fund is called for redemption, a Fund would be required to permit the issuer to redeem the security and convert it to underlying common stock, or would sell the convertible security to a third party, which may have an adverse effect on a Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. A Fund generally would invest in convertible securities for their favorable price characteristics and total return potential and would normally not exercise an option to convert unless the security is called or conversion is forced.

**CORPORATE DEBT SECURITIES.** Each Fund's investments in U.S. dollar or foreign currency-denominated corporate debt securities of domestic or foreign issuers are limited to corporate debt securities (corporate bonds, debentures, notes and other similar corporate debt instruments, including convertible securities) which meet the minimum ratings criteria set forth for a Fund, or, if unrated, are in the Adviser's opinion comparable in quality to corporate debt securities in which a Fund may invest.

Corporate income producing securities may include forms of preferred or preference stock. The rate of interest on a corporate debt security may be fixed, floating or variable, and may vary inversely with respect to a reference rate. The rate of return or return of principal on some debt obligations may be linked or indexed to the level of exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and a foreign currency or currencies. Debt securities may be acquired with warrants attached.

**CYBER SECURITY.** The Funds and their service providers are susceptible to operational and information security risks due to cyber security incidents. In general, cyber security incidents can result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events. Cyber security attacks include, but are not limited to, gaining unauthorized access to digital systems (e.g., through "hacking" or malicious software coding) for purposes of misappropriating assets or sensitive information, corrupting data or causing operational disruption. Cyber-attacks also may be carried out in a manner that does not require gaining unauthorized access, such as causing denial-of-service attacks on websites (i.e., efforts to make services unavailable to intended users). Cyber security incidents affecting the Adviser, Transfer Agent or Custodian or other service providers such as financial intermediaries have the ability to cause disruptions and impact business operations, potentially

resulting in financial losses, including by interference with a Fund's ability to calculate its NAV; impediments to trading for a Fund's portfolio; the inability of a Fund's shareholders to transact business with a Fund; violations of applicable privacy, data security or other laws; regulatory fines and penalties; reputational damage; reimbursement or other compensation or remediation costs; legal fees; or additional compliance costs. Similar adverse consequences could result from cyber security incidents affecting issuers of securities in which a Fund invests, counterparties with which a Fund engages in transactions, governmental and other regulatory authorities, exchange and other financial market operators, banks, brokers, dealers, insurance companies and other financial institutions and other parties. While information risk management systems and business continuity plans have been developed which are designed to reduce the risks associated with cyber security, there are inherent limitations in any cyber security risk management systems or business continuity plans, including the possibility that certain risks have not been identified.

**DEBT SECURITIES.** Debt securities in which a Fund may (and typically does) invest are subject to several types of investment risk, including market or interest rate risk (i.e., the risk that their value will be inversely affected by fluctuations in the prevailing interest rates), credit risk (i.e., the risk that the issuer may be unable to make timely interest payments and repay the principal upon maturity), call or prepayment risk, (i.e., the risk that certain debt securities with high interest rates will be prepaid or "called" by the issuer before they mature), and event risk (i.e., the risk that certain debt securities may suffer a substantial decline in credit quality and market value if the issuer restructures).

**DERIVATIVES.** The Funds may invest in derivative securities for bona fide hedging purposes. A derivative security is a financial contract whose value is based on (or "derived from") a traditional security (such as a bond) or a market index. The use of futures, options, repurchase agreements and other derivatives involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments, and include leverage, volatility, liquidity, credit and tracking risks. Long options positions may expire worthless. On October 28, 2020, the SEC adopted Rule 18f-4 (the "*Derivatives Rule*") under the 1940 Act which, following an implementation period, will replace existing SEC and staff guidance with an updated, comprehensive framework for registered funds' use of derivatives. Among other changes, the Derivatives Rule will require the Funds to trade derivatives and certain other instruments that create future payment or delivery obligations subject to a value-at-risk ("VaR") leverage limit, develop and implement a derivatives risk management program and new testing requirements, and comply with new requirements related to board and SEC reporting. These new requirements will apply unless a Fund qualifies as a "limited derivatives user," as defined in the Derivatives Rule. Complying with the Derivatives Rule may increase the cost of a Fund's investments and cost of doing business, which could adversely affect investors. Other potentially adverse regulatory obligations can develop suddenly and without notice.

**DOLLAR ROLLS.** The Funds may enter into dollar roll agreements, which are similar to reverse repurchase agreements. Dollar rolls are transactions in which securities are sold by a Fund for delivery in the current month and the Fund simultaneously contracts to repurchase substantially similar securities on a specified future date. Any difference between the sale price and the purchase price is netted against the interest income foregone on the securities sold to arrive at an implied borrowing rate. Alternatively, the sale and purchase transactions can be executed at the same price, with the Fund being paid a fee as consideration for entering into the commitment to purchase. Dollar rolls may be renewed prior to cash settlement and initially may involve only a firm commitment agreement by the Fund to buy a security. If the broker-dealer to which the Fund sells the security becomes insolvent, the Fund's right to repurchase the security may be restricted. At the time the Fund enters into a dollar roll, it will place in a segregated custodial account assets such as U.S. Government securities or other liquid, high grade debt securities consistent with the Fund's investment restrictions having a value equal to the repurchase price (including accrued interest) and will subsequently monitor the account to ensure that such equivalent value is maintained.

**EQUITY SECURITIES.** The Fund may invest in or otherwise acquire equity securities, including equities of stressed issuers or companies emerging from a financial restructuring or corporate reorganization. Equity securities (which generally include common stocks, preferred stocks, warrants, securities convertible into common or preferred stocks and similar securities) are generally volatile and riskier than some other forms of investment. Equity securities of companies with relatively small market capitalizations may be more volatile than the securities of larger, more established companies as well as the broad equity market indices generally. This risk of loss is further elevated because a Fund may target businesses that may be experiencing or recently experienced financial distress, or may be in, entering, or emerging from, bankruptcy proceedings. A Fund may also receive equity securities in connection with an issuer's corporate reorganization and the corresponding exchange of a fixed income investment previously held by the Fund. Common stock and other equity securities may take the form of stock in corporations, partnership interests, interests in limited liability companies and other direct or indirect interests in business organizations.

**EXCHANGE-TRADED FUNDS ("ETFs") AND OTHER INVESTMENT COMPANY SECURITIES.** The Funds may invest in shares of other investment companies (each, an "Underlying Fund"), including open-end funds (ETFs and mutual funds), closed-end funds, and unit investment trusts ("UITs"), to the extent permitted by applicable law and subject to certain restrictions set forth in this SAI. By investing in another investment company, the Funds will indirectly bear any asset-based fees and expenses charged by the underlying investment company in which the Funds invest.



Under Section 12(d)(1)(A) of the 1940 Act, a Fund may acquire securities of an Underlying Fund in amounts which, as determined immediately after the acquisition is made, do not exceed (i) 3% of the total outstanding voting stock of such Underlying Fund, (ii) 5% of the value of the Fund's total assets, and (iii) 10% of the value of the Fund's total assets when combined with all other Underlying Fund securities held by the Fund. The Funds may exceed these statutory limits when permitted by SEC order or other applicable law or regulatory guidance, such as is the case with many ETFs. The SEC recently adopted certain regulatory changes and took other actions related to the ability of an investment company to invest in the securities of another investment company. These changes include, among other things, the rescission of certain SEC exemptive orders permitting investments in excess of the statutory limits and the withdrawal of certain related SEC staff no-action letters, and the adoption of Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act. Rule 12d1-4 permits the Funds to invest in other investment companies beyond the statutory limits, subject to certain conditions.

Set forth below is additional information about the manner in which ETFs generally operate and the risks associated with an investment in ETFs.

In the event that a Fund purchase shares of ETFs, such purchase is expected to be made through a broker-dealer in a transaction on a securities exchange, and in such a case the Fund will pay customary brokerage commissions for each purchase and sale. Shares of an ETF may also be acquired by depositing a specified portfolio of the ETF's underlying securities, as well as a cash payment generally equal to accumulated dividends of the securities (net of expenses) up to the time of deposit, with the ETF's custodian, in exchange for which the ETF will issue a quantity of new shares sometimes referred to as a "creation unit." Similarly, shares of an ETF purchased on an exchange may be accumulated until they represent a creation unit, and the creation unit may be redeemed in kind for a portfolio of the underlying securities (based on the ETF's NAV) together with a cash payment generally equal to accumulated dividends as of the date of redemption. The Funds may redeem creation units for the underlying securities (and any applicable cash), and may assemble a portfolio of the underlying securities (and any required cash) to purchase creation units, if the Adviser believes it is in a Fund's interest to do so. A Fund's ability to redeem creation units may be limited by the 1940 Act, which provides that an ETF will not be obligated to redeem shares held by the Funds in an amount exceeding one percent of such ETF's total outstanding securities during any period of less than 30 days.

Termination Risk. There is a risk that ETFs in which the Funds invest may terminate due to extraordinary events. For example, any of the service providers to ETFs, such as the trustee or sponsor, may close or otherwise fail to perform their obligations to the ETF, and the ETF may not be able to find a substitute service provider. Also, the ETFs may be dependent upon licenses to use the various indices as a basis for determining their compositions and/or otherwise to use certain trade names. If these licenses are terminated, ETFs may also terminate or experience a disruption in its activities. In addition, an ETF may terminate if its net assets fall below a certain amount.

Although the Adviser believes that, in the event of the termination of an ETF, the Funds will be able to invest instead in shares of an alternate ETF tracking the same market index or another index covering the same general market, there can be no assurance that shares of an alternate ETF would be available for investment at that time.

**FIXED INCOME SECURITIES WITH BUY-BACK FEATURES.** Fixed income securities with buy-back features enable the Funds to recover principal upon tendering the securities to the issuer or a third party. Letters of credit issued by domestic or foreign banks often support these buy-back features. In evaluating a foreign bank's credit, the Adviser considers whether adequate public information about the bank is available and whether the bank may be subject to unfavorable political or economic developments, currency controls or other governmental restrictions that could adversely affect the bank's ability to honor its commitment under the letter of credit. Buy-back features include standby commitments, put bonds and demand features.

Standby Commitments. The Funds may acquire standby commitments from broker-dealers, banks or other financial intermediaries to enhance the liquidity of portfolio securities. A standby commitment entitles a Fund to same day settlement at amortized cost plus accrued interest, if any, at the time of exercise. The amount payable by the issuer of the standby commitment during the time that the commitment is exercisable generally approximates the market value of the securities underlying the commitment. Standby commitments are subject to the risk that the issuer of a commitment may not be in a position to pay for the securities at the time that the commitment is exercised.

Ordinarily, a Fund will not transfer a standby commitment to a third party, although a Fund may sell securities subject to a standby commitment at any time. A Fund may purchase standby commitments separate from or in conjunction with the purchase of the securities subject to the commitments. In the latter case, the Fund may pay a higher price for the securities acquired in consideration for the commitment.

Put Bonds. A put bond (also referred to as a tender option or third party bond) is a bond created by coupling an intermediate or long-term fixed rate bond with an agreement giving the holder the option of tendering the bond to receive its par value. As consideration for providing this tender option, the sponsor of the bond (usually a bank, broker-dealer or other financial intermediary) receives periodic fees that equal the difference between the bond's fixed coupon rate and the rate (determined by a remarketing or similar agent) that would cause the bond, coupled with the tender option, to trade at par. By paying the tender offer fees, the Fund in effect holds a demand

obligation that bears interest at the prevailing short-term rate. Any investments in tender option bonds by a Fund will be accounted for subject to Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 140 and amendments thereto.

In selecting put bonds for the Funds, the Adviser takes into consideration the creditworthiness of the issuers of the underlying bonds and the creditworthiness of the providers of the tender option features. A sponsor may withdraw the tender option feature if the issuer of the underlying bond defaults on interest or principal payments, the bond's rating is downgraded or, in the case of a municipal bond, the bond loses its tax-exempt status.

**Demand Features.** Many variable rate securities carry demand features that permit the holder to demand repayment of the principal amount of the underlying securities plus accrued interest, if any, upon a specified number of days' notice to the issuer or its agent. A demand feature may be exercisable at any time or at specified intervals. Variable rate securities with demand features are treated as having a maturity equal to the time remaining before the holder can next demand payment of principal. The issuer of a demand feature instrument may have a corresponding right to prepay the outstanding principal of the instrument plus accrued interest, if any, upon notice comparable to that required for the holder to demand payment.

**FOREIGN SECURITIES.** The Funds may invest in foreign securities either directly by purchasing foreign securities or indirectly by purchasing depositary receipts or depositary shares of foreign securities. Foreign securities include equity or debt securities issued by issuers outside the United States, and include securities in the form of ADRs and EDRs (see. Direct investments in foreign securities will be made in U.S. dollar denominated securities traded on U.S. exchanges and over-the-counter-markets.

Foreign investments may be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in currency rates and exchange control regulations. There may be less information available about a foreign company than about a U.S. company, and foreign companies may not be subject to reporting standards and requirements comparable to those applicable to U.S. companies. Foreign securities may not be as liquid as U.S. securities. Securities of foreign companies may involve greater market risk than securities of U.S. companies, Investments in foreign securities may also be subject to local economic or political risks, political instability and possible nationalization of issuers.

Investments in securities of foreign issuers may involve risks that are not associated with domestic investments. Foreign issuers may lack uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements, and there is generally less publicly available information about foreign issuers than there is about domestic issuers. Securities of some foreign issuers are less liquid and their prices are more volatile than securities of comparable domestic issuers. Income from foreign securities may be reduced by a withholding tax at the source or other foreign taxes. In some countries, there may also be the possibility of nationalization, expropriation or confiscatory taxation (in which case a Fund could lose its entire investment in a certain market), limitations on the removal of monies or other assets of the Fund, higher rates of inflation, political or social instability or revolution, or diplomatic developments that could affect investments in those countries. In addition, it may be difficult to obtain and enforce a judgment in a court outside the United States.

Some of the risks described in the preceding paragraph may be more severe for investments in emerging or developing countries. By comparison with the United States and other developed countries, emerging or developing countries may have relatively unstable governments, economies based on a less diversified industrial base and securities markets that trade a smaller number of securities. Companies in emerging markets may generally be smaller, less experienced and more recently organized than many domestic companies, and prices of those companies' securities tend to be more volatile.

The economies of individual emerging countries may differ favorably or unfavorably from the U.S. economy in such respects as growth of gross domestic product, rates of inflation, currency depreciation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payment position and may be based on a substantially less diversified industrial base. Further, the economies of developing countries generally are heavily dependent upon international trade and, accordingly, have been, and may continue to be, adversely affected by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. These economies also have been, and may continue to be, adversely affected by economic conditions in the countries with which they trade. U.S. securities and accounting regulatory agencies continue to express concern regarding information access and audit quality regarding issuers in China and other emerging market countries, which could present heightened risks associated with investments in these markets.

**GUARANTEED INVESTMENT CONTRACTS.** The Funds may invest in guaranteed investment contracts ("GIC"). A GIC is a general obligation of an insurance company. A GIC is generally structured as a deferred annuity under which the purchaser agrees to pay a given amount of money to an insurer (either in a lump sum or in installments) and the insurer promises to pay interest at a guaranteed rate (either fixed or variable) for the life of the contract. Some GICs provide that the insurer may periodically pay discretionary excess interest over and above the guaranteed rate. At the GIC's maturity, the purchaser generally is given the option of receiving payment or an annuity. Certain GICs may have features that permit redemption by the issuer at a discount from par value. Generally, GICs are not assignable or transferable without the permission of the issuer. As a result, the acquisition of GICs is subject to

the limitations applicable to a Fund's acquisition of illiquid and restricted securities. The holder of a GIC is dependent on the creditworthiness of the issuer as to whether the issuer is able to meet its obligations.

**ILLIQUID SECURITIES AND LIQUIDITY RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN.** A Fund may not knowingly invest more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid securities. Illiquid securities are securities that cannot be disposed of within seven days at approximately the value at which they are being carried on the Fund's books. The Board of Trustees has the ultimate responsibility for determining whether specific securities are liquid or illiquid. The Board of Trustees has delegated the function of making day to day determinations of liquidity to the Adviser, pursuant to guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees. The Adviser will monitor the liquidity of securities held by the Funds and report periodically on such decisions to the Board of Trustees. If the limitations on illiquid securities are exceeded, other than by a change in market values, the condition will be reported by the Adviser to the Board of Trustees. Illiquid securities would generally include repurchase agreements with notice/termination dates in excess of seven days and certain securities which are subject to trading restrictions because they are not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act"). External market conditions may impact the liquidity of portfolio securities and may cause a Fund to sell or divest certain illiquid securities in order to comply with its limitation on holding illiquid securities, which may result in realized losses to the Fund.

Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act requires, among other things, that the Funds establish a liquidity risk management program ("LRMP") that is reasonably designed to assess and manage liquidity risk. Rule 22e-4 defines "liquidity risk" as the risk that a Fund could not meet requests to redeem shares issued by the Fund without significant dilution of the remaining investors' interests in the Fund. The Funds have implemented a LRMP to meet the relevant requirements. Additionally, the Board, including a majority of the Independent Trustees, approved the designation of a committee of individuals comprised of the Funds' President, Treasurer, and Chief Compliance Officer (the "LRMP Administrator") to administer the LRMP. The Board will review no less frequently than annually a written report prepared by the LRMP Administrator that addresses the operation of the LRMP and assesses its adequacy and effectiveness of implementation. Among other things, the LRMP provides for the classification of each Fund's investment as a "highly liquid investment," "moderately liquid investment," "less liquid investment" or "illiquid investment." The liquidity risk classifications of a Fund's investments are determined after reasonable inquiry and taking into account relevant market, trading and investment-specific considerations. To the extent that a Fund's investment is deemed to be an "illiquid investment" or a "less liquid investment," the Fund can expect to be exposed to greater liquidity risk. There is no guarantee the LRMP will be effective in its operations, and complying with Rule 22e-4, including bearing related costs, could impact a Fund's performance and its ability to achieve its investment objective.

**INFLATION-PROTECTED DEBT SECURITIES.** The Funds may invest in inflation-protected debt securities or inflation-indexed bonds, which are fixed income securities whose value is periodically adjusted according to the rate of inflation. Two structures are common. The U.S. Treasury and some other issuers utilize a structure that accrues inflation into the principal value of the bond. Most other issuers pay out the Consumer Price Index ("CPI") accruals as part of a semi-annual coupon.

Treasury Inflation Protected Securities ("TIPS") have maturities of approximately five, ten or thirty years, although it is possible that securities with other maturities will be issued in the future. The U.S. Treasury securities pay interest on a semi-annual basis equal to a fixed percentage of the inflation-adjusted principal amount. For example, if a Fund purchased TIPS with a par value of \$1,000 and a 3% real rate of return coupon (payable 1.5% semi-annually), and the rate of inflation over the first six months was 1%, the mid-year par value of the bond would be \$1,010 and the first semi-annual interest payment would be \$15.15 (\$1,010 times 1.5%). If inflation during the second half of the year resulted in the whole year's inflation equaling 3%, the end-of-year par value of the bond would be \$1,030 and the second semi-annual interest payment would be \$15.45 (\$1,030 times 1.5%).

If the periodic adjustment rate measuring inflation falls, the principal value of inflation-indexed bonds will be adjusted downward, and consequently the interest payable on these securities (calculated with respect to a smaller principal amount) will be reduced. Repayment of the original bond principal upon maturity (as adjusted for inflation) is guaranteed in the case of TIPS, even during a period of deflation. However, the current market value of the bonds is not guaranteed and will fluctuate. The Funds may also invest in other inflation-related bonds which may or may not provide a similar guarantee. If a guarantee of principal is not provided, the adjusted principal value of the bond repaid at maturity may be less than the original principal amount.

The value of inflation-indexed bonds is expected to change in response to changes in real interest rates. Real interest rates in turn are tied to the relationship between nominal interest rates and the rate of inflation. Therefore, if the rate of inflation rises at a faster rate than nominal interest rates, real interest rates might decline, leading to an increase in value of inflation-indexed bonds. In contrast, if nominal interest rates increase at a faster rate than inflation, real interest rates might rise, leading to a decrease in value of inflation-indexed bonds.

While these securities are expected to be protected from long-term inflationary trends, short-term increases in inflation may lead to a decline in value. If interest rates rise due to reasons other than inflation (for example, due to changes in currency exchange rates), investors in these securities may not be protected to the extent that the increase is not reflected in the bond's inflation measure.

The periodic adjustment of U.S. inflation-indexed bonds is tied to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers (“CPI-U”), which is calculated monthly by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The CPI-U is a measurement of changes in the cost of living, made up of components such as housing, food, transportation and energy. Inflation-indexed bonds issued by a foreign government are generally adjusted to reflect a comparable inflation index calculated by that government. There can be no assurance that the CPI-U or any foreign inflation index will accurately measure the real rate of inflation in the prices of goods and services. Moreover, there can be no assurance that the rate of inflation in a foreign country will be correlated to the rate of inflation in the United States.

Any increase in the principal amount of an inflation-indexed bond will be considered taxable ordinary income, even though investors do not receive their principal until maturity.

**INTEREST RATE RISK.** Interest rate risk is the risk that fixed income securities will decline in value because of changes in interest rates. As nominal interest rates rise, the value of fixed income securities held by the Funds are likely to decrease. Securities with longer durations tend to be more sensitive to changes in interest rates, and are usually more volatile than securities with shorter durations. In certain interest rate environments, such as when real interest rates are rising faster than nominal interest rates, inflation-indexed securities may experience greater losses than other fixed income securities with similar durations.

**LIBOR REPLACEMENT AND TRANSITION.** Certain of a Fund’s investments, payment obligations and financing terms may be based on floating rates, such as LIBOR, Euro Interbank Offered Rate and other similar types of reference rates (each, a “Reference Rate”). In July of 2017, the head of the UK Financial Conduct Authority (“FCA”) announced a desire to phase out the use of LIBOR by the end of 2021. The FCA and ICE Benchmark Administrator have since announced that most LIBOR settings will no longer be published after December 31, 2021 and a majority of U.S. dollar LIBOR settings will cease publication after June 30, 2023. It is possible that a subset of LIBOR settings will be published after these dates on a “synthetic” basis, but any such publications would be considered non-representative of the underlying market. The U.S. Federal Reserve, based on the recommendations of the New York Federal Reserve’s Alternative Reference Rate Committee (comprised of major derivative market participants and their regulators), has begun publishing Secured Overnight Financial Rate Data (“SOFR”) that is intended to replace U.S. dollar LIBOR. Proposals for alternative reference rates for other currencies have also been announced or have already begun publication. Markets are slowly developing in response to these new reference rates. Uncertainty related to the liquidity impact of the change in rates, and how to appropriately adjust these rates at the time of transition, poses risks for the Funds. The effect of any changes to, or discontinuation of, LIBOR on the Funds will depend on, among other things, (1) existing fallback or termination provisions in individual contracts, and (2) whether, how, and when industry participants develop and adopt new reference rates and fallbacks for both legacy and new instruments and contracts. The expected discontinuation of LIBOR could have a significant impact on the financial markets in general and may also present heightened risk to market participants, including public companies, investment advisers, investment companies, and broker-dealers. The risks associated with this discontinuation and transition will be exacerbated if the work necessary to effect an orderly transition to an alternative reference rate is not completed in a timely manner. For example, current information technology systems may be unable to accommodate new instruments and rates with features that differ from LIBOR. Accordingly, it is difficult to predict the full impact of the transition away from LIBOR on the Funds until new reference rates and fallbacks for both legacy and new instruments and contracts are commercially accepted and market practices become settled.

**LOAN PARTICIPATIONS.** The Funds may purchase participations in commercial loans. Such indebtedness may be secured or unsecured. Loan participations typically represent direct participation in a loan to a corporate borrower and generally are offered by banks or other financial institutions or lending syndicates. The Funds may participate in such syndications, or can buy part of a loan, becoming a part lender. When purchasing loan participations, a Fund assumes the credit risk associated with the corporate borrower and may assume the credit risk associated with an interposed bank or other financial intermediary. The participation interests in which a Fund intends to invest may not be rated by any nationally recognized statistical ratings organization (“NRSRO”).

A loan is often administered by an agent bank acting as agent for all holders. The agent bank administers the terms of the loan, as specified in the loan agreement. In addition, the agent bank is normally responsible for the collection of principal and interest payments from the corporate borrower and the apportionment of these payments to the credit of all institutions which are parties to the loan agreement. Unless, under the terms of the loan or other indebtedness, a Fund has direct recourse against the corporate borrower, the Fund may have to rely on the agent bank or other financial intermediary to apply appropriate credit remedies against a corporate borrower. A financial institution’s employment as agent bank might be terminated in the event that it fails to observe a requisite standard of care or becomes insolvent. A successor agent bank would generally be appointed to replace the terminated agent bank, and assets held by the agent bank under the loan agreement should remain available to holders of such indebtedness. However, if assets held by the agent bank for the benefit of the Fund were determined to be subject to the claims of the agent bank’s general creditors, the Fund might incur certain costs and delays in realizing payment on a loan or loan participation and could suffer a loss of principal and/or interest. In situations involving other interposed financial institutions (e.g., an insurance company or governmental agency) similar risks may arise.

Purchasers of loans and other forms of direct indebtedness depend primarily upon the creditworthiness of the corporate borrower for payment of principal and interest. If a Fund does not receive scheduled interest or principal payments on such indebtedness, the Fund’s

share price and yield could be adversely affected. Loans that are fully secured offer the Fund more protection than an unsecured loan in the event of non-payment of scheduled interest or principal. However, there is no assurance that the liquidation of collateral from a secured loan would satisfy the corporate borrower's obligation, or that the collateral can be liquidated.

The Funds may invest in loan participations with credit quality comparable to that of the issuers of a Fund's securities investments. Indebtedness of companies whose creditworthiness is poor involves substantially greater risks and may be highly speculative. Some companies may never pay off their indebtedness or may pay only a small fraction of the amount owed. Consequently, when investing in indebtedness of companies with poor credit, the Funds bears a substantial risk of losing the entire amount invested.

Each Fund limits the amount of its total assets that it will invest in any one issuer or in issuers within the same industry (see "Investment Limitations"). For purposes of these limits, a Fund generally will treat the corporate borrower as the "issuer" of indebtedness held by the Fund. In the case of loan participations where a bank or other lending institution serves as a financial intermediary between a Fund and the corporate borrower, if the participation does not shift to the Fund the direct debtor-creditor relationship with the corporate borrower, SEC interpretations require the Fund to treat both the lending bank or other lending institution and the corporate borrower as "issuers" for the purpose of determining whether the Fund has invested more than 5% of its assets in a single issuer. Treating a financial intermediary as an issuer of indebtedness may restrict a Fund's ability to invest in indebtedness related to a single financial intermediary, or a group of intermediaries engaged in the same industry, even if the underlying borrowers represent many different companies and industries.

Loans and other types of direct indebtedness may not be readily marketable and may be subject to restrictions on resale. In some cases, negotiations involved in disposing of indebtedness may require weeks to complete. Consequently, some indebtedness may be difficult or impossible to dispose of readily at what the Adviser believes to be a fair price. In addition, valuation of illiquid indebtedness involves a greater degree of judgment in determining a Fund's NAV than if that value was based on available market quotations and could result in significant variations in the Fund's daily share price. At the same time, some loan interests are traded among certain financial institutions and accordingly may be deemed liquid. As the market for different types of indebtedness develops, the liquidity of these instruments is expected to improve. In addition, the Funds currently intend to treat indebtedness for which there is no readily available market as illiquid for purposes of the limitation on illiquid investments. Investments in loan participations are considered to be debt obligations for purposes of the Trust's investment restriction relating to the lending of funds or assets by the Funds.

Investments in loans through a direct assignment of the financial institution's interests with respect to the loan may involve additional risks to a Fund. For example, if a loan is foreclosed, the Fund could become part owner of any collateral and would bear the costs and liabilities associated with owning and disposing of the collateral. In addition, it is conceivable that under emerging legal theories of lender liability, the Fund could be held liable as co-lender. It is unclear whether loans and other forms of direct indebtedness offer securities law protections against fraud and misrepresentation. In the absence of definitive regulatory guidance, the Funds rely on the Adviser's research in an attempt to avoid situations where fraud or misrepresentation could adversely affect the Funds.

**MONEY MARKET FUNDS.** The Funds may invest in the securities of money market mutual funds. Such investments are subject to limitations prescribed by the 1940 Act, the rules thereunder and applicable SEC staff interpretations thereof, or applicable exemptive relief granted by the SEC. (See "Investment Company Securities and Exchange-Traded Funds" above.) In seeking to provide downside protection, during periods of high market volatility the Funds may hold money market instruments, including commercial paper, banker's acceptances, certificates of deposit and other short-term debt securities.

**MORTGAGE-RELATED SECURITIES AND ASSET-BACKED SECURITIES.** Mortgage-related securities are interests in pools of residential or commercial mortgage loans, including mortgage loans made by savings and loan institutions, mortgage bankers, commercial banks and others. Pools of mortgage loans are assembled as securities for sale to investors by various governmental, government-related and private organizations. See "Mortgage Pass-Through Securities." The Funds may also invest in debt securities which are secured with collateral consisting of mortgage-related securities (see "Collateralized Mortgage Obligations").

The recent financial downturn—particularly the increase in delinquencies and defaults on residential mortgages, falling home prices, and unemployment—has adversely affected the market for mortgage-related securities. In addition, various market and governmental actions may impair the ability to foreclose on or exercise other remedies against underlying mortgage holders, or may reduce the amount received upon foreclosure. These factors have caused certain mortgage-related securities to experience lower valuations and reduced liquidity. There is also no assurance that the U.S. Government will take further action to support the mortgage-related securities industry, as it has in the past, should the economic downturn continue or the economy experience another downturn. Further, recent legislative action and any future government actions may significantly alter the manner in which the mortgage-related securities market functions. Each of these factors could ultimately increase the risk that the Funds could realize losses on mortgage-related securities.

Mortgage Pass-Through Securities. Interests in pools of mortgage-related securities differ from other forms of debt securities, which normally provide for periodic payment of interest in fixed amounts with principal payments at maturity or specified call dates. Instead, these securities provide a monthly payment which consists of both interest and principal payments. In effect, these payments are a "pass-

through” of the monthly payments made by the individual borrowers on their residential or commercial mortgage loans, net of any fees paid to the issuer or guarantor of such securities. Additional payments are caused by repayments of principal resulting from the sale of the underlying property, refinancing or foreclosure, net of fees or costs which may be incurred. Some mortgage-related securities (such as securities issued by GNMA) are described as “modified pass-through.” These securities entitle the holder to receive all interest and principal payments owed on the mortgage pool, net of certain fees, at the scheduled payment dates regardless of whether or not the mortgagor actually makes the payment.

The rate of pre-payments on underlying mortgages will affect the price and volatility of a mortgage-related security, and may have the effect of shortening or extending the effective duration of the security relative to what was anticipated at the time of purchase. To the extent that unanticipated rates of pre-payment on underlying mortgages increase the effective duration of a mortgage-related security, the volatility of such security can be expected to increase.

The residential mortgage market in the United States recently has experienced difficulties that may adversely affect the performance and market value of certain of a Fund’s mortgage-related investments. Delinquencies and losses on residential mortgage loans (especially subprime and second-lien mortgage loans) generally have increased recently and may continue to increase, and a decline in or flattening of housing values (as has recently been experienced and may continue to be experienced in many housing markets) may exacerbate such delinquencies and losses. Borrowers with adjustable rate mortgage loans are more sensitive to changes in interest rates, which affect their monthly mortgage payments, and may be unable to secure replacement mortgages at comparably low interest rates. Also, a number of residential mortgage loan originators have experienced serious financial difficulties or bankruptcy. Owing largely to the foregoing, reduced investor demand for mortgage loans and mortgage-related securities and increased investor yield requirements have caused limited liquidity in the secondary market for certain mortgage-related securities, which can adversely affect the market value of mortgage-related securities. It is possible that such limited liquidity in such secondary markets could continue or worsen.

Agency Mortgage-Related Securities. The principal governmental guarantor of mortgage-related securities is GNMA. GNMA is a wholly owned U.S. Government corporation within the Department of Housing and Urban Development. GNMA is authorized to guarantee, with the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, the timely payment of principal and interest on securities issued by institutions approved by GNMA (such as savings and loan institutions, commercial banks and mortgage bankers) and backed by pools of mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration (the “FHA”), or guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (the “VA”).

Government-related guarantors (i.e., not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government) include the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC”). FNMA is a government-sponsored corporation. FNMA purchases conventional (i.e., not insured or guaranteed by any government agency) residential mortgages from a list of approved seller/servicers which include state and federally chartered savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, commercial banks and credit unions and mortgage bankers. Pass-through securities issued by FNMA are guaranteed as to timely payment of principal and interest by FNMA, but are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government. FHLMC was created by Congress in 1970 for the purpose of increasing the availability of mortgage credit for residential housing. It is a government-sponsored corporation that issues Participation Certificates (“PCs”), which are pass-through securities, each representing an undivided interest in a pool of residential mortgages. FHLMC guarantees the timely payment of interest and ultimate collection of principal, but PCs are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government.

On September 6, 2008, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (“FHFA”) placed FNMA and FHLMC into conservatorship. As the conservator, FHFA succeeded to all rights, titles, powers and privileges of FNMA and FHLMC and of any stockholder, officer or director of FNMA and FHLMC with respect to FNMA and FHLMC and the assets of FNMA and FHLMC. FHFA selected a new chief executive officer and chairman of the board of directors for each of FNMA and FHLMC.

In connection with the conservatorship, the U.S. Treasury entered into a Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreement with each of FNMA and FHLMC pursuant to which the U.S. Treasury will purchase up to an aggregate of \$100 billion of each of FNMA and FHLMC to maintain a positive net worth in each enterprise. This agreement contains various covenants that severely limit each enterprise’s operations. In exchange for entering into these agreements, the U.S. Treasury received \$1 billion of each enterprise’s senior preferred stock and warrants to purchase 79.9% of each enterprise’s common stock. On February 18, 2009, the U.S. Treasury announced that it was doubling the size of its commitment to each enterprise under the Senior Preferred Stock Program to \$200 billion. The U.S. Treasury’s obligations under the Senior Preferred Stock Program are for an indefinite period of time for a maximum amount of \$200 billion per enterprise.

FNMA and FHLMC are continuing to operate as going concerns while in conservatorship and each remain liable for all of its obligations, including its guaranty obligations, associated with its mortgage-backed securities. The Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreement is intended to enhance each of FNMA’s and FHLMC’s ability to meet its obligations. The FHFA has indicated that the conservatorship of each enterprise will end when the director of FHFA determines that FHFA’s plan to restore the enterprise to a safe and solvent condition has been completed.

Under the Federal Housing Finance Regulatory Reform Act of 2008 (the “Reform Act”), which was included as part of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, FHFA, as conservator or receiver, has the power to repudiate any contract entered into by FNMA or FHLMC prior to FHFA’s appointment as conservator or receiver, as applicable, if FHFA determines, in its sole discretion, that performance of the contract is burdensome and that repudiation of the contract promotes the orderly administration of FNMA’s or FHLMC’s affairs. The Reform Act requires FHFA to exercise its right to repudiate any contract within a reasonable period of time after its appointment as conservator or receiver.

FHFA, in its capacity as conservator, has indicated that it has no intention to repudiate the guaranty obligations of FNMA or FHLMC because FHFA views repudiation as incompatible with the goals of the conservatorship. However, in the event that FHFA, as conservator or if it is later appointed as receiver for FNMA or FHLMC, were to repudiate any such guaranty obligation, the conservatorship or receivership estate, as applicable, would be liable for actual direct compensatory damages in accordance with the provisions of the Reform Act. Any such liability could be satisfied only to the extent of FNMA’s or FHLMC’s assets available therefor.

In the event of repudiation, the payments of interest to holders of FNMA or FHLMC mortgage-backed securities would be reduced if payments on the mortgage loans represented in the mortgage loan groups related to such mortgage-backed securities are not made by the borrowers or advanced by the servicer. Any actual direct compensatory damages for repudiating these guaranty obligations may not be sufficient to offset any shortfalls experienced by such mortgage-backed security holders.

Further, in its capacity as conservator or receiver, FHFA has the right to transfer or sell any asset or liability of FNMA or FHLMC without any approval, assignment or consent. Although FHFA has stated that it has no present intention to do so, if FHFA, as conservator or receiver, were to transfer any such guaranty obligation to another party, holders of FNMA or FHLMC mortgage-backed securities would have to rely on that party for satisfaction of the guaranty obligation and would be exposed to the credit risk of that party.

In addition, certain rights provided to holders of mortgage-backed securities issued by FNMA and FHLMC under the operative documents related to such securities may not be enforced against FHFA, or enforcement of such rights may be delayed, during the conservatorship or any future receivership. The operative documents for FNMA and FHLMC mortgage-backed securities may provide (or with respect to securities issued prior to the date of the appointment of the conservator may have provided) that upon the occurrence of an event of default on the part of FNMA or FHLMC, in its capacity as guarantor, which includes the appointment of a conservator or receiver, holders of such mortgage-backed securities have the right to replace FNMA or FHLMC as trustee if the requisite percentage of mortgage-backed securities holders consent. The Reform Act prevents mortgage-backed security holders from enforcing such rights if the event of default arises solely because a conservator or receiver has been appointed. The Reform Act also provides that no person may exercise any right or power to terminate, accelerate or declare an event of default under certain contracts to which FNMA or FHLMC is a party, or obtain possession of or exercise control over any property of FNMA or FHLMC, or affect any contractual rights of FNMA or FHLMC, without the approval of FHFA, as conservator or receiver, for a period of 45 or 90 days following the appointment of FHFA as conservator or receiver, respectively.

In addition, in a February 2011 report to Congress from the Treasury Department and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Obama administration provided a plan to reform America’s housing finance market. The plan would reduce the role of and eventually eliminate FNMA and FHLMC. Notably, the plan does not propose similar significant changes to GNMA, which guarantees payments on mortgage-related securities backed by federally insured or guaranteed loans such as those issued by the Federal Housing Association or guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The report also identified three proposals for Congress and the administration to consider for the long-term structure of the housing finance markets after the elimination of FNMA and FHLMC, including implementing: (i) a privatized system of housing finance that limits government insurance to very limited groups of creditworthy low- and moderate-income borrowers; (ii) a privatized system with a government backstop mechanism that would allow the government to insure a larger share of the housing finance market during a future housing crisis; and (iii) a privatized system where the government would offer reinsurance to holders of certain highly-rated mortgage-related securities insured by private insurers and would pay out under the reinsurance arrangements only if the private mortgage insurers were insolvent.

Privately Issued Mortgage-Related Securities. Commercial banks, savings and loan institutions, private mortgage insurance companies, mortgage bankers and other secondary market issuers also create pass-through pools of conventional residential mortgage loans. Such issuers may be the originators and/or servicers of the underlying mortgage loans as well as the guarantors of the mortgage-related securities. Pools created by such non-governmental issuers generally offer a higher rate of interest than government and government-related pools because there are no direct or indirect government or agency guarantees of payments in the former pools.

However, timely payment of interest and principal of these pools may be supported by various forms of insurance or guarantees, including individual loan, title, pool and hazard insurance and letters of credit, which may be issued by governmental entities or private insurers. Such insurance and guarantees and the creditworthiness of the issuers thereof will be considered in determining whether a mortgage-related security meets the Trust’s investment quality standards. There can be no assurance that the private insurers or guarantors can meet their obligations under the insurance policies or guarantee arrangements. The Funds may buy mortgage-related

securities without insurance or guarantees if, through an examination of the loan experience and practices of the originators/servicers and poolers, the Adviser determines that the securities meet the Trust's quality standards. Securities issued by certain private organizations may not be readily marketable. A Fund will not purchase mortgage-related securities or any other assets which in the opinion of the Adviser are illiquid if, as a result, more than 15% of the value of the Fund's net assets will be illiquid.

Privately issued mortgage-related securities are not subject to the same underwriting requirements for the underlying mortgages that are applicable to those mortgage-related securities that have a government or government-sponsored entity guarantee. As a result, the mortgage loans underlying privately issued mortgage-related securities may, and frequently do, have less favorable collateral, credit risk or other underwriting characteristics than government or government-sponsored mortgage-related securities and have wider variances in a number of terms including interest rate, term, size, purpose and borrower characteristics. Mortgage pools underlying privately issued mortgage-related securities more frequently include second mortgages, high loan-to-value ratio mortgages and manufactured housing loans, in addition to commercial mortgages and other types of mortgages where a government or government sponsored entity guarantee is not available. The coupon rates and maturities of the underlying mortgage loans in a privately-issued mortgage-related securities pool may vary to a greater extent than those included in a government guaranteed pool, and the pool may include subprime mortgage loans. Subprime loans are loans made to borrowers with weakened credit histories or with a lower capacity to make timely payments on their loans. For these reasons, the loans underlying these securities have had in many cases higher default rates than those loans that meet government underwriting requirements.

The risk of non-payment is greater for mortgage-related securities that are backed by loans that were originated under weak underwriting standards, including loans made to borrowers with limited means to make repayment. A level of risk exists for all loans, although, historically, the poorest performing loans have been those classified as subprime. Other types of privately issued mortgage-related securities, such as those classified as pay-option adjustable rate or Alt-A have also performed poorly. Even loans classified as prime have experienced higher levels of delinquencies and defaults. The substantial decline in real property values across the U.S. has exacerbated the level of losses that investors in privately issued mortgage-related securities have experienced. It is not certain when these trends may reverse. Market factors that may adversely affect mortgage loan repayment include adverse economic conditions, unemployment, a decline in the value of real property, or an increase in interest rates.

Privately issued mortgage-related securities are not traded on an exchange and there may be a limited market for the securities, especially when there is a perceived weakness in the mortgage and real estate market sectors. Without an active trading market, mortgage-related securities held in a Fund's portfolio may be particularly difficult to value because of the complexities involved in assessing the value of the underlying mortgage loans.

The Funds may purchase privately issued mortgage-related securities that are originated, packaged and serviced by third party entities. It is possible these third parties could have interests that are in conflict with the holders of mortgage-related securities, and such holders (such as the Funds) could have rights against the third parties or their affiliates. For example, if a loan originator, servicer or its affiliates engaged in negligence or willful misconduct in carrying out its duties, then a holder of the mortgage-related security could seek recourse against the originator/servicer or its affiliates, as applicable. Also, as a loan originator/servicer, the originator/servicer or its affiliates may make certain representations and warranties regarding the quality of the mortgages and properties underlying a mortgage-related security. If one or more of those representations or warranties is false, then the holders of the mortgage-related securities (such as the Funds) could trigger an obligation of the originator/servicer or its affiliates, as applicable, to repurchase the mortgages from the issuing trust. Notwithstanding the foregoing, many of the third parties that are legally bound by trust and other documents have failed to perform their respective duties, as stipulated in such trust and other documents, and investors have had limited success in enforcing terms.

Mortgage-related securities that are issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities, are not subject to a Fund's industry concentration restrictions, set forth below under "Investment Limitations," by virtue of the exclusion from that test available to all U.S. Government securities. In the case of privately issued mortgage-related securities, the Funds take the position that mortgage-related securities do not represent interests in any particular "industry" or group of industries. Therefore, a Fund may invest more or less than 25% of its total assets in privately issued mortgage-related securities. The assets underlying such securities may be represented by a portfolio of residential or commercial mortgages (including both whole mortgage loans and mortgage participation interests that may be senior or junior in terms of priority of repayment) or portfolios of mortgage pass-through securities issued or guaranteed by GNMA, FNMA or FHLMC. Mortgage loans underlying a mortgage-related security may in turn be insured or guaranteed by the FHA or the VA. In the case of privately issued mortgage-related securities whose underlying assets are neither U.S. Government securities nor U.S. Government-insured mortgages, to the extent that real properties securing such assets may be located in the same geographical region, the security may be subject to a greater risk of default than other comparable securities in the event of adverse economic, political or business developments that may affect such region and, ultimately, the ability of residential homeowners to make payments of principal and interest on the underlying mortgages.

Collateralized Mortgage Obligations ("CMOs"). A CMO is a debt obligation of a legal entity that is collateralized by mortgages and divided into classes. Similar to a bond, interest and prepaid principal is paid, in most cases, on a monthly basis. CMOs may be



collateralized by whole mortgage loans or private mortgage bonds, but are more typically collateralized by portfolios of mortgage pass-through securities guaranteed by GNMA, FHLMC, or FNMA, and their income streams.

CMOs are structured into multiple classes, often referred to as “tranches,” with each class bearing a different stated maturity and entitled to a different schedule for payments of principal and interest, including pre-payments. Actual maturity and average life will depend upon the pre-payment experience of the collateral. In the case of certain CMOs (known as “sequential pay” CMOs), payments of principal received from the pool of underlying mortgages, including pre-payments, are applied to the classes of CMOs in the order of their respective final distribution dates. Thus, no payment of principal will be made to any class of sequential pay CMOs until all other classes having an earlier final distribution date have been paid in full.

In a typical CMO transaction, a corporation (“issuer”) issues multiple series (*e.g.*, A, B, C, Z) of CMO bonds (“Bonds”). Proceeds of the Bond offering are used to purchase mortgages or mortgage pass-through certificates (“Collateral”). The Collateral is pledged to a third party trustee as security for the Bonds. Principal and interest payments from the Collateral are used to pay principal on the Bonds in the order A, B, C, Z. The Series A, B, and C Bonds all bear current interest. Interest on the Series Z Bond is accrued and added to principal and a like amount is paid as principal on the Series A, B, or C Bond currently being paid off. When the Series A, B, and C Bonds are paid in full, interest and principal on the Series Z Bond begins to be paid currently. CMOs may be less liquid and may exhibit greater price volatility than other types of mortgage-backed or asset-backed securities.

As CMOs have evolved, some classes of CMO bonds have become more common. For example, the Funds may invest in parallel-pay and planned amortization class (“PAC”) CMOs and multi-class pass through certificates. Parallel-pay CMOs and multi-class pass-through certificates are structured to provide payments of principal on each payment date to more than one class. These simultaneous payments are taken into account in calculating the stated maturity date or final distribution date of each class, which, as with other CMO and multi-class pass-through structures, must be retired by its stated maturity date or final distribution date but may be retired earlier. PACs generally require payments of a specified amount of principal on each payment date. PACs are parallel-pay CMOs with the required principal amount on such securities having the highest priority after interest has been paid to all classes. Any CMO or multi-class pass through structure that includes PAC securities must also have support tranches—known as support bonds, companion bonds or non-PAC bonds—which lend or absorb principal cash flows to allow the PAC securities to maintain their stated maturities and final distribution dates within a range of actual prepayment experience. These support tranches are subject to a higher level of maturity risk compared to other mortgage-related securities, and usually provide a higher yield to compensate investors. If principal cash flows are received in amounts outside a pre-determined range such that the support bonds cannot lend or absorb sufficient cash flows to the PAC securities as intended, the PAC securities are subject to heightened maturity risk.

Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities. Commercial mortgage-backed securities include securities that reflect an interest in, and are secured by, mortgage loans on commercial real property. Many of the risks of investing in commercial mortgage-backed securities reflect the risks of investing in the real estate securing the underlying mortgage loans. These risks reflect the effects of local and other economic conditions on real estate markets, the ability of tenants to make loan payments, and the ability of a property to attract and retain tenants. Commercial mortgage-backed securities may be less liquid and exhibit greater price volatility than other types of mortgage- or asset-backed securities.

Other Mortgage-Related Securities. Other mortgage-related securities include securities other than those described above that directly or indirectly represent a participation in, or are secured by and payable from, mortgage loans on real property, including mortgage dollar rolls, CMO residuals or stripped mortgage-backed securities (“SMBS”). Other mortgage-related securities may be equity or debt securities issued by agencies or instrumentalities of the U.S. Government or by private originators of, or investors in, mortgage loans, including savings and loan associations, homebuilders, mortgage banks, commercial banks, investment banks, partnerships, trusts and special purpose entities of the foregoing.

CMO Residuals. CMO residuals are mortgage securities issued by agencies or instrumentalities of the U.S. Government or by private originators of, or investors in, mortgage loans, including savings and loan associations, homebuilders, mortgage banks, commercial banks, investment banks and special purpose entities of the foregoing.

The cash flow generated by the mortgage assets underlying a series of CMOs is applied first to make required payments of principal and interest on the CMOs and second to pay the related administrative expenses and any management fee of the issuer. The residual in a CMO structure generally represents the interest in any excess cash flow remaining after making the foregoing payments. Each payment of such excess cash flow to a holder of the related CMO residual represents income and/or a return of capital. The amount of residual cash flow resulting from a CMO will depend on, among other things, the characteristics of the mortgage assets, the coupon rate of each class of CMO, prevailing interest rates, the amount of administrative expenses and the pre-payment experience on the mortgage assets. In particular, the yield to maturity on CMO residuals is extremely sensitive to pre-payments on the related underlying mortgage assets, in the same manner as an interest-only (“IO”) class of stripped mortgage-backed securities. See “Other Mortgage-Related Securities—Stripped Mortgage-Backed Securities.” In addition, if a series of a CMO includes a class that bears interest at an adjustable rate, the

yield to maturity on the related CMO residual will also be extremely sensitive to changes in the level of the index upon which interest rate adjustments are based.

As described below with respect to stripped mortgage-backed securities, in certain circumstances the Funds may fail to recoup fully its initial investment in a CMO residual.

CMO residuals are generally purchased and sold by institutional investors through several investment banking firms acting as brokers or dealers. Transactions in CMO residuals are generally completed only after careful review of the characteristics of the securities in question. In addition, CMO residuals may, or pursuant to an exemption therefrom, may not have been registered under the 1933 Act. CMO residuals, whether or not registered under the 1933 Act, may be subject to certain restrictions on transferability, and may be deemed “illiquid” and subject to a Fund’s limitations on investment in illiquid securities.

Adjustable Rate Mortgage-Backed Securities. Adjustable rate mortgage-backed securities (“ARMBSs”) have interest rates that reset at periodic intervals. Acquiring ARMBSs permits the Funds to participate in increases in prevailing current interest rates through periodic adjustments in the coupons of mortgages underlying the pool on which ARMBSs are based. Such ARMBSs generally have higher current yield and lower price fluctuations than is the case with more traditional fixed income debt securities of comparable rating and maturity. In addition, when prepayments of principal are made on the underlying mortgages during periods of rising interest rates, the Funds can reinvest the proceeds of such prepayments at rates higher than those at which they were previously invested. Mortgages underlying most ARMBSs, however, have limits on the allowable annual or lifetime increases that can be made in the interest rate that the mortgagor pays. Therefore, if current interest rates rise above such limits over the period of the limitation, a Fund, when holding an ARMBS, does not benefit from further increases in interest rates. Moreover, when interest rates are in excess of coupon rates (*i.e.*, the rates being paid by mortgagors) of the mortgages, ARMBSs behave more like fixed income securities and less like adjustable rate securities and are subject to the risks associated with fixed income securities. In addition, during periods of rising interest rates, increases in the coupon rate of adjustable rate mortgages generally lag current market interest rates slightly, thereby creating the potential for capital depreciation on such securities.

Stripped Mortgage-Backed Securities. SMBS are derivative multi-class mortgage securities. SMBS may be issued by agencies or instrumentalities of the U.S. Government, or by private originators of, or investors in, mortgage loans, including savings and loan associations, mortgage banks, commercial banks, investment banks and special purpose entities of the foregoing. SMBS are usually structured with two classes that receive different proportions of the interest and principal distributions on a pool of mortgage assets. A common type of SMBS will have one class receiving some of the interest and most of the principal from the mortgage assets, while the other class will receive most of the interest and the remainder of the principal. In the most extreme case, one class will receive all of the interest (the “IO” class), while the other class will receive all of the principal (the principal-only or “PO” class). The yield to maturity on an IO class is extremely sensitive to the rate of principal payments (including pre-payments) on the related underlying mortgage assets, and a rapid rate of principal payments may have a material adverse effect on a Fund’s yield to maturity from these securities. If the underlying mortgage assets experience greater than anticipated pre-payments of principal, the Funds may fail to recoup some or all of its initial investment in these securities even if the security is in one of the highest rating categories.

Collateralized Debt Obligations. The Funds may invest in collateralized debt obligations (“CDOs”), which include collateralized bond obligations (“CBOs”), collateralized loan obligations (“CLOs”) and other similarly structured securities. CBOs and CLOs are types of asset-backed securities. A CBO is a trust which is often backed by a diversified pool of high risk, below investment grade fixed income securities. The collateral can be from many different types of fixed income securities such as high yield debt, residential privately issued mortgage-related securities, commercial privately issued mortgage-related securities, trust preferred securities and emerging market debt. A CLO is a trust typically collateralized by a pool of loans, which may include, among others, domestic and foreign senior secured loans, senior unsecured loans, and subordinate corporate loans, including loans that may be rated below investment grade or equivalent unrated loans. CDOs may charge management fees and administrative expenses.

For both CBOs and CLOs, the cash flows from the trust are split into two or more portions, called tranches, varying in risk and yield. The riskiest portion is the “equity” tranche which bears the bulk of defaults from the bonds or loans in the trust and serves to protect the other, more senior tranches from default in all but the most severe circumstances. Since they are partially protected from defaults, senior tranches from a CBO trust or CLO trust typically have higher ratings and lower yields than their underlying securities, and can be rated investment grade.

Despite the protection from the equity tranche, CBO or CLO tranches can experience substantial losses due to actual defaults, increased sensitivity to defaults due to collateral default and disappearance of protecting tranches, market anticipation of defaults, as well as aversion to CBO or CLO securities as a class.

The risks of an investment in a CDO depend largely on the type of the collateral securities and the class of the CDO in which the Funds invest. Normally, CBOs, CLOs and other CDOs are privately offered and sold, and thus, are not registered under the securities laws. As a result, investments in CDOs may be characterized by the Funds as illiquid securities, however an active dealer market may exist for

CDOs allowing a CDO to qualify for Rule 144A transactions. In addition to the normal risks associated with fixed income securities discussed elsewhere in this SAI and the Funds' Prospectus (e.g., interest rate risk and default risk), CDOs carry additional risks including, but are not limited to: (i) the possibility that distributions from collateral securities will not be adequate to make interest or other payments; (ii) the quality of the collateral may decline in value or default; (iii) the Funds may invest in CDOs that are subordinate to other classes; and (iv) the complex structure of the security may not be fully understood at the time of investment and may produce disputes with the issuer or unexpected investment results.

Asset-Backed Securities. Asset-backed securities ("ABS") are bonds backed by pools of loans or other receivables. ABS are created from many types of assets, including auto loans, credit card receivables, home equity loans, and student loans. ABS are issued through special purpose vehicles that are bankruptcy remote from the issuer of the collateral. The credit quality of an ABS transaction depends on the performance of the underlying assets. To protect ABS investors from the possibility that some borrowers could miss payments or even default on their loans, ABS include various forms of credit enhancement. Some ABS, particularly home equity loan transactions, are subject to interest-rate risk and prepayment risk. A change in interest rates can affect the pace of payments on the underlying loans, which in turn, affects total return on the securities. ABS also carry credit or default risk. If many borrowers on the underlying loans default, losses could exceed the credit enhancement level and result in losses to investors in an ABS transaction. Finally, ABS have structure risk due to a unique characteristic known as early amortization, or early payout, risk. Built into the structure of most ABS are triggers for early payout, designed to protect investors from losses. These triggers are unique to each transaction and can include: a big rise in defaults on the underlying loans, a sharp drop in the credit enhancement level, or even the bankruptcy of the originator. Once early amortization begins, all incoming loan payments (after expenses are paid) are used to pay investors as quickly as possible based upon a predetermined priority of payment.

Consistent with its investment objectives and policies, the Funds also may invest in other types of asset-backed securities.

**PARTICIPATION INTERESTS.** The Funds may invest in participation interests in fixed income securities. A participation interest provides the certificate holder with a specified interest in an issue of fixed income securities.

Some participation interests give the holders differing interests in the underlying securities, depending upon the type or class of certificate purchased. For example, coupon strip certificates give the holder the right to receive a specific portion of interest payments on the underlying securities; principal strip certificates give the holder the right to receive principal payments and the portion of interest not payable to coupon strip certificate holders. Holders of certificates of participation in interest payments may be entitled to receive a fixed rate of interest, a variable rate that is periodically reset to reflect the current market rate or an auction rate that is periodically reset at auction. Asset-backed residuals represent interests in any excess cash flow remaining after required payments of principal and interest have been made.

More complex participation interests involve special risk considerations. Since these instruments have only recently been developed, there can be no assurance that any market will develop or be maintained for the instruments. Generally, the fixed income securities that are deposited in trust for the holders of these interests are the sole source of payments on the interests; holders cannot look to the sponsor or trustee of the trust or to the issuers of the securities held in trust or to any of their affiliates for payment.

Participation interests purchased at a discount may experience price volatility. Certain types of interests are sensitive to fluctuations in market interest rates and to prepayments on the underlying securities. A rapid rate of prepayment can result in the failure to recover the holder's initial investment.

The extent to which the yield to maturity of a participation interest is sensitive to prepayments depends, in part, upon whether the interest was purchased at a discount or premium, and if so, the size of that discount or premium. Generally, if a participation interest is purchased at a premium and principal distributions occur at a rate faster than that anticipated at the time of purchase, the holder's actual yield to maturity will be lower than that assumed at the time of purchase. Conversely, if a participation interest is purchased at a discount and principal distributions occur at a rate faster than that assumed at the time of purchase, the investor's actual yield to maturity will be higher than that assumed at the time of purchase.

Participation interests in pools of fixed income securities backed by certain types of debt obligations involve special risk considerations. The issuers of securities backed by automobile and truck receivables typically file financing statements evidencing security interests in the receivables, and the servicers of those obligations take and retain custody of the obligations. If the servicers, in contravention of their duty to the holders of the securities backed by the receivables, were to sell the obligations, the third party purchasers could acquire an interest superior to the interest of the security holders. Also, most states require that a security interest in a vehicle must be noted on the certificate of title and the certificate of title may not be amended to reflect the assignment of the lender's security interest. Therefore, the recovery of the collateral in some cases may not be available to support payments on the securities. Securities backed by credit card receivables are generally unsecured, and both Federal and state consumer protection laws may allow set-offs against certain amounts owed.

**PREFERRED STOCK.** The Funds may invest in preferred stocks. Preferred stock has a preference over common stock in liquidation (and generally dividends as well) but is subordinated to the liabilities of the issuer in all respects. As a general rule, the market value of preferred stock with a fixed dividend rate and no conversion element varies inversely with interest rates and perceived credit risk, while the market price of convertible preferred stock generally also reflects some element of conversion value. Because preferred stock is junior to debt securities and other obligations of the issuer, deterioration in the credit quality of the issuer will cause greater changes in the value of a preferred stock than in a more senior debt security with similar stated yield characteristics. Dividends on a preferred stock may be changed or omitted by the issuer. While most preferred stocks pay a dividend, a Fund may purchase preferred stock where the issuer has omitted, or is in danger of omitting, payment of its dividend. Preferred stock also may be subject to optional or mandatory redemption provisions.

**REAL ESTATE SECURITIES AND RELATED DERIVATIVES.** The Funds may gain exposure to the real estate sector by investing in real estate-linked derivatives, real estate investment trusts (“REITs”) and common, preferred and convertible securities of issuers in real estate-related industries. Each of these types of investments are subject to risks similar to those associated with direct ownership of real estate, including loss to casualty or condemnation, increases in property taxes and operating expenses, zoning law amendments, changes in interest rates, overbuilding and increased competition, variations in market value and possible environmental liabilities. The Funds may also invest in rights or warrants to purchase income-producing common and preferred shares of issuers in real estate-related industries. It is anticipated that substantially all of the equity securities of issuers in real estate-related industries in which the Funds intend to invest will be traded on a national securities exchange or in the over-the-counter market.

REITs are pooled investment vehicles that own, and typically operate, income-producing real estate. If a REIT meets certain requirements, including distributing to shareholders substantially all of its taxable income (other than net capital gains), then it is not taxed on the income distributed to shareholders. REITs are subject to management fees and other expenses, and so the Funds, when investing in REITs, will bear its proportionate share of the costs of the REITs’ operations.

There are three general categories of REITs: Equity REITs, Mortgage REITs and Hybrid REITs. Equity REITs invest primarily in direct fee ownership or leasehold ownership of real property; they derive most of their income from rents. Mortgage REITs invest mostly in mortgages on real estate, which may secure construction, development or long-term loans, and the main source of their income is mortgage interest payments. Hybrid REITs hold both ownership and mortgage interests in real estate.

Along with the risks common to different types of real estate-related securities, REITs, no matter the type, involve additional risk factors. These include poor performance by the REIT’s manager, changes to the tax laws, and failure by the REIT to qualify for tax-free distribution of income or exemption under the 1940 Act. Furthermore, REITs are not diversified and are heavily dependent on cash flow. REITs can be listed and traded on national securities exchanges or can be traded privately between individual owners.

**REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS.** The Funds may invest in repurchase agreements. A repurchase agreement is a transaction in which a Fund purchases a security from a bank or recognized securities dealer and simultaneously commits to resell that security to a bank or dealer at an agreed upon date and price reflecting a market rate of interest, unrelated to the coupon rate or the maturity of the purchased security. While it is not possible to eliminate all risks from these transactions (particularly the possibility of a decline in the market value of the underlying securities, as well as delays and costs to the Fund if the other party to the repurchase agreement defaults), it is the policy of each Fund to limit repurchase transactions to primary dealers and banks whose creditworthiness has been reviewed and found satisfactory by the Adviser. Repurchase agreements maturing in more than seven days are considered illiquid for purposes of a Fund’s investment limitations.

**RESTRICTED SECURITIES.** Restricted securities are securities that may not be sold to the public without registration under the 1933 Act or an exemption from registration. The Funds are subject to an investment limitation on the purchase of illiquid securities. Restricted securities, including securities eligible for resale pursuant to Rule 144A under the 1933 Act, that are determined to be liquid are not subject to this limitation. This determination is to be made by the Adviser pursuant to guidelines adopted by the Board of Trustees. Under these guidelines, the Adviser will consider the frequency of trades and quotes for the security, the number of dealers in, and potential purchasers for, the securities, dealer undertakings to make a market in the security and the nature of the security and of the marketplace trades. In purchasing such restricted securities, the Adviser intends to purchase securities that are exempt from registration under Rule 144A.

**REVERSE REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS.** The Funds may enter into reverse repurchase agreements in accordance with its investment restrictions. Pursuant to such agreements, a Fund would sell portfolio securities to financial institutions such as banks and broker-dealers, and agree to repurchase them at a mutually agreed-upon date and price. At the time the Fund enters into a reverse repurchase agreement, it will place in a segregated custodial account assets such as U.S. Government securities or other liquid, high grade debt securities, generally rated in one of the three highest ratings categories, consistent with a Fund’s investment restrictions having a value at least equal to the repurchase price (including accrued interest) and will subsequently monitor the account to ensure that such equivalent value is maintained. Reverse repurchase agreements involve the risk that the market value of the securities sold by a Fund may decline below the price at which it is obligated to repurchase the securities. Reverse repurchase agreements are considered

to be borrowings by a Fund under the 1940 Act. A Fund will not engage in reverse repurchase transactions if such transactions, combined with any other borrowings, exceed 33-1/3% of a Fund's assets.

**RIGHTS OFFERINGS AND WARRANTS TO PURCHASE SECURITIES.** The Funds may participate in rights offerings and may purchase warrants, which are privileges issued by corporations enabling the owners to subscribe to and purchase a specified number of shares of the corporation at a specified price during a specified period of time.

Subscription rights normally have a short life span to expiration. The purchase of rights or warrants involves the risk that the Funds could lose the purchase value of a right or warrant if the right to subscribe to additional shares is not exercised prior to the rights' and warrants' expiration. Also, the purchase of rights and/or warrants involves the risk that the effective price paid for the right and/or warrant added to the subscription price of the related security may exceed the value of the subscribed security's market price such as when there is no movement in the level of the underlying security. Buying a warrant does not make the Funds a shareholder of the underlying stock and changes in the value of a warrant do not necessarily correspond to changes in the value of its underlying security. The warrant holder has no voting or dividend rights with respect to the underlying stock. A warrant does not carry any right to assets of the issuer, and for this reason investment in warrants may be more speculative than other equity-based investments.

**SECURITIES LENDING.** For the purpose of achieving income, a Fund may lend its portfolio securities to brokers, dealers, and other financial institutions, provided: (i) the loan is secured continuously by collateral consisting of U.S. Government securities, cash or cash equivalents (negotiable certificates of deposits, bankers' acceptances or letters of credit) maintained on a daily mark-to-market basis in an amount at least equal to the current market value of the securities loaned; (ii) a Fund may at any time call the loan and obtain the return of the securities loaned; (iii) a Fund will receive any interest or dividends paid on the loaned securities; and (iv) the aggregate market value of securities loaned will not at any time exceed 33-1/3% of the total assets of a Fund. A Fund's performance will continue to reflect the receipt of either interest through investment of cash collateral by the Fund in permissible investments, or a fee, if the collateral is U.S. Government securities. Securities lending involves the risk of loss of rights in the collateral or delay in recovery of the collateral should the borrower fail to return the securities loaned or become insolvent. A Fund may pay lending fees to the party arranging the loan.

**SMALL AND MID-CAP RISK.** Each Fund's investment approach is focused on identifying attractive securities issued by "middle market" companies. However, the securities of smaller and mid-size companies tend to be more volatile and less liquid than securities of larger companies. This can adversely affect the prices at which a Fund can purchase and sell these securities, and thus the value of the Fund's shares.

**U.S. GOVERNMENT OBLIGATIONS.** The Funds may invest in debt securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities. Although all obligations of such agencies and instrumentalities are not direct obligations of the U.S. Treasury, the U.S. Government generally directly or indirectly backs payment of the interest and principal on these obligations. This support can range from securities supported by the full faith and credit of the United States (for example, GNMA securities) to securities that are supported solely or primarily by the creditworthiness of the issuer, such as securities of the FNMA, the FHLMC, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Federal Farm Credit Banks and Federal Home Loan Banks. In the case of obligations not backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, a Fund must look principally to the agency or instrumentality issuing or guaranteeing the obligation for ultimate repayment and may not be able to assert a claim against the United States itself in the event the agency or instrumentality does not meet its commitments. Whether backed by full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury or not, U.S. Government obligations are not guaranteed against price movements due to fluctuating interest rates.

**VARIABLE AND FLOATING RATE SECURITIES.** Variable and floating rate securities provide for a periodic adjustment in the interest rate paid on the obligations. The terms of such obligations must provide that interest rates are adjusted periodically based upon an interest rate adjustment index as provided in the respective obligations. The adjustment intervals may be regular, and range from daily up to annually, or may be event based, such as based on a change in the prime rate.

The Funds may invest in floating rate debt instruments ("floaters") and engage in credit spread trades. The interest rate on a floater is a variable rate which is tied to another interest rate, such as a money-market index or Treasury bill rate. The interest rate on a floater resets periodically, typically every six months. While, because of the interest rate reset feature, floaters provide the Funds with a certain degree of protection against rises in interest rates, the Funds will participate in any declines in interest rates as well. A credit spread trade is an investment position relating to a difference in the prices or interest rates of two securities or currencies, where the value of the investment position is determined by movements in the difference between the prices or interest rates, as the case may be, of the respective securities or currencies.

The Funds may also invest in inverse floating rate debt instruments ("inverse floaters"). The interest rate on an inverse floater resets in the opposite direction from the market rate of interest to which the inverse floater is indexed. An inverse floating rate security may exhibit greater price volatility than a fixed rate obligation of similar credit quality. See "Mortgage-Related and Other Asset-Backed Securities" for a discussion of IOs and POs.

**WHEN-ISSUED, DELAYED DELIVERY AND FORWARD COMMITMENT TRANSACTIONS.** The Funds may purchase or sell securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis. When such purchases are outstanding, a Fund will segregate or “ earmark” until the settlement date assets determined to be liquid by the Adviser in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Trustees, in an amount sufficient to meet the purchase price. Typically, no income accrues on securities a Fund has committed to purchase prior to the time delivery of the securities is made, although the Fund may earn income on securities it has segregated or “ earmarked.”

When purchasing a security on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis, a Fund assumes the rights and risks of ownership of the security, including the risk of price and yield fluctuations and takes such fluctuations into account when determining its NAV. Because a Fund is not required to pay for the security until the delivery date, these risks are in addition to the risks associated with the Fund’s other investments. If the Fund remains substantially fully invested at a time when when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment purchases are outstanding, the purchases may result in a form of leverage.

When a Fund has sold a security on a when-issued, delayed delivery, or forward commitment basis, the Fund does not participate in future gains or losses with respect to the security. If the other party to a transaction fails to deliver or pay for the securities, the Fund could miss a favorable price or yield opportunity or could suffer a loss. The Fund may dispose of or renegotiate a transaction after it is entered into and may sell when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment securities before they are delivered, which may result in a capital gain or loss. There is no percentage limitation on the extent to which a Fund may purchase or sell securities on a when-issued, delayed delivery or forward commitment basis.

**ZERO COUPON BONDS.** The Funds may invest in zero coupon bonds of governmental or private issuers that generally pay no interest to their holders prior to maturity. Since zero coupon bonds do not make regular interest payments, they allow an issuer to avoid the need to generate cash to meet current interest payments and may involve greater credit risks than bonds paying interest currently. The IRC requires that a Fund accrue income on zero coupon bonds for each taxable year, even though no cash has been paid on the bonds, and generally requires a Fund to distribute such income (net of deductible expenses, if any) to avoid being subject to tax and to continue to maintain its status as a RIC under the IRC. Because no cash is generally received at the time of accrual, a Fund may be required to sell investments (even if such sales are not advantageous) to obtain sufficient cash to satisfy the federal tax distribution requirements applicable to the Fund under the IRC. See “Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” below for additional information.

**TEMPORARY DEFENSIVE POSITIONS.** The Funds may, without limit, invest in U.S. Government securities, commercial paper and other money market instruments, money market funds, cash or cash equivalents in response to adverse market conditions, as a temporary defensive position. The result of this action may be that the Funds will be unable to achieve its investment objective.

**PORTFOLIO TURNOVER.** The Funds may engage in short-term trading to try and achieve its investment objective, and accordingly may have portfolio turnover rates in excess of 100%. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to a fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once during the course of a year. How long the Funds hold a security in their portfolio is generally not a factor in making buy and sell decisions. Increased portfolio turnover may cause a Fund to incur higher brokerage costs, which may adversely affect the Fund’s performance, and may produce increased taxable distributions. Distributions resulting from short-term trading may be taxed at less favorable rates.

## **DISCLOSURE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS**

As required by the federal or state securities laws, including the 1940 Act, the Funds disclose portfolio holdings in applicable regulatory filings, including shareholder reports, reports on Form N-CSR and Form N-PORT or such other filings, reports or disclosure documents as the applicable regulatory authorities may require. A Fund’s complete list of portfolio holdings are available sixty days after each fiscal quarter end in the Funds’ Form N-CSR (semiannually), and Form N-PORT (quarterly).

The Board of Trustees has adopted policies and procedures regarding the selective disclosure of portfolio securities holdings. The policies and procedures are designed to allow disclosure of a Fund’s holdings information where it is deemed appropriate for the Fund’s operations or it is determined to be useful to the Fund’s shareholders without compromising the integrity or performance of the Fund. Except when there are legitimate business purposes for selective disclosure of a Fund’s holdings, the Funds will not provide or permit others to provide information about a Fund’s holdings on a selective basis. The Board of Trustees provides ongoing oversight of the Trust’s policies and procedures and compliance with such policies and procedures. As part of this oversight function, the Trustees receive from the Trust’s Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”) as necessary, reports on compliance with these policies and procedures. In addition, the Trustees receive an annual assessment of the adequacy and effectiveness of the policies and procedures with respect to the Funds, and any changes thereto, and an annual review of the operation of the policies and procedures. Any deviation to this policy as well as any corrective action undertaken to address such deviations must be reported to the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”), at its next quarterly Board meeting or sooner, as determined by the Trust’s CCO.

A Fund may, but is not required to, post its schedule of investments on its website at regular intervals or from time to time at the discretion of the Adviser. This information may be as of the most recent practicable date available and need not be subject to a lag period prior to its posting on the website. In addition to its schedule of investments, the Funds may post portfolio holdings information and other information on a website including, but not limited to, information about the number of securities a Fund holds, a summary schedule of investments, the Fund's top holdings, and a percentage breakdown of the Fund's investments by geographic region, sector, industry and market capitalization. After any portfolio holdings information becomes publicly available (by posting on the website or otherwise); it may be mailed, e-mailed or otherwise transmitted to any person.

The following disclosures of aggregate, composite or descriptive information about the Funds or their portfolio holdings are not subject to the Trust's policy on selective disclosure of portfolio information: (i) descriptions of allocations among classes, geographic regions, countries, industries or sectors; (ii) aggregated data such as average or median ratios or market capitalization; (iii) performance attribution by class, geographic region, country, industry or sector; (iv) aggregated risk statistics; (v) listing of top holdings without any reference to the amount of a Fund's holdings; and (vi) such other information that, in the opinion of the CCO or designee, does not present material risks of dilution, arbitrage, market timing, insider trading or other inappropriate trading of the Funds. A Fund's portfolio holdings may also be disclosed, upon authorization by a designated officer of the Adviser, to financial consultants or other entities that have a legitimate business purpose in receiving such information, including to assist them in determining the suitability of the Funds as an investment for their clients. In each case, such disclosure will be made in accordance with the anti-fraud provisions of the federal securities laws, the Adviser's fiduciary duties to a Fund's shareholders and subject to a confidentiality agreement and/or trading restrictions.

Disclosures to financial consultants are also subject to a confidentiality agreement and/or trading restrictions.

The Board of Trustees of the Trust, a committee thereof, or an officer designated by the Board, may, in limited circumstances, permit other selective disclosure of portfolio holdings subject to a confidentiality agreement and/or trading restrictions.

A Fund may distribute or authorize the distribution of information about its holdings that is not publicly available (on a website or otherwise) to the Fund's, or the Adviser's, employees and affiliates that provide services to the Funds. A Fund may also distribute or authorize the distribution of information about a Fund's holdings that is not publicly available (on a website or otherwise) to the Funds' service providers who require access to the information (i) in order to fulfill their contractual duties relating to the Funds; (ii) to facilitate the transition of a newly hired investment adviser prior to the commencement of its duties; (iii) to facilitate the review of the Funds by a ranking or ratings agency; (iv) for the purpose of due diligence regarding a merger or acquisition; or (v) for the purpose of effecting in-kind redemption of securities to facilitate orderly redemption of a Fund's assets and minimize impact on remaining shareholders of a Fund.

Each of the following third parties has been approved to receive portfolio holdings information: (i) the Funds' administrator and accounting agent; (ii) the Funds' independent registered public accounting firm, for use in providing audit opinions; (iii) financial printers, solely for the purpose of preparing the Funds' reports or regulatory filings; (iv) the Funds' custodian in connection with their custody of the Funds' assets; (v) if applicable, a proxy voting service; or (vi) disclosure to a ranking or rating agency, such as Lipper, Inc., Morningstar, Inc., Moody's, S&P and Fitch. Information may be provided to these parties at any time so long as each of these parties is contractually and ethically prohibited from sharing the Funds' portfolio holding information without specific authorization. The Adviser and service providers have also established procedures to ensure that the Funds' portfolio holdings information is only disclosed in accordance with these policies.

Under no circumstances may the Funds, or the Adviser or their affiliates receive any consideration or compensation for disclosing portfolio holdings information.

## **INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS**

The Funds have adopted the investment limitations set forth below. Except with respect to the asset coverage requirement under Section 18(f)(1) of the 1940 Act with respect to borrowing, if any percentage restriction on investment or utilization of assets set forth in the Prospectus or this SAI is adhered to at the time an investment is made, a later change in percentage resulting from a change in the market values of a Fund or a Fund's assets or redemptions of shares will not be considered a violation of the limitation. The asset coverage requirement under Section 18(f)(1) of the 1940 Act with respect to borrowings is an ongoing requirement. The following Fundamental policies apply to the Funds and the Board of Trustees may not change them without shareholder approval. A Fund will not:

1. Issue senior securities, except as permitted under the 1940 Act and the rules and regulations thereunder;
2. Borrow money, except as permitted under the 1940 Act and the rules and regulations thereunder;
3. Underwrite any issue of securities, except to the extent that the Fund may be considered to be acting as underwriter in connection with the purchase or sale of any portfolio security;

4. Purchase or sell real estate, although the Fund may purchase securities of issuers which deal in real estate, securities which are secured by interests in real estate, and securities which represent interests in real estate, and the Fund may acquire and dispose of real estate or interests in real estate acquired through the exercise of its rights as a holder of debt obligations secured by real estate or interests therein;
5. Purchase or sell commodities, unless acquired as a result of ownership of securities or other instruments; however, this restriction shall not prevent the Fund from engaging in transactions involving swaps, futures contracts, forward contracts, options or other derivative instruments, investing in securities that are secured by commodities or investing in companies or other entities that are engaged in a commodities or commodities trading business or that have a significant portion of their assets in commodities-related investments, subject to restrictions described in the Fund’s Prospectus and elsewhere in this SAI;
6. Make loans, except loans of portfolio securities or through repurchase agreements, provided that for purposes of this restriction, the acquisition of bonds, debentures, bank loans, other debt securities or instruments, or participations or other interests therein and investments in government obligations, commercial paper, certificates of deposit, bankers’ acceptances or similar instruments will not be considered the making of a loan; and
7. Invest 25% or more of the value of the Fund’s assets in securities of issuers in any one industry. This restriction does not apply to obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities or to securities issued by other investment companies. For purposes of this limitation, states, municipalities and their political subdivisions are not considered to be part of any industry;

Limitations (1) and (6) above shall be interpreted based upon no-action letters and other pronouncements of the staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). Under current pronouncements, certain Fund positions may be excluded from the definition of “senior security” so long as the Fund maintains adequate cover, segregation of assets or otherwise.

For the purposes of limitation (7) above, industry classifications are determined for the Funds in accordance with the industry or sub-industry classifications as defined by Level 4 of the ICE BofA Index industry classification system. The Funds may use other classification titles, standards and systems from time to time, as it determines. The use of any particular classification system is not a fundamental policy.

### TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

The following tables present certain information regarding the Board of Trustees and officers of the Trust. None of the Trustees are an “interested person” of the Trust, the Adviser, another investment adviser of a series of the Trust, or Foreside Funds Distributors LLC, the principal underwriter of the Trust (“Underwriter”), within the meaning of the 1940 Act and each Trustee is referred to as an “Independent Trustee” and is listed under such heading below. Employees of certain service providers to the Trust serve as officers of the Trust; such persons are not compensated by the Funds. The address of each Trustee and officer as it relates to the Trust’s business is 301 Bellevue Parkway, 2nd Floor, Wilmington, DE 19809.

Name and Date of Birth	Position(s) Held with Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years	Number of Funds in Trust Complex Overseen by Trustee	Other Directorships Held by Trustee
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#### INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES

<b>Robert J. Christian</b> Date of Birth: 2/49	Trustee	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Trustee since 2007. Chairman from 2007 until September 30, 2019.	Retired since February 2006; Executive Vice President of Wilmington Trust Company from February 1996 to February 2006; President of Rodney Square Management Corporation (“RSMC”) (investment advisory firm) from 1996 to 2005; Vice President of RSMC from 2005 to 2006.	43	Optimum Fund Trust (registered investment company with 6 portfolios); Third Avenue Trust (registered investment company with 4 portfolios); Third Avenue Variable Series Trust (registered investment company with 1 portfolio).
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<b>Name and Date of Birth</b>	<b>Position(s) Held with Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>	<b>Number of Funds in Trust Complex Overseen by Trustee</b>	<b>Other Directorships Held by Trustee</b>
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**INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES**

<b>Iqbal Mansur</b> Date of Birth: 6/55	Trustee	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Trustee since 2007.	Retired since September 2020; Professor of Finance, Widener University from 1998 to August 2020.	43	Third Avenue Trust (registered investment company with 4 portfolios); Third Avenue Variable Series Trust (registered investment company with 1 portfolio).
<b>Nicholas M. Marsini, Jr.</b> Date of Birth: 8/55	Trustee and Chairman of the Board	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Trustee since 2016. Chairman since October 1, 2019.	Retired since March 2016. President of PNC Bank Delaware from June 2011 to March 2016; Executive Vice President of Finance of BNY Mellon from July 2010 to January 2011; Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of PNC Global Investment Servicing from September 1997 to July 2010.	43	Brinker Capital Destinations Trust (registered investment company with 10 portfolios); Third Avenue Trust (registered investment company with 4 portfolios); Third Avenue Variable Series Trust (registered investment company with 1 portfolio).
<b>Nancy B. Wolcott</b> Date of Birth: 11/54	Trustee	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Trustee since 2011.	Retired since May 2014; EVP, Head of GFI Client Service Delivery, BNY Mellon from January 2012 to May 2014; EVP, Head of US Funds Services, BNY Mellon from July 2010 to January 2012; President of PNC Global Investment Servicing from 2008 to July 2010; Chief Operating Officer of PNC Global Investment Servicing from 2007 to 2008; Executive Vice President of PFPC Worldwide Inc. from 2006 to 2007.	43	Lincoln Variable Insurance Products Trust (registered investment company with 97 portfolios); Third Avenue Trust (registered investment company with 4 portfolios); Third Avenue Variable Series Trust (registered investment company with 1 portfolio).
<b>Stephen M. Wynne</b> Date of Birth: 1/55	Trustee	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Trustee since 2009.	Retired since December 2010; Chief Executive Officer of US Funds Services, BNY Mellon Asset Servicing from July 2010 to December 2010; Chief Executive Officer of PNC Global Investment Servicing from March 2008 to July 2010; President, PNC Global Investment Servicing from 2003 to 2008.	43	Copeland Trust (registered investment company with 2 portfolios); Third Avenue Trust (registered investment company with 4 portfolios); Third Avenue Variable Series Trust (registered investment company with 1 portfolio).

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Name and Date of Birth	Position(s) Held with Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years
<b>Joel L. Weiss</b> Date of Birth: 1/63	President and Chief Executive Officer	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Officer since 2007.	President of JW Funds Management LLC since June 2016; Vice President and Managing Director of BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. and predecessor firms from 1993 to June 2016.
<b>T. Richard Keyes</b> Date of Birth: 1/57	Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Officer since 2016.	President of TRK Funds Consulting LLC since July 2016; Head of Tax — U.S. Fund Services of BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. and predecessor firms from February 2006 to July 2016.
<b>Gabriella Mercincavage</b> Date of Birth: 6/68	Assistant Treasurer	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Officer since 2019.	Fund Administration Consultant since January 2019; Fund Accounting and Tax Compliance Accountant to financial services companies from November 2003 to July 2018.
<b>Vincenzo A. Scarduzio</b> Date of Birth: 4/72	Secretary	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Officer since 2012.	Director and Vice President Regulatory Administration of The Bank of New York Mellon and predecessor firms since 2001.
<b>Guy F. Talarico</b> Date of Birth: 8/55	Chief Compliance Officer and Anti-Money Laundering Officer	Shall serve until death, resignation or removal. Officer since 2020.	Chief Executive Officer of Alaric Compliance Services LLC since June 2004.

**LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES.** The basic responsibilities of the Trustees are to monitor the Trust and its Funds’ financial operations and performance, oversee the activities and legal compliance of the Adviser and other major service providers, keep themselves informed, and exercise their business judgment in making decisions important to the Trust’s proper functioning based on what the Trustees reasonably believe to be in the best interests of the shareholders. The Board of Trustees is comprised of five individuals, each of whom is an Independent Trustee. The Board of Trustees meets multiple times during the year (but at least quarterly) to review the investment performance of the Funds and other operational matters, including policies and procedures with respect to compliance with regulatory and other requirements.

The Board of Trustees has appointed an Independent Trustee to serve in the role of Chairman. The Chairman’s primary role is to participate in the preparation of the agenda for meetings of the Board of Trustees and the identification of information to be presented to the Board of Trustees with respect to matters to be acted upon by the Board of Trustees. The Chairman also presides at all meetings of the Board of Trustees and acts as a liaison with service providers, officers, attorneys, and other Trustees generally between meetings. The Chairman may perform such other functions as may be requested by the Board of Trustees from time to time. Except for any duties specified herein or pursuant to the Trust’s Declaration of Trust or By-Laws, the designation of Chairman does not impose on such Independent Trustee any duties, obligations or liability that is greater than the duties, obligations or liability imposed on such person as a member of the Board of Trustees, generally.

Each Trustee was appointed to serve on the Board of Trustees because of his or her experience, qualifications, attributes and/or skills as set forth in the subsection “Trustee Qualifications,” below. Based on a review of the Board of Trustees and its function, the Trustees have determined that the leadership structure of the Board of Trustees is appropriate and that the Board of Trustees’ role in the risk oversight of the Trust, as discussed below, allows the Board of Trustees to effectively administer its oversight function.

The Board of Trustees has an Audit Committee and a Nominating and Governance Committee. The responsibilities of each committee and its members are described below.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE.** The Audit Committee is comprised of Messrs. Christian, Mansur and Wynne, each of whom is an Independent Trustee. Mr. Wynne serves as the chairman of the Audit Committee. The Board of Trustees has adopted a written charter (the “Audit Committee Charter”) for the Audit Committee. Pursuant to the Audit Committee Charter, the Audit Committee has the responsibility, among others, to (1) select the Trust’s independent registered public accountants; (2) review and approve the scope of the independent registered public accountants’ audit activity; (3) oversee the audit process of the financial statements which are the subject of the independent registered public accountants’ certifications; and (4) review with such independent registered public accountants the

adequacy of the Trust's basic accounting system and the effectiveness of the Trust's internal accounting controls. The Audit Committee meets at least two times per year. The Audit Committee met four times during the Funds' fiscal year ended April 30, 2022.

**NOMINATING AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE.** The Nominating and Governance Committee is comprised of Messrs. Christian, Mansur and Ms. Wolcott. Mr. Mansur serves as the chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee. The Board of Trustees has adopted a written charter for the Nominating and Governance Committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee is responsible for formulating a statement of corporate governance; assessing the size, structure and composition of the Board of Trustees; determining trustee qualification guidelines as well as compensation, insurance and indemnification of Trustees; identifying Trustee candidates; oversight of Board of Trustees self-evaluations; reviewing certain regulatory and corporate matters of the Trust; and identifying, from time to time, qualified candidates to serve as the CCO for the Trust. The Nominating and Governance Committee meets at least once a year. The Nominating and Governance Committee met two times during the Funds' fiscal year ended April 30, 2022. The Nominating and Governance Committee identifies potential nominees in accordance with its Statement of Policy on Qualifications for Board of Trustees Membership. The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider nominee candidates recommended by shareholders. Shareholders who wish to recommend individuals for consideration by the Nominating and Governance Committee as nominee candidates may do so by submitting a written recommendation to the Secretary of the Trust at: 301 Bellevue Parkway, 2nd Floor, Wilmington, DE 19809. Submissions must include sufficient biographical information concerning the recommended individual, including age, at least ten years of employment history with employer names and a description of the employer's business, and a list of board memberships (if any).

The submission must be accompanied by a written consent of the individual to stand for election if nominated by the Board of Trustees and to serve if elected. Recommendations must be received in a sufficient time, as determined by the Nominating and Governance Committee in its sole discretion, prior to the date proposed for the consideration of nominee candidates by the Board of Trustees. Upon the written request of shareholders holding at least a 5% interest in the Trust's shares in the aggregate, the Secretary shall present to any special meeting of shareholders such nominees for election as trustees as specified in such written request.

**TRUSTEE QUALIFICATIONS.** The following is a brief discussion of the experience, qualifications, attributes and/or skills that led to the Board of Trustees' conclusion that each individual identified below is qualified to serve as a Trustee of the Trust.

The Board of Trustees believes that the Trustees' ability to review critically, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, to interact effectively with the Adviser, other service providers, counsel and independent auditors, and to exercise effective business judgment in the performance of their duties, support the conclusion that each Trustee is qualified to serve as a Trustee of the Trust. In addition, the following specific experience, qualifications, attributes and/or skills apply as to each Trustee: Mr. Marsini is the former President of PNC Bank Delaware, former Executive Vice President of Finance of BNY Mellon, former Chief Financial Officer of PNC Global Investment Servicing and currently serves as a Trustee to other mutual Funds complexes; Mr. Wynne is the former Chief Executive Officer of US Funds Services, BNY Mellon Asset Servicing, former Chief Executive Officer of PNC Global Investment Servicing and currently serves as a Trustee to other mutual Funds complexes; Ms. Wolcott is the former Executive Vice President of US Funds Services, BNY Mellon Asset Servicing, former President of PNC Global Investment Servicing and currently serves as a Trustee of other mutual Funds complexes; Mr. Christian served as the Executive Vice President of Wilmington Trust and currently serves as a Trustee to other mutual Funds complexes; and Mr. Mansur is a Professor Emeritus at Widener University. He previously served as a Professor of Finance, School of Business Administration, at Widener University and currently serves as a Trustee to other mutual fund complexes.

In its periodic self-assessment of the effectiveness of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Trustees considers the complementary individual skills and experience of the individual Trustees primarily in the broader context of the Board of Trustees' overall composition so that the Board of Trustees, as a body, possesses the appropriate (and appropriately diverse) skills and experience to oversee the business of the Trust and its Funds. The summaries set forth above as to the experience, qualifications, attributes and/or skills of the Trustees do not constitute holding out the Board of Trustees or any Trustee as having any special expertise or experience, and do not impose any greater responsibility or liability on any such person or on the Board of Trustees as a whole than would otherwise be the case.

**RISK OVERSIGHT.** Through its direct oversight role, and indirectly through its Committees, of officers and service providers, the Board of Trustees performs a risk oversight function for the Trust and its Funds consisting, among other things, of the following activities: (1) at regular and special Board of Trustees meetings, and on an ad hoc basis as needed, receiving and reviewing reports related to the performance and operations of the Trust and its Funds; (2) reviewing and approving, as applicable, the compliance policies and procedures of the Trust; (3) meeting with the portfolio management team to review investment strategies, techniques and the processes used to manage related risks; (4) meeting with representatives of key service providers, including the investment advisers, administrator, the distributor, the transfer agent, the custodian and the independent registered public accounting firms of the Funds, to review and discuss the activities of the Trust and its Funds and to provide direction with respect thereto; and (5) engaging the services of the Chief Compliance Officer of the Trust to test the compliance procedures of the Trust and its service providers.

**SECURITY AND OTHER INTERESTS.** The following table sets forth the equity securities in the Funds and in all registered investment companies overseen by the Trustees within the Trust Complex that the Trustees beneficially owned as of the date of this SAI.

Name of Trustee	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Funds	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in All Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee within the Family of Investment Companies
<b>Independent Trustees</b>		
Robert J. Christian	None	Over \$100,000
Iqbal Mansur	None	Over \$100,000
Nicholas M. Marsini, Jr.	None	None
Nancy B. Wolcott	None	None
Stephen M. Wynne	None	\$50,001 - \$100,000

As of December 31, 2021, none of the Independent Trustees, or any of their immediate family members (i.e., spouse or dependent children) served as an officer, director or was an employee of the Trust, the Adviser or the Underwriter, or of any of their respective affiliates. Nor do any of such persons serve as an officer or director or is an employee of any company controlled by or under common control with such entities. Additionally, as of the same date, none of the Independent Trustees or any of their immediate family members (i.e., spouse or dependent children) owned beneficially or of record any interest in the Adviser or the Underwriter, or in any person directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with such entities.

**COMPENSATION.** In addition to the fees below, the Trust reimburses the Trustees for their related business expenses. The following table sets forth the aggregate compensation paid to each of the Trustees for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2022.

Name of Trustee	Aggregate Compensation from the Trust	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of the Trust's Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits upon Retirement	Total Compensation from the Trust Complex
Robert J. Christian	\$ 108,791	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 108,791
Iqbal Mansur	\$ 123,720	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 123,720
Nicholas M. Marsini, Jr.	\$ 133,613	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 133,613
Nancy B. Wolcott	\$ 108,732	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 108,732
Stephen M. Wynne	\$ 128,636	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 128,636

### CODE OF ETHICS

In accordance with Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act, each of the Trust and the Adviser has adopted a code of ethics (each, a "Code" and together, the "Codes").

The Codes are intended to prohibit or restrict transactions that may be deemed to create a conflict of interest among the Adviser or the Trust. Each Code identifies the specific employees, officers or other persons who are subject thereto and all are required to abide by the provisions thereunder. Persons covered under the Codes may engage in personal trading for their own accounts, including securities that may also be purchased or held or traded by the Funds under certain circumstances.

Under the Code adopted by the Trust, personal trading is subject to specific restrictions, limitations, guidelines and other conditions. Under the Code adopted by the Adviser, personal trading is subject to pre-clearance and other conditions set forth in its Code.

On an annual basis or whenever deemed necessary, the Board of Trustees reviews reports regarding all of the Codes including information about any material violations of the Codes. The Codes are on public file as exhibits to the Trust's registration statement with the SEC.

## PROXY VOTING

The Board of Trustees has adopted the Adviser's proxy voting procedures and has delegated the responsibility for exercising the voting rights associated with the securities purchased and/or held by the Funds to the Adviser, subject to the Board of Trustees' continuing oversight. In exercising its voting obligations, the Adviser is guided by general fiduciary principles. It must act prudently, solely in the interest of a Fund, and for the purpose of providing benefits to the Fund. The Adviser will consider the factors that could affect the value of a Fund's investment in its determination on a vote.

The Adviser has identified certain significant contributors to shareholder value with respect to a number of common or routine matters that are often the subject of proxy solicitations for shareholder meetings. The proxy voting procedures address these considerations and establish a framework for consideration of a vote that would be appropriate for a Fund. In particular, the proxy voting procedures outline principles and factors to be considered in the exercise of voting authority for proposals addressing such common or routine matters.

The Adviser's proxy voting procedures establish a protocol for voting of proxies in cases in which the Adviser or an affiliated entity has an interest that is reasonably likely to be affected by a proxy to be voted on behalf of a Fund or that could compromise the Adviser's independence of judgment and action in voting the proxy in the best interest of a Fund's shareholders. The Adviser believes that consistently voting in accordance with its stated guidelines will address most conflicts of interest, and to the extent any deviation of such guidelines occurs it will be carefully assessed by a securities review committee to determine if a conflict of interest exists, and if a material conflict of interest exists, the committee will determine an appropriate resolution, which may include consultation with management or Trustees of the Trust, analyses by independent third parties, or other means necessary to ensure and demonstrate the proxy was voted in the best interests of shareholders. The Adviser's proxy voting policies and procedures are attached herewith as Appendix B. The Funds are required to file annually its proxy voting record on Form N-PX with the SEC. Form N-PX is required to be filed by August 31 of each year and when filed will be available without charge by request by calling either Fund at (888) 678-6024 or on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## CONTROL PERSONS AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS OF SECURITIES

A principal shareholder is any person who owns (either of record or beneficially) 5% or more of the outstanding shares of a Fund. Any person who directly or indirectly owns 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities of a Fund, may be deemed an "affiliated person" of such Fund, as such term is defined in the 1940 Act. A control person is one who owns, either directly or indirectly, more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. As of the date of this SAI, each Fund could be deemed under control of the Adviser or affiliates of the Adviser, who had voting authority with respect to approximately 100% of the value of the outstanding interest in the Fund on such date. However, the Trust believes that once each Fund commences investment operations and a Fund's shares are sold to the public, the Adviser's or its affiliates' control will be diluted over time. Additionally, as of the same date, none of the Trustees and officers of the Trust owned individually and together in excess of 1% of the outstanding shares of a Fund.

## INVESTMENT ADVISORY SERVICES

Polen Capital Credit, LLC ("Polen Credit" or the "Adviser") is a registered investment adviser headquartered at 1075 Main Street, Suite 320, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451. Polen Credit was founded in 1996 as DDJ Capital Management, LLC and, in addition to serving as the investment adviser to the Fund, provides portfolio management services to individuals, pension and profit sharing plans, other pooled investment vehicles, charitable organizations, state or municipal government agencies and other businesses. As of December 31, 2021, Polen Credit had approximately \$8.3 billion in assets under management. On January 31, 2022, Polen Capital Management, LLC ("Polen Capital"), 1825 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 300, Boca Raton, FL 33431, an investment adviser registered with the SEC, acquired 100% of the outstanding equity units of Polen Credit. Accordingly, as of such date, Polen Credit became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Polen Capital.

Pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement, the Adviser is entitled to receive an annual investment advisory fee, paid monthly, comprising 0.55% of the average daily net assets of the Upper Tier High Yield Fund and 0.65% of the average daily net assets of the Bank Loan Fund, respectively. Each class of shares of a Fund bears its respective pro-rata portion of the advisory fee payable by a Fund. The Adviser has contractually agreed to reduce its investment advisory fee and/or reimburse certain expenses of each Fund to the extent necessary to ensure that a Fund's total operating expenses (excluding taxes, fees and expenses attributable to a distribution or service plan adopted by the Trust, interest, extraordinary items, "Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses" and brokerage commissions) do not exceed 0.65% (with respect to the Upper Tier High Yield Fund) and 0.75% (with respect to the Bank Loan Fund) (on an annual basis) with respect to such Fund's average daily net assets (the "Expense Limitation"). The Expense Limitation will remain in place until August 31, 2023 unless the Board of Trustees of FundVantage Trust (the "Trust") approves its earlier termination. The Adviser is entitled to recover, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees, any fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed by the Adviser with respect to a Fund for a three-year period following the date of such waiver and/or expense reimbursement. The Adviser is permitted to seek reimbursement from a Fund, subject to certain limitations, for fees it waived and Fund expenses it paid to the extent the total annual Fund operating

expenses do not exceed the limits described above or any lesser limits in effect at the time of reimbursement. No recoupment will occur unless a Fund's expenses are below the Expense Limitation amount.

Under the terms of the Investment Advisory Agreement, the Adviser agrees to: (a) direct the investments of each Fund, subject to and in accordance with each Fund's investment objective, policies and limitations set forth in the Prospectus and this SAI; (b) purchase and sell for each Fund, securities and other investments consistent with the Fund's objective and policies; (c) supply office facilities, equipment and personnel necessary for servicing the investments of the Funds; (d) pay the salaries of all personnel of the Adviser performing services relating to research, statistical and investment activities on behalf of the Trust; (e) make available and provide such information as the Trust and/or its administrator may reasonably request for use in the preparation of its registration statement, reports and other documents required by any applicable federal, foreign or state statutes or regulations; and (f) make its officers and employees available to the Trustees and officers of the Trust for consultation and discussion regarding the management of the Funds and their investment activities. Additionally, the Adviser agrees to create and maintain all necessary records in accordance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations pertaining to the various functions performed by it and not otherwise created and maintained by another party pursuant to contract with the Funds. The Trust and/or the Adviser may at any time or times, upon approval by the Board of Trustees, enter into one or more sub-advisory agreements with a sub-adviser pursuant to which the Adviser delegates any or all of its duties as listed.

The Investment Advisory Agreement provides that the Adviser shall not be liable for any error of judgment or mistake of law or for any loss suffered by a Fund in connection with the matters to which the agreement relates, except to the extent of a loss resulting from willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on its part in the performance of its obligations and duties under the agreement.

The salaries of personnel of the Adviser performing services for the Funds relating to research, statistical and investment activities are paid by the Adviser.

Polen Credit is wholly-owned and controlled by Polen Capital. Polen Capital is controlled by its Management Committee. The Management Committee is comprised of Stan C. Moss, CEO, Daniel Davidowitz, Portfolio Manager and Analyst, and Damon Ficklin, Head of Team, Portfolio Manager and Analyst, and the Management Committee is controlled by Messrs. Moss and Davidowitz

## PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

The management of each Fund is the responsibility of a group of investment professionals employed by the Adviser. The information provided below supplements the information provided in the Prospectus under the heading "Portfolio Managers" with respect to the investment professionals responsible, either individually or jointly, for the day-to-day management of the Funds, including information regarding:

- (i) "Other Accounts Managed." Other accounts managed by the portfolio managers and the management team members responsible for the day-to-day management of the Funds as of the date of this SAI;
- (ii) "Material Conflicts of Interest." Material conflicts of interest identified by the Adviser that may arise in connection with each portfolio manager's management of a Fund's investments and investments of other accounts managed. These potential conflicts of interest include material conflicts between the investment strategy of a Fund and the investment strategy of the other accounts managed by each portfolio manager and conflicts associated with the allocation of investment opportunities between the Funds and other accounts managed by each portfolio manager. Additional conflicts of interest may potentially exist or arise that are not discussed below;
- (iii) "Compensation." A description of the structure of and method used to determine the compensation received by the portfolio managers or management team members from a Fund, the Adviser or any other source with respect to managing a Fund and any other accounts as of the date of this SAI; and
- (iv) "Ownership of Securities." Information regarding each portfolio manager's dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned in the Funds as of the date of this SAI.

Other Accounts Managed. The table below includes details regarding the number of other registered investment companies, other pooled investment vehicles and other accounts managed by the portfolio managers, total assets under management for each type of account and total assets in each type of account with performance-based advisory fees as of April 30, 2022:

<b>POLEN UPPER TIER HIGH YIELD FUND</b>					
<b>Type of Accounts</b>	<b>Total Number of Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Total Assets (millions)</b>	<b>Number of Accounts Managed subject to a Performance Based Advisory Fee</b>	<b>Performance Based Advisory Fee (millions)</b>	<b>Total Assets Managed subject to a Performance Based Advisory Fee (millions)</b>
<b>David J. Breazzano</b>					
Other Registered Investment Companies <sup>(1)</sup> :	4	\$ 1,604	0	\$ 0	0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles <sup>(2)</sup> :	1	\$ 298	0	\$ 0	0
Other Accounts <sup>(3)</sup> :	19	\$ 4,905	0	\$ 0	1,157
<b>Roman Rjanikov</b>					
Other Registered Investment Companies:	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles:	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	0
Other Accounts <sup>(3)</sup> :	3	\$ 1,606	0	\$ 0	0

<b>POLEN BANK LOAN FUND</b>					
<b>Type of Accounts</b>	<b>Total Number of Accounts Managed</b>	<b>Total Assets (millions)</b>	<b>Number of Accounts Managed subject to a Performance Based Advisory Fee</b>	<b>Performance Based Advisory Fee (millions)</b>	<b>Total Assets Managed subject to a Performance Based Advisory Fee (millions)</b>
<b>John Sherman</b>					
Other Registered Investment Companies <sup>(1)</sup> :	4	\$ 1,604	0	\$ 0	0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles <sup>(2)</sup> :	2	\$ 345	1	\$ 47	47
Other Accounts <sup>(3)</sup> :	24	\$ 4,487	8	\$ 1,707	1,707
<b>Benjamin Santonelli</b>					
Other Registered Investment Companies <sup>(1)</sup> :	4	\$ 1,604	0	\$ 0	0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles <sup>(2)</sup> :	2	\$ 345	1	\$ 47	47
Other Accounts <sup>(3)</sup> :	24	\$ 4,487	8	\$ 1,707	1,707

(1) Represents the Adviser's mutual fund portfolios (either advised or sub-advised) that are registered with the SEC. Two legacy sub-advised mutual fund portfolios that remain in winddown as of April 30, 2022 and with de minimis assets under management have been excluded.

(2) Represents the Adviser's proprietary commingled vehicles (excluding any funds managed by the Adviser on behalf of a single investor or affiliated group of investors).

(3) Represents the Adviser's separately managed portfolios that are not advised or sub-advised for registered investment companies (as well as funds managed by the Adviser on behalf of a single investor or an affiliated group of investors). Legacy accounts presently in winddown and with insignificant assets under management have been excluded.

Material Conflicts of Interest. Polen Credit provides advisory services to other clients which invest in securities of the same type in which the Funds invests. The Adviser is aware of its obligation to ensure that when orders for the same securities are entered on behalf of a Fund and other accounts, a Fund receives fair and equitable allocation of these orders, particularly where affiliated accounts may participate. The Adviser attempts to mitigate potential conflicts of interest by adopting policies and procedures regarding trade execution, brokerage allocation and order aggregation which provide a methodology for ensuring fair treatment for all clients in situations where orders cannot be completely filled or filled at different prices.

Compensation. The Adviser compensates the Funds' portfolio managers for management of the Funds. Each portfolio manager's compensation consists of (i) a base salary, (ii) a year-end bonus and (iii) awards of equity ("Equity Interests") in the Adviser, including direct Equity Interests and/or phantom Equity Interests, entitling each portfolio manager to a proportionate year-end distribution of the Adviser's net profits. The Adviser's compensation strategy is to provide reasonable base salaries commensurate with an individual's responsibility and provide performance bonus awards. Total compensation of the Funds' portfolio managers is not related to a Funds' performance.

Ownership of Shares of the Funds. As of the date of this SAI, the Funds did not yet commence investment operations or issue shares.

### **ADMINISTRATION AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES**

Pursuant to an Administration and Accounting Services Agreement dated July 19, 2007, The Bank of New York Mellon performs certain administrative services for the Trust including, among other things, assisting in the preparation of the annual post-effective amendments to the Trust's registration statement, assisting in obtaining the fidelity bond and trustees' and officers'/errors and omissions insurance policies, preparing notices, agendas, and resolutions for quarterly Board of Trustees meetings, maintaining the Trust's corporate calendar, maintaining Trust contract files and providing executive and administrative services to support the Independent Trustees. The Bank of New York Mellon also performs certain administrative and accounting services for the Trust such as preparing shareholder reports, providing statistical and research data, assisting the Adviser in compliance monitoring activities, and preparing and filing federal and state tax returns on behalf of the Trust. In addition, The Bank of New York Mellon prepares and files certain reports with the appropriate regulatory agencies and prepares certain materials required by the SEC or any state securities commission having jurisdiction over the Trust. The accounting services performed by The Bank of New York Mellon include determining the NAV per share of the Funds and maintaining records relating to the securities transactions of the Funds.

### **ADDITIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS**

**INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM.** PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Two Commerce Square, Suite 1800, 2001 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, serves as the independent registered public accounting firm to the Funds.

**LEGAL COUNSEL.** Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP, 3000 Two Logan Square, 18th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19103, serves as counsel to the Trust.

**CUSTODIAN.** The Bank of New York Mellon (the "Custodian"), 240 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10286, serves as the Funds' custodian. The Custodian's services include, in addition to the custody of all cash and securities owned by the Trust, the maintenance of custody accounts in the Custodian's trust department, the segregation of all certificated securities owned by the Trust, the appointment of authorized agents as sub-custodians, disbursement of funds from the custody accounts of the Trust, releasing and delivering securities from the custody accounts of the Trust, maintaining records with respect to such custody accounts, delivering to the Trust a daily and monthly statement with respect to such custody accounts and causing proxies to be executed. The Funds have made arrangements with BNY Mellon Servicing Trust Company to serve as custodian for Individual Retirement Accounts ("IRAs").

**TRANSFER AGENT.** BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc. ("BNY Mellon Investment Servicing"), 4400 Computer Drive, Westborough, MA 01581, serves as the Trust's Transfer Agent and Dividend Paying Agent.

**OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS.** The Trust has engaged JW Funds Management, LLC, 100 Springdale Rd. Suite A3-416, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 to provide persons to serve as Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer and provide various other services for the Trust. The Trust has engaged Alaric Compliance Services LLC to provide on-going compliance services, including providing an individual to serve as the Chief Compliance Officer and Anti-Money Laundering Officer for the Trust.



## **BROKERAGE ALLOCATION AND OTHER PRACTICES**

Subject to policies established by the Board of Trustees, the Adviser is primarily responsible for the execution of the Funds' portfolio transactions and the allocation of brokerage. The Adviser has no obligation to deal with any dealer or group of dealers in the execution of transactions in portfolio securities of the Funds. The Adviser often deals directly with the dealers who make a market in the securities involved except in those circumstances where better prices and execution are available elsewhere. It is the objective of the Adviser to seek to obtain the best results in conducting portfolio transactions for the Funds, taking into account such factors as price (including the applicable dealer-spread or commission), the size, type and difficulty of the transaction involved, the firm's general execution and operations facilities and the firm's risk in positioning the securities involved. The cost of portfolio securities transactions of the Funds primarily consists of dealer or underwriter spreads and brokerage commissions.

While reasonable competitive spreads or commissions are sought, the Funds will not necessarily be paying the lowest spread or commission available. Subject to obtaining the best net results, dealers who provide supplemental investment research (such as quantitative and modeling information assessments and statistical data and provide other similar services) to the Adviser may receive orders for transactions by the Funds. Information so received will be in addition to and not in lieu of the services required to be performed by the Adviser under the Investment Advisory Agreement and the expense of the Adviser will not necessarily be reduced as a result of the receipt of such supplemental information. Supplemental investment research obtained from such dealers may be used by the Adviser in servicing all of its accounts and such research may or may not be useful to the Adviser in connection with the Funds. In addition, as permitted by Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Adviser may pay a broker-dealer that provides brokerage and research services an amount of commission for effecting a securities transaction for the Funds in excess of the commission that another broker-dealer would have charged for effecting that transaction if the amount is believed by the Adviser to be reasonable in relation to the value of the overall quality of the brokerage and research services provided. Other clients of the Adviser may indirectly benefit from the provision of these services to the Adviser, and the Funds may indirectly benefit from services provided to the Adviser as a result of transactions for other clients. In all cases, the Adviser understands its on-going obligation to seek "best execution" of its clients' transactions. The Adviser considers the range of services provided by brokers in selecting those with whom to place trades including, but not limited to, value of research, commission rate, execution capability, responsiveness, and financial responsibility. In general, the Adviser receives a limited amount of research and/ or brokerage services paid for by brokers. The Adviser has a Best Execution Committee consisting of representatives from trading, operations, portfolio management team and investment research and compliance. The Best Execution Committee meets quarterly and is responsible for overseeing the Adviser's trading activities in accordance with the firm's Best Execution and Soft Dollar Policy and Procedures. Annually, the Best Execution Committee evaluates brokerage relationships and allocates commissions. Such evaluation considers many factors in making allocation decisions including research services provided. Such allocations are reviewed and, if necessary, revised quarterly. The Funds invest in securities traded in the over-the-counter markets, and the Funds often deal directly with dealers who make markets in the securities involved, except in those circumstances where better execution is available elsewhere. Under the 1940 Act, except as permitted by exemptive order or rule, persons affiliated with the Funds are prohibited from dealing with the Funds as principal in the purchase and sale of securities. However, affiliated persons of the Funds may serve as its brokers in certain over-the-counter transactions conducted on an agency basis.

Securities held by the Funds may also be held by, or be appropriate investments for, other funds or investment advisory clients for which the Adviser or its affiliates act as an adviser. Because of different investment objectives or other factors, a particular security may be bought for an advisory client when other clients are selling the same security. If purchases or sales of securities by the Adviser for the Funds or other funds for which it acts as investment adviser or for other advisory clients arise for consideration at or about the same time, transactions in such securities may be made, insofar as are feasible, for the respective funds and clients in a manner deemed by the Adviser to be on a fair and equitable basis. Transactions effected by the Adviser (or its affiliates) on behalf of more than one of its clients during the same period may increase the demand for securities being purchased or the supply of securities being sold, causing an adverse effect on price.

Neither the Funds nor the Adviser has an agreement or understanding with a broker-dealer, or other arrangements to direct the Funds' brokerage transactions to a broker-dealer because of the research services such broker provides to the Funds or the Adviser. While the Adviser does not have arrangements with any broker-dealers to direct such brokerage transactions to them because of research services provided, the Adviser may receive research services from such broker-dealers. The Funds may at times invest in securities of its regular broker-dealers or a parent of its regular broker-dealers.

## **ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION TO FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

The additional compensation to financial intermediaries described in the Prospectus may be calculated based on factors determined by the Adviser and its affiliates from time to time, including: the value of a Fund's shares sold to, or held by, a financial intermediary's customers; gross sales of a Fund's shares by a financial intermediary; or a negotiated lump sum payment.

In addition to the additional cash payments to financial intermediaries described in the Prospectus, subject to applicable FINRA rules and regulations, the Adviser and its affiliates may provide compensation to financial intermediaries that may enable the Adviser and its affiliates to sponsor or participate in educational or training programs, sales contests and other promotions involving the sales representatives and other employees of financial intermediaries in order to promote the sale of the Funds' shares. The Adviser and its affiliates may also pay for the travel expenses, meals, lodging and entertainment of financial intermediaries and their sales representatives and other employees in connection with such educational or training programs, sales contests and other promotions. These payments may vary with each such event.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF SHARES AND RULE 12B-1 PLAN**

Foreside Funds Distributors LLC (the "Underwriter"), located at 899 Cassatt Road, 400 Berwyn Park, Suite 110, Berwyn, PA 19312, serves as a principal underwriter of the Funds' shares pursuant to an Underwriting Agreement with the Trust. Pursuant to the terms of the Underwriting Agreement, the Underwriter continuously distributes shares of the Funds on a best efforts basis. The Underwriter has no obligation to sell any specific quantity of shares of the Funds. The Underwriter and its officers have no role in determining the investment policies or which securities are to be purchased or sold by the Funds.

To the extent that the Underwriter receives fees under the Funds' Plan of Distribution adopted pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (the "12b-1 Plan"), the Underwriter will enter into arrangements with broker-dealers, financial intermediaries, or other financial institutions for the furnishing of marketing or sales services with respect to the Investor Class shares as may be required pursuant to such plan.

Moreover, to the extent that the Underwriter receives shareholder service fees under any shareholder services plan adopted by the Funds, the Underwriter will enter into arrangements with broker-dealers, financial intermediaries, or other financial institutions for the furnishing of personal or account maintenance services with respect to the relevant shareholders of the Funds as may be required pursuant to such plan. The Underwriter receives no underwriting commissions or Rule 12b-1 fees in connection with the sale of the Funds' Institutional Class shares. The Trustees of the Trust, including a majority of Independent Trustees, have determined that there is a reasonable likelihood that the 12b-1 Plan will benefit the Trust, the Funds and the shareholders of the Funds' Investor Class shares.

The Underwriter may enter into agreements with selected broker-dealers, banks or other financial institutions for distribution of shares of the Funds. With respect to certain financial institutions and related funds "supermarket" platform arrangements, the Funds and/or the Adviser, rather than the Underwriter, typically enter into such agreements. These financial institutions may charge a fee for their services and may receive shareholder service or other fees from the Adviser and/or the Funds. These financial institutions may otherwise act as processing agents and are responsible for transmitting purchase, redemption and other requests to the Funds.

The Underwriting Agreement continues in effect for successive annual periods provided such continuance is approved at least annually by a majority of the Trustees, including a majority of the Independent Trustees. The Underwriting Agreement provides that the Underwriter, in the absence of willful misfeasance, bad faith or negligence in the performance of its duties or by reason of reckless disregard of its obligations and duties under the agreement, will not be liable to the Funds or its shareholders for losses arising in connection with the sale of Funds' shares.

The Underwriting Agreement terminates automatically in the event of an assignment. The Underwriting Agreement is also terminable without payment of any penalty with respect to the Funds (i) by vote of a majority of the Trustees of the Funds who are not interested persons of the Trust or the Funds and who have no direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the 12b-1 Plan of the Funds or any agreements related to the 12b-1 Plan or by vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Funds on sixty (60) days written notice to the Underwriter; or (ii) by the Underwriter on sixty (60) days written notice to the Funds. The Underwriter will be compensated for distribution services according to the 12b-1 Plan regardless of the Underwriter's expenses. The Underwriter uses the entire 12b-1 for distribution expenses and does not retain any amounts for profit. The Underwriter does not receive compensation from the Funds for its distribution services except the distribution/service fees with respect to the shares of those classes for which a 12b-1 Plan is effective. The Adviser pays the Underwriter a fee for certain distribution-related services.

The 12b-1 Plan provides that the Underwriter will be paid for distribution activities such as public relations services, telephone services, sales presentations, media charges, preparation, printing and mailing advertising and sales literature, data processing necessary to support a distribution effort and printing and mailing of prospectuses to prospective shareholders. Additionally, the Underwriter may pay certain

financial institutions such as banks or broker-dealers who have entered into servicing agreements with the Underwriter and other financial institutions for distribution and shareholder servicing activities.

The 12b-1 Plan further provides that payment shall be made for any month only to the extent that such payment does not exceed 0.25% on an annualized basis of the Funds' Investor Class Shares average net assets, except with respect to limitations set from time to time by the Board of Trustees.

Under the 12b-1 Plan, if any payments made by the Adviser out of its advisory fee, not to exceed the amount of that fee, to any third parties (including banks), including payments for shareholder servicing and transfer agent functions, were deemed to be indirect financing by the Funds of the distribution of its Investor Class shares, such payments are authorized. The Funds may execute portfolio transactions with and purchase securities issued by depository institutions that receive payments under the 12b-1 Plan. No preference for instruments issued by such depository institutions is shown in the selection of investments.

## CAPITAL STOCK AND OTHER SECURITIES

The Trust issues and offers separate classes of shares of each Fund: Investor Class and Institutional Class shares. The shares of a Fund, when issued and paid for in accordance with the Prospectus, will be fully paid and non-assessable shares, with equal voting rights and no preferences as to conversion, exchange, dividends, redemption or any other feature.

The separate classes of shares of a Fund represent interests in the same portfolio of investments, have the same rights and are identical in all respects, except that Investor Class shares bear Rule 12b-1 distribution expenses and have exclusive voting rights with respect to the 12b-1 Plan pursuant to which the distribution fee may be paid.

The net income attributable to a class of shares and the dividends payable on such shares will be reduced by the amount of any applicable shareholder service or Rule 12b-1 distribution fees. Accordingly, the NAV of the Investor Class shares will be reduced by such amount to the extent a Fund has undistributed net income.

Shares of a Fund entitle holders to one vote per share and fractional votes for fractional shares held. Shares have non-cumulative voting rights, do not have preemptive or subscription rights and are transferable. Each class of a Fund takes separate votes on matters affecting only that class.

The Funds do not hold an annual meeting of shareholders. The Trustees are required to call a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of voting upon the question of removal of any Trustee when requested in writing to do so by the shareholders of record owning not less than 10% of a Fund's outstanding shares.

## PURCHASE, REDEMPTION AND PRICING OF SHARES

**PURCHASE OF SHARES.** Information regarding the purchase of shares is discussed in the "Purchase of Shares" section of the Prospectus.

**REDEMPTION OF SHARES.** Information regarding the redemption of shares is discussed in the "Redemption of Shares" section of the Prospectus.

**PRICING OF SHARES.** For the Funds, the NAV per share of a Fund is determined by dividing the value of the Fund's net assets by the total number of the Fund's shares outstanding. This determination is made by The Bank of New York Mellon, as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the "Exchange") (typically 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time) each day the Funds is open for business. The Funds are open for business on days when the Exchange is open for business.

In valuing a Fund's assets, a security listed on an exchange (and not subject to restrictions against sale by the Fund on an exchange) will be valued at its last sale price on the exchange on the day the security is valued. Lacking any sales on such day, the security will be valued at the mean between the closing asked price and the closing bid price. Securities listed on multiple exchanges (and not subject to restriction against sale by the Funds on such exchanges) will be similarly valued, using quotations on the exchange on which the security is traded most extensively. Unlisted securities that are quoted on the National Association of Securities Dealers' National Market System, for which there have been sales of such securities on such day, shall be valued at the official closing price on such system on the day the security is valued. If there are no such sales on such day, the value shall be the mean between the closing asked price and the closing bid price. The value of such securities quoted on the NASDAQ Stock Market System, but not listed on the National Market System, shall be valued at the mean between the closing asked price and the closing bid price.

Unlisted securities that are not quoted on the NASDAQ Stock Market System and for which over-the-counter market quotations are readily available will be valued at the mean between the current bid and asked prices for such security in the over-the-counter market.

Other unlisted securities (and listed securities subject to restriction on sale), and foreign securities, will be valued at fair value as determined in good faith under the direction of the Board of Trustees although the actual calculation may be done by others. Short-term investments with remaining maturities of less than 61 days are valued at amortized cost.

## **DIVIDENDS**

The Funds intend to distribute substantially all of their net investment income, if any. Dividends from a Fund's net investment income are declared and paid annually to the shareholders. Distributions, if any, of net short-term capital gain and net capital gain (the excess of net long-term capital gain over the short-term capital loss) realized by a Fund, after deducting any available capital loss carryovers are declared and paid to its shareholders annually.

A Fund's dividends and distributions are taxable to shareholders (other than retirement plans and other tax-exempt investors) whether received in cash or reinvested in additional shares of a Fund. A dividend or distribution paid by a Fund has the effect of reducing the NAV per share on the ex-dividend date by the amount of the dividend distribution. A dividend or distribution declared shortly after a purchase of shares by an investor would, therefore, represent, in substance, a return of capital to the shareholder with respect to such shares even though it would be subject to federal income tax. This is called "buying a dividend." To avoid "buying a dividend," check a Fund's distribution dates before you invest.

A statement will be sent to you after the end of each year detailing the tax status of your distributions. Please see "Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" below for more information on the federal income tax consequences of dividends and other distributions made by a Fund.

## **CERTAIN MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS**

The following discussion summarizes certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations affecting the Funds and their shareholders. This discussion is for general information only and does not purport to consider all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that might be relevant to beneficial owners of shares of a Fund. The summary discussion that follows may not be considered to be individual tax advice and may not be relied upon by any shareholder. The summary is based upon provisions of the IRC, applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations (whether temporary, proposed or final) promulgated thereunder (the "Regulations"), and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, as are in effect as of the date hereof, all of which are subject to change, which change could be retroactive and may affect the conclusions expressed herein. The summary applies only to beneficial owners of shares of a Fund in whose hands such shares are capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the IRC, and may not apply to certain types of beneficial owners of shares of a Fund, including, but not limited to insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, shareholders holding a Fund's shares through tax-advantaged accounts (such as an individual retirement account (an "IRA"), a 401(k) plan account, or other qualified retirement account), financial institutions, pass-through entities, broker-dealers, entities that are not organized under the laws of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, persons who are neither a citizen nor resident of the United States, shareholders holding a Fund's shares as part of a hedge, straddle or conversion transaction and shareholders who are subject to the alternative minimum tax. Persons who may be subject to tax in more than one country should consult the provisions of any applicable tax treaty to determine the potential tax consequences to them.

If an entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds a Fund's common stock, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner in such partnership generally will depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of such partnership. A partner of a partnership holding a Fund's common stock should consult its own tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences to the partner of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Fund's common stock by the partnership.

The summary assumes that shareholders will hold a Fund's common stock as capital assets, which generally means as property held for investment. This discussion addresses only the U.S. income tax consequences of an investment by U.S. shareholders, and, therefore, does not address U.S. estate and gift tax rules, U.S. state or local taxation, the alternative minimum tax, excise taxes, transfer taxes or foreign taxes.

For purposes of the following discussion, "U.S. shareholder" is a shareholder that is (i) a citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation (or other entity taxable as a corporation) created or organized under the laws of the United States or any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (iii) an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source or (iv) a trust if (a) a U.S. court can exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more U.S. persons are authorized to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (b) it has a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person. A "Non-U.S. shareholder" is a person that is neither a U.S. shareholder nor an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

The Funds have not requested and will not request an advance ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") as to the federal income tax matters described below. The IRS could adopt positions contrary to those discussed below and such positions could be

sustained. In addition, the following discussion applicable to shareholders of the Funds addresses only some of the federal income tax considerations generally affecting investments in such Funds.

**Shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax adviser with respect to the tax consequences of the ownership, purchase and disposition of an investment in the Funds including, but not limited to, the applicability of state, local, foreign and other tax laws affecting the particular shareholder and to possible effects of changes in federal or other tax laws.**

**GENERAL.** The Funds have elected, and intends to continue to qualify each year for, taxation as a RIC under Subchapter M of the IRC. By qualifying as a RIC, a Fund (but not the shareholders) will not be subject to federal income tax on that portion of its investment company taxable income and net realized capital gains that it distributes to its shareholders.

Shareholders should be aware that investments made by the Funds, some of which are described below, may involve complex tax rules some of which may result in income or gain recognition by a shareholder without the concurrent receipt of cash. Although the Funds seek to avoid significant noncash income, such noncash income could be recognized by the Funds, in which case it may distribute cash derived from other sources in order to meet the minimum distribution requirements described below. Cash to make the required minimum distributions may be obtained from sales proceeds of securities held by a Fund (even if such sales are not advantageous) or, if permitted by its governing documents and other regulatory restrictions, through borrowing the amounts required to be distributed.

**QUALIFICATION AS A REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANY.** Qualification as a RIC under the IRC requires, among other things, that each Fund: (a) derive at least 90% of its gross income for each taxable year from (i) dividends, interest, payments with respect to securities loans and gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currencies, or other income (including but not limited to gains from options, futures and forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities or currencies, and (ii) net income from certain qualified publicly traded partnerships (together with (i), the “Qualifying Income Requirement”), and (b) diversify its holdings so that, at the close of each quarter of the taxable year: (i) at least 50% of the value of its assets is comprised of cash, cash items (including receivables), U.S. government securities, securities of other RICs and other securities, with those other securities limited, in respect of any one issuer, to an amount that does not exceed 5% of the value of such Fund’s total assets and that does not represent more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer; and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of its assets is invested in the securities (other than U.S. government securities or securities of other RICs) of any one issuer or the securities (other than the securities of other RICs) of two or more issuers controlled by it and engaged in the same, similar or related trades or businesses, or one or more “qualified publicly traded partnerships” (together with (i) the “Diversification Requirement”).

The Treasury Department is authorized to promulgate regulations under which gains from foreign currencies (and options, futures, and forward contracts on foreign currency) would constitute qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Requirement only if such gains are directly related to the principal business of a Fund in investing in stock or securities or options and futures with respect to stock or securities. To date, no such regulations have been issued.

As a RIC, a Fund generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the portion of its income and capital gains that it distributes to its shareholders in any taxable year for which it distributes, in compliance with the IRC’s timing and other requirements the sum of (i) at least 90% of its investment company taxable income (which includes dividends, taxable interest, taxable original issue discount income, market discount income, income from securities lending, net short-term capital gain in excess of net long-term capital loss, certain net realized foreign currency exchange gains, and any other taxable income other than “net capital gain” as defined below and is reduced by deductible expenses all determined without regard to any deduction for dividends paid); and (ii) 90% of its tax-exempt interest, if any, net of certain expenses allocable thereto (“net tax-exempt interest”). A Fund may retain for investment all or a portion of its “net capital gain” (i.e., the excess of its net long-term capital gain over its net short-term capital loss). If a Fund retains any investment company taxable income or net capital gain, they will be subject to tax at regular corporate rates on the amount retained. If a Fund retains any net capital gain, it may designate the retained amount as undistributed net capital gain in a notice to its shareholders, who will be (i) required to include in income for federal income tax purposes, as long-term capital gain, their shares of such undistributed amount; and (ii) entitled to credit their proportionate shares of tax paid by the Fund against their federal income tax liabilities, if any, and to claim refunds to the extent the credit exceeds such liabilities. For federal income tax purposes, the tax basis of the shares owned by a shareholder of a Fund will be increased by the amount of undistributed net capital gain included in the shareholder’s gross income and decreased by the federal income tax paid by the Fund on that amount of capital gain.

The qualifying income and asset requirements that must be met under the IRC in order for a Fund to qualify as a RIC, as described above, may limit the extent to which it will be able to engage in derivative transactions. Rules governing the federal income tax aspects of derivatives, including swap agreements, are not entirely clear in certain respects, particularly in light of two IRS revenue rulings issued in 2006. Revenue Ruling 2006-1 held that income from a derivative contract with respect to a commodity index is not qualifying income for a RIC. Subsequently, the IRS issued Revenue Ruling 2006-31 in which it stated that the holding in Revenue Ruling 2006-1 “was not intended to preclude a conclusion that the income from certain instruments (such as certain structured notes) that create a commodity exposure for the holder is qualifying income.” In 2016, the IRS issued notice and stated they would not address what constitutes a “security” for purposes of Qualifying Income. In addition, the IRS requested comments as to whether the 2006 Revenue

Rulings should be withdrawn, and in 2019, the IRS concluded that it would not withdraw the 2006 revenue rulings at that time. Accordingly, a Fund's ability to invest in commodity related derivative transactions and other derivative transactions may be limited by the Qualifying Income Requirement. A Fund will account for any investments in commodity derivative transactions in a manner it deems to be appropriate; the IRS, however, might not accept such treatment. If the IRS did not accept such treatment, the status of the Fund as a RIC might be jeopardized.

For purposes of the Qualifying Income Requirement described above, all of the net income of a RIC derived from an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership (generally, defined as a partnership (x) the interests in which are traded on an established securities market or are readily tradable on a secondary market or the substantial equivalent thereof, and (y) that derives less than 90% of its income from the qualifying income described in clause (i) of the Qualifying Income Requirement described above) will be treated as qualifying income. Income derived from a partnership (other than a qualified publicly traded partnership) will be treated as qualifying income only to the extent such income is attributable to items of income of the partnership which would be qualifying income if realized directly by the RIC. In addition, although in general the passive loss rules of the IRC do not apply to RICs, such rules do apply to a RIC with respect to items attributable to an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership. Under recent legislation, the transferee of a partnership interest generally is required to withhold 10% of the amount realized on the sale or exchange of a partnership interest after December 31, 2017, unless the transferor certifies it is not a foreign person. However, the IRS has delayed this withholding requirement with respect to publicly traded partnerships. It is unclear when and how this withholding requirement will go into effect.

For purposes of the Diversification Requirement described above, the term "outstanding voting securities of such issuer" will include the equity securities of a qualified publicly traded partnership.

If a Fund fail to satisfy the Qualifying Income Requirement or the Diversification Requirement in any taxable year, the Fund may be eligible for relief provisions if the failures are due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect and if a penalty tax is paid with respect to each failure to satisfy the applicable requirements. Additionally, relief is provided for certain de minimis failures to satisfy the Diversification Requirements where a Fund correct the failure within a specified period of time. If the applicable relief provisions are not available or cannot be met, the Fund will fail to qualify as a RIC and will be subject to tax in the same manner as an ordinary corporation subject to tax on a flat tax rate of 21% and all distributions from earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles) to its shareholders will be taxable as ordinary dividend income eligible for the dividends-received deduction for corporate shareholders, and either (i) the 20% long-term capital gains tax rate for non-corporate shareholders with taxable income in excess of \$441,550 (\$496,600 if married and filing jointly) or (ii) the 15% long-term capital gains tax rate (0% for non-corporate shareholders in lower income tax brackets) for non-corporate shareholders with taxable income of less than the threshold amounts. If a Fund fails to qualify as a RIC for a period of greater than two taxable years, the Fund generally would be required to recognize any built-in gains with respect to certain of its assets upon a sale of such assets within ten years of qualifying as a RIC in a subsequent year.

**EXCISE TAX.** If a Fund fail to distribute by December 31 of each calendar year an amount equal to the sum of (1) at least 98% of its taxable ordinary income (excluding capital gains and losses) for such year, (2) at least 98.2% of the excess of its capital gains over its capital losses (as adjusted for certain ordinary losses) for the twelve month period ending on October 31 of such year), and (3) all taxable ordinary income and the excess of capital gains over capital losses for the prior year that were not distributed during such year and on which it did not pay federal income tax, the Fund will be subject to a nondeductible 4% excise tax (the "Excise Tax") on the undistributed amounts. A distribution will be treated as paid on December 31 of the calendar year if it is declared by the Funds in October, November, or December of that year to shareholders of record on a date in such month and paid by it during January of the following year. Such distributions will be taxable to shareholders (other than those not subject to federal income tax) in the calendar year in which the distributions are declared, rather than the calendar year in which the distributions are received. A Fund intend to actually distribute or be deemed to have distributed substantially all of its net income and gain, if any, by the end of each calendar year in compliance with these requirements so that it will generally not be required to pay the Excise Tax. A Fund may, in certain circumstances, be required to liquidate its investments in order to make sufficient distributions to avoid Excise Tax liability at a time when an investment adviser might not otherwise have chosen to do so. Liquidation of investments in such circumstances may affect the ability of a Fund to satisfy the requirements for qualification as a RIC. However, no assurances can be given that a Fund will not be subject to the Excise Tax and, in fact, in certain instances, if warranted, a Fund may choose to pay the Excise Tax as opposed to making an additional distribution.

**CAPITAL LOSS CARRYFORWARDS.** The Funds are permitted to carry forward a net capital loss from any year to offset their capital gains, if any, realized indefinitely in the years following the year of the loss. The excess of a Fund's net short-term capital losses over its net long-term capital gain is treated as short-term capital losses arising on the first day of the Fund's next taxable year and the excess of the Fund's net long-term capital losses over its net short-term capital gain is treated as long-term capital losses arising on the first day of a Fund's next taxable year. If future capital gains are offset by carried forward capital losses, such future capital gains are not subject to Funds-level federal income taxation, regardless of whether they are distributed to shareholders. Accordingly, the Funds do not expect to distribute any such offsetting capital gains. The Funds cannot carry back or carry forward any net operating losses.

**MLPs.** A Fund may invest in master limited partnerships which may be treated as qualified publicly traded partnerships. Income from qualified publicly traded partnerships is qualifying income for purposes of the Qualifying Income Requirement, but the Fund's

investment in one or more of such qualified publicly traded partnerships is limited to no more than 25% of the value of the Fund's assets and must otherwise satisfy the Diversification Requirement. In addition, tax legislation imposes a 10% withholding tax on the sale or exchange of a partnership interest for transfers after December 31, 2017. However, the IRS has delayed this withholding requirement with respect to publicly traded partnerships. It is unclear when and how this withholding requirement will go into effect.

**ORIGINAL ISSUE DISCOUNT AND MARKET DISCOUNT.** The Funds may acquire debt securities that are treated as having original issue discount ("OID") (generally a debt obligation with a purchase price less than its principal amount, such as a zero coupon bond). Generally, a Fund will be required to include the OID, in income over the term of the debt security, even though it will not receive cash payments for such OID until a later time, usually when the debt security matures. A Fund may make one or more of the elections applicable to debt securities having OID which could affect the character and timing of recognition of income. Inflation-protected bonds generally can be expected to produce OID income as their principal amounts are adjusted upward for inflation. A portion of the OID includible in income with respect to certain high-yield corporate debt securities may be treated as a dividend for federal income tax purposes if the securities are characterized as equity for federal income tax purposes.

A debt security acquired in the secondary market by a Fund may be treated as having market discount if acquired at a price below redemption value or adjusted issue price if issued with original issue discount. Market discount generally is accrued ratably, on a daily basis, over the period from the date of acquisition to the date of maturity even though no cash will be received. Absent an election by a Fund to include the market discount in income as it accrues, gain on its disposition of such an obligation will be treated as ordinary income rather than capital gain to the extent of the accrued market discount.

The Funds may be required to include in income certain fees that are treated as OID and required to be included in income for financial statement purposes when received (rather than when accrued into income under current law).

In addition, pay-in-kind securities will give rise to income which is required to be distributed and is taxable even though a Fund receives no interest payments in cash on such securities during the year.

A Fund generally will be required to make distributions to shareholders representing the income accruing on the debt securities, described above that is currently includable in income, even though cash representing such income may not have been received by a Fund. Cash to pay these distributions may be obtained from sales proceeds of securities held by a Fund (even if such sales are not advantageous) or, if permitted by a Fund's governing documents, through borrowing the amounts required to be distributed. In the event a Fund realizes net capital gains from such transactions, its shareholders may receive a larger capital gain distribution, if any, than they would have in the absence of such transactions. Borrowing to fund any distribution also has tax implications, such as potentially creating unrelated business taxable income ("UBTI").

**OPTIONS, FUTURES AND FORWARD CONTRACTS.** The writing (selling) and purchasing of options and futures contracts and entering into forward currency contracts, involves complex rules that will determine for income tax purposes the amount, character and timing of recognition of the gains and losses a Fund realize in connection with such transactions.

Gains and losses on the sale, lapse, or other termination of options and futures contracts, options thereon and certain forward contracts (except certain foreign currency options, forward contracts and futures contracts) will generally be treated as capital gains and losses. Some regulated futures contracts, certain foreign currency contracts, and certain non-equity options (such as certain listed options or options on broad based securities indexes) held by a Fund ("Section 1256 contracts"), other than contracts on which they have made a "mixed-straddle election," will be required to be "marked-to-market" for federal income tax purposes, that is, treated as having been sold at their market value on the last day of the Fund's taxable year. These provisions may require a Fund to recognize income or gains without a concurrent receipt of cash. Any gain or loss recognized on actual or deemed sales of Section 1256 contracts will be treated as 60% long-term capital gain or loss and 40% short-term capital gain or loss, although certain foreign currency gains and losses from such contracts may be treated as ordinary income or loss as described below. Transactions that qualify as designated hedges are exempt from the mark-to-market rule, but may require a Fund to defer the recognition of losses on futures contracts, foreign currency contracts and certain options to the extent of any unrecognized gains on related positions held by it.

The tax provisions described above applicable to options, futures and forward contracts may affect the amount, timing, and character of a Fund's distributions to its shareholders. For example, the Section 1256 rules described above may operate to increase the amount the Fund must distribute to satisfy the minimum distribution requirement for the portion treated as short-term capital gain which will be taxable to its shareholders as ordinary income, and to increase the net capital gain it recognizes, without, in either case, increasing the cash available to it. A Fund may elect to exclude certain transactions from the operation of Section 1256, although doing so may have the effect of increasing the relative proportion of net short-term capital gain (taxable as ordinary income) and, thus, increasing the amount of dividends it must distribute. Section 1256 contracts also may be marked-to-market for purposes of the Excise Tax.

When a covered call or put option written (sold) by a Fund expires such Fund will realize a short-term capital gain equal to the amount of the premium it received for writing the option. When a Fund terminates its obligations under such an option by entering into a closing

transaction, it will realize a short-term capital gain (or loss), depending on whether the cost of the closing transaction is less than (or exceeds) the premium received when it wrote the option. When a covered call option written by a Fund is exercised, such Fund will be treated as having sold the underlying security, producing long-term or short-term capital gain or loss, depending upon the holding period of the underlying security and whether the sum of the option price received upon the exercise plus the premium received when it wrote the option is more or less than the basis of the underlying security.

**STRADDLES.** Section 1092 deals with the taxation of straddles which also may affect the taxation of options in which a Fund may invest. Offsetting positions held by a Fund involving certain derivative instruments, such as options, futures and forward currency contracts, may be considered, for federal income tax purposes, to constitute “straddles.” Straddles are defined to include offsetting positions in actively traded personal property. In certain circumstances, the rules governing straddles override or modify the provisions of Section 1256, described above. If a Fund is treated as entering into a straddle and at least one (but not all) of its positions in derivative contracts comprising a part of such straddle is governed by Section 1256, then such straddle could be characterized as a “mixed straddle.” A Fund may make one or more elections with respect to mixed straddles. Depending on which election is made, if any, the results with respect to a Fund may differ. Generally, to the extent the straddle rules apply to positions established by a Fund, losses realized by it may be deferred to the extent of unrealized gain in any offsetting positions. Moreover, as a result of the straddle rules, short-term capital loss on straddle positions may be characterized as long-term capital loss, and long-term capital gain may be characterized as short-term capital gain. In addition, the existence of a straddle may affect the holding period of the offsetting positions and cause such sales to be subject to the “wash sale” and “short sale” rules. As a result, the straddle rules could cause distributions that would otherwise constitute “qualified dividend income” to fail to satisfy the applicable holding period requirements, described below, and therefore to be taxed as ordinary income. Further, a Fund may be required to capitalize, rather than deduct currently, any interest expense and carrying charges applicable to a position that is part of a straddle. Because the application of the straddle rules may affect the character and timing of gains and losses from affected straddle positions, the amount which must be distributed to shareholders, and which will be taxed to shareholders as ordinary income or long-term capital gain, may be increased or decreased substantially as compared to the situation where a Fund had not engaged in such transactions.

In circumstances where a Fund has invested in certain pass-through entities, the amount of long-term capital gain that they may recognize from certain derivative transactions with respect to interests in such pass-through entities is limited under the IRC’s constructive ownership rules. The amount of long-term capital gain is limited to the amount of such gain a Fund would have had if they directly invested in the pass-through entity during the term of the derivative contract. Any gain in excess of this amount is treated as ordinary income. An interest charge is imposed on the amount of gain that is treated as ordinary income.

**SWAPS AND DERIVATIVES.** As a result of entering into swap or derivative agreements, a Fund may make or receive periodic net payments. A Fund may also make or receive a payment when a swap or derivative is terminated prior to maturity through an assignment of the swap, derivative or other closing transaction. Periodic net payments will generally constitute ordinary income or deductions, while termination of a swap or derivative will generally result in capital gain or loss (which will be a long-term capital gain or loss if a Fund has been a party to a swap or derivative for more than one year). With respect to certain types of swaps or derivatives, a Fund may be required to currently recognize income or loss with respect to future payments on such swaps or derivatives or may elect under certain circumstances to mark such swaps or derivatives to market annually for tax purposes as ordinary income or loss. A Fund’s transactions in swaps or other derivatives may be subject to one or more special tax rules (e.g., notional principal contract, straddle, constructive sales, wash sales and short sale rules). These rules may affect whether gains or losses recognized by a Fund are treated as ordinary or capital or as short-term or long-term, accelerate the recognition of income or gains to a Fund, defer losses to a Fund, and cause adjustments in the holding periods of a Fund’s securities. These rules could therefore affect the amount, timing and/or character of distributions to shareholders.

Rules governing the tax aspects of swap or derivative agreements are not entirely clear in certain respects, in particular whether income generated is Qualifying Income. Accordingly, while each Fund intends to account for such transactions in a manner it deems appropriate, the IRS might not accept such treatment. If the IRS did not accept such treatment, the status of a Fund as a RIC might be adversely affected. The Funds intend to monitor developments in this area. Certain requirements that must be met under the IRC in order for a Fund to qualify as a RIC may limit the extent to which a Fund will be able to engage in swap agreements and certain derivatives.

**CONSTRUCTIVE SALES.** Certain rules may affect the timing and character of gain if the Funds engage in transactions that reduce or eliminate their risk of loss with respect to appreciated financial positions. If a Fund enters into certain transactions (including a short sale, an offsetting notional principal contract, a futures or forward contract, or other transactions identified in Treasury regulations) in property while holding an appreciated financial position in substantially identical property, they will be treated as if they had sold and immediately repurchased the appreciated financial position and will be taxed on any gain (but not loss) from the constructive sale. The character of gain from a constructive sale will depend upon a Fund’s holding period in the appreciated financial position. Loss from a constructive sale would be recognized when the position was subsequently disposed of, and its character would depend on a Fund’s holding period and the application of various loss deferral provisions of the IRC.



In addition, if the appreciated financial position is itself a short sale or other such contract, acquisition of the underlying property or substantially identical property by a Fund will be deemed a constructive sale. The foregoing will not apply, however, to a Fund's transaction during any taxable year that otherwise would be treated as a constructive sale if the transaction is closed within 30 days after the end of that year and a Fund holds the appreciated financial position unhedged for 60 days after that closing (i.e., at no time during that 60-day period is the Fund's risk of loss regarding the position reduced by reason of certain specified transactions with respect to substantially identical or related property, such as having an option to sell, being contractually obligated to sell, making a short sale or granting an option to buy substantially identical stock or securities).

**WASH SALES.** The Funds may be impacted in certain circumstances by special rules relating to "wash sales." In general, the wash sale rules prevent the recognition of a loss by a Fund from the disposition of stock or securities at a loss in a case in which identical or substantially identical stock or securities (or an option to acquire such property) is or has been acquired by it within 30 days before or 30 days after the sale.

**SHORT SALES.** The Funds may make short sales of securities. Short sales may increase the amount of short-term capital gain realized by a Fund, which is taxed as ordinary income when distributed to its shareholders. Short sales also may be subject to the "Constructive Sales" rules, discussed above.

**PASSIVE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMPANIES.** The Funds may invest in a non-U.S. corporation, which could be treated as a passive foreign investment company (a "PFIC") or become a PFIC under the IRC. A PFIC is generally defined as a foreign corporation that meets either of the following tests: (1) at least 75% of its gross income for its taxable year is income from passive sources (such as interest, dividends, certain rents and royalties, or capital gains); or (2) an average of at least 50% of its assets produce, or are held for the production of, such passive income. If a Fund acquires any equity interest in a PFIC, the Fund could be subject to federal income tax and interest charges on "excess distributions" received with respect to such PFIC stock or on any gain from the sale of such PFIC stock (collectively "PFIC income"), plus interest thereon even if a Fund distributes the PFIC income as a taxable dividend to its shareholders. The balance of the PFIC income will be included in a Fund's investment company taxable income and, accordingly, will not be taxable to it to the extent it distributes that income to its shareholders. A Fund's distributions of PFIC income, if any, will be taxable as ordinary income even though, absent the application of the PFIC rules, some portion of the distributions may have been classified as capital gain.

A Fund will not be permitted to pass through to its shareholders any credit or deduction for taxes and interest charges incurred with respect to a PFIC. Payment of this tax would therefore reduce a Fund's economic return from its investment in PFIC shares. To the extent a Fund invests in a PFIC, it may elect to treat the PFIC as a "qualified electing Funds" ("QEF"), then instead of the tax and interest obligation described above on excess distributions, a Fund would be required to include in income each taxable year its pro rata share of the QEF's annual ordinary earnings and net capital gain. As a result of a QEF election, a Fund would likely have to distribute to its shareholders an amount equal to the QEF's annual ordinary earnings and net capital gain to satisfy the IRC's minimum distribution requirement described herein and avoid imposition of the Excise Tax even if the QEF did not distribute those earnings and gain to a Fund. In most instances it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to make this election because of certain requirements in making the election.

The Funds may elect to "mark-to-market" its stock in any PFIC. "Marking-to-market," in this context, means including in ordinary income each taxable year the excess, if any, of the fair market value of the PFIC stock over a Fund's adjusted basis therein as of the end of that year. Pursuant to the election, a Fund also may deduct (as an ordinary, not capital, loss) the excess, if any, of its adjusted basis in the PFIC stock over the fair market value thereof as of the taxable year-end, but only to the extent of any net mark-to-market gains with respect to that stock it included in income for prior taxable years under the election. A Fund's adjusted basis in its PFIC stock subject to the election would be adjusted to reflect the amounts of income included and deductions taken thereunder. In either case, a Fund may be required to recognize taxable income or gain without the concurrent receipt of cash.

**FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS.** Foreign currency gains and losses realized by a Fund in connection with certain transactions involving foreign currency-denominated debt instruments, certain options, futures contracts, forward contracts, and similar instruments relating to foreign currency, foreign currencies, and foreign currency-denominated payables and receivables are subject to Section 988 of the IRC, which causes such gains and losses to be treated as ordinary income or loss and may affect the amount and timing of recognition of a Fund's income. In some cases, elections may be available that would alter this treatment, but such elections could be detrimental to a Fund by creating current recognition of income without the concurrent recognition of cash. If a foreign currency loss treated as an ordinary loss under Section 988 were to exceed a Fund's investment company taxable income (computed without regard to such loss) for a taxable year, the resulting loss would not be deductible by it or its shareholders in future years. The foreign currency income or loss will also increase or decrease a Fund's investment company income distributable to its shareholders.

**FOREIGN TAXATION.** Income received by a Fund from sources within foreign countries may be subject to foreign withholding and other taxes. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States may reduce or eliminate such taxes. If more than 50% of a Fund's total assets at the close of any taxable year consist of stock or securities of foreign corporations and it meets the distribution

requirements described above, a Fund may file an election (the “pass-through election”) with the IRS pursuant to which shareholders of a Fund would be required to (i) include in gross income (in addition to taxable dividends actually received) their pro rata shares of foreign income taxes paid by a Fund even though not actually received by such shareholders; and (ii) treat such respective pro rata portions as foreign income taxes paid by them. A Fund will furnish its shareholders with a written statement providing the amount of foreign taxes paid by a Fund that will “pass-through” for the year, if any.

Generally, a credit for foreign taxes is subject to the limitation that it may not exceed the shareholder’s U.S. tax attributable to his or her total foreign source taxable income. For this purpose, if the pass-through election is made, the source of a Fund’s income will flow through to shareholders. The limitation on the foreign tax credit is applied separately to foreign source passive income, and to certain other types of income. Shareholders may be unable to claim a credit for the full amount of their proportionate share of the foreign taxes paid by a Fund. Various limitations, including a minimum holding period requirement, apply to limit the credit and deduction for foreign taxes for purposes of regular federal tax and alternative minimum tax. In addition, a shareholder of a Fund may lose the ability to use foreign tax credits passed through by a Fund if a Fund’s shares are loaned pursuant to a securities lending agreement.

**REITS.** The Funds may invest in REITs. Investments in REIT equity securities may require a Fund to accrue and distribute taxable income without the concurrent receipt of cash. To generate sufficient cash to make the requisite distributions, a Fund may be required to sell securities in its portfolio (including when it is not advantageous to do so) that it otherwise would have continued to hold. A Fund’s investments in REIT equity securities may at other times result in its receipt of cash in excess of the REIT’s earnings; if a Fund distributes these amounts, these distributions could constitute a return of capital to its shareholders for federal income tax purposes. Dividends received by a Fund from a REIT generally will not constitute qualified dividend income.

The Funds may invest in REITs that hold residual interests in real estate mortgage investment conduits (“REMICs”) or taxable mortgage pools (“TMPs”), or such REITs may themselves constitute TMPs. Under an IRS notice, and Treasury regulations that have yet to be issued but may apply retroactively, a portion of a Fund’s income from a REIT that is attributable to the REIT’s residual interest in a REMIC or a TMP (referred to in the IRC as an “excess inclusion”) will be subject to federal income tax in all events. This notice also provides, and the regulations are expected to provide, that excess inclusion income of a RIC, such as a Fund, will be allocated to shareholders of such RIC in proportion to the dividends received by such shareholders, with the same consequences as if the shareholders held the related REMIC residual interest or invested in the TMP directly. As a result, a Fund may not be a suitable investment for certain tax-exempt shareholders, including a qualified pension plan, an individual retirement account, a 401(k) plan, a Keogh plan and other tax-exempt entities. See “Tax-Exempt Shareholders.”

Pursuant to proposed regulations on which a Fund may rely, distributions by a Fund to its shareholders that a Fund properly report as “section 199A dividends,” as defined and subject to certain conditions described below, are treated as qualified REIT dividends in the hands of non-corporate shareholders. Non-corporate shareholders are permitted a federal income tax deduction equal to 20% of qualified REIT dividends received by them, subject to certain limitations. Generally, a “section 199A dividend” is any dividend or portion thereof that is attributable to certain dividends received by a RIC from the REITs it holds, to the extent such dividends are properly reported as such by the RIC in a written notice to its shareholders. A section 199A dividend is treated as a qualified REIT dividend only if the shareholder receiving such dividend holds the dividend-paying RIC shares for at least 46 days of the 91-day period beginning 45 days before the shares become ex-dividend, and is not under an obligation to make related payments with respect to a position in substantially similar or related property. The Funds are permitted to report such part of its dividends as section 199A dividends as are eligible, but they are not required to do so.

**DISTRIBUTIONS.** Distributions paid out of a Fund’s current and accumulated earnings and profits (as determined at the end of the year), whether reinvested in additional shares or paid in cash, are generally taxable and must be reported by each shareholder who is required to file a federal income tax return except in the case of certain tax-exempt shareholders. Distributions in excess of a Fund’s current and accumulated earnings and profits, as computed for federal income tax purposes, will first be treated as a return of capital up to the amount of a shareholder’s tax basis in his or her Funds’ shares and then as capital gain, assuming the shareholder holds his or her shares as a capital asset. A return of capital is not taxable, but reduces a shareholder’s tax basis in the shares, thus reducing any loss or increasing any gain on a subsequent taxable disposition by a shareholder of a Fund’s shares. Distributions are taxable whether shareholders receive them in cash or receive them in additional shares.

For federal income tax purposes, distributions of investment company taxable income are generally taxable as ordinary income, and distributions of gains from the sale of investments that a Fund owned for one year or less will be taxable as ordinary income. Distributions designated by a Fund as “capital gain dividends” (distributions from the excess of net long-term capital gain over short-term capital losses) will be taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gain regardless of the length of time they have held their shares of a Fund. Such dividends do not qualify as dividends for purposes of the dividends received deduction described below.

Non-corporate shareholders of the Funds may be eligible for the long-term capital gain tax rate applicable to distributions of “qualified dividend income” received by such non-corporate shareholders. The long-term capital gains tax rate is 20% for non-corporate shareholders with taxable income in excess of \$441,550 (\$496,600 if married and filing jointly) and 15% (0% for non-corporate

shareholders in lower income tax brackets) for non-corporate shareholders with taxable income of less than the threshold amounts. A Fund's distribution will be treated as qualified dividend income and therefore eligible for the long-term capital gains tax rate to the extent that it receives dividend income from taxable domestic corporations and certain qualified foreign corporations, provided that certain holding periods and other requirements are met. A corporate shareholder of a Fund may be eligible for the dividends received deduction with respect to a Fund's distributions attributable to dividends received by a Fund from domestic corporations, which, if received directly by the corporate shareholder, would qualify for such a deduction. For eligible corporate shareholders, the dividends received deduction may be subject to certain reductions, and a distribution by a Fund attributable to dividends of a domestic corporation will be eligible for the deduction only if certain holding period and other requirements are met. If a Fund's shares are loaned pursuant to a securities lending agreement, dividends paid while the shares are held by the borrower may not be qualified dividend income and may not qualify for the dividends received deduction.

A 3.8% Medicare contribution tax applies to net investment income including interest (excluding, tax-exempt interest), dividends, and capital gains of U.S. individuals with income exceeding \$200,000 (\$250,000 if married and filing jointly) and of estates and trusts.

The Funds will furnish a statement to shareholders providing the federal income tax status of its dividends and distributions including the portion of such dividends, if any, that qualifies as long-term capital gain.

Different tax treatment, including penalties on certain excess contributions and deferrals, certain pre-retirement and post-retirement distributions and certain prohibited transactions, is accorded to accounts maintained as qualified retirement plans. **Shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers for more information.**

**PURCHASES OF FUNDS SHARES.** Prior to purchasing shares in a Fund, the impact of dividends or distributions which are expected to be or have been declared, but not paid, should be carefully considered. Any dividend or distribution declared shortly after a purchase of such shares of a Fund prior to the record date will have the effect of reducing the per share net asset value by the per share amount of the dividend or distribution, and to the extent the distribution consists of a Fund's taxable income, the purchasing shareholder will be taxed on the taxable portion of the dividend or distribution received even though some or all of the amount distributed is effectively a return of capital. This is called "buying a dividend." To avoid "buying a dividend," check a Fund's distribution dates before you invest.

**SALES, EXCHANGES OR REDEMPTIONS.** Upon the disposition of shares of a Fund (whether by redemption, sale or exchange), a shareholder may realize a capital gain or loss. Such capital gain or loss will be long-term or short-term depending upon the shareholder's holding period for the shares. The capital gain will be long-term if the shares were held for more than 12 months and short-term if held for 12 months or less. If a shareholder sells or exchanges shares of a Fund within 90 days of having acquired such shares and if, before January 31 of the calendar year following the calendar year of the sale or exchange, as a result of having initially acquired those shares, the shareholder subsequently pays a reduced sales charge on a new purchase of shares of a Fund, the sales charge previously incurred in acquiring a Fund's shares generally shall not be taken into account (to the extent the previous sales charges do not exceed the reduction in sales charges on the new purchase) for the purpose of determining the amount of gain or loss on the disposition, but generally will be treated as having been incurred in the new purchase. Any loss realized on a disposition will be disallowed under the "wash sale" rules to the extent that the shares disposed of by the shareholder are replaced by the shareholder within a period of 61 days beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the date of disposition. In such a case, the basis of the shares acquired will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss. Any loss realized by a shareholder on a disposition of shares held by the shareholder for six months or less will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any distributions of capital gain dividends received by the shareholder and disallowed to the extent of any distributions of tax-exempt interest dividends received by the shareholder with respect to such shares. Capital losses are generally deductible only against capital gains except that individuals may deduct up to \$3,000 of capital losses against ordinary income.

The 3.8% Medicare contribution tax (applied as described above) will apply to gains from the sale or exchange of shares of a Fund.

**BACKUP WITHHOLDING.** A Fund generally are required to withhold, and remit to the U.S. Treasury, subject to certain exemptions, an amount equal to 24% of all distributions and redemption proceeds paid or credited to a shareholder of a Fund if (i) the shareholder fails to furnish a Fund with the correct taxpayer identification number ("TIN") certified under penalties of perjury, (ii) the shareholder fails to provide a certified statement that the shareholder is not subject to "backup withholding," or (iii) the IRS or a broker has notified a Fund that the number furnished by the shareholder is incorrect or that the shareholder is subject to backup withholding as a result of failure to report interest or dividend income. If the backup withholding provisions are applicable, any such distributions or proceeds, whether taken in cash or reinvested in shares, will be reduced by the amounts required to be withheld. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld may be credited against a shareholder's U.S. federal income tax liability.

**STATE AND LOCAL TAXES.** State and local laws often differ from federal income tax laws with respect to the treatment of specific items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit.

**Shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers as to the state and local tax rules affecting investments in the Funds.**

**NON-U.S. SHAREHOLDERS.** Distributions made to non-U.S. shareholders attributable to net investment income generally are subject to U.S. federal income tax withholding at a 30% rate (or such lower rate provided under an applicable income tax treaty). Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a distribution described above is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business carried on by a non-U.S. shareholder within the United States (or, if an income tax treaty applies, is attributable to a permanent establishment in the United States), federal income tax withholding and exemptions attributable to foreign persons will not apply. Instead, distribution will be subject to withholding at the highest applicable U.S. tax rate (currently 37% in the case of individuals and 21% in the case of corporations) and the non-U.S. shareholders will be subject to the federal income tax reporting requirements generally applicable to U.S. persons described above.

Under U.S. federal tax law, a non-U.S. shareholder is not, in general, subject to federal income tax or withholding tax on capital gains (and is not allowed a deduction for losses) realized on the sale of shares of a Fund, or on capital gains dividends, provided that a Fund obtain a properly completed and signed certificate of foreign status, unless (i) such gains or distributions are effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business carried on by the non-U.S. shareholder within the United States (or, if an income tax treaty applies, are attributable to a permanent establishment in the United States of the non-U.S. shareholder); (ii) in the case of an individual non-U.S. shareholder, the shareholder is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 days or more during the year of the sale and certain other conditions are met; or (iii) the shares of a Fund constitutes U.S. real property interests (“USRPIs”), as described below.

Under current law, if a Fund is considered to be a “United States Real Property Holding Corporation” (as defined in the IRC and Treasury Regulations), then distributions attributable to certain underlying REIT investments and redemption proceeds paid to a non-U.S. shareholder that owns at least 5% of a Fund, generally will cause the non-U.S. shareholder to treat such gain or distribution as income effectively connected with a trade or business in the United States, subject such gain or distribution to withholding tax, and cause the non-U.S. shareholder to be required to file a federal income tax return. In addition, in any year where at least 50% of a Fund’s assets are USRPIs (as defined in the IRC and Treasury Regulations), distributions of a Fund that are attributable to gains from the sale or exchange of shares in USRPIs may be subject to U.S. withholding tax (regardless of such shareholder’s percentage interest in a Fund) and may require the non-U.S. shareholder to file a U.S. federal income tax return in order to receive a refund (if any) of the withheld amount.

Subject to the additional rules described herein, federal income tax withholding will apply to distributions attributable to dividends and other investment income distributed by the Funds. The federal income tax withholding rate may be reduced (and, in some cases, eliminated) under an applicable tax treaty between the United States and the non-U.S. shareholder’s country of residence or incorporation. In order to qualify for treaty benefits, a non-U.S. shareholder must comply with applicable certification requirements relating to its foreign status (generally by providing the Funds with a properly completed Form W-8BEN). **All non-U.S. shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers as to the tax consequences of an investment in the Funds.**

Pursuant to the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (“FATCA”), a 30% withholding tax generally is imposed on payments of interest and dividends to (i) foreign financial institutions including non-U.S. investment Funds and (ii) certain other foreign entities, unless the foreign financial institution or foreign entity provides the withholding agent with documentation sufficient to show that it is compliant with FATCA (generally by providing the Funds with a properly completed Form W-8BEN or Form W-8BEN-E, as applicable). If the payment is subject to the 30% withholding tax under FATCA, a non-U.S. shareholder will not be subject to the 30% withholding tax described above on the same income. Under proposed regulations, FATCA withholding on the gross proceeds of share redemptions and certain capital gain distributions, scheduled to take effect beginning January 1, 2019, has been eliminated. Such proposed regulations are subject to change.

**Shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers regarding the application of this new reporting and withholding regime to their own tax situation.**

**Shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers as to the tax consequences of an investment in the Funds.**

**FOREIGN BANK AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS AND FOREIGN FINANCIAL ASSETS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.** A shareholder that owns directly or indirectly more than 50% by vote or value of a Fund, is urged and advised to consult its own tax adviser regarding its filing obligations with respect to IRS Form FinCEN 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.

Also, under recently enacted rules, subject to exceptions, individuals (and, to the extent provided in forthcoming future U.S. Treasury regulations, certain domestic entities) must report annually their interests in “specified foreign financial assets” on their U.S. federal income tax returns. It is currently unclear whether and under what circumstances shareholders would be required to report their indirect interests in a Fund’s “specified foreign financial assets” (if any) under these new rules.

Shareholders may be subject to substantial penalties for failure to comply with these reporting requirements. **Shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers to determine whether these reporting requirements are applicable to them.**

**TAX-EXEMPT SHAREHOLDERS.** A tax-exempt shareholder could realize UBTI by virtue of its investment in a Fund as a result of a Fund's investments and if shares in a Fund constitute debt financed property in the hands of the tax-exempt shareholder within the meaning of IRC Section 514(b).

It is possible that a tax-exempt shareholder of a Fund will also recognize UBTI if a Fund recognizes "excess inclusion income" (as described above) derived from direct or indirect investments in REMIC residual interests or TMPs. Furthermore, any investment in a residual interest of a CMO that has elected to be treated as a REMIC can create complex tax consequences, especially if the Fund has state or local governments or other tax-exempt organizations as shareholders.

In addition, special tax consequences apply to charitable remainder trusts ("CRTs") that invest in RICs that invest directly or indirectly in residual interests in REMICs or in TMPs.

**Tax-exempt shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers as to the tax consequences of an investment in the Funds.**

**TAX SHELTER REPORTING REGULATIONS.** Under Treasury regulations, if a shareholder recognizes a loss of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder, the shareholder must file with the IRS a disclosure statement on Form 8886. The fact that a loss is reportable under these regulations does not affect the legal determination of whether the taxpayer's treatment of the loss is proper. Shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers to determine the applicability of these regulations in light of their individual circumstances.

**TAX BASIS INFORMATION.** For shares of a Fund that are redeemed, your financial intermediary or a Fund (if a shareholder hold the shares in a Fund's direct account) will report gains and losses realized on redemptions of shares for shareholders who are individuals and S corporations purchased after January 1, 2012 to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This information will also be reported to a shareholder on Form 1099-B and the IRS each year. In calculating the gain or loss on redemptions of shares, the average cost method will be used to determine the cost basis of a Fund's shares purchased after January 1, 2012 unless the shareholder instructs a Fund in writing that the shareholder wants to use another available method for cost basis reporting (for example, First In, First Out (FIFO), Last In, First Out (LIFO), Specific Lot Identification (SLID) or High Cost, First Out (HCFO)). If the shareholder designated SLID as the shareholder's tax cost basis method, the shareholder will also need to designate a secondary cost basis method (Secondary Method). If a Secondary Method is not provided, a Fund will designate FIFO as the Secondary Method and will use the Secondary Method with respect to systematic withdrawals that are made.

A shareholder's financial intermediary or a Fund (if a shareholder holds the shares in a Fund direct account) is also required to report gains and losses to the IRS in connection with redemptions of shares by S corporations purchased after January 1, 2012. If a shareholder is a corporation and has not instructed a Fund that it is a C corporation in its Account Application or by written instruction, a Fund will treat the shareholder as an S corporation and file a Form 1099-B.

**Shareholders are urged and advised to consult their own tax advisers with respect to the tax consequences of an investment in a Fund including, but not limited to, the applicability of state, local, foreign and other tax laws affecting the particular shareholder and to possible effects of changes in federal or other tax laws.**

**This summary is provided for general information only and should not be considered tax advice or relied on by an investor.**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Funds have not yet commenced operations and, therefore, have not produced financial statements. Once produced, you can obtain a copy of financial statements contained in the Funds' Annual or Semi-Annual Report. Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained without charge, upon request, by writing to the Trust at 4400 Computer Drive, Westborough, MA 01581-1722 or calling Shareholder Services at (888) 678-6024 or on the Fund's website at <https://www.polencapital.com>.

## APPENDIX A

### DESCRIPTION OF RATINGS

#### Description of Ratings

The following descriptions of securities ratings have been published by Moody's Investors Services, Inc. ("Moody's"), S&P Global Ratings ("S&P"), and Fitch Ratings ("Fitch"), respectively.

#### Description of Moody's Global Ratings

Ratings assigned on Moody's global long-term and short-term rating scales are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations issued by non-financial corporates, financial institutions, structured finance vehicles, project finance vehicles, and public sector entities. Long-term ratings are assigned to issuers or obligations with an original maturity of one year or more and reflect both on the likelihood of a default or impairment on contractual financial obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment. Short-term ratings are assigned for obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect both on the likelihood of a default or impairment on contractual financial obligations and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default or impairment.

#### Description of Moody's Global Long-Term Ratings

**Aaa** Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk.

**Aa** Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

**A** Obligations rated A are judged to be upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.

**Baa** Obligations rated Baa are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics.

**Ba** Obligations rated Ba are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk.

**B** Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

**Caa** Obligations rated Caa are judged to be speculative of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

**Ca** Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

**C** Obligations rated C are the lowest rated and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

*Note:* Moody's appends numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

#### Hybrid Indicator (hyb)

The hybrid indicator (hyb) is appended to all ratings of hybrid securities issued by banks, insurers, finance companies, and securities firms. By their terms, hybrid securities allow for the omission of scheduled dividends, interest, or principal payments, which can potentially result in impairment if such an omission occurs. Hybrid securities may also be subject to contractually allowable write-downs of principal that could result in impairment. Together with the hybrid indicator, the long-term obligation rating assigned to a hybrid security is an expression of the relative credit risk associated with that security.

#### Description of Moody's Global Short-Term Ratings

**P-1** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

**P-2** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 have a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

**P-3** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-3 have an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations.

**NP** Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime rating categories.

## Description of Moody's U.S. Municipal Short-Term Obligation Ratings

The Municipal Investment Grade ("MIG") scale is used to rate U.S. municipal cash flow notes, bond anticipation notes and certain other short-term obligations, which typically mature in three years or less. Under certain circumstances, the MIG scale is used to rate bond anticipation notes with maturities of up to five years.

Moody's U.S. municipal short-term obligation ratings are as follows:

**MIG 1** This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by established cash flows, highly reliable liquidity support, or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing.

**MIG 2** This designation denotes strong credit quality. Margins of protection are ample, although not as large as in the preceding group.

**MIG 3** This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Liquidity and cash-flow protection may be narrow, and market access for refinancing is likely to be less well-established.

**SG** This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Debt instruments in this category may lack sufficient margins of protection.

## Description of Moody's Demand Obligation Ratings

In the case of variable rate demand obligations ("VRDOs"), a two-component rating is assigned. The components are a long-term rating and a short-term demand obligation rating. The long-term rating addresses the issuer's ability to meet scheduled principal and interest payments. The short-term demand obligation rating addresses the ability of the issuer or the liquidity provider to make payments associated with the purchase-price-upon-demand feature ("demand feature") of the VRDO. The short-term demand obligation rating uses the Variable Municipal Investment Grade ("VMIG") scale. VMIG ratings with liquidity support use as an input the short-term counterparty risk assessment of the support provider, or the long-term rating of the underlying obligor in the absence of third party liquidity support. Transitions of VMIG ratings of demand obligations with conditional liquidity support differ from transitions on the Prime scale to reflect the risk that external liquidity support will terminate if the issuer's long-term rating drops below investment grade. The VMIG short-term demand obligation rating is typically assigned if the frequency of the demand feature is less than every three years. If the frequency of the demand feature is less than three years but the purchase price is payable only with remarketing proceeds, the short-term demand obligation rating is "NR".

Moody's demand obligation ratings are as follows:

**VMIG 1** This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

**VMIG 2** This designation denotes strong credit quality. Good protection is afforded by the strong short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

**VMIG 3** This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Adequate protection is afforded by the satisfactory short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

**SG** This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Demand features rated in this category may be supported by a liquidity provider that does not have a sufficiently strong short-term rating or may lack the structural or legal protections necessary to ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

## Description of S&P's Issue Credit Ratings

An S&P issue credit rating is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation, a specific class of financial obligations, or a specific financial program (including ratings on medium-term note programs and commercial paper programs). It takes into consideration the creditworthiness of guarantors, insurers, or other forms of credit enhancement on the obligation and takes into account the currency in which the obligation is denominated. The opinion reflects S&P's view of the obligor's capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due, and this opinion may assess terms, such as collateral security and subordination, which could affect ultimate payment in the event of default.

Issue credit ratings can be either long-term or short-term. Short-term issue credit ratings are generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market, typically with an original maturity of no more than 365 days. Short-term issue credit ratings are also used to indicate the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to put features on long-term obligations. S&P would typically assign a long-term issue credit rating to an obligation with an original maturity of greater than 365 days. However, the ratings S&P assigns to certain instruments may diverge from these guidelines based on market practices. Medium-term notes are assigned long-term ratings.



Issue credit ratings are based, in varying degrees, on S&P's analysis of the following considerations:

- The likelihood of payment—the capacity and willingness of the obligor to meet its financial commitments on an obligation in accordance with the terms of the obligation;
- The nature and provisions of the financial obligation, and the promise S&P imputes; and
- The protection afforded by, and relative position of, the financial obligation in the event of a bankruptcy, reorganization, or other arrangement under the laws of bankruptcy and other laws affecting creditors' rights.

An issue rating is an assessment of default risk but may incorporate an assessment of relative seniority or ultimate recovery in the event of default. Junior obligations are typically rated lower than senior obligations, to reflect lower priority in bankruptcy, as noted above. (Such differentiation may apply when an entity has both senior and subordinated obligations, secured and unsecured obligations, or operating company and holding company obligations.)

NR indicates that a rating has not been assigned or is no longer assigned.

#### **Description of S&P's Long-Term Issue Credit Ratings\***

**AAA** An obligation rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by S&P. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is extremely strong.

**AA** An obligation rated 'AA' differs from the highest-rated obligations only to a small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is very strong.

**A** An obligation rated 'A' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is still strong.

**BBB** An obligation rated 'BBB' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to weaken the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**BB; B; CCC; CC; and C** Obligations rated 'BB', 'B', 'CCC', 'CC', and 'C' are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. 'BB' indicates the least degree of speculation and 'C' the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposure to adverse conditions.

**BB** An obligation rated 'BB' is less vulnerable to nonpayment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions that could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**B** An obligation rated 'B' is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated 'BB', but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor's capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**CCC** An obligation rated 'CCC' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitments on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**CC** An obligation rated 'CC' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment. The 'CC' rating is used when a default has not yet occurred but S&P expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

**C** An obligation rated 'C' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the obligation is expected to have lower relative seniority or lower ultimate recovery compared with obligations that are rated higher.

**D** An obligation rated 'D' is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P believes that such payments will be made within five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or 30 calendar days. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. A rating on an obligation is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.

\* Ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the rating categories.

## Description of S&P's Short-Term Issue Credit Ratings

**A-1** A short-term obligation rated 'A-1' is rated in the highest category by S&P. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on these obligations is extremely strong.

**A-2** A short-term obligation rated 'A-2' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is satisfactory.

**A-3** A short-term obligation rated 'A-3' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to weaken an obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**B** A short-term obligation rated 'B' is regarded as vulnerable and has significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties that could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

**C** A short-term obligation rated 'C' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitments on the obligation.

**D** A short-term obligation rated 'D' is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P believes that such payments will be made within any stated grace period. However, any stated grace period longer than five business days will be treated as five business days. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. A rating on an obligation is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed debt restructuring.

## Description of S&P's Municipal Short-Term Note Ratings

An S&P U.S. municipal note rating reflects S&P's opinion about the liquidity factors and market access risks unique to the notes. Notes due in three years or less will likely receive a note rating. Notes with an original maturity of more than three years will most likely receive a long-term debt rating. In determining which type of rating, if any, to assign, S&P's analysis will review the following considerations:

- Amortization schedule—the larger the final maturity relative to other maturities, the more likely it will be treated as a note; and
- Source of payment—the more dependent the issue is on the market for its refinancing, the more likely it will be treated as a note.

S&P's municipal short-term note ratings are as follows:

**SP-1** Strong capacity to pay principal and interest. An issue determined to possess a very strong capacity to pay debt service is given a plus (+) designation.

**SP-2** Satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

**SP-3** Speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

**D** 'D' is assigned upon failure to pay the note when due, completion of a distressed debt restructuring, or the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions.

## Description of Fitch's Credit Ratings

Fitch's credit ratings relating to issuers are an opinion on the relative ability of an entity to meet financial commitments, such as interest, preferred dividends, repayment of principal, insurance claims or counterparty obligations. Credit ratings relating to securities and obligations of an issuer can include a recovery expectation. Credit ratings are used by investors as indications of the likelihood of receiving the money owed to them in accordance with the terms on which they invested.

The terms “investment grade” and “speculative grade” have established themselves over time as shorthand to describe the categories ‘AAA’ to ‘BBB’ (investment grade) and ‘BB’ to ‘D’ (speculative grade). The terms investment grade and speculative grade are market conventions and do not imply any recommendation or endorsement of a specific security for investment purposes. Investment grade categories indicate relatively low to moderate credit risk, while ratings in the speculative categories either signal a higher level of credit risk or that a default has already occurred.

For the convenience of investors, Fitch may also include issues relating to a rated issuer that are not and have not been rated on its web page. Such issues are also denoted as ‘NR’.

Fitch’s credit ratings do not directly address any risk other than credit risk. In particular, ratings do not deal with the risk of a market value loss on a rated security due to changes in interest rates, liquidity and other market considerations. However, in terms of payment obligation on the rated liability, market risk may be considered to the extent that it influences the ability of an issuer to pay upon a commitment.

Ratings nonetheless do not reflect market risk to the extent that they influence the size or other conditionality of the obligation to pay upon a commitment (for example, in the case of index-linked bonds).

In the default components of ratings assigned to individual obligations or instruments, the agency typically rates to the likelihood of non-payment or default in accordance with the terms of that instrument’s documentation. In limited cases, Fitch may include additional considerations (i.e. rate to a higher or lower standard than that implied in the obligation’s documentation).

Note: The modifiers “+” or “-” may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the ‘AAA’ ratings and ratings below the ‘CCC’ category. For the short-term rating category of ‘F1’, a ‘+’ may be appended.

### **Description of Fitch’s Long-Term Corporate Finance Obligations Ratings**

**AAA** Highest credit quality. ‘AAA’ ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in cases of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

**AA** Very high credit quality. ‘AA’ ratings denote expectations of very low credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

**A** High credit quality. ‘A’ ratings denote expectations of low credit risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to adverse business or economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

**BBB** Good credit quality. ‘BBB’ ratings indicate that expectations of credit risk are currently low. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

**BB** Speculative. ‘BB’ ratings indicate an elevated vulnerability to credit risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met.

**B** Highly speculative. ‘B’ ratings indicate that material credit risk is present.

**CCC** Substantial credit risk. ‘CCC’ ratings indicate that substantial credit risk is present.

**CC** Very high levels of credit risk. ‘CC’ ratings indicate very high levels of credit risk.

**C** Exceptionally high levels of credit risk. ‘C’ ratings indicate exceptionally high levels of credit risk.

Ratings in the categories of ‘CCC’, ‘CC’ and ‘C’ can also relate to obligations or issuers that are in default. In this case, the rating does not opine on default risk but reflects the recovery expectation only.

Defaulted obligations typically are not assigned ‘RD’ or ‘D’ ratings, but are instead rated in the ‘CCC’ to ‘C’ rating categories, depending on their recovery prospects and other relevant characteristics. This approach better aligns obligations that have comparable overall expected loss but varying vulnerability to default and loss.

## Description of Fitch's Short-Term Ratings

A short-term issuer or obligation rating is based in all cases on the short-term vulnerability to default of the rated entity and relates to the capacity to meet financial obligations in accordance with the documentation governing the relevant obligation. Short-term deposit ratings may be adjusted for loss severity. Short-Term Ratings are assigned to obligations whose initial maturity is viewed as "short term" based on market convention. A long-term rating can also be used to rate an issue with short maturity. Typically, this means up to 13 months for corporate, sovereign, and structured obligations, and up to 36 months for obligations in U.S. public finance markets.

Fitch's short-term ratings are as follows:

**F1** Highest short-term credit quality. Indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added "+" to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

**F2** Good short-term credit quality. Good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

**F3** Fair short-term credit quality. The intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

**B** Speculative short-term credit quality. Minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus heightened vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

**C** High short-term default risk. Default is a real possibility.

**RD** Restricted default. Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Typically applicable to entity ratings only.

**D** Default. Indicates a broad-based default event for an entity, or the default of a short-term obligation.

## APPENDIX B

### POLEN CAPITAL CREDIT, LLC

#### SUMMARY OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

In accordance with Rule 206(4)-6 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, Polen Capital Credit, LLC (the “Adviser”) has adopted and implemented certain Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures that the Adviser believes are reasonably designed to ensure that proxies are voted in the best interests of its clients, including the Funds. Accordingly, the Adviser votes proxies based on our judgment as to what voting decision is most likely to maximize total return to the client as an investor in the issuer whose securities are being voted, including, where applicable, returns to the client on positions held in non-voting securities of that issuer or securities of other issuers that may be materially affected by the outcome of the vote.

Many of the proxies received by the Adviser with respect to securities held in client accounts relate to special situations, such as the restructuring of an issuer that is emerging or recently emerged from bankruptcy, that is in financial distress or that has significant debt obligations but improving fundamentals. The Adviser believes that it is not appropriate, in most of these cases, to vote proxies with respect to the securities of such issuers in accordance with fixed, pre-determined guidelines. Therefore, with the exception of certain routine matters, the Adviser generally reviews and makes a voting decision on each matter presented in such proxy on an individual, case-by-case basis.

The Adviser has designated an internal proxy administrator who is responsible for coordinating the review and voting of client proxies. In the absence of a material conflict of interest (as more fully described below and in the Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures Policies), the internal proxy administrator votes the proxy in accordance with the instructions provided by the applicable portfolio manager or research analyst covering the particular issuer.

From time to time, the Adviser (and/or its affiliates) may have a material conflict of interest with respect to a matter to be voted upon in a proxy. If the internal proxy administrator identifies or is notified of a potential material conflict of interest, the internal proxy administrator will convene a meeting of the Adviser’s internal proxy committee, which has been created to address situations when such conflicts arise. The internal proxy committee, which consists of one or more members of the Adviser’s legal department and such other Adviser personnel as may be designated to serve on the committee from time to time, will then meet to determine whether voting on such proxy matter presents a material conflict of interest. In the event that the internal committee concludes that there is a material conflict of interest, the Adviser generally will request either a waiver of the conflict or specific voting instructions from the client, a representative of the client or an appropriate third party.

The Adviser maintains records of proxies that it has voted on behalf of its clients. The Adviser maintains these proxy voting books and records for a period of six years. These records are maintained for at least the first two years in the Adviser’s office.